



RISE UP AS ONE



OFFICERS' REPORT



33RD BIENNIAL CONVENTION

SEPTEMBER 27 & 28, 2022



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33RD BIENNIAL
OHIO AFL-CIO CONVENTION

SEPTEMBER 27-28
HILTON COLUMBUS DOWNTOWN
COLUMBUS, OH

REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to the **OHIO AFL-CIO CONVENTION RISE UP AS ONE**

Welcome to Columbus and the Ohio AFL-CIO's 33rd Biennial Convention!

As we convene in person after many months of virtual gatherings let us celebrate our brotherhood and sisterhood while we conduct important business. We have a great lineup of labor leaders, government officials and endorsed candidates to hear from in the main hall and a delegate reception where we can kick back, socialize and enjoy coming together.

The Convention theme to Rise Up As One has never been more relevant to sustaining the trajectory of worker empowerment, rewriting the rules of the economy and protecting our democracy. At every critical inflection point in our nation's past when working people come together as one it impacts the course of history in pursuit of a more perfect union.

On the heels of the last presidential election where the loser tried to stop the peaceful transfer of power, this election year will determine the country's commitment to embracing a bright future or falling back into the darkness that will be defined as one of the ugliest chapters in American history. Let this Convention say loudly and clearly that



TIM BURGA
President, Ohio AFL-CIO

we are moving forward where democracy will prevail, and the trade union movement will be supported in our quest for economic and social justice.

It seems like just about everything has changed since I last had the honor of addressing our Convention in person. We have been dealing with a global pandemic, one that has exposed what we have been saying for a very long time – that the divide between those that are well-off and so many working Americans living on the margins continues to grow. And the decades-long case that we have made that dismantling our industrial economy would be a severe blow to our working middle class and pose a threat to our national security has been substantiated.

Over the duration of the pandemic, I have been proud to lift up the heroic efforts of union workers, essential in keeping the country moving and allowing us to turn the corner on the crises. In fact, union members have answered the call of the Coronavirus





Pandemic, every day and in every way. We've served. We've sacrificed. We've healed. We've honored the country we love, the country unions built. The public sees this as well, as Gallup reports organized labor's approval rating at 71 percent, our highest mark since 1965.

It's true that we've gone above and beyond to serve and protect our communities, on and off the clock, and workers are rising up like most of us have not seen in our lifetime to write the new rules of the American workplace. Yes, workers have found their power – they're fed up, they're standing up, they're speaking up – and they are winning. A new generation of workers are realizing what has always been true but rarely rallied on – that business doesn't create wealth, workers do and we deserve our share. Workers are saying with their feet and their actions that they are not going back to being overworked, underpaid and disrespected on the job – in

short saying if you want our labor, hear our demands.

As a result, great gains in wages, working conditions and work-life balance are being achieved and it's our responsibility to help the many looking to unionize and to invest in and nurture this new wave of activism. Much work is needed from organized labor to ensure that this is the start of a great rebalancing of corporate control and not a spark that burns out. Together, we must seize this moment, decades in the making, to transform America into a nation where the dignity of work is paramount.

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From the ground up and throughout the halls of Congress and federal agencies something big is happening. The federal policy wins – landmark measures that save our pensions, enshrine prevailing wages in public spending and corporate tax law, support state and local government services, deliver



unparalleled investments to rebuild America's infrastructure and reward companies that manufacture in the U.S. (i.e., Intel) – are proof that rebuilding the working middle class is the top priority.

President Biden and the Democrat-controlled Congress are showing that they are on our side and are delivering the goods. While the GOP attempts to re-write and excuse the January 6 insurrection, attack the FBI and put federal employees' lives in danger, Democrats are restoring people's faith in our democratic institutions by creating a winning blueprint for our national security and economic futures.

That brings us to now and our ability to sustain the momentum we are seeing in the workplace and in our federal policy victories. Amidst the dramatic policy, job and wage gains, as I travel the state, talking with union members and labor leaders, the inflation concerns brought on by the global pandemic, domestic supply line deficiencies and Putin's war in Ukraine are hitting working families hard. It is also apparent that the Democratic national agenda, led by President Biden to

usher in a new era, one that puts working people and unions first is making a positive difference and unifying the state federation's electoral work. This is our time to re-affirm Ohio's battleground status by having every union on the field working the Labor 2022 political program to win for Tim Ryan and our endorsed candidates. By coming together, we have the power to win and in doing so shape the national political scene for years to come.

This is our time, and I've never been more optimistic than right now that we are leading a renaissance, an American awakening where workers are respected and rewarded for who we are and what we do every day.

This is our time, and I've never been more optimistic than right now that we are leading a renaissance, an American awakening where workers are respected and rewarded for who we are and what we do every day. Thank you for your leadership with your union, council, constituency group, retiree chapter, and allied organization. Your efforts are key to making Ohio a better place to live, work and raise our families. Thank you for laying the foundation for the next generation. And thank you for your belief that we are stronger together, a federation fighting for our sisters and brothers and growing the union movement. When we Rise Up As One the future is ours to define and there's not a moment to lose.



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REPORT FROM THE SECRETARY-TREASURER

Brothers and Sisters,

I am pleased to report to you that the Ohio AFL-CIO is in financially sound condition. We have just completed our independent audit for the 2021 year, and the auditor's report shows that our finances are stable and in order. The auditor's report is available upon request. With gratitude, I also say thank you to all of our affiliates who support the state federation with their per capita payments. This allows us to put our values into action by advocating on behalf of working people at the statehouse and beyond, running field program to elect politicians who will fight for our values, building relationships with key partners across the state, supporting our affiliates in workplace actions and organizing efforts, and hiring quality staff who can help accomplish all of this work.

