

June 2022 Legislative Update From

# STATE REP. JUANITA BRENT

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## From the Desk of Representative Brent

Dear Neighbor,

The month of June brings many opportunities for both celebration and continued progress. We have reached Pride Month, an annual recognition of the significant impacts LGBTQ+ people have on our country. June is also African-American Music Appreciation Month, a time to appreciate Black musicians and their contributions to many different musical genres.

The celebrations do not end there! Juneteenth, taking place on June 19th, celebrates the end of mass African-American enslavement and offers an opportunity to reflect on the continued racial inequality in our country. Fathers' day also takes place on June 19th, so don't forget to give your best wishes to the fathers in your life!

This past month, I have announced the reintroduction of The C.R.O.W.N. Act, which will prohibit discrimination based on hair texture or protective and cultural hairstyles. I also introduced a bill to create the Healthy Soil Task Force, to ensure that the limited natural resource of healthy soil is not depleted.

Thank you for taking the time to read 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



Awarding commendations to Mayfield School District's top 40 students!

### Bills to Watch

**H.B. 327:** Would prohibit schools from teaching, advocating, and promoting divisive concepts such as race, ethnicity, and gender.

**H.B. 454:** The Save Adolescents from Experimentation Act

- Would prevent minors from accessing gender-affirming health care and provide punishment for those that provide these services.

**H.B. 315:** Would make changes to bail laws regarding conditions of release, ability to pay, mental health considerations, secured bonds, and repeals.

**H.B. 466:** Would require the registration of health care staffing agencies and temporarily change the process of obtaining a Certificate of Need.

**H.B. 450:** Would allow and encourage the development of community solar projects.

**H.J.R. 2:** Would revise the factors considered when setting bail, requiring courts to take public safety into account.

**H.J.R. 4:** Would prohibit local governments from allowing individuals to vote if they are not qualified to vote in state elections.

### Upcoming Office Hours

**Monday, June 27th 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.

## Announcement

I have been newly assigned to the Ohio House of Representatives Health Committee! This committee reviews legislation regarding health care and human services in our state. I am excited to join my colleagues in working towards greater and improved access to health care, especially for minority populations.



## Gun Reform Bills

In the past two weeks, our country has suffered two massive tragedies as a result of gun violence. On May 14th, 2022, a teenage boy with a gun entered a supermarket and killed 10 black people and injured 3 more. This act of domestic terrorism was fueled by white supremacist ideology and the ease of access to guns. Just over a week later, another teenage boy with a gun entered an elementary school in Uvalde, Texas and killed 19 children and 2 teachers. The school's armed police officers failed to prevent the gunman from entering, and failed to protect the students from him. Incidents like these prove that we need not only common-sense gun laws, but also comprehensive anti-racism education in schools and significant police reform.

House and Senate democrats have introduced a number of gun reform bills to address the glaring issue of gun violence, but the republicans have attempted to prevent these bills from progressing at every turn. Many of these bills have still not received a hearing, despite being introduced for weeks. Here are some of these bills:

- **H.B. 38:** Repeal the Stand Your Ground Act
- **S.B. 73/H.B. 259:** Institute universal background checks
- **S.B. 74:** Raise minimum age to purchase a firearm to 21
- **S.B. 75:** Regulate the transfer of firearms at gun shows
- **S.B. 76/H.B. 274:** Restore local control to regulate firearms related conduct
- **S.B. 77:** Ban bump stocks and other items that accelerate semi-automatic firearms
- **S.B. 138/H.B. 257:** Enact the Extreme Risk Protection Order Act (also known as the "Red Flag" Law)
- **H.B. 262:** Prohibit negligent firearm storage
- **H.B. 360:** Designate Gun Violence Awareness Month

I urge you to advocate for these bills—not just to your representative, but to all Ohio representatives and senators.

## Redistricting Updates

While the Ohio Supreme Court has not yet ruled on the congressional maps that were used in the May Primary, the fifth set of state legislature maps proposed were ruled unconstitutional. Republicans have continuously claimed they had no time to create fair maps, when they have purposefully wasted time to ensure biased maps are passed.



The primary election for the House of Representatives, Senate, and State Central Committee will take place on August 2nd, 2022 using the third set of maps, which were ruled unconstitutional. In this set of maps, my current district is split into three parts—Ohio House Districts 18, 19, and 22. I will reside in the new Ohio House District 22, encompassing **Cleveland Heights, East Cleveland, Highland Hills, North Randall, Shaker Heights, University Heights, Warrensville Heights, and some parts of Cleveland.**

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