



STATE REPRESENTATIVE ASHLEY BRYANT BAILEY newsletter

JANUARY 2026

Dear Neighbor,

As we begin the new year, I want to wish you and your family a happy and healthy 2026. As your State Representative, I am entering this year focused on making sure our community can truly thrive, not just get by.

Across our neighborhoods, people are feeling the pressure of rising costs, uncertainty about care, and concern for the people they love—whether that's raising children, supporting aging parents, or building a stable future here at home. My work this year is grounded in the belief that government should ease those burdens, not add to them, and that everyone deserves security and dignity at every stage of life.

At the Statehouse, my priorities are centered on practical solutions that strengthen families, protect access to healthcare, support safe and vibrant neighborhoods, and help seniors age with respect and independence. These efforts are shaped by listening and by staying focused on what will make the biggest difference in people's everyday lives.

My office remains here as a resource, and I look forward to continuing this work together throughout the year.

Sincerely,

Ashley Bryant Bailey
State Representative
Ohio House District 26



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FOR OUR DIGITAL
NEWSLETTER](#)



[SCAN FOR
CONSTITUENT SERVICES](#)



[SCAN FOR
COMMENDATION/
MEMORIAL REQUEST](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Meet State Rep. Bryant Bailey



1/20 GREATER PLEASANT RIDGE DEMS
HCDP Office, 6:30pm

1/20 KENNEDY HEIGHTS COUNCIL
Kennedy Heights Arts Center, 8pm

1/21 MT. WASHINGTON COUNCIL
Mt. Washington Rec Center, 7pm



Ohio House District 26

(614) 466-1308

rep26@ohiohouse.gov

PRIMARY ELECTION DAY: MAY 5TH

**LAST DAY TO REGISTER TO VOTE:
MONDAY, APRIL 6TH**

**EARLY IN-PERSON & MAIL-IN VOTING BEGINS:
TUESDAY, APRIL 7TH**

**LAST DAY TO REQUEST MAIL-IN BALLOTS:
TUESDAY, APRIL 28TH**



THE OHIO HOUSE RESUMES SESSION ON FEBRUARY 18, 2026

LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES FOR 2026

Supporting Working Families, Protecting Access to Care, Keeping Children and Communities Safe, Lowering Costs for Families, Real Property Tax Relief, and Reducing Utility Costs!

Rep. Bryant Bailey Upcoming Legislative Proposals:

Emergency Services Coverage:

Addressing emergency services coverage to ensure working families, especially those managing pre-existing or chronic conditions, can seek emergency care without fear of overwhelming costs.

Access to Menopause and Perimenopause Care:

Addressing the cost of perimenopause and menopausal treatments, including hormone therapies, to ensure women have the coverage they need at a critical time.

Radon Testing and Prevention:

Ohio continues to see elevated radon levels in schools and housing. This proposal would address mandated testing to help keep children and families safe.

We Want to Hear from You



SCAN TO ADD YOUR
VOICE TO REP. BRYANT
BAILEY'S LEGISLATIVE
AGENDA

FOUR LAWS THAT GO INTO EFFECT THIS YEAR

MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE

Based on the inflation amendment, Ohio

Minimum wage increases to:

\$11.00/hr for non-tipped workers

\$5.50/hr for tipped workers

As of Jan. 1, 2026, seventeen states plus Washington, D.C. have statewide minimum wages at or above \$15 per hour.

We should be one of them!

PHONE BAN IN SCHOOLS

The State Operating Budget requires schools districts to create a phone policy to reduce in school phone usage and cyberbullying.

Bans cell phone use during the school day (first bell to last bell)

Exceptions:

- Emergency use and active threats
- For monitoring health conditions



SENATE BILL 56 - ADULT USE CANNABIS

Bans the sale of intoxicating hemp outside of dispensaries

Creates a cap on the amount of Cannabis allowed in dispensaries



Bans smoking in most public areas



Reduces THC levels in most adult use cannabis extracts to a maximum of 70%

HOUSE BILL 57 - OVERDOSE REVERSAL MEDICATIONS IN SCHOOLS

Allows school to store and use overdose reversal medications like Naxolone to prevent fatal overdoses. Medication must be securely stored and accessible to trained personnel for quick use during emergencies.



COMMUNITY RESOURCES

For more details on these programs or to connect with resources near you feel free to contact my office.



YWCA CINCINNATI: Rep. Bryant Bailey had the opportunity to spend some time with Rickell Howard Smith, President & CEO of YWCA Cincinnati learning about their programs and touring the Francie Garber Pepper House of Healing—a trauma-informed, pet-friendly shelter that opened in May 2025, doubling the YWCA Greater Cincinnati's capacity to serve survivors of domestic violence.