The COVID crisis has been extremely difficult for all of us, yet in spite of the many challenges, the pandemic ignited a renewed passion for unions. Frustrated by being treated as expendable while many businesses and corporations profited, workers understand now more clearly that collectively, through a union, they can make changes in the workplace. You, our affiliates, continue to organize new workers. BCTGM is organizing at Worthington Foods, AAUP is organizing full time faculty at Miami University, AFSCME Council 8 is organizing Wexner Center for the Arts and Columbus Art Museum, UFCW organized workers at a cannabis dispensary in Newark, OPEIU is organizing Disability Rights Ohio, Workers United is organizing at Starbucks and the Ohio Federation of Teachers has organized workers at Equitas and Worthington



MELISSA CROPPER

Secretary-Treasurer, Ohio AFL-CIO

Library just to name a few of the organizing campaigns within our ranks.

In addition, all of you, from steelworkers to nurses to food and commercial workers to machinists to teachers to communications workers to bus drivers to postal workers to building and construction trades, across public sector and private sector, and all across the labor spectrum, have fought for fair contracts that address compensation, benefits, and working conditions even when it meant going to the picket line to stand collectively strong in winning what workers deserve. Because of you, the Ohio AFL-CIO has grown stronger in numbers and in power.

Now we must Rise Up As One to make change within our state. The past year has demonstrated the depths to which extreme right-wing politicians will sink to maintain power and advance an agenda that is harmful to working class Ohioans. Republicans on the Redistricting Commission flaunted their power by drawing unconstitutional district lines that betrayed the will of the people

*Now we must Rise Up
As One to make change
within our state.*

and defied the orders of the Ohio Supreme Court. Extremists in the statehouse fought against measures that would keep us safe in our workplaces during a pandemic but took away the rights of women to control their own reproductive health. And anti-public education members of the State Board of Education pushed back on concepts like equity and whole child learning that are foundational to the work that our members helped shape at a state level.

We can only expect more and more extreme legislation and policy decisions unless we work to put people in office at every level who will have our backs – from US Senate to Governor and all statewide races to the legislature to the state board of education. And we cannot overlook the Supreme Court. We worked hard in the past two election cycles to pick up seats on the court with jurists who understand the struggle of working people. In fact, we have been





so successful that the legislature decided to attach party affiliation on the ballot in an effort to influence the vote. This only means though that we have to work harder to elect Jennifer Brunner as chief justice and Marilyn Zayas and Terri Jamison – women who understand and even come from labor.

We have what it takes to win these races. I know from my interactions with you at CLC meetings, rallies, work actions, and listening sessions that you understand the importance of the races. At the state level, we are using the resources provided to us from the National AFL-CIO and from your per capita payments to run a strong field program at the workplace and in our neighborhoods while utilizing local union mail and paid advertising outreach to our members. We need all unions participating if we are going to be successful. We ask for your union to release staff, drive volunteers and activists to the Labor 2022 program. We need everyone to commit to talking to their family, friends, and neighbors

about the importance of voting. Make sure they are registered. And make sure they know which candidates they should support because those candidates support labor.

Brothers and Sisters, we are so proud of all we have seen you do these past two years. We are thankful for your support of our state federation, and we are excited to Rise Up as One with you to win a US Senate seat with Tim Ryan, to win a Governor's race with Nan Whaley, to win Supreme Court races with Justice Brunner, and Marilyn Zayas, and Terri Jamison, to win statewide offices and legislative seats and state board of education races. Together we can make a difference and we will win!

*Together we can
make a difference
and we will win!*





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Valley CLC



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OARA



DEAN WRIGHT
IAM

POLITICAL REPORT



In the aftermath of the 2020 campaign season, the adage that elections have consequences couldn't be truer. As regularly reported by the Ohio AFL-CIO, and in the Legislative Committee report, the presidential and congressional outcomes have resulted in the most pro-labor White House and Congress in a generation or more.

Although the 2020 Ohio Presidential outcome continued to demonstrate what has been a regressive national voting shift of non-college working class and rural voters in recent presidential elections, sending Jennifer Brunner to the Ohio Supreme Court was a major victory and the only statewide pickup in the country where a Democrat beat a Republican incumbent. Additionally, Ohio union members played a significant role in the Georgia special elections for two U.S. Senate seats by mailing thousands of handwritten postcards to Georgians whereby both labor-endorsed candidates won giving Democrats control of the Senate.

With the excitement of having a pro-worker and pro-union White House and Congress, Central Labor Councils (CLC) advanced a robust 2021 campaign agenda, which included support for union members seeking public office with the Path to Power program. The Ohio AFL-CIO offered meaningful resource investment through direct mailings and paid digital ads for 73 Path to Power endorsed candidates for local office. Fifty-three of the Path to Power candidates won their election and in total 173 of the 233 CLC-endorsed candidates were successful.

Here are just a few of the highlights from the 2021 campaign:

Sharett Smith

The first African American mayor of Lima

Shontel Brown

Congressional District 11 Special Election
She quickly made an impact by voting "YES" for the bipartisan infrastructure bill.

No on Issue 7

Defeated this Issue which would have stripped millions of dollars from the Columbus City budget, putting in jeopardy hundreds of union jobs.

Jeffrey Mims

Dayton Mayor and Path to Power candidate.

Aftab Pureval

The first Asian American mayor of Cincinnati.

Katie Moline

Top vote getter for Toledo City Council and Path to Power candidate.

Davida Russell

Top vote getter for Cleveland Heights City Council, Path to Power candidate and Ohio AFL-CIO Executive Board member (OAPSE/AFSCME).

Jodi Mills

Ashtabula City Council and Path to Power candidate.

Gary Steinbeck

Warren City Council and Path to Power candidate.

