

Dear Neighbor,

The 135th General Assembly is well underway in Columbus. This month we received our committee assignments, allowing us to work on improving our state and communities. Work has begun on various bills that will be debated and voted on in committee as well as on the floor of the House

Recently, Governor Mike DeWine gave his State of the State speech, outlying his priorities for Ohio. Democrats are optimistic about several initiatives that will improve the lives of Ohioans. The governor, however, did not mention how the state plans to prevent gun violence or how we can ensure that all children receive a quality public education with adequate funding, regardless of zip code.

February is Black History Month! Black history is American history and Black voices, experiences, and people have shaped our state and country. Democrats in Ohio are fighting hard every day, building a state that supports and uplifts Black Ohioans. Ohio House Democrats are committed to creating a more perfect union that provides freedom, liberty, and equality to us all. Building a state that supports and welcomes everyone has been a long and difficult process, but I am committed to creating lasting and impactful change.

Finally, House districts changed between the 134th and 135th General Assemblies. Please ensure you still reside in my district by going to https://ohiohouse.gov/members/district-map to confirm your House district.

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

Sincerely,

Chara H

Jessica E. Miranda Democratic Whip 28th District 614-466-8120 Rep28@ohiohouse.gov Susan B. Anthony Day

Susan B. Anthony Day recognizes the life and career of Susan B. Anthony on her birthday, February 15. Anthony was a pioneer of women's suffrage and left a lasting legacy on the United States. She is an instrumental figure in Americans fight for equal rights. Anthony, and the women's suffrage movement, played an integral part in ensuring that the United States provides justice and liberty for all.



February 20 was the National Day of Solidarity with Muslim, Arab, and South Asian Immigrants. We support our Muslim, Arab, and South Asian friends, many of whom have found a home in Ohio. We must make Ohio a welcoming state where immigrants can live in peace, security, and prosperity.

East Palestine Train Derailment



On February 3, 2023, about 20 rail cars that were carrying hazardous materials, derailed in East Palestine, Ohio. We are monitoring the environmental disasters closely and following the science on what the potential long-term fallout might be. Assistance from federal, state, and local government agencies must continue to support Ohioans impacted on the ground and in surrounding areas. Air and water testing in East Palestine and Southern Ohio shows that residents can return to their homes and the drinking water supply has not been tainted. We will continue to supply information to our constituents, connecting them to the resources available for water and air testing.

The EPA update can be found <u>here</u>.

Ohio EPA update can be found <u>here</u>.

Norfolk Southern update can be found here.



Happy Black History Month! Ohio House Democrats are in Columbus fighting for equality and justice. It is our mission to ensure that Ohioans of all races, ethnicities, sexualities, gender expressions, religions, classes, and backgrounds are treated with respect and given the tools needed to succeed.

"We celebrate Black History Month to honor the historical and cultural contributions of the Black community," said Rep. Miranda. "I and other Democrats will continue to fight for bills like the Ohio Equal Pay Act to ensure true equality and justice for all."

Black Ohioans are disproportionally affected by inequalities in our healthcare system. Ohio House Democrats are committed to creating a state that can better provide for all of its residents. This commitment is not limited to healthcare but extends to ensuring fair access to economic opportunities, housing, safe communities, and transportation. Democrats are fighting to make Ohio a welcoming, safe, and prosperous state for everyone.

