



A Legislative Report from Rep. Kenny Yuko

7th District of Ohio • Cities of Euclid and South Euclid, Richmond Heights and Collinwood



Kenny Yuko
State Representative

Dear Constituents,

Irresponsibility on Wall Street has created economic uncertainty on Main Street. That's why my colleagues and I in Columbus are focused on job creation efforts and consumer issues to protect the pocketbooks of hard working Ohioans.

In the House, we have passed a number of job creation efforts that will bring new jobs and new businesses to Ohio. We have invested in our roads and bridges, which are the lifelines of a healthy economy. This too has expanded the job market across the state.

In addition to helping create jobs now, we've also taken steps to ensure that the next generation is well positioned for success in tomorrow's economy. By replacing Ohio's broken school funding system with one based on student needs, Ohio will better prepare our students for the challenges of the twenty-first century economy.

Keeping college affordable is also important for families and for Ohio's future economic prosperity. We've passed legislation that prevents Ohio's public colleges and universities from raising their tuition by more than 3.5 percent. This will not only protect the pocketbooks of families sending their kids to college, but it will also prepare the next generation for success in an ever-changing, global economy.

We have also been taking action to protect Ohio families that have been hurt by the national housing crisis and provided protections for families coping with difficult healthcare issues like diabetes and autism. We are currently working on legislation that will protect students from starting off their careers in debt by limiting credit card marketing on college campuses.

There have been positive signs lately that the economy is improving, but we must continue to do all we can to hasten Ohio's economic recovery. My fellow lawmakers and I will be doing so by continuing to foster job creation and protecting the pocketbooks of hard-working Ohioans.

Sincerely,

Kenny Yuko
State Representative

CONTACT

Columbus Office

7th District
77 South High Street
11th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Phone: (614) 466-8012
Toll-free: (800) 282-0253
Fax: (614) 719-0007

Or E-mail At:
district07@ohr.state.oh.us

November 2009

Contacting Representative Kenny Yuko

You have several options if you would like to contact Representative Yuko. 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) 466-8012

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

Direct Fax: (614) 719-0007

Via Electronic Mail (E-Mail)

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

district07@ohr.state.oh.us

Via Postal Mail (Columbus Office)

Hon. Kenny Yuko
State Representative, 7th District
Ohio House of Representatives
77 South High Street, 11th 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!**

Ohio House Considers Ban on Texting While Driving

Studies Show It Is More Dangerous Than Other Distractions

Consider this the next time you are driving. How safe would it be if you took your eyes completely off the road for five full seconds? Count the time off to see just how long that is. Take into account in that length of time; you've driven the length of a football field.

It sounds like an invitation to an accident or worse, but it's what happens when someone is texting while driving. New studies not only show that the practice is dangerous, but it is far riskier than other driving distractions.

The Ohio House of Representatives is currently considering a law that would make it illegal to send text messages while driving. Backers note that a texting driver not only risks their own life, but those of drivers and pedestrians all around them. At least 14 states including California, New Jersey and Alaska already ban texting while driving, and others are considering it.

We are certainly texting more. The cell phone industry says Americans send 110 billion

messages a month, 10 times the number just three years ago.

And while it may seem obvious that paying more attention to a little keypad instead of the road would be risky, there are a growing number of studies that prove just how dangerous the practice can be.

The American Automobile Association, for example, recently found that someone sending a text message is 50-percent more likely to be in an accident.

The Virginia Tech Transportation Institute put cameras in truck cabs, and found drivers were 23 times more likely to be in a crash while they were texting. At the University of Utah, researchers put students

in a driving simulator and found they were 8 times more likely to crash while texting. That study, to be published in *The Journal for Human Factors*, also found that drivers took their eyes off the road for around five seconds when texting.

If texting while driving is so dangerous, why are people still doing it?

The AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety found 87% of people they surveyed believe texting drivers are a "very serious" safety threat, about the same percentage who feels the same way about drunk drivers. 95% of the people in their 2009 Traffic Culture Index poll say texting behind the wheel is unacceptable, yet 21% say they have recently done it.

Backers of an Ohio texting ban believe these statistics prove the need for a statewide law outlawing the practice.



Photo courtesy AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety

Recognizing and Preventing the Spread of H1N1 Flu

How to Keep Yourself Educated and Healthy This Flu Season



You know how it starts. You feel a little achy, a little feverish and before you know it, you have a full-blown case of it. It's influenza, commonly known as the flu, and it spreads quickly and causes discomfort for many. This flu season is predicted to be especially active due a new offender: the H1N1 virus.

Also known as "swine flu," the H1N1 virus is a new strain of influenza. The World Health Organization (WHO) designated the H1N1 virus a pandemic in June of this year. The term "pandemic" refers to diseases that are spread over large geographic areas. There were three influenza pandemics in the 20th century; H1N1 is the first declared flu pandemic of the 21st century.

Symptoms of the illness are similar to other strains of influenza and include fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache, chills and fatigue. Many people with swine flu also experienced vomiting and diarrhea. The virus is thought to spread mainly person to person through coughing and sneezing, like other strains of the flu. People may also become infected by touching objects or surfaces with the virus on them and then touching their mouths, eyes or noses.

The Ohio Department of Health (ODH) has several recommendations to avoid becoming ill from the H1N1 virus or any other type of flu. Among the suggestions are staying away from those who are ill. If you should become sick yourself, the agency urges

you to stay away from healthy people. This advice is particularly appropriate for schools where tight quarters can lead to large numbers of people getting sick very quickly.

Ohio's colleges and universities have taken precautions to prevent a rapid spread of the virus among students. Flyers explaining how to prevent catching or spreading the flu can be found around many campuses. Some schools have even provided hand sanitizer in dormitories and classrooms and special housing quarters for students who are ill and cannot go home.

Another tool available to prevent infection is a flu vaccine. A seasonal flu vaccine is available now and although it won't protect you from H1N1, it will provide protection against other circulating strains.

For more information on the development of H1N1 vaccine and other flu information, visit the ODH Web site at www.odh.ohio.gov anytime, or call ODH's H1N1 information line at 1-866-800-1404 Monday-Friday.

To prevent catching or spreading the flu , the Ohio Department of Health recommends...

- Cover your mouth or nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue away after you use it.
- Cough and sneeze into your elbow or upper sleeve if you do not have a tissue.
- Wash your hands often with soap or water, especially after you cough, sneeze or use the restroom and before eating. If you do not have soap or water nearby, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth as germs can be spread easily from or to these areas.



Legislative Survey

REPRESENTATIVE KENNY YUKO
NOVEMBER 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. Do you support a statewide ban on texting while driving?

- Yes
- No
- Undecided

2. Would you support raising the speed limit for passenger vehicles on interstate freeways from 65 mph to 70 mph?

- Yes
- No
- Undecided

3. Do you support statewide efforts to update the passenger rail transportation system throughout Ohio?

- Yes
- No
- Undecided

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

- Yes
- No
- Undecided

5. Would you support an increase in the amount of insurance drivers must have in order to legally drive in this state?

- Yes
- No
- Undecided

6. Would you support treatment over incarceration for juvenile offenders?

- Yes
- No
- Undecided

7. Would you like to see an increase in the use of solar panels, wind turbines and other renewable energy system at schools and other government buildings?

- Yes
- No
- Undecided

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

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 information and legislative updates in the future, please provide the following information:

Name _____

Address _____

Phone number _____ E-mail: _____



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**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. Kenny Yuko
State Representative, 7th District
Ohio House of Representatives
77 South High Street
Columbus, OH 43215

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