The CLCs did a great job of driving the political program with help from state federation staff and union volunteers to educate and mobilize union family voters. The key core elements of the political program, with some modern upgrades, were successfully utilized and will play a role in shaping our future political work, including the 2022 election cycle: Door-to-door canvassing, Live Phone Banking, Worksite leafleting and conversations, Local Union Mail and Digital Ads/Social Media.

Each election cycle provides opportunities to learn and modify our strategic and tactical approach to our political program. Going directly to local union leaders and activists to hear from them about the political program is also a critical component to the state federation's development of electoral priorities and program design. This Spring, President Burga and Secretary-Treasurer Cropper did just this holding regional listening events with hundreds of labor leaders that proved instrumental in shaping our political program (A post-tour summary report was provided to the Ohio AFL-CIO Executive Board and CLC/ALF leaders).

See a listing of Ohio AFL-CIO 2022 Endorsed Candidates following this report.

Some of the new tools that we are advancing this cycle are:

QR Codes

QR codes on our printed materials.



Please visit the Labor 2022 Booth at the Convention for campaign materials and information.

Post Card Campaign

Personalized post card campaign to fellow union voters (following the Georgia Special Election model but adding postage paid and pre-printed addresses).

Canvassing Upgrade

In addition to the group walks staged out of union halls, we are launching the Labor Neighbor program. Using the MiniVan app, this allows volunteers to request their home precinct so they can walk their neighborhood and visit union households on a day and time that works best for them.



The open U.S. Senate seat, along with Tim Ryan as our endorsed candidate, has placed Ohio into AFL-CIO battleground status (one of nine states), and we can say with confidence that this unifies our political program. In fact, we have great union-strong endorsed candidates this year from Tim Ryan for Senate and Nan Whaley for Governor at the top of the ticket all the way down ballot for our Congressional, state legislative, state school board, judicial and local candidates.

President Burga has been vocal, stressing the urgency of the moment, about the constitutional crossroads the country has come to and how the rule of law and democracy itself is on the ballot. For those that think this might be an overstate, the lawlessness of the Ohio Redistricting Commission ignoring rulings from the Ohio Supreme Court six times tells us how dire the situation is. This must stop and the best way to protect us from the corruption of gerrymandering and the politicians that will do anything to stay in power is to elect Jennifer Brunner, Teri Jamison and Marilyn Zayas to the Ohio Supreme Court.

With the support from the AFL-CIO the state federation is hiring organizers and has established a sizable budget for our member-to-member field work and for our paid mail and digital program. As leaders of the Ohio labor movement, we have a responsibility to execute the work and drive program throughout our ranks. This is our opportunity for Ohio to help move the country forward, building on the great federal policy victories of this year to firmly establish a new era, one lead by the collective voice of working people.



CANVASSING

While we will continue to host larger communal canvassing action days, especially around Early Vote GOTV and Election Day GOTV, there was much excitement around a new Labor-to-Neighbor program. Due to the success of moving volunteers from paper lists over to the MiniVan app beginning in 2018, we saw an opportunity to allow more members to get active in their local communities on their time. In this program, we will offer an on-line form that any member can fill out to sign-up to walk their neighborhood, precinct, or local area. After a sign-up is received, a walk list that is good up to 30 days will be created using MiniVan so that members can walk their home turf (depending on density). We are requesting a minimum of two statewide release staff to train members on MiniVan, send literature, and conduct the necessary follow up. We will utilize this program based on affiliate support for candidates where we can draw down the largest list possible.

MAIL

As a battleground state, the Ohio AFL-CIO will work with the National AFL-CIO to execute statewide mail while driving and coordinating CLC and Local Union Mail. We will continue to stress with our affiliates the importance of the local unions sending mail with candidate comparisons and express support for our endorsed candidate(s). This can be by a separate letter, flyer or included in a newsletter. We will provide those locals looking for mail guidance sample letters and flyers with the ability to edit and tailor. Due to the success of the 2020-21 Georgia Special Election Senate Campaign where Ohio led the nation in hand-written postcards sent to Georgia union members, there was strong consensus that the Labor 2022 Program adopt a similar postcard program.

PHONE BANKS

With the success of the Cleveland Teachers Union utilizing the state federation's dialing system, we will operate a paid phone bank program to ID and educate our targeted membership. The dialer will also be made available, with staff assistance, for unions that want to use their volunteers and staff to call their own members. We will also look to host tele-townhall events with top tier candidates, politicians and union leaders throughout the campaign.

WORKSITES

Our local unions are trusted messengers to their members and worksite conversations and leafletting continue to be most efficient and persuasive conversations. In worksites where our local unions have access to leaflet and talk to members about candidates and/or voting, we will provide union-printed worksite flyers at no cost to local unions through the AFL-CIO Working Families Toolkit. Following input from several leaders at the listening sessions, we will strive to work with affiliates to provide flyers and messaging tailored to the most important or impactful issues of that union and region.

DIGITAL

Our newest pillar, and one that we continue to learn from and expand, is digital communication. We will continue to utilize the internet and Facebook with video and display ads with the ability to change messaging and images real-time. The Ohio AFL-CIO tested some YouTube advertising earlier this year with an infrastructure video, liked the results, and will include this platform in our comprehensive digital outreach. During the meetings, there was discussion about ensuring voices from a diverse group of members covering different industries, regions and ages are used throughout our digital work with an emphasis on reaching our younger members and householders through their mobile devices.

