

# State Representative Sean Patrick Brennan

Ohio House District 14

(614) 466-3485 | rep14@ohiohouse.gov



December 2024

*Proudly serving Parma, Parma Heights,  
and Cleveland's West Park Neighborhood!*

Dear District 14 Resident:

On Tuesday, November 5, I was re-elected to represent Ohio House District 14 by an overwhelming vote of Democratic, Republican, and Independent voters. Let me just say how honored and humbled I am to have been selected to serve another term in the Ohio General Assembly. Anyone who knows me knows how seriously I take my role and that I represent ALL of my constituents regardless of political party.

Beginning January 1, the configuration of District 14 will be different. While I will continue to serve all of Parma and Parma Heights, the Cleveland neighborhoods will change. In fact, sadly, I will no longer be representing the residents of Cleveland's West Park neighborhood. However, I look forward to representing the residents of parts of the Old Brooklyn, Brooklyn Centre, and Clark-Fulton neighborhoods.

To the residents of West Park, please know how much I will treasure the friendships we have built and what a pleasure it has been to be your voice in the State Legislature these past two years. To the residents of Old Brooklyn, Brooklyn Centre, and Clark-Fulton, it has been a pleasure getting to know you as I campaigned throughout your neighborhoods these past several months. Know that I will be a strong voice for you, Parma, and Parma Heights at the Ohio Statehouse.

I am very much looking forward with anticipation of taking my solemn oath of office soon. Know that, although my district only includes the areas I mentioned, the decisions I make impact the lives of all 11.8 million Ohioans. This service is the biggest honor of my life and proves that in America even the product of a broken home can grow up to make a difference. I pledge to work my hardest to ensure that my work makes life better for you.

As always, if my office may ever be of service, please contact us. I also invite you to visit my website to learn more about how I am serving you and to sign up for this monthly newsletter. You can also read all of my past newsletters going back to January, 2023. I am continually honored to serve you! Let me be among the first to say Happy New Year! I pray that we are all blessed with the best year of our lives and that northeast Ohio, the state of Ohio, and our great nation will thrive.

