

AUTUMN 2025

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

**DONTAVIUS L. JARRELLS**

HOUSE DISTRICT 01

(614) 466-5343 | rep01@ohiohouse.gov | @iamDontavius

As the weather cools down, I hope you're staying warm and healthy. I wanted to take a moment to share an autumn update on the work we've been doing together.

In this newsletter, you'll find highlights on some of our recent accomplishments, including the passage of House Bill 57 into Ohio law, information on applying for SNAP benefits, and important resources to help you through the colder months. Additionally, I'm excited to feature a spotlight on our interns and reflect on the past year with a special focus on the work we've done to better Columbus.

As always, I'm here to listen and support you. Feel free to reach out to our office by email at Rep01@OhioHouse.Gov or by phone at (614) 466-5343. Thank you for your continued support and engagement. Let us keep the same energy of progress and growth as we enter 2026.

Sincerely,

  
**Dontavius L. Jarrells**  
State Representative  
Ohio House District 01



## Upcoming Event on January 29<sup>th</sup>!

Join us at **Union Grove Baptist Church** for our first All of Us Town Hall in the new year. We will provide a crash course of the legislative process and discuss our plans for the year. Look out for more event details on my social media platforms.

**ALL OF US**  
LEGISLATIVE TOWNHALL

## Business Highlight

The **Bearded Baker** in Bexley is a local gem known for its delicious, handcrafted pastries and cheesecakes. Specializing in unique, flavorful treat, they also offer a rotating selection of seasonal goodies. Located on **2918 E Main Street, Columbus, Ohio 43209**, the bakery has become a favorite spot for those with a sweet tooth. Visit their website at [here](#) to learn more.



Ohio House District 01

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## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

### Recent Legislation

If any of these bills interest you, I encourage you to get involved. You can learn more and sign up to testify on the Ohio House Committee website: [ohiohouse.gov/committees](https://ohiohouse.gov/committees).

You can also learn more about these and other bills I'm supporting by visiting [my website](#).

- **H.B. No. 511 (Jarrells, Pizzulli)** – Proposes an increase of appropriations for a Campus Student Safety Grant Program; currently in the House Workforce and Higher Education Committee.
- **H.B. No. 564 (Jarrells, Schmidt)** – The *So Every BODY Can Move (SEBCM) Act* seeks to require health insurance coverage of orthotic, prosthetic devices; currently in the House Insurance Committee.
- **H.B. No. 565 (Jarrells, Odioso)** – The *Grand Jury Privacy and Protection Act* is designed to safeguard the identities of Ohioans serving on grand juries; currently in the House Judiciary Committee.
- **H.B. No. 566 (Jarrells, Williams)** – Propose the *Break the Silence Act* to build a consistent statewide standard of response for domestic violence; currently in the House Health Committee.

### House Bill 57 Signed into Law

I'm excited to share that **H.B. 57**, a bipartisan bill I worked on with Majority Whip Josh Williams, has been enacted! This legislation will increase access to overdose-reversal drugs, like Naloxone, in Ohio schools. It's a crucial step toward protecting our children and ensuring that educators have the tools to respond quickly in emergencies. This law will save lives and make Ohio schools safer for everyone.



### Introducing the Grand Jury Privacy and Protection Act

I'm proud to introduce **H.B. 565**, the *Grand Jury Privacy and Protection Act* alongside Representative Mike Odioso. This bill ensures that grand jurors' identities are kept confidential, protecting them from potential harassment or intimidation. It's critical that Ohio's justice system remains fair and secure for all involved.



## JARRELLS' AUTUMN UPDATES

### Food Pantry Volunteering

In light of ongoing SNAP uncertainty, I recently volunteered at the **NNEMAP Food Pantry** in Columbus. It's vital that we continue supporting our communities, especially when families are at risk of losing their access to food. Moving into the coming year, I'll keep fighting to ensure no Ohioan has to worry about where their next meal comes from.



### Break the Silence Act Press Conference

In October, I joined Majority Whip Josh Williams and local advocates to introduce **H.B. 566, the Break the Silence Act**. This bill establishes uniform protocols in hospitals and urgent care centers to help identify and support survivors of domestic violence. It's time for Ohio to have a statewide standard of care for victims, ensuring they are seen, believed, and protected when they seek help.



### So Every BODY Can Move Press Conference

Rep. Jean Schmidt and I have recently introduced **H.B. 564, the So Every BODY Can Move (SEBCM) Act**. This bill will ensure insurance coverage for waterproof prosthetics and orthotics, helping individuals with limb loss or differences to live active, fulfilling lives. Everyone deserves the right to move freely and without limits.