OHIO AFL-CIO 2022 ENDORSEMENTS



U.S. SENATE

Tim Ryan

STATE EXECUTIVE OFFICES

Governor – Nan Whaley
 Attorney General – Jeff Crossman
 Auditor – Scott Schertzer
 Treasurer – Taylor Sappington
 Secretary of State – Chelsea Clark

OHIO SUPREME COURT

Chief Justice – Jennifer Brunner
 Justice – Marilyn Zayas
 Justice – Terri Jamison

OHIO COURT OF APPEALS

6TH DISTRICT

Thomas Puffenberger
 Christine Mayle

8TH DISTRICT

Lisa Forbes
 Kathleen Ann Keough

9TH DISTRICT

Tom Teodosio

10TH DISTRICT

David Leland
 Kristin Boggs
 Julie Dorrian
 Carly Edelstein

US HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

CD 01 - Greg Landsman
 CD 03 - Joyce Beatty
 CD 09 - Marcy Kaptur
 CD 11 - Shontel Brown
 CD 13 - Emilia Sykes

OHIO SENATE

SD 03 - Tina Maharath
 SD 11 - Paula Hicks-Hudson
 SD 13 - Anthony Eliopoulos
 SD 15 - Hearcel Craig
 SD 21 - Kent Smith
 SD 23 - Nickie Antonio
 SD 25 - William DeMora
 SD 27 - Dr. Patricia Goetz
 SD 33 - Bob Hagan

OHIO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HD 01 - Dontavius Jarrells
 HD 02 - Latyna Humphreys
 HD 04 - Mary Lightbody
 HD 05 - Richard Brown
 HD 06 - Adam Miller
 HD 07 - Allison Russo
 HD 08 - Beth Liston
 HD 10 - Russ Harris
 HD 13 - Mike Skindell
 HD 14 - Sean Brennan
 HD 17 - Tom Patton
 HD 19 - Phil Robinson
 HD 22 - Juanita Brent
 HD 23 - Dan Troy
 HD 31 - Rita Darrow
 HD 32 - Matt Shaughnessy
 HD 33 - Tavia Galonski
 HD 34 - Casey Weinstein
 HD 36 - Addison Caruso
 HD 38 - Willis Blackshear, Jr
 HD 39 - Phil Plummer
 HD 40 - Amy Cox
 HD 42 - Erika White
 HD 43 - Michele Grim
 HD 44 - Elgin Rogers
 HD 49 - Tom West
 HD 53 - Joe Miller
 HD 58 - Bruce Neff
 HD 61 - Louise Valentine
 HD 67 - Drew Burge
 HD 72 - Kathleen Clyde
 HD 90 - Brian Baldridge



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LEGISLATIVE REPORT



LANDMARK FEDERAL VICTORIES

In advance of the 2020 presidential election, President Burga asked the delegates of the state federation Convention: "Which presidential candidate is most likely to have our backs over the next four years?" We believed then, and feel even stronger about it now, that it is Joe Biden. President Biden, with a Democratic controlled Congress, is getting more done for working people while protecting our democracy since LBJ carried out the Kennedy agenda, or perhaps the great labor and social advancements of FDR's administration.

Sisters and brothers, we are talking about landmark, transformative legislation and executive actions that will lift up organized labor, reset the global economy, and enrich our local communities for decades to come. President Biden, with much help from Congress, is putting into action his belief that the middle class is the key to our economic success and that unions create the middle class.

Not even two years into his first presidential term, the historic policy and administrative victories for working people are staggering; saving our multi-employer pension system, postal reform, and passing the largest investments in infrastructure, climate, manufacturing and technology our country has ever seen.

And for the first time in memory, the Biden administration is putting forth a strategic global economic plan to reverse decades

of gross multi-national profiteering on the backs of cheap foreign labor at the expense of our jobs. This shift in philosophy is best explained by understanding that as the consumer capitol of the world, the United States will insist that the world play by a certain set of rules. This means guardrails will be put in place that allow workers the right to unionize abroad, support human rights, enforce universal monetary rules and address the exploitation of labor and the environment. This new global approach, combined with massive domestic investments to reindustrialize and grow manufacturing, is what has been needed for a very long time to strengthen our economic and national security futures. As this shift in strategy needs time to root, we are already seeing the fruits of it with the Intel groundbreaking in Central Ohio for what could be the largest semi-conductor campus in the world.

In addition to these positive developments are the scores of union friendly cabinet level and administrative appointments that permeate the federal landscape advancing a pro-worker, pro-union agenda. Key agency appointments include a card-carrying union member, Marty Walsh, as Secretary of Labor, union advocates in the Trade Agency, and government leaders who will return the National Labor Relations Board back to its original intent of protecting workers. Not to be overlooked is the significance of the Biden administration's executive actions on

minimum wages, prevailing wages, union rights, project labor agreements and much, much more.

Historic Domestic Legislative Accomplishments

- American Rescue Plan (including Butch Lewis pension relief)
- Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act
- Postal Service Reform Act
- CHIPS and Science Act
- Inflation Reduction Act

Other Key Appointments

Marcia Fudge

Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Rich Cordray

Chief Operating Officer of Federal Student Aid, U.S. Department of Education

Susan Grundman

Former labor lawyer, appointed to the Federal Labor Relations Authority

Diedre Hamilton

Member of the National Mediations Board – former attorney with IBT

Jennifer Sung

Judge, 9th Circuit Court of Appeals, Graduate from Oberlin, former SEIU organizer

HOLDING HARMLESS IN OHIO

While labor has celebrated many policy victories on the national level, at the Statehouse it is mostly a matter of holding harmless, which has largely occurred, while working to advance some pro-worker measures. With super-majorities in both chambers, Ohio Republicans continue to advance a far-right social and culture-based agenda. While Governor DeWine worked well with organized labor at the early stages and at the height of the COVID pandemic, the extremists at the Statehouse, led by Senate President Huffman, methodically worked to neutralize his authority as the top elected official and leader of his party. As a result of the Republican party base now largely consisting of extremists, the Governor has acquiesced to the far right on reproductive rights, voting rights, guns and LGBTQ+ issues.

