

A legislative update from  
**STATE REP. MEREDITH R. LAWSON-ROWE**  
HOUSE DISTRICT 5



(614) 644-6002 | [rep05@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:rep05@ohiohouse.gov)

 @OHHouseDems

 @staterepmeredithlawson-rowe



## From the desk of Rep. Lawson-Rowe

Dear Neighbor,

I am pleased to celebrate this month, and every month, the observance of Juneteenth, which commemorates the emancipation of the last slaves in the former Confederacy on June 19, 1865, two-and-a-half years after the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation by President Abraham Lincoln.

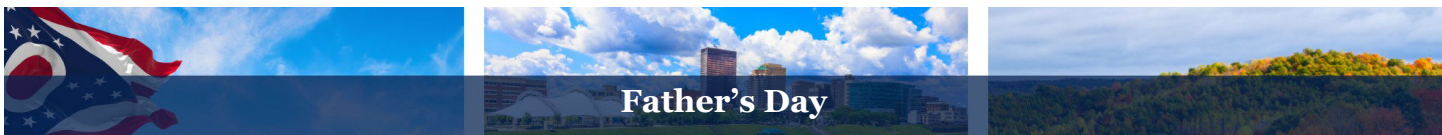
I was proud to spearhead the first Juneteenth celebration in the City of Reynoldsburg in 2020 and to chair the planning committee for the celebration for four years. I also, recently, hosted “From Emancipation to Legislation”, a town hall moderated by WSYX 6/WTTE 28 anchor Rodney Dunigan and featured State Representatives Dontavius L. Jarrells and Latyna M. Humphrey, and Reynoldsburg City Council President Shanette Strickland, which celebrated the legacy of Juneteenth, while highlighting the work which still needs to be done on all levels of government to ensure that we can live comfortable lives, regardless of what we look like or where we come from.

On the bottom right of this page is the official Juneteenth flag, adopted in 2000, which symbolizes the holiday in the United States. The colors, red, white, and blue, akin to the American flag, emphasizes that Black Americans are apart of the fabric of this country, and that our history **IS** American history!

Sincerely,

**Meredith R. Lawson-Rowe**  
State Representative  
Ohio House District 5





## Father's Day

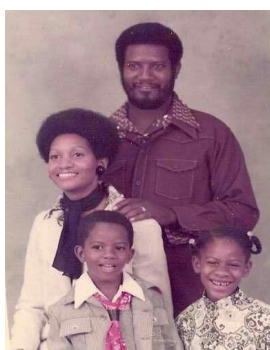
Father's Day was **Sunday, June 15**. I personally want to shout-out all of the men who play a fathering role to someone, whether its your own children, or the children of another, you are the cornerstone of our society.

Our fathers are often our first protectors and mentors. They teach us and guide us with loving strength and dignity. So take some time this weekend to celebrate your father or yourself if you have ever played a fathering role in the someone else's life.

On behalf of myself and House District 5, Happy Father's Day!



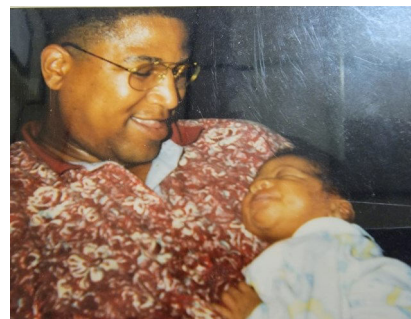
### The Dads in My Life



This is a special shout-out to the premiere fathers in my life!

My father, Vernon Lawson, was the best dad a girl could ask for. Though he died right before my 12th birthday, his wisdom and guidance stick with me even today. Daddy taught my brother and I the value of hard work, discipline, and passed down his athleticism to us, which I have passed down to my children.

My husband, Rondal Rowe, is not only the love of my life, but an awesome dad to our three children. He blesses our family daily with his love and compassion and is the embodiment of "taking care of business."



Last, but certainly not least, my son, Rondal Rowe, III. I am beyond proud of the man, husband, and father he has become. Just like his dad, Tre "takes care of business" for his family. Through much adversity, Tre has defied many odds and is an incomparable father to my four grandchildren.

Happy Father's Day, gentlemen!

### Avery's Law

I am elated to announce that my bipartisan House Bill 247 (Avery's Law) was passed unanimously by the Ohio House of Representatives on June 18.

This bill is named after my constituent, Avery Russell, who was mauled by pit bulls last summer in Reynoldsburg during a play-date. This bill is a culmination of the advocacy that Avery and her mother, Drew Russell, performed to get tougher dog laws in our state, which have remained unchanged since 2012.

Among a litany of changes, Avery's Law creates stiffer penalties for owners of dangerous, vicious, and nuisance dogs who attack, fail to report instances where their dogs attacks, and requires owners of these dogs to obtain no less than \$100,000 in liability insurance. This bill also strengthens the ability that county dog wardens have in enforcing these laws and penalties, conducting investigations, and seizing dogs after attacks. This bill now moves to the Ohio Senate for further consideration.





**SAVE A TREE!**

**SUBSCRIBE TO RECEIVE MY NEWSLETTER VIRTUALLY AT:**  
<https://ohiohouse.gov/members/meredith-r-lawson-rowe>

## Resources

As your state representative, I want to be a resource to you in whatever your needs might be. Should you ever need anything from:

### My Office

Call me  
(614) 644-6002

Email me  
rep05@ohiohouse.gov

Instagram  
@replawsonrowe

Twitter  
@mlawsonrowe

Facebook  
State Rep. Meredith  
Lawson-Rowe

Mailing Address  
77 S. High St., 10th Floor  
Columbus, OH 43215



### State of Ohio Agencies

Workers'  
Compensation  
(800) 644-6292

Medicaid  
(800) 324-8680

Unemployment  
(614) 466-6282

Environmental  
Protection Agency  
(614) 644-3020

Taxation  
1 (800) 282-1780

Transportation  
(614) 466-7170

Rehabilitation and  
Correction  
(614) 387-0588

Commerce  
(614) 466-3636  
  
Education/Workforce  
(877) 644-6338

Veterans Services  
(614) 644-0898  
  
Civil Rights  
(888) 278-7101

### Franklin County Agencies:

Legal Aid  
(614) 221-7201

Jobs and Family  
Services  
1 (844) 640-6446

Aging  
(614) 525-5230

Developmental  
Disabilities  
(614) 475-6440

Animal Care & Control  
(614) 525-3400

Board of Elections  
(614) 525-3100

Mental Health  
and Addiction  
(614) 224-1057