

# A Legislative Update from Representative Tristan W. Rader

April 2025



Dear Neighbor,

Happy April! House Democrats are advocating for you in Ohio's operating budget for fiscal years 2026-27. Last month, House Democrats helped pass the bipartisan Ohio Transportation Budget (**House Bill 54**). This budget's appropriation of \$11.5B is a significant investment into the future of Ohio jobs, connecting the workforce to the worksite, and the bill will improve roads, bridges, and transit systems across Ohio.

Ohio has the resources we need to improve the lives of our citizens and communities. House Democrats are putting forward a budget that makes it easier to start and grow a family, age with dignity, and earn a living that can sustain a high quality of life. Some of the provisions I am advocating for personally include the following:

- Chipping SNAP EBT cards to prevent fraud and theft.
- Updating the fair school funding formula so that our schools don't experience a budget cut.
- Increasing the line item for the Ohio Association of Foodbanks so they have the resources to meet demand.
- Protecting the Public Library Fund so they can continue to serve our constituents by providing essential resources.
- Ensuring Medicaid-expansion recipients don't have to meet a work requirement to stay covered.
- Opposing giving the Cleveland Browns a \$600 million handout for a new stadium in Brook Park.

Sincerely,

Tristan Rader

State Representative, Ohio House District 13

## UPCOMING COFFEE WITH REP. RADER

- **May 2**, 9am - 11am @ Civilization
  - 2366 W. 11th St. Cleveland, OH 44113
- **May 30**, 10am - 12pm @ Root Café
  - 15118 Detroit Ave. Lakewood, OH 44107
- **June 27**, 9am - 11am @ Koffie Café
  - 2517 Market Ave. Cleveland, OH 44113
- **July 12**, 10am - 12pm @ Panera Bread
  - 14701 Detroit Ave, Lakewood, OH 44107

Come join me at our monthly coffee chats for a chance to connect, discuss the issues that matter most to you, and work together for a stronger community!



## COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS AND RECENT APPOINTMENTS

- Energy Committee
- Natural Resources Committee
- Government Oversight Committee
- Commerce and Labor Committee
- Appointee to the Ohio Power Siting Board
- State Lead for the National Caucus of Environmental Legislators

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## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

While we continue to work on initiatives that will better Ohioans, we have already introduced the following pieces of legislation:

- **HB 136** - Ohio Fairness Act
  - This legislation will ban discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity in housing, employment, and public accommodations. Protecting the LGBTQ+ community will remain one of our top priorities.
- **HB 163** - Enhanced Cybersecurity for SNAP Act of 2025 / **HB 174** - No Hungry Families Act
  - House Bill 163 will require the Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services to equip all SNAP EBT cards with chip technology to prevent theft from skimming and cloning at the card reader. Paired with HB 163, House Bill 174 would continue the federal program that was discontinued and allowed families to be reimbursed their SNAP benefits if they're the victims of theft or fraud.
- **HB 212** - Property Tax Deferral Program
  - Allows qualifying homeowners--particularly seniors, disabled individuals, and low-to-moderate-income homeowners--to defer a portion of their property taxes until a later date, reducing immediate financial burdens with no risk of delinquency, penalties, or interest. Deferred taxes become due only upon sale, transfer, or when income exceeds 250% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL).



## FIGHTING BACK

In Ohio, Republicans are using President Trump and Elon Musk as their role models for legislation. Last month, Governor DeWine signed SB 1 into law which will undermine academic freedom, suppress diverse perspectives, and impose a restrictive ideological framework on public colleges and universities. Currently, the House is considering HB 190 which will force schools to use a student's given name regardless of preference, directly targeting transgender and nonbinary youth. Finally, Republicans are pushing for a convention of states via HJR 3 so they can put everyone in America's rights up for grabs. We **must** stop them. We **can** stop them. I will be fighting for you everyday in Columbus so we can end the culture wars and become the state I know we can become.



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