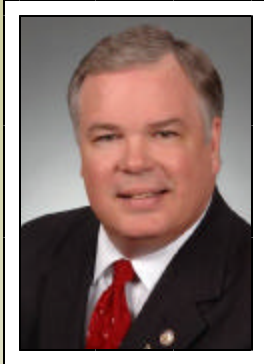




LEGISLATIVE REPORT

JOSEPH UECKER

SERVING THE 66TH DISTRICT



**State Representative
Joseph Uecker**

Term in Office: 2nd

Hometown: Miami Township

Standing Committees:

- *Commerce and Labor (vice-chair)*
- *Alternative Energy*
- *Health*
- *Local and Municipal Government and Urban Revitalization*
- *Public Utilities*

Dear Neighbors:

Moving into the fall, members of the Legislature are back in full session working hard on important legislation. So far, 2007 has been a tremendously productive year. My colleagues and I in the General Assembly passed one of the most fiscally conservative budgets in the last 40 years this summer, extending tax cuts to seniors and providing health care to children and seniors.

During the remaining months of 2007, I will be looking at issues important to all Ohioans such as energy, education and health care. These are paramount topics to focus on if we are going to continue moving Ohio forward in the future.

Details on several of our accomplishments so far this year can be found inside this newsletter. As your state representative, one of my goals is to keep you informed about what is happening in Columbus, and this newsletter is one way for me to do just that. I hope you find it useful.

In addition to our legislative work, I am very proud of the level of service my staff provides to the citizens of the 66th District. I can be reached by phone at (614) 466-8134, by e-mail at district66@ohr.state.oh.us, or by writing me, State Representative Joseph Uecker, 77 South High Street, District 66, Columbus, OH 43215.

Sincerely,

Joseph Uecker
State Representative
Ohio House District 66

**YOUR LEGISLATOR
NEEDS
YOUR HELP**

With hundreds of separate pieces of legislation to consider every year, legislators in Columbus need the opinion, advice and specialized knowledge of their constituents to guide them. It is impossible for any legislator to have detailed knowledge of the technicalities of every bill he or she must consider.

This means that even if you oppose a bill, legislators welcome your letters because you are providing them with knowledge they need to make informed decisions.

NATIONAL BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

National Breast Cancer Awareness Month (NBCAM) is a program designed to educate and help women gain awareness about the threat of breast cancer. NBCAM is observed each October and has been since 1985.



Breast cancer is the most common cancer in women in the United States. According to the American Cancer Society (ACS), an estimated 211,240 women were diagnosed with breast cancer in the US in 2005, and 40,410 women died from the disease.

Keeping this in mind, the Ohio Legislature included \$2.5 million in funding in the recently passed state budget for cancer screenings. Specifically, House Bill 119, provided

funding for both cervical and breast cancer screenings.

If you're worried about developing breast cancer, or if you know someone who has been diagnosed with the disease, one way to deal with your concerns is to obtain as much information as possible. Because early detection of breast cancer means that treatment is more likely to be successful, health professionals recommend all women have a mammogram each year beginning at age 40. Those women who have a family history of the disease or other factors that put them at higher risk should talk with their doctors, as they may need more frequent or earlier screenings.


Catching breast cancer at an early stage is extremely important. By finding breast cancer early in its

development, patients can greatly improve their chances of successful treatment.



Screening for breast cancer refers to tests and examinations used to detect the disease in women who do not have any symptoms. According to ACS, early detection of breast cancer saves many thousands of lives each year. Some screening tests used for early detection of breast cancer include:

- Mammography
- Clinical breast exam
- Monthly breast self-exam

For more information regarding breast cancer please visit www.getbcfacts.com. 

NATIONAL CRIME PREVENTION MONTH

In 1984, the National Crime Prevention Council designated October Crime Prevention Month. Every year since then, government agencies, civic groups, schools, businesses, and youth organizations have reached out to educate the public, showcase their accomplishments, and explore new partnerships during this special month.

In essence, October has become the official month for recognizing and celebrating the practice of crime prevention, while promoting awareness of important issues such as victimization, volunteerism, and creating safer, more caring communities.

The month-long celebration spotlights successful crime prevention efforts on the local, state and national levels.



Some of these activities focus on Halloween, which is celebrated in the last week of the month. The efforts throughout the month generate enthusiasm for prevention so it can grow stronger and become more widespread.

One way in which members of the community can get involved during the month and around the year to prevent crime is to set up community watch programs. Citizens can simply organize together to drive or walk around the community in an effort to prevent crime and scare off would-be criminals.


