



Derek Merrin

Republican Candidate in
Ohio's 9th Congressional District

Research Book – 2024

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DCCC Research Department



Introduction

DT:
TO: Interested Parties
FR: DCCC Research
RE: Derek Merrin

The following report contains research on Derek Merrin, a Republican candidate for Ohio's 9th Congressional District.

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Make sure you understand the facts behind our conclusions before making any specific charges against anyone.

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Top Findings

Merrin Is An Anti-Abortion Extremist

2022: Merrin Cosponsored H.B. 598, An Abortion Ban With No Exceptions For Rape Or Incest That Could Make Doctors Liable To Prosecution

Merrin Cosponsored H.B. 598, Which Was An Abortion Ban

Merrin Cosponsored H.B. 598, Which Was An Abortion Ban. “To enact sections 2904.01, 2904.02, 2904.03, 2904.031, 2904.032, 2904.04, 2904.05, 2904.22, 2904.30, 2904.35, and 2904.40 of the Revised Code to enact the Human Life Protection Act to prohibit abortions based upon a condition precedent.” [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 598, introduced [3/15/22](#)]

H.B. 598 Would Make “Criminal Abortion” And “Abortion Manslaughter” Felony Crimes

H.B. 598 Would Make “Criminal Abortion” And “Abortion Manslaughter” Felony Crimes. “Both bills, known as the Human Life Protection Act, remain in legislative committees. The bills create the crime of criminal abortion and expand on the crime of abortion manslaughter, which would both be felonies. They also create the crime of promoting abortion, a misdemeanor aimed at people who sell or manufacture medicines or tools to perform an abortion.” [Cleveland.com, [11/7/22](#)]

H.B. 598 Would Make “Promoting Abortion,” Aimed At People Who Sell Or Manufacture Medicine Or Tools To Perform An Abortion, Including The Drugs Used In Half Of Abortions, A Misdemeanor Crime

H.B. 598 Would Make “Promoting Abortion” A Misdemeanor Crime. “Both bills, known as the Human Life Protection Act, remain in legislative committees. The bills create the crime of criminal abortion and expand on the crime of abortion manslaughter, which would both be felonies. They also create the crime of promoting abortion, a misdemeanor aimed at people who sell or manufacture medicines or tools to perform an abortion.” [Cleveland.com, [11/7/22](#)]

H.B. 598’s “Promoting Abortion” Crime Was “Aimed At People Who Sell Or Manufacture Medicines Or Tools To Perform An Abortion.” “Both bills, known as the Human Life Protection Act, remain in legislative committees. The bills create the crime of criminal abortion and expand on the crime of abortion manslaughter, which would both be felonies. They also create the crime of promoting abortion, a misdemeanor aimed at people who sell or manufacture medicines or tools to perform an abortion.” [Cleveland.com, [11/7/22](#)]

Mifepristone And Misoprostol Were Drugs Used In About 50% Of Abortions

Mifepristone And Misoprostol Were Used In About 50% Of Abortions. “Mifepristone and misoprostol, the two-drug regimen, is used in about 50% of abortions now. Since its approval by the FDA in 2000, the drug has been used for abortions by more than 5 million women in the U.S.” [NPR, [8/16/23](#)]

H.B. 598 Had No Exceptions For Rape Or Incest And Would Require Two Doctors To Certify An Abortion Was Necessary Or Be Liable To Prosecution

H.B. 598 Had No Exceptions For Rape Or Incest And Would Require Doctors To Certify An Abortion Was Necessary Or Be Liable To Prosecution. “There are no exceptions in the bills for rape or incest. Each bill allows doctors to use an affirmative defense - which is different than an exception - if prosecuted for criminal abortion if they perform one when a woman’s life or health is in peril. Physicians would have to certify in writing that the abortion was necessary, and so would a second doctor with whom the first doctor has no professional relationship.” [Cleveland.com, [11/7/22](#)]

Under The Bill, Physicians Would Have To Certify In Writing That The Abortion Was Necessary, And So Would A Second Doctor With Whom The First Doctor Has No Professional Relationship. “There are no exceptions in the bills for rape or incest. Each bill allows doctors to use an affirmative defense - which is different than an exception - if prosecuted for criminal abortion if they perform one when a woman’s life or health is in peril. Physicians would have to certify in writing that the abortion was necessary, and so would a second doctor with whom the first doctor has no professional relationship.” [Cleveland.com, [11/7/22](#)]

H.B. 598 Would “Ban All Abortions In Ohio Except For Those Performed ‘To Save The Life Of The Mother.’” “H.B. 598 was introduced on Tuesday by state Rep. Jean Schmidt, R-Loveland. The bill would ban all abortions in Ohio except for those performed ‘to save the life of the mother,’ according to the bill.” [Ohio Capital Journal, [3/17/22](#)]

Merrin Cosponsored H.B. 413, A Bill That Would Have Totally Banned Abortion And Would Allow Women And Children As Young As 13 To Be Imprisoned For Seeking An Abortion

Merrin Cosponsored H.B. 413

Merrin Cosponsored H.B. 413. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 413, introduced [11/14/19](#)]

H.B. 413 Was A Total Abortion Ban

ACLU Ohio: H.B. 413 Was A “Total Abortion Ban.” “House Bill 413 - The ‘total abortion ban’. The global-attention grabbing of the nine, this bill, which claims life begins at conception, is a total ban on abortion, with additional regulations forcing doctors to re-implant ectopic pregnancies and punishments for doctors and individuals seeking abortions.” [ACLU Ohio, [12/19/19](#)]

The Guardian: H.B. 413 Would Ban Abortion Outright And Define A Fertilized Egg As An “Unborn Child.” “In addition to ordering doctors to do the impossible or face criminal charges, H.B. 413 bans abortion outright and defines a fertilized egg as an ‘unborn child’.” [The Guardian, [11/29/19](#)]

H.B. 413 Would Require Doctors To “Reimplant” Ectopic Pregnancies Or Face “Abortion Murder” Charges

The Guardian: H.B. 413 Would Require Doctors To “Reimplant” Ectopic Pregnancies, Which Doctors Say Is “Medically Impossible,” Or Face Charges Of “Abortion Murder.” “A bill to ban abortion introduced in the Ohio state legislature requires doctors to ‘reimplant an ectopic pregnancy’ into a woman’s uterus - a procedure that does not exist in medical science - or face charges of ‘abortion murder’. This is the second time practising obstetricians and gynecologists have tried to tell the Ohio legislators that the idea is currently medically impossible.” [The Guardian, [11/29/19](#)]

ACLU Ohio: H.B. 413 Would Force “Doctors To Re-Implant Ectopic Pregnancies.” “House Bill 413 - The ‘total abortion ban’. The global-attention grabbing of the nine, this bill, which claims life begins at

conception, is a total ban on abortion, with additional regulations forcing doctors to re-implant ectopic pregnancies and punishments for doctors and individuals seeking abortions.” [ACLU Ohio, [12/19/19](#)]

H.B. 413 Created “The Capital Offense Of Aggravated Abortion Murder And The Offense Of Abortion Murder,” Which Would Allow Women And Children As Young As 13 To Be Imprisoned For Having An Abortion

H.B. 413 Created “The Capital Offense Of Aggravated Abortion Murder And The Offense Of Abortion Murder.” “To amend sections 109.57, 109.572, 109.97, 177.01, 313.131, 2105.19, 2108.77, 2151.356, 2151.414, 2151.419, 2152.02, 2152.021, 2152.11, 2152.12, 2152.16, 2152.17, 2152.20, 2152.59, 2152.72, 2152.74, 2152.86, 2317.02, 2901.01, 2901.02, 2901.07, 2901.13, 2903.41, 2909.24, 2921.32, 2921.34, 2923.01, 2923.02, 2923.131, 2923.132, 2923.31, 2923.32, 2927.21, 2929.01, 2929.02, 2929.021, 2929.022, 2929.023, 2929.024, 2929.03, 2929.04, 2929.05, 2929.06, 2929.13, 2929.14, 2929.143, 2929.31, 2929.32, 2929.34, 2930.16, 2933.51, 2933.81, 2933.82, 2937.222, 2941.14, 2941.143, 2941.147, 2941.148, 2945.06, 2945.11, 2945.38, 2945.57, 2945.74, 2949.02, 2950.01, 2950.99, 2953.08, 2953.09, 2953.11, 2953.21, 2953.25, 2967.01, 2967.05, 2967.12, 2967.121, 2967.13, 2967.18, 2967.19, 2967.193, 2967.26, 2971.01, 2971.03, 2971.07, 3301.32, 3301.541, 3313.662, 3319.31, 3319.39, 3712.09, 3721.121, 3734.44, 4715.30, 4717.05, 4717.051, 4717.14, 4723.092, 4723.281, 4730.25, 4731.22, 4734.36, 4741.22, 4757.361, 4759.07, 4760.13, 4761.09, 4762.13, 4765.114, 4774.13, 4776.10, 4778.14, 5103.0319, 5120.032, 5120.53, 5120.61, 5139.05, 5139.20, 5149.101, and 5153.111 and to enact sections 2904.01, 2904.02, 2904.03, 2904.04, 2904.20, 2904.30, and 2904.35 of the Revised Code to create the capital offense of aggravated abortion murder and the offense of abortion murder.” [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 413, introduced [11/14/19](#)]

Aggravated Abortion Murder, Punishable By Death, Would Find People Guilty For Performing An Abortion While Committing A Crime, Such As “Kidnapping, Rape, Aggravated Arson, Arson, Aggravated Robbery, Robbery, Aggravated Burglary, Or Burglary.” “The bill also creates a crime called ‘aggravated abortion murder,’ of which people could be found guilty if they ‘purposely perform an abortion while committing or attempting to commit kidnapping, rape, aggravated arson, arson, aggravated robbery, robbery, aggravated burglary, burglary,’ or other crimes. For aggravated abortion murder, the maximum penalty is death.” [Vox, [12/5/19](#)]

The Guardian: H.B. 413 Would Create Crimes For “Abortion Murder” Punishable By Life In Prison For Doctors And Children As Young As 13 And “Aggravated Abortion Murder” Punishable By Death

H.B. 413 Would Punish Doctors And Children As Young As 13 With “Abortion Murder,” Punishable By Life In Prison, If They Have An Abortion. “It also appears to punish doctors, women and children as young as 13 with ‘abortion murder’ if they ‘perform or have an abortion’. This crime is punishable by life in prison. Another new crime, ‘aggravated abortion murder’, is punishable by death, according to the bill.” [The Guardian, [11/29/19](#)]

H.B. 413 Would Create A Crime For “Aggravated Abortion Murder” Punishable By Death. “It also appears to punish doctors, women and children as young as 13 with ‘abortion murder’ if they ‘perform or have an abortion’. This crime is punishable by life in prison. Another new crime, ‘aggravated abortion murder’, is punishable by death, according to the bill.” [The Guardian, [11/29/19](#)]

Vox: H.B. 413 “Would Appear To Allow Ohioans To Be Sentenced To Life In Prison For Getting An Abortion”

Vox: “As Written, The Bill Would Appear To Allow Ohioans To Be Sentenced To Life In Prison For Getting An Abortion.” “But the new crimes are notable in large part because they would apparently allow patients to be charged with a felony for ending their pregnancies. A spokesperson for Keller told Vox that ‘the intent of the bill is towards the doctors, it’s not toward punishing the women that are going through these crisis situations.’ But as written, the bill would appear to allow Ohioans to be sentenced to life in prison for getting an abortion.” [Vox, [12/5/19](#)]

