

Dear Neighbor,

We started March by passing a bipartisan transportation budget that improves railroad safety, funds highway construction and creates jobs. This transportation budget is an investment in the people that will drive our state forward. Ohio's most valuable resource is our people, which is why Ohio's House Democrats are focused on putting people over politics.

Recently, the House majority caucus unveiled their priorities for the 135th General Assembly. Several of these are bipartisan priorities that will empower Ohioans and move our state forward. My colleagues and myself are excited to work across the aisle when it improves the lives of Ohioans and puts the people first. We however, we will not be beholden to extremist legislation that instigates needless culture wars or threatens the freedoms of Ohioans.

March is Women's History Month! We celebrate and honor the women who fight for equality. From Susan B. Anthony to Harriet Tubman, American history is full of inspiring women who fought to create a more equitable America. Today, we continue to fight for Women's rights by protecting reproductive freedoms and closing the gender wage gap.

Please do not hesitate to contact my office with any questions, comments, or concerns.

Sincerely,

Rep. Upchurch





SB 1 has been assigned to my Ranking Member Committee: Economic and Workforce Development. This bill will rename the Dept. of Education the Dept. of Education and Workforce and completely transforms the State Board of Education. I, alongside other democrats made sure to ask all the heard hitting questions in Committee this passed week. Feel free to watch the full thing here: <https://ohiochannel.org/collections/ohio-house-economic-and-workforce-development-committee>

HB 1, a bill that provides significant tax cuts for the rich, has been one of the most controversial bills so far during this General Assembly. It is still currently receiving hearing in the House Ways and Means Committee and as a member of this committee we have been working hard to stop legislation like this from passing. Stay up to date with committee hearing by watching them on the OhioChannel: <https://ohiochannel.org/collections/ohio-house-ways-and-means-committee>

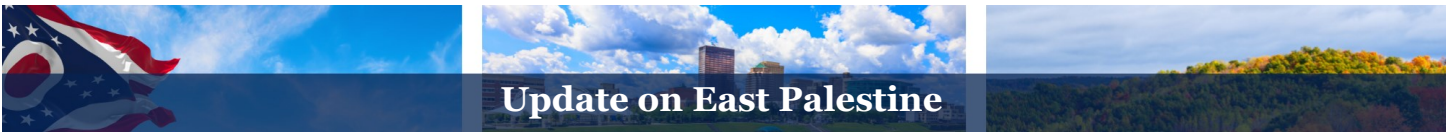


Budget season is upon us! Our office has been making it a priority to meet with programs and organizations that benefit the people of Cleveland.



Happy Women's History Month! This month we honor and support the amazing women who have shaped our state and country. From Florence Ellinwood Allen, the first woman to serve on a state supreme court anywhere in the United States, to Toni Morrison, a renowned African-American author, to Judith Resnick, a NASA astronaut aboard the Space Shuttles Discovery and Challenger.

Ohio House Democrats are committed to advancing women's rights and creating a more equal state. Equal pay, reproductive rights, and quality maternal health are at the forefront of our priorities. We are working hard in Columbus to ensure that our state is equitable and welcoming to everyone.



Following the toxic train derailment in East Palestine, The Ohio House Democrats and I have worked hard to rectify the situation and ensure that an accident like this never happens in Ohio again.

The transportation budget passed by the House on March 1st included bipartisan solutions to make our railroads and communities safer. The transportation budget will require two-person crews on trains and wayside detector systems. These new requirements will increase train crews' ability to identify and solve an issue before an accident.

Cleanup and monitoring efforts are ongoing, ensuring that East Palestine is safe for families to return.





March 1st marked Ohio's 220th anniversary! Join my office in celebrating our great state by fighting for legislation to make Ohio a great state for everyone. Here's to another 220 fantastic years.



The Tuskegee Airmen were the first African American pilots in the United States Armed Forces. I, alongside my colleague Rep. Blackshear worked hard to get this day recognized last General Assembly and were able to get this legislation passed. March 29 is now Tuskegee Airmen Day, where we honor these brave aviators who fought during World War II. These men served their country with courage and honor! The Tuskegee Airmen embody the American spirit and African Americans' struggle for equality. We honor them every day, but especially on March 29th!



On March 30, we honor the brave men and women who served during the Vietnam War. Unfortunately, many veterans came home with long-term physical injuries and mental scars. We must ensure that our Vietnam War veterans, and all veterans, are cared for and supported.