

January 2026 Legislative Update from  
**STATE REP. JOE MILLER**



@RepJoeMiller



@joemillerohio

House District 53



**From the desk of Representative Miller**

**District Spotlights**

Dear Neighbor,

As we enter the New Year, I hope you were able to enjoy the comfort and company of friends and family this holiday season. Looking forward, there is still much work to be done even as I enter my final year as your state representative. I am incredibly grateful to have had the opportunity to serve you for the last 8 years, and will continue doing my best to assist you in any way I can.

Committees will soon meet again in Columbus, and I will speak truth to power as I always have. Whether it is on education, labor issues, agriculture, or pensions, you have a voice who will speak on your behalf because you matter!

As always, do not hesitate to reach out to my office at 614-466-5141 or [Rep53@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Rep53@ohiohouse.gov).

Sincerely,

State Representative Joe Miller

- Anakha Spaetzel and Erica O'Neil are 2025 TECH CORPS Hackathon Winners
- Vice President of the Lorain School Board, Barbie Washington, wins numerous state honors from the Ohio School Board Association

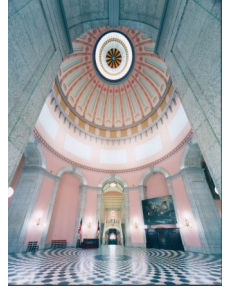
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# Legislative Update & Summary

I am excited to provide you with a comprehensive overview of the progression of the legislation I have introduced over the course of this General Assembly.



Bill Number	Title	Most Recent Activity in the Legislature
HB 416	Designate Police Officer Phillip Wagner Memorial Highway	Referred to Committee 9/15/2025
HCR 7	American Legion Resolution Buckeye Boys and Girls State	Awaiting Full Senate Vote 10/22/2025
HB 362	Prohibit Deepfakes during Election Seasons	Referred to Committee 6/18/2025
HB 44	Police Lateral Transfer/Cadet bill	Signed into Law 11/5/2025
HB 79	Increase assault penalties if the victim is a sports official	Opponent Hearing 3/26/2025
HB 191	Increase Base Teacher Salary	Sponsor Testimony 4/8/2025
HB 165	Implicit Bias Training for licensed educators	Sponsor Testimony 4/1/2025
HB 164	Reinstate Joint Education Oversight Committee	Sponsor Testimony 4/1/2025
HB 77	Regards Type 1 Diabetes Info	Added to HB 96, passed into law 6/30/2025



## AI Policy Discussion

I recently sat down with Oberlin High senior Collin Boardman to discuss Wild West that is AI policy. Specifically, we talked about HB 362, which is my bill that would regulate synthetic/AI media during election cycles. With AI media becoming ever more realistic and harder to discern, it is important that voters have the tools available to know what is real and what is not. My bill would mandate that AI media have statements clearly expressing they were AI generated. This way, no one can lie or create false narratives with realistic images during an election.

## Cookies for Camp I.D.E.A.S.

Spitzer Chevrolet in Amherst hosted a lovely cookie decorating fundraiser for Camp I.D.E.A.S. This incredible organization helps provide affordable opportunities for children with special needs to enjoy activities like swimming at area pools, Little League, the public library and riding their bikes. Turnout was great, and I thank Spitzer Chevrolet and Jason Eyman for organizing the event.



## Snapshots from the Holiday Season



I enjoyed going around Lorain County to see how everyone celebrated the holiday season. From ice carvings, to wonderful light displays, and sharing the holiday spirit as a community, I had a wonderful time and I hope you all did too.



# Community Foundation of Lorain County Scholarships

Starting on January 1, 2026, the application portal for Community Foundation scholarships will open. From then until March 1st, students seeking financial aid may submit applications and will be notified by May 1st if they have received a scholarship.

More details on individual scholarships can be found at <https://www.peoplewhocare.org/apply/scholarships>.

For those who have previously applied and won awards, some may be renewable, so it is best to check to see if a renewal form needs to be filled out for more aid.

## Lorain County Services Contact Information

- Lorain County Jobs & Family Services:  
(440)-323-5726
- Lorain County Board of Developmental Disabilities:  
(440)-329-3734
- Lorain County Income Tax Department:  
(440)-204-1002
- Lorain County Veteran's Services:  
(440)-284-4625
- Mental Health, Addiction & Recovery Services Board of Lorain County
  - Crisis and Suicide Hotline: 988
  - Non-Emergency Navigator: (440) 240 7025
- Lorain County Educational Service Center: 440-324-5777



### Office Contact Information

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