Planned Parenthood Advocates Of Ohio: H.B. 413 Would Endanger “The Lives Of Anyone Who Can Become Pregnant”

Planned Parenthood Advocates Of Ohio Vice President Of Government Affairs And Public Advocacy Lauren Blauvelt-Copelin: “If This Bill Was To Become Law, The Lives Of Anyone Who Can Become Pregnant Would Be Endangered.” “But abortion-rights advocates say the bill puts Ohioans at risk of being jailed over an abortion or even dying as a result of an untreated ectopic pregnancy. ‘If this bill was to become law, the lives of anyone who can become pregnant would be endangered,’ Lauren Blauvelt-Copelin, vice president of government affairs and public advocacy at Planned Parenthood Advocates of Ohio, told Vox. [...] Ohio H.B. 413, introduced on November 18, is 723 pages long. The bill has gotten attention in part for its striking language - it creates a new felony called ‘abortion murder.’ Under the legislation, people would be guilty of this crime if they purposely ‘perform or have an abortion,’ and could face 15 years to life in prison.” [Vox, [12/5/19](#)]

ACLU Ohio: H.B. 413 Would Punish “Doctors And Individuals Seeking Abortions”

ACLU Ohio: H.B. 413 Would Include “Punishments For Doctors And Individuals Seeking Abortions.” “House Bill 413 - The ‘total abortion ban’. The global-attention grabbing of the nine, this bill, which claims life begins at conception, is a total ban on abortion, with additional regulations forcing doctors to re-implant ectopic pregnancies and punishments for doctors and individuals seeking abortions.” [ACLU Ohio, [12/19/19](#)]

H.B. 413 Included Language That Anyone That Purposely Performed Or Had An Abortion Was “Guilty Of Abortion Murder”

H.B. 413 Included Language That Anyone That Purposely Performed Or Had An Abortion Was “Guilty Of Abortion Murder.” “Sec. 2904.04. (A) No person shall purposely perform or have an abortion. (B) No person shall cause an abortion as a proximate result of the offender’s committing or attempting to commit an offense of violence that is a felony of the first or second degree and that is not a violation of section 2904.03 of the Revised Code. (C) Division (B) of this section does not apply to an offense that becomes a felony of the first or second degree only if the offender previously has been convicted of that offense or another specified offense. (D) Whoever violates this section is guilty of abortion murder and shall be punished as provided in section 2929.02 of the Revised Code.” [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 413, introduced [11/14/19](#)]

2019: As The Chair Of The Committee That Passed Ohio’s Heartbeat Bill To The Full House, Merrin Was Instrumental In Passing One Of The Nation’s Most Restrictive Pieces Of Abortion Legislation At The Time

In The Health Committee, Merrin Voted To Grant Favorable Passage To S.B. 23, A Bill To “Prohibit Abortion If Detectable Heartbeat”

In The Health Committee, Merrin Voted To Grant Favorable Passage To S.B. 23, A Bill To “Prohibit Abortion If Detectable Heartbeat.” [Ohio Legislature, S.B. 23, [4/9/19](#)]

2019: Merrin Voted For S.B. 23, A Bill To “Prohibit Abortion If Detectable Heartbeat”

2019: Merrin Voted For S.B. 23. In April 2019, Merrin voted for S.B. 23 as the House passed the bill in a 56-36 vote. “Prohibit abortion if detectable heartbeat. To amend sections 2317.56, 2919.171, 2919.19, 2919.191, 2919.192, 2919.193, and 4731.22; to amend, for the purpose of adopting new section numbers as indicated in parentheses, sections 2919.191 (2919.192), 2919.192 (2919.194), and 2919.193 (2919.198); and to enact new sections 2919.191 and 2919.193 and sections 2919.195, 2919.196, 2919.197, 2919.199, 2919.1910, 2919.1912, 2919.1913, and 5103.11 of the Revised Code to enact the Human Rights and Heartbeat Protection Act.” The bill received 56 Republican votes and 0 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, S.B. 23, [4/10/19](#)]

Merrin Passed The Ohio Heartbeat Bill As The Chair Of The Committee That Passed The Bill To The Full House

Merrin Passed The Ohio Heartbeat Bill As The Chair Of The Committee That Passed The Bill To The Full House. “It would be hard for any one of us to justify supporting the person who passed the heartbeat bill here in the state of Ohio,” she said of Merrin, then-chair of the committee that passed it to the full House.” [Talking Points Memo, [1/23/23](#)]

News 5 Cleveland: “Merrin Shepherded The Six-Week Abortion Ban Through The House” And Insisted He And Other Republican Legislators Were “Not Injecting Our Personal Faith Into This Bill.” “In 2019, as chair of the House Health committee, Merrin shepherded the six-week abortion ban through the House. On the floor, Merrin insisted he and other lawmakers were not ‘injecting our personal faith into this bill.’ This despite challenging a reverend in committee about a verse from Jeremiah, and then recounting testimony on the floor from two women who turned to their Christian faith after regretting their abortions. Instead, Merrin argued, it was the bill’s opponents who were injecting ‘secular humanism’ into public debate. Merrin went a step further, too, accusing opponents of arguing more abortion restrictions would lead to higher Medicaid costs. ‘What they’re saying is we need to have abortion so we can weed out the babies that are weak,’ Merrin argued on the House floor, calling the arguments ‘despicable’ and ‘beyond utterly offensive.’ How Merrin arrived at that interpretation is unclear. In committee and on the floor Rep. Beth Liston, D-Dublin, pointed out that Medicaid pays for about half of pregnancies in the state. If more pregnancies are carried to term, she reasoned, more money will be needed. On the floor, she offered an amendment expanding Medicaid coverage to all children and all mothers for five years postpartum. That amendment failed.” [News 5 Cleveland, [1/3/23](#)]

News 5 Cleveland: Merrin Was “Rarely The One Leading The Charge On Big-Ticket, Conservative Legislation. The Obvious Departure Is Abortion.” “Merrin signed on as co-sponsor for some of the most conservative legislation to come forward in recent years. Right-to-work, anti-trans bills, life at conception and permitless concealed carry legislation - Merrin has added his name to each. But he’s rarely the one leading the charge on big-ticket, conservative legislation. The obvious departure is abortion.” [News 5 Cleveland, [1/3/23](#)]

The Heartbeat Bill Banned Abortions After A Detectable Heartbeat And Made No Exceptions For Rape Or Incest

The Heartbeat Bill Banned Abortions After A Detectable Heartbeat. “A bill imposing one of the most stringent abortion restrictions in the nation was signed into law in Ohio on Thursday, banning abortions

after a detectable heartbeat in a long-sought victory for abortion opponents that drew an immediate constitutional challenge.” [Associated Press, [4/12/19](#)]

The Heartbeat Bill Made No Exceptions For Rape Or Incest. “The law makes no exceptions for pregnancies resulting from rape or incest.” [Associated Press, [4/12/19](#)]

Cincinnati Right To Life Called The Heartbeat Bill “The Nation’s Strongest Pro-Life Bill”

When The Heartbeat Bill Became Law, Cincinnati Right To Life Called It “The Nation’s Strongest Pro-Life Bill.” “Cincinnati Right to Life labeled the measure ‘the nation’s strongest pro-life bill,’ while Senate Democrats said it ‘would become the most extreme abortion ban in the country.’” [Ohio University, [4/10/19](#)]

Merrin Previously Voted For Another Heartbeat Bill

2018: Merrin Voted For H.B. 258. In November 2018, Merrin voted for H.B. 258 as the House passed the bill in a 60-35 vote. “Prohibit abortion if unborn has detectable heartbeat. To amend sections 2317.56, 2919.171, 2919.19, 2919.191, 2919.192, 2919.193, and 4731.22; to amend, for the purpose of adopting new section numbers as indicated in parentheses, sections 2919.191 (2919.192), 2919.192 (2919.194), and 2919.193 (2919.198); and to enact new sections 2919.191 and 2919.193 and sections 2919.195, 2919.196, 2919.197, 2919.199, 2919.1910, and 2919.1911 of the Revised Code to generally prohibit an abortion of an unborn human individual with a detectable heartbeat and to create the Joint Legislative Committee on Adoption Promotion and Support.” The bill received 58 Republican votes and 2 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 258, [11/15/18](#)]

Merrin Voted For H.B. 258 In The House Health Committee. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 258, [12/13/17](#)]

After Losing The Speaker Battle, Merrin Tried To Raise The Threshold For Passage Of Ballot Initiative To Thwart A Citizen-Led Ballot Initiative To Protect Abortion In Ohio

Merrin Tried To Raise The Threshold For Passage Of Citizen-Led Ballot Initiatives

Merrin Tried To Raise The Threshold For Passage Of A Ballot Initiative To Thwart Issue One.

“Merrin is now demanding outsized committee power for his far-right ‘caucus,’ and that one of the biggest priorities for its members get a vote before the end of the month. The bill in question would raise the threshold for passage of ballot initiatives to 60 percent from a simple majority, and its primary sponsor admitted it was intended to thwart two major Democratic priorities: abortion protections and redistricting reforms. The newest version of the bill would also require that signatures be collected from every Ohio county to get a question on the ballot and eliminate the cure period.” [Talking Points Memo, [1/23/23](#)]

2023: Merrin Voted For S.J.R. 2, To Propose An Amendment To The Ohio Constitution “To Require A Vote Of At Least 60% Of The Electors To Approve Any Constitutional Amendment”

2023: Merrin Voted For S.J.R. 2. In May 2023, Merrin voted for S.J.R. 2 as the House passed the resolution in a 62-37 vote. “CA: Require 60% vote to approve any constitutional amendment. Proposing to amend Sections 1b, 1e, and 1g of Article II and Sections 1 and 3 of Article XVI of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to require a vote of at least 60% of the electors to approve any constitutional amendment and to modify the procedures for an initiative petition proposing a constitutional amendment.” The resolution received 62 Republican votes and 0 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, S.J.R. 2, [5/10/23](#)]

Issue 1 Was A Ballot Initiative That Changed The Threshold Of Passing A Constitutional Amendment From A Simple Majority To 60%

Issue 1 Would Have Made It Harder For Voters To Change Ohio's Constitution By Increasing The Threshold For Ballot Initiatives From 50% Plus 1 To 60%. "On Aug. 8, Ohio voters will have the opportunity to vote in a rare statewide summer election on a matter with far-reaching consequences. Issue 1 is a ballot initiative that, if passed, would make it harder for citizens to change the state constitution. The most significant change would be requiring that a ballot initiative win 60% of the vote to pass. Since 1912, the requirement has been a simple majority, 50% plus one vote." [Signal Cleveland, [6/27/23](#)]

2023: Issue 1 Was Put On The Ballot For A Special August Election Weeks After An Abortion Amendment Was Certified For The November Election

Mar. 13, 2023: The Ohio Ballot Board "Unanimously Certified An Initiative To Enshrine The Right To Abortion Up To The Point Of Fetal Viability In The State Constitution." "Abortion is one step closer to appearing on Ohioans' ballots in November. The five-member Ohio Ballot Board on Monday unanimously certified an initiative to enshrine the right to abortion up to the point of fetal viability in the state constitution, allowing the citizen-led Ohioans for Reproductive Freedom to start collecting signatures to pose the question before voters in November. [...] The ballot board's approval of the initiative comes after Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost certified the initiative's language on March 2." [NBC4I, [3/13/23](#)]

