



# February 2022 Legislative Update From STATE REP. JUANITA BRENT

HOUSE DISTRICT 12

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## From the Desk of Rep. Brent

Dear Neighbor,

Happy Black History Month! I am here to fight for equity and justice amongst people of all races, ethnicities, sexualities, gender expressions, religions, classes, and backgrounds. Black History Month is a time to honor that, and specifically celebrate the full histories of Black Americans.

Racism is still present in our everyday lives. We must commit to working, every day, to ensure that Black Ohioans have equal access to opportunities, voting, healthcare, jobs, housing, transportation and all other aspects of life. As Vice President of the OLBC and member of the Black Maternal Health Caucus, I am excited to begin another year working on legislation that improves the lives of you, your family, and our House District 12 Community.

This month I am also wishing you and your loved ones a happy Valentine's Day and urging you to take care of one another and your mental and physical health, especially as we celebrate American Heart Month this February.

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

Sincerely,

State Representative  
Juanita O. Brent  
Ohio House District 12



### Upcoming Office Hours

#### Virtual Office Hours

**February 24th, 4:00PM**

This is a time for you to talk with Rep. Brent and share your questions, comments or concerns!

All office hours will be held via LIVE on Facebook at fb.com/JuanitaOBrent and Instagram @Juanita\_Brent.

### Bill Reintroduction: The C.R.O.W.N. Act

- The Creating a Respectful and Open World for Natural Hair (C.R.O.W.N.) Act would make The **CROWN** Act discriminatory practices against an individual because of their hair texture or protective and cultural hairstyles illegal under Ohio's Civil Rights Law.
- The CROWN Act is a commonsense bill that ensures any Ohioan who wears their hair naturally has the opportunity to succeed right here at home.
- I remain committed to stopping race based hair discrimination through the reintroduction and passage of the CROWN Act in Ohio.



## Redistricting Update

## Proposed Cuyahoga County Districts

The redistricting process continues, after the Ohio Supreme Court struck down both the state legislative and Congressional maps as unconstitutional in mid-January. The Court gave the Ohio Redistricting Commission 10 days to redraw the state legislative maps, and Republican commissioners adopted another set of partisan, four-year state maps on Jan. 22 without any Democratic support. The new state maps are now under review by the Court after voter rights advocates challenged the new maps as unconstitutional once again.

In response to the uncertainty caused by the unconstitutional state legislative and Congressional maps, House Bill (HB) 93 was recently signed into law, which makes several changes to the filing requirements for the upcoming primary election. The emergency legislative measures fall far short of what's needed to prevent chaos and confusion for election officials and candidates.

Ohio House Democrats are still fighting to ensure fair maps and elections for the people of Ohio, who deserve to choose who represents them, not the other way around.

HD 13	Lakewood, Cleveland(14 [E,F 15 [A,B,C,D) 17, 16, 11[C,E,L,D,I,M,N])
HD 14	Parma, Parma Hts, Lindale, Brooklyn, Cleveland (16[F,K,L] 11[B,H,G])
HD 15	Garfield hts, Cleveland 2 (A,B,C,D), Cuyahoga Hts, Seven Hills, Independence, Valley View, Brecksville,
HD 16	Westlake, North Olmstead, Bay Village, Olmstead Twp, Olmstead Falls, Berea
HD17	Rocky River, Fairview Park, Brook Park, Middleburg Hts, Strongsville
HD18	Cleveland (4,5,6,12[L,J,K,E,F,I,M,P,S] 13,14) Newburgh Hts
HD 19	Euclid, Richmond Hts, Highland Hts, Mayfield Village, South Euclid, Lyndhurst, Gates Mills, University Hts
HD 20	Cleveland (3,7,8,9,10,15[L,G,M,J,P,K,N,R])
HD 21	Cleveland (1,2[T,F,E,H,S,P,Q,K,M,G,N,L,W]) Cleveland Hts, Shaker Hts, East Cleveland
HD 22	Maple Hts, Warrensville Hts, North Randal, Bedford, Orange Village, Moreland Hills, Hunting Valley, Mayfield Hts, Beachwood, Solon (6A,7B,7A,5B,5A,4A), Walton Hills, Pepper Pike, Woodmere, Bedford Hts, Highland Hill
HD 23	Chagrin Falls, Glenwillow, Oakwood, Bentleyville, Solon (1,2,3 4B,4C,6B) part of Geauga and Summit County

## Capital Budget

### Background

Every two years the Ohio General Assembly passes the state's capital budget. The budget funds infrastructure projects for state agencies, such as prisons, mental health facilities, and state university buildings. The capital budget also funds local community projects, such as art museums, playground equipment, and workforce development projects. Since local projects are backed by state-issued debt, they are subject to stringent requirements.

### Process

- Local community groups must complete the project worksheet for each individual project and send it to my office by **Friday, March 18th**.
- My office will send these requests to the House Majority, who will then decide which projects will be included in the Capital Budget Bill.
- The bill will then go through the legislative process, which includes committee hearings and votes in the House and Senate. The bill will likely pass in Spring 2022.

### Project Examples

- Agricultural Society Fairground Improvements
- Emergency Response Infrastructure
- Juvenile Detention Facilities
- Local Jail Facilities
- Performing Art Theatres and Auditoriums
- Memorials/Monuments



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