



A Legislative Report from Rep. Barbara Boyd

9th District of Ohio • Cleveland Heights, East Cleveland, University Heights and Parts of Cleveland



Barbara Boyd
State Representative

Dear Constituents,

My Democratic colleagues and I in the Ohio House recently outlined our "Compact with the Middle Class," designed to promote economic prosperity for all and to stand up for a strong middle class.

The "Compact with the Middle Class" is a combination of principles and legislative initiatives. It includes 10 core principles that will strengthen middle class families, protect local communities and promote economic opportunity for all.

These principles are broad and comprehensive, but reflect the specific situations and circumstances faced by individuals in the district and all across the state.

Below are highlights of the core principles:

Compact with the Middle Class

1. Create, Maintain and Attract Good Paying Jobs
2. Protect the Rights of All Workers
3. Keep College Tuition Affordable
4. Ensure a High Quality Education for All Children
5. Fight for Affordable Healthcare for All Ohioans
6. Protect Consumers and Homeowners
7. Fight Against Cuts to Police, Fire and Other Vital Services
8. Honor Those Who Keep Us Safe
9. Ensure Quality Care for the Elderly and Disabled
10. Protect Ohio's Assets and Natural Resources

Please do not hesitate to contact my office with any questions, comments or suggestions you may have. I know these are difficult times and I am here to listen to your concerns and ideas for improving the state. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Barbara Boyd
State Representative

CONTACT

Columbus Office
9th District
77 South High Street
10th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Phone: (614) 644-5079
Toll-free: (800) 282-0253
Fax: (614) 719-0009

Or E-mail At:
district09@ohr.state.oh.us



Contacting Representative Barbara Boyd

You have several options if you would like to contact Representative Boyd. We welcome your thoughts and suggestions and will do everything we can to help you. We also welcome invitations to speak to your group or organization.



Via Telephone (Columbus Office)

Direct Phone: (614) 644-5079

Toll-Free Messaging System:
(800) 282-0253

Direct Fax: (614) 719-0009

Via Electronic Mail (E-Mail)

To contact the office via e-mail,
please use the following address:

district09@ohr.state.oh.us



Via Postal Mail (Columbus Office)

Hon. Barbara Boyd
State Representative, 9th District
Ohio House of Representatives
77 South High Street, 10th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

Important State Contact Information

Ohio House of Representatives

www.house.state.oh.us

Legislative Information 800-282-0253

Insurance, Department of

<http://ohioinsurance.gov/>

Consumer Hotline 800-686-1526

Ohio Senior Health Insurance Information Program
800-686-1578

Jobs and Family Services, Department of

<http://jfs.ohio.gov/>

Veteran Services Division 800-253-4060

Unemployment Compensation Hotline 877-644-6562

Motor Vehicles, Bureau of

<http://www.bmv.ohio.gov/>

General Information 800-589-TAGS

Public Safety, Department of

<http://publicsafety.ohio.gov/>

Highway Patrol 877-7-PATROL

State Highway Patrol DUI Hotline 800-GRAB-DUI

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio

<http://www.puco.ohio.gov/>

General Information 800-686-PUCO

Taxation, Department of

<http://tax.ohio.gov/>

Form Requests 800-282-1782

Individual Taxpayer Assistance 800-282-1780

Aging, Department of

<http://aging.ohio.gov/home/>

Golden Buckeye Card 866-301-6446

Ombudsman/Elder Rights Unit 800-282-1206



**Save these numbers for
future reference!**

State Help Available For Decisions on Long Term Care

State Ombudsman can help with selections and information on your rights

Ohioans should expect excellence and choices in long-term care.

If you're like most Ohioans, at some point, you or a family member will need long-term care. In fact, seven out of 10 people over the age of 65 will require some long-term care services.

The good news is that long-term care is changing for the better and Ohio's state long-term care ombudsman is part of this positive movement. The state's long-term care ombudsman serves as the voice of Ohio consumers and advocates for quality care for individuals receiving home care, assisted living and nursing home care.

Ombudsmen are advocates who provide a voice to the needs and preferences of clients. Ombudsmen link residents with services or agencies, offer advice on selecting long-term care providers, inform consumers about their rights and provide information and assistance with benefits and insurance.

Ombudsmen do not "police" nursing homes and home health agencies. Instead, they work with providers, residents, their families and other representatives to resolve problems and concerns.

If you are in need of long-term care services, the state ombudsman suggests that you search for providers that advertise the types of services you are looking for. Ohio providers offer a large range of services from home-first programs to community living options.



There are many different approaches to care in the nursing home world – person-centered care, Eden, Green House, Small House. Lingo aside, what we're really talking about is creating a home full of choices wherever a consumer wants to live.

To find a provider that creates such an environment, expect excellence. Residents should be able to spend their day as they would have before they moved, by participating in activities such as gardening, reading, cooking or even bird watching.

