



February 2026 Legislative Update from

STATE REP. JOE MILLER



House District 53



District Spotlights

Dear Neighbor,

The Ohio House is back in session, meaning a flurry of bills are making their way through committee and onto the floor. If you have any questions, thoughts, or concerns, do not hesitate to reach out to my office. Your opinion matters, and helps me make better and more informed choices on your behalf.

I am looking forward to continuing my work with my colleagues to bring down costs, expand educational access, and ensuring all Ohioans have the opportunity to pursue their version of success. As always, please contact my office if there is anything that you need help with, no issue is too big or small for us to look into.

So, you can reach my office at 614-466-5141 or Rep53@ohiohouse.gov: we will help you.

Sincerely,

State Representative Joe Miller

- The Lorain Public Library System will celebrate its 125th Anniversary
- Lakeside Breaks in Sheffield Lake opens for business
- The Lorain County Veterans Service Commission partnered with the National Veterans Legal Services Program, the first partnership of its kind in the nation

Digital Newsletter Signup

Use the QR code below to sign up to automatically receive our office's digital newsletter. Simply open the camera app on your smartphone, hover over the code, and tap on the link that pops up.



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 669	Permit AP Business with Personal Finance to fulfill high school financial literacy credit	Referred to Committee 2/4/2026
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

The Year of Toni Morrison



On February 18th, I had the distinct honor of presenting HR 339, which recognized Toni Morrison Day in Ohio, to her friends and family. On what would have been her 95th Birthday, Ohio Humanities commenced the Year of Toni Morrison to celebrate the literary legend from Lorain. Her works, forever imbued into the fabric of American literary canon, remind us of the kindness, courage, and eloquence all of humanity should strive toward. In the broader context of Black History Month, I am proud to represent a community that produced one of the finest authors and voices for change this nation has ever produced.

Solidarity



Lorain County has a strong and proud union history. For so many in Lorain County, a union provided the promise of opportunity and success that is embedded in our nation's fabric. No matter what job one is working, it is dignified and with purpose. For our county JFS branch, these workers serve the most vulnerable of our neighbors. Like any worker, they deserve a livable wage, proper benefits, and respect from their employers. I stand in solidarity with them as they fight for a fair contract.

Protecting Public Education

I recently sat down with my colleagues and public education advocates for a discussion on how we can be better partners in fighting for public education. We have a mandate to “secure a thorough and efficient system of common schools” (Ohio Const. art. VI, § 2), and it is one I swore to uphold. With around 90% of Ohio students attending public schools, the state must abide by its mandate, properly fund our schools, and ensure every student has a pathway to success that fits their goals. Thank you to Rep. Brennan for helping facilitate this discussion.



Toni Morrison Poetry Contest

We will be celebrating the memory and legacy of Toni Morrison in many ways this year. One opportunity, that the Lorain Public Library System is offering, is open to local students in grades 6-12 and adult residents of Lorain County is the Toni Morrison Poetry Contest. Those eligible can email a poem with the following requirements to lorainpoetry@lpls.info for consideration:

Font Type: Times New Roman, Arial, Calibri

Font Size: 12

Spacing: Double

Format: Free or formal verse, up to a maximum of 40 lines

Theme: There are no thematic parameters for this contest

For more information, including prizes, please visit <https://www.lorainpubliclibrary.org/using-the-library/contests>.

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



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