

State Representative Sean Patrick Brennan

Ohio House District 14

(614) 466-3485 | rep14@ohiohouse.gov



September 2023

*Proudly serving Parma, Parma Heights, and
Cleveland's West Park Neighborhood!*

Dear District 14 Resident:

Anyone who knows me, knows that I have a deep respect for law enforcement. In fact, in my nearly two decades on Parma City Council, I was an ardent supporter of the Parma Police Department, advocating for fair wages and benefits, as well as modern equipment, training, and support so that law enforcement can do their public service to the best of their ability and as safely as possible. As state representative my support for law enforcement continues, and I am happy to report that I voted "YES" on the biennial state transportation and operating budgets, both of which provide robust funding for law enforcement at the state and local levels.

Recently, I had the honor of flying with two of Ohio's finest – Ohio Highway Patrol Sgt. Chris Hasty and Trooper Jeff Evans. I spent about 8 hours with Sgt. Hasty and Trooper Evans and my colleague, Representative Darnell Brewer, in the Ohio Highway Patrol helicopter that they use as part of the Cleveland Violence Reduction Initiative. Representative Brewer and I are happy to support this program, alongside Governor Michael DeWine.

During the time we spent on the helicopter we worked with multiple highway patrol units on the ground to intercept known felons, as well as the illegal guns and drugs in their possession. In all, we were a part of several high speed pursuits of law-breakers through the streets of Cleveland – from west side to east side. In fact, one of those we pursued fled all the way down to Akron before turning around and coming back to Cleveland. I am happy to report that all of those we followed were eventually apprehended and arrested.

Representative Brewer represents a portion of Cleveland's east side, while I represent about one-third of Cleveland's West Park. I am convinced that the Cleveland Initiative is making for a safer Cleveland, as well as safer suburbs. The more of these law-breakers we take off the streets, the fewer stolen vehicles, high speed chases, illegal drugs and guns, etc. we will see. I was appalled at the lack of respect for innocent life each of these law-breakers had as they raced through the streets at speeds as high as 120 MPH. I cannot express how impressed I was with how professional and thorough the members of the Highway Patrol were during my time with them, as well as how well they worked with local law enforcement. I was especially impressed with how methodical they were about ensuring the safety of bystanders and I am happy to report that no innocents were injured, although there were multiple frightening close calls.

It was an honor to ride with Sgt. Hasty and Trooper Evans, and I thank them and all of their colleagues for their service. Experiences like this make me a better representative for you at the Statehouse. Armed with this firsthand knowledge of what it is like for law enforcement working "in the trenches" reminds me of how important it is to ensure adequate resources for them. Needless to say, I sleep well knowing that my family and those I serve are under their watch. It is an honor to support them and it is a high honor to represent you. I want you to know how sincerely and deeply I care about each and every one of you.

As always, if my office may be of help to you, please contact me.
Best wishes to you and yours as we transition into fall this month.

Sincerely,

Sean Patrick Brennan

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

Website:
ohiohouse.gov/members/sean-p-brennan

State Representatives Darnell Brewer and Sean Patrick Brennan with Ohio Highway Patrol Trooper Jeff Evans before their 8-hour helicopter law-enforcement ride along.



Representative Sean Patrick Brennan Named One of North America's Top Emerging Leaders



Midwestern Legislative Conference THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS

For immediate release

Contact: Laura A. Tomaka | 630.925.1922

Representative Sean Patrick Brennan completes regional leadership institute

(Lombard, Ill.) August 22, 2023 -- State Representative Sean Patrick Brennan of Parma was among 37 select lawmakers to complete a leadership training program that identifies and assists emerging state and provincial leaders in the Midwest.

Representative Brennan met with fellow lawmakers from Ohio, 10 other Midwestern states and two Canadian provinces on August 18-22, in Madison, Wis., for The Council of State Governments' 28th annual Bowhay Institute for Legislative Leadership Development (BILLD).

"The Bowhay Institute is one of the premier leadership training programs in the nation," says Iowa Sen. Amy Sinclair, who serves as co-chair of the institute's steering committee. "The legislatures in the region have benefited greatly from the skills their members have gained through this unique educational experience. Many of the graduates now hold leadership positions in their states."

Since 1995, more than 900 lawmakers have graduated from the Bowhay Institute. State legislators from Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota and Wisconsin are chosen to participate through a competitive, nonpartisan selection process. Members of the Alberta, Manitoba and Saskatchewan legislative assemblies are selected by their caucuses to take part in the program.

BILLD was founded in 1995 to help new legislators meet the demands of increased policy responsibility being shifted to the states and, in many states, term limits and high legislative turnover. These continued forces highlight the shortage of training available for state legislators — a void that BILLD aims to fill.

A program of The Council of State Governments' Midwestern Office, the 2023 BILLD program included courses and seminars conducted by policy experts, Midwestern legislative leaders, and professional development trainers. In addition to curriculum designed to develop leadership skills, the program analyzed a variety of public policy issues, including the economy, trade, and energy policy.

The program is funded through grants from foundations, organizations and corporate sponsors, as well as in-kind contributions provided by The Council of State Governments' Midwestern Office.

The Bowhay Institute for Legislative Leadership Development is named in honor of the late James Bowhay, longtime director of The Council of State Governments' Midwestern Office. Founded in 1933, The Council of State Governments has national headquarters in Lexington, Ky., and regional offices in Atlanta, Chicago (Lombard, Ill.), New York City and Sacramento, Calif. The goal of the national, nonpartisan organization is to assist and advance state government.

