

OCA Voter Guide
PO Box 539
New Albany, OH 43054
p. 614-486-2430



October 2010
Donna Conley, CEO
www.oca-ohio.org

We are concerned about the cost of addiction to individuals, families, communities and our state.

The real cost is a financial burden, plus the toll on human lives.

We are working to make everyone aware of the problem and steps toward the solution.

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VOTER GUIDE

GENERAL ELECTION NOVEMBER 2, 2010

A copy of this guide is available at <http://www.oca-ohio.org>



Where do candidates stand on issues affecting recovery?

Ohio Citizen Advocates for Chemical Dependency Prevention and Treatment (OCA) mailed Pledge Cards to more than 300 candidates for state or national level offices. Who responded and who did not respond? Read the charts inside to find out.

A copy of the OCA cover letter and the Candidate Pledge that were mailed are also included in this Voter Guide.

Levies will affect services in several Ohio counties

Several county boards that fund services for alcohol and other drug addiction and mental health services have levies on the ballot this year. If the levies do not pass, some counties may cut services and some people may not get the care they need.

Look inside this guide for a listing of counties that will be affected and what services are funded by each board. Phone numbers and web sites are included so you may contact your board if you have questions.

Find your districts on the maps inside this guide

This Election Day voters will be asked to select lawmakers for three legislative bodies: the Ohio House of Representatives, the Ohio Senate, and the United States House of Representatives.

The districts are different for each legislative body. Look at the maps inside to find your district in each race. Only odd numbered districts for the Ohio Senate have races this year. There are no U.S. Senate races this year.

Where will you vote Nov. 2?



Your vote is your voice. If you are in recovery or support recovery issues, go to the polls Tuesday, Nov. 2, and make your voice count. You can't be counted if you don't vote.

Each county has a board of elections that can tell you where you should go to vote. For a list of county boards and contact information, go to the [Ohio Secretary of State](http://www.sos.state.oh.us/SOS/elections/boeDirectory.aspx#m) website. If you are not reading an electronic copy of this guide, you may type in this link

www.sos.state.oh.us/SOS/elections/boeDirectory.aspx#m

If you do not have access to the Internet, you may telephone the Secretary of State at (614)-466-2585 Toll Free: (877)-SOS-OHIO (877)-767-6446.

You may also telephone OCA with any questions about voting or Recovery Voices Count at 614-486-2430.

Know your rights: The Recovery Bill of Rights

The [Recovery Bill of Rights](#) is a statement of the principle that all Americans have a right to recover from addiction to alcohol and other drugs. It was developed and adopted by Faces & Voices of Recovery's board of directors and has been endorsed by allied national organizations, individuals and Ohio Citizen Advocates.

Use the Bill of Rights as well as the tips under "After the votes are in . . ." to take our message to elected officials. Each one of us asking the same questions cannot be ignored by lawmakers. Find contact information at www.oca-ohio.org.

Letter Mailed to More Than 300 Candidates



Dear (Name of Candidate)

As the 2010 election approaches, there is new energy and excitement in the air as the citizens engage in this historic election. They are taking a hard look at candidates and their positions to decide who will win their support based on where they stand on issues that are important to them. I'm writing to you in the hope of educating you about issues of importance to people in the addiction recovery community – people in recovery from addiction to alcohol and other drugs, their families, friends and allies – and to ask for your positions on these issues.

Ohio Citizen Advocates is a non-partisan 501(c)(3) organization working to mobilize the thousands of Ohioans in long-term recovery from alcohol and other drug addiction, our families, friends and allies to speak with one voice. We are dedicated to changing public perceptions of recovery, promoting effective public policy in our state and in Washington, and demonstrating that recovery is working for thousands of Ohioans.

Alcohol and other drug problems are at an all time high in our country. Our friends and families aren't able to get the help they need when they need it. Health insurance companies continue to discriminate against those seeking treatment and waiting lists for these programs are longer than ever. This election season we are asking candidates to talk about the solutions to our nation's drug and alcohol problems. In promoting this dialogue we hope to address these goals:

- ✓ Ensure equitable and effective addiction treatment and recovery coverage in all public and private health care plans
- ✓ Endorse addiction prevention, early intervention and research as an investment in America's future
- ✓ Support policies that promote long-term recovery from addiction as integral to overall health
- ✓ Support people in long-term recovery who often are discriminated against when seeking jobs, housing and insurance

We are asking that you consider these issues and sign and return to us the enclosed Candidates Pledge by **September 17th**.

