



# 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,

The 128<sup>th</sup> General Assembly has taken their oath of office and a new session has begun. It is now time for all of us to roll up our sleeves and begin the business and hard work that must be accomplished throughout these next two years.

On Opening Day of the new General Assembly, Speaker Budish presented his vision of goals for the state in order to improve the lives of Ohioans. Governor Strickland also has addressed the budget and his executive budget has been submitted to the General Assembly. The highlights of the Governor's Budget proposal are enclosed in this newsletter.

The Executive Budget for Fiscal Years 2010-2011 provides a responsible plan for the tough decisions ahead. The priorities in education reform, job creation, and access to healthcare are important. We look forward to working through the budget in a productive and bipartisan fashion to pass a responsible budget that positions Ohio for a successful economic recovery. Ohio as well as other states face difficult decisions, but we remain optimistic. Ohio will move forward and regain our prosperity for the future.

The Ohio General Revenue Fund tax receipts are expected to decline by \$826 million (4.5%) in 2010, with only a slight increase over that number in 2011. This decrease in the GRF has forced the Governor to seek creative ways to remove some agencies and programs from reliance on the GRF. The Governor's Executive Budget for all funds total \$120.2 billion for fiscal years 2010 and 2011.

The standing committees of the Ohio House of Representatives have been announced by Speaker Budish. I have been named Chairperson of the House Health Committee. I will also serve on several other committees, which will include Finance and Appropriations; Finance-Health and Human Services Subcommittee; Housing and Urban Revitalization; Judiciary, and Rules and Reference Committee. In addition, there are several special committees that I will be serving on which are the House Cancer Caucus; the Joint Legislative Committee on Health Care Oversight, and the Ohio Hepatitis C Advisory Commission.

The state budget will be heard by the Finance and Appropriations Committee in the coming weeks. As a member of this committee, I pledge to reach across the aisle and work with all members to effect practical solutions and move Ohio forward in these difficult economic times.

You can offer your questions, comments and suggestions anytime. I always look forward to hearing from you.

Yours in service,

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Barbara A. Boyd".

**Barbara Boyd**  
State Representative

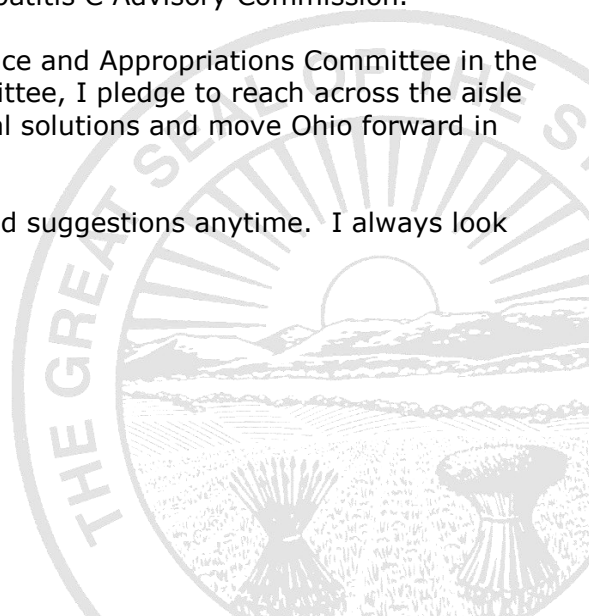
## CONTACT

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## Governor Offers Bold Vision for Ohio

*Highlights of Ted Strickland's State of the State Address to the Legislature*

Ohio may be facing tough times, but that makes this the best time for bold action to confront challenges facing state finances and education. That was the message delivered by Ohio Governor Ted Strickland in his State of the State Address to a joint session of the Ohio General Assembly.



It offers a transformative plan to reform education in Ohio and proposes to balance the budget without raising taxes. It also lays out several important tools, such as tax credits, to help stimulate the economy and create jobs here in Ohio.