- **February 2023: Ohioans For Reproductive Freedom Filed The Ohio Right To Make Reproductive Decisions Including Abortion Initiative.** "Ohioans hoping to put a constitutional amendment on abortion on the November ballot took the first step Tuesday. Proponents filed language with the Ohio Attorney General's Office, kicking off a months-long process that could end with Ohioans voting on abortion later this year." [Cincinnati Enquirer, [2/23/23](#)]
- **The Proposed Constitutional Amendment Sought To "Ban The State From 'Directly Or Indirectly' Interfering With The Exercise Of That Right" To Abortion.** "Their proposal would amend Article I, Section 22 of Ohio's constitution to include a right for every individual 'to make and carry out one's own reproductive decisions' on contraception, fertility treatments, continuing a pregnancy, miscarriage care and abortion. It would ban the state from 'directly or indirectly' interfering with the exercise of that right except for 'widely accepted and evidence-based standards of care' until fetal viability, which is the point in a pregnancy when physicians say a fetus can survive with reasonable measures. [...] The amendment would also allow for abortions past viability 'in the professional judgment of the pregnant patient's treating physician it is necessary to protect the pregnant patient's life or health.'" [Cincinnati Enquirer, [2/23/23](#)]
- **Proponents Of The Constitutional Amendment Were Brought Together To File The Initiative Because Issue 1 "Would Make It Harder To Amend The State Constitution."** "Last week, two groups announced they would band together to craft this proposal for the November ballot. They had previously worked separately from one another, which could have put voters in the confusing situation of voting on two different measures in two different years. But another proposed constitutional amendment brought them together. This other one would make it harder to amend the state constitution by raising the voting percentage needed to pass from 50% plus one vote to 60%. 'One of the reasons we felt very strongly about putting this on the ballot in November 2023 is because this might be one of the last chances we have to put this on the ballot,' said Dr. Lauren Beene from Ohio Physicians for Reproductive Rights. 'We are doing this just in time to avoid being impacted if that did go into law.'" [Cincinnati Enquirer, [2/23/23](#)]

Republicans Supported Issue 1 As A Means Of Stopping The November Abortion Rights Amendment

Ohio Secretary Of State Frank LaRose: Initiative 1 Was “100% About Keeping A Radical, Pro-Abortion Amendment Out Of Our Constitution.” “The Left Wants To Jam It In There This Coming November.” “A Republican-backed effort to make it harder to amend the Ohio Constitution is ‘100%’ about blocking an abortion rights question eyed for the November ballot, Secretary of State Frank LaRose said recently. For the first time since he and Rep. Brian Stewart (R-Ashville) unveiled a proposal to raise the threshold for enacting a constitutional amendment, LaRose directly linked the measure - which will appear as Issue 1 on the Aug. 8 ballot - to preventing the passage of a citizen-led petition to permit Ohioans’ access to abortion. ‘Some people say, ‘This is all about abortion.’ Well, you know what, I’m pro-life; I think many of you are as well, right?’ LaRose said at a Lincoln Day event in Seneca County on May 22. ‘This is 100% about keeping a radical, pro-abortion amendment out of our constitution. The left wants to jam it in there this coming November.’” [NBC41, [6/5/23](#)]

LaRose Had Previously Denied That Issue 1 Was About Abortion. “After months of denial, Ohio Secretary of State Frank LaRose admitted that the proposal to make the constitution harder to amend is ‘100%’ due to efforts to legalize abortion. Advocates have argued that Issue 1, which would make it harder to amend the Ohio Constitution, is actually about trying to make it harder to make abortion a constitutional right. But on Nov. 17, 2022, Secretary of State Frank LaRose said otherwise. ‘That’s not what this kind of a change should ever be about,’ the secretary said. [...] ‘Why are you doing it now?’ ‘Because it’s ready now,’ he added. Every single time LaRose has been asked if Issue 1 was related to an abortion vote, he has denied it. ‘If this is about one specific issue, then somebody’s not really focused on what we’re trying to accomplish here,’ the secretary said. [...] But the words he said to reporters appear different than when he spoke to his supporters. ‘It’s 100% about keeping a radical pro-abortion amendment out of our constitution,’ LaRose said. [...] LaRose has continuously denied that his idea is related to any specific policies. In the secretary’s testimony in support of the legislation, he said, ‘Campaigns will make this a fight over the provocative political issues of the moment... We all need to take a deep breath, put aside current political disputes, and ask whether this is the best way to govern our state over the long run.’” [Ohio Capital Journal, [6/5/23](#)]

Ohio House Republican Brian Stewart Introduced The Measure To Protect “Decades Of Republicans’ Work To Make Ohio A Pro-Life State.” “For more than a century, Ohio voters could amend the state constitution with a simple majority of more than 50% of the vote. That could change in August, when Ohio voters head to the polls in a special election to decide whether future amendments will instead need the approval of 60% of the electorate. The change, if approved, would almost certainly determine the fate of abortion access in the state. In a memo last December to his Republican colleagues, state Rep. Brian Stewart, who first introduced the measure in the Ohio House, did not hide the role the abortion issue was playing in motivating his efforts. ‘After decades of Republicans’ work to make Ohio a pro-life state, the Left intends to write abortion on demand into Ohio’s Constitution,’ Stewart wrote. ‘If they succeed, all the work accomplished by multiple Republican majorities will be undone, and we will return to 19,000+ babies being aborted each and every year.’” [CBS News, [6/21/23](#)]

Ohio Senate President Matt Huffman Said That Preventing The Passage Of An Abortion Rights Amendment Was Worth The August Referendum On Issue 1. “Ohio Senate President Matt Huffman on Thursday said it’s worth spending millions to hold an August special election to vote on a proposal to make it harder to amend the Ohio Constitution if it succeeds in stopping a proposed abortion-rights amendment in November. ‘If we save 30,000 lives as a result of spending \$20 million, I think that’s a

great thing,' Huffman, a Lima Republican, told reporters. Huffman was referring to the number of abortions performed annually in Ohio - 21,813 in 2021, according to the state health department, more than 8,000 less than what Huffman said - and the anticipated cost of holding an August special election on a proposed amendment to require future constitutional changes to be passed with at least 60% support, rather than a simple majority of voters." [Cleveland.com, [5/23/23](#)]

Merrin: "Although We Did Not Defeat Issue 1, We Must Continue to Be the Voice for the Voiceless. [...] We Will Not Give Up"

Merrin: "Although We Did Not Defeat Issue 1, We Must Continue to Be the Voice for the Voiceless. [...] We Will Not Give Up."



Derek Merrin ✓
@DerekMerrin

...

Many fought hard to protect innocent life and defend parental rights. Although we did not defeat Issue 1, we must continue to be the voice for the voiceless.

House Republicans will look at all available avenues to defend the unborn moving forward. We will not give up.

8:50 AM · Nov 8, 2023 · **22.4K** Views



[Twitter, DerekMerrin, [11/8/23](#)]

2021: Merrin Voted In Favor Of S.B. 157, Which Would Require Doctors To Report When "A Child Is Born Alive Following An Abortion Or Attempted Abortion" And Provide Life-Saving Care

2021: Merrin Voted For S.B. 157. In December 2021, Merrin voted for S.B. 157 as the House passed the bill in a 61-35 vote. "Regards child born alive after attempted abortion. To amend sections 2919.13, 3701.79, 3701.99, 3702.3010, and 4731.22; to amend, for the purpose of adopting a new section number as indicated in parentheses, section 3702.305 (3702.3011); and to enact new section 3702.305 and sections 3701.792 and 4731.911 of the Revised Code to require reports to be made after a child is born alive following an abortion or attempted abortion, to establish certain civil or criminal penalties for failing to preserve the health or life of such a child, and to make changes regarding variances from written transfer agreements." The bill received 61 Republican votes and 0 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, S.B. 157, [12/8/21](#)]

S.B. 157 Would Require Doctors To Report When "A Child Is Born Alive Following An Abortion Or Attempted Abortion" And Establish Penalties For "Failing To Preserve The Health Or Life Of Such A Child."

S.B. 157 Would Require Doctors To Report When “A Child Is Born Alive Following An Abortion Or Attempted Abortion” And Establish Penalties For “Failing To Preserve The Health Or Life Of Such A Child.” “To amend sections 2919.13, 3701.79, 3701.99, 3702.3010, and 4731.22; to amend, for the purpose of adopting a new section number as indicated in parentheses, section 3702.305 (3702.3011); and to enact new section 3702.305 and sections 3701.792 and 4731.911 of the Revised Code to require reports to be made after a child is born alive following an abortion or attempted abortion, to establish certain civil or criminal penalties for failing to preserve the health or life of such a child, and to make changes regarding variances from written transfer agreements.” [The Ohio Legislature, S.B. 157, introduced [4/13/21](#)]

2020: Merrin Voted For S.B. 260, A Bill Requiring Physicians To Be Physically Present For The Initial Dose Of An Abortion-Inducing Drug

2020: Merrin Voted For S.B. 260. In December 2020, Merrin voted for S.B. 260 as the House passed the bill in a 54-30 vote. “Regards abortion-inducing drugs. To amend sections 109.572, 2919.123, 2953.25, 4729.291, 4731.22, and 4731.223 and to enact section 2919.124 of the Revised Code regarding abortion-inducing drugs.” The bill received 54 Republican votes and 0 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, S.B. 260, [12/17/20](#)]

S.B. 260 “Prohibits A Physician From Personally Furnishing Or Providing An Abortion-Inducing Drug To A Pregnant Woman Unless The Physician Is Physically Present Where And When The Initial Dose Of The Drug Is Consumed.” [Ohio Legislature, S.B. 260, Final Analysis, [4/12/21](#)]

2020: Merrin Voted For S.B. 27, Which Required Burial Or Cremation For Aborted Fetuses

2020: Merrin Voted For S.B. 27. In December 2020, Merrin voted for S.B. 27 as the House passed the bill in a 60-36 vote. “Regards disposition of fetal remains from surgical abortion. To amend sections 2317.56, 3701.341, and 3701.79 and to enact sections 3726.01, 3726.02, 3726.03, 3726.04, 3726.041, 3726.042, 3726.05, 3726.09, 3726.10, 3726.11, 3726.12, 3726.13, 3726.14, 3726.15, 3726.16, 3726.95, 3726.99, and 4717.271 of the Revised Code to impose requirements on the final disposition of fetal remains from surgical abortions.” The bill received 60 Republican votes and 0 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, S.B. 27, [12/3/20](#)]

S.B. 27 “Requires The Final Disposition Of Fetal Remains From A Surgical Abortion To Be By Cremation Or Interment.” S.B. 27 “Requires the final disposition of fetal remains from a surgical abortion to be by cremation or interment. Defines ‘fetal remains’ as the product of human conception that is aborted and if a woman is carrying more than one zygote, blastocyte, embryo, or fetus, each one, or any of its parts that is aborted, is a separate product of human conception that has been aborted. [Ohio Legislature, S.B. 27, Final Analysis, [4/6/21](#)]

December 2020: Merrin Voted For S.B. 27 In The House Civil Justice Committee. [Ohio Legislature, S.B. 27, [12/3/20](#)]

2018: In The House Health Committee, Merrin Voted For S.B. 28, A Fetal Burial Bill