While the legislature continues its fanatical march on social issues, they seem to be moderating on core labor issues, with very little



anti-union legislation being introduced. The legislature did pass Senate Bill 47, to restrict overtime pay (a bill that we had stopped in the past) only after Republican sponsors agreed to an amendment that specifies that collective bargaining agreements would supersede the bill. Another anti-worker bill,

HB 146, which seems to be getting less momentum with each passing legislative session, is a bill that makes paying prevailing wages on public works optional. Currently, the bill only has 8 co-sponsors and we do not expect it to move out of Committee.

Some bills and resolutions backed by the Ohio AFL-CIO that have advanced, include:

- HR 13 and SR 41 – Enbridge Line 5
- SCR 17 – Urging Congress to Pass CHIPS Act
- HB 29 – Allowing and regulating online Sportsbooks
- HB 235 – Refinery safety and training bill
- SB 302 – Dealing with fraud in the UC system
- SB 307 – Support for the electric vehicle industry

American Rescue Plan

- Over \$10 Billion in fiscal relief for Ohio
- Over 2 Million Ohioans received up to \$1,600 in Child Tax Credits
- Included the Butch Lewis Act- over \$86 Billion in financial assistance to multiemployer pension plans, restoring benefits to an estimated 100,000 Ohio retirees. This covers all benefits due through 2051

CHIPS and Science Act

- \$52.7 billion in funding for U.S. semiconductor production and another \$200 billion for research and development.
- Passage gave INTEL the confidence to finally break ground on a \$20 billion facility in Central Ohio, creating up to 10,000 jobs between construction and permanent workforce.
- With funding from CHIPS, the site could become the largest semiconductor campus in the world - with up to 8 plants and over \$100 billion in total investment.

Bipartisan Infrastructure Package

- Ohio will receive \$9.2 Billion for roads and \$483 Million for bridge replacement and repairs.
- Ohio will receive \$1.2 Billion to improve public transportation.
- Our airports will receive \$250 Million for infrastructure development.
- \$140 Million to expand charging networks along highways for electric vehicles.
- Over \$100 million to expand broadband coverage, providing access to over 250,000 Ohioans.
- \$1.4 Billion to improve water infrastructure, to ensure every community has access to clean drinking water.

Inflation Reduction Act

- \$12.8 BILLION investment in Ohio for large-scale clean power generation and storage through 2030.
- Boosts U.S. manufacturing of clean energy and transportation technologies, which will help Ohio lead the growing global market for clean steel, aluminum, cement, and more.
- Provides up front discounts for the purchase of new (\$7,500) or used (\$4,000) Electric Vehicles, and helps fund Ohio's plan to build out a robust charging station infrastructure along our highways.



REDISTRICTING: AN OHIO CONSTITUTIONAL CRISIS

Since the last state legislative and congressional mapping was completed in 2011, experts have branded Ohio as one of the most gerrymandered states in the country. News reports ran for months uncovering the secretive process in which Republican leaders developed those maps in a hotel room they deemed "the bunker", using sophisticated software to rig the process. A public outcry for change led to constitutional ballot initiatives with Ohioans voting in 2015 and 2018 to install new methods to draw state legislative and Congressional districts. These new processes were intended to be more transparent and to be completed in a bi-partisan manner to produce maps with fair partisan representation. Instead, Ohioans are enduring one of the most obvious and illegal partisan power grabs in the country.

First convened on August 6th, 2021, the seven-member Redistricting Commission, created by the constitutional amendment passed in 2015, consisted of the Governor, Auditor, Secretary of State, and two members of the Ohio House (from separate political parties), and two members from the Ohio Senate (from separate political parties). Two important things happened at that first meeting. First, the commission adopted a schedule of a dozen field hearings for Ohioans to voice their opinions, and secondly, Republicans opined about the delay of data from the federal census bureau. This excuse would become a central theme

for Republicans trying to explain why they couldn't follow the Constitution.

The labor movement was fully engaged in the field hearings. All but one of the hearings saw overflowing crowds of passionate, civic-minded Ohioans. The state federation organized at least two union leader speakers at each hearing to provide their unique community and policy perspectives. With each passing hearing, the public grew impatient with the lack of participation from the Commission members and the lack of maps to comment on. The whole purpose of requiring field hearings in the Constitutional





Amendment was to allow for a fully transparent process and give Ohioans the ability to comment on the proposed districts that would affect their own representation. Instead, the public was treated to a "dog and pony" show with much of their input and suggestions falling on deaf ears or empty chairs.

Even though the public engagement process was not what they envisioned, voting rights advocates and experts were cautiously optimistic that the remainder of the process could result in maps that were much fairer than the previous decade. That sliver of optimism was dashed a few weeks later after the commission adopted its first set of maps with a 5-2 partisan vote – two minutes after the constitutional deadline. Redistricting experts quickly analyzed the adopted maps and concluded that the majority had in fact gerrymandered the maps in such a way that would guarantee Republicans maintain supermajorities in both the Ohio House and Senate. Democrats on the Commission correctly proclaimed the adopted maps were a clear violation of Ohio's anti-gerrymandering law. We would soon find

out whose argument would carry the day as three separate groups filed lawsuits against the maps. The lawsuits were filed with the Ohio Supreme Court, which currently has a 4-3 Republican majority.

