

from the desk of

STATE REPRESENTATIVE CHRISTINE COCKLEY

JUNE 2026 | STATEHOUSE UPDATE | HOUSE DISTRICT 6



Dear District 6 Neighbor,

Happy Pride Month, District 6! Since we last spoke, I've spent time advocating for several key pieces of legislation regarding ethical AI usage in healthcare. I've also met with several community organizations and attended events to discuss several health issues, including mental health and cancer. Among these meetings was the American Cancer Association (photo to the left.)

I was grateful to attend National Alliance on Mental Illness' Statewide Youth Advocacy Brunch, as well. We discussed ways in which we can continue to educate, advocate, and work together to prioritize mental health within Ohio. I also had the honor to speak on a panel with the Spring Leadership Fellows at Zora's House, among other engagement opportunities.



Rep. Cockley with the American Cancer Association on Cancer Action Day

This month, the House will be voting on the Capital Budget, a major opportunity to invest in projects that improve communities across Ohio. As the process moves forward, I remain focused on making sure that District 6 receives meaningful support for the local priorities, services, and community spaces our residents rely on. Currently, the goal is to complete the Capital Budget process by June 10th, 2026.

As always, I am here to listen and to serve. Please don't hesitate to reach out to my office if you need support or information.

Yours in service,

Christine Cockley



NAMI Statewide Youth Advocacy Brunch



Receiving an Award from the Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation for Mental Health Awareness Month



Speaking with Zora's House Spring Leadership Fellows



Presenting a commendation for the 10th anniversary of the John Glenn College

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE - HB 525

REGULATE THE USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN THERAPY



Rep. Cockley and joint sponsor Rep. Mathews testifying in front of the House Health Committee in support of HB 525

I'm proud to introduce House Bill 525 alongside Rep. Ty Mathews. This legislation would regulate the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in therapy services, keeping human connection at the heart of therapy.

AI is rapidly becoming a larger part of our daily lives and can be an incredibly useful tool across industries. While technology can play a role in supporting innovation, clear boundaries must be established when it comes to deeply personal services like mental health care.

Therapy is often one of the most private and personal experiences someone can have. Ohioans deserve professional care and a personal touch that makes them feel seen and heard. AI models lack the emotional intelligence and human connection necessary to provide the compassionate support and critical diagnoses that trained professionals offer.

Recent studies have shown that AI tools can fall short in critical areas of mental health treatment. Research has found that AI systems may be more likely to stigmatize certain mental health conditions and less likely to recognize or properly respond to suicidal ideation.

This bill is a commonsense step to ensure that Ohioans receive safe, ethical, and professional care. Mental health care should be rooted in trust, compassion, and human understanding.

MY OFFICE CAN ALSO HELP WITH:

- 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

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