2018: In The House Health Committee, Merrin Voted For S.B. 28. “Address disposition of aborted fetal remains. To amend sections 2317.56, 3701.341, and 3701.79 and to enact sections 3726.01, 3726.02, 3726.03, 3726.04, 3726.041, 3726.042, 3726.05, 3726.09, 3726.10, 3726.11, 3726.12, 3726.13, 3726.14, 3726.15, 3726.16, 3726.95, 3726.99, and 4717.271 of the Revised Code to impose requirements on the final disposition of fetal remains from surgical abortions.” [Ohio Legislature, S.B. 28, [2/28/18](#)]

2016: Merrin Voted For S.B. 127, A Bill To Ban Abortion After 20 Weeks

2016: Merrin Voted For S.B. 127. In December 2016, Merrin voted for S.B. 127 as the House passed the bill in a 64-29 vote. “Prohibits abortion when gestational age is 20 weeks or more. To amend sections 2305.11 and 4731.22 and to enact sections 2307.54, 2919.20, 2919.201, 2919.202, 2919.203, 2919.204, and 2919.205 of the Revised Code to prohibit the performance of an abortion on a pregnant woman when the probable post-fertilization age of the unborn child is twenty weeks or greater.” The bill received 59 Republican votes and 5 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, S.B. 127, [12/8/16](#)]

2019: Merrin Proposed Amendments He Claimed Would Help To Pass H.B. 297, Which Would Give Tax Credits To Donors “For Pregnancy Centers Who Promote Carrying A Pregnancy To Term”

2019: Merrin Proposed Amendments He Claimed Would Help To Pass H.B. 297, Which Would Give Tax Credits To Donors “For Pregnancy Centers Who Promote Carrying A Pregnancy To Term.” “A bill giving a tax credit to donors for pregnancy centers who promote carrying a pregnancy to term was approved in the state House Ways and Means Committee on Tuesday, moving it toward a full House vote. [...] Committee Chair Derek Merrin, R-Monclova Township, presented amendments to the bill, which included a cap of \$1,000 for any tax credit and an expiration date for the credits of 2025. Merrin also said the amended bill would limit donations to pregnancy centers within the state of Ohio. ‘I think this amendment goes a long way in strengthening this bill, and also putting it in a position to make it all the way through the legislature,’ Merrin said.” [Ohio Capital Journal, [12/12/19](#)]

2018: Ohio Right To Life PAC Endorsed Merrin

Merrin: “I Have Always Defended The Unborn. As The Only Endorsed Pro-Life Candidate, Stand With Me To Defend The Sanctity Of Life.” “I have always defended the unborn. As the only endorsed pro-life candidate, stand with me to defend the sanctity of life.” [Derek Merrin, Facebook, [4/13/18](#)]



Derek Merrin

April 13, 2018 ·

I have always defended the unborn. As the only endorsed pro-life candidate, stand with me to defend the sanctity of life.



446

140 comments 37 shares

[Derek Merrin, Facebook, [4/13/18](#)]

July 2018: Merrin Promoted His Endorsement From The Ohio Right To Life PAC, Saying “It’s Been An Honor To Fulfill My Duty To Protect Innocent Life.” “It’s been an honor to fulfill my duty to protect innocent life and partner with @OHVotes4Life to defend the unborn.” [Derek Merrin, Twitter, [7/25/18](#)]



Derek Merrin ✓
@DerekMerrin

...

It's been an honor to fulfill my duty to protect innocent life and partner with [@OHVotes4Life](#) to defend the unborn.



5:21 PM · Jul 25, 2018 from Ohio, USA

[Derek Merrin, Twitter, [7/25/18](#)]

2024: Merrin Accepted The Endorsement Of Senator Tommy Tuberville, Who Blocked The Promotion Of Hundreds Of Senior Military Officers Because The Armed Services Provided Abortion Care To Service Members

2024: Merrin Accepted The Endorsement Of Far-Right MAGA Ally Senator Tommy Tuberville. "It's an honor to receive the endorsement from @TTuberville - a true patriot who has been critical in fighting for President Trump's America First agenda! us us"

← Post



Derek Merrin ✓

@DerekMerrin

...

It's an honor to receive the endorsement from @TTuberville - a true patriot who has been critical in fighting for President Trump's America First agenda! 🇺🇸 🇺🇸



8:00 AM · Mar 15, 2024 · 22.2K Views

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[Twitter, @DerekMerrin, [3/15/24](#)]

2023: For Months, Tuberville Blocked The Promotion Of Hundreds Of Senior Military Officers Because The Armed Services Provided Abortion Care To Service Members

2023: For Months, Tuberville Blocked The Promotion Of Hundreds Of Senior Military Officers Because The Armed Services Provided Abortion Care To Service Members. “For months, the Alabama senator and former college football coach has blocked the confirmation of hundreds of senior military officers because he’s mad about a Pentagon policy that ensures soldiers have abortion access. [...] The group of anti-abortion Republicans had worked with him since February to try to find a solution. They’d flattered his ego. They’d mostly defended him in public as his game of chicken stretched nine months, punishing hundreds of senior service members who have no say over the policy and hurting U.S. military readiness at a time of global chaos.” [Rolling Stone, [11/3/23](#)]

2021: Merrin Addressed The Foundation For Life NW Ohio And Lauded The Organization For “Being A Voice For The Voiceless” In The “Fight For The Unborn”

2021: Merrin Addressed The Foundation For Life NW Ohio And Lauded The Organization For “Being A Voice For The Voiceless” In The “Fight For The Unborn.”



Derek Merrin is at The Pinnacle Maumee, .

March 20, 2021 · Maumee, OH · 🌐

We must continue to fight for the unborn and defend innocent life. Thank you to [Foundation for Life NW Ohio](#) for being a voice for the voiceless and lending a helping hand to many pregnant women in crisis - helping to avoid a tragic decision. Adoption is the best option!



114

7 comments 2 shares

[Facebook, Derek Merrin, [3/20/21](#)]

In The State House, Merrin Warned That “Women Are Often Coerced Into Abortion”

In The State House, Merrin Warned That “Women Are Often Coerced Into Abortion.”



Jo Ingles
@joingles

...

Republican Rep. Derek Merrin says women are often coerced into abortion. He reads from a letter from a woman who describes her feelings as she underwent an abortion. [#heartbeatbill](#) [#abortion](#) [#humanrightsprotectionact](#)



1:49 PM · Apr 10, 2019



[Twitter, joingles, [4/10/19](#)]

Merrin Said, “We Will Defend the Unborn & Protect Our Constitution Just Like Rep. Scott Wiggam Has Been Doing All Year!!” After He Sought To Elevate Wiggam To House Leadership

Merrin: “We Will Defend the Unborn & Protect Our Constitution Just Like Rep. Scott Wiggam Has Been Doing All Year!!”



Derek Merrin ✓
@DerekMerrin

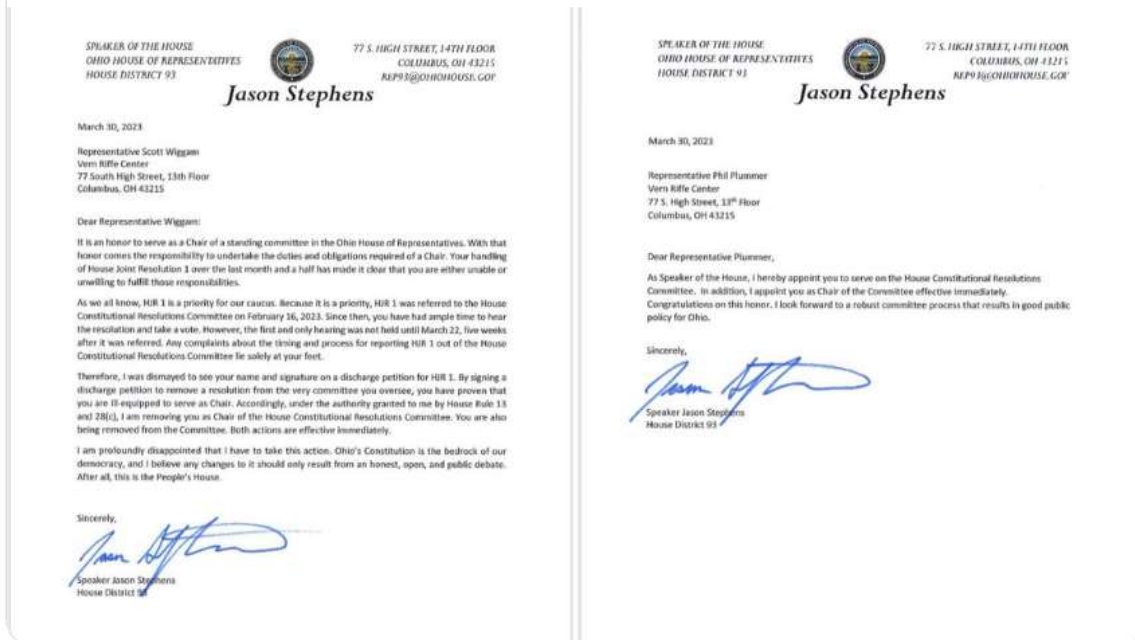
...

Every Pro-Life Ohioan should thank [@Scott_Wiggam](#) for his service. We are only in the 1st Q fighting for the heart & soul of the Republican Party in the Ohio House. We will defend the unborn & protect our Constitution just like Rep. Scott Wiggam has been doing all year!!



Jessie Balmert @jbalmert · Mar 30, 2023

A change up on the House Constitutional Resolutions Committee after the discharge petition.



Last edited 8:18 PM · Mar 30, 2023 · 5,092 Views



6



4



11



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[Twitter, DerekMerrin, [3/30/23](#)]

Merrin Planned To Choose Wiggam To Be The Ohio House Majority Leader, The Number Three House Leadership Post. “Wiggam was chosen to become House Majority Leader, the number-three leadership post in the House, this session by state Rep. Derek Merrin, the House GOP’s pick to become House speaker. However, that didn’t happen as Stephens beat Merrin to become speaker thanks to votes from House Democrats.” [Cleveland.com, [2/23/23](#)]

2022: Asked About Abortion By The Toledo Blade, Merrin Declined To Provide Specifics And Claimed To Have Been Focused On Economic Issues

2022: Asked About Abortion By The Toledo Blade, Merrin Declined To Provide Specifics. “The Republican declined to directly answer a question about the specifics of his stance on abortion, other than to say he’s ‘a pro-life legislator, but my focus in the legislature has been on economic issues.’ He has advocated in the past for strict anti-abortion legislation.” [Toledo Blade, [11/1/22](#)]

2019-2023: Merrin’s Committee Contributed \$410.00 To Anti-Abortion Organizations

2019-2023: Merrin’s Committee Contributed \$410.00 To Anti-Abortion Organizations.

<i>Recipient</i>	<i>Purpose</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Earliest Date</i>	<i>Latest Date</i>
GREATER TOLEDO RIGHT TO LIFE	CONTRIBUTION	\$250.00	11/1/23	11/1/23
HEARTBEAT OF TOLEDO	CONTRIBUTION/ FUNDRAISING DINNER	\$100.00	9/27/23	9/27/23
FOUNDATION FOR LIFE, NWO	CONTRIBUTION/ TICKET FOR BENEFIT OF LIFE CHARITY RECEPTION	\$60.00	10/27/19	10/27/19
<i>Grand Total</i>		\$410.00	10/27/19	11/1/23

[Ohio Secretary of State, Friends of Derek Merrin, Accessed 5/13/24]

Merrin’s Budget Cuts Hurt Working People While Benefiting The Wealthy

2017-2023: Merrin Voted For The Final Passage Of Every Two-Year Budget Bill, Including A 2023 Budget Bill That Cut Taxes For The Wealthy

2017-2023: Merrin Voted For The Final Passage Of Every Two-Year Budget Bill.