In January of 2022, the Court ruled that the maps adopted by the Commission were unconstitutional in a 4-3 decision with the Chief Justice ruling with the 3 Democrats on the bench. This would be the beginning of a long legal back and forth between the Commission and the Ohio Supreme Court, with the Commission adopting maps that were struck down three more times. With the May primary quickly approaching and multiple sets of maps ruled unconstitutional, Secretary of State LaRose made the unprecedented decision to remove state legislative candidates from the ballot, forcing Ohioans to have two separate primaries, with a price tag of up to \$25 million.

With the clock ticking, Republicans went judge shopping and filed a lawsuit in federal court. In mid-March, a panel of three federal judges – two appointed by Donald Trump, received the case. In a 2-1 ruling that defies reason, the judges decided that if the two

sides didn't come to some kind of resolution by May 28 that the third set of invalidated maps would be put in place for an August 2nd primary – giving Republicans the light at the end of the tunnel they had been looking for to try and hold on to their super-majority status in the General Assembly.

Over the last year, Republican leadership has shown nothing but disdain for the voters of Ohio and a complete disregard of the law. After dozens of Redistricting Commission meetings, four drafts of adopted state legislative maps, four rounds of rejected state legislative maps, two adopted Congressional maps that were both rejected by the Supreme Court, a shuffling of Commission members, and millions of dollars spent on software, experts, and elections – Republican leaders still refuse to come to the table and negotiate in good faith. Instead, taxpayers footed the bill for two primaries, voting for candidates running in districts that have been deemed unconstitutional by the state's highest court.

Both the state legislative maps and the congressional maps are unsettled law which the next Ohio Supreme Court will adjudicate.

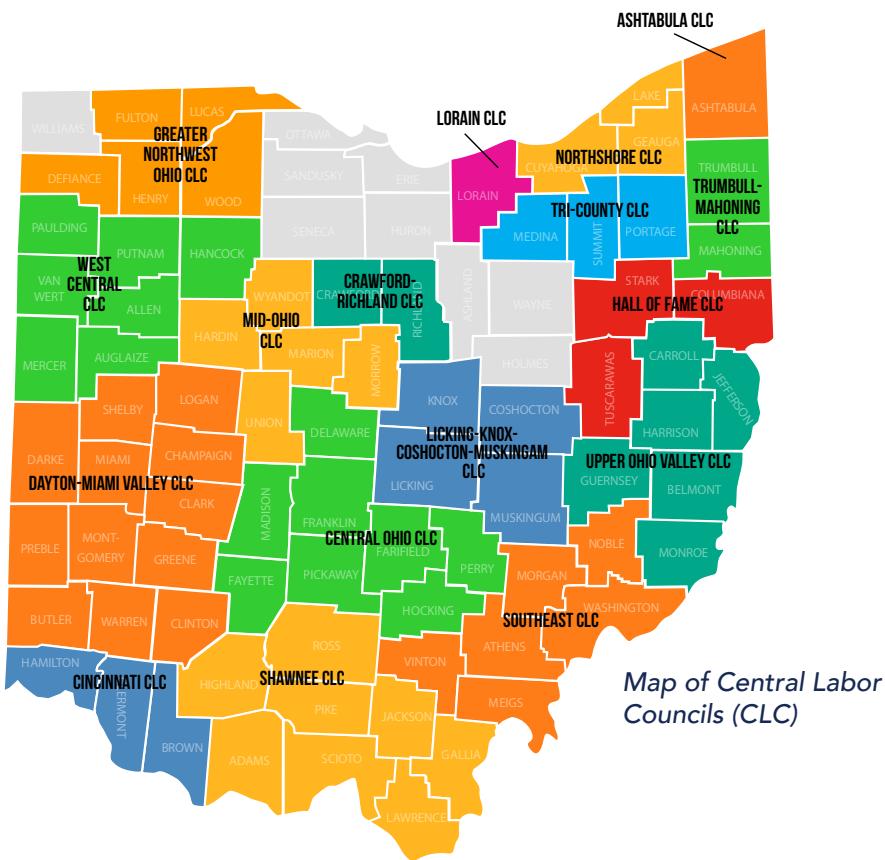
With three Republican seats up on the Ohio Supreme Court, including Chief Justice, which party will be in control and whether Ohioans will finally get legislative maps as mandated by their votes is in the balance.



LOOKING AHEAD

All indications are that the General Assembly will remain in recess until after the November election. The outcomes of the election will dictate the pace and focus of Lame Duck session. We expect the current majority to continue their extreme agenda and remain on high alert, especially for continued attacks on public education. For the good of all Ohioans, its imperative that the general assembly is rebalanced to reflect the true partisan makeup of the state.

We do anticipate Congress will return to action prior to the November elections where we will be pushing for the reauthorization of Trade Adjustment Assistance and increased funding for the National Labor Relations Board to allow the agency to operate as originally intended- to protect workers. We must seize on the current momentum in support of workers and the trade union movement as we pursue national, state, and local policies that level the playing field and win for workers.



CENTRAL LABOR COUNCILS (CLC)

DAYTON-MIAMI VALLEY CLC

Meeting: Last Monday of the month at 6pm
Contact: Diane Walsh, Executive Director
Phone: 937-898-6550
Counties in Jurisdiction: Montgomery, Butler, Warren, Clinton, Preble, Greene, Darke, Miami, Clark, Champaign, Shelby, Logan

CENTRAL OHIO CLC

Meeting: 3rd Wednesday of the month at 5:30pm
Contact: Mark Fluharty, Executive Director
Phone: 614-397-1920
Counties in Jurisdiction: Franklin, Delaware, Fairfield, Perry, Pickaway, Fayette, Madison

MID-OHIO AREA CLC

Meeting: 1st Thursday of the month at 6pm
Contact: Norm Shoemaker, President
Phone: 419-571-8728
Counties in Jurisdiction: Richland, Marion, Crawford, Hardin, Wyandot, Hardin, Morrow, Union