We'll be publishing a list of candidates who signed the pledge in an Election Guide that we will be releasing in October. The Election Guide will be distributed throughout the state and we will also be posting the information on our website. *Candidates who don't respond will also be listed in the guide and on our website.* The deadline again for returning the Pledge is **September 17th**.

Thank you for taking the time to read and respond to this request and best of luck in your campaign. We look forward to working with you in the future to find real solutions to our community's drug and alcohol problems and help more people find long-term recovery.

Sincerely,

Donna J. Conley
Chief Executive Officer

The Candidate Pledge

Recovery Voices Count

CANDIDATE PLEDGE

A Healthier and Safer America: Solving our Alcohol and Drug Problems

Recovery from addiction to alcohol and other drugs is a real achievement for millions of Americans and thousands of Ohioans. There is hope for families affected by addiction, and for healthier and safer communities – if we treat addiction as the health crisis that it is. Our failure to provide help to the over 21 million Americans who need it is costly to our nation and causes a host of other problems and illnesses – heart disease, lower work productivity, overcrowded jails and broken families. Access to recovery and support services should be readily available to all Americans who want it.

If elected, I pledge to:

- 1) Ensure coverage for equitable and effective addiction prevention, treatment and recovery care in all public and private health care plans
- 2) Fund addiction prevention, early intervention and research as an investment in America's future
- 3) Implement policies that promote long-term recovery from addiction as integral to overall health and end the criminalization of addiction
- 4) Prohibit discrimination against people in long-term recovery who seek a brighter future for themselves and their families through education, gainful employment, safe housing and health insurance.

Name: _____ Date _____

Signature: _____

I am a candidate for: _____

Phone: (____) _____

Email (please print): _____

Return pledge by September 17, 2010 to **Ohio Citizen Advocates, PO Box 539, New Albany, OH 43054**. Please call 614/486-2430 if you have any questions. www.oca-ohio.org
advocate@oca-ohio.org

Candidates for the Ohio House of Representatives

Red = Republicans Blue = Democrats Green = Green Gray = Libertarian Brown = Constitutional * Signed the Candidates Pledge to Support

Recovery + Had Comments

District

1 **Craig Newbold**
 2 **Andrew Brenner**
 3 **Ron Amstutz**
 4 **Matt Huffman**
 5 **Gerald Stebelton**
 6 **Randy Gardner**
 7 **Tony Hocevar**
 8 **Jerry V. Powell**
 9 **Charles Perkel**
 10 None
 11 **Rosalind McAllister**
 12 None
 13 None
 14 **Kevin Burke**
 15 None
 16 **Nan Baker**
 17 **Marlene Anielski**
 18 **Mike Dovilla**
 19 **Anne Gonzales**
 20 **Matt Carle**
 21 **Mike Duffey**
 22 **Angel Rhodes**
 23 **Cheryl Grossman**
 24 **Nathan Larger**
 25 **Scott Hubbard**
 26 **Joseph Healy**
 27 **Meagan Cyrus**
 28 **Mike Wilson**
 29 **Louis Blessing, Jr.**
 30 **Robert Mecklenborg**
 31 **Mike Robison**
 32 **Erik Nebergall**
 33 **Jim Stith**
 34 **Peter Stautberg**
 35 **Ronald Maag**
 36 **Michael Henne**
 37 **Peggy Lehner**
 38 **Terry Blair**
 39 **Jeffrey Wellbaum**
 40 None
 41 **Lynn Slaby**
 42 **Kristina Roegner**
 43 **Todd McKenney**
 44 **Josh Sines**
 45 **Charles Lasher**
 46 **Barbara Sears**
 47 **Rick Bush**
 48 None
 49 **Jeff Wingate**
 50 **Todd Snitchler**

Linda Bolon
 Richard Bird
 None
 Connie Miller
 None
 Jackie Brown
Kenny Yuko*
 Armond Budish
Barbara Boyd*
 Bill Patmon
 Sandra Williams
 John Barnes
 Nickie Antonio
 Mike Foley
 Timothy J. DeGeeter
 Jennifer Brady
 Kelli Perk
 Matt Patten
 Marian Harris+
Nancy Garland*
 David Robinson
 John Carney
 Steven Harp
Ted Celeste*
Michael Stinziano*
 Tracy Heard
 W. Carlton Weddington
 Connie Pillich
 Liz Ping
 Richard Luken
 Denise Driehaus
 Dale Mallory
 Alicia Reece
 Max Kinman
Marcia Garrison*
 Carl Fisher
 Steve Byington
 John Doll
 Clayton Luckie II
Roland Winburn*
 Brian G. Williams
 Mike Moran
 Steve Dyer
 Vernon Sykes
 Zack Milkovich
 Harry Barlos
 Teresa Fedor
 Michael Ashford
 Matt Szollosi
Todd Bosely*