<i>Bill Number</i>	<i>Roll Details</i>	<i>Result</i>	<i>Merrin Vote</i>	<i>Date</i>
H.B. 33	Establishes operating appropriations for fiscal years 2024-2025	House Passed - Line Item Veto Override	Yea	12/13/2023
H.B. 33	Establishes operating appropriations for	House Passed	Yea	6/30/2023

<i>Bill Number</i>	<i>Roll Details</i> <i>fiscal years 2024-2025</i>	<i>Result</i>	<i>Merrin Vote</i>	<i>Date</i>
<i>H.B. 33</i>	<i>Establishes operating appropriations for fiscal years 2024-2025</i>	<i>House Failed</i>	<i>Yea</i>	<i>6/21/2023</i>
<i>H.B. 33</i>	<i>Establishes operating appropriations for fiscal years 2024-2025</i>	<i>House Passed</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>4/26/2023</i>
<i>H.B. 110</i>	<i>Creates appropriations for FY 2022-2023.</i>	<i>House Passed</i>	<i>Yea</i>	<i>6/28/2021</i>
<i>H.B. 110</i>	<i>Creates appropriations for FY 2022-2023.</i>	<i>House Failed</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>6/10/2021</i>
<i>H.B. 110</i>	<i>Creates appropriations for FY 2022-2023.</i>	<i>House Passed</i>	<i>Yea</i>	<i>4/21/2021</i>
<i>H.B. 166</i>	<i>Creates FY 2020-2021 operating budget</i>	<i>House Passed</i>	<i>Yea</i>	<i>7/17/2019</i>
<i>H.B. 166</i>	<i>Creates FY 2020-2021 operating budget</i>	<i>House Failed</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>6/20/2019</i>
<i>H.B. 166</i>	<i>Creates FY 2020-2021 operating budget</i>	<i>House Passed</i>	<i>Yea</i>	<i>5/9/2019</i>
<i>H.B. 49</i>	<i>Creates FY 2018-2019 operating budget</i>	<i>House Passed</i>	<i>Yea</i>	<i>6/28/2017</i>
<i>H.B. 49</i>	<i>Creates FY 2018-2019 operating budget</i>	<i>House Failed</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>6/21/2017</i>

<i>Bill Number</i>	<i>Roll Details</i>	<i>Result</i>	<i>Merrin Vote</i>	<i>Date</i>
<i>H.B. 49</i>	<i>Creates FY 2018-2019 operating budget</i>	<i>House Passed</i>	<i>Yea</i>	<i>5/2/2017</i>

Bolded result indicates final passage.

[Ohio Legislature, H.B. 33, [12/13/23](#); H.B. 110, [6/28/21](#); H.B. 166, [7/17/19](#); H.B. 49, [6/28/17](#)]

The 2023 Budget Bill Featured “Tax Cuts That Mostly Benefit The Wealthy” Alongside Cuts To Free School Meals And Food Access

The 2023 Budget Bill Featured “Tax Cuts That Mostly Benefit The Wealthy” Alongside Cuts To Free School Meals And Food Access. “The Ohio Senate today passed a budget that will cost the state nearly a billion dollars each year for tax cuts that mostly benefit the wealthy. To pay for another tax cut to the wealthiest Ohioans and a handout to millionaires who are already sending their kids to private schools, the Senate takes away free school meals, food access, and long overdue increases teacher pay. It also increases barriers to basic health and economic security supports, including kids’ health insurance, and turns a blind eye to infant and maternal mortality. [...] The new analysis finds that more than four fifths (86%) of the proposed income tax cut would go to the 20% of households with the highest incomes. Half of the households in the state - the half with less than \$62,000 in annual income - would see little or no change to their tax bill. Some middle-income households will in fact see a temporary net increase on their annual tax bill for the next two years.” [Policy Matters Ohio, [6/15/23](#)]

2010: Then-Mayor Merrin Proposed Raising Waterville Village Employees’ Health Insurance Premiums From 14 To 30 Percent

2010: Then-Mayor Merrin Proposed Raising Waterville Village Employees’ Health Insurance Premiums From 14 To 30 Percent. “Increasing group health insurance premiums paid by Waterville village employees could save taxpayers at least \$1 million in 10 years, based on figures from a proposal by Mayor Derek Merrin. His proposal, introduced as an ordinance to council last week, would raise the portion of premium for the basic plan to be paid by village employees from 14 percent to 30 percent.” [Toledo Blade, 12/22/10]

2020: Merrin Proposed Massive Cuts To “Projects For Colleges And Universities, Sports And Cultural Projects, And The Ohio Department Of Natural Resources”

2020: Merrin Proposed Massive Cuts To “Projects For Colleges And Universities, Sports And Cultural Projects, And The Ohio Department Of Natural Resources.” “[Merrin-sponsored] House Bill 670 proposes spending \$697.6 million on previously approved state capital projects, compared to nearly \$1.2 billion in the version before the Ohio Senate. [...] Merrin said his proposal preserves funding for projects directly related to health and public safety, while cutting off projects for colleges and universities, sports and cultural projects and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources.” [Cleveland, [3/27/20](#)]

Discussing H.B. 126, Which Could Prohibit School Districts From Disputing Property Valuations, Merrin Argued That Districts’ Attorneys Are Incentivized To File “As Many Complaints As They Can”

Discussing H.B. 126, Which Could Prohibit School Districts From Disputing Property Valuations, Merrin Argued That Districts' Attorneys Are Incentivized To File "As Many Complaints As They Can." "Ohio school districts could be prohibited from arguing before county boards of revision over the values of properties, under an amendment that could be made to a bill [H.B. 126] Tuesday. [...] In testimony before the Senate Ways and Means Committee, Merrin said that many attorneys who represent school districts in tax cases bill by the hour, and have a financial incentive to file as many complaints as they can." [Cleveland, [11/9/21](#)]

2017: Merrin Cosponsored A Public Employee Right-To-Work Bill, Which Would Decrease Wages And Weaken Workers' Power To Unionize

2017: Merrin Cosponsored A Public Employee Right-To-Work Bill

HEADLINE: "Merrin Backs Public Employee Right-To-Work Bill." [Toledo Blade, [2/16/17](#)]

***Merrin Sponsored A Right-To-Work Bill.** "State Rep. Derek Merrin (R.) of Monclova Township is one of three northwest Ohioans in the General Assembly to co-sponsor a right-to-work bill in the General Assembly that would apply to public employees." [Toledo Blade, [2/16/17](#)]*

Merrin Sponsored H.B. 53, Which Would "Remove Any Requirement [...] That Public Employees Join Or Pay Dues To Any Employee Organization." "To amend sections 9.81, 121.40, 124.14, 124.15, 3345.31, 4117.03, 4117.04, 4117.05, 4117.09, 4117.10, 4117.11, 4121.03, 4121.121, 4121.69, and 5501.20 of the Revised Code to remove any requirement under the Public Employees Collective Bargaining Law that public employees join or pay dues to any employee organization, to prohibit public employers from requiring public employees to join or pay dues to any employee organization, to prohibit an employee organization from being required to represent public employees who are not members of the employee organization, and to make an appropriation." [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 53, filed [2/13/17](#)]

Right-To-Work Bills Decrease Wages And Weaken Workers' Power To Unionize

Center For American Progress: Right-To-Work Laws Drive Down Wages, "Make It Easier For More Of The Economy's Gains To Flow Straight To The Country's Wealthiest People [...] And Weaken Workers' Power To Join Together In Unions." "By reducing workers' voice, right-to-work laws drive down the wages and reduce the economic well-being of all workers-union and nonunion alike. At the same time, right-to-work laws make it easier for more of the economy's gains to flow straight to the country's wealthiest people. A national right-to-work law would keep even more power in the hands of companies that, despite record corporate profits in recent years, have not shared their gains with workers. And by weakening workers' power to join together in unions, Republicans will be able to limit the voices of ordinary Americans in our democracy, since these organizations help ensure that more people vote and advocate for policies that are essential to working Americans." [Center for American Progress, [5/18/17](#)]

2023 House Speaker Race: Republican Members With Union Ties Were Wary To Support Merrin Due To His Right-For-Work Legislation Advocacy

In The 2023 Race For Ohio House Speaker, Republican Members With Ties To Unions Were Wary To Support Merrin Due To His Advocacy For Right-To-Work Legislation. "In Ohio, Kogan noted, 'there is a really important interest group story as well. Given the impotence of the small Democratic minority here, organized labor has been contributing significantly to Republican legislative candidates.' In other words, some Republican members of the Ohio House have ties to unions that made them wary of supporting Merrin because of his advocacy of right-to-work legislation." [New York Times, Thomas Edsall Op-Ed, [1/11/23](#)]

2011-2018: On Multiple Occasions, Merrin Tried To Cut The Number Of Paid Sick Days For Government Employees, Succeeding Once In Cutting Days Nearly In Half

2011: As Waterville Mayor, Merrin Cut The Number Of Paid Sick Days For Village Employees By Nearly Half

2011: Merrin Cut Paid Sick Days For Village Employees From 18 To 10. “During a meeting in which three council members were absent, Mayor Derek Merrin squeezed out support for his proposal to reduce the number of paid sick days for village employees, a vote critical to his ongoing efforts to trim Waterville’s operating expenses. Effective 30 days from last week’s session, village workers will be allowed up to 10 days of paid sick time annually, down from the current 18.” [Toledo Blade, [3/9/11](#)]

Merrin’s Motion To Reduce Sick Days Passed 3-1. “The mayor’s [Merrin’s] motion to reduce sick time days was approved on a 3-1 vote with Councilman John Gouttiere opposed and the mayor, Mr. Marty, and Jim Valtin in favor.” [Toledo Blade, [3/10/11](#)]

2017: Merrin Sponsored A Bill To Reduce Annual Sick Leave For University And Local Public Employees In Ohio By One Third, Which Faced Criticism From Public Employee Unions And A Local City Manager

In The Ohio Legislature, Merrin Sponsored A Bill To Reduce Annual Sick Leave For University And Local Public Employees In Ohio. “City, county, school and college employees across Ohio could receive less annual sick leave under a bill introduced Thursday in the Ohio General Assembly. The bill reduces the number of sick days given to public employees to 10. This is already the maximum for state employees, but many local government employees get up to 15 days of sick leave a year. ‘We’re aligning what state workers get and local government,’ said state Rep. Derek Merrin, R-Monclova Twp., who sponsored the bill. He called the 15-day limit for local government ‘an excessive state mandate that drives up cost for local governments.’” [Journal-News, [9/13/17](#)]

Merrin’s Bill Would Reduce Sick Leave Time By One Third. “A bill introduced by state Rep. Derek Merrin (R., Monclova Township) would reduce by one-third the number of sick leave days university and local public employees in Ohio could accumulate. Mr. Merrin said Monday his bill is aimed at saving money for local governments, school boards, and the state.” [Toledo Blade, [7/4/17](#)]

2018: Merrin Introduced A Bill To Reduce The Number Of Sick Days For School District Employees From 15 Days To 10

2018: Merrin Introduced A Bill To Reduce The Number Of Sick Days For School District Employees From 15 Days To 10. “Republican State Representative Derek Merrin is proposing the state reduce the mandated 15 days of sick time given to County, Municipal, School District, and some State Employees to 10 sick days. [...] ‘We’re treating government employees more than fair; we’re being very generous to government employees, but we’ve got to be fair to the taxpayers because they’re the ones ultimately paying the bill,’ said Merrin. [...] The AFL-CIO doesn’t see it that way. President of the Ohio chapter Tim Burga says this bill is an attack on public employees’ ability to collectively bargain.” [NBC4, [1/26/18](#)]

