

OHIO STATE REPRESENTATIVE

CECIL THOMAS

2026 Autumn Newsletter

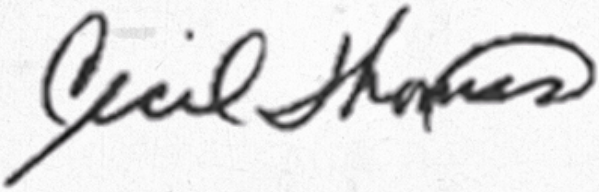
Dear Neighbors,

This has been a year of both strength and hardship. As many continue to grapple with the rising cost of living, we also celebrated the 250th anniversary of our great nation. With midterm elections approaching, divisions within our district, state, and country remain as deep as ever. In times like these, it is more important than ever to make our voices heard and stand up for the values we believe in. As we do this, we prove the strength of our democracy.

As as community, we have endured rising prices with a sense of frustration and powerlessness. But as we look ahead, we must have a sense of hope. In the new state budget, we will see increased investment into our district.

In times like these, it is more important than ever to stay informed. This newsletter will cover the new Ohio budget for 2027-2028 and how it impact Hamilton county. It will also cover what I have been up to during session and in the community. Finally, there is a brief election guide to help you understand the upcoming midterm election. Stay informed, stay engaged and make sure to get out and vote this November!

Sincerely,



Cecil Thomas
State Representative
Ohio House District 25

HIGHLIGHTS

Budget Update

Rep. Thomas' Wins

Rep. Thomas' Bills

November Election

In the Community

RESOURCES

The Budget Update

2027-2028 State Budget Approved

On July 15th, Mike DeWine signed Ohio's new two-year capital budget into law with Senate Bill 450. Through **bipartisan** efforts, **Rep. Thomas** helped secure **$22,033,800** for **Hamilton County**.

House District 25 Wins

Rep. Thomas secured approxmately **$2,200,000** for the following projects in HD 25:

- **$250,000** to Xavier University's Center for Community Health
- **$150,000** to The Avondale Boys & Girls Club
- **$600,000** to The Cincinnati Zoo's giraffe habitat
- **$200,000** to Keep Cincinnati Beautiful Pocket Parks Initiative
- **$750,000** to The Uptown Innovation District Food Hall and Kitchen
- **$250,000** to the Buddy LaRosa Center for Youth

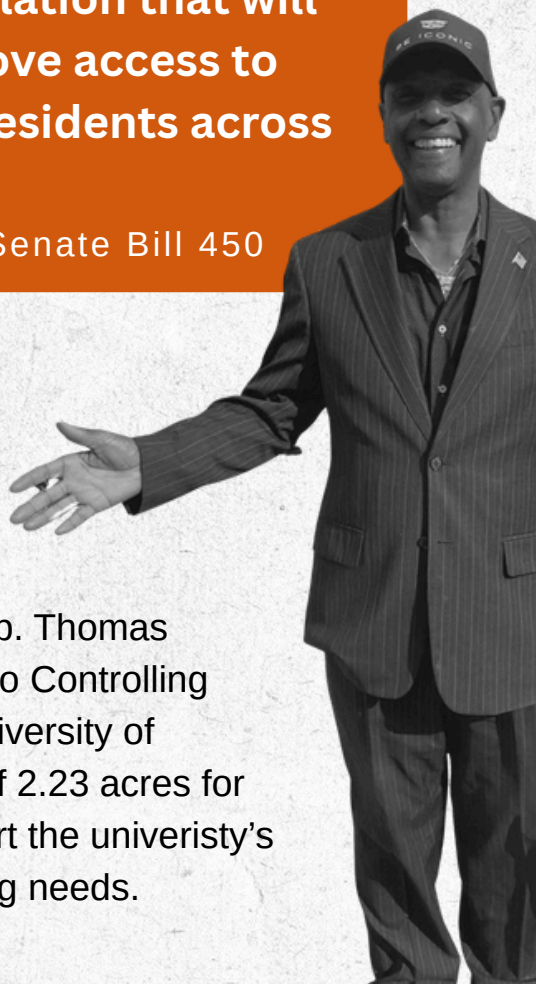
"I am proud to support this bipartisan legislation that will expand opportunities in education, improve access to healthcare, and enhance quality of life for residents across Southwest Ohio."

- Rep. Thomas on Senate Bill 450



University of Cincinnati Wins

On September 15th, Rep. Thomas announced that the Ohio Controlling Board approved the University of Cincinnati's purchase of 2.23 acres for $33.2 million to suppport the univeristy's ongoing student housing needs.



Rep. Thomas' Wins

Joshua Alert in Effect

The Joshua Alert, sponsored by Rep. Thomas and Rep. Gross, went into effect on September 17th after being signed by the Governor in June. The law will provide critical support and help locate children with autism or other developmental disabilities, similar to Amber Alerts.



The Signing of The Joshua Alert Bill by Governor Mike DeWine on June 18th, 2026.

