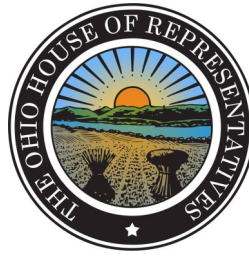


State Representative Sean Patrick Brennan

Ohio House District 14

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August 2026



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

Dear District 14 Resident:

As I move through another busy summer as your State Representative, I want to thank you for taking the time to stay informed about my work being done on your behalf. Serving as your State Representative is both an honor and a responsibility that I take seriously each and every day. Whether I am introducing legislation, advocating for policies that protect Ohio families, or helping residents navigate state government, my priorities remain the same: delivering effective constituent services and working to improve the quality of life for everyone in our community.

This month's newsletter highlights two issues that reflect those priorities. First, I share my efforts to protect Ohioans—especially our children—from the dangers of unregulated kratom products and my call for stronger consumer protections and public education while the General Assembly continues to debate long-term legislation. Public safety and protecting vulnerable Ohioans will always remain among my top legislative priorities.

I also take you behind the scenes during my recent visit to the Ohio Lottery headquarters to answer one of the questions I hear very often: "Where does the Ohio Lottery money go?" As a former public school teacher, I was especially interested in seeing firsthand how Lottery proceeds help support education throughout Ohio. I hope you'll find this article informative and gain a better understanding of how these funds benefit students across our state.

One of the most important parts of my job is staying connected with the people I represent. If you have a question, concern, or simply need assistance with a state agency, please don't hesitate to contact my office. My team and I are here to help, and hearing directly from constituents helps guide both my legislative work and the services we provide.

As always, thank you for the privilege of serving you in the Ohio House of Representatives. I hope you enjoy this month's newsletter, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Sean Patrick Brennan

State Representative, District 14

77 South High Street, Floor 10

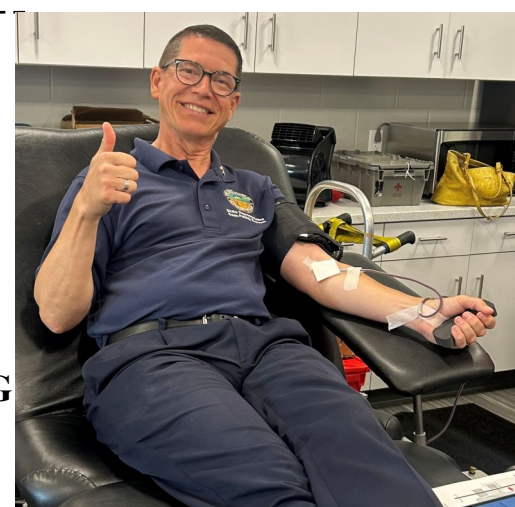
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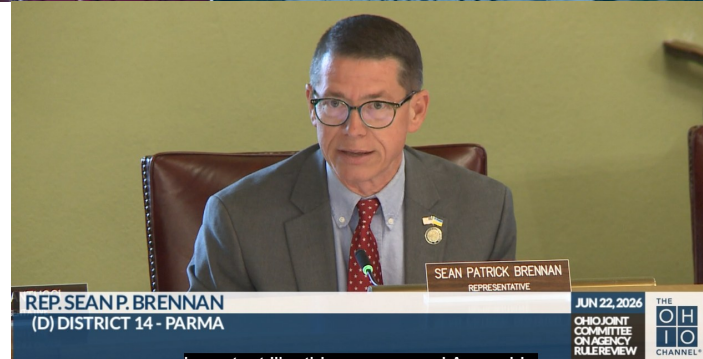
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Rep. Brennan Calls for Immediate Action to Protect Ohioans from Unregulated Kratom Products

COLUMBUS – State Rep. Sean Patrick Brennan (Parma) today urged Governor Mike DeWine and state agencies to take every lawful step available to protect Ohioans—especially children and teenagers—from unregulated natural kratom products while the Ohio General Assembly continues to deliberate long-term legislation.