Merrin Has Been Trying To Raise Village And State Employees’ Health Insurance Premiums Since 2010

2010: Then-Mayor Merrin Proposed Raising Waterville Village Employees’ Health Insurance Premiums From 14 To 30 Percent

2010: Then-Mayor Merrin Proposed Raising Waterville Village Employees' Health Insurance Premiums From 14 To 30 Percent. "Increasing group health insurance premiums paid by Waterville village employees could save taxpayers at least \$1 million in 10 years, based on figures from a proposal by Mayor Derek Merrin. His proposal, introduced as an ordinance to council last week, would raise the portion of premium for the basic plan to be paid by village employees from 14 percent to 30 percent." [Toledo Blade, 12/22/10]

2017: Merrin Introduced A Bill Requiring State Employees To Pay 15% Of Their Dental, Vision, And Life Insurance Premiums

2017: Merrin Introduced A Bill Requiring State Employees To Pay 15% Of Their Dental, Vision, And Life Insurance Premiums. "State Representative Derek Merrin (R-Monclova Township) introduced H.B. 169, which would require many state employees to effectively pay 15 percent of the total cost for their dental, vision, and basic life insurance premiums. The legislation impacts exempt state employees not covered by collective bargaining agreements, including state legislators, agency directors, and executive staff." [Ohio House of Representatives, Derek Merrin News, [3/29/17](#)]

2020: Merrin Voted Against H.B. 308, Which Would Extend "Workers' Compensation Coverage To First-Responders With Work-Related Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder"

2020: Merrin Voted Against H.B. 308, Which Would Extend "Workers' Compensation Coverage To First-Responders With Work-Related Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder." "H.B. 308: Extends workers' compensation coverage to first-responders with work-related post-traumatic stress disorder (goes to Senate). Sponsor: Rep. Tom Patton (R., Strongsville). Vote: Passed on Wednesday, 74-22. Northwest Ohio representatives: Ms. Hicks-Hudson, yes; Mr. Sheehy, yes; Ms. Sobecki, yes; Mr. Merrin, no." [Toledo Blade, 2/16/20]

2021: Merrin Voted Against H.B. 163, Which Would Prohibit Hospitals From "Requiring Nurses To Work Overtime As Condition Of Employment"

2021: Merrin Voted Against H.B. 163, Which Would Prohibit Hospitals From "Requiring Nurses To Work Overtime As Condition Of Employment." "House Bill 163: Prohibits hospitals from requiring nurses to work overtime as condition of employment (goes to Senate). Sponsors: Reps. Alessandro Cutrona (R., Canfield), Bride Sweeney (D., Cleveland). Vote: Passed on June 10, 82-12. Northwest Ohio representatives: Paula Hicks-Hudson (D., Toledo), yes; Mike Sheehy (D., Oregon), yes; Lisa Sobecki (D., Toledo), yes; Derek Merrin (R., Monclova Township), no." [Toledo Blade, 6/20/21]

2017: Merrin Voted Against H.B. 158, Which Would Allow Military Spouses Who Quit Jobs to Accompany Their Spouses On Military Transfers To Be Eligible For Unemployment

2017: Merrin Voted Against H.B. 158, Which Would Allow Military Spouses Who Quit Jobs to Accompany Their Spouses On Military Transfers To Be Eligible For Unemployment. "H.B. 158: Makes military spouses who quit jobs to accompany spouses on military transfers eligible for unemployment compensation (goes to Senate). Sponsor: Reps. Rick Perales (R., Beavercreek), Herscel Craig (D., Columbus). Vote: Passed on Wednesday, 87-6. Northwest Ohio representatives: Ms. Fedor, yes; Mr. Sheehy, yes; Mr. Ashford, yes; Mr. Merrin, no." [Toledo Blade, 10/25/17]

2011: Merrin Sought To Rein In Waterville's Budget By Cutting Staff Members

2011: Merrin Sought To Rein In Waterville's Budget By Cutting Staff Members. "Waterville council is to hold a public hearing Monday on the village's proposed 2011 operating budget. It reflects the village's

efforts to be more fiscally conservative and efficient, Mayor Derek Merrin said. [...] Waterville's biggest cost is salaries and benefits, and steps have been taken to rein those in, Mr. Merrin said. [...] Savings stem in part from staff reductions. 'We are down four employees,' the mayor said." [Toledo Blade, 1/5/11]

Merrin Is A MAGA Extremist

2024: Merrin Accepted The Endorsement Of Former President Donald Trump

2024: Merrin Accepted The Endorsement Of Former President Donald Trump. "Former President Donald Trump issued a last-minute endorsement in a highly sought northwest Ohio congressional district Monday, backing state Rep. Derek Merrin over a rival Republican whom Trump's closest ally in the state has described as 'a rock-solid conservative.'" [Associated Press, [3/18/24](#)]

Before Running For Congress, Merrin Would Not Commit To Voting For Trump In The 2024 Primary, Then Changed His Tune And Endorsed Trump On The First Day Of His Congressional Campaign

June 2023: When Asked Who He Was Supporting In The 2024 Republican Presidential Primary, Merrin Said "I Don't Know Who's All Gonna Run"

June 2023: When Asked Who He Was Supporting In The 2024 Republican Presidential Primary, Merrin Said "I Don't Know Who's All Gonna Run." REPORTER: "Who are you supporting in the presidential election in 2024?" MERRIN: "Aw man, I can, I can only take care of myself right now, so-" REPORTER: "Aw come on, you ain't got no opinion on it?" MERRIN: "I'll be voting for the Republican that's for sure." REPORTER: "Oh yeah you're voting for the Republican?" MERRIN: "No matter what." REPORTER: "Yeah, who are you voting in the primary?" MERRIN: "I don't know who's all gonna run." REPORTER: "What? Man, man that's a coward's answer, brother." [The Rooster, Twitter, [7/24/23](#)]
(VIDEO)

December 2023: Merrin's First Campaign Act Was To Endorse Trump

Merrin Campaign Announcement: "As The First Action Of His Campaign, Merrin Formally Endorsed President Donald J. Trump For Re-Election." "As the first action of his campaign, Merrin formally endorsed President Donald J. Trump for re-election, saying: 'It's clear Joe Biden is destroying America, and Marcy Kaptur is nothing more than a rubber stamp for his failed policies. Donald Trump is going to be the next President, and I'm proud to endorse him on day one. As our next Congressman, I'll work hand-in-hand with President Trump to put our country back on track when he is back in the White House.'" [Merrin for Congress, News, [12/20/23](#)]

Merrin Continued To Reiterate MAGA Talking Points Into 2024

2024: Merrin Tweeted "Great News!!!" In Response To The Supreme Court Decision That Kept Trump On The Colorado Ballot. In March of 2024 Merrin tweeted: "Great News!!! us us us #MAGA"

← Post



Derek Merrin

@DerekMerrin

...

Great News!!! 🇺🇸 🇺🇸 🇺🇸 #MAGA x.com/FoxNews/status...



Fox News



@FoxNews · Mar 4

'GREAT WIN FOR AMERICA': Former President Donald Trump reacts to the Supreme Court's unanimous 9-0 decision to reverse Colorado's attempt to kick him off the 2024 primary ballot. His exclusive interview with Fox News Digital. trib.al/cOwehSU

"Today's decision, especially the fact that it was unanimous, 9-0, is both **unifying** and **inspirational** for the people of the **United States of America.**"

Donald Trump



[Twitter, @DerekMerrin, 3/4/24]

2024: Merrin Tweeted “Lucas County - Our Momentum is Growing & Conservatives are Rallying to our Team! #BalanceBudget #FinishWall #MAGA.” In March of 2024 Merrin tweeted: “Lucas County - Our Momentum is Growing & Conservatives are Rallying to our Team! #BalanceBudget #FinishWall #MAGA [...] Join Us. Let’s Save America!! us us”



[Twitter, @DerekMerrin, 3/11/24]

2024: Merrin Said He “Stood With” President Trump And House Speaker Mike Johnson To Fight The “Radical Left Agenda”

2024: Merrin Said He “Stood With” President Trump And House Speaker Mike Johnson To Fight The “Radical Left Agenda.” In May of 2024 Merrin tweeted: “D.C. Democrats are making our country less safe & their runaway federal spending is making life unaffordable for hard working Americans. We must stay united. I stand with President Trump & support @SpeakerJohnson & the work the @HouseGOP is doing fighting the radical left agenda.”



[Twitter, @DerekMerrin, 5/2/24]

2018: Merrin Said It Was A “True Honor” To “Welcome” Vice President Mike Pence, Who Defended Trump’s Comments About White Nationalists Being “Very Fine People”

2018: Merrin Said It Was A “True Honor” To “Welcome” Vice President Mike Pence To Northwest Ohio. In August of 2018 Merrin tweeted: “A true honor to welcome @VP & @JimRenacci to NW Ohio w/ @Mark_Wagoner @OhioRepGavarone. #MAGA #Renacci4Senate”

← Post



Derek Merrin 
@DerekMerrin

...

A true honor to welcome @VP & @JimRenacci to NW Ohio w/
@Mark_Wagoner @OhioRepGavarone. #MAGA #Renacci4Senate



6:42 PM · Aug 14, 2018 from Ohio, USA



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[Twitter, @DerekMerrin, 8/14/18]

2017: Pence Defended Trump's Comments About White Nationalists Being "Very Fine People" Following The Charlottesville Unite The Right Riot

2017: Pence Defended Trump's Comments About White Nationalists Being "Very Fine People" Following The Charlottesville Unite The Right Riot. "Vice President Mike Pence on Monday continued to defend President Donald Trump's response to the violence in Charlottesville, Virginia over the weekend, telling NBC News the president 'made it very clear' he condemns 'the KKK and white supremacists.' [...] Trump has endured a steady drumbeat of criticism from Republicans as well as Democrats for what they view as the president's tepid response to Saturday's clash between white nationalists and counter-protesters that killed one and injured 19 after an Ohio man allegedly drove his

car through a group of counter-demonstrators. [...] The president's remarks Saturday faulted 'many sides' for the violence, and he left the podium without addressing a shouted question about whether he would denounce support from white nationalists." [NBC News, [8/13/17](#)]

2024: Merrin Accepted The Endorsement Of Senator Tommy Tuberville, Who Refused To Condemn White Supremacists

2024: Merrin Accepted The Endorsement Of Far-Right MAGA Ally Senator Tommy Tuberville. "It's an honor to receive the endorsement from @TTuberville - a true patriot who has been critical in fighting for President Trump's America First agenda!"

