



## HELPFUL LINKS

OHIO GENERAL ASSEMBLY:  
[www.legislature.ohio.gov](http://www.legislature.ohio.gov)

OH HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:  
[www.ohiohouse.gov](http://www.ohiohouse.gov)

OH SENATE:  
[www.ohiosenate.gov](http://www.ohiosenate.gov)

OHIO GOVERNOR:  
[www.governor.ohio.gov](http://www.governor.ohio.gov)

OHIO SECRETARY OF STATE:  
[www.ohiosos.gov](http://www.ohiosos.gov)

OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL:  
[www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov](http://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov)

OHIO CHANNEL:  
[www.ohiochannel.org](http://www.ohiochannel.org)



Follow us on facebook.

'Ohio Legislative Report'

## Ohio Legislative Report

Is published electronically at the start of each month to report on the latest information about legislative issues taking place in Columbus that could affect the lives of Veterans, Military Personnel, and their families in Ohio.

It is emailed at no charge to all who would like to receive it.

To subscribe, send your name and email address to:

[oh.leg.report@gmail.com](mailto:oh.leg.report@gmail.com)

Editor: David K. Root

# Statehouse Happenings

The majority of OLR readers are veterans or family members of veterans. Most of them would like to have legislators who understand what they experienced while they served, when they transitioned back to civilian life, and what their needs are even years later. They feel only a veteran can fully understand other veterans.

OLR took a look at the veterans of the 135th General Assembly to let readers know which ones are vying for a seat in the 136th and who are their challengers. There are a total of 226 individuals - republicans, democrats, libertarians and independents - hoping to be elected or reelected to one of the 195 open seats.

The Ohio 135th General Assembly convened on January 3, 2023. There were 99 Senators and 99 Representatives. Of the 132 legislators, only 17 -about 13% -had served or were serving in the United States Military. Four Senators and 13 Representatives. The general election is about a month away. The first day of the 136th GA will be January 6, 2025.

OLR checked out the 17 veterans who began the 135th to see how many might be returning for the 136th. OLR also looked to see if any were running against another veteran. Only the bios of those candidates who are running against one of the current veterans were checked.

Ohio's senators are elected to a four-year term and representatives to a two-year term. Since elections are held every two years all 99 seats in the house are up for election every two years, while only half of the senate are up for election every two years. The even numbered districts are elected in one general election and the odd numbered districts in another. In this General election it is the even numbered districts.

### In the Senate

There were four veterans at the beginning of the 135th GA. They are **Hearcel F. Craig** (District 15), **Frank Hoagland** (District 30), **Terry A.**

## Veterans on the Ballots



Continued on next Page...

**Johnson** (District 14) and **Steve Wilson** (District 7).

Craig and Wilson are in odd numbered districts, so their seats are not up for election this year. Hoagland, a retired Navy Seal resigned last December and **Brian Chavez** was appointed to fill the remainder of his term. Chavez is running for reelection but is not a veteran. He is running against Iva Faber and there is no indication on his website or Facebook page that he is a veteran.

Johnson retired from the Ohio Army National Guard with the rank of Colonel in 2011 as the Army Guard's State Surgeon . He is running against Shane Marcum who served in the United State Marine Corps from 2018-2019 according to his Facebook account.

### In the House

The 135th GA began with 13 veterans. They are: **Steve Demetriou** (District 35), **Haraz N. Ghanbari** (District 75), **Jennifer Gross** (District 45), **Adam Holmes** (District 97), **Beth Lear** (District 61), **Mike Loychik** (District 65), **Adam C. Miller** (District 6), **Tracy M. Richardson** (District 86), **Brian Stewart** (District 12), **Daniel P. Troy** (District 23), **Casey Weinstein** (District 34), **Scott Wiggam** (District 77), and **Bernard Willis** (District 74). Most but not all are hoping to retain their seat.

Demetriou is running for reelection and Mark Curtis is his challenger. We could find no evidence that Curtis is a veteran. Demetriou graduated from West Point and completed Army Ranger and Airborne training. He was awarded a bronze star for meritorious service while serving in Afghanistan during Operation Enduring Freedom.

