

May 2022 Legislative Update From

STATE REP. JUANITA BRENT

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From the Desk of Representative Brent

Dear Neighbor,

April was an exciting month at the Statehouse, House Sessions and Committee Hearings were abundant. My fellow legislators and I worked hard for the citizens of the 12th District and for all Ohio citizens. I introduced HB 284 that would encourage Hand Hygiene at hospitals and nursing home facilities. World Hand Hygiene Day is held annually on May 5th. During this time of transitioning out of the pandemic, hand hygiene must be a priority to stop the spread of disease.

May brings the holidays of Eid al-Fitr, Cinco de Mayo, Mother's Day, and Memorial Day; I hope celebrations are filled with joy and reflection for all who observe. We also celebrate Asian-Pacific Heritage Month, and National Foster Care Month. This provides us with an opportunity to talk about the history and culture of Asian-Pacific individuals and the unique needs of the foster care system.

Finally, I urge you to consider the bills listed in this newsletter. Please do not hesitate to reach out to my office with legislative concerns in the coming months.

Sincerely,

Juanita O. Brent
State Representative
House District 12



Plaque from Midwest CannaWomen for my work on HB 60 (Autism as a qualifying condition for medical cannabis) and a certificate of appreciation from Sensible Movement Coalition and NORML Appalachia of Ohio for being a champion for Adult-use cannabis.

Bills to Watch

HB 616, Also known as Ohio's "Don't Say Gay" Bill

- Bans instructional content regarding: Critical Race Theory; Intersectional Theory; The 1619 Project; Diversity, equity, and inclusion learning outcomes; and Inherited racial guilt
- I believe this bill promotes homophobia by not allowing instructional material about sexual orientation or gender identity in grades K-3
- I believe it will also burden K-12 teachers through creating vague requirements on how subjects such as sexual orientation and gender identity can be taught
- This bill will likely be placed in Primary and Secondary Education Committee

HB 598, Also known as the Anti-Abortion Bill

- Establishes a minimum of four to seven years and a maximum of 25 years of imprisonment and a fine of not more than \$10,000 for abortion manslaughter
- Makes abortion manslaughter is a felony of the first degree
- State Medical Board will evoke a physician's license to practice if the physician is guilty, or pleads no contest to and is convicted, of abortion manslaughter
- This bill has been assigned to Government Oversight Committee

Upcoming Office Hours

Monday, May 23 at 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 Highlight—House Bill 429

THE ENERGY JOBS & JUSTICE ACT

is a bold, comprehensive energy policy for all Ohioans



EQUITY

Reduces institutional barriers and invests in workforce development and just transition for underserved and disproportionately impacted Ohio communities.



CARBON EMISSIONS REDUCTION

Encourages renewable energy and waste reduction development while ensuring all electricity sold to Ohio utility customers and all electricity generated in Ohio is 100% carbon-free by 2050.



TRANSPARENCY

Creates the Governor's Office of Energy Justice to ensure PUCO decisions are guided by the principles of energy justice and removes undue utility influence over the PUCO.



I have been added as the new Lead Co-sponsor for The Energy Jobs & Justice Act, replacing former Representative Stephanie D. Howse.

HB 429, Regards clean energy and energy justice

- Moves Ohio toward a more equitable clean energy future
- Ensures that clean energy benefits will go to those most historically and disproportionately harmed by Ohio's regressive energy policies
- Outlines a plan for carbon reduction: a 26% reduction by 2025, a 50% reduction by 2030, and a 90% reduction by 2050
- Level the playing field for renewable sources of energy (wind farms and solar projects) in the state



Redistricting Updates

Last month, the Ohio Supreme Court once again struck down a fourth set of unconstitutional maps that the majority of Commissioners on the Ohio Redistricting Commission voted for. These members subverted the bipartisan public process by drawing maps in secret.



A panel of three federal court judges has given the Ohio Redistricting Commission until May 28 to create fair maps. If the Commission does not meet this deadline, the federal court will require that the State of Ohio uses the third set of unconstitutional maps for the 2022 election. Regarding the third set of maps, two judges on the panel stated, "We are acutely aware of its flaws. Yet with deference to the State in mind, we see it as the best of our bad options." Additionally, the panel stated they will order the primary to be held August 2.

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