



A Legislative Report from **Rep. Kenny Yuko**

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

Dear Constituents,



Kenny Yuko
State Representative

This is a busy time at the Statehouse in Columbus. The Legislature is in session and committees are holding hearings on dozens of bills. I am spending a great deal of time listening to testimony and opinions from a wide variety of people in order to better represent you here in the Ohio House.

The state budget and education reform are perhaps the most important issues being addressed. We must find ways to give all Ohio's children a chance at a world-class, twenty-first century education. Our budget situation is challenging, but we are working on ways to live within our means while moving Ohio forward.

There are other priorities to create jobs and provide responsive solutions as well. My attention is also focused on proposals that center on jobs, energy, housing, families, and government accountability. The economic challenges we face are very real, but I am excited by the opportunities we have to move Ohio forward on a bipartisan basis during this legislative session.

Priorities to promote job growth include extending tax credits in targeted industries and encouraging regional cooperation and growth. Additional legislative priorities include providing bonuses to our state's veterans; providing foreclosure protections for homeowners and renters; creating innovative ways to improve education and promote energy efficiency; providing safeguards for children and young adults; and improving government accountability.

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

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



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

Ohio Road Conditions 888-2OH-ROAD

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!**

Alternative Energy is Blooming in Ohio

State Has Head Start on Encouraging New Industries to Grow

In recent years, Ohioans have heard much about the wealth of possibilities for advanced energy in our state. Our manufacturing base makes us fertile ground for growing new industries that can provide jobs and economic growth.

The possibilities are broad; wind and solar power, farm-based renewables, and waste heat recovery are just a few. Capitalizing on these possibilities is important because they make for not just good economic development policy, but also good environmental policy. The advanced energy industry holds rich possibilities for the future of our state and of our country.

In Ohio that's good news: a recent report found that we are already the top state for alternative energy investment. The Conway New Plant Report, which tracks the development of renewable energy facilities across the nation, found that Ohio ranked highest between 2005 and 2007, with renewable energies committing to 350 new operations. Michigan was the next closest state with 177 new facilities; Tennessee (150), Texas (142) and Alabama (133) followed.

expected to be up and running by March 31, 2010. AEP has additional requests out for up to 600 megawatts of renewable energy.

Additionally, Rotek Incorporated's Aurora, Ohio plant will undergo \$82 million in expansion. This is expected to add 150 new jobs in the plant that manufactures slewing ring bearings, which is used in the wind industry.

These initiatives are strongly supported by our government leaders in Ohio. The Ohio Department of Development's Ohio Energy Office administers \$3.5 million in state grants for solar hot water systems and wind technologies, under what is called the Advanced Energy Fund. The grants provide support for the distribution and advancement of energy technologies in the service areas of one of Ohio's four participating electric distribution companies. These grants are for smaller-scale consumers in an effort to stimulate Ohio's market for smaller wind and solar thermal industries. They complement the manufacturing efforts across Ohio, aiming to attract the high-skilled jobs of a new energy economy.



Wind Power in Ohio

Biomass Power in Ohio

Solar Power in Ohio

Hydroelectric Power in Ohio

And fortunately, enterprising leaders around the state aren't stopping at number one. American Electric Power has planned to add 1,000 megawatts of new wind energy by 2011. And one of their subsidiaries, Appalachian Power Co., has forged a 20-year agreement to purchase renewable wind energy from a wind farm, Beech Ridge Energy, LLC. They will purchase between 100 and 147 megawatts in the first phase from the wind farm, which is

In a time when the national dialogue is so focused on how we will develop for a sustainable future, Ohio is primed to be a longtime leader. Attention to these efforts has paid off so far, and there is still opportunity to do much more. Ohio has long been known for producing people and ideas that lead the national and the world, and these accomplishments are proof that Ohio's future holds promise and innovation for generations to come.

“OHIO IS THE TOP STATE FOR ALTERNATIVE ENERGY INVESTMENT...”

-THE CONWAY NEW PLANT REPORT

Transportation Task Force Releases Recommendations

Reports Calls for Advanced Transportation Technology for Ohio



Ohio has a considerable transportation system. Planes, trains, automobiles and boats move people and products easily throughout the state.

We have the 7th largest highway system in the nation and the 4th greatest

quantity of active rail miles. Our rail transportation and trucking industries are ranked 4th in the U.S with a combined total annual output of \$5.2 billion. We are 4th in the nation in maritime tonnage with more freight moving traffic moving through our waters than the amount that goes through the Panama Canal each year.

This data supports a vision of Ohio as a leader in the development of transportation technology that has been put forth by a task force created by Governor Ted Strickland.

In a report released earlier this year, the task force warns that the infrastructure is aging, transit systems are not adequate and maritime facilities are under used. The report claims Ohio should pay more attention to non-highway forms of transportation, and encourages expanding public and private funding for future projects.

Governor Strickland has called for a passenger rail to run from Cleveland to Cincinnati with possible stops in cities along the way. He has also proposed to Reform funding for such projects by charging tolls on new roads and increasing the fees for vehicle registration and license screening.