“The reality is that the General Assembly has debated kratom for years without reaching a consensus,” said Rep. Brennan. “While I support banning natural kratom because of the significant unanswered questions surrounding its safety, I recognize that I am currently in the minority on that position. Until the Legislature finally acts, we cannot simply do nothing.”

Rep. Brennan expressed particular concern over the lack of comprehensive scientific research regarding the short-term and long-term health effects of natural kratom, especially on adolescents and young adults.

“Ohio families deserve facts, not uncertainty,” continued Rep. Brennan. “We simply do not have sufficient research to fully understand the impacts of this substance. That alone should compel us to exercise caution and ensure that children cannot easily access these products.”

The comments follow discussions before the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review (JCARR) regarding the Ohio Board of Pharmacy’s authority to regulate natural and synthetic kratom. Rep. Brennan, a member of this important bipartisan committee, praised Governor DeWine for directing state agencies to address the issue after years of legislative inaction.

“I appreciate Governor DeWine’s willingness to engage on this issue when the Legislature has struggled to do so,” added Rep. Brennan. “However, regardless of ongoing legal and regulatory debates, I hope the Governor and every appropriate state agency will use every tool available to keep kratom out of the hands of minors, educate consumers about the potential risks, and ensure Ohioans understand that many important questions about this substance remain unanswered.”

Rep. Brennan also called for a coordinated public education campaign involving the Ohio Department of Health, the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, the Ohio Department of Agriculture, and the Board of Pharmacy to provide clear information about kratom products, potential health risks, and the lack of conclusive scientific evidence regarding their safety.

“The Legislature is entering its summer recess and is unlikely to revisit kratom legislation until later this year, if at all,” said Rep. Brennan. “That means months will pass with products continuing to be sold in a largely unregulated marketplace. During that time, our priority should be protecting children, informing consumers, and preventing avoidable tragedies.”

Rep. Brennan emphasized that reasonable people could disagree on whether natural kratom should ultimately be legal, regulated, or prohibited.

“What should unite all of us is the belief that Ohio’s children should not have unrestricted access to a psychoactive substance with so many unanswered questions,” concluded Rep. Brennan. “Until the General Assembly gets its act together and establishes a clear policy, I hope the Governor and our state agencies will continue doing everything within their lawful authority to promote public safety and educate Ohioans about the risks.”

Rep. Brennan urges all Ohioans to avoid using kratom products, which are often sold in gas stations and convenience stores under the guise of being “natural” supplements or wellness products. Despite this marketing, many of these products are unregulated, can vary widely in potency and purity, and may be contaminated with harmful substances. Kratom has been linked to serious health risks, including addiction, seizures, liver damage, and, in some cases, death—particularly when combined with other substances. Until stronger consumer protections and regulations are in place, he urges residents to exercise caution and avoid these products altogether, as public health and consumer safety must always come first.

Where does Ohio Lottery Money Go? Rep. Brennan Visits Ohio Lottery Headquarters

One of the questions I hear often from constituents is, "**Where does the Ohio Lottery money actually go?**" I recently toured the Ohio Lottery headquarters in Cleveland to see firsthand how the Lottery operates, and I came away with a greater appreciation for the important role it plays in supporting education across our state.

Many people are surprised to learn that the Ohio Lottery was created specifically to support education. In fact, Ohio's Constitution requires that **100% of the Lottery's net profits be used exclusively for elementary, secondary, vocational, and special education programs.** That constitutional promise has remained in place since the Lottery was created.



Since ticket sales began in 1974, the Ohio Lottery has transferred **more than \$35 billion** to support Ohio's schools. In Fiscal Year 2025 alone, the Lottery contributed **\$1.448 billion** to the Lottery Profits Education Fund, helping support K-12 students in every corner of our state.

As a former public school teacher for 30 years, this mission is especially meaningful to me. Every dollar the Lottery contributes helps support the educational opportunities our students deserve. While those funds don't pay for all of Ohio's K-12 education costs - about **12%**, they provide a significant source of revenue that helps fund classrooms, instructional materials, career-technical education, and special education services throughout Ohio.