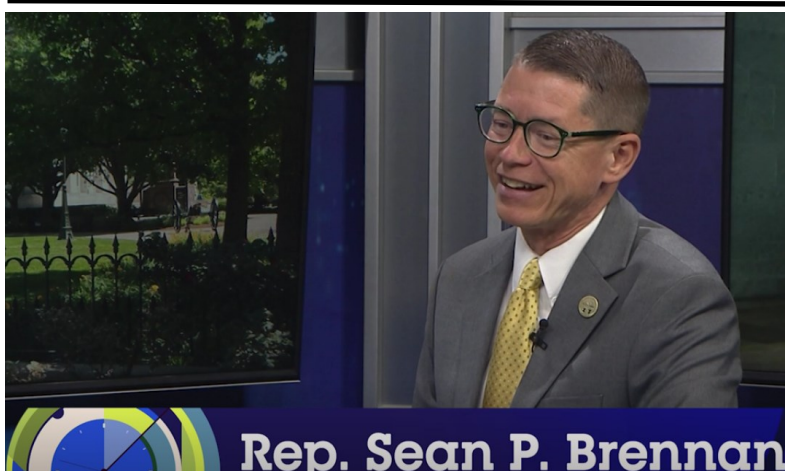
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A Few Minutes with State Representative Sean Patrick Brennan

Please enjoy this month's version of my periodic videos highlighting my work at the Ohio Statehouse on your behalf.

<https://www.ohiochannel.org/video/a-few-minutes-with-rep-brennan-episode-1>



State Rep. Brennan Announces Funding for Afterschool Enrichment Programs

State Representative Sean Patrick Brennan (Parma) has announced that the State of Ohio is now accepting applications for the 2023 – 2024 Ohio Afterschool Enrichment (ACE) Educational Savings Account program. The program provides families with a \$1,000 credit per child (ages 6-18) that can be used for a variety of educational enrichment activities, such as before- and after-school educational programs, day camps for academics, music, and the arts, curriculum and materials for homeschool families, educational, learning, or skills services, tuition for learning extension centers, field trips to historical landmarks, museums, science centers, and theaters, including admission, exhibit, and program fees, language classes, music lessons, tutoring, and many other programs.

“As a father of two and a public educator for three decades, I know how important it is to keep our young people engaged and socializing outside of the school day. I also know how expensive it can be. That is why I am happy to support the Afterschool Childhood Enrichment (ACE) Education Saving Program.”

To find out more and to apply visit <https://education.ohio.gov/ohioace> or contact State Rep. Brennan at 614-466-3485 or Rep14@OhioHouse.gov.



Rep. Brennan Sets In-District Gatherings



State Representative Sean Patrick Brennan In-District Office Hours

*** Sunday, September 10 (7:00 pm - 8:00 pm) – Redistricting 101**

Virtual Town Hall with my colleague Rep. Juanita O. Brent and other speakers

- Zoom ID: 865 5302 9127

- E-mail me for more information: Rep14@ohiohouse.gov

*** Monday, September 18 (8:00 am - 9:00 am) - Hike and Chat**

West Creek Reservation - 2277 West Ridgewood Drive, Parma

- Meet at the Watershed Stewardship Center

- We will hike through the park. Canceled if weather is inclement

*** Sunday, September 24 (8:00 am - 9:00 am) - Bike and Chat**

Big Creek Reservation – Snow Road Picnic Area, Parma Heights

- We will bike south through Parma Heights and back. Canceled if weather is inclement.



Thanks you to everyone who attended one of the three Issue 1 town hall events that I held this summer! What an honor it was to meet you and engage with you all on this and other important topics. Meetings like these are meant to inform my constituents, but they also make me a better public servant by informing me of the issues important to you.



VA Aid and Attendance Benefits for Veterans

VA Aid and Attendance benefits and Housebound allowance

VA Aid and Attendance or Housebound benefits provide monthly payments added to the amount of a monthly VA pension for qualified Veterans and survivors. If you need help with daily activities, or you're housebound, find out if you qualify.

Am I eligible for VA Aid and Attendance or Housebound benefits as a Veteran or survivor?

VA Aid and Attendance eligibility

You may be eligible for this benefit if you get a VA pension and you meet at least one of these requirements.

At least one of these must be true:

- You need another person to help you perform daily activities, like bathing, feeding, and dressing, **or**
- You have to stay in bed—or spend a large portion of the day in bed—because of illness, **or**
- You are a patient in a nursing home due to the loss of mental or physical abilities related to a disability, **or**
- Your eyesight is limited (even with glasses or contact lenses you have only 5/200 or less in both eyes; or concentric contraction of the visual field to 5 degrees or less)

Housebound benefits eligibility

You may be eligible for this benefit if you get a VA pension and you spend most of your time in your home because of a permanent disability (a disability that doesn't go away).

Note: You can't get Aid and Attendance benefits and Housebound benefits at the same time.

To Find Out More and How to Apply:

Cleveland VA Regional Benefit Office

1240 E. 9th Street
A.J. Celebrezze Federal Building
Cleveland, OH 44199
Main number: [800-827-1000](tel:800-827-1000)

<https://www.va.gov/pension/aid-attendance-housebound/>