

State Representative Sean Patrick Brennan

Ohio House District 14

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| May 2023

Dear District 14 Resident:

This month I write to celebrate the passage of the *bipartisan* Operating Budget (House Bill 33) by the Ohio House of Representatives. The revised two-year budget bill outlines spending of nearly \$200 billion dollars, prioritizing improvements in public education funding and teacher pay, expansion of Medicaid coverage and other healthcare areas, expansion in childcare capacity and programs, and necessary funding for local government infrastructure projects.

I was proud to support the important funding we were able to pass for schools, foodbanks, community safety, and human services that are vital to moving our state forward. My top concern is supporting efforts that serve the constituents I represent in Parma, Parma Heights and Cleveland's West Park, especially, our young people, senior citizens, families, and all taxpayers.

A few highlights include approximately an additional \$7 million in funding for the Parma City Schools and \$29 million for the Cleveland City Schools, \$20 million for the Cleveland Foodbank, \$1 million for the Cleveland Sight Center and its affiliates, increasing teacher base salary from \$30K to \$40K, increases to Medicaid and services to help our disabled population, lowering income taxes for middle-income earners, among many others.

The Operating Bill now heads to the Ohio Senate for consideration.

To read about the details of HB 33, as well as other bills I am supporting, how to sign up for my monthly newsletter, to read my press releases, and more visit ohiohouse.gov/members/sean-p-brennan.

In closing, as Memorial Day approaches, please join me in prayer for those who gave all that we might be free. Enjoy the warmer weather that now seems here to stay for awhile. It is truly an honor to serve you.

Sincerely,

Sean Patrick Brennan

State Representative, District 14
77 South High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Recently, I had the honor of meeting with representatives from the Cuyahoga County Public Library at the Ohio Statehouse. I once served as a page at the Parma-Ridge branch in my younger years. I was happy to successfully advocate for more library funding in the state budget. I am very pleased about the plans for a brand new library branch in Parma Heights!





State Representatives Sean Patrick Brennan and Michele Grim - Plain Dealer 5/3/23

Small businesses, big investments - the case for a National Infrastructure Bank: Michele Grim and Sean Patrick Brennan

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People walk outside the U.S. Capitol building in Washington. In a guest column today, Democratic state Reps. Michele Grim of Toledo and Sean Patrick Brennan of Parma urge support for a National Infrastructure Bank, to help attract private financing to upgrade the nation's deteriorating infrastructure. (AP Photo/Patrick Semansky, File)

COLUMBUS, Ohio -- Our nation is facing the threat of a recession as well as a banking crisis. This trying state of affairs is the result of over 50 years of failed economic policies. We outsourced much of our manufacturing, which we have felt here in Ohio, while simultaneously failing to repair and replace our aging infrastructure. Instead of investing in our tangible economy, our nation increasingly turned to financial speculation in stocks, bonds, crypto currencies, and other dubious investments.

We need to return to building infrastructure and industry. Legislation is being readied for Congress to create a \$5 trillion National Infrastructure Bank (NIB) to finance infrastructure projects across America, including here in the Buckeye State. This bill was introduced in the last Congress as House Resolution 3339, and garnered serious support from federal, state, and local governments.

In Ohio, endorsements include: Cleveland, Toledo, and Akron City Councils; Board of Lucas County Commissioners, Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments, All Aboard Ohio, and additional labor and community organizations. The NIB will be a separate institution from the budget, set up as a government-owned lending bank, and capitalized with existing treasuries held by the private sector.

This model has been used successfully four times before in our nation's history, starting with the First Bank of the United States, created by Treasury Secretary Alexander Hamilton, and ending with the Reconstruction Finance Corporation (RFC). The RFC was launched by President Herbert Hoover before being expanded by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. With the RFC, the United States was able to pull itself out of the Great Depression and triumph over evil in World War II. Not only did the RFC propel our country to greatness, it also gave Ohio the tools we needed to become a national economic leader.

The NIB will not require new federal spending, and no new federal taxes or debt. The NIB will pay its own way by making money for federal, state, and local governments -- promoting dramatically higher growth and tax revenues. The NIB is both fiscally responsible and a necessary public good, appealing to both Democrats and Republicans. Additionally, the NIB will:

- Fight against a recession, by creating millions of new, good-paying jobs to raise short-and long-term economic growth. Ohio would receive over \$160 billion from the NIB which would generate over 800,000 new high-wage jobs.
- Finance the backlog of infrastructure projects in every single district that government budgets have not been able to take on. In Ohio, the NIB can address the \$25 billion shortfall to fix our drinking and wastewater systems, which will prioritize replacing all 140,000 lead service lines in Cuyahoga County (and all the other counties); the 3,000 bridges that need repair; build the infrastructure in Central Ohio to support Intel's Ohio One plant, and launch a high-speed rail corridor connecting Buffalo to Detroit. • Promote a resurgence of American manufacturing through its Buy America provision, which will modernize older factories and build new ones in Ohio.
- Lower inflation by vastly raising economic production and productivity.

We call upon our members of Congress to support this policy as we are sponsoring a resolution in the Ohio legislature.

Let us adopt this proven American policy model. Many nations in the world use similar infrastructure banks, including Canada, Japan, and several other European countries. America is falling behind in infrastructure, ranking 17th globally. We cannot be competitive if our infrastructure and industry are falling apart. We call upon Congress to create this National Infrastructure Bank, to ensure that America is the global economic leader.



As a public servant I want to be accessible to my constituents. Knowing what is on people's minds helps me represent them better at the Statehouse. I hope folks will join me for my open office hours. There is no RSVP required. Please contact my office at 614-466-3485 or Rep14@OhioHouse.gov, if you would prefer a private meeting or if you require immediate assistance with a state issue.

Monday, May 15 (6:00 pm – 7:30 pm) - P.J. McIntyre's Irish Pub - 17119 Lorain Avenue, Cleveland

Friday, May 19 (8:00 am – 9:30 am) - Starbuck's - 6780 Ridge Road, Parma

Monday, May 22 (11:30 am – 1:00 pm) - Parma Heights Library - 6206 Pearl Road – room A



District Spotlight

Recently, I stopped by Yorktown Lanes in Parma Heights to speak to owners Michael and Aaron Cottrell, whose family has owned the lanes since 1959. This month they are hosting the 2023 Professional Women's Bowling Association Cleveland Open. My mother-in-law has been bowling there for the past 53 years! Thanks to the Cottrell's for being such good corporate citizens and offering good, clean fun to so many over the years!



Statehouse Spotlight

As an educator for three decades, anytime I get the opportunity to recognize students for their achievements, I jump at it. I was very excited recently to visit Cuyahoga Community College to speak to and recognize the members of the Plants Science and Landscape Technology students for winning the National Collegiate Landscape Competition at Mississippi State. This is a really big deal, as they beat out many big name four-year colleges throughout the country!



Safety Forces Spotlight

Recently, I was honored to accompany Parma Heights Mayor Marie Gallo on a tour of the Parma Heights Police and Fire Departments. What an honor it was to meet with Police Chief Steve Scharschmidt and Fire Chief Matt Bernard and their fine staffs. I was very impressed with how the two departments work closely together to ensure the safety of the community. A tip of the 14th Ohio House district hat to all of our safety forces heroes for their fine public service and sacrifice.

