



Happy May! Last month, House Democrats unanimously voted "NO" on the state operating budget (HB 96) because it purposely and recklessly slashes critical state funding areas while failing to benefit everyday Ohioans.

From the Desk of Rep. Denson

In this budget, House Republicans chose to dismantle the constitutional and bipartisan fair school funding formula, dump more taxpayer money into vouchers for charter non-public and private schools that benefit the wealthiest Ohioans, and authorize a \$600M handout to billionaires to build a new Browns stadium outside of Cleveland amidst opposition by local leaders.

HB 96 cuts key investments from what Governor Mike DeWine proposed in:

- Childcare
- Public Libraries
- Medicaid
- Affordable Housing
- Clean drinking water
- Lead abatement funding

It also fails to provide real property tax relief; makes future school levies more likely; launches more attacks against the LGBTQ+ community, minority-owned businesses, and the collective bargaining rights of workers; and ignores the will of voters by reducing the amount of marijuana sales tax revenue returned to local host communities.

The bill now heads to the Senate to start the committee process.

Call the Senate President Rob McColley at (614) 466-8150 or <u>mccolley@ohiosenate.gov</u> and Finance Chairman Jerry Cirino at (614) 644-7718 or <u>cirino@ohiosenate.gov</u> and tell them that this budget does NOT support Ohioans.

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

Sincerely,

Sedrick Denson

District Spotlight



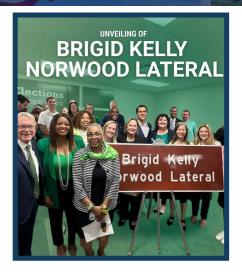
For May's district spotlight, Rep. Denson has chosen to highlight the Workforce Council of Southwest Ohio, a vital organization dedicated to workforce development in Cincinnati and Hamilton County. Earlier this month Rep. Sedrick Denson's office met with the Council for their annual legislative advocacy day to receive updates on their local workforce development system and the work they're doing to serve job seekers and employers in Southwest Ohio.

The Workforce Council's mission focuses on connecting job seekers to opportunities that enhance career readiness, particularly for veterans, low-income families, and those facing employment barriers. With programs offering job readiness training and placement services, the Council aims to equip individuals with the skills needed for in-demand industries.

Constituents interested in learning more about the resources and programs provided by the Workforce Council can visit their website: <u>https://</u> <u>cincyworkforce.org/</u> for addi-

tional information.

Rep. Denson Attends the Unveiling of the Brigid Kelly Norwood Lateral



State Representative Denson recently had the honor of attending and providing remarks at the unveiling of the "Brigid Kelly Norwood Lateral," a new designation for a stretch of State Route 562, honoring the late Brigid Kelly's legacy in the community she cherished. Rep.Denson served alongside Kelly in the Statehouse until she departed the Ohio House in 2022 to become county auditor. During their service together Rep.

Denson and Kelly formed a close friendship. While providing his remarks he reflected on some of their fond memories, mentioning that they often carpooled to Columbus together with other legislators. Beyond all of their memories, what Rep.Denson cherishes the most is the memory of Brigid Kelly's vibrant personality and her dedication to public service because it continues to serve as inspiration for what a great legislator should be. The unveiling stands as a testament to the profound impact Brigid Kelly had on the state of Ohio, ensuring her legacy will be remembered for years to come.



Ohio REAL IDs Required for Air Travel Beginning on May 7th

This month, federal law will require individuals to have a federally compliant REAL ID for air travel beginning on May 7th. Anyone trying to board domestic flights after May 7th will need a REAL ID or a U.S. passport.

However, Ohio's Registrar of Motor Vehicles has reported that about **56% of Ohio's driver licenses are RE-AL IDs** already. If you want to get a REAL ID, the BMV suggests planning ahead with any documentation you may need.

Find more information about REAL ID on the BMV's website by clicking <u>here</u>.

