

Committees

Community Revitalization  
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## Darnell T. Brewer

State Representative, Ohio House District 22

February 25, 2026

The Honorable Mike DeWine,  
Governor of the State of Ohio  
Vern Riffe Center, 30th Floor  
77 South High Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215

Governor DeWine,

As you prepare your upcoming State of the State Address, I respectfully suggest several issues I hope you will highlight in your remarks. Over the past year, I have traveled across Ohio meeting with families, community members, local officials, and grieving parents who have been directly affected by violence, especially gun violence. Whether retaliatory, intentional, unintentional, or self-inflicted, gun violence continues to affect communities throughout our state, causing lasting trauma and profound loss.

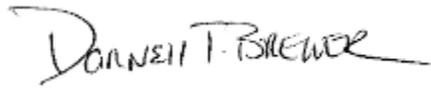
Considering this reality, I hope you will emphasize the importance of **gun safety and responsible firearm storage**. A message from the Governor encouraging Ohioans to properly secure their firearms could reach millions of residents and make a significant difference. I am not asking you to push for new laws, though bipartisan solutions are always appreciated, but to amplify a common message of responsibility and prevention, similar to the bipartisan approach reflected in *House Resolution 148: Urge Ohioans to Safely Store and Secure Firearms*, which I introduced with a Republican colleague.

Second, I request that you consider issuing an **Executive Order to establish an Ohio Task Force on Gun Violence**, similar to the commission you led during your time as Lieutenant Governor. This time, I strongly recommend including families directly impacted by gun violence in the task force. Their lived experiences are essential for shaping compassionate and effective statewide strategies. Your leadership in creating such a body would send a powerful message to grieving families that their voices matter and that Ohio is dedicated to meaningful engagement.

Finally, our office is developing a **"Safe Ohio Summer" initiative** to address violence in District 22, particularly gun violence, during the hotter months when incidents tend to increase. Last year, Ohio saw thousands of gun-related events, many of which happened in the summer. I encourage you to support and fund **Community Violence Intervention (CVI) programs**, especially in the 5 to 10 communities with the highest violence rates. Targeted investment in these areas would provide essential resources when they are needed most and could save lives.

Thank you for your time, your attention to these urgent issues, and your ongoing service to the people of Ohio. I hope these priorities will be reflected in your address, and I look forward to working together to build a safer and more hopeful future for all Ohio families.

Sincerely,



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Representative Darnell T. Brewer  
Ohio House District 22