Ghanbari hopes to be reelected to his seat and his opponent is Jan Materni. Ghanbari served in the Navy during Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Inherent Resolve and in the Army during

Operation Joint Forge. He is a Lieutenant Commander currently serving in the Navy Reserve. There is no military service listed on Materni's Facebook page or website.

Gross retired from the AirForce in 2008, after 21 years, as a Lieutenant Colonel. She served during Operation Provide Comfort and Operation Provide Promise. The website and Facebook page of her challenger, Landon Meador do not list any military service.

Holmes is trying to retain his seat and his challenger is Scott Wilson. There is no military service listed on Wilson's Facebook page or his website. Holmes spent more than 21 years in the Marine Corps retiring as a colonel in 2016. He flew 40 combat missions during Operation Iraqi Freedom and logged over 3,000 flight hours supporting crisis response missions in Somalia, Rwanda, the Middle East and other areas around the world.

Lear served in the Ohio Air National Guard which included active duty at the Pentagon during Operation Desert Storm. She is running for reelection and her challenger is David Hogan. Neither his website nor his Facebook page lists any military service.

Loychik is not running for reelection. Instead, he ran for the senate seat in District 32 but lost in

Continued on next Page...

## **ELECTION DAY** **Tuesday, November 5th**

**Oct. 07:** Deadline for voter registration for Nov. 5 general election (30 days before general election)

**Oct. 08:** Early in-person absentee voting begins (first day after close of voter registration)

**Oct. 29:** Applications for absentee ballots to be mailed for Nov. 5 general election must be received by boards of elections by the close of business (7 days before general election)

**Nov. 05:** General Election Day. -Polls open from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Absentee ballots, returned in person or via a method other than U.S. Mail, must be received by the boards of elections by close of polls

## *Reflections*

*"voting is a right best exercised  
by people who have taken time to  
learn about the issues."*

*-Tony Snow*

the primary election to the incumbent, **Sandra O'Brien**. Loychik spent eight years in the Air Force as a C-130 crew chief. O'Brien did not serve in the military.

Miller is not running for reelection. He chose instead to run for a seat in congress. He is running against incumbent Congressman Mike Carey in the 15th congressional district. Miller is serving as a colonel in the Army JAG Corps (reserve).

Richardson's hoping to retain her seat. Richardson is a graduate of West Point and she earned a Bronze Star while deployed in Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm. She retired last month from the Army Reserve with the rank of Major. Her challenger is Lesley Verbus who lists no military service on her website or Facebook page.

Stewart is running against challenger Brad Cotton. Stewart is an infantry veteran of the Iraq War who earned the Army Commendation Medal twice and the Combat Infantryman's Badge. Cotton

was a Lieutenant in the Army Reserve with the 2291st Army Hospital and the 256th Combat Support Hospital from 1984 to 1992 according to an article published in the January 3, 2024, Circleville Herald.

Troy is running for reelection against challenger Tony Hocevar. Troy served from 1970 to 1976 in the US Army and US Army Reserve (Medial Corps). Hocevar served from 1974 to 1980. Four years in the US Army in Europe during the Cold War Era followed by two years in the Army Reserves.

Weinstein is a 2004 graduate of the Air Force Academy. He served at the Space & Missile Systems Center in Los Angeles, and at Wright-Patterson, Air Force Base. He is running for the Ohio Senate in District 28. His opponent is Jon Leissler who shows no military service on his website or Facebook page.

Wiggam, who served for four years in the Air Force and received an Air Force Commendation Medal for meritorious service is not seeking reelection. Instead, he is running for Clerk of Courts in Wayne County.

Willis is running for reelection. He retired in 2023 as Colonel after 30 years of service in the Air Force, Air National Guard, and Reserve. His challenger is Derek Alvarado. His website and Facebook page make no mention of any military service.

This covers the seventeen Veterans of the 135th GA and their opponents if they are running for a house or senate seat in the 136th GA. There are no doubt other veterans among the 226 candidates running. There are no complete bios for any of the 31 candidates mentioned in this article: only a snippet of their military history.

It is the hope of OLR that every Ohio voter will further investigate every candidate running for every office to determine for yourself who is and who isn't the best candidate to represent them in the 136th Ohio General Assembly.

To subscribe to **Ohio Legislative Report** send your name and email address to [oh.leg.report@gmail.com](mailto:oh.leg.report@gmail.com) -put 'subscribe' in the subject.

