

| October 2020

# State Representative Jeffrey Crossman

## Ohio House District 15 Statehouse Legislative Update

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From the desk of Rep. Crossman

Dear Neighbor,

Autumn is finally here, bringing with it falling leaves and cooler temperatures. A feeling of change and opportunity fills the air no matter where you go.

Right around the corner is Election Day, which will occur on **Tuesday, November 3.**

Every vote counts. We see that play out every year where dozens of races across the state and around the country are decided by the slimmest of margins, sometimes just by a few votes. Your vote can make a huge difference in the trajectory of your city, state, and country.

In Ohio, we encourage every voter to exercise their most fundamental freedom. Whether you decide to vote by mail, vote early in person or vote in person on Election Day, I urge you to create a voting plan now to ensure your voice is heard this year. Please enjoy this newsletter that details how you can make a plan to vote for the upcoming election and the most recent legislative activities.

Yours in Service

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jeff Crossman".

Jeff Crossman  
State Representative  
House District 15

### Contact Methods:

[Message/Email Us Directly with This Link](#)

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# How to vote in the November 3 election

As November 3rd quickly approaches, it's important to make a voting plan to ensure have the opportunity to exercise one of your most important constitutional rights. Currently, Ohio voters have three different options to vote this year: voting absentee by mail, voting early in person, and voting on Election Day.

## If you're voting absentee by mail, here's what you need to know.

- Print and mail your absentee ballot request form ([voteohio.gov](http://voteohio.gov)) to your local county Board of Elections by **Oct. 31 at noon**.
- Complete your absentee ballot and postmark it by **Nov. 2** OR drop it off to your local county Board of Elections by **7:30 p.m. on Nov. 3**.
- Request and mail your voting materials early to ensure adequate time to be received by the Board of Elections.
- Materials must be mailed or dropped off to the Board of Elections in the county you are registered in.

## If you're voting early in person, here's what you need to know.

- Early voting begins **Oct. 6 and goes until Nov. 2**.
- Early voting takes place at your local county Board of Elections.
- Visit [voteohio.gov](http://voteohio.gov) to find early voting hours.

## To vote in person on Election Day (Nov. 3), here's what you need to know.

- Polls are open on Election Day from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. If you are in line prior to the 7:30 p.m. deadline, you will be allowed to vote.
- Check your polling location at [voteohio.gov](http://voteohio.gov).
- Call the nonpartisan voter protection hotline at 866-OUR-VOTE or 888-VE-Y-VOTA (Spanish) for comprehensive information and assistance at all stages of voting

## Important Voting Dates

Register To Vote

**Oct. 5**

Postmark Your Absentee Ballot if Returning by Mail

**Nov. 2**

Early Voting Begins for All Voters

**Oct. 6**

Return Your Absentee Ballot in Person to County Board of Elections

**Nov. 3**  
by 7:30 pm

Request Your Absentee Ballot

**Oct. 31**  
by noon

Election Day

**Nov. 3**  
6:30 am - 7:30 pm





## Statehouse Legislative Spotlight Continued



### House Dems recognize Domestic Violence Awareness Month, call for action on bills to protect domestic violence survivors

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month, a time to stand with survivors and work to stop the cycle of abuse in its tracks. The COVID-19 lockdown caused an increase in incidents of abuse, and incidents have continued even after the restrictions were lifted. House Democrats are calling for action on bills they have introduced to protect domestic violence survivors.

First and foremost is Aisha's Law, sponsored by **Rep. Janine Boyd (Cleveland Heights)**, which would create a continuum of protection for victims by updating and modernizing Ohio's domestic violence laws. Aisha's Law passed the Ohio House unanimously in May, and had its first hearing in the Ohio Senate on Sept. 17.

The Reagan Toke Act, sponsored by Rep. **Kristin Boggs (D-Columbus)**, would protect Ohioans by implementing new standards to improve the monitoring of violent offenders. The bill was referred to the House Criminal Justice committee and has had several hearings, but has yet to advance to the House floor.

Democrats have long prioritized legislation to protect and support domestic violence survivors. The 132nd General Assembly passed House Bill 1, sponsored by Leader Emilia Sykes (D-Akron), to allow victims of domestic violence at the hands of an intimate partner, their boyfriend or girlfriend, to obtain a civil protective order against their attacker regardless of their marital status.

*If you are a survivor of domestic violence looking for resources and referrals in Ohio, you can visit [ODVN.org](http://ODVN.org) or call 614-781-9651.*



## Staying Safe this Halloween

Halloween, normally marked by hayrides, apple picking, and trick or treating, will look different this year due to COVID-19. Follow these simple tips to have a safe and fun Halloween this year.

- Traditional trick or treating, where treats are handed to children who go door to door, should be avoided. Face coverings should be worn, and at least a distance of 6 feet should be adopted.
- Do not hold large in-person parties. If holding smaller parties, limit attendance to 10 or fewer people and hold the event outside if possible.
- Wipe off packaged candy with sanitizing wipes when you arrive home, and wash your hands before eating candy.

To see the full list of guidance on Celebrating Halloween 2020 please visit: <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/static/responsible/celebrating-halloween.pdf>

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### Cuyahoga County Eviction Resources:

Ohio currently does not have a moratorium on evictions. If you are facing eviction, or in the process, please reach out to your local legal aid office or tenant association for assistance:

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#### **The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland**

For legal help, call (216) 687-1900  
<https://laslev.org>

#### **Cleveland Tenants Organization Cleveland**

216-432-0617  
<http://www.clevelandtenants.org/>

#### **Housing Center, Housing Research and Advocacy Center Cleveland**

216-361-9240  
<http://www.thehousingcenter.org/>

#### **Heights Community Congress Cleveland Heights**

216-321-6775  
<http://www.heightscongress.org/>



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Here are two important updates regarding unemployment benefits.

1) If you are experiencing backdating and pending issues, email: [PUA-Technical-Services@jfs.ohio.gov](mailto:PUA-Technical-Services@jfs.ohio.gov)

2) ODJFS has begun distributing \$300 per week in Lost Wages Assistance to eligible unemployment recipients. This assistance is available to Ohioans who received traditional unemployment benefits, PUA, Trade, SharedWork Ohio or extended benefits for weeks ending August 1 through September 5, 2020.

For more information, visit : [unemploymenthelp.ohio.gov](http://unemploymenthelp.ohio.gov).

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### **Helpful Election & Voter Registration Resources**

**Election Day**– November 3rd, 2020

**Register To Vote**– <https://olvr.ohiosos.gov>

**Early (In Person & Vote By Mail) Voting Starts** –October 6th, 2020.

**Check Your Voter Registration**- Voting Registration Ends October 5th, 2020.  
<https://voterlookup.ohiosos.gov/voterlookup.aspx>

**Update Your Voter Registration Address**- <https://olvr.ohiosos.gov/NCOA/NCOA>

**Military & Overseas Absentee Voting Starts** - September 18th, 2020. <https://www.sos.state.oh.us/secretary-office/military/>

**Request Vote By Mail Ballot**– Deadline to Request Absentee Ballot is October 31st, 2020 at 12 PM <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/absentee-voting/>