



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,

There are some truly exciting things happening here in Ohio, and it is always gratifying when the rest of the nation recognizes the efforts and innovations being made here in our home state. This is especially true as we struggle to recover from the national recession.

Ohio recently won two major national awards; one for working to create jobs and business opportunities and the other for innovation in education. These are both crucial areas for our future, and I am proud of our state for leading the way nationally in both creating an environment for job creation and education reform.

Ohio is a repeat winner for one of the awards. The state has received Site Selection magazine's fourth consecutive Governor's Cup Award for leading the nation in new and expanded facilities in 2009.

This year marks the eighth time Ohio has been awarded the Governor's Cup since 1993. The award is based on business location projects that involve a capital investment of at least \$1 million, create at least 50 new jobs or add at least 20,000 square feet of new floor area.

Earlier this year, the Education Commission of the States (ECS) honored Ohio as the winner of the 2010 Frank Newman Award for State Innovation. According to ECS, Ohio's enactment of comprehensive education reform demonstrates the state's commitment to informed, bold and courageous reform. This legislation overhauls nearly every major aspect of the education system, from early learning through postsecondary.

The Newman Award recognizes states and U.S. territories for demonstrated excellence in shaping education policy. Criteria for this award include policies that are bold, courageous and nonpartisan; include the potential for large-scale impact; show evidence of continued support; and are replicable and hold valuable lessons for other states.

I am proud of Ohio for winning these awards, but even more proud of our state for the efforts we have put forth to create innovative policies in crucial areas such as education and job creation.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me. I always welcome your thoughts, concerns and questions.

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

June 2010

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

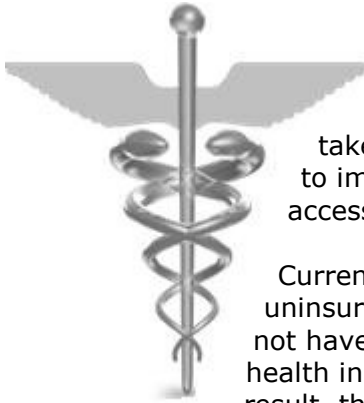
Ombudsman/Elder Rights Unit 800-282-1206



**Save these numbers for
future reference!**

Improving Access to Healthcare

Ohio Aims for Adequate Healthcare Coverage



Although federal health-care reform has grabbed the headlines, you may not know that we have taken actions at the state level to improve healthcare access and affordability.

Currently, 1.3 million Ohioans are uninsured and many of them do not have access to affordable health insurance coverage. As a result, they do not get the care they need to maintain healthy and productive lives, and the insured end up paying more to cover the costs of caring for the uninsured.

The current state budget includes innovative policies that will provide access to affordable private health insurance coverage for 109,000 Ohioans. This will also lower taxes, improve the quality of the health care system through means such as health information technology and improve transparency for insurance rates.

Here are some of the ways these reforms will improve the lives and health care of citizens of our state.

Expands Coverage for Dependents

21,000 more young adults will have access to health-care effective July 1, 2010

- Expands dependent child coverage up to age 28 providing Ohioans with the opportunity to purchase coverage for their children who are just starting out.
- Reduces taxes by extending the state tax deduction for employer-sponsored coverage to all family and dependent coverage, making this coverage more affordable.

Improves Open Enrollment for Individuals

52,000 more Ohioans now have access to affordable individual healthcare options

- Open enrollment rates will decrease, making coverage more affordable for individuals and families. When fully implemented in 2013, open enrollment

rates are expected to decrease by 50% to 70%.

Extension of COBRA Benefits

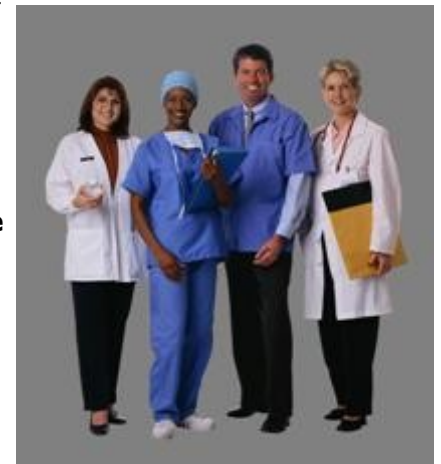
- Extends state continuation coverage (Ohio's "mini-COBRA" program) from 6 to 12 months in permanent law so that employees of small businesses who lose their jobs can maintain health insurance coverage for themselves and their families.