## WINTER COMMUNITY RESOURCES

For more details on these programs or connection to resources near you, visit my website or contact my office. As we face colder weather, please take advantage of these local resources:

### Food Assistance

Local food pantries are available for anyone in need of support. We have listed a few community pantries, but Columbus houses many organizations doing wonderful work.

#### Gladden Food Pantry

- **Phone:** 614.228.2498
- **Email:** [info@gladdenhouse.org](mailto:info@gladdenhouse.org)
- **Address:** 318 S Glenwood Ave, Columbus, OH 43223

#### Mid-Ohio Kitchen at Reeb

- **Phone:** (614) 230-2708
- **Email:** [info@mofc.org](mailto:info@mofc.org)
- **Address:** 280 Reeb Ave, Columbus, OH 43207

#### Stowe Mission of Central Ohio

- **Phone:** 614.274.7600
- **Email:** [lori.banfield@use.salvationarmy.org](mailto:lori.banfield@use.salvationarmy.org)
- **Address:** 2300 W Mound St, Columbus, OH 43204

#### Community Kitchen Columbus

- **Phone:** (614) 445-8400
- **Address:** 888 Parsons Ave, Columbus, OH 43206

### Warming Stations & Utility Assistance

If you or someone you know is in need of a safe space to stay warm, please reach out for info on local shelters and warming stations. Programs like PIPP, HEAP, and Winter Crisis Program can help with energy bills.

### SNAP Step-by-Step Application Process

For more information on applying for SNAP benefits, visit the official Ohio Benefits website at [benefits.ohio.gov](https://benefits.ohio.gov)

**1) Determine Eligibility:** Before applying, check if you meet the eligibility criteria. Eligibility is primarily based on income, citizenship/immigration status, household size, and work requirements. You can use the Ohio Benefits Eligibility Tool on the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) website to check if you meet basic eligibility requirements.

**2) Gather Necessary Documents:** You will need to provide documentation that verifies your identity, income, and household composition.

**3) Create an Account and Complete the Application:** Fill out the required details about your household, income, and expenses.

**4) Submit the Application:** After completing, submit your application online.

**5) Attend an Interview:** You may be required to participate in an interview (either by phone or in person).

**6) Receive a Decision:** You'll be notified about your eligibility and benefit amount.



# AUTUMN INTERN SPOTLIGHT

I'm thrilled to introduce my amazing Autumn interns! Over the past few months, they've brought **fresh ideas**, **incredible energy**, and a **passion** for learning about the legislative process and public service. Their hard work and dedication have truly made a **lasting impact** in my office. We're beyond grateful to have them as part of our team this season, and we can't wait to see how they continue to grow and thrive in their careers.

## Mehak Naqvi

Mehak is a first-year student at Ohio State majoring in Microbiology and Public Policy, with a strong passion for bridging science and health policy. She is particularly interested in how evidence-based policy can strengthen epidemiological response and improve health equity. Mehak teaches ESL at Community Refugee & Immigration Services and is part of the ACCELERATE research group, understanding how food insecurity impacts health disparities.



## Tahjay Artis

Tahjay is a community-focused leader, working as a District Leader with Primerica and an intern at the Ohio Statehouse, he combines hands-on leadership with public service. He hosts financial literacy workshops throughout Columbus and is passionate about helping young people build confidence, stability, and generational wealth.



## Julianna Logan

Julianna is a fourth year at The Ohio State University studying world politics with a double minor in history and sociology. She is a student assistant to the Senior Vice President of Student Life at OSU and an intern for Development and Fundraising for the Tandana Foundation. Julianna is involved in an all-girls ministry called Delight. Her career aspirations are to work in government policy or continue working for a non-profit in Development and Fundraising.





## JARRELLS IN THE DISTRICT

From Spring to Winter, 2025 was a year **full of joy**. We came together for our **inaugural block party** and kept the momentum going with numerous press conferences, town halls, and site visits to **food pantries** and community organizations. I am looking forward to another year of growth and making positive change **together**. Happy Holidays!



## STAY IN TOUCH

Are you, a family member, or a neighbor in need of assistance? My office is here to support you with a wide range of needs, from navigating state programs and agencies to resolving issues with unemployment benefits. If you have an issue you are passionate about, share it with us! Want to celebrate an outstanding accomplishment? Email my office and we are happy to recognize leaders in our community.

**Call:** (614) 466-5981      **Email:** [rep01@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:rep01@ohiohouse.gov)      **Social Media:** [@iamdontavious](#)