## DAVID LELAND

Ohio State Representative 22<sup>nd</sup> House District 77 South High Street, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor Columbus, Ohio 43215



## KRISTIN BOGGS

Ohio State Representative 18<sup>th</sup> House District 77 South High Street, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor Columbus, Ohio 43215

April 20, 2018

Franklin County Prosecuting Attorney Ron O'Brien Franklin County Prosecutor's Office 373 South High Street Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Prosecutor O'Brien,

We are writing to request that the Franklin County Prosecutor's Office initiate an independent investigation of former Speaker Cliff Rosenberger's resignation. Allegations of corruption targeted at the Ohio Speaker have never before resulted in a Speaker's resignation. This is the first time in Ohio's history that the Speaker of the Ohio House has resigned in such disgrace, and his resignation leads us to believe that illicit forces have been corrupting, and may continue to corrupt, the work of the Statehouse.

Since Mr. Rosenberger's expedited resignation after announcing that he hired a criminal attorney to speak to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Ohioans have been left to wonder whether Mr. Rosenberger's travel paid for by outside groups, spending, campaign contributions, and other ethically questionable conduct has corrupted the people's work in the Ohio General Assembly.

Make no mistake, the Speaker of the Ohio House is one of the most powerful elected officials in the state. The Speaker has immense authority over the \$47 million legislative budget, and \$65 billion state operating budget. The Speaker also has exclusive control over Statehouse access, hundreds of staff, special appointments, and, most importantly, the decision to advance or block legislation from a full House vote.

The social compact between government and the people demands that elected officials act honestly and ethically to shape policy that will impact Ohio's people. Mr. Rosenberger has violated the public trust of Ohio at the highest level. Ohioans deserve to have confidence that our work in the Statehouse is not being degraded by pay-to-play politics.

The grave potential for corruption and abuse of public office in the legislature requires a thorough inquiry and response from your office.

Sincerely,

David Leland

State Representative 22<sup>nd</sup> Ohio House District

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Kristin Boggs

State Representative 18<sup>th</sup> Ohio House District