

## August 2023 Legislative Update from

# STATE REP. JUANITA O. BRENT

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## From the desk of Rep. Juanita O. Brent

### HOUSE DISTRICT 22

Dear Neighbor,

The legislature may be in Summer Recess, but I am not slowing down. In July, I remained constant in my work in the District. I held a Townhall meeting, and spoke with community leaders and citizens about what is in the State Budget, explained the history and importance of the August 8th Election and provided a Statehouse Update. I attended the Metrohealth Women's Health Fair Expo Kickoff. I hosted a meet-and-greet with Local Religious Leaders, visited Camp Cheerful, brought home \$59,600 for East Cleveland city school, joined in Future Heights events, and toured Open Doors Academy. I will continue to meet, speak and learn from District 22's community leaders and citizens to best advocate for the needs of everyone I represent.

The Month of August holds many holidays to celebrate. August is National Black Business Month, Happiness Month, Senior Citizens Day (Aug, 21) and National Women's Equality Day (Aug, 26th). It is also back-to-school season.

Ohio's Special election took place on August 8th. The people of Ohio have spoken. Ohioans spoke through their vote. With 57% of the vote, the will of the people is to protect direct democracy.

As always, contact my office with any questions, comments, or concerns.

Sincerely,

State Representative Juanita O. Brent

House District 22



## Rep. Brent's Future Legislation

### Aisha's Law

Joint Sponsor: Rep. Sara Carruthers

- Require officers who handle domestic violence complaints to be trained in Intervention techniques
- Expands "aggravated murder" to also prohibit purposely causing the death of a family or household member
- Creates "emergency protection order" on behalf of a victim of domestic violence, if the court is not available for regular business.

### Pet Tax Credit

Joint Sponsor: Rep. Sharon Ray

- Provides a Tax credit for landlords that allow companion animal
- The tax commissioner will compile and publish (tax department's web site) a list of landlords who claim the credit
- The Tax credit is not allowed unless the claimant provides the address of each unit that are permitted pets, and a copy of the landlord's policies.

## Helpful Contacts

**Public Safety:** [www.publicsafety.ohio.gov](http://www.publicsafety.ohio.gov)

Highway Patrol 877-7-PATROL

DUI Hotline 800-GRAB-DUI

**Taxation:** [www.tax.ohio.gov](http://www.tax.ohio.gov)

Form Requests 800-282-1782

Taxpayer Assistance 800-282-1780

**Jobs and Family Services:**

[www.jfs.ohio.gov](http://www.jfs.ohio.gov)

Veteran Services 888-296-7541

Unemployment 877-644-6562

**Bureau of Motor Vehicles:**

[www.bmv.ohio.gov](http://www.bmv.ohio.gov)

Information 800-589-TAGS

# Education Grant

Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) is providing up to \$7,000 per for students with disabilities for college, training, programs for the 2023 fall term.

- Step 1:** Go to <https://ood.ohio.gov/home>
- Step 2:** Click Information for Individuals Header
- Step 3:** Scroll Down and the Students Tab
- Step 4:** Click OOD Education Support Funds
- Step 5:** Click the application Link or Call line

# Legal Aid Clinics

The Legal Aid society of Cleveland is hosting a free clinic. You can speak with an attorney about legal problems concerning money, employment, housing, family and more.

**When:** Saturday, August 19th (10:15am)  
**Where:** 7224 Broadway Avenue, Cleveland, OH  
**(Cleveland Public Library - Fleet Branch)**

# State Budget

The 2024-2025 State Budget totals \$190.7 Billion.

<u>Education</u>	<u>Taxes</u>	<u>Health /Senior Citizens</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Governor is given authority of schools over State School boards</li> <li>• Grades 6 -12 students access free feminine hygiene products</li> <li>• Universal School Voucher</li> <li>• Increases minimum teacher salary to \$35,000</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sales Tax Exemption for Baby Products</li> <li>• Income Tax Exemption for Minors</li> <li>• Indexes Homestead Exemption to inflation</li> <li>• Increases sports gaming tax rate from 10% to 20%.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased Medicaid reimbursement for Dental, Vision, and Ambulance</li> <li>• \$2.5M Healthy Beginnings at Home (stable housing for pregnant mothers)</li> <li>• Extends Medicaid coverage to workers with disabilities aged 65 and older</li> <li>• Continuous Medicaid for children 0 – 3</li> </ul>

# Money Rep. Brent Secured in the State Budget

- \$10M Cleveland Foodbanks
- \$1.2M Birthing Beautiful Communities
- \$450K Senior Transportation Accessibility and Modernization Pilot Program
- \$2.8M Open Doors Academy
- \$200K Girl Scouts of North East Ohio
- \$500K Y-Haven for Women

# Out In The Community

