

Statehouse Update

From the Office of State Representative Mary Lightbody
House District 19 | 614-466-4847 <><> Rep19@ohiohouse.gov

Dear Neighbor,

The year is already half over, but we are not slowing down in the legislature. I believe that wherever you come from and whatever your background, everyone should have the opportunity to raise happy, healthy families. That's why I want to share how my work on a comprehensive Families First Agenda will improve our quality of life in the Buckeye State. By including actions to protect and expand women's access to reproductive healthcare, reduce everyday costs for families, and invest in our children— I am putting families at the center of my priorities.

If you would like to learn more about my work at the statehouse, please attend the upcoming Working Families First Town Hall, where you'll have the opportunity to ask questions and offer input on other issues facing our community.

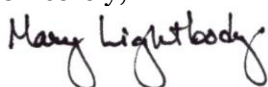
Please save the date for my Town Hall at the end of September.

Date: September 28, 2022
Time: 6:15 p.m.
Location: New Albany Library,
200 Market St, New Albany, OH 43054

I encourage you to come and bring your own view on our community's needs. The town hall is free and open to the public.

Please do not hesitate to contact my office with any questions, comments or concerns.

Sincerely,



Please join me for open office hours. This is an opportunity to ask questions and share concerns regarding our community and the state government. There is no appointment necessary!

- ❖ Monday, August 22, 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Gahanna Panera
- ❖ Thursday, September 1, 4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Westerville Public Library Pink Study Room
- ❖ Tuesday, September 6, 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
New Albany Library, Meeting Room 2

I look forward to meeting with you. If you would prefer a private meeting, please contact my office to schedule one.



I work for you.

Please keep me updated on bills and issues of concern and reach out anytime for updates on legislation in committees or votes by the legislature, as well as any upcoming district events that you would like me to attend.

Please contact my office at any time:

Office: 614-466-4847

Email: Rep19@ohiohouse.gov



Attention K-12 parents:

For the last two years, school children have been automatically eligible for free school meals through a USDA Program. This school year, families at many schools must resume certification of their eligibility for free and reduced lunch.

Please click the applicable link below or contact your child's school for additional information about eligibility and registration.

[Columbus City Schools](#)

[Gahanna Jefferson Public Schools](#)

[New Albany Plain Local Schools](#)

[Westerville City Schools](#)

National Black Business Month

August is National Black Business Month, a time to bring attention to the needs of Black-owned businesses across the country. Did you know Ohio is ranked the 7th best state for Black entrepreneurship? We have more than 4, 200 Black-owned businesses that employed nearly 70,000 people and pay about \$1.5 billion in annual payroll! I encourage you to support your local Black-owned businesses, not just this month, but at any chance you get!

Find a Black-owned business near you by visiting:
<https://centralohioafricanamericanchamberofcommerce.wildapricot.org/directory>

Ohio BMV Update

The Real ID deadline set by the TSA is May 3rd, 2023. The Real ID is a form of federally-compliant identification. Starting May 3, 2023, Real ID will be required by the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) for domestic air travel. In order to get your Real ID, the Bureau of Motor Vehicles requires documents that provide:

- Full Legal Name
- Date of Birth
- Legal Presence in the U.S.
- Social Security Number
- Ohio Street Address (must provide two different sources)
- Proof of name change (if it applies)

The BMV website has a simple checklist to ensure you bring all of the required documents:

<https://bmvonline.dps.ohio.gov/bmvonline/Home/documents/compliantdocuments/>

You may get a place in line on the BMV website via the In Line Online System: <https://ohiobmvappt.cxmflow.com/>. This will help avoid long wait times in the office.

Following the approval of your Real ID, you will receive an Ohio Interim ID form and your Real ID will be mailed in 7-10 business days.

There are no additional costs attached to the Real ID. It will cost the same as a standard ID.

You must visit the BMV with your documents in person in order to obtain your first Real ID. Following the first visit, you may use the online portal to complete additional tasks.

Women's Equality Day

On August 26, we celebrate Women's Equality Day! This day commemorates the 1920 adoption of the 19th Amendment, which prohibits the states and federal government from denying the right to vote to U.S. citizens on the basis of sex. This gave women across America the right to vote.

While we celebrate that the 19th Amendment was a critical step towards gaining equal voting rights, we must also acknowledge that equality on paper is not the same as equality in practice. Black women would continue to struggle and fight to receive the same equalities at the voting polls as white women for another 40 years until the 1965 Voting Rights Act was passed.

Today, there are still issues such as economic adversity and gerrymandering that prevent minority communities from voting and being properly represented in their states. At the Ohio House, I will continue to support policies to remove these barriers until we ensure everyone has the same opportunities to make their voice heard.

Protect your health this fall

Vaccines are vital to protect children and adults against common diseases that can be serious such as measles, meningitis, and chickenpox as well as ones that were long-suppressed, such as polio. Immunization is one of the safest and most effective ways to protect the health of you and your family. Vaccine side effects are usually mild and go away on their own. Severe side effects are very rare. Vaccines work with your body's natural defense to lower the chances of getting certain diseases as well as suffering complications from these diseases.

School vaccination requirements help keep kids safe at school and prevent the spread of childhood diseases. Many normal activities were put on hold during the pandemic, including pediatric well visits and immunizations.

For more information, talk to your child's doctor or visit: <https://odh.ohio.gov/know-our-programs/Immunization/Required-Vaccines-Child-Care-School>

COVID-19 vaccines are recommended by the CDC for infants as young as 6 months old, children, teens, and adults. Moderna and Pfizer offer vaccines at a lower dose for children in different age groups. We can slow the spread of COVID-19 and save lives by taking safe and effective measures. Visit <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/home> to find out more.

Most health insurance plans cover the cost of recommended vaccines. Check with your insurance provider for details and for a list of vaccine providers. If you do not have health insurance, visit www.healthcare.gov to learn more about health coverage options.