During my visit, I also learned more about how Lottery revenue is generated. For every dollar spent on Lottery games:

- Approximately **65 cents** is returned to players in prizes.
- About **24 cents** goes directly to education.
- Roughly **7 cents** is paid to the local retailers who sell Lottery tickets.

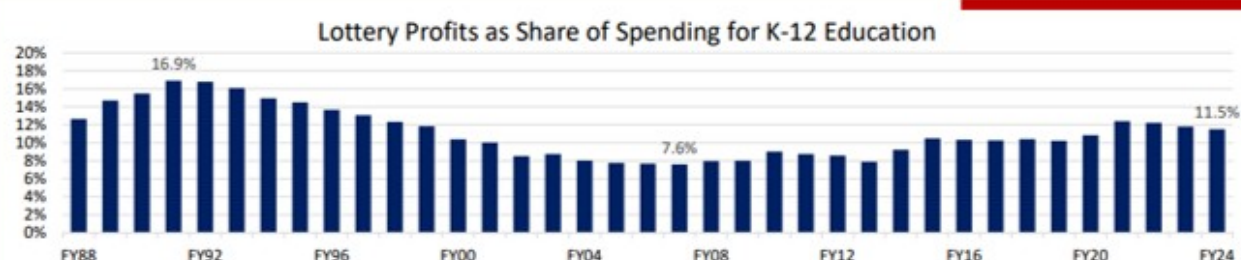
The remaining **4 cents** covers operating expenses, including administration and advertising. The Ohio Lottery oversees traditional draw games, instant scratch-off tickets, and Video Lottery Terminals at Ohio's seven racetracks. Lottery tickets are sold at more than **10,000 retail locations** throughout the state, making it one of Ohio's most visible public enterprises.

The idea for an Ohio Lottery was championed in the early 1970s by my friend and mentor and Parma's own former State Senator **Ron Mottl**, whose leadership helped make the Lottery a reality. Ohio voters overwhelmingly approved the constitutional amendment creating the Lottery in 1973, and the first game, Buckeye 300, went on sale in August 1974.

As your State Representative, I believe it's important to understand how state programs operate and where your tax and Lottery dollars go. My visit to the Ohio Lottery reinforced something I've always believed: when government is transparent and accountable, the public is better informed and better served.

I appreciate everyone who has asked me about the Ohio Lottery over the years. I hope this provides some helpful insight into how Lottery proceeds are invested in Ohio's greatest resource—our students.

Lottery profits comprise about 12% of state spending on primary and secondary education



Sources: Ohio Lottery Commission; Ohio Legislative Service Commission

- Lottery profits have always been a relatively small percentage of total GRF and lottery spending on primary and secondary education. After reaching a peak of 16.9% in FY 1991, this percentage fell to a low of 7.6% in FY 2007 and has since increased to 11.5% in FY 2024.
- Lottery profits spending on education reached a record \$1.45 billion in FY 2024, with an average growth rate of 5.6% since FY 2020.

State Representative Brennan Out and About in District 14's Parma, Parma Heights, and Cleveland



Visiting with Ward 14 Councilwoman Jasmine Santana at the Cleveland City Hall Puerto Rican flag raising ceremony; Touring the soon to open Primate Forest at Old Brooklyn's Cleveland Metroparks Zoo with Ex. Dir. Dr. Chris Kuhar; Meeting with top brass from the Ohio Police Benevolent Association (OPBA); Enjoying a photo with some of the talented performers at the Puerto Rican flag raising; Thanks to Mary Ellen Stasek for giving Cleveland Ward 11 Councilwoman Nikki Hudson, my wife, and a friend a tour of the beautiful Ben Frankling Community Garden in Old Brooklyn; I always enjoy visiting with my friends at Parma's Donna Smallwood Activities Center; Spending the morning learning about the great work the Boys and Girls Club of NE Ohio in Old Brooklyn do for our young scholars during the summer months and the school year.