Here are some of the highlights of the Governor's plan:

### **Fiscal Responsibility: Living Within Our Means**

Though forecasts indicate general revenue taxes available to the State of Ohio will be lower in the 2011 fiscal year than they were seven years earlier, the Governor's budget is balanced without raising taxes through a series of tough choices and leveraging federal stimulus funds.

### **Education: A Comprehensive Plan to Modernize Education and Ensure Every Child Learns Skills to be Successful in a 21st Century Economy**

Governor Strickland's comprehensive plan to establish a modernized education system is designed to ensure every Ohio child learns the skills they need to be successful in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century – as productive citizens, in work and in life. The plan demands an unprecedented level of accountability and transparency from our school districts to ensure taxpayers know exactly how their dollars are being spent, right down to an individual school building's budget. It meets the state's constitutional obligation to provide a thorough and efficient system of public education for Ohio students.

### **Tax Relief: New Tax Credits to Create New Ohio Jobs and Fully Phase-in Tax Reforms**

The budget fully implements previously approved tax

reforms, including the full phase-in of a 21 percent across-the-board income tax reduction. In addition to broadening the Job Retention Tax Credit and Job Creation Tax Credit to encourage more business opportunity in Ohio, the Governor's budget creates several new job-creating tax credits. They include a Film Tax Credit to spur growth of the film industry and a New Markets Tax Credit to give our cities and towns a proven tool to spur investment and bring new life to downtown centers.

### **Health Care: Access to Health Care for Every Ohio Child and 110,000 More Ohioans**

The state children's health insurance program and buy-in program would provide access to affordable health coverage for *every single child* in Ohio. The budget expands health care access to an additional 110,000 adult Ohioans currently without coverage. It allows Ohioans with employer-provided insurance to purchase coverage for their dependents up to the age of 29, and allows small business employees who lose their jobs to purchase continuation coverage for up to 12 months and other innovative reforms.

### **Higher Education: Extend Historic Tuition Freeze to a Third Year for All University System of Ohio Schools**

Governor Strickland's budget extends the current 2-year tuition freeze at all University System of Ohio institutions for a third year in fiscal year 2010 (the 2009-2010 school year), and for a fourth straight year at all community college and university branch campuses in fiscal year 2011 (the 2010-2011 school year). Under this plan, 60 percent of all students in the University System of Ohio will have seen no increase in tuition for four straight years.

### **Job Creation: Pledge to Work with Legislature to Develop a Second Job Stimulus Plan**

Governor Strickland announced that he will work with the legislature to develop a second job stimulus plan in the coming months. It would include an expansion of Ohio's Third Frontier program, regulatory reform and streamlining measures to assure that Ohio gets its share of federal stimulus funds as well as other investment dollars to create jobs in the short term and strengthen Ohio for generations to come.

# Legislative Survey

REPRESENTATIVE BARBARA BOYD  
March 2009

*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. Would you support building casinos in Ohio if the proposal was structured differently than the one defeated at the polls last November?**

- Yes
- No
- Undecided

**2. Should Ohio's smoking ban be changed to permit more exemptions?**

- Yes
- No
- Undecided

**3. Should Ohio's term-limit law limiting state lawmakers to eight years in a specific office be changed?**

- Yes
- No
- Undecided

**4. Do you support placing a moratorium on the creation of new charter schools by operators who run other struggling schools?**

- Yes
- No
- Undecided

**5. Do you support legislation that sends non-violent deadbeat parents to community control programs rather than jail, with the goal of earning more money to pay off their child support debts?**

- Yes
- No
- Undecided

**6. Should developers be required to pay the prevailing wage on state-supported public/private projects?**

- Yes
- No
- Undecided

**7. Do you support limits on marketing by credit card companies on university and college campuses?**

- Yes
- No
- Undecided

**8. Please list what you believe to be the three biggest issues facing Ohio:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Additional Comments:**

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*Please fold and return this form to me at the address listed on the other side. If you would like to receive information and legislative updates in the future, please provide the following information:*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_



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!**

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(PLEASE FILL IN YOUR ADDRESS)

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**HERE**  
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Hon. Barbara Boyd  
State Representative, 9th District  
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