



# THE OHIO SENATE DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS

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## **Senators Schiavoni and Gentile Call for Additional Resources to Monitor Earthquakes in Ohio**

*Urge restored funding for the Division of Geological Survey*

*Columbus* – In response to the recent earthquakes in the Youngstown area, State Senators Joe Schiavoni (D-Canfield) and Lou Gentile (D-Steubenville) today called for general revenue funding to be restored to the Division of Geological Survey, the state agency responsible for monitoring earthquakes in Ohio. The Geological Survey's GRF funding was cut by \$1.05 million for the current fiscal year, which represents approximately one third of the agency's total budget.

"The residents of the Mahoning Valley need assurance that state geologists have enough staff and equipment to monitor seismic activity," said Senator Schiavoni. "This is not the time to cut funding to such an important agency."

Senators Schiavoni and Gentile toured the Division of Geological Survey's facilities at Alum Creek State Park today along with other elected officials from the Mahoning Valley. They had an opportunity to ask questions about the recent earthquakes in Youngstown and see how the geological survey monitors seismic activity and maps fault lines throughout Ohio.

"The health and safety of the public should be our top priority," said Senator Gentile. "We must provide the necessary resources to the geological survey at a time when the agency's workload is growing as a result of increased oil and gas drilling in eastern Ohio."