Sincerely

**Sean Patrick Brennan**  
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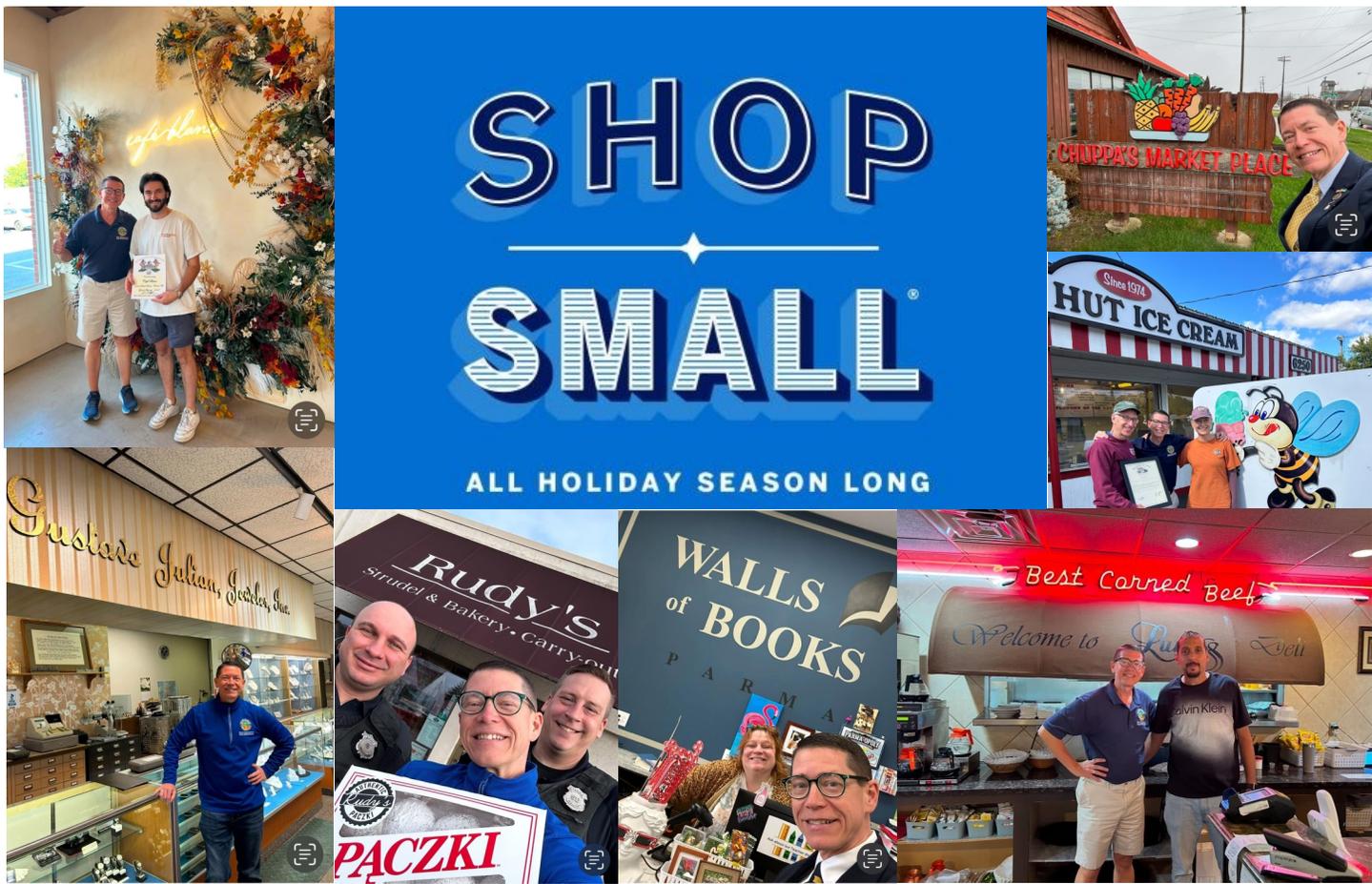


**As State Representative, I view my top priority as doing my part to ensure that we have safe neighborhoods. Recently, I was privileged to congratulate Cleveland Second District Commander Timothy Maffo-Judd on his new appointment. I look forward to working with him.**

## State Representative Sean Patrick Brennan Encourages You to Shop Small this Holiday Season

As a member of Parma City Council for 19 years and State Representative for nearly two years, I know the importance of small business to our local economy. From job creation to community vitality and from donating to local causes to offering unique items and services, our local businesses are the backbone of our community economy. In fact, my work with the Ohio NFIB (National Federation of Small Businesses) and their local members has only further enhanced my understanding of the importance of local business to the quality of life of our communities. Therefore, I am asking that you join me in supporting our local businesses leading up to the Holidays and throughout the year.

Personally, I will be purchasing family and friends gift card for local businesses. Gift cards are the easiest option for me, especially given my busy position and the amount of travel back and forth to Columbus I have to do. Further, this allows my loved ones to enjoy a good wholesome meal or the item they decide they need most when the need or want arises.



