

from the desk of

# STATE REPRESENTATIVE CHRISTINE COCKLEY



JULY 2025 | STATEHOUSE UPDATE | HOUSE DISTRICT 6



Rep. Cockley with Brutus Buckeye at the Annual Ohio State Alumni in Government Luncheon.

## Dear District 6 Neighbor,

**Happy Independence Day** and happy summer! As we enter July and celebrate our country's independence, I look forward to continuing the fight for the American values of equality, liberty, and justice alongside my fellow colleagues, friends, and community members. Together, we can ensure these ideals are not only preserved, but also upheld each day.

July also marks **the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)**, a historic civil rights law that protects the rights of people with disabilities. In honor of its anniversary, I introduced HB 32, which will officially designate the month of July as Celebrating Disabilities Month. The bill passed out of committee back in May and is still waiting to be heard on the House Floor. I will be sure to keep you updated on any developments!

As we head into legislative summer break, I want to continue hearing from you. Please don't hesitate to reach out to my office if we can ever be of service. Let's keep working together — for fairness, for equity, and for our community!

In solidarity,

*Christine Cockley*



Rep. Cockley celebrating Immigrant Heritage Month with CRIS Ohio!



Rep. Cockley hosting a story time for her constituents!  
Photo from the Westland Area Library.



Rep. Cockley hosting a Revenue Roundtable Discussion at the Prairie Township Community Center with constituents and community partners.



Rep. Cockley delivering a commendation for Our Lady of Guadalupe Ribbon-cutting Photo from CSS.

# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – HB 96

## HB 96 - THE STATE'S OPERATING BUDGET FOR FY 2026-2027



My vote AGAINST House Bill 96.

### MY OFFICE CAN ALSO HELP WITH THE FOLLOWING:

- Disputes with state agencies
- Commendations and condolences
- Hearing opinions or concerns with bills moving through the legislature
- Connecting you or your business to state programs and services
- Connecting you with neighborhood resources
- Testifying before a House Committee

### CONTACT INFORMATION



[Rep06@OhioHouse.gov](mailto:Rep06@OhioHouse.gov)



(614) 644-6005



[Facebook.com/RepCockley](https://www.facebook.com/RepCockley)



[@RepCockley](https://twitter.com/RepCockley)

I am saddened to share that House Bill 96, the proposed operating budget for FY 2026–2027, has been signed into law by Governor DeWine. I voted **NO** on this budget because it is a harmful, partisan state budget that slashes vital services while handing \$600 million to billionaires for a new Browns stadium. HB 96 will risk Medicaid enrollment for nearly 800,000 people in Ohio. 53% of my constituents rely on Medicaid, and I will not stop fighting for their rights and safety. Simultaneously, it implements tax breaks for the wealthiest Ohioans. Under this budget, less than a third of my constituents will benefit from tax relief.

While this budget is detrimental to Ohioans, the Governor overrode his Republican colleagues to preserve certain things. He partially vetoed provisions that would have punished social services that support our LGBTQ community, cut from the bill a part that would have hurt babies ages 0–3 on Medicaid, and language that restricted libraries. **One win for our district, specifically, is funding for The Refuge Ohio.** The budget includes \$500,000 to the local nonprofit that serves men in recovery, \$250,000 per fiscal year.

Now that the Operating Budget has been signed, we are looking forward to working on the Capital Budget. Please reach out to my office if you have any requests.



### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### OPEN OFFICE HOURS

**Date:** July 24th  
**Time:** 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM  
**Location:** Westland Area Library  
4740 W Broad St.  
Columbus, OH 43228

#### FAITH LEADERS ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION ON IMMIGRATION

**Date:** July 22nd  
**Time:** 1 PM - 3 PM  
**Scan QR code and RSVP for location details!**



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<https://www.ohiohouse.gov/members/christine-cockley/newsletter-sign-up>