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## SENATOR STEPHANIE KUNZE

OHIO SENATE, 16TH DISTRICT  NEWSLETTER ISSUE: MARCH 2020

Dear neighbor,

We are living in uncertain times, and I know many of us are experiencing hardships because of coronavirus. I wanted to share a few things with you today in the video and newsletter below.



First, help Ohio slow the spread. Please follow recommended guidelines to keep your family healthy ... and stay informed. Visit [coronavirus.ohio.gov](https://coronavirus.ohio.gov) for updates, prevention tips and other resources. Secondly, my colleagues and I are working with Governor DeWine and have passed emergency measures to provide relief for Ohioans, and I have included details on this legislation below. Finally, remember that you are not alone. Ohioans are in this together, and we will make it through. Let's keep encouraging one another and caring for those who need extra help.

Our work is far from over, and as we all continue to face new challenges every day, please don't hesitate to reach out to my office if you have ideas or need help accessing state resources. I'm available at [Kunze@OhioSenate.gov](mailto:Kunze@OhioSenate.gov) or by phone at (614) 466-5981.

Be Well and God Bless.

*Stephanie Kunze*

Stephanie Kunze  
State Senator  
Ohio's 16th Senate District

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## PROVIDING ESSENTIAL RELIEF FOR OHIOANS

Coronavirus/COVID-19 has created health and economic emergencies and hardships for many Ohio families, individuals and businesses. The legislature is working with Governor DeWine on relief efforts, and we met last week to pass [HB 197](#), an emergency relief measure to get aid to those in need now. It received unanimous support in the Ohio Senate, and Governor DeWine signed it into law last Friday.

Among other things, this legislation:

- Expands eligibility for unemployment compensation.
- Waives K-12 standardized testing and school report card requirements and allows seniors to graduate.
- Extends absentee voting by mail for Ohio's primary election to April 28.
- Provides funding for small businesses, such as daycares and services for the disabled.

You can read more by clicking the link below about the other essential provisions included in this bill.

[Learn More](#)

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## Request your Vote-by-Mail ballot for the 2020 Primary Election.

[VoteOhio.gov](http://VoteOhio.gov)



The coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic disrupted Ohio's primary election on March 17, but **absentee, mail-in voting for this election has been extended to April 28**. If you are a registered voter, you can still cast your vote.

### Here's how:

**Request an Absentee Ballot:** There are two options to request an absentee ballot:

- 1) You can call the Franklin County Board of Elections office at 614-525-3470 and request an absentee ballot be sent to you, or
- 2) You can go online at <https://vote.franklincountyohio.gov/Absentee-Ballot-Request> to print a request for an absentee ballot.

**Mail Your Absentee Ballot Request:** Please accurately complete the absentee ballot request and mail it to the Franklin County Board of Elections at 1700 Morse Rd., Columbus, Ohio 43229.

**Cast Your Vote:** Upon receiving your absentee ballot, make your selections and mail in your ballot using the pre-paid return envelope to cast your vote. Your mailed ballot must be postmarked by April 27 or be dropped off at Franklin County Board of Election's secure curbside box at the address above by 7:30 p.m. April 28.

If you have already voted in this year's primary, your vote will count. Special provisions have been made for Ohioans with disabilities or those unable to receive mail. To learn more about this, or if you have other questions, visit [VoteOhio.gov](http://VoteOhio.gov).

[Learn More](#)

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**COVID-19/ CORONAVIRUS  
RESOURCES FOR OHIOANS**

I will continue working daily with Governor DeWine and his administration on all measures implemented in order to mitigate the coronavirus impact on Ohio's families, schools, businesses and communities.

For the latest updates on COVID-19 visit [www.Coronavirus.Ohio.gov](http://www.Coronavirus.Ohio.gov) or call the Department of Health's hotline at 1-833-4-ASK-ODH (1-833-427-5634).

Please visit the link below for resources available to all Ohioans confronting the new realities the coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic has created in our community. You will find information on Ohio's [UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS](#), resources for [SMALL BUSINESSES](#), help for Ohioans struggling with [MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION](#) concerns and more.

Learn More

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**Want to Help?**  
**Together@governor.ohio.gov**

We are fighting for Ohioans by enacting legislation that will provide relief during this pandemic, but we need your help.

Many people want to offer their time and resources to help our community during these uncertain times. The Governor's Office has created a way for you to turn these gracious acts of kindness into reality. Please email [together@governor.ohio.gov](mailto:together@governor.ohio.gov) to give back.

Continue to practice social distancing and adhering to the guidelines set by our public health officials. Getting through this crisis won't happen without the resourcefulness, determination and resilience that makes us all Ohioans. **We are all in this together!**

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# CONTACT MY OFFICE:

Kunze@OhioSenate.gov  
(614) 466-5981  
[www.OhioSenate.gov/Kunze](http://www.OhioSenate.gov/Kunze)

In closing, I know this is a difficult time for individuals and families throughout the district. Please know that I share Dr. Amy Acton's sentiment, "Human and economic development are inextricably linked. Our mission is creating the conditions in which all Ohioans can lead flourishing lives and can contribute to their full potential."

I share in your concerns and struggles during this difficult chapter that has changed all of our lives. I am here to assist our neighbors so that we can emerge out of this crisis as a stronger community.

Please feel free to contact me. My office can help:

- ★ Assist in dealing with state agencies.
- ★ Research information on bills and committees.
- ★ Share your opinions on pending legislation or your ideas for new legislation.
- ★ Honor outstanding accomplishments and milestones.
- ★ Request a meeting at the Statehouse or in the district.
- ★ Schedule a tour of the Ohio Statehouse.



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Senator Stephanie Kunze represents the 16<sup>th</sup> Ohio Senate District, which encompasses a portion of Franklin county. Learn more at [www.OhioSenate.gov/Kunze](http://www.OhioSenate.gov/Kunze).