Funding for Health Information Technology

- Improves our health care system by funding health information technology and other healthcare quality improvement initiatives that will reduce the cost and improve the quality of the healthcare system.

Holding Insurance Companies Accountable

- Allows the Ohio Insurance Department to order independent review of health claim denials.



Improves Affordable Options for Ohioans

37,000 more Ohioans have more access at lower cost

- Requires employers to offer uninsured employees the opportunity to purchase coverage with pre-tax dollars through Section 125 cafeteria plans, saving up to 40% off the cost of coverage for the employees and their families by reducing the income taxes they pay, with only a very minimal cost to employers to set up tax accounting mechanisms.

For more information on how access to health insurance in Ohio has been improved, please visit:

<http://www.insurance.ohio.gov>

Rebates for Energy Efficient Appliances Still Available

Program will save you money while helping the economy and the environment



Do you have an old, inefficient appliance around the house? One using too much energy and costing you too much money?

There is still time to take advantage of a program that may help you. Ohio received \$10.4 million for an Ohio Energy

Efficiency Appliance Rebate Program, offering rebates and spurring energy savings to residential customers for select ENERGY STAR® qualified appliances.

The program was so popular that on it's first day it became the number one internet search in the world on the Google search engine.

4,155 Ohioans took steps to redeem their rebates in the first 24 hours they were available. That's how many appliances were purchased on the first day.

You could be eligible for a rebate of \$100 to \$250 when you buy a new energy efficient appliance, including:

- Clothes washers
- Dishwashers
- Electric heat pump water heaters
- High-efficiency gas storage water heaters
- Refrigerators

The program will help you have a more energy efficient home, lower your electric bill and spur the production of appliances in Ohio communities.

The U.S Department of Energy finds that in a typical American home, appliances (and home electronics) are responsible for about 20% of your energy bill.

Money for the program is coming from the American

Recovery and Re-investment Act (ARRA). With more than 89,000 rebates available on a first come first serve basis, Ohio consumers can purchase ENERGY STAR® qualified refrigerators, clothes washers, dishwashers, high -efficiency gas storage water heaters, and electric heat pump water heaters from Ohio retailers. Rebate values will range from \$100 - \$250, depending on the ENERGY STAR® qualified appliance selected.

New appliances must be purchased during the program, and old appliances must be hauled away and recycled so they are no longer used.

For information on the Ohio Energy Efficiency Appliance Rebate Program, please visit: www.OhioApplianceRebate.com.

A customer service line is available 7:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m. for inquiries at (888) 686-8896.



Other low and no-cost ways to save money on energy in your home

1. Install a programmable thermostat to keep your house comfortable year-round.
2. Replace your five most used lights with Energy Star rated CFL bulbs.
3. Air dry dishes instead of using a dishwasher dry cycle.
4. Turn off your computer or monitor when not in use.
5. Plug electronics (TV, DVD player) into a power strip and turn it off when not in use.



Department of
Development

Legislative Survey

REPRESENTATIVE KENNY YUKO
JUNE 2010

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 cutting the cost of higher education by requiring college textbook publishers to offer electronic versions, or "e-books"?

- Yes
- No
- Undecided

2. Do you support a statewide ban on texting while driving?

- 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. Do you support enhanced regulation of the towing industry in Ohio to prevent "rogue towers" from gouging consumers?

- Yes
- No
- Undecided

6. Would you support eliminating the state income tax if it means cuts to vital public services such as police and fire protection and libraries?

- Yes
- No
- Undecided

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

- Yes
- No
- Undecided

8. Please list what you believe to be three of Ohio's biggest strengths:

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
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