## OHIO CONSTITUTION

### **ARTICLE I, BILL OF RIGHTS**

#### **SECTION #18 ~ SUSPENSION OF LAWS**

*Effective: 1851*

No power of suspending laws shall ever be exercised, except by the general assembly.

#### **SECTION #19 ~ EMINENT DOMAIN**

*Effective: 1851*

Private property shall ever be held inviolate, but subservient to the public welfare. When taken in time of war or other public exigency, imperatively requiring its immediate seizure or for the purpose of making or repairing roads, which shall be open to the public, without charge, a compensation shall be made to the owner, in money, and in all other cases, where private property shall be taken for public use, a compensation therefor shall first be made in money, or first secured by a deposit of money; and such compensation shall be assessed by a jury, without deduction for benefits to any property of the owner.

### **OHIO LEGISLATIVE REPORT IS ON FACEBOOK**

Joins us and follow all the actions of the Ohio General Assembly.





**Joseph A. Miller, III**

**Gayle Manning**

State Representatives Miller and Manning participated in ceremonies to dedicate the Lorain County Gold Star Families Memorial Monument in Elyria, Ohio on Gold Star Mothers & Families Day (the last Sunday in September). It is the 13th GSFMM in Ohio.

*Photos by: David Paul Photography*

## SEND US YOUR PHOTOS

If you have news or photos of a state representative or senator doing veteran/military stuff in their district, send it to us.

Email photos and all info to:  
**oh.leg.report@gmail.com**

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**OLR** welcomes letters to the editor

- \* Letters are limited to 250 words.
- \* Letters with over 250 words may be edited.
- \* Letters will be subject to editing for accuracy, clarity, length, and taste.
- \* Letters must include writer's name, address, and phone number for the purpose of verification.

EMAIL YOUR LETTERS TO:  
**oh.leg.report@gmail.com**



## State Rep Attends Gold Star Mother's Ceremony

September 29, 2024

Loudonville, OH - State Representative Melanie Miller (at podium) presented a proclamation to members of GFWC Ohio Federation of Women's Clubs during a ceremony to honor Ohio men and women who have lost their lives in service to their country and their families. The ceremony was held at the Mohican Memorial Forest Shrine located in the Mohican Memorial State Forest in Ashland County.

## Ohio In-Person Voting ID Requirements

ID Type	Currently Allowed
Unexpired Ohio Photo ID (Driver's License or State ID)	YES ✓
U.S. or Ohio issued Military ID Card with name and photo	YES ✓
U.S. Passport or Passport Card	YES ✓
Utility or Cell Phone Bill	NO ✗
Bank Statement	NO ✗
Paycheck	NO ✗
Government Check	NO ✗
Government Document from Social Security or Ohio Jobs & Family Services	NO ✗

From the website of: *The Ohio Voter Rights Coalition*. [www.ohiovoterrights.org](http://www.ohiovoterrights.org)

# BILLS & RESOLUTIONS INTRODUCED IN AUGUST

## **HB 664:**

Introduced by Representative **Sharon A. Ray** (District 66) on September 17th.  
It has not been referred to a committee yet.

The bill would enact section 5534.013 of the Revised Code to designate a portion of State Route 421 in Medina County as the "CPL David James Amheiser Memorial Highway."

## **SB 315:**

Introduced by Senator **Terry Johnson** (District 14) on September 18th.  
It has not been referred to a committee yet.

The bill would enact section 5534.674 of the Revised Code to designate a portion of State Route 781 in Adams County as the "CPL Willard Boston Wallace Memorial Highway."

## Legislation In The 135<sup>th</sup> Ohio General Assembly Pertaining to Ohio Veterans, Active Duty, Reserve & National Guard, and Their Families

