



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**WIDENER ANNOUNCES NATIONAL AFRO-AMERICAN HISTORY  
MUSEUM EMERGENCY FUNDING APPROVED**

*\$431,949 EMERGENCY CAPITAL RELEASE TO FINANCE MOLD REMOVAL AND  
STRUCTURAL IMPROVEMENTS*

COLUMBUS—State Senator Chris Widener (R- Springfield) today announced state Controlling Board approval of an emergency capital funding release to finance a mold removal project at the National Afro-American History Museum in Wilberforce, Ohio.

“The National Afro-American History Museum is an important cultural facility in Ohio, and it is unfortunate to see it closed to the public” said Widener, who is a member of Controlling Board. “This emergency funding will allow the facility to open back up in a timely manner for citizens to continue to enjoy.”

The National Afro-American Museum will receive \$431,949 to support emergency removal of mold-damaged collections and gallery surfaces and to provide structural improvements and new HVAC equipment to prevent moisture damage in the future. The facility is currently closed due to health concerns created as a result of the presence of mold in the facility.

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*Senator Chris Widener serves the people of the 10<sup>th</sup> Senate District, which includes Clark, Greene and Madison counties. He is chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, and a member of the Senate Ways & Means & Economic Development, Government Oversight & Reform, and Rules & Reference committees.*