

State Representative Richard Dell'Aquila

Ohio House District 15

(614) 466-3100 | rep15@ohiohouse.gov | [@RickDellAquila](https://twitter.com/RickDellAquila) | facebook.com/RepDellAquila



| June 2023

Committees:

- *Financial Institutions (Ranking Member)*
- *Aviation and Aerospace*
- *Commerce and Labor*
- *Economic and Workforce Development*
- *Ways and Means*
- *Emergency Services Internet Protocol (ESINet) Steering Committee*

Dear Neighbor,

Our work at the statehouse has increased in volume and intensity over the past few weeks, contributing to the late issuance of this update. We wanted to provide information as currently as possible to include the latest developments this month.

As you may know, the two year state budget must be finalized by June 30th. As of this writing, the House received back the Senate version on Wednesday, June 21st, and rejected it in a bipartisan vote on that same day. The budget was then referred to a joint conference committee to attempt to negotiate a resolution of the almost 900 differences between the two versions. We are expecting some marathon sessions over the coming week before the end of June, and possibly into July. Hopefully, by the time you are reading this update, the budget will have been finalized, but there have been occasions in Ohio history when that did not happen until sometime in July—which creates a number of other issues.

While all of this important work has been in progress, a number of “culture war” issues have been floated by the House majority, not the least of which is the proposed amendment of the Ohio Constitution by Issue 1, which, if approved by the voters on August 8th, would increase the necessary threshold voting majority (and make it more difficult to amend the constitution) from 50% to 60% of votes cast, and install several other changes that have all been opposed by several former Attorneys General and Governors of both parties. So, whatever your viewport, it is important to remain informed about Issue 1 and critical to cast your vote this coming August 8th.

Please accept my best wishes for a safe and enjoyable **Independence Day holiday**. This is a time to remember all our blessings thanks to the sacrifices made on our behalf, the freedoms and security we enjoy, and all the great things that bind us together as one great people.

As always, I hope you will find the contents of this newsletter informative and helpful. Please feel free to reach out to me or my Legislative Aide, Cole Weidman, with anything we can assist you with. And as always, **Thank You** for the opportunity and honor to represent you and all of District 15 in the Ohio House of Representatives.

Sincerely,

Richard Dell'Aquila

State Representative Richard Dell'Aquila
77 South High Street, 11th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215
Office: (614) 466-3100





Legislative Updates

As I mentioned, June has been an extremely busy month in terms of legislation that I hope you all have been paying attention and giving careful consideration to.

As the **State's Operating Budget (HB 33)** is **taking shape**, there are several problematic additions to this budget that will affect many of us, including, just as examples, the following (**there are several more which we will be working on**):

1. Senate Bill 1—a piece of legislation that would, among other things, remove public input on the structure and power of the State Board of Education—has been folded into the Operating Budget.
2. Tens of millions of dollars that were proposed to enhance our schools and public health system are now removed within the Senate version of HB 33.
3. There are also proposals to remove certain aspects of registration of rental properties with municipalities and taxation of stock options and deferred compensation. These measures

would limit the ability of municipalities to monitor whether tax returns are filed by all renters and would eliminate a source of necessary income, without any replacement.

I am also excited to announce to have partnered with **Representative Mathews (R-Lebanon)** and will be introducing legislation to expand the Homestead Exemption of \$50,000 for eligible Ohioans who have lived in their homes for 20 years or longer. Although this is not an across-the-board change, it is my hope that we can eventually work to alleviate the burden of homeownership for all eligible Ohioans.

Additionally, there were several notable bills that were passed or discussed this month within the General Assembly; **HB 152**, also known as **Madeline's Law**, would require health insurers to cover the cost of hearing aids for Ohioans 21 and younger. **HB 117** also passed the House this month and would eliminate retention under Ohio's Third Grade Reading Guarantee and prevent students from being held back academically so early on in their educational careers.



Around the District

You're invited, Ward 12!

Community Meeting: Grass & Lot Mowing

Polish American
Cultural Center
6501 Lansing Avenue

Wednesday, June 21
6:00pm-7:30pm

Hear from Ward 12 Councilwoman
Rebecca Maurer and city officials
about how we maintain vacant
lots in Cleveland. Q&A to follow.



Community Meeting: Road Repaving

Pearl Road United
Methodist Church
4200 Pearl Road

Thursday, July 27
6:00pm-7:30pm

Hear from Ward 12 Councilwoman
Rebecca Maurer and city officials
about how road repaving works in
Cleveland. Q&A to follow.



CLEVELAND WARD 12—Councilmember Rebecca Maurer is looking to provide input in community meetings to discuss how the city mows and paves lots. Old Brooklyn residents are welcome to attend to learn more. While the 21st has already passed regarding grass and lot mowing, July 27th will be an opportunity to see how road repaving works within the county.