Look for a provider that gives consumers meal choices and consistent assignment of staff. This allows staff to get to know the resident's likes and dislikes as well as form friendships. The provider should also engage those caretakers and the resident in care planning. The last thing you want when you visit a provider is to feel like you are visiting an institution.

Both the private sector and government organizations have joined together to help providers change the way they serve you by providing resources and education for nursing homes.

Many person-centered practices don't cost more; in fact, there is a business case for culture change, whether by making the home more attractive and increasing occupancy and revenue or by making operations more efficient and reducing staff turnover.

Who can call the Ombudsman Program?

Anyone may call the Ombudsman. There is no requirement to speak with another agency or the provider first.

How does the Ombudsman Program work for you?

The Ombudsman handles complaints about long-term care services and serves as a liaison voicing the needs and concerns of the consumer to providers of long-term care.

What should I do if I have a complaint?

First, you may wish to address your concern to the provider. If you are unable to solve the problem yourself, your regional ombudsman can help. Your call will be confidential, and they will not act without consulting you and involving you in the resolution process.

For more information:

Call **1-800-282-1206**

State Services and Resources for Tax Filing Season

A List of Quick, Convenient Refund Options

No one likes to wait on payday, so why wait on your tax return this year?

The state offers a number of electronic filing options to ensure you get your money as quickly and easily as possible.

Filing taxes electronically gets you to the front of the line, and if you're due a refund, the state will deposit it directly into your bank account within seven days.



Online payment options are also available. During tax season, the state receives, on average, 100,000 income tax returns each day. A return that gets caught in the rush can take weeks to process, and even longer before it makes its way back to your pocket.

Taking advantage of online services is faster and easier for you, and also saves the government a buck or two per return. When the state saves money, you save too.

Choose from the Convenient Tax Filing Options Listed Below:

This online tax service reduces complicated tax forms to a series of simple questions that are used to determine for which deductions and tax credits you qualify. These results can be filed using the Efile option (description below).



The I-File wizard asks you a series of questions, then compiles a state or school district income tax return for you based on your answers. I-File will even do the math for you. And it's free. If you owe taxes, there's also an ePayment option that allows you to pay by either electronic check or credit card.

Another option for electronic filing is eForms. You can complete Adobe Acrobat versions of all our major state and school district income tax forms online, much as you would on paper. eForms will even do most of your math for you. And it's free.



If you file through a tax preparer, or if you use software on your home computer to prepare a return, you may be able to file your state and federal tax returns electronically through the IRS e-file program. Taxpayers with lower or moderate incomes may also be eligible for the IRS "free file" options.

If you owe, you have the option of paying your taxes online by credit card or electronic check through ePayment. It's secure, flexible and it even allows you to post-date an electronic check so that it doesn't come out of your bank account until the day taxes are due.



Filing Season Central

Filing Season Central can be accessed through the Ohio Department of taxation web site (www.tax.ohio.gov).

The site covers numerous tax-related topics and provides printable versions of 2010 tax forms and instruction booklets.



Contact the Ohio Department of Taxation

Individual Taxpayer Assistance:
(800) 282-1780
Business Taxpayer Assistance:
(800) 405-4039
Income Tax Refund Hotline
(800) 282-1784

Or log onto their website:
<http://Tax.Ohio.gov>

Legislative Survey

REPRESENTATIVE BARBARA BOYD
APRIL 2011

Your views on issues facing state government are important to me. Please take the time to share your opinion on the following topics. I look forward to hearing from you!

1. Are there any areas of state spending that should be protected from budget cuts?

- Yes
- No
- Undecided

If so, list them:

2. Do you support a statewide ban on texting while driving?

- Yes
- No
- Undecided

3. Should partnerships between Ohio government and the private sector be subject to public record laws?

- Yes
- No
- Undecided

4. Do you believe all day kindergarten should be a priority for Ohio schools?

- Yes
- No
- Undecided

5. Should Ohio maintain a social service safety net to protect its most vulnerable citizens?

- Yes
- No
- Undecided

6. Should Ohio end binding-arbitration with public employee unions?

- Yes
- No
- Undecided

7. Do you support saving Ohio money by sending some non-violent offenders to community corrections facilities and programs instead of state prisons?

- Yes
- No
- Undecided

8. Please list what you believe to be three of Ohio's biggest strengths:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Additional Comments:

Please fold and return this form to me at the address listed on the other side.

If you would like to receive my e-newsletter and other legislation information, please provide your email address:

Name _____

E Mail Address _____



TAPE HERE

**Thank you for completing this legislative survey.
Please don't hesitate to contact my office
with any issues or opinions you may have!**

FOLD UNDER AND SECURE WITH TAPE

(PLEASE FILL IN YOUR ADDRESS)

PLACE STAMP
HERE
POST OFFICE
WILL NOT
DELIVER
WITHOUT
PROPER
POSTAGE

Hon. Barbara Boyd
State Representative, 9th District
Ohio House of Representatives
77 South High Street
Columbus, OH 43215

FOLD UNDER