- HB 2 Direct state funds for economic growth and community development
- HB 18 Allow military license plate applicant present county veterans ID
- HB 33 Establishes operating appropriations for fiscal years 2024-2025
- HB 53 Authorize refundable tax credits for hiring certain veterans
- HB 57 Index the homestead exemption to inflation
- HB 60 Increase amount of and expand the homestead exemption
- HB 69 Revise membership of county veterans service commissions
- HB 90 Authorize property tax exemption for disabled veterans, spouses
- HB 123 Designate Honor and Remember flag to honor fallen service members
- HB 126 Expand municipal income tax exemption for military pay
- HB 131 Designate Army SSgt. Charles V. Kettler Memorial Highway
- HB 132 Designate Army Sgt. Herbert C. Linville Memorial Highway
- HB 133 Designate Army Sgt. Ronnie Blair Memorial Highway
- HB 150 Prohibit rental discrimination based on lawful source of income
- HB 202 Designate Specialist Dennis Alan Combs Memorial Highway
- HB 212 Enact the Ohio Property Protection Act
- HB 231 Establish 9-8-8 suicide prevention, mental health telephone line
- HB 232 Create Historical and Patriotic Education license plate
- HB 242 Establish the Armed Forces Reserve Component Scholarship Program and related funds
- HB 250 Revise the Military Enlistment diploma seal
- HB 252 Designate SM1 Cornelius Anthony McCafferty, Jr. Memorial Highway
- HB 253 Designate Brigadier General Charles Young Memorial Historical Corridor
- HB 254 Expand and enhance the homestead property tax exemption for disabled veterans
- HB 269 Designate Sgt Bradley J. Harper USMC Memorial Highway
- HB 274 Authorize enhanced homestead exemption for certain homeowners
- HB 286 Designate Vienna Township Veterans Bridge
- HB 294 Designate Delaware County Veteran's Memorial Highway
- HB 299 Designate Specialist Five Frederick Wayne Taylor Memorial Highway
- HB 310 Regards STRS member purchase of military service credit

More Legislation on next page...

- HB 317 Designate Sgt. Cory M. Endlich Corridor
- HB 335 Designate Ottawa County Veterans Memorial Highway
- HB 350 Designate Lance Corporal Austin B. Schwenk Memorial Highway
- HB 355 Designate Licking County Veterans Memorial Highway
- HB 365 Designate multiple memorial highways
- HB 378 Permit homestead exemption-surviving spouses of service members
- HB 409 Create the Ohio Cold War Victory Medal
- HB 423 Create "Blue Star Banner" license plate
- HB 431 Designate Staff Sgt. Zachary Wobler Memorial Highway
- HB 447 Regards property tax exemptions, restrictions and land value
- HB 453 Designate Staff Sergeant George P. Mizik (USMC) Memorial Highway
- HB 458 To designate "Gold and Blue Star Family Memorial Bridge" and "POW/MIA Memorial Viaduct."
- HB 483 Create "Save a Warrior" license plate
- HB 487 Designate TSgt. Grover Lee Swearingen Memorial Highway
- HB 493 Designate Lance Corporal Gerald Subler Memorial Highway
- HB 494 Designate SSgt Gene F. Morrison Memorial Bridge
- HB 510 Designate Army Lt. Col. Robert R. Melnick Memorial Highway
- HB 517 Allow military to participate in homeownership savings program
- HB 523 Regards info poster on benefits and services for veterans
- HB 611 Designate U.S. Army Private First Class Jerry Bockbrader Mem Hwy
- HB 620 Designate Paulding County Purple Heart Memorial Highway
- HB 621 Designate Van Wert County Veteran's Memorial Highway
- HB 625 Regards American Legion Auxiliary, American Legion license plates
- HB 628 Designate SSG Jack W. Coy Memorial Highway
- HB 629 Make capital appropriations and reappropriations
- HB 631 Designate Major David McGue Memorial Highway
- HB 641 Designate the SSG Jack W. Coy Memorial Highway
- HB 652 Designate Cpl. Robert Dockstader Memorial Highway
- HB 664 Designate CPL David James Amheiser Memorial Highway
  
- HR 95 Urge Congress to extend GI Bill benefits
- HR 189 Honoring Thomas Mihalis Memorial Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1079 on its Centennial
- HR 221 Honoring Dan Shroyer as a 2023 National Veterans Golden Age Games Champion
- HR 222 Honoring Dr. John Eichelberger as a 2023 National Veterans Golden Age Games Champion
- HR 258 Honoring American Legion DeWitt McConnell Post 235 on its Centennial
- HR 302 Honoring Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1090 on its Centennial
- HR 316 Honoring Jay Wilson American Legion Post 112 on its Centennial
- HR 431 Observing April 2024 as the Month of the Military Child in Ohio
- HR 434 Honoring American Legion Toledo Post 335 on its Centennial
  