LICKING-KNOX CLC

Meeting: 4th Wednesday of the month at 7:30pm
Contact: Dave McElfresh, President
Phone: 740-507-0264
Counties in Jurisdiction: Licking, Knox, Muskingum, Coshocton

GREATER NORTHWEST OHIO CLC

Meeting: 4th Monday of the month at 7pm
Contact: Kevin Dalton, Executive Secretary Treasurer
Phone: 419-367-4021
Counties in Jurisdiction: Lucas, Fulton, Wood, Henry, Defiance

LORAIN COUNTY CLC

Meeting: 2nd Thursday of the month at 5:30pm
Contact: Ron Adkins, President
Phone: 440-935-4105
Counties in Jurisdiction: Lorain

ASHTABULA CLC

Meeting: 2nd Tuesday of the month
Contact: Ray Gruber, President
Phone: 440-812-1762
Counties in Jurisdiction: Ashtabula

MAHONING-TRUMBULL CLC

Meeting: 3rd Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm
Contact: Bill Padisak, President
Phone: 330-506-3866
Counties in Jurisdiction: Mahoning, Trumbull

UPPER OHIO VALLEY CLC

Meeting: Last Thursday of the month at 6:30pm
Contact: Rick Smathers, President
Phone: 740-579-1591
Counties in Jurisdiction: Jefferson, Carroll, Harrison, Belmont, Guernsey, Monroe

SHAWNEE CLC

Meeting: 3rd Monday of the month at 6pm
Contact: Joe Dillow, Secretary/Treasurer
Phone: 740-352-6695
Counties in Jurisdiction: Ross, Vinton, Jackson, Lawrence, Scioto, Pike, Adams, Highland

WEST CENTRAL CLC

Meeting: 4th Tuesday of the month at 7pm
Contact: Eric Sweeney, President
Phone: 419-234-6982
Counties in Jurisdiction: Allen, Paulding, Putnam, Hancock, Van Wert, Mercer, Auglaize

NORTH SHORE AFL-CIO

Meeting: 2nd Wednesday of the month at 5:30 p.m.
Contact: Dan O'Malley, Executive Secretary
Phone: 440-552-7234
Counties in Jurisdiction: Cuyahoga, Lake, Geauga

HALL OF FAME CLC

Meeting: 3rd Thursday of the month at 6:30pm
Contact: Joe Sterling, President
Phone: 330-309-7804
Counties in Jurisdiction: Stark, Columbiana, Tuscarawas

TRI-COUNTY CLC

Meeting: 4th Tuesday of the month at 6pm
Contact: Dave Prentice, Executive Secretary-Treasurer
Phone: 330-606-4356
Counties in Jurisdiction: Summit, Portage, Medina

SOUTHEAST CLC

Meeting: 3rd Wednesday of the month at 11:30am
Contact: Ted Linscott, President
Phone: 740-707-5182
Counties in Jurisdiction: Athens, Noble, Morgan, Washington, Hocking, Meigs, Gallia