← Post



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8:00 AM · Mar 15, 2024 · 22.2K Views

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[Twitter, @DerekMerrin, [3/15/24](#)]

2023: When Asked About White Nationalists, Tuberville Said “Well, They Call Them That, [...] I Call Them Americans”

2023: When Asked About White Nationalists, Tuberville Said “Well, They Call Them That, [...] I Call Them Americans.” “The Monday CNN interview was an incredible exchange, which began as an opportunity for Tuberville to explain his Pentagon obstruction as a protest of Biden administration abortion policy. More on that below. [...] In the White nationalism portion of the interview, Tuberville was being asked to explain comments he made to an Alabama radio station back in May, when he was asked if he thought White nationalists should be allowed to serve in the military. [...] ‘Well, they call them that,’ Tuberville said back then of people who oppose White nationalists. ‘I call them Americans.’” [CNN, [7/11/23](#)]

Merrin Allies Attempted To Censure GOP House Members Who Voted For Stephens As Speaker

Merrin Allies Attempted To Censure GOP House Members Who Voted For Stephens As Speaker. “In November, the Ohio House GOP Caucus voted to support Merrin, but it wasn’t unanimous. Twenty-two of the 31 Republicans that Rep. Jason Stephens, a Republican from Kitts Hill, backed him in November also voted for him on Tuesday. Now some Republicans want to censure those 22 Republicans. [...] On Friday, a draft of a resolution was publicized to censure the Ohio House Republicans that backed Stephens. The resolution claims their vote for Stephens ‘dishonors the vote of the Ohio House Republican Caucus, dishonors the historic brand of the Republican Party, and misrepresents the voice of Ohio Republican voters who collectively voted for these 22 members in order to defeat the dangerous and perverse Democratic Party Caucus agenda.’ [...] ‘I, at no time, promised to vote for Derek Merrin (for Ohio House Speaker),’ said [Rep. Sara] Carruthers in an interview with the Journal-News. ‘I never voted for Derek Merrin. Derek never talked to anybody on the Stephens team. He never made a call, never did anything.’” [Journal-News, [1/6/23](#)]

Merrin Has An Anti-LGBTQ+ Agenda

2021: Merrin Tried To Make Ohio Law Read That Only A “Husband And Wife” Could Adopt In Ohio, Instead Of Any “Legally Married Couple”

2021: Merrin Asked State Budget Drafters To Replace A “Legally Married Couple” Reference With “Husband And Wife.” “A dispute over a single line in the 2,057-page state budget bill - passed by the Ohio House of Representatives on Wednesday - has some civil rights advocates frustrated as they continue urging the enactment of an anti-discrimination law in this state. [...] Two Republican state representatives in particular asked that budget drafters strike the ‘legally married couple’ reference and reinsert ‘husband and wife’ - Reps. Reggie Stoltzfus, R-Paris Twp., and Derek Merrin, R-Monclova.” [Ohio Capital Journal, [4/23/21](#)]

Merrin Requested That The Budget Language Remain That Only A “Husband And Wife” Could Adopt In Ohio, Instead Of Any “Legally Married Couple.” “Later on Thursday, the Ohio Capital Journal obtained the budget amendment requests. Two Republican state representatives in particular asked that budget drafters strike the ‘legally married couple’ reference and reinsert ‘husband and wife’ - Reps. Reggie Stoltzfus, R-Paris Twp., and Derek Merrin, R-Monclova.” [Ohio Capital Journal, [4/23/21](#)]

Due To Obergefell, The Language Change Would Be Purely Semantics And Carry No Legal Weight. “House Finance Chairman Scott Oelslager said doing so carries no legal weight and that LGBTQ+ couples retain their right to adopt children. ‘It’s a semantic issue. It does not prevent adoptions (for) same-sex couples,’ the North Canton Republican said. ‘It’s just simply a semantic definition so to speak, or semantic statement that was in the code.’ [Ohio Capital Journal, [4/23/21](#)]

2022: Equality Ohio Gave Merrin’s Record An ‘F’ Grade

2022: Equality Ohio Gave Merrin’s Record An ‘F’ Grade. In 2022, Equality Ohio gave Merrin’s legislative record an “F” grade. [Equality Ohio, 2022 Lawmaker Scorecard, [Accessed 5/3/24](#)]

The Center For Christian Virtue, An Anti-LGBTQ Group, Supported Merrin’s Candidacy For Ohio House Speaker

The Center For Christian Virtue Opposed Making Sexual Orientation And Gender Identity Protected Classes From Discrimination

The Center For Christian Virtue Opposed Making Sexual Orientation A Protected Class From Discrimination. “The (Un)Fairness Act Deceptively titled the ‘Ohio Fairness Act,’ sponsors say this legislation is similar to the Equality Act in Washington. SB132 prioritizes the desires of adults over the well-being of children. By deeming that ‘sexual orientation’ and ‘gender identity’ are classes protected from discrimination, this proposed legislation would allow men and boys in women’s bathrooms, locker rooms, showers, and domestic violence shelters, as well as force girls to compete against boys in interscholastic sports.” [Center for Christian Virtue, Advocacy, [Accessed 5/11/24](#)]

The Center For Christian Virtue Promoted “Strong Marriages Between One Man And One Woman”

One Of The Center For Christian Virtue’s “Core Issues” Was “Ensuring Government Policy Promotes Strong Families And Strong Marriages Between One Man And One Woman.” “Core issues for a thriving America [...] Strong Families - Ensuring government policy promotes strong families and strong marriages between one man and one woman.” [Center for Christian Virtue, About, [Accessed 5/11/24](#)]

The Center For Christian Virtue Was Associated With Focus On The Family, Family Research Council, And Alliance Defending Freedom

The Center For Christian Virtue Was Associated With Focus On The Family, Family Research Council, And Alliance Defending Freedom. “In 1991, Phil Burress was named the organization’s president, expanding its focus and reach. Under Burress’s leadership, the organization became the state’s official Family Policy Council, associating with Focus on the Family, Family Research Council, and Alliance Defending Freedom.” [Center for Christian Virtue, Our Story, [Accessed 5/11/24](#)]

The Center For Christian Virtue President “Shout[ed] With Joy” When Merrin Won The Republican Caucus Vote For House Speaker

The Center For Christian Virtue President “Shout[ed] With Joy” When Merrin Won The Republican Caucus Vote For House Speaker. “One of the first signs that Merrin won the Republican caucus vote, conducted behind closed doors in a Statehouse committee room, was when Aaron Baer, president of the Center for Christian Virtue, ran into the hallway shouting with joy. ‘I think on all things [related to] conservative policy, I think you’re gonna see an increased likelihood [of passage],’ Baer told

cleveland.com later. 'Because you now have somebody who not just believes in it, but is capable of making the case to his colleagues and to the public about why this is needed.'" [Cleveland.com, [11/23/22](#)]

The Center For Christian Virtue President On Merrin As Speaker: "I Think On All Things Conservative Policy, I Think You're Gonna See An Increased Likelihood [Of Passage.]" "One of the first signs that Merrin won the Republican caucus vote, conducted behind closed doors in a Statehouse committee room, was when Aaron Baer, president of the Center for Christian Virtue, ran into the hallway shouting with joy. 'I think on all things [related to] conservative policy, I think you're gonna see an increased likelihood [of passage],' Baer told cleveland.com later. 'Because you now have somebody who not just believes in it, but is capable of making the case to his colleagues and to the public about why this is needed.'" [Cleveland.com, [11/23/22](#)]

The President Of Center For Christian Virtue Supported Merrin For Speaker. "Aaron Baer, president of the Center for Christian Virtue and a supporter of Merrin for speaker, said Stephens has been 'very supportive' of anti-abortion measures. But he questioned whether that might change now that Stephens was elected thanks to Democratic support. 'I think we're all grown up (enough) to know that a bunch of liberal members are not just going to team up with somebody that has a conservative voting record like Jason Stephens just because they think he's a nice guy,' Baer said. 'What was the cost of power?'" [Cleveland.com, [1/5/23](#)]

[Merrin Has Followed Ron DeSantis' Lead On Destroying The Integrity Of Public Education](#)

2023: Merrin Voted For H.B. 8, The Parents' Bill of Rights, Likened To The "Don't Say Gay" Bill

2023: Merrin Voted For H.B. 8, The Parents' Bill of Rights

2023: Merrin Voted For H.B. 8. In June 2023, Merrin voted for H.B. 8 as the House passed the bill in a 65-29 vote. "Enact the Parents' Bill of Rights. To amend sections 3314.03 and 3326.11 and to enact section 3313.473 of the Revised Code to enact the "Parents' Bill of Rights" to require public schools to adopt a policy on parental notification on student health and well-being and instructional materials with sexuality content." The bill received 65 Republican votes and 0 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 8, [6/21/23](#)]

Critics Of H.B. 8 "Likened The Bill To Florida's 'Don't Say Gay' Bill"

Critics Of H.B. 8 "Likened The Bill To Florida's 'Don't Say Gay' Bill." "An Ohio House bill to notify parents of any content in state schools that may contain 'sexuality' was introduced before an Ohio Senate committee on Tuesday. Critics likened the bill to Florida's 'Don't Say Gay' bill, which was implemented in 2022 and bars classroom discussion for some grade levels on sexual orientation and gender identity. [...] During its run through the House, the bill was opposed by a variety of youth advocacy groups, including the Kaleidoscope Youth Center, the Children's Defense Fund-Ohio and the Trevor Project, along with some school districts, the ACLU of Ohio, the Ohio Education Association and the Ohio School Counselor Association. The groups took issue with House Bill 8's language, which requires schools to notify parents and allows parents to remove students from classes based on the "sexuality content" of those classes, and amendments made while the bill was still in the House that LGBTQ advocates said made topics related to the LGBTQ community 'perhaps inappropriate for the classroom,' according to Equality Ohio's then-spokesperson Kathryn Poe, during the House committee process." [Ohio Capital Journal, [12/6/23](#)]

Merrin Co-Sponsored Several Bills To Limit The Teaching Of Race And LGBTQ Issues In Schools

2021: Merrin Co-Sponsored H.B. 322, A Bill To Regulate “The Teaching Of Certain Current Events, Race, And Sex”

2021: Merrin Co-Sponsored H.B. 322, A Bill To Regulate “The Teaching Of Certain Current Events, Race, And Sex.” [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 322, [6/10/21](#)]

Equality Ohio Deemed H.B. 322 A “Bad Queer Bill.” [Equality Ohio, 2022 Lawmaker Scorecard, [Accessed 5/12/24](#)]

2021: Merrin Co-Sponsored H.B. 327, A Bill To “Prohibit Teaching, Advocating, Or Promoting Divisive Concepts”

2021: Merrin Co-Sponsored H.B. 327, A Bill To “Prohibit Teaching, Advocating, Or Promoting Divisive Concepts.” [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 327, [6/10/21](#)]

Equality Ohio Deemed H.B. 327 A “Bad Queer Bill.” [Equality Ohio, 2022 Lawmaker Scorecard, [Accessed 5/12/24](#)]

Merrin Received Campaign Funds From FirstEnergy PAC And Protected Convicted Criminal Larry Householder Even After He Was Indicted For The FirstEnergy Scandal

July 2019: Merrin Voted For H.B. 6, The FirstEnergy Nuclear Bailout Legislation, Which Included Coal Plant Subsidies

July 2019: Merrin Voted For H.B. 6. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 6, [7/23/19](#)]

H.B. 6 Was The Legislation To Bail Out FirstEnergy Nuclear Plants

H.B. 6 Was The Legislation To Bail Out FirstEnergy Nuclear Plants. “And so it went: At least \$3 million spent in 2018 to elect Republicans backing Mr. Householder’s speaker ambitions. Nearly \$17 million more in 2019 on a successful media campaign supporting H.B. 6, the legislation bailing out FirstEnergy nuclear plants.” [New York Times, [6/29/23](#)]

HEADLINE: “The Utility Bailout House Bill 6 Made Both Ohio’s Air And Politics Dirty”

HEADLINE: “The Utility Bailout House Bill 6 Made Both Ohio’s Air And Politics Dirty.” [Rob Moore op-ed, Ohio Capital Journal, [3/6/23](#)]

