State Representative Darnell T. Brewer **OHIO HOUSE DISTRICT 22**

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April Newsletter

Dear Neighbor,

Thank you for your continued engagement. It is as important as ever to remain informed on federal, state, and local issues and to advocate for the policies that matter most to you. This April the House passed HB 96, the State Operating Budget. Hundreds of constituents reached out to my office to share their concerns with the House budget proposal. The most common issues I was contacted about were concerns over cuts to the Public Library Fund, the need for childcare investments, and substantial public school funding. Despite the efforts by concerned constituents and the Democratic Caucus, HB 96 was passed with cuts to the Public Library Fund, childcare, and public school funding. HB 96 now moves on to the Senate. Continue to be engaged and make your voices heard by contacting Senate President McColley at (614) 466-8150 and Senate Finance Chair Cirino at (614) 644-7718.

This month I introduced two pieces of legislation. The first is HB 235 with Representative Meredith Lawson Rowe (D-Reynoldsburg). HB 235 promotes safe gun storage by authorizing a nonrefundable income tax credit for Ohio taxpayers who complete a gun safety course, class or program, or who purchase a secure storage device or locking device for a gun. I also introduced HB 243 with Representative Cecil Thomas (D-Cincinnati), which designates April 5th as "Dolores Huerta and César Chávez Ohio Community Service Day." This legislation aims to recognize the profound contributions of Huerta and Chávez to the American labor movement and civil society. Finally, I introduced a resolution to bring the 2030 Special Olympics USA Games to Cleveland.

As always I love hearing from my constituents, please do not hesitate to reach out to my office with any questions, comments, or concerns.

Sincerely,

Darnell Brewer

State Representative

Ohio House District 22

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Minority Health Month

April is National Minority Health Month, a time to focus on the health disparities in minority communities across the state and country. Latina and Black women are more likely to be diagnosed with breast cancer at a later stage than white women. In addition, infant mortality rates among Black Americans and Native groups are higher than other racial or ethnic groups in the United States.

The week of April 11-17 was Black Maternal Health Week. Black mothers are 3x more likely to die from pregnancy-related complications compared to white women. We must address this injustice by removing barriers many Black mothers face to receiving quality healthcare.

Improving healthcare in minority communities is one of the most important issues facing our state. Democrats will continue to support quality, equitable healthcare so that everyone, no matter their zip code, can thrive here in Ohio.



Distracted Driving Awareness Month

Did you know that in 2022, distracted driving killed 3,308 people? National Distracted Driving Awareness Month is a good time to regroup and take responsibility for the choices we make when we're on the road. Cell phone use — specifically, texting, talking, and social media use — has become the most common distraction. Just because you can, doesn't mean you should!

#JustDrive



April Photo Gallery



Introducing a Resolution to bring the 2030 Special Olympics USA Games to Cleveland.



Speaking at my April townhall.



At a press conference regarding Trump's 100^{th} day in office.



At the Statehouse with Garfield Heights City School District Treasurer, Phillip Oko.