

State Representative Darnell T. Brewer

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September Newsletter

Dear Neighbor,

As we enter fall, House Democrats are gearing up to fight for fair, bipartisan maps. States such as Texas and Missouri have recently passed dishonest maps that give republicans an unfair advantage in congressional elections. Ohio is next and the outcome impacts all of us.

Voters should pick their politicians, not the other way around. We already have some of the most rigged districts in the country which has led to single party rule, out-of-teach leadership, and dangerous federal bills that directly impact Ohioans' Medicaid coverage, hospitals, and food stamps. That's not democracy.

In September, the Joint Redistricting Commission had two public hearings where Ohioans had the opportunity to voice their redistricting opinions. Democrats proposed a map that accurately reflects the the preferences of Ohio voters. Republicans failed to propose a map and now the process moves to the Ohio Redistricting Commission where members have until October 31st to hold hearings and vote on a bipartisan map. For a detailed timeline of the redistricting process see page 3.

When politicians cheat the process to protect themselves, they rob voters of real choices and meaningful representation. House Democrats are ready to fight for fair representation, protect the voices of Ohioans, and make sure every community has a seat at the table.

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



How to Check Unclaimed Funds

Through the state operating budget, Ohio assumed control of \$1.7 billion in unclaimed funds. Of that, \$600m is reserved for the billionaire Haslam family to build a new Cleveland Browns stadium. Unlike past uses of unclaimed funds, the budget allows Ohio to assume the ownership of abandoned paycheck and security deposits after 10 years.

At a time where items are more expensive, property taxes are higher, and we are cutting funding for critical things like healthcare, Ohioans deserve to have their own money in their pockets.

To check to see if you have missing money, please visit the Ohio Department of Commerce's Division of Unclaimed Funds [website here](#). It will give information on how to find out whether you have unclaimed funds, how you can claim them and how to submit a formal claim form to obtain the funds.

You can also check the status of your claim on the division webpage, com.ohio.gov/divisions-and-programs/unclaimed-funds.



Celebrating a New School Year and Fathers Walk Week

As a new school year begins, House Democrats celebrate the limitless potential of every student and the unwavering dedication of our educators. We believe that every child, no matter their socioeconomic background, deserves access to a high-quality, well-funded public education. That's why we will continue fighting for policies that support our teachers, reduce barriers in the classroom, and ensure schools are safe, inclusive environments where all students can thrive.

Thank you to all the teachers, support staff, bus drivers, counselors, and administrators. The work you do every day is critical in inspiring and leading the next generation.

This year, we renew our commitment to uplifting families and investing in our children's future. From expanding early childhood education to making sure students have access to healthy meals, House Democrats will continue to work to build a foundation where every student can succeed.

In September, Rep. Brewer introduced legislation to designate the third week in September as "Fathers Walk Week." Each September, the Ohio Commission on Fatherhood (OCF) invites fathers and male mentors to take part in the Fathers Walk either walking or, if unable, driving their children to early childhood programs and schools. Research shows that a father's presence and involvement in their children's lives is directly linked to better educational outcomes, including higher academic achievement, improved attendance, and fewer behavioral challenges at school.

1

Sept. 30th

The legislature has until Sept. 30 to hold hearings and vote on a bipartisan map.

If it does not pass, the process moves to Step 2.

2

Oct. 31st

Redistricting Commission has until Oct. 31 to hold hearings & vote on a bipartisan map. If it does not pass, the process moves to Step 3.

3

Nov. 30th

DEADLINE

The legislature has until Nov. 30 to hold hearings and vote on a bipartisan or party line map.

4

Last Resort

Governor signs or vetoes the map passed by the General Assembly