

It is an honor to serve you as State Representative for Summit and Stark Counties. I want to provide you an update to keep you informed on my activities in Columbus and around the district. As always, please feel free to contact my office about any issues that are of concern.

Update from Columbus:

During the 134th General Assembly, I have been hard at work representing the people of Summit and Stark Counties. I have been working diligently on numerous pieces of legislation in addition to making my way around the district to hear from local communities and small businesses. Here are a few highlights from January:

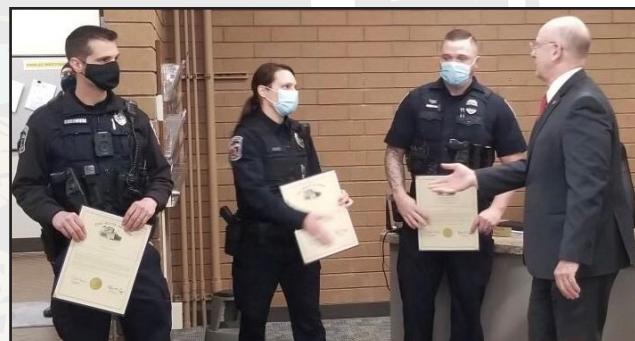
Urging Congress to End E-check

In 2020 I introduced legislation to urge the federal government to end E-check and again last year a similar resolution was introduced. In an additional effort to end E-check, I recently met with federal and regional EPA personnel to discuss more efficient improvements to Ohio's air quality. E-check is a burden to Northeast Ohio families - especially for low income households - and I will continue to strive for its elimination.



Honoring our Heroes in Blue

I was honored to present letters of commendation to Norton Police Officers Michael Guarnieri, Heather Bauer, and Sean Conner (pictured, left to right) for their heroic acts in December 2020, when they saved an elderly couple from a house fire.



Giving Back to the Community

As I have since 2010 I will again decline my benefits from the State of Ohio. The benefits package offered for my work as a State Representative totaled over \$16,000 of taxpayers' funds; including life, health, vision, and dental insurance, health and dependent care spending accounts, and contributions to an Ohio Public Employee Retirement System (OPERS) account. Public service is a labor of love and I cannot in good conscience accept added benefits when I am already adequately compensated.

Swearing in New Norton City Council Members

I had the pleasure of swearing in four newly-elected Norton City Council members recently, including Doug DeHart, Jamie Lukens, Ben Bates, and Paul Tousley. DeHart, Lukens, and Bates are new to the council, while Tousley will be returning to the council after securing re-election. It was a privilege to visit the Norton City Council and usher in the new term and I have the utmost confidence that the new council will serve diligently.

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