

Click [here](#) if you are having trouble viewing this message.



Dear Neighbor,

As autumn approaches and the school year kicks off, the Ohio Senate remains committed to supporting our community as we navigate a return to normalcy living with COVID-19. We all have changed the way we go about our daily lives over the course of the summer, making sacrifices for loved ones and our neighbors around us. I have seen countless acts of courage and altruism as our communities have banded together to slow the spread. I hear the sense of urgency to return to a safe and smart normal and have echoed that message in the Senate to provide the assistance needed to bear the burdens caused by COVID-19.

The month of August had many noteworthy celebrations including National Women's Equality Day and the Centennial of Women's Suffrage in the United States. Many great events that welcomed new businesses and reached out to our neighbors also took place across the 16th Senate District. In addition, I was fortunate to meet with some of Central Ohio's business owners and families to learn more about their challenges and needs during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Our work is far from over, but my commitment to represent the needs and interests of our community remains the same. I look forward to the work yet to be done.

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 or by phone at (614) 466-5981.

Be Well and God Bless.

Stephanie Kunze



Ohio leads the nation in voting accessibility and security, and Secretary of State Frank LaRose and his team are working diligently to ensure each Ohioan can cast their vote safely and securely this fall. I encourage you to know your voting options for this November's election, and I've included details below which can also be found on VoteOhio.gov.

Register to Vote

In order to vote in this November's election, you must register to vote no later than October 5, 2020. To register online, or update your current registration, [click here](#).

Early In-Person Voting

Beginning on October 6, 2020, you can vote in person at your county board of elections. During this time, Ohio provides more early voting hours than 43 other states in fact. Read [more here](#) about your early voting options.

Absentee Voting

On October 6, 2020, Ohio also begins to let you vote absentee by mail. Ohio has four weeks of absentee voting and uses security safeguards like ballot tracking and ID verification to ensure accuracy. If voting absentee, I encourage you to [request your ballot](#) as soon as possible. Local boards of elections can begin mailing out ballots on October 6.

Once you receive your ballot, be sure to complete it and return your ballot postmarked by November 2. It can also be dropped off by 7:30 p.m. on Election Day (November 3, 2020) at the secure drop box at your county board of elections.

In-Person Voting on Election Day

If you vote in person on November 3, know that it will be safe and secure to do so. Confirm your voting location [here](#).



To date, nearly \$2.7B in CARES Act funding has been approved by the General Assembly to be distributed to Ohio's communities as they continue to battle and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. This funding includes:

- \$50M in matching grant dollars to Ohio's K-12 school districts for remote learning tools, including broadband communication devices, hotspots, etc.
- \$18.3M for Ohio's libraries
- \$8.75M for Ohio's domestic violence shelters and rape crisis centers
- \$31 million for Ohio's Department of Jobs and Family Services to pay publicly funded childcare centers that are choosing to operate with reduced teacher-to-student ratios or class sizes
- \$3M for Ohio's congressionally-chartered veterans' organizations
- \$89.5 million for the Ohio's Department of Health to continue expanded testing efforts, \$5.3 million approved for local health departments for the same efforts and \$2.7 million for wraparound services for migrant and seasonal farmworkers
- \$1M for Ohio's two veterans' homes located in Sandusky (Erie county) and Georgetown (Brown county)
- \$9 million in CARES Act funding to schools, institutions of higher education, and other education-related entities to fund additional hours of childcare

needed as a result of the students not physically being at school

- \$1M through the Attorney General's office to be used on COVID19-related fraud prevention, especially as it relates to fraud targeting Ohio's elderly population
- Additional dollars for Ohio's 86 rest stops, operated by the Ohio Department of Transportation

The Ohio Senate continues to be ready to act to respond to the ever-changing situation of this pandemic.



It was a joy volunteering at the announcement of the partnership between Children's Hunger Alliance and COSI Columbus' Dynamic Hands-On Science Center. These two organizations are distributing grab-and-go meals and COSI "Learning Lunchboxes," a resource kit filled with hands-on science activities, to our neighbors around the district. The Learning Lunchbox provides education materials to children as the school year begins.

Since the pandemic, the Children's Hunger Alliance has been working with Ohio's families impacted by COVID to ensure they have access to healthy and nutritious food. I am grateful for their service to our community and enjoyed meeting a new friend while exploring the science kits.

Click on the link below to learn more about how COSI is engaging all ages into a world of science and digital literacy.

[Learn More](#)



Welcome to the neighborhood! I joined the owners and family of the newly opened TownePlace Suites by Marriott in Hilliard as they held their grand opening ceremony.

As Ohio's economy continues to recover, we must continue our work to support industries affected by pandemic closures. Many of the organizations receiving pandemic assistance are essential to the successful re-opening of Ohio's economy. Targeting investments into these essential businesses and services will continue to drive Ohio's economy.



The Ohio Development Services Agency is currently accepting applications from Ohio businesses for the Diversity & Inclusion Technology Internship Program. The program matches companies with interns and pays for two-thirds of the intern's wages, up to \$10,000.

This is a great opportunity for local businesses to recruit a diverse workforce with young talent to help them compete and grow. These paid internships give college students great experience in business and entrepreneurship.

Key Dates

- Application Period for Companies: August 11, 2020– September 8, 2020
- Application Period for Students: August 25 – September 22

I highly encourage all businesses and prospective students to apply through the link below.

[Learn More](#)



During the COVID-19 pandemic, it is more crucial than ever to ensure children have access to books and learning materials at home. This month marks the first anniversary of the Ohio Governor's Imagination Library, and First Lady Fran DeWine encouraged families to continue enrolling.

Of the 718,583 age-eligible children in Ohio, 188,000 have enrolled in the program since it began in the state. The initiative allows children to receive a new free book each month, improving early language development and literacy at no cost to families.

In Franklin County, only 19% of those eligible have enrolled totaling 15,696 children. I was happy to support a \$5 million investment in the program last Ohio budget cycle to initiate chapters across the state. The Ohio Governor's Imagination Library is open to any child from birth until age five. To learn more

about the program and enroll in Franklin County, please [click here](#).

Learn More

In the News

Columbus Dispatch: [COSI distributing science kits to feed young minds in underserved areas](#)

ThisWeek Community News: [Gov. Mike DeWine gives go-ahead to fall contact sports](#)

ThisWeek Community News: [Hilliard girls make sweet gesture toward police dogs with lemonade stand](#)

ABC 6 (WSYX): [Temporary public art project encourages physical distancing launches in Dublin](#)

CNN Business: [Tracking America's recovery](#)

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.



1 CAPITOL SQUARE
COLUMBUS, OH 43215



614-466-5981



KUNZE@OHIOSENATE.GOV



@STEPHANIEKUNZEOHIO



@STEPHANIEKUNZE



@OHIOSENATEGOP



Senator Stephanie Kunze represents the 16th Ohio Senate District, which encompasses a portion of Franklin county. Learn more at www.OhioSenate.gov/Kunze.