## State Representative Sean Patrick Brennan Takes Pride in Commending Constituents

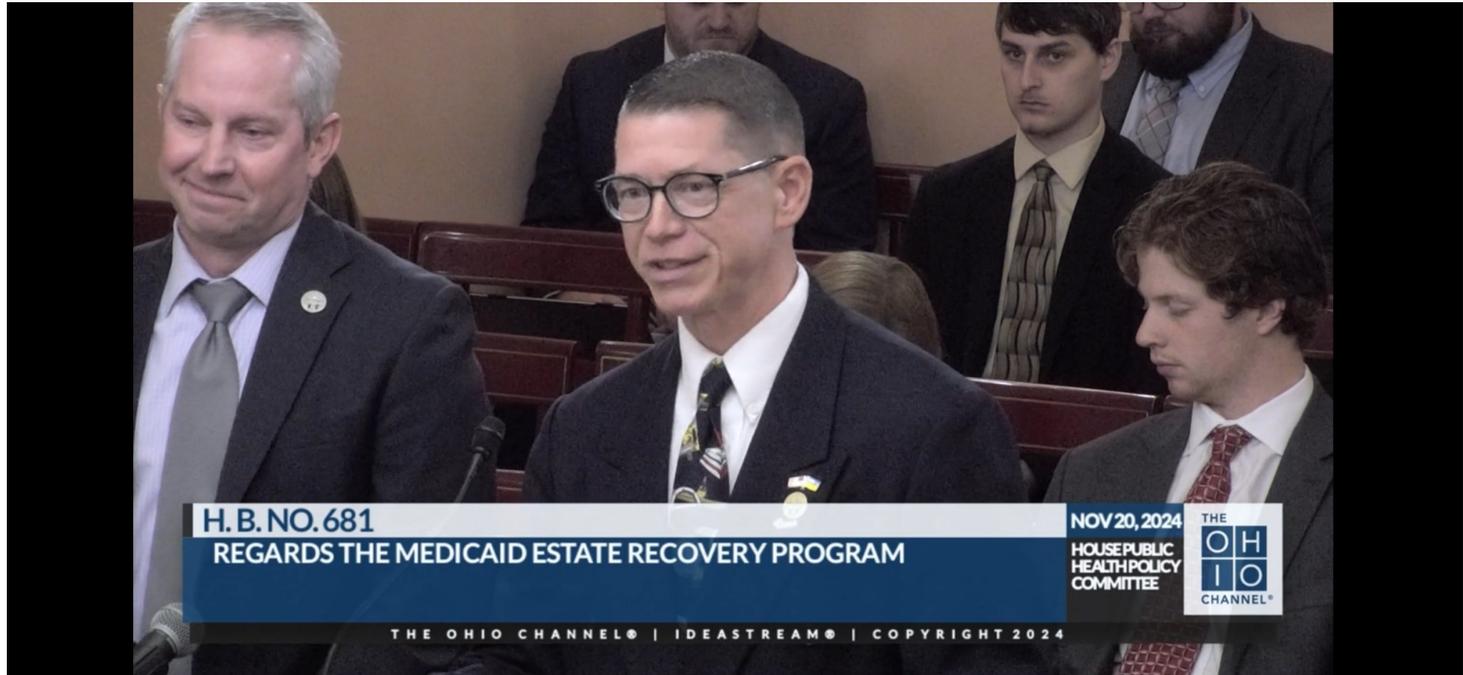
One of the most enjoyable aspects of my position as State Representative is commending constituents for their achievements. Whether it is a significant birthday or wedding anniversary, teachers or students doing great things in the classroom, personal achievements, community service, a significant personal milestone or that of a community organization, or the opening of a new business, I am constantly on the lookout for individuals and entities deserving of being recognized by my Statehouse office, such as Cuyahoga County Farm Bureau Agriculturalist of the Year Larry Theurer. I invite you to reach out to my office to provide us with your suggestions regarding commendations for those deserving of recognition.

*Please call in or send your commendation ideas to  
State Rep. Sean Patrick Brennan's office at:*

**614-466-3485 or Rep14@OhioHouse.gov**



# State Representative Sean Patrick Brennan Provides Sponsor Testimony on Medicaid Recovery Bill



Back in November, my Republican colleague Rep. Jeff LaRe (Violet Township) sent out a legislative request regarding a bill that would require that the Ohio Department of Medicaid educate Ohioans on the Medicaid Estate Recovery Program. Being an issue that is near and dear to my heart, given that I have family members currently trying to interpret the complicated Medicaid rules, I called Rep. LaRe and asked if I could joint-sponsor the bill with him. Without hesitation he agreed to work together on the important bill. I believe this illustrates the great relationship I have built with colleagues on both sides of the aisle during my first term as your State Representative.

Recently, Representative LaRe and I provided sponsor testimony on our bill, known as House Bill (H.B.) 681, to the Ohio House of Representatives Standing Committee on Public Health Policy. Below you can read my testimony. You may also watch it on the Ohio Channel at <https://ohiochannel.org/video/ohio-house-public-health-policy-committee-11-20-2024> (begin at minute 28:00).

House Committees  
State & Local Government, Ranking Member  
Primary and Secondary Education  
Public Utilities Committee  
Ways & Means Committee  
Pensions Committee



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**Representative Sean Patrick Brennan**  
14<sup>th</sup> House District

Sponsor Testimony  
H.B. 681: Regards the Medicaid Estate Recovery Program

Good morning Chair Mathews, Vice Chair Stewart, and Ranking Member Liston, and members of the House Public Health Policy Committee. Thank you for affording us the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on H.B. 681.