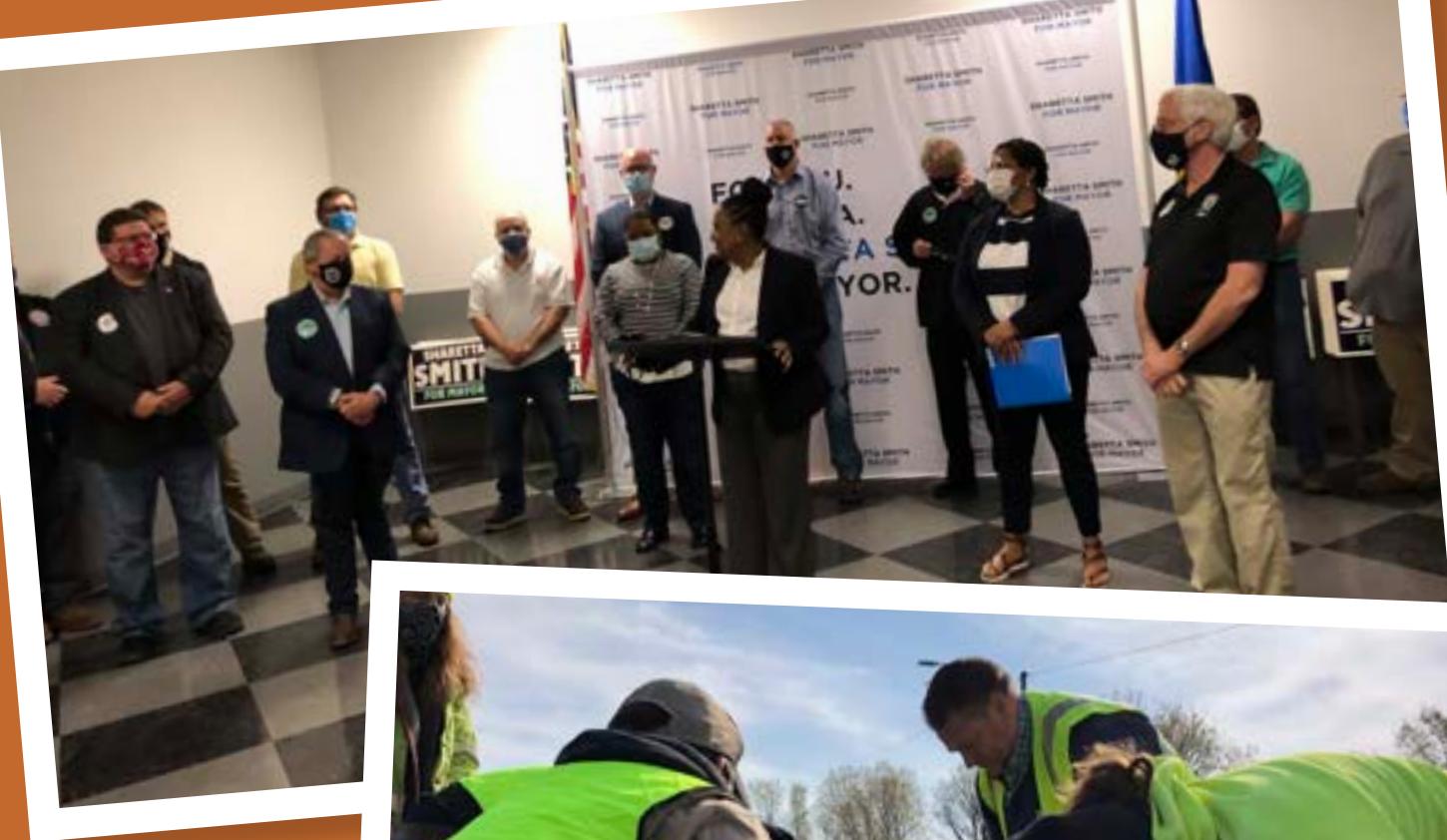
CINCINNATI CLC

Meeting: 1st Wednesday of the month at 7pm
Contact: Brian Griffin, Exec. Financial Secretary
Phone: 513-421-1846
Counties in Jurisdiction: Hamilton, Clermont, Brown





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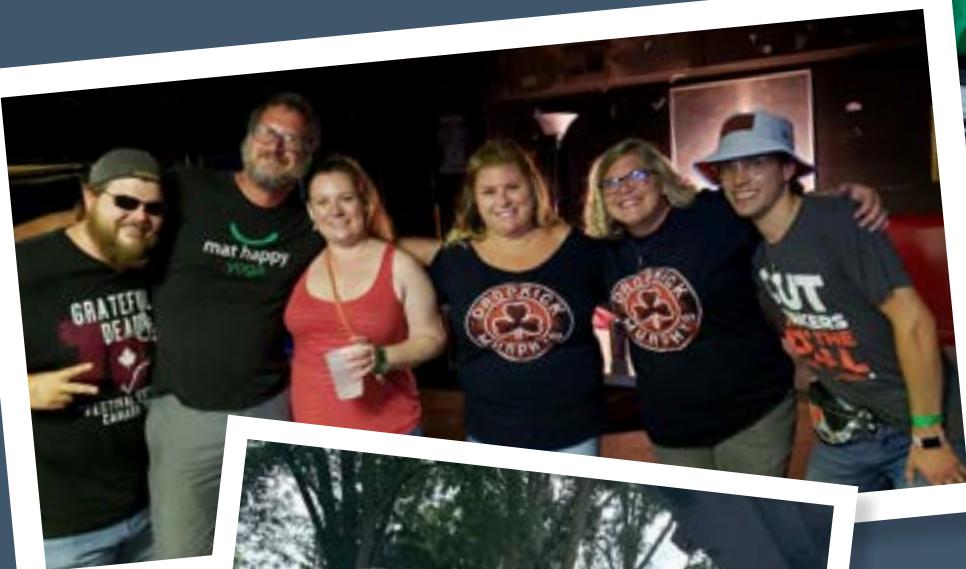
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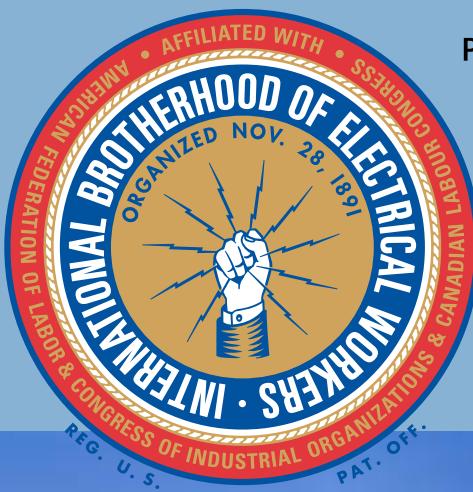
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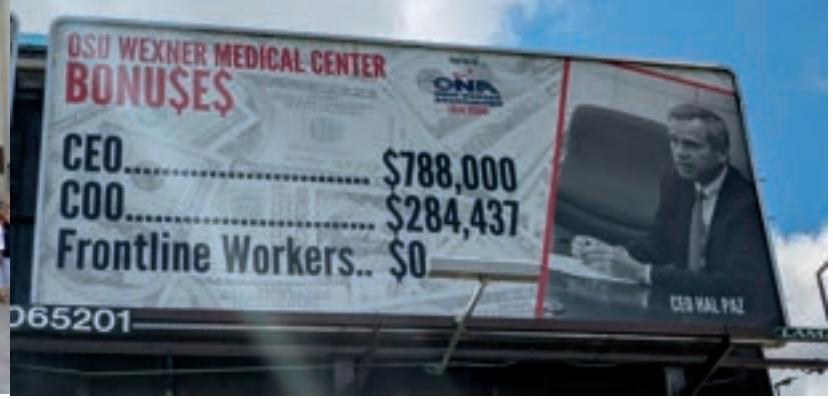


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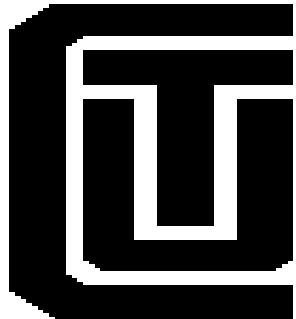
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Welcome

TO THE OHIO AFL-CIO 33RD BIENNIAL CONVENTION

from **UFCW 75**
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SEPTEMBER 27 & 28, 2022