- HCR 8 To urge the federal government to select Ohio for the permanent headquarters of the U.S. Space Command
- HCR 9 Adopt Restoration of America's Readiness (ROAR) Resolution
  
- SB 12 Regards veteran-owned business enterprise certification program
- SB 14 Expand veteran eligibility to teach without license
- SB 15 Authorize Military License Plate Program permanent registration
- SB 43 Modify homestead exemption-surviving spouse of a disabled veteran
- SB 45 Designate Veterans Memorial Bridge in Trumbull County
- SB 63 Require plaintiff in asbestos claim to file specified disclosures
- SB 64 Expand Ohio National Guard Scholarship Program
- SB 110 Designate Sgt. Anthony Kress Vinnedge Memorial Highway

**More Legislation on next page...**

- SB 113 Regards failure to comply with Military Selective Service System
- SB 114 Designate Lance Corporal James F. Kimple Memorial Highway
- SB 134 Modifies homestead property tax exemption for disabled veterans
- SB 140 Designate Sgt. Todd M. Bates Memorial Highway
- SB 141 Designate American Gold Star Mothers, Inc. Memorial Highway
- SB 145 Designate Cpl. David A. Johnston Memorial Highway
- SB 152 Designate Cpl. Jack O. McClure Memorial Highway
- SB 154 Include Space Force in armed forces, armed and uniformed service
- SB 167 Designate Marine Corporal Tim W. Russell Highway
- SB 169 Designate Cortland Veterans Memorial Bridge
- SB 183 Designate Lance Corporal James Patrick Rizzo Memorial Highway
- SB 191 Designate PFC Richard 'Rick' Wesley McFarland Memorial Highway
- SB 208 To require a military exception in an open enrollment policy
- SB 225 To designate September 22 as Veterans Suicide Awareness and Prevention Day
- SB 226 Enact the Ohio Property Protection Act
- SB 257 Allow military to participate in homeownership savings program
- SB 260 Designate SPC Connor Wilson-Reichert Memorial Highway
- SB 281 Regards info poster on benefits and services for veterans
- SB 285 Designate Pharmacist's Mate Third Class Willard L. Shupe Mem Hwy
- SB 288 Make supplemental operating appropriations
- SB 292 Make capital appropriations and reappropriations
- SB 310 Designate U.S.S. Shenandoah Memorial Highway
- SB 315 Designate CPL Willard Boston Wallace Memorial Highway
  
- SR 171 Honoring Thomas Mihalis Memorial VFW Post 1079 as it commemorates its One Hundredth Anniversary
- SR 262 In memory of Senior Airman Brian "Kody" Johnson
- SR 315 Recognizing the Month of the Military Child in Ohio, April 2024
  
- SCR 8 Urge federal govt reduce processing time- veteran disability claim
- SCR 9 Urge Congress support military, veteran mental health treatment

## WHAT OTHER STATES ARE DOING

There are many bills that will help veterans, military, or families of veteran or service member in most, if not all the fifty states. Here are some from Georgia.



### IN THE GEORGIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

**HB 324:** A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Article 1 of Chapter 4 of Title 38 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the Department of Veterans Service, so as to provide for a Veterans Bill of Rights; to provide a short title; to provide for

definitions; to provide for licensing practices; to provide for education waivers and requirements; to provide for collaborations for general health and mental health resources; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

**HR 1257:** A RESOLUTION creating the Joint Study Committee on Combating Homelessness Among Veterans; and for other purposes.

**SB 551:** A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Article 1 of Chapter 16 of Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general provisions relative to public property, so as to provide for priority parking spaces for veterans on state owned properties; to provide for definitions; to provide for required signage; to provide for a penalty; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

While not specifically for veterans or military, it will certainly effect them and every other citizen of Ohio. This is Issue 1 as it will appear on your ballot.