Around the District (continued)

BROADVIEW HEIGHTS—Homedays will be an eventful and fun week, starting on July 6th through the 9th! [Click here](#) to learn more.

JULY 6-9, 2023

BROADVIEW HEIGHTS HOMEDAYS

schedule is subject to change

THURSDAY JULY 6

- 6 pm 5K & 1 Mile Walk Registration
- 7 pm Mayor's 5K & 1 Mile Walk/Run
- 7-10 pm Out of Order - Broadview Heating Amphitheater
- 10:00 pm Fireworks

FRIDAY JULY 7

- 5-9 pm Caricature Drawings
- 5-5:30 pm Dances of India, India Festival USA
- 6:30-8:30 pm Tri-C Rock-off Winners SUBLINERS - Amphitheater
- 9-11 pm Ray Flanagan
- 10:00 pm Fireworks

SATURDAY JULY 8

- 3-5 pm Spinning Wheel Demo Historical Society Tent
- 4-7 pm Petting Zoo Sponsored by Faulhaber Funeral Home
- 4-7 pm Blacksmith Demonstration by Tim Dodd
- 3:30-4:15pm Dr UR Awesome FOAM Party - Football Field
- 5-5:45 pm Magician Rick Smith Jr- Broadview Heating Amphitheater
- 6:30-8:30 pm Alex Bevin Band
- 7-8 pm Police Dog Demonstration - Football Field
- 9-11 pm CREEDENCE, The Tribute Band
- 10:15 pm Fireworks

SUNDAY JULY 9

- 4-7 pm Petting Zoo Sponsored by Faulhaber Funeral Home
- 4-6 pm Timeless Band - Broadview Heating Amphitheater
- 6:45-8:45 pm Johnny Fay & The Bel-Airs - Amphitheater
- 8 pm Raffle Closes
- 8:30 pm Pick a Prize Drawing - Jani-King Tent
- 10 pm CLOSE or RAIN DATE for Saturday Fireworks

WWW.BROADVIEW-HEIGHTS.ORG

July 4th events are happening throughout Northeast Ohio! Below are just a few of the celebrations that will be taking place:

- Broadview Heights Homedays (above): 9543 Broadview Rd
- Cleveland Light up the Lake: 7/4, 5:00-11:00pm, Voinovich Park

Also fireworks around 10:00pm at the following locations:

The Flats East and West Banks, Whiskey Island, Wendy Park, Edgewater Park, Kirtland Park, Superior Viaduct, and Settlers Landing

Old Brooklyn Farmer's Market
Kick off Event

Saturday, June 24th

10 AM - 1 PM

4200 Pearl Road Cleveland, OH 44109

OLD BROOKLYN—Come attend the seasonal opening of Old Brooklyn's Farmer's Market at 4200 Pearl Rd from 10:00am to 1:00pm!

SEVEN HILLS— The Farmers' Market there is scheduled to open again on **Thursday July 6th**, through September 28th, all from 4pm to 7pm at the corner of **Broadview Road and Hillside Road**. I am proud that the Seven Hills Farmers' Market began during my time as Mayor, with the guidance of my Executive Assistant, Kathy Biskup, and pleased to report that Mayor Anthony Biasiotta has continued and even expanded the program.

Also, please mark your calendars for Seven Hills Home Days, on the weekend of July 23-25 behind city hall! This is always a well-attended event.



Advocacy Updates: June 2023



Last month, I had the pleasure of meeting with several of representatives of **The Center for Community Solutions** to discuss resources for our older Ohioans and safeguards against the “benefits cliff” that many face. [Here](#) is a research article that goes into more detail regarding the “benefits cliff.”

[Click here](#) to visit their website for more information.

This June 19th, we celebrated the national Juneteenth holiday, which commemorates the date after the Civil War on which the last of our enslaved fellow citizens were informed that they had been emancipated. We also remember the sacrifices made by so many in the continuing journey to ensure freedom and equality for all in our great nation.

One of the issues the House has been examining is the remaining reference to slavery in the Ohio Constitution. Although Ohio has always been a free state, there is a line in the constitution that permits slavery as a punishment for crime. This is an anachronism and an insult to our citizens. It should be remembered that slavery is not just the compulsion of involuntary servitude, but also the outrageous claim of ownership of other human beings like pieces of property. I am proud to have joined with a bipartisan group of House members to support an amendment to remove the reference to slavery from the Ohio Constitution.

While legislation targeting LGBTQ+ individuals has been on the rise across the country, we continue the work to ensure that all Ohioans are protected and their liberties assured. Throughout the month of June, we have been recognizing Pride Month to celebrate our fellow citizens in the LGBTQ+ community. At the same time this month, the Ohio House has been considering measures introduced by the majority party impacting transgender and LGBTQ+ rights. Having passed in the House, they are now being considered in the Senate.

The special election on Issue 1 is scheduled for August 8th. The deadline to register in time to vote in that election is **July 10, 2023.**
Please remember to register and to vote!