



September 2009

Dear Friend,

In this newsletter, I have included information on the major changes to the education system in Ohio that were enacted through the biennial budget bill. Also, the Legislature is making efforts to come to grips with the changes in the auto industry. Information on the joint task force and the upcoming local meeting are provided below. Additionally, I received a humbling honor from the Fraternal Order of Police that I am proud to tell you about.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me if you need additional information on any of the items included in this newsletter or have any feedback in general.

Sincerely,

Jay Goyal
Member, Ohio House of Representatives

Fraternal Order of Police of Ohio Outstanding Legislator Award

On July 28, 2009, I was honored to be presented The Outstanding Legislator Award at the Fraternal Order of Police of Ohio State Conference in Worthington, Ohio.

In presenting the award, Mark Drum, Ohio FOP State Secretary, cited "distinguished service as a legislator and unequalled contributions to our



organization and our law enforcement throughout the state of Ohio." He noted my that "Representative Goyal was instrumental in the effort last year to ensure death benefits for family members of Bureau of Criminal Investigation agents killed in the line of duty."

I was truly honored to receive an award that represents the efforts of the men and women who preserve law and order in our society. Public safety workers are true heroes in our society, and I am proud to support them with my efforts in the Ohio House.

The Fraternal Order of Police of Ohio is a non-profit organization with over 25,000 members and close to 200 local lodges, making it Ohio's largest law enforcement organization representing officers at the local, county, state and federal level. The 25,000 members of FOP of Ohio are dedicated to education, leadership, and governmental involvement. Chartered in 1934, the Fraternal Order of Police of Ohio's mission is to the advancement and protection of law enforcement officers and their families.

Major Reforms to Ohio's Education System

With the beginning of the new school year, there are some changes in the State of Ohio's approach to education that I thought might be of interest. These changes were brought about in the compromise budget bill for the 2010-2011 biennium.

K-12 Education

The budget bill:

- Creates an Evidence Based Model for school funding. This model accomplishes the following:
 1. The model is a numeric value that accounts for the various academic and financial characteristics that pertain to the residents of each school district.
 2. Funds community schools and special Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) schools based on current formula of transfer payments, with a smaller per-pupil amount to

reflect decreases to school district funding.

3. Reduces local property tax contribution from 23 to 22 mills in 2010

- Maintains Funding for School Districts. Nearly every school district in the State will receive a funding increase when including the federal dollars provided to Ohio.
- All-Day Kindergarten. Requires school districts to offer all day kindergarten, prohibiting schools from charging tuition for it past FY2011. Also, permits school districts to use state funds for the modification or purchase of classroom space to provide all-day kindergarten.
- Five to Three Calamity Days. Reduces the five excused calamity days to three calamity days for the 2010-2011 school year, requires the State Board of Education to offer recommendation on extending the school year.
- ACT to Replace the OGT. Develops a new high school assessment system to replace the Ohio Graduation Tests (OGT) that consists of (1) a nationally standardized college prep assessment (2) a series of end-of-course examinations, and (3) a senior project. Requires the Superintendent to present the new assessment system to the General Assembly at least forty-five days prior to adoption.
- Residency Program for Teachers. Creates a career ladder with a residency program for teachers, similar to doctors.
- Teachers Termination Standards. Makes it easier for schools to remove teachers who are not performing.
- Community Schools. Requires Department of Education to begin issuing report cards for a



community school its first year of operation. Exempts the first two years a community school operates from closure for any matter based on report card ratings.

- **Greater Accountability.** Requires the State Board of Education to adopt new operating standards for school districts to include effective measures in teaching, staff collaboration and family/civic engagement. Provides authority to the Department of Education to oversee and monitor community school sponsors that applies to all sponsors, including those previously grandfathered out of the Ohio Department of Education's jurisdiction; and requires the Department's annual report on community schools to include the performance of community school sponsors.

Additional information is available at the [Ohio Department of Education website.](#)

Higher Education

Highlights of changes in Higher Education that were developed through the budget process include:

- **Tuition Cap of 3.5 Percent.** Increases in tuition are capped at 3.5% each year over the cost of the previous year.
- **Entrepreneurial Projects for Economic Development.** Allows state institutions of higher learning to enter into agreements to encourage development of entrepreneurial projects and to take stock in that project in return for intellectual property rights.
- **Grants for Grads.** Established the Grants for Grads program, which provides down payment assistance for recent college graduates purchasing their first home in Ohio.

Additional information is available at the [Ohio Board of Regents website.](#)

These changes will begin to move our education system forward to better prepare the workforce of tomorrow for the challenges in the global marketplace.

Automobile Industry Taskforce



The Ohio General Assembly has begun looking into the new realities of the auto industry. A committee entitled the Joint Select Committee on the Impact of the Changing Automobile Industry has been formed to study the auto industry with a goal of making Ohio better prepared for the future. The members are specifically looking at franchise laws, consumer protection issues, warranties, and any other issues related to the automotive industry. Their final report will include recommendations concerning Ohio laws regulating the automobile industry.

The committee is co-chaired by State Rep. Matt Lundy (D-Elyria) and Senator Mark Wagoner (R-Toledo). The other members are Rep. Robert F. Hagan (D-Youngstown), Rep. Barbara R. Sears (R-Sylvania), Sen. Capri S. Cafaro (D-Hubbard) and Sen. Steve Buehrer (R-Delta).

A meeting of this committee will take place on Tuesday, September 8, 2009 at 1 p.m. in the Kehoe Center 175 Mansfield Avenue Shelby, Ohio. The local hearing is especially important because of the decision by General Motors to close the Ontario Stamping Plant by June of 2010.

If have thoughts that you would like to share with the members of the task force and would be interested in testifying, please contact my legislative aide, Dominic Paretti at 614-466-5802 or Dominic.Paretti@ohr.state.oh.us.

www.jaygoyal.com

[Visit State Rep. Jay Goyal's Facebook Page](#)

Paid for by Friends of Jay Goyal Bridget T. McDaniel, Treasurer
810 Piper Rd. Mansfield, OH 44905