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SENATOR STEPHANIE KUNZE

OHIO SENATE, 16TH DISTRICT



NEWSLETTER ISSUE: AUGUST 2019

Dear Neighbor,

I hope this newsletter finds you well, enjoying the final days of summer. Over the last several months, I have been working with my colleagues on the state's two-year operating budget.

Passed with **strong, bipartisan support**, the bill includes several provisions that I was honored to advocate for including: increased **support for our local governments, libraries and schools**, tax cuts for all Ohioans including eliminating the bottom two tax brackets for low-income families, and initiatives focused on **building an educated workforce**.

I'm also proud that this budget strongly supports family and children services and includes **new funding for wellness programs in our schools** to ensure students in need receive mental health, counseling and other wraparound supports. Read more [here](#).

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns regarding issues that are important to you, you are always welcome to reach out to my office by phone at (614) 466-5981 or by email at Kunze@OhioSenate.gov.

My Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephanie Kunze".

Stephanie Kunze
16th Senate District

\$1.5 BILLION BACK TO OHIO'S EMPLOYERS



Governor Mike DeWine and the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation (BWC) recently announced a return of \$1.5 billion to Ohio employers following strong returns on the agency's investments and a continued focus on worker safety initiatives. This announcement reflects **our commitment to job growth and opportunities for our families and communities.**

This will be Ohio's fifth investment return to private and public employers of at least \$1 billion since 2013 and the sixth overall return during that time. Checks will be issued to employers in September of this year.

[Learn More](#)

MILITARY FAMILY MONTH



August is Ohio Military Family Month, a time to honor the families who support those who serve. One way we can do this is to make it easy for military families to live and work here in Ohio, and my colleagues and I are working to **remove job barriers for Ohio's military spouses** through [Senate Bill 7](#), legislation I am proud to co-sponsor.

The Ohio Department of Education has created a network for military families, complete with connections to various state and federal resources. To learn more, click [here](#).

Learn More

Community Events

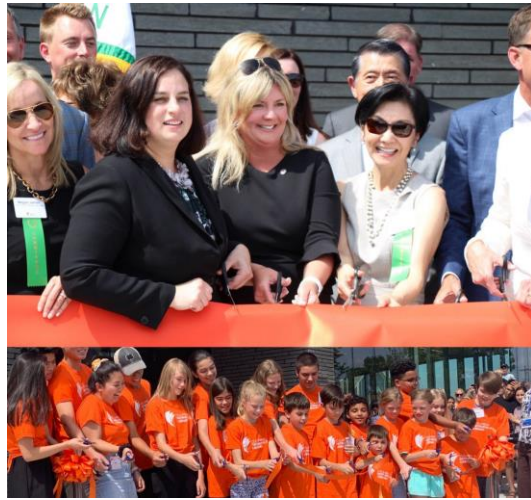
Grand Opening of New Dublin Library



I am grateful for the opportunity to participate in the grand opening of the new Dublin branch of Columbus Metropolitan Library!

We are very fortunate to have this treasure in our community. Ohio's libraries are among the best in the nation, and I was pleased that the recent state budget included increased funding for the many valuable programs our libraries offer to Ohioans, from reading to career readiness.

I encourage you and your families to take time to visit the new facility at 75 N. High St. in Dublin! To apply for a library card online, click [here](#).



New Norwich Pavilion at Weaver Park





The new Norwich Pavilion opened at Hilliard's Weaver Park on June 21st! I was pleased to join the township and local officials to celebrate the new addition to the park. The site will host receptions, weddings, reunions and community events for 1,000 of park visitors for years to come.

Celebrating Ohio Agriculture: 2019 Fair Season



The 2019 Joint Agriculture Committee was held at the Ohio State Fair. The committee recognized the accomplishments of Ohio's hard-working agriculture community. Governor DeWine signed Senate Bill 57 while at the fair, a new law creating an industrial hemp program in Ohio, giving our farmers a new opportunity to diversify their crops.

Learn [more](#).





It was my honor to recognize the 2018 and 2019 Franklin County Fair Kings and Queens. These individuals are Gavin Krebs, Dylan Price, Ivy Smith, and Madelyne Smith.

Conversations on Higher Education



Ohio is home to many wonderful institutions of higher education. As the Chair of the Senate Higher Education Committee and a member of the Governor's Workforce Transformation Board, I had the opportunity to discuss the importance of continuing education, workforce development, and leadership with The Ohio State University's Assistant Athletic Director Urban Meyer.

The state budget contained a significant investment in higher

education centering around affordability, need-based financial aid and helping students prepare for a fast-changing economy.

The Ohio Department of Higher Education provides resources for those that are looking to continue their education and learn new skills. For more information, click [here](#).

In the News

Delaware Gazette: [Future of Driving Centered Nearby](#)

NBC4: [Opening of New Facility at the TRC Heralds Testing of Autonomous Technology](#)

Spectrum News: [Senate Unanimously Passes \\$69 Billion Budget](#)

Constituent Services

Please feel free to contact me. My office can help:

- ★ Assist in dealing with state agencies.
- ★ Research information on bills and committees.
- ★ Share your opinions on pending legislation or your ideas for new legislation.
- ★ Honor outstanding accomplishments and milestones.
- ★ Request a meeting at the Statehouse or in the district.
- ★ Schedule a tour of the Ohio Statehouse.



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Senator Stephanie Kunze represents the 16th Ohio Senate District, which encompasses a portion of Franklin county. Learn more at www.OhioSenate.gov/Kunze.