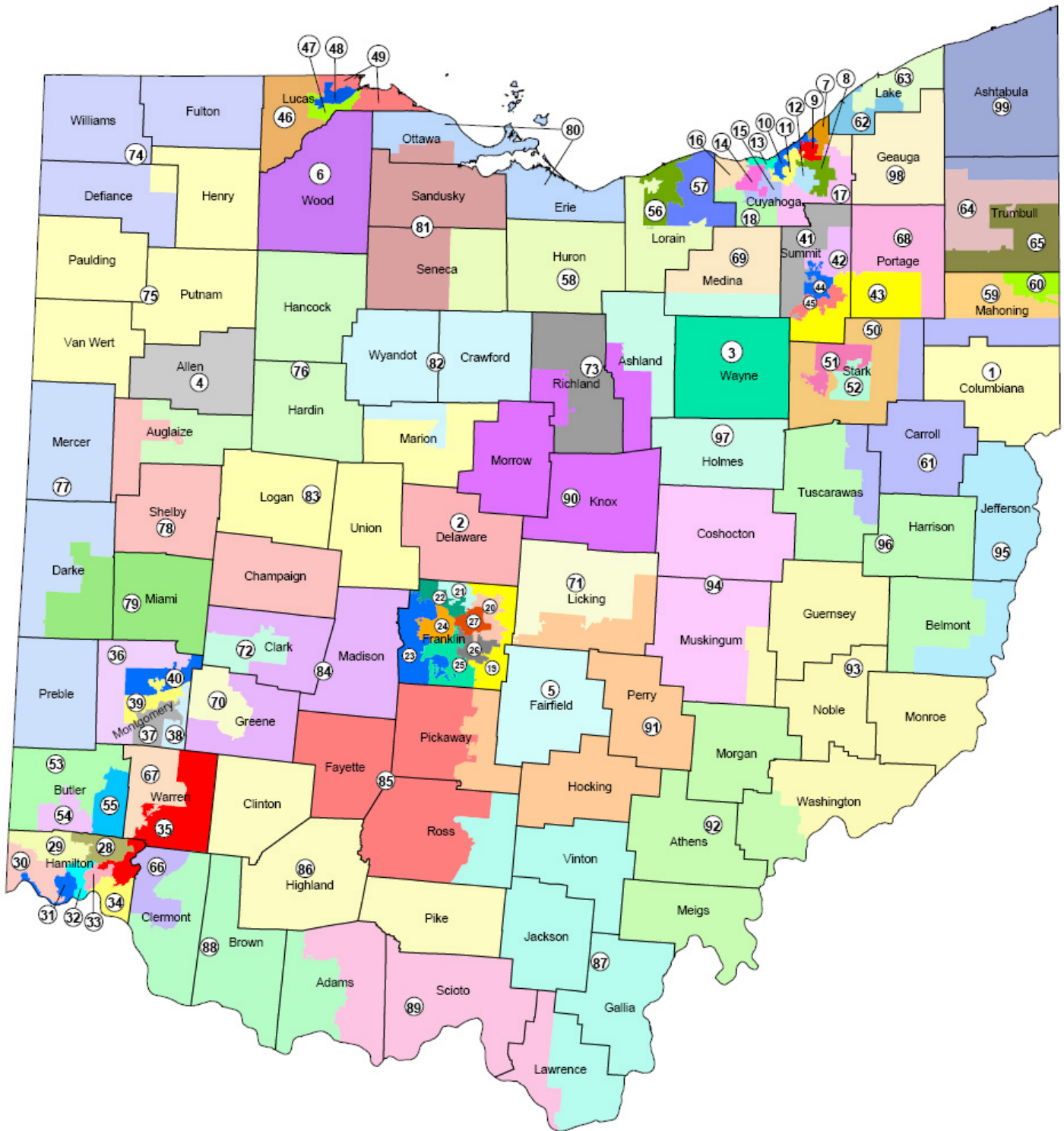
District

51 **Kirk Schuring**
 52 **Travis Secrest**
 53 **Tim Derickson**
 54 **Courtney E. Combs**
 55 **Bill Coley**
 56 **Henry Lewandowski**
 57 **Rae Brady**
 58 **Terry Boose**
 59 **Mike Pestian**
 60 **Daniel Thimons**
 61 **Michael Foit***
 62 **David Fiebig**
 63 **Ron Young**
 64 **Albert Haberstroh**
 65 **Geno Capone**
 66 **Joseph Uecker**
 67 **Pete Beck**
 68 **W. Roak Zeller**
 69 **William Batchelder**
 70 **Jarrod Martin**
 71 **Jay Hottinger**
 72 **Ross McGregor**
 73 **David Nietzsche**
 74 **Bruce Goodwin**
 75 **Lynn Wachtmann**
 76 **Cliff Hite**
 77 **James Zehringer**
 78 **John Adams**
 79 **Richard Adams**
 80 **Jeff Krabil**
 81 **Rex Damschroder**
 82 **Jeff McClain**
 83 **David Burke**
 84 **Bob Hackett**
 85 **Bob Peterson**
 86 **Cliff Rosenberger**
 87 **John Carey**
 88 **Danny Bulp**
 89 **Terry Johnson**
 90 **Margaret Ruhl**
 91 **Bill Hayes**
 92 **Mike Hunter***
 93 **Andrew Thompson**
 94 **Troy Balderson**
 95 None
 96 **Al Landis**
 97 **David Hall**
 98 **Timothy Grendell**
 99 **Casey Kozlowski**

Andrew Haines
 Stephen Slesnick