H.B. 6 “Reduced Ohio’s Renewable Portfolio Standard, Requiring Utilities In Ohio To Generate Just 8.5% Of Their Power From Renewables, Lowest In The Country.” “With all the drama surrounding the Householder trial for racketeering, it can be easy to forget the bill behind the former Ohio Speaker of the House’s alleged \$60 million payoff from First Energy power company. House Bill 6 had four major impacts. It required power consumers to bail out two massive nuclear power plants in northern Ohio. It also required Ohio ratepayers to bail out two coal plants: one in Ohio, one in Indiana. It reduced energy efficiency standards, requiring Ohio utilities to reduce energy use by 17.5% rather than the previous goal of 22%. Lastly, it reduced Ohio’s renewable portfolio standard, requiring utilities in Ohio to

generate just 8.5% of their power from renewables, lowest in the country among states with standards.” [Rob Moore op-ed, Ohio Capital Journal, [3/6/23](#)]

H.B. 6 Subsidized “Two 1950s-Era Coal Plants”

H.B. 6 Subsidized “Two 1950s-Era Coal Plants.” “A new report highlights how much Resource Fuels has collected for coal supplied to one of the two 1950s-era coal plants subsidized by HB 6 and run by the Ohio Valley Electric Company, or OVEC.” [Energy News Network, [11/13/23](#)]

A “Coal Company Got Roughly \$12.6 Million Above Market Prices To Supply One Of The 1950s-Era Plants Subsidized By Ohio House Bill 6”

A “Coal Company Got Roughly \$12.6 Million Above Market Prices To Supply One Of The 1950s-Era Plants Subsidized By Ohio House Bill 6.” “A coal company got roughly \$12.6 million above market prices to supply one of the 1950s-era plants subsidized by Ohio House Bill 6. That’s roughly 50 times the amount the company gave to the dark money group at the center of that coal and nuclear bailout law, according to a new analysis from the Checks and Balances Project. [...] OVEC paid roughly \$12.6 million to Resource Fuels in above-market charges for coal, said Ray Locker, executive director of the Checks and Balances Project, which produced the report. And as a result of HB 6’s coal subsidies, Ohio ratepayers have been paying utilities for their share of OVEC’s costs that exceed their revenue.” [Energy News Network, [11/13/23](#)]

Merrin: “I Never Supported The Subsidies In HB6, I Voted To Remove The Green Energy Mandates”

Merrin: “I Never Supported The Subsidies In HB6, I Voted To Remove The Green Energy Mandates” “Merrin voted for HB6 in 2019 but said in an interview Monday he did so only because the bill also gutted the state’s energy efficiency and renewable energy programs. He didn’t co-sponsor GOP-introduced legislation last year repealing the OVEC bailouts but claimed he supported the idea. He said he’s cosponsoring the repeal now because he supports ‘free market policies’ that will reduce customers’ electric bills. ‘I never supported the subsidies in HB6, I voted to remove the green energy mandates. But I’m all for getting rid of the subsidies,’ he said. ‘I think there’s enough support between the House Republicans and the Democrats that are on the bill to push it through the house, whether [current House Speaker Jason Stephens] supports it or not.’” [Cleveland.com, [3/21/23](#)]

Merrin In 2020: “I Am Not In Favor Of Reinstating Green Energy Mandates.” “‘I am willing to vote to repeal the nuclear bailout portion of House Bill 6, but I am not in favor of reinstating green energy mandates that drive up the costs for businesses and residential properties,’ Rep. Derek Merrin (R., Monclova Township) said. He said his original support for House Bill 6 was due to its provisions reducing and eventually eliminating mandates that utilities find more of their power from renewable sources and reduce energy consumption overall.” [Toledo Blade, [12/18/20](#)]

H.B. 6 Led To Ohio’s “Biggest Racketeering Charge In History”

H.B. 6 Led To Ohio’s “Biggest Racketeering Charge In History.” “It’s not often that scandal is so closely wedded to policy, but right now Ohio is dealing with this biggest racketeering charge in history, which stemmed from negotiations over its biggest piece of environmental legislation of the century. Let’s hope we can learn from this and find ways to keep both our air and our politics clean.” [Rob Moore op-ed, Ohio Capital Journal, [3/6/23](#)]

2016-2021: Merrin Accepted Campaign Funds From FirstEnergy PAC, American Electric Power, And Convicted Criminal Larry Householder

2018: Householder Supported The Candidacy Of 21 House Republicans, Including Merrin, So They Would Support Him As Speaker Of The House

2018: Householder Supported The Candidacy Of 21 Republicans In The State House To Support His Speaker Campaign And Pass The Nuclear Bailout Law. “After returning to the legislature in 2016, Mr. Householder secretly spent millions in 2018 to support Republican candidates for 21 seats in the State House - more than a fifth of the 99 seats - who would back his insurgent campaign to again become House speaker. He spent more millions on a media campaign to push the nuclear bailout law to passage, and then tens of millions on a scorched-earth crusade to undermine a ballot initiative that threatened to undo it.” [New York Times, [6/29/23](#)]

2018: Householder Was Merrin’s Largest Campaign Donor, Donating \$7,708 To His Campaign. “On the Republican side, Rep. Derek Merrin, of Monclova Township, is running against primary challenger Barbara Lang in the 47th District consisting of Lucas County’s western suburbs and most of Fulton County. Mr. Merrin raised \$47,673 with his largest contributions coming on behalf of House Speaker candidate Larry Householder (R., Glenford), whose campaign donated \$7,708.” [Toledo Blade, [4/26/18](#)]

2016-17: Merrin Accepted \$1,500.00 From FirstEnergy Corp

2016-2017: Merrin Accepted \$1,500 From FirstEnergy PAC. [Ohio Secretary of State, File Transfer Page, accessed [1/23/24](#)]

<i>Date</i>	<i>Contributor</i>	<i>Recipient</i>	<i>Amount</i>
8/4/17	FirstEnergy PAC FSL	Friends of Derek Merrin	\$500
11/19/16	FirstEnergy PAC FSL	Friends of Derek Merrin	\$1,000

[Ohio Secretary of State, File Transfer Page, accessed [1/23/24](#)]

2018-2022: Merrin Did Not Return Campaign Contributions From FirstEnergy PAC. [Ohio Secretary of State, Expenditures, accessed [1/23/24](#)]

2019: Merrin Received A Gift From “Friends Of Householder.” [Ohio Joint Legislative Ethics Committee, Derek Merrin 2019 Addendum #1, filed [2/18/20](#)]

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2016-2021: Merrin Accepted \$2,500.00 From American Electric Power Ohio Committee For Responsible Government, Whose Shareholder Made Claims “Against American Electric Power Related To The HB 6 Scandal”

2021: Merrin Accepted \$1,000.00 From American Electric Power Ohio Committee For Responsible Government. [Ohio Secretary of State, Friends of Derek Merrin, Accessed 5/13/24]

2016-2017: Merrin Accepted \$1,500.00 From American Electric Power Ohio Committee For Responsible Government. [Ohio Secretary of State, [Accessed 5/14/24](#)]

An American Electric Power Shareholder Made Claims “Against American Electric Power Related To The HB 6 Scandal.” “A March 17 hearing in a separate federal court case will address whether a shareholder can move forward with claims against American Electric Power related to the HB 6 scandal. [...] Federal Judge Sarah Morrison will hear arguments on March 17 in Columbus on whether to let an additional shareholder join litigation against American Electric Power based on alleged actions related to HB 6.” [Energy News Network, [3/14/23](#)]

FirstEnergy Paid Former Ohio House Speaker Householder \$60 Million To Pass A \$1.3 Billion Bailout For Two Of Their Nuclear Power Plants, A Crime For Which Householder Was Sentenced To 20 Years In Prison

FirstEnergy Paid Former Ohio House Speaker Householder \$60 Million To Pass A \$1.3 Billion Bailout For Two Of Their Nuclear Power Plants

Householder Accepted \$60 Million From FirstEnergy In Exchange For Passing A \$1.3 Billion Bailout For Two Of FirstEnergy’s Nuclear Power Plants. “The former speaker, Larry L. Householder, was convicted in March of racketeering and bribery for accepting some \$60 million from a major utility holding company, FirstEnergy Corporation, in exchange for arranging a \$1.3 billion bailout for two troubled nuclear power plants the company operates.” [New York Times, [6/29/23](#)]

A Federal Investigation Focused On Allegations That “An Unnamed Energy Company That Is Widely Understood To Be FirstEnergy” Secretly Contributed Millions That Went Toward Securing Householder’s Speaker Position. “The federal investigation has so far focused on allegations that Householder, along with several political operatives also charged in the case, used Generation Now to secretly receive \$60 million from an unnamed energy company that is widely understood to be FirstEnergy. That money was used to secure Householder the position of speaker and pass and defend a billion-dollar bailout for two nuclear power plants owned by a FirstEnergy subsidiary, which later emerged from bankruptcy as a new company called Energy Harbor. No energy company has been charged in the case, but FirstEnergy and, reportedly Energy Harbor, have been subpoenaed.” [Energy and Policy Institute, [12/2/20](#)]

FirstEnergy Gave Householder Money To Regain The Speaker’s Post Un Exchange For Housholder Pushing Legislation To Bail Out FirstEnergy’s Nuclear Plants. “Over several days of socializing at high-end restaurants, prosecutors said, they discussed a deal: Mr. Householder needed money to regain the speaker’s post when its occupant left office in 2018. The company needed a legislative solution to its nuclear power woes. What began with a handshake became a multimillion-dollar political operation, with the money laundered through nonprofit groups allowed by the tax code to conceal donors’ names.” [New York Times, [6/29/23](#)]

July 2020: Householder Was Indicted On Racketeering Charges In Connection To The FirstEnergy Scheme

July 2020: Householder Was Indicted On Racketeering Charges In Connection To The FirstEnergy Scheme. “An ugly campaign for a taxpayer-funded corporate bailout was itself funded by an even uglier criminal conspiracy, federal law enforcement officials said Tuesday. Ohio House Speaker Larry Householder, four political operatives and a dark-money group were charged Tuesday in a criminal complaint that an Ohio energy company paid them \$61 million to get a \$1.3 billion nuclear bailout from

taxpayers. Charged along with Householder were Matt Borges, a lobbyist who was formerly chairman of the Ohio Republican Party, Neil Clark, a lobbyist who owns Grant Street Consulting, Juan Cespedes, also a lobbyist, and Householder's aide, Jeffrey Longstreth. All are charged with racketeering, which carries a prison sentence of up to 20 years." [Ohio Capital Journal, [7/21/20](#)]

June 2023: Householder Was Sentenced To 20 Years In Prison

June 2023: Householder Was Sentenced To 20 Years In Prison For The Scandal. "Former Ohio House Speaker Larry Householder, 64, of Glenford, Ohio, was sentenced in federal court here today to 240 months in prison for leading a racketeering conspiracy to receive nearly \$61 million in bribes to pass and uphold a billion-dollar nuclear plant bailout. The Court remanded Householder to the custody of the U.S. Marshals at the conclusion of sentencing." [Department of Justice, [6/29/23](#)]

Merrin's Primary Opponent Accused Him Of Being A "Top Henchman" To Disgraced And Convicted Ohio House Member Larry Householder, Whose Position Merrin Voted To Maintain Even After His Indictment

Merrin's Primary Opponent Accused Him Of Being A "Top Henchman" To Disgraced And Convicted Ohio House Member Larry