In addition to working with your neighbors to prevent crime in your neighborhood,



citizens can invest in security systems and other means that better protect your home. First, you should start by checking all your doors and windows before going to bed each night or before leaving your home to make sure they are securely closed and locked.



You can also have alarms installed for further protection. Before purchasing a system, be sure to check with several different companies and compare their services and their prices.

These are all great steps you and your neighbors can take to make your community a safer place. So take some time this month and in the future to better protect you, your family and your neighbors. 

AROUND THE DISTRICT



Representative Uecker with Hayley Madden, her brother Troy Madden, her aunt Dana Viglietta, and her grandmother Deb Madden.

As a member of the Legislature, I do more than work on legislation benefiting Ohioans. I take every opportunity I can to recognize the great constituents I have in the district. One girl in particular provided our offices in Columbus with some beautiful art work.

Hayley Madden (a participant in the Constituent Art Work Program) submitted a painting that now hangs in Columbus and wanted to come and see it along with members of her family.

The day of their visit, I met with them, showed them around the statehouse and gave Hayley the opportunity to see her work. Hayley came to Columbus with her aunt Dana Viglietta, her grandmother Deb Madden and her brother Troy Madden. I always welcome constituents taking the time to stop in and see me and to Hayley, again congratulations on your hard work and making our statehouse a better place to work.

Honoring Our Servicemen and Women

Each day, the brave men and women of our military place their own lives at risk in order to protect our freedoms. Their service often comes with great personal sacrifices for them and their families, and members of the Ohio House are hard at work on several pieces of legislation that recognizes the hard work and dedication of our veterans while easing the burden on them and their families.



Members of the House recently passed House Bill 273, legislation that honors Ohio veterans by creating certain specialty license plates and also designating memorial highways for soldiers who died while on active duty. The bill creates "Ohio National Guard Retired," U.S. Paratrooper and Civil Air Patrol license plates, which can be displayed by veterans, and also created the "Support Our Troops" license plate as another way for individuals to show their support of our troops at home and abroad. House Bill 273 is currently being heard in the Senate.

Other bills regarding veterans under consideration by the House include House Bill 60, which would allow county commissioners to provide a homestead exemption to qualifying members of the National Guard and reserve units of the Armed Forces who have been deployed outside the state. This bill is currently in the House Local and Municipal Government and Urban Revitalization Committee.

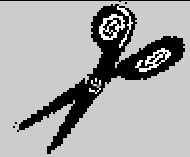


In addition, legislation has also been introduced that would exempt military retirement pay from personal income taxes. House Bill 112 will allow retired military members to keep more of their pay and encourage them to remain here in Ohio instead of moving to another state.



We owe a tremendous debt to those serving in the military, whether here at home or overseas. While we will never be able to fully repay them, members of the House will continue to pass legislation that honors their service and helps their families. ☞

CONTACTING YOUR STATE GOVERNMENT:



HELPFUL STATE TOLL-FREE NUMBERS

Attorney General Consumer Protection	800-282-0515
Child Support Hotline	800-686-1556
Crime Victim Assistance	800-582-CVSS
Home Energy Assistance Program	800-282-0880
Legislative Information	800-282-0253
Medicaid Consumer Hotline	800-324-8680
State Highway Patrol (Highway Help)	877-7-PATROL
Tax Questions	800-282-1780
Travel and Tourism	800-BUCKEYE
Unemployment Hotline	800-251-OBES
Utility Consumer Complaints	800-282-9448
Workers' Compensation	800-OHIO-BWC
Ohio Web site	www.ohio.gov
House Web site	www.house.state.oh.us

CONSTITUENT SERVICES

It is important for me to hear the opinions and concerns of constituents in the district.

You can reach me by mail, phone, fax or e-mail. My staff or I will assist you in any way we can.

77 South High Street,
District 66
Columbus, Ohio 43215-6111

Columbus Office:
(614) 466-8134

Columbus Fax:
(614) 719-3966

E-mail:
district66@ohr.state.oh.us

HOW TO
WRITE
YOUR LEGISLATOR

Every legislator considers many bills on a wide range of subjects. Therefore, the first essential aspect of an effective letter to a legislator is a specific reference to the particular bill which interests you. The second important element is a brief description of the effect the bill's provisions will have on you. The third component of a convincing letter is your advice to your legislator as to how you think he or she should vote on the bill. ☞

