



A legislative update from
STATE REP. JUANITA BRENT
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From the desk of Rep. Brent

Dear Neighbor,

The year is already half over, but we are not slowing down in the legislature. Ohio's primary election took place on August 2nd, and I am proud to announce that I was elected as the Democratic Nominee for Ohio House District 22, representing East Cleveland, Cleveland Heights, University Heights, Warrensville Heights, Shaker Heights, Highland Hills, North Randall, and part of Cleveland (Ward 1). Thank you to everyone who took the time to participate in this election. The general election will take place on November 8th.

The month of August represents back to school season, National Black Business Month, National Farmer's Market Week, and National Women's Equality Day.

This August and September, I will be bringing the Statehouse to your neighborhood through a series of town halls! These events are free and open to the public, and I encourage you to come and bring your own views on our community's needs. I want to share how I'm working to improve our quality of life in the Buckeye State. Aiming to protect and expand women's access to reproductive healthcare, reduce everyday costs for families, and invest in our children— I am putting families at the center of my priorities.

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

Sincerely,

Town Hall Schedule

Pepper Pike
September 20th, 6:30pm, Orange High Schools

Cleveland Heights
September 12th, 6:30pm, Cleveland Heights Community Center

Maple Heights
September 27th, 6:30pm, Maple Heights Senior Center

Cleveland
September 28th, 6:30pm, Harvard Community Service Center

Bedford Heights
October 4th, 6:30pm, Fellowship Baptist Church

National Black Business Month

August is National Black Business Month, a time to bring attention to the needs of Black-owned businesses across the country.

Ohio has a Minority Business Enterprise Program designed to assist minority businesses in obtaining state government contracts for goods and services.. For businesses to be eligible, they must be at least 51% minority owned and have been in business for at least a year. Benefits of a Minority Business Enterprise Certification include contract assistance, eligibility for set-aside contracts, financial and bonding assistance, and management and technical assistance.

For businesses interested in applying for a Minority Business Enterprise Certification, the application and necessary supporting documentation can be found on the Ohio Department of Development website. <https://development.ohio.gov>



YMCA and ODJFS Partnership

The Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services has partnered with the Ohio Alliance of YMCAs Foundation to provide free memberships for certified foster homes and other caregivers that meet certain eligibility criteria.

YMCA Cleveland Locations

- **Warrensville Heights Family YMCA** - 4433 Northfield Road, 44128
- **Hillcrest Family YMCA** - 5000 Mayfield Road, 44124
- **Parker Hannifin Downtown YMCA** - 13101 East 9th, 44114

ARPA Funds, Monkeypox, and Women's Equality Day

American Rescue Plan Act Funding

The State of Ohio has received
\$2 Billion Dollars

of ARPA funding to allocate to communities.

Requests for funding can be sent to:

- House Finance Chair Scott Oelslager (rep48@ohiohouse.gov)
- Senate Finance Chair Matt Dolan (Dolan@ohiosenate.gov)
- Giles Allen in the Governor's Office (Giles.Allen@governor.ohio.gov)

Uses of ARPA funds include:

- Support public health expenditures
- Replace lost public sector revenue
- Provide increased pay for essential workers
- Invest in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure
- Address negative economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and recession

Monkey Pox Information

Monkeypox is a virus that has been spreading across the United States over the past few months. There have been 73 cases of the disease in Ohio. The illness typically lasts 2-4 weeks, and symptoms can include

- Rash (may look like pimples or blisters, and may be painful or itchy)
- Fever
- Headache
- Muscle aches and backache
- Swollen lymph nodes
- Chills
- Exhaustion
- Respiratory symptoms such as a sore throat, nasal congestion, or cough

But don't worry, stopping the spread of this disease is possible! There are two monkeypox vaccines, **JYNNE-OS** and **ACAM2000**, which are recommended for people who have been exposed to monkeypox and those who are more susceptible to the disease. To protect yourself, avoid close physical contact with people who have a rash or other symptoms, avoid contact with objects these people may have used, and wash or sanitize your hands often.

Out and About with Rep. Brent



Rep. Brent has been keeping herself busy this summer, speaking at a multitude of events across Northeast Ohio. She spoke at a **Roe V. Wade rally**, advocating for reproductive freedom for all Ohioans. She also spoke at the graduation ceremony for inmates in the culinary "**Chopping for Change**" program and the **Ohio Jewish Community Annual Meeting**, pictured below.



Women's Equality Day

On August 26, we celebrate Women's Equality Day! This day commemorates the 1920 adoption of the 19th Amendment, which gave **white women across America the right to vote**.

This year, I co-sponsored multiple bills to advance women's equality in Ohio. Here are a few of them:

- H.J.R. 5 to amend the Ohio Constitution to guarantee the right to reproductive freedom
- H.C.R. 16 to encourage gender equity and diversity in leadership
- H.B. 232 to enact the Equal Pay Act in Ohio
- H.B. 79 to authorize tax credit for certain caregiver expenses
- H.B. 491 to establish family and medical leave insurance benefits.