**Issue 1**

**To create an appointed redistricting commission  
not elected by or subject to removal by the voters of the state**

**Proposed Constitutional Amendment**

**Proposed by Initiative Petition**

**To repeal Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 of Article XI,  
Repeal sections 1, 2 and 3 of Article XIX,  
And enact Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 of Article XX of the Constitution  
of the State of Ohio**

**A majority yes vote is necessary for the amendment to pass.**

The proposed amendment would:

1. Repeal constitutional protections against gerrymandering approved by nearly threequarters of Ohio electors participating in the statewide elections of 2015 and 2018, and eliminate the longstanding ability of Ohio citizens to hold their representatives accountable for establishing fair state legislative and congressional districts.
2. Establish a new taxpayer-funded commission of appointees required to gerrymander the boundaries of state legislative and congressional districts to favor either of the two largest political parties in the state of Ohio, according to a formula based on partisan outcomes as the dominant factor, so that:
  - A. Each district shall contain single-member districts that are geographically contiguous, but state legislative and congressional districts will no longer be required to be compact; and
  - B. Counties, townships and cities throughout Ohio can be split and divided across multiple districts, and preserving communities of interest will be secondary to the formula that is based on partisan political outcomes.
3. Require that a majority of the partisan commission members belong to the state's two largest political parties.
4. Prevent a commission member from being removed, except by a vote of their fellow commission members, even for incapacity, willful neglect of duty or gross misconduct.
5. Prohibit any citizen from filing a lawsuit challenging a redistricting plan in any court, except if the lawsuit challenges the proportionality standard applied by the commission, requirements pertaining to an incumbent elected official's residence, or the expiration of certain senators' terms, and then only before the Ohio Supreme Court.
6. Create the following process for appointing commission members: Four partisan appointees on the Ohio Ballot Board will choose a panel of 4 partisan retired judges (2

**Continued on next Page...**



affiliated with the first major political party and 2 affiliated with the second major political party). Provide that the 4 legislative appointees of the Ohio Ballot Board would be responsible for appointing the panel members as follows: the Ballot Board legislative appointees affiliated with the same major political party would select 8 applicants and present those to the Ballot Board legislative appointees affiliated with the other major political party, who would then select 2 persons from the 8 for appointment to the panel, resulting in 4 panel appointees. The panel would then hire a private professional search firm to help them choose 6 of the 15 individuals on the commission. The panel will choose those 6 individuals by initially creating a pool of 90 individuals (30 from the first major political party, 30 from the second major political party, and 30 from neither the first nor second major political parties). The panel of 4 partisan retired judges will create a portal for public comment on the applicants and will conduct and publicly broadcast interviews with each applicant in the pool. The panel will then narrow the pool of 90 individuals down to 45 (15 from the first major political party; 15 from the second major political party; and 15 from neither the first nor second major political parties). Randomly, by draw, the 4 partisan retired judges will then blindly select 6 names out of the pool of 45 to be members of the commission (2 from the first major political party; 2 from the second major political party; and 2 from neither the first nor second major political parties). The 6 randomly drawn individuals will then review the applications of the remaining 39 individuals not randomly drawn and select the final 9 individuals to serve with them on the commission, the majority of which shall be from the first and the second major political parties (3 from the first major political party, 3 from the second major political party, and 3 from neither the first nor second major political parties).

7. Require the affirmative votes of 9 of 15 members of the appointed commission to create legislative and congressional districts. If the commission is not able to determine a plan by September 19, 2025, or July 15 of every year ending in one, the following impasse procedure will be used: for any plan at an impasse, each commissioner shall have 3 days to submit no more than one proposed redistricting plan to be subject to a commission vote through a ranked-choice selection process, with the goal of having a majority of the commission members rank one of those plans first. If a majority cannot be obtained, the plan with the highest number of points in the ranked-choice process is eliminated, and the process is repeated until a plan receives a majority of first-place rankings. If the ranked-choice process ends in a tie for the highest point total, the tie shall be broken through a random process.

8. Limit the right of Ohio citizens to freely express their opinions to members of the commission or to commission staff regarding the redistricting process or proposed redistricting plans, other than through designated meetings, hearings and an online public portal, and would forbid communication with the commission members and staff outside of those contexts.

9. Require the commission to immediately create new legislative and congressional districts in 2025 to replace the most recent districts adopted by the citizens of Ohio through their elected representatives.

10. Impose new taxpayer-funded costs on the State of Ohio to pay the commission members, the commission staff and appointed special masters, professionals, and private consultants that the commission is required to hire; and an unlimited amount for legal expenses incurred by the commission in any related litigation

If approved, the amendment will be effective 30 days after the election.