December | 2021 — Statehouse & Legislative Update

State Rep. Casey Weinstein

Ohio House District 37

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From the Office of Representative Casey Weinstein (D-Hudson)

Working For You: A Look Back at November 2021

Dear Neighbor,

The New Year is right around the corner, and it's been a busy last few weeks in the Ohio Legislature. Read below to see what our office has been up to lately!

On November 11th, I hosted a town hall along with SeMia Bray of the Black Environmental Leaders Association where we discussed HB 429: The Energy Jobs and Justice Act, current Ohio legislation, and redistricting. Since I spoke to you about redistricting at our town hall, Gov. DeWine signed SB 258 into law, which authorized new Ohio Congressional maps. The maps were approved along party lines, and will only remain in place for four years as a result. These maps, like the Ohio State House maps, have been challenged in court and we are awaiting updates on the progression of both law suits. This month I had an additional opportunity to speak to residents of District 37 at an event at Barlow Community College. Thank you to everyone that attended both events!

With everyone beginning to travel for the holiday seasons, I encourage you to protect your community and schedule an appointment to get vaccinated against COVID-19. I recently received my booster shot to protect against COVID-19, and with the FDA approving the vaccine for all ages over five, my daughter recently received her first dose as well. For more information on the vaccine, scheduling an appointment, or whether you are eligible for a booster shot, please visit the website for the Summit County Health Department.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact my office with any questions or concerns! Have a very happy holiday season, and I look forward to working with you in the New Year!

Sincerely,

Casey Weinstein

Commendations, Congratulations, and Condolences from Rep. Weinstein

I want to thank a Hudson local business, Mobility Plus, for their work in giving back to the community by providing accommodations for those in need of accessibility aids.

Congratulations to Seton Catholic School on being a Blue Ribbon Award recipient! Blue Ribbon Awards are based in a school's academic performance, and how much they have worked to close the achievement gap. Well done!

Congratulations to Hudson's current City Council President Bill Wooldredge on his recent retirement! Thank you for everything you have done for our community over the years.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Spotlight: HB 99 & HB 227

This November the Ohio House passed Republican-sponsored bills that would reduce restrictions on firearms in Ohio. HB 99 would allow school districts to arm teachers in the classroom without adequate training or safe storage requirements. HB 99 passed the Ohio House 59-33. HB 227 would eliminate concealed weapon training and safety standards, including penalties for failing to notify police of a concealed weapon during a stop, passing the Ohio House 60-32.

HB 99 goes against both the opinion's of teachers and recommendations by police officers. A 2018 survey found that 80 percent of teachers were "strongly opposed" to having armed faculty in schools. Ohio's Fraternal Order of Police noted that the minimal training required by HB 99 is significantly less than the hundreds of hours of training required for police officers. Democrats expressed similar concerns that HB 99 only requires 20 hours of training for armed teachers during committee hearings.

Recent research indicates that states that pass legislation to eliminate permits and training, seen in HB 227 and HB 99 respectively, see increased instances of gun violence. I believe we can and should do more to reduce gun violence while still respecting the rights of gun owners. It's what the vast majority of Ohioans want us to do, and what they called for us to do when they urged lawmakers to "do something" following the 2019 tragedy in Dayton.

I voted against these two bills in our recent House session. As these bills make their way to the Senate, I will continue to call for commonsense gun safety measures that keep our communities safe while still respecting the rights of responsible gun owners.

Reach Out to Rep. Weinstein

Here are some ways our office can help:

- Disputes with government agencies
- Ohio House commendations, condolences, and congratulatory letters
- Propose bill ideas and law changes
- Connect you or your business to state programs or services

Contact Methods:

Email Us: Rep37@OhioHouse.gov

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Legislative Update

SB 58: Esther's Law/ I joined both my Republican and Democratic colleagues in voting in favor of Senate Bill 58, commonly referred to as Esther's Law. The bill passed the House and Senate unanimously and would allow nursing home residents or their families to install cameras in their rooms to monitor for abuse and/or neglect. Esther's Law now makes its way to Gov. DeWine to sign or to veto.

HB 218 / House Bill 218 was recently passed 58-32 by the Ohio House, and will now make its way to the Senate. HB 218 bars public and private entities from requiring proof of COVID-19 vaccination for any reason, as well as rendering vaccine mandates in schools and private businesses largely invalid. I voted against House Bill 218 in our recent session, and I will continue to oppose any bill that puts the health of Ohioans at risk.

Unsubscribe: district37-leave@list.ohiohouse.gov