



A legislative update from
STATE REP. WILLIS E. BLACKSHEAR JR.
 HOUSE DISTRICT 39

(614) 466-1607 | rep39@ohiohouse.gov | [@OHHouseDems](https://twitter.com/OHHouseDems) | fb.com/OhioHouseDems



Dear Neighbor,

This past month marked the end of recess of the House of Representatives in Columbus, and business in the House has resumed for the remainder of the year.

This month, I will be hosting constituent days in the district for anyone who would like to speak with me about any issue that they may be having in the district. I work for you, and it is important that I know what specific concerns you have that I can assist you in addressing. The dates, times and locations for Constituent Days are listed below.

- **October 18th – 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM at Dayton Metro Library – Westwood Branch**
- **October 19th – 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM at Dayton Metro Library – Southeast Branch**
- **October 26th – 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM at Dayton Metro Library – Northwest Branch**

I am introducing the Neighborhood Protection Act in the legislature. The Neighborhood Protection Act will make it easier for interested parties to get in contact with vacant property owners. Vacant properties cause a variety of issues in our district and in other districts around the state of Ohio. I am introducing this legislation so that our neighborhoods can be safe, prosperous communities for all that live in them.

Finally, Election Day, which will occur on **Tuesday, November 2**, is right around the corner. Polls will be open from 6:30 am to 7:30 pm. Whether you decide to vote absentee by mail, vote early in person or vote in person on Election Day, I encourage you to create a voting plan now to ensure your voice is heard this year. You can view your sample ballot and find your polling location at voteohio.gov.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact my office with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Willis E. Blackshear Jr.

Rep. Blackshear



Unemployment Account Takeover Reimbursements

Starting October 1, Ohioans who have been victims of unemployment account takeovers- which occurs when a criminal gains access to a legitimate claimant’s account and reroutes the payments from the intended recipient— can start the process to have their payments reimbursed.

Ohioans who have been affected by this problem can call the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services at 1-877-644-6562 to request reimbursement, then an affidavit will be sent to the individual to fill out. ODJFS has indicated they do not know how long processing of these cases will take.

Democrats call for action on bills to support survivors of sexual violence

Democrats are calling for action on their legislation to support survivors of sexual assault after a federal judge in late September dismissed all outstanding Strauss abuse cases against Ohio State University, citing the expired statute of limitations for sexual abuse claims.

An [independent investigative report](#) released by OSU in May 2019 found that Dr. Richard Strauss sexually abused at least 177 students throughout his 20 year tenure as a doctor at the school. Dozens of students subsequently sued the school and the athletic department for their handling of the case.

Democrats have introduced numerous bills to modernize Ohio's laws regarding sexual assault. They include:

- **House Bill (HB) 266**, sponsored by **Reps. Tavia Galonski (D-Akron)** and **Jessica E. Miranda (D-Forest Park)**, would eliminate the statute of limitations for criminal and civil sex crimes. Under the current Revised Code, prosecution against a perpetrator of rape or sexual battery must begin within 25 years after the commission of or attempt to commit the crime. HB 266 would also extend the window for victims of childhood sexual abuse to sue their abusers from 12 years after they reach adulthood to 37 years and create a three year window for survivors older than 55 to take action.

- **HB 199**, sponsored by **Reps. Kristin Boggs (D-Columbus)** and **Allison Russo (D-Upper Arlington)** would prevent victims of rape or assault from denied full compensation of their damages awarded by a jury.

HB 266 was referred to House Criminal Justice Committee, but has yet to receive a first hearing. HB 199 was assigned to House Civil Justice Committee and had its first hearing in April.

The legislature must act now to update Ohio's antiquated laws so survivors of sexual violence and abuse can access the justice they deserve.



District Spotlight

Constituent Days

State Representative
Willis Blackshear, Jr.
House District 39

October 18 | 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM
Dayton Metro Library - Westwood Branch

October 19 | 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM
Dayton Metro Library - Southeast Branch

October 26th | 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM
Dayton Metro Library - Northwest Branch



**Socially
Distanced,
Masks Required**