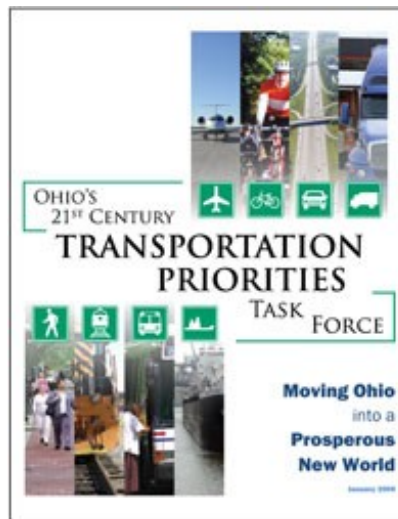
In the past, the transportation budget, which is created by the Ohio Department of Transportation,

has been geared toward roads and highways. In their report, the task force states that the infrastructure is "aging, insufficient, and financially unsustainable." They propose encouraging economic prosperity while promoting the state as a front-runner in transportation technology.

Recommendations of the task force include:

- Giving Ohioans more options for getting where they want to go and for moving goods through the development of an internally connected system.
- Coordinating transportation services for all Ohioans including those who are transit dependent, senior citizens, people with disabilities and veterans.
- Reducing the state's carbon footprint, promoting energy sustainability and improving Ohioan's quality of life through the expanded use of alternative fuels, technologies and public transit.
- Making sure Ohio's transportation system is the safest in the nation by embedding "safety first" in planning, education and enforcement.

Currently, much of the state's transportation budget is financed through its 26 cents per gallon motor fuel tax. However, under Ohio's constitution, funds generated through the gas tax can only be spent on highways.



The ideas proposed by the task force will be vigorously debated in the Ohio House. What remains certain is the desire of Ohioans to strengthen and improve their state even in the face of economic uncertainty.

..FYI..

To read the report issued by the Transportation Task Force or to review information relating to the Ohio Department of Development State Budget Proposal visit:

www.dot.state.oh.us/

Lincoln Bicentennial at the Statehouse

Celebrate the Life and Legacy of America's 16th President



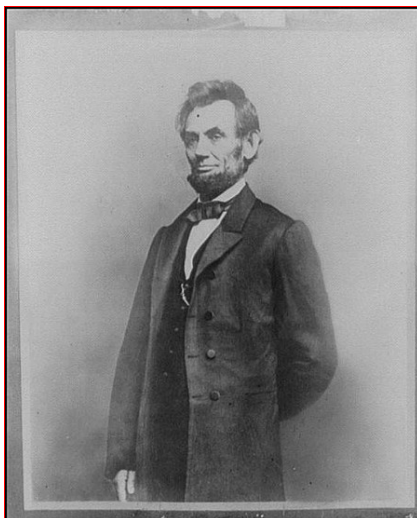
Throughout the year, the Ohio Statehouse in Columbus, along with the rest of the nation, will be celebrating the bicentennial

On September 16 visitors will have a chance to interact and hear from a President Lincoln re-enactor as he tells the story of Lincoln's life from birth up to assassination. Two presentations will be given at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. and should last an hour each. The event will conclude with a question and answer session.

birthday of America's 16th president, Abraham Lincoln. The Ohio Statehouse will celebrate throughout 2009 with several major Lincoln Bicentennial events. **Each event is free and open to the public.**

On April 24 and 25, a Civil War encampment will take place on the West lawn of the Ohio Statehouse from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. The two day event will feature the 1st Ohio Light Artillery, Battery A, a Civil War re-enactment group offering living history of the time period. Lincoln re-enactor Pete Raymond will tell the story of our 16th president's life, death and legacy at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

The Lincoln events continue on April 29 as the Ohio Statehouse will remember the death of Abraham Lincoln. Members of the 1st Ohio Light Artillery, Battery A will stand guard next to an exact replica of the President's coffin from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. in the Statehouse Rotunda. This is the exact spot where, 144 years before, Lincoln lay in state on his way back to Illinois by train for his burial.



Lincoln is the most portrayed American historical figures on film. On July 22, Lincoln historian, author and film producer, Mark Reinhart, will present a public program on the subject of Lincoln-related film and television. The presentation will be held at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. in the Statehouse Atrium.

Myth of the "Lincoln Chair"

In the House Chambers, the Speaker's Chair, currently occupied by Rep. Armond Budish, is sometimes called the "Lincoln Chair". It's thought it was designed especially for the 16th President, with its high seat and tall back. Alas, that isn't true. The chair was carved a number of years after Lincoln passed through the Statehouse.

For more information about the special Lincoln Bicentennial events at the Ohio Statehouse, visit www.ohiostatehouse.org.



The Lincoln Vicksburg Monument at the Statehouse

Information From the State on Filing Your Taxes

Choose the Refund Option That is Best For You

It's your money. If you are due a refund, why not cut to the front of the line by filing electronically?

Filing electronically helps cut through the red tape. If you're due a refund, the state will send it directly to your bank account, usually within seven days.

A payment option is also available if you owe.



Filing electronically also saves state government a buck or two for each tax return – and if you think about it, the tax dollars saved are really your own.

During the peak of filing season, the state receives more than 100,000 income tax returns **each day** by mail. Returns that get caught in that rush can take weeks to process.

Why not beat the rush? Choose from one of the options 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 used your touchtone telephone to file a return last year, the Department of Taxation will be sending you a TeleFile booklet so you can again file by telephone.

TeleFile



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 taxes are due.

**You can contact the
Ohio Department of Taxation**

By phone:

Individual Taxpayer Assistance: (800) 282-1780

Business Taxpayer Assistance: (800) 405-4039

Income Tax Refund Hotline (800) 282-1784

Write to them at this address:

Ohio Department of Taxation
P.O. Box 530
Columbus, Ohio 43216-0530

Or log onto their website:

<http://Tax.Ohio.gov>