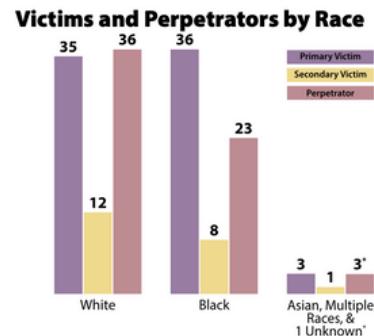
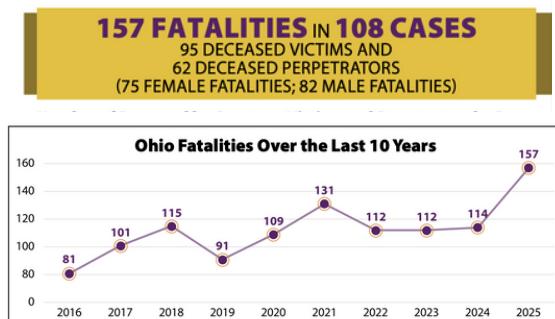
We are so grateful for the incredible work their team is doing to protect and provide a safe space for domestic violence victims.

Crisis Intervention

24/7 YWCA Domestic Violence Hotline

*Crisis counseling, risk assessment, information, referrals, safety planning, and support for survivors in Adams, Brown, Clermont and Hamilton counties **24 hours a day, 365 days a year.***

Every Community Is Impacted by Domestic Violence



CALL: 513-872-9259

TEXT: 513-436-3606

CHAT: rc.chat/ywca

Legal Assistance

Legal Aide of Southwest Ohio

- Phone: 513-241-9400
- Legal Services: Family & Immigration, Housing and Consumer, Children and Education.

Addiction Services

UMADAOP of Cincinnati

- Phone: 513-541-7099
- Services: Prevention, Treatment, Recovery, Reentry, and Educational services for Hamilton County's African and Hispanic American communities.



COMMUNITY RESOURCES

For more details on these programs or to connect with resources near you feel free to contact my office.

Keeping your family in your home

There is assistance for individuals and families from different programs, some that started as a result of COVID-19 impacts. You may qualify for several mortgage, rent and/or utility programs designed to keep families safe in their homes by helping with rent, mortgage, utilities, and eviction prevention. 513relief.org/housing-utility-relief/

- Homeowner Assistance
- Downpayment Assistance
- Rent Assistance
- Utility Programs
- Eviction Prevention
- Unhoused
- Veterans Assistance



[SCAN HERE FOR SUPPORT](#)

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Brent Spence Bridge Corridor Project Info Sessions

Come out to learn more information about potential job opportunities starting at **\$30/hour!**

Bi-Weekly Info Sessions:

- Wed, January 28th
- Wed, February 11th
- Wed, February 25th
- Wed, March 11th



[SCAN HERE TO RSVP](#)

Location: Longworth Hall, 700 W Pete Rose Way, Suite 127, Cincinnati, 45203

Mayor's Youth Career EXPO

Celebrating its 20th year, the Mayor's Career Expo provides an opportunity for Cincinnati youth to apply, interview, and secure seasonal, short-term, or long-term employment opportunities! **This program is introduced by the Mayor's Youth 2 Work program now open to ages 14-24.**

Date & Time: February 14th, 9am - 1pm

Location: TQL Stadium First Financial Club, 1501 Central Parkway, Cincinnati, 45214

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Community Preventive Education Program

Funding For Alcohol & Drug Preventive Programs



- CPD partners with local non-profit organizations that will provide support and encourage community-based drug and alcohol preventative education programs.
- Contact: Sgt. Stewart Isaacs Phone: **513-352-4583**
- Email: Stewart.Isaacs@cincinnati-oh.gov

JobsOhio Small Business Grant



Funding for small businesses in distressed communities or businesses owned by underrepresented populations.

- Provides up to \$50,000 for eligible small business projects in distressed communities or businesses owned by underrepresented populations
- Supports projects that create or retain jobs, increase payroll, or improve operational efficiency over a three-year period
- Businesses must be in a JobsOhio-targeted industry (B2B service providers may qualify); retail and restaurants are not eligible
- Companies must have at least one year of operation and \$100,000 in annual revenue

Eligible Uses:

- Building purchase, renovation, or lease improvements
- Machinery, equipment, and technology upgrades
- Site development, environmental remediation, and demolition
- Workforce training costs and wages for on-the-job training
- Infrastructure and utility improvements

Contact: Cierra Clymer at cclymer@redicincinnati.com



Governor's Merit Scholarship

The Governor's Merit Scholarship provides up to **\$5,000** in financial assistance to high school seniors who are identified as being in the **top 5%** of their class. The GMS is renewable for up to four years of full-time instruction.

How to get more info:

Contact your guidance counselor for more information. You can also email meritscholarship@highered.ohio.gov.

BRYANT BAILEY IN THE DISTRICT



STAY IN TOUCH

Are you, a family member, or a neighbor in need of assistance? My office is here to support you with a wide range of needs, from navigating state programs and agencies to resolving issues with unemployment benefits. If you have an issue you are passionate about, share it with us! Want to celebrate an outstanding accomplishment? Email my office and we are happy to recognize leaders in our community.

Call: (614) 466-1308 **Email:** rep26@ohiohouse.gov **Social Media:** [@ashleyforohio](https://www.instagram.com/ashleyforohio/)