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Dear Stephanie,

Happy New Year! In 2017 and 2018, my colleagues and I worked hard to pass legislation that promotes economic growth, workforce development and improves our education system. It is exciting to see the development and accomplishments in our community as we have worked together on many important issues.



As the 133rd Ohio General Assembly begins, I look forward to working together to make Ohio a great place to reside. I value feedback on the legislation being debated within the Ohio Statehouse. Please know that I thoroughly review all testimony presented during the committee process, as well as emails, letters and phone calls my office receives regarding pending legislative proposals.

I would like to highlight a few of the accomplishments from this past year that will continue to make Ohio an exceptional place to live, work and raise a family. I encourage you to reach out to me if you find yourself with a question or concern regarding state government or an idea for legislation that will help Ohio continue moving forward. I look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,

Stephanie Kunze

Achieving Record Job Growth



Congratulations on the Grand Opening of the newly renovated Kroger in Grove City this past year. This is one of many ribbon cuttings that have taken place in Central Ohio over the last two years.

With 568,400 new private sector jobs created since 2011, Ohio is now the #1 job creating state in the Midwest and private sector jobs are growing 39% faster than the national average (Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics). The job growth we are seeing in Ohio is because of our pro-growth policies like tax cuts and regulatory reform. We will continue to build on this progress to keep Ohio moving in the right direction.

If you are seeking employment, or are looking for new career opportunities, you can begin your job search by visiting Ohio Means Jobs and learn more about Ohio's growing economy below.

[Learn More](#)

Ongoing Efforts to Combat the Opioid Crisis

Ohio has been on the front-lines of the national opioid epidemic that

has impacted millions across the nation. I co-sponsored [Senate Bill 1](#), which will help address the impact of the drug crisis by implementing new guidelines and increase penalties for drug trafficking and possession violations. I look forward to working with my colleagues to continue our effort to combat this multi-faceted epidemic facing our state in the coming months.



If you or someone you know is struggling with addiction learn where to get help; call toll-free at 1-877-275-6364 or [click here](#) to find an addictions service provider in your county.

Supporting Victims of Sexual Assault in their Pursuit of Justice



I have made it a priority to help victims of sexual assault rebuild their lives.

I was proud to sponsor [Senate Bill 323](#), which will improve the efficiency and tracking of sexual assault kits through the Ohio Attorney General's Office. The law, which was amended into [Senate Bill 201](#), will now require the Attorney General to develop and maintain a statewide

system to improve transparency around the collection, submission and analysis of sexual assault evidence kits.

As we continue to help victims of sexual assault, it is imperative that we provide them the ability to check the status of the testing of their rape kits, anonymously and on their own terms. My hope is that through this effort, we will help these victims on their journey to move forward and begin to heal from their horrific experience.

[Learn More](#)

Strengthening Penalties for Strangulation and Suffocation

I sponsored [Senate Bill 207](#), which passed the Ohio Senate 31-0 during the recently concluded Ohio General Assembly, in an effort to help ensure justice for victims of strangulation or suffocation by changing the crime from a misdemeanor to a felony domestic violence conviction. While all domestic violence cases deserve our attention, strangulation is a known indicator for increased risk of homicide.

Though Senate Bill 207 did not make it through the Ohio House of Representatives prior to the conclusion of the 132nd Ohio General Assembly, I pledge to re-introduce this measure to generate awareness for the problem of strangulation and domestic violence in the new General Assembly to help survivors of these often violent assaults receive the justice they deserve.

Upcoming District Office Hours



Monday, January 28, 2019

3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Municipal Building
3600 Tremont Road
Upper Arlington, OH 43221

Thursday, January 31, 2019

1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Hilliard Library
4500 Hickory Chase Way
Hilliard, OH 43026

4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Gethsemane Lutheran Church
35 E. Stanton Ave. Columbus, OH 43214

Monday, February 4, 2019

3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

City of Dublin Council Planning Room
5200 Emerald Parkway
Dublin, Ohio 43017

6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Old Worthington Library
820 High Street
Worthington, OH 43085

Thursday, February 7, 2019

12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Grove City City Library
5200 Emerald Parkway

Dublin, Ohio 43017

3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Prairie Township Building
23 Maple Drive
Columbus, Ohio 43228

Please call my office at **(614) 466-5981** if you have any questions.
I look forward to seeing you soon!

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.