



SENATOR STEPHANIE KUNZE

OHIO SENATE, 16TH DISTRICT  NEWSLETTER ISSUE: NOVEMBER 2020

Dear Neighbor,

I would like to wish you and your family a very Happy Thanksgiving. I am grateful to represent you in the Ohio Senate. I look forward to standing up for our communities' interests for the remainder of the 133rd General Assembly.

I continue to work on your behalf in the Ohio Senate. This newsletter details some of my legislative priorities, including combating corruption, making our roads safer, improving healthcare for expecting mothers, and strengthening our education system.

This year has been a challenge. I hope that you are able to enjoy this Thanksgiving holiday with those you care about most. If you would like to help out neighbors in need or if you are in need of food assistance, please note the resources at the bottom of this newsletter.

As always, should you have any questions or issues regarding the state, you can reach out to my office at Kunze@ohiosenate.gov or by phone at (614) 466-5981.

"Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life. It turns what we have into enough, and more. It turns denial into acceptance, chaos to order, confusion to clarity. It can turn a meal into a feast, a house into a home, a stranger into a friend. Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today and creates a vision for tomorrow." — Melody Beattie

Be Well and God Bless,

Stephanie Kunze



Ohio's General Assemblies span two years. The latter part of this year provides an opportunity for the legislature to finish work on any legislation that has been introduced since January 2019.

I've heard from many constituents on what work should be prioritized. Here is a preview of the bills I'm looking to send to the Governor's desk by the end of the year:

[Senate Bill 346](#): Restoring Ohioans' trust in the legislative process

SB 346 will repeal the tainted energy bill we now know was passed in back room meetings through dark money bribes. I am proud to sponsor this bipartisan bill and look forward to receiving a Senate committee vote to right the wrongs of the corruption behind House Bill 6.

Status: Pending in Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee

[Senate Bill 285](#): Safer roads for a safer Ohio

SB 285 takes aim at distracted driving, increasing penalties for those on the road using their phones. The purpose of this bill is not to make more traffic stops or put more people in jail, but to get drivers to put down their phones to reduce accidents which cause injury and death. We must make distracted driving as culturally unacceptable as drunken driving is today.

Status: Pending in Senate Local Government, Public Safety and Veterans Affairs Committee

[Senate Bill 328](#): Improving healthcare for expectant moms

SB 328 provides coverage for moms who choose to utilize a doula for their prenatal and postpartum care. We must continue to better Ohio's access to healthcare and improving birth outcomes.

Status: Favorable bipartisan passage through the Senate, Pending in House Health Committee

[Senate Bill 34](#): Protecting Ohio's students

Loopholes in our schools background checks should never lead to the hiring of a potentially dangerous teacher. SB 34 would ensure a safe learning environment for students by prohibiting educators and other school employees that have been found guilty of certain offenses from obtaining or maintaining licensure with the State Board of Education. This bill has passed the Senate unanimously with bipartisan support. I look forward to swift action to be taken by the House so we can ensure this safety for all Ohio students.

Status: Favorable bipartisan passage through the Senate, Pending in House Primary and Secondary Education Committee



We are blessed to live in a caring and thoughtful community. We know that there are still those in our community that will struggle finding a meal during the holiday season.

Please consider giving your time and volunteer with the [Mid-Ohio Foodbank](#) or [Lifecare Alliance](#).



Columbus Dispatch: [Thanksgiving meals provided to Columbus' needy take on added resonance amid pandemic](#)

ABC 6 (WSYX): [Central Ohio veterans to be provided free Thanksgiving meals Friday](#)

ABC 6 (WSYX): [Columbus Police Officers serve more than 100 Thanksgiving meals](#)

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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