H.B. 452 Moves out of Committee

House Bill 452, sponsored by Rep. Thomas and Rep. Lawson-Rowe, designating 761st Tank Battalion Day on October 1st has passed out of House Veterans Military Development Committee. The day will honor the 761st Tank Battalion, a unit largely composed of African American soldiers who served in the United States Army during World War II.



Soldiers from Dog Company of the 761st Tank Battalion check equipment before leaving England for combat in France in the fall of 1944.

Rep Thomas' Bills

Sponsored Legislation

136th General Assembly

H.B. 3: Enact the School Bus Safety Act

H.B. 4: Designate Ohio Stillbirth Prevention Day

H.B. 45: Prohibit certain firearms transfers without a background check

H.B. 46: Enact the Extreme Risk Protection Order Act

H.B. 110: Increase the penalty for repeat voyeurism

H.B. 240: Enact Avery's Law

H.B. 241: Regards dog quarantine, disposition hearing after dog attack

H.B. 242: Authorize tax credit for dog spaying, neutering, or training

H.B. 243: Designate Dolores Huerta, Cesar Chavez Ohio Community Service Act

H.B. 337: Require firearm sale by federal dealer to include trigger lock

H.B. 350: Prohibit certain conduct that accelerates firearms' rate of fire

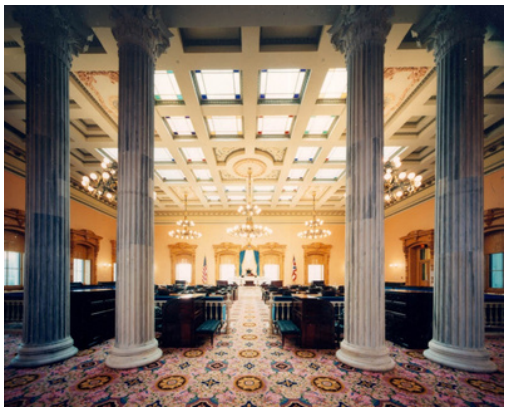
H.B. 359: Regards emergency Joshua Alert system for certain missing kids

H.B. 452: Designate 761st Tank Battalion Day

H.B. 691: Enact the Community and Police Protection Act

H.B. 846: Create the repeat domestic violence offender registry

H.B. 964: Require names submitted by BMV be included on the jury Isit



Bill Spotlight

House Bill 846: Create the repeat domestic violence offender registry

This introduced bill, sponsored by Rep. Thomas (D) and Rep. Plummer (R), protects Ohioans through the creation of the Repeat Domestic Violence Offender Registry maintained by the Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation (BCI). Offenders determined by the court to be repeat domestic violence offenders must register with BCI, and remain on the registry for two, five, or ten years, based on the severity of prior domestic violence convictions.

The November Election

Get out to Vote!

Midterm elections are right around the corner. As Ohioans elect leaders at the local, state and federal level, every vote will help shape the future of Ohio.

Sample Ballot

To learn more about the candidates, other state and local officials on the ballot, and the issues important to you, visit this link to see your sample ballot: https://votehamiltoncountyohio.gov/sample-ballot/

Important Dates

November 2nd: Absentee Ballot Postmark Deadline/Last Day of Early Voting

November 3rd: Election Day/Absentee Ballot in-person return deadline

November 7th: Deadline for Board of Elections to approve provisional ballots

Governor


Dr. Amy Acton


Vivek Ramaswamy

U.S. Senate


Sherod Brown


Senator Jon Husted

Attorney General


John Kulewicz


Keith Faber

Auditor


Mayor Annette Blackwell


Secretary of State Frank LaRose

Secretary of State


State Rep. Allison Russo


Treasurer Robert Sprague

State Treasurer


Councilmember Seth Walsh


Rep. Jay Edwards

In the Community



Rep. Thomas speaks at the Housing Affordability Press Conference



Rep. Thomas attends the Ohio Democratic Party's Annual, themed "Ohio on the Rise"



Rep. Thomas meets with the Hamilton County Conservation District



The Urban League of South West Ohio's Juneteenth Celebration, attended by Rep. Thomas



Cincinnati's Pride Parade and Festival, attended by Rep. Thomas



Rep. Thomas visits a local Youth Residential Treatment Facility with the Ohio Children's Alliance

Resources

LEGAL ISSUES:

- Legal Access Clinic at the University of Cincinnati
- Legal Aid Society of Greater Cincinnati
- Expungement Program (Urban League)
- Ohio Innocence Project (UC) Immigration
- Know Your Rights

EMPLOYMENT:

- Urban League
- Cincinnati Works Hamilton County JFS 513 Relief
- Workforce Development - U.S. District Court

HOUSING:

- City of Cincinnati Housing Resources
- Cincinnati Metro Housing Authority
- Bethany House Services
- Talbert House
- 513 Relief

WARMING CENTERS:

- Bond Hill Recreation Center (1501 Elizabeth Place)
- Bush Community Center (2640 Kemper Lane, Walnut Hills)
- College Hill Library (1400 W. North Bend Road
- CLICK HERE FOR MORE

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