



Rep. Cockley with colleagues at a press conference in solidarity with Ohio's Somali Community.

Dear District 6 Neighbor,

Happy December and Happy Holidays! As we enter the holiday season and the General Assembly moves into its scheduled break, my work on behalf of District 6 has not stopped. In the last few weeks, I have continued working on legislation, attended district events, and advocated for the issues that matter most to you.

While this season is often a time of reflection and unity, I also want to acknowledge the fear and concern many in our community are feeling right now. I am aware of ICE activity in District 6 and across Columbus, and I am actively working to support and protect my constituents by communicating with other elected offices, including the Governor's office and Congressman Carey's office to seek clarity on what is happening at the federal level.

I will continue to closely monitor the situation, share resources, and remain available to assist. I stand with the immigrant community and will continue fighting for all Ohioans in my every day work. If I can ever be of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

In solidarity,
Christine Cockley



Rep. Cockley touring the Columbus Museum of Art's Pizzuti building.



Rep. Cockley attending the General Assembly Holiday Reception at the Governor's Residence.



Rep. Cockley attending Prairie Township's Holiday Party.



Rep. Cockley and Rep. Lawson-Rowe at the Columbus Building Trade Annual Holiday Luncheon.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE - HB 525

HB 525 - REGARDS USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN THERAPY SERVICES



Rep. Cockley and her joint sponsor,
Rep. Mathews testifying in
committee.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is becoming a bigger part of everyday life, including in the mental health space. As these tools continue to develop, it is important to set clear parameters that protect the core human connection at the heart of therapy.

AI can be useful for administrative or supplemental tasks, but it should never make treatment decisions, or attempt to replace the expertise of a trained mental health professional. The risks of blurring that line are too great, especially for people seeking support during vulnerable moments.

That is why I introduced House Bill (HB) 525 with Representative Mathews. Our bipartisan bill sets commonsense guardrails around the use of AI in therapy and psychotherapy services. Similar legislation was recently signed into law in Illinois.

HB 525 permits licensed providers to use AI for administrative support functions, such as maintaining records or analyzing anonymized data, but only when that use is transparent and a patient has provided informed written consent. The bill also creates strong safeguards so that AI cannot diagnose, engage in therapeutic communication, or make independent decisions about someone's care. This legislation reinforces a simple principle: AI may assist clinicians, but it should never act in place of one.

The bill is currently under consideration in the Ohio House Health Committee.

CONTACT INFORMATION



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- 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

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