Ohio's Medicaid Estate Recovery Program is designed to recover costs for Medicaid services provided to an individual. This applies to older adults (aged 55 or older) and some individuals that are living with disabilities. There are approximately 413,000 Ohioans with dual eligibility (Medicaid and Medicare) with complex care needs.

According to the Department of Medicaid, the 2022-2023 SFY caseload reflected that approximately 3.2 million or 35% of Ohioans were recipients of Medicaid. These are members of our communities and residents of all of our districts. Our neighbors, friends, and loved ones rely on these services and many do not understand the prospect of estate recovery.

Many folks who apply for Medicaid are unaware that the state will seek to recover the costs of services provided from their estate. If the recipient does not understand the cost of the program, they may leave their loved ones to shoulder unintended and unanticipated debts.

H.B. 681 will require the Department of Medicaid to notify individuals about the Medicaid Estate Recovery Program upon applying for Medicaid and to notify them once more when their application is approved. This must include a consumer-

focused approach that explains how the Medicaid Estate Recovery Program functions in layman's terms, including specific scenarios and a delineation of what is recoverable. In fact, Medicaid recipients are required to be included in developing and review of the notification materials.

Additionally, a notification for Medicaid enrollees who may be at the risk of being subject to the Estate Recovery Program will include a list of available resources, such as consumer support, legal aid, and estate planning resources.

I want to emphasize that for many, Medicaid eligibility is a matter of necessity due to lack of resources and need for long term care. In many circumstances, it is their only choice. H.B. 681 will ensure equity and fairness. Medicaid estate recovery programs can disproportionately affect low-income families and those living with special needs or disabilities that rely on Medicaid to pay for long-term care. In fact, some criticize the program for exacerbating the challenges for many low-income families to build intergenerational wealth.

This is a critical step that we must take for Ohioans. By requiring clear notification at the time of application and when they are approved for Medicaid, Medicaid beneficiaries will be informed about potential outcomes and protect themselves or their families from any unintended financial hardship.

This bipartisan bill promotes transparency, integrity and safeguards the rights and well-being of the individual and their loved ones. We welcome collaboration with the community - families, healthcare providers and state agencies - to ensure that everyone has the support they need. Medicaid is a lifeline for many and we have an opportunity to strengthen it and make it more compassionate for all Ohioans.

I want to thank Representative LaRe for allowing me to join him on this important piece of legislation. It is an honor to work with someone who clearly cares about improving the quality of life for Ohioans.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman for allowing us to present to your committee and for your consideration of a second hearing soon, and thank you to all of the members of the committee for your consideration of support of this consumer-friendly bill.

## State Representative Sean Patrick Brennan Hosts Ukrainian Ambassador at the Statehouse

COLUMBUS – **State Rep. Sean Patrick Brennan (Parma)** joined **Governor Mike DeWine** and Ohio Department of Development Director **Lydia Mihalik** in welcoming several officials from the Ukrainian region of Kharkiv Oblast for the signing of a Memorandum of Cooperation aimed at strengthening Ohio’s support for Ukraine.

Among those attending the signing ceremony from Ukraine were the Head of the Kharkiv Oblast Regional Council **Tetiana Yehorova-Lutsenko** and Ukrainian Ambassador to the United States **Oksana Markarova**.

This event marks a renewed commitment between Ohio and Kharkiv Oblast, building on a longstanding relationship that promotes mutual progress. The Kharkiv Oblast delegation met with **Governor DeWine**, **Rep. Brennan**, and representatives of the Ohio Department of Development and the Ohio Commission on Eastern European Affairs.

*“I was profoundly honored and proud to join **Governor DeWine** and Director Mihalik in welcoming our honorable Ukrainian officials to the Statehouse. Our great state remains steadfast in its commitment to our relationship with Kharkiv Oblast,”* said **Rep. Brennan**. *“The economic and cultural ties between Ukraine and Ohio are very important and advantageous to one another.”*

The Memorandum of Cooperation builds on a partnership between the two countries established 22 years ago with the signing of an agreement of intent focused on mutual growth, with exchanges in business, the arts, and cultural understanding.

Ohio is home to more than 44,000 people of Ukrainian descent. In 2023, Ukraine was Ohio’s 63rd largest export market, exporting more than \$31 million worth of products. Ohio imported \$205 million worth of goods from Ukraine in 2023. Parma is known as the Ukrainian capital of Ohio.

