

Senator Frank LaRose

27th Senate District

Senator Frank LaRose represents the people of Summit, Stark and Wayne Counties with a passion and drive for improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the government that serves them.

Throughout his time in public service, LaRose has spearheaded substantial efforts to increase government transparency and productivity, particularly in the areas of elections administration and regulatory reform. LaRose was named Legislator of the Year by the Ohio Association of Election Officials in recognition of his exceptional commitment to improving Ohio's election process, particularly the legislation he sponsored to establish an online voter registration system in Ohio and his work to include funding for electronic poll books in the state budget.

In 2014, *Governing* magazine recognized LaRose as one of "12 State Legislators to Watch." The magazine, whose annual list highlights six Democrats and six Republicans from statehouses across the nation, praised LaRose's efforts to improve political civility in Columbus. LaRose was recognized for his dynamic leadership and community service being named to the Greater Akron Chamber's "30 for the Future." He also completed the prestigious Bowhay Institute for Legislative Leadership Development program hosted by the Council of State Governments. Other honors include the History Leadership Award, the Small Business Advocate Award, AMVETS Legislator of Year, the Award for Legislative Excellence from the Ohio National Guard Association, and the Leadership Award from the Israeli Leadership Institute.

LaRose currently chairs the Senate Transportation, Commerce and Workforce Committee, which is responsible for crafting the state's biannual transportation budget, improving Ohio's ground, air, and maritime transportation infrastructure. In addition, the committee addresses important public safety and workforce related issues. He previously served as Chair of the State and Local Government Committee as well as the Public Safety, Local Government and Veterans Affairs Committee. LaRose also served as chair of the legislative Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review, which reviews administrative rules proposed by state agencies, departments, boards and commissions in an effort to minimize the burden on job creators.

Senator LaRose developed his strong work ethic and sense of responsibility at a young age while working on a small family-owned farm in northeastern Ohio. Following his graduation from Copley High School, he fulfilled a lifelong dream by enlisting in the United States Army with the 101st Airborne and eventually served in the U.S. Special Forces as a Green Beret. During his decade in uniform around the globe, Senator LaRose achieved the rank of Sergeant First Class and received numerous commendations and honors, including the Bronze Star. LaRose volunteered for multiple deployments including overseas combat service. He served in Iraq, Kosovo and other



locations and with a counter-narcotics task force on the U.S.-Mexican border.

LaRose continues to give back to his community since leaving the Army and entering public office. He currently serves on the board of directors for the Ohio History Connection, formerly known as the Ohio Historical Society, and is the Jr. Vice Commander of the Fairlawn VFW. Having earned the rank of Eagle Scout, he serves on the executive board for the Great Trail Council, Boy Scouts of America.

Senator LaRose graduated from The Ohio State University with a degree in consumer affairs and business. He and his wife, Lauren, live in Hudson with their three daughters and dog.