 James Shew
 Bruce Carter
Susan Rubin*
 Dan Ramos
Matt Lundy*+
Gregory Davidson*+
 Ronald Gerberry
 Robert F. Hagan
 Mark Okey
 Lorraine Fende
 Mark Schneider
 Thomas B.J. Letson
 Sean O'Brien
 None
 Anne Howard
 Kathleen Clyde
 Jack Schira
 None
 Nathan McMann
 Gregory Krouse
 Jay Goyal
 David Pilliod
 Cletus Schindler
 Jeffrey Detmer
 None
Anthony Ehresmann*
 Howard Payne
Dennis Murray*
Benjamin Nutter*
 None
 None
 Aaron Kilbarger
 Raymond Pryor
 Bill Home
 Clay Baker
 None
 Ron Hadsell
 None
 Dan Dodd
 Debbie Phillips
Linda Secrest*
 John Ackers
 Lou Gentile
 Allen R. Sayre
 Allan Sayre
 Mary Briggs
Deborah Newcomb*

District 17 **David Macko+** 32 Ryan Printy 47 Joseph Pfeiffer 68 **Daniel Cartwright** 92 **Ty Collinsworth**
 19 **Michael Johnston*+** 33 Jillian Mack 57 Josh Robertson 80 **Judy Kayden*** 98 **Bob Cannon**
 20 **Lawrence Binsky*** 36 Jesse Stoner 58 Bob Williams 81 **Bill Hrabak**
 22 Mark Noble **Corey Ansel** 41 David Finley 59 Patrick Manning 86 Jacob Dawson
 23 Casey Borders 42 John Hoover 66 Barry Cox 89 **Dennis Lambert**
 28 Bryant Callaghan 44 Kurtis Liston 67 Robert Waters 91 Chad Ricketts

Districts for the Ohio House of Representatives



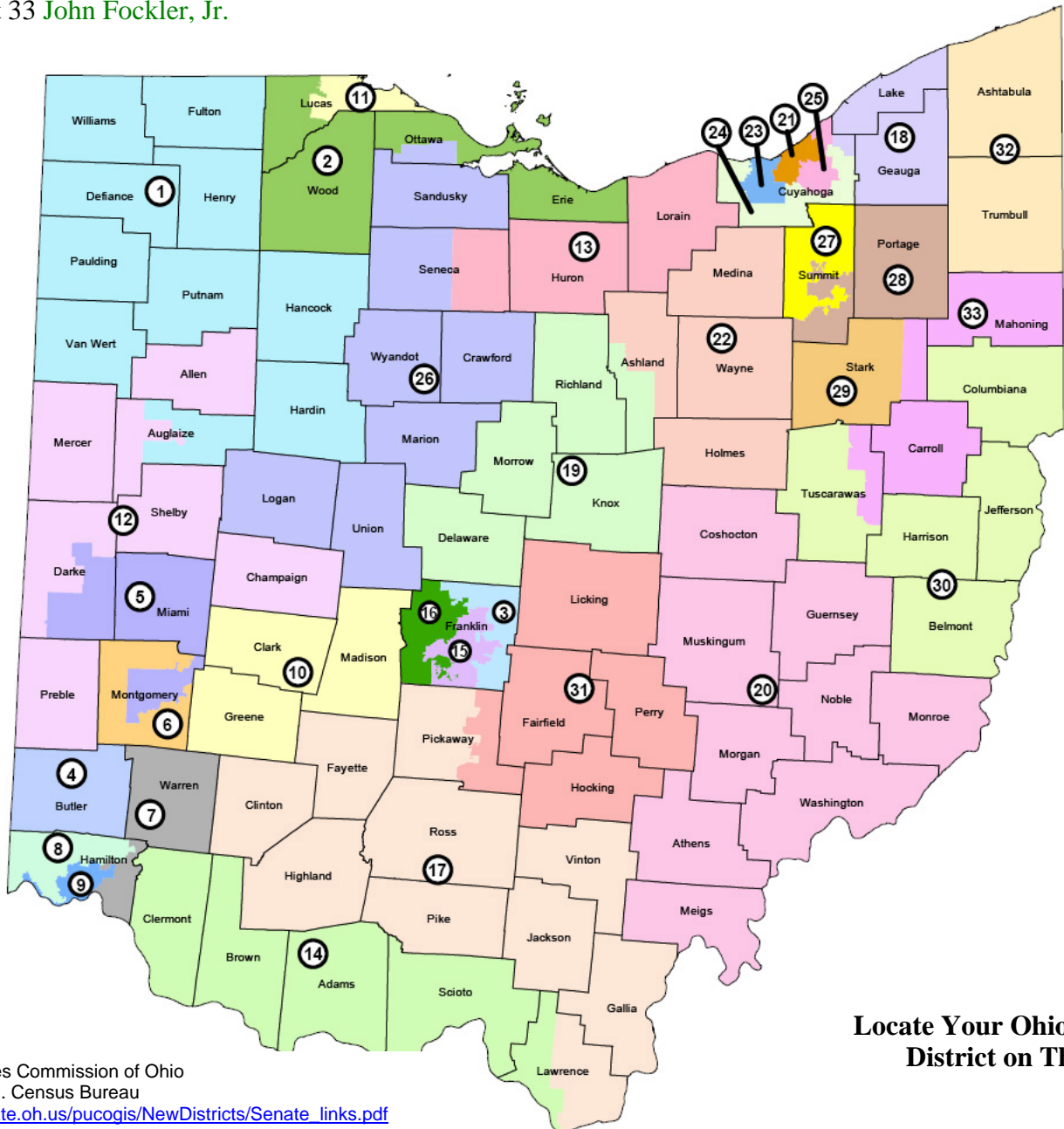
Locate Your Ohio House District on This Map

Candidates for the Ohio Senate

Red = Republicans Blue = Democrats Green = Green Gray = Libertarian Brown = Constitutional * Signed the Candidates Pledge to Support Recovery + Had Comments

- | | | | |
|------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| 1 Steve Buehrer | Erik Cranmer | 17 David Daniels | Justin Fallon |
| 3 Kevin Bacon | Mark Pfeifer | 19 Kris Jordan | Neil Patel |
| 5 Bill Beagle | Fred Strahorn | 21 Burrell Jackson | Shirley Smith |
| 7 Shannon Jones | Sam Pettinichi | 23 Dave Morris | Michael Skindell |
| 9 Deborah McKinn | Eric Kearney | 25 None | Nina Turner |
| 11 Tom Waniewski | Edna Brown | 27 Frank LaRose | Frank Comunale*+ |
| 13 Gayle Manning | Sue Morano | 29 Scott Oelslager | Richard Reinbold |
| 15 Alicia Healy | Charleta Tavares | 31 Tim Schaffer | Dennis Lupher |
| | | 33 Matt Lewis* | Joe Schiavoni |

District 3 William Yarbrough
 District 9 Jessica Mears
 District 33 John Fockler, Jr.



Locate Your Ohio Senate District on This Map

Candidates for the United States House of Representatives

Red = Republicans Blue = Democrats Green = Green Gray = Libertarian Brown = Constitutional * Signed the Candidates Pledge to Support Recovery + Had Comments

District

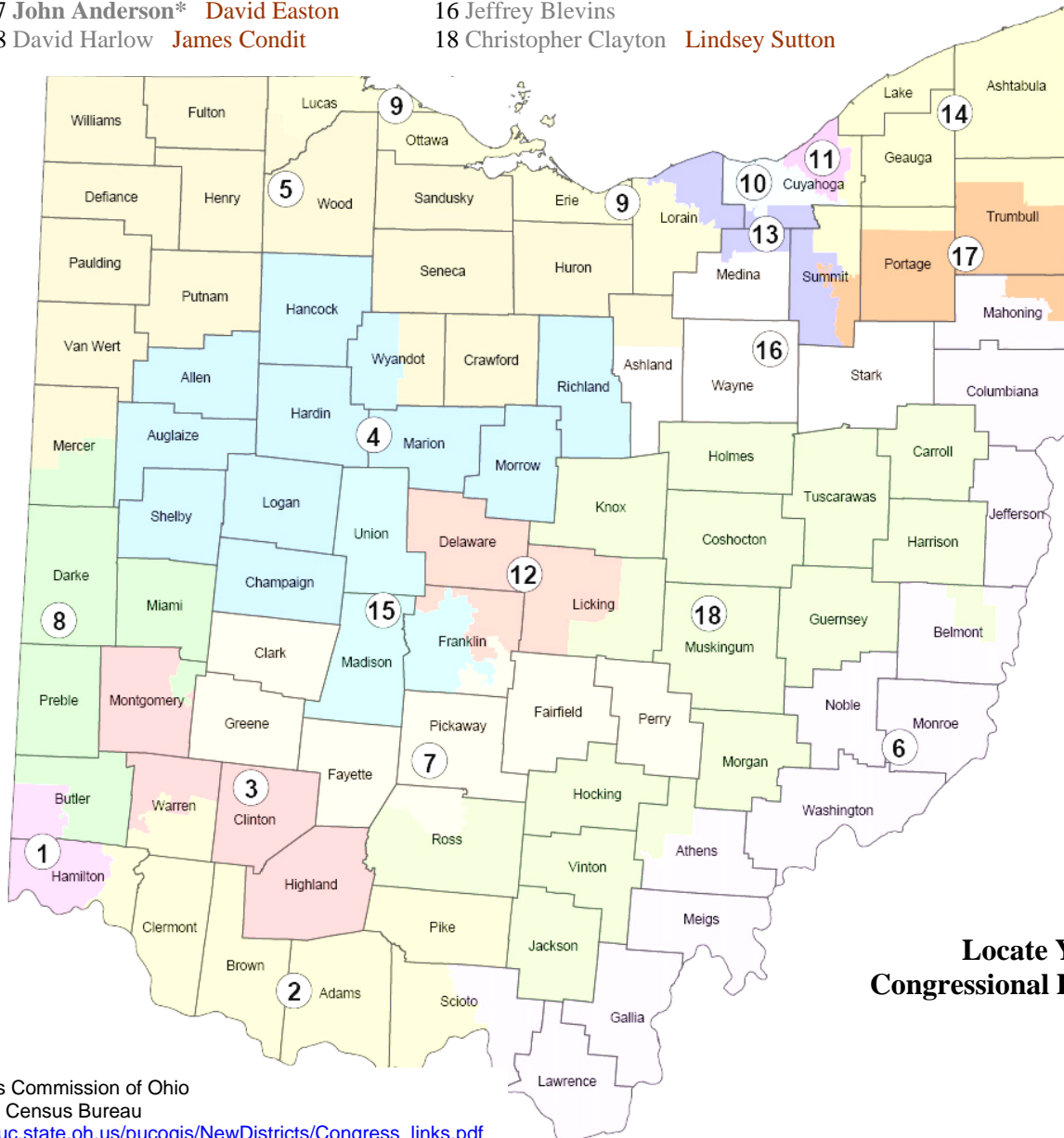
- 1 **Steve Chabot** Steve Driehaus
- 2 **Jean Schmidt** Surya Yalamanchili
- 3 **Mike Turner** Joseph Roberts
- 4 **Jim Jordan** **Doug Litt***
- 5 **Bob Latta** Caleb Finkenbiner
- 6 **Bill Johnson** Charlie Wilson
- 7 **Steve Austria** Bill Conner
- 8 **John Boehner** Justin Coussoule
- 9 **Rich Lott** Marcy Kaptur

District

- 10 **Peter Corrigan*** **Dennis Kucinich***
- 11 **Thomas Pezarek** **Marcia Fudge***
- 12 **Pat Tiberi** Paula Brooks
- 13 **Tom Ganley** Betty Sutton
- 14 **Steve LaTourette** **Bill O'Neill***
- 15 **Steve Stivers** Mary Jo Kilroy
- 16 **Jim Renacci** John Boccieri
- 17 **Jim Graham** **Tim Ryan***
- 18 **Bob Gibbs** Zach Space

District

- 1 **Rich Stevenson** Jim Berns+
- 2 Marc Johnston
- 4 Donald Kissick
- 5 Brian Smith
- 6 Martin Elsass **Richard Cadle**
- 7 **John Anderson*** **David Easton**
- 8 David Harlow **James Condit**
- 9 Jeremy Swartz
- 10 Jeff Goggins
- 12 **Robert Fittrakis** **Travis Irvine***
- 14 John Jelenic
- 15 William Kammerer **David Ryon**
- 16 Jeffrey Blevins
- 18 Christopher Clayton **Lindsey Sutton**



**Locate Your Ohio
Congressional District on
This Map**

Candidates for the United States Senate

Red = Republicans Blue = Democrats Green = Green Gray = Libertarian Brown = Constitutional * Signed the Candidates
Pledge to Support Recovery + Had Comments

Rob Portman

Lee Fisher

Eric Deaton*+

Candidates for Ohio Governor

Red = Republicans Blue = Democrats Green = Green Gray = Libertarian Brown = Constitutional * Signed the Candidates
Pledge to Support Recovery + Had Comments

John Kasich

Ted Strickland

Ken Matesz

Comments from Candidates

David Macko, Ohio House District 17 – I am the Libertarian candidate for State Representative in Ohio House District 17. I cannot sign your Recovery Voices Count Candidate Pledge since I do not believe that it is a legitimate function of any government, including the government of the State of Ohio, to provide health care or to meddle otherwise in the private health of citizens or in contracts between employers and employees. I oppose all taxpayer funded health care. Therefore, I could not support taxpayer funding for persons suffering from addiction or compel private employers to hire or not hire anyone. The government of Ohio should hire the most qualified persons for all legitimate government jobs, regardless of past addiction.

I do pledge to repeal all laws which punish adults for growing, manufacturing, selling or otherwise distributing any drugs or other substances, including herbs, to other adults voluntarily and to free all those who were imprisoned for such activities, immediately. I also favor nullification of all federal “drug” laws. The “Drug War” is a war on liberty and should be ended now. Libertarian state and federal candidates will work to do so.

Marian Harris, Ohio House District 19 – Thank you so much for sending me your candidate pledge. I absolutely agree with all that you say and all that you request as a pledge. I wish I could sign it. However, I won’t sign something that I may not be able to adhere to as much as I may agree with the pledge. I am sure you are aware of the horrendous budget situation we are facing. I fought for mental health and addiction services in our current budget but even so, the cuts were devastating. While I will fight with all my might to achieve the goals you state in your pledge, I cannot guarantee that the funding will be there.

Michael Johnston, Ohio House District 19 – Regarding Pledge Item #1, the candidate notes that he will not impose mandates on private health care plans. Regarding Pledge Item #3, the candidate notes that ending the criminalization of addiction is a top priority.

More Comments

Matt Lundy, Ohio House District 57 – Talk to my local addiction services board about how I work with them and support their services. Legally, I can't promise you anything in exchange for your support. Feel free to call with questions.

Gregory Davidson, Ohio House District 58 – I have seen first hand what addiction can do to a person and their family. Knowing this information I feel it would be very irresponsible for us as humans to turn our back on other Americans in their time of needing help. I have always felt it to be easy staying away from things that will harm or even kill you but over my years as a police officer and friend I have seen even the strong taken down by addiction. As your legislator I will always fight for every American no matter their social status or whether they do or do not have an addiction. I know we are facing tough economic times and tightened budgets, not only in Ohio but across the country. However we must look into even those areas that are not always the most popular but does provide a fellow Ohioan hope in recovering from their addiction.

Frank Comunale, Ohio Senate District 27 – I am enclosing the survey that you recently sent me concerning your organization's goals for the prevention and treatment of chemical dependencies. My family has been active in supporting, with our time, talent, and treasure, the Interval Brotherhood Home in Akron. I have served as an advocate for the Developmental Disability Board of Summit County, and also served as a Board member of the Oriana House. I look forward to meeting and speaking with you in the future about our mutual concern for those addicted to chemical substances.

Jim Berns, U.S. House of Representatives District 1 – As a Libertarian running for office I often times receive questionnaires that are written from a point of view that gives two choices neither of which fit my beliefs. Find enclosed the platform of the Libertarian party in addition to your questionnaire. If you don't understand my responses to your questions, maybe the Libertarian Platform will add some clarity. (Candidate notes on Pledge that Item #1 cannot be supported; notes on Item #2 donations only, not tax funding; and agrees with ending the criminalization of addiction.)

Eric Deaton, U.S. Senate – Regarding Pledge Item #1 candidate notes support of treatment and recovery care in public plans and encourages private plans to cover; Item #2 candidate supports at a state level; Item #4 candidate encourages but can't prohibit in private plans.

County Levies On The Ballot

Mental Health & Recovery Board of Ashland County

www.ashlandmhrb.org

<http://www.ashlandmhrb.org/levy/index.html>

(419) 281-3139

Provides mental health emergency services 24 hours/day, 7 days/week

Early intervention for children and adolescents

Services for families and senior adults

Provides medications and psychiatric services

Help for children who have been abused

Clermont County Mental Health & Recovery Board

www.ccmhrb.org

<http://www.ccmhrb.org/levy.aspx>

Issue 6

- In-school mental health services.
- Drug, alcohol and violence prevention programs for children, adolescents and families.
- Crisis hotline (528-SAVE) staffed 24/7 by trained professionals.
- Suicide prevention activities and programs.
- Assistance to help individuals dealing with mental health problems to gain needed skills to maintain employment and be productive, self-sufficient members of the community.

Columbiana County Mental Health & Recovery Board

www.ccmhrtb.org

(330) 424-0195

10 year renewal levy – No tax increase

- Children with emotional problems
- People considering suicide
- Adults with serious mental illness
- People struggling with addictions
- Older adults struggling with depression

Mahoning County Community Mental Health Board

www.mahoningcountyoh.gov

(330) 746-2959

Issue 2

- Domestic Violence
- Rape Counseling
- Suicide prevention/Intervention
- 24-7 Crisis Support – Help Hotline
- Alzheimer Support Services
- Juvenile Justice Counseling Services

ADAMHS Board of Tuscarawas & Carroll Counties

www.adamhtc.org

<http://www.adamhtc.org/levy%20kick-off.htm>

(330) 364-6488

.5 mill, five year replacement levy

- First passed by Tuscarawas County voters in 1982. Renewed every 5 years since then.
- Currently provides over \$490,000 for local treatment services.
- Critical services such as crisis intervention, hospitalization and psychiatric services
- children are at risk without the funding from this levy.

Crawford-Marion Board of ADAMHS

www.mcadamh.com

(740) 387-8531

5 year renewal levy

- Prevention
- Treatment

ADAMHS Board for Montgomery County

www.adamhs.co.montgomery.oh.us

(937) 443-0416

Human Services Levy Issue 9

Mental Health & Recovery Board of Union County

www.unionmhrb.org

(937) 642-1212

- Prevention
- Treatment

VOTE YES FOR

RECOVERY SERVICES

After the votes are in . . . building a relationship with your legislator

Advocacy around the issues we care about does not stop when you cast your vote. If we are to become a *constituency of consequence*, a force to be reckoned with in the eyes of our elected officials, advocacy for our issues will be an ongoing effort. Below are a few tips about how you can be an effective advocate by building a relationship with your legislators.

- If you work in the field of prevention, treatment and recovery, invite your legislator to visit your agency. Arrange for him/her to meet with someone who has benefited from your services. Take photos of the meeting and submit them to local newspapers and send a copy of the article or photo to the legislator.
- Become familiar with the committees that your legislator sits on and the bills currently before the committee. Let the legislator know by phone or letter your views on relevant bills. You can view committee assignments for Ohio Representatives at http://www.house.state.oh.us/index.php?option=com_displaymembers&Itemid=125 and for Senators at http://www.senate.state.oh.us/senators/by_name.html.

For U.S. Senators visit <http://www.senate.gov/>

For U.S. Representatives visit <http://www.house.gov/>

- Find out when your legislator will be back in the district and arrange a meeting. Ohio Senators and Representatives are generally in their districts on Mondays and Fridays. You can get their schedules by calling the Capitol Switchboard at 614/752-9777 or toll free at 888/OHIO-123.
- Don't forget about your legislators' aides. Often times you will not be able to speak or meet directly with your legislator. It is the aide's responsibility to convey your messages to the legislator.
- Share your story of recovery with your legislator. Your story (or that of a family member or friend) has power! It is critical to let legislators know that people can and do recover!
- Use the [Recovery Bill of Rights](#) as a guide for discussion when meeting with legislators. Choose one or two points and include examples from your own experience to support your position.
- Respond regularly to legislative alerts asking you to contact your legislator on specific bills or issues.
- Thank your legislator when they vote favorably on bills that are important to you.
- Become a campaign volunteer for a candidate or the re-election of a legislator.
- Remember – most legislators have little information about prevention, treatment and recovery. You are the expert so become a resource for them.

This Voter Guide made possible through a grant from [Faces and Voices of Recovery](#).