State Representative Sean Patrick Brennan

Ohio House District 14

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Proudly serving Parma, Parma Heights, and Cleveland's Old Brooklyn, Brooklyn Centre, Clark-Fulton, & South Hills Neighborhoods!

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Dear District 14 Resident:

I am a little late in getting this month's newsletter out because I have been extremely busy with several of the bills I am working on, as well as addressing the many issues that constituents call my office for help with each day. You know by now how laser-focused I am on promoting improving the quality of life for all Ohioans. I thought I would give you a rundown of some of the bills I have introduced so far this term:

H.B. 66: Repeal of the corrupt H.B. 6 subsidies paid for by Ohio's electric consumers

H.B. 71: Require the disclosure of chemicals used when drilling for oil and gas under state parks

H.B. 75: Supporting the right to fly the thin blue line flag in honor of police officers

H.B. 117: Requiring the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag to be offered daily in schools

H.B. 130: Requiring Medicaid recipients be fully informed of their financial obligations

H.B. 143: Authorizing a property tax exemption for long-term homeowners

H.B. 157: Create a hunger-free campus grant program for colleges and universities

H.B. 158: Require utilities to provide consumers with bills that clearly reveal all charges

H.B. 168: A bill protecting children by closing a legal loophole in the predatory enticement law

H.B. 205: A bill that would allow student teachers to be paid for their services

Recently, I attended a meeting of the Ohio chapter of the National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI) at the Statehouse. One of the speakers mentioned that they want people to *"Know us before you need us."* How important that is, as mental illness services are needed now more than ever. For more information visit: <u>www.nami.org/affiliate/ohio</u>

Along those same lines, I want you to *know me before you need me*. This newsletter is one of many ways I strive to make you aware of my work on your behalf. So, if my office may ever be of service, we welcome your call or email. 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. Please help by sharing it with others. Thank you for the honor of serving you!

Sincerely,

Sean Patrick Brennan State Representative, District 14 77 South High Street Columbus, Ohio 43215 ohiohouse.gov/members/sean-p-brennan Recently, I met with Cuyahoga County Sheriff Harold Pretel at the Statehouse. We had a very productive conversation about his vision to enhance safety in our region. I made it clear that I will do my part in Columbus to help ensure that he has the resources to achieve that vision.



State Representative Sean Patrick Brennan Seeks Bipartisan Support to End E-Check

Bipartisan Ohio legislators advocate for eliminating the E -Check emissions testing in seven Northeast Ohio counties, citing improved air quality and financial burdens on residents. Matty Willz (4-17-25; 93.1 FM—WZAK)

COLUMBUS: Ohio's E-Check program, initiated in 1996, mandates biennial vehicle emissions testing for residents in seven counties: Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, Medina, Portage, and Summit. State Representative Bill Roemer (Richfield) leads a bipartisan effort to terminate this program, arguing that it no longer serves its intended purpose.



Roemer emphasizes that advancements in vehicle technology and the decline of heavy industries have significantly improved air quality in Northeast Ohio. He notes that the program imposes unnecessary costs and time burdens on residents, particularly affecting lowincome individuals who often own older vehicles more likely to fail the test. The E-Check program costs Ohioans nearly \$11 million annually, with questionable efficacy in reducing emissions.

Despite these arguments, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) maintains that the region does not meet the current health-based standard for ozone. The U.S. EPA classifies the area as "moderate" non-attainment, indicating that air quality improvements are still necessary.

Lawmakers like State Rep. Sean Brennan (Parma) support ending E-Check, citing constituent complaints and the lack of evidence for its effectiveness. He suggests reallocating funds to conservation education or public transit to achieve better environmental outcomes.

The proposed resolution seeks to reform the Federal Clean Air Act, allowing for more effective and less burdensome methods to ensure air quality. As the debate continues, Ohio residents in the affected counties await a decision that balances environmental concerns with practical implications.

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 the new Ichiban Japanese Steakhouse & Sushi restaurant on Pearl Road in Parma Heights. 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 Statehouse Advocacy for Property Tax Relief Continues

Stacia Naquin (4-3-25; WKYC Channel 3)

COLUMBUS — There's a growing consensus among <u>Ohio</u> lawmakers: something needs to be done about rising property taxes. But what exactly?

Multiple bills have been introduced in the Ohio legislature.

The GOP House budget also included a provision on the issue this week. But, so far, any potential solutions remain merely as ideas being discussed.



"Folks are hurting out there," said **State Representative Sean Patrick Brennan** (Parma). "It's senior citizens. It's families. It's young people wanting to buy their first home. It's renters!"

Most of the bills being introduced focus on exemptions for vulnerable populations. "So many people in my district are on fixed incomes," said State Representative Brian Lorenz (Powell). "They're retired. They're planning on X amount for their tax bill and then when it's 3-fold, you know I'm getting calls. We need to react and make sure that people have some certainty in going forward that are on budgets."

Representative Brennan is hearing similar concerns from his constituents. That's why he introduced <u>HB 143</u>, which would double the homestead exemption for seniors and permanently disabled Ohioans. The bill has already received bipartisan support. He also recognizes this issue has a wider impact.

"We've got to do something to provide relief for everybody," said **Rep. Brennan**. **Representative Brennan** is concerned that, if legislation is not ultimately approved and signed by the Governor, the issue will unfairly fall on school districts, which raise money for funding through property tax levies, making them "the bad guy."

"The way we fund schools in Ohio has unfairly pit our property owners against our children, and that's just wrong," said **Representative Brennan**. "It's heartbreaking and I don't think a lot of people understand that."

So, the push for reform and relief continues on multiple fronts.

"We've got to do something," said Rep. Brennan.

"The major thing is working together," said Rep. Lorenz. "Putting together a solid plan that's going to be ironclad that'll pass both chambers, go to the Governor and have him sign that. That really alleviates the concerns and the unknown."

A Sample of Property Tax Proposals Supported by Representative Brennan

H.B. 22: Authorizing a Homestead exemption for surviving military spouses

H.B. 40: Increase the disabled veteran enhanced Homestead exemption

H.B. 103: Increase the Homestead exemption amount and income limit

H.B. 143: Authorizing a property tax exemption for long-term homeowners

H.B. 156: Authorize a tax freeze for certain owner-occupied homes

H.B. 212: Allow eligible homeowners to defer property tax payments

H.B. 266: Authorize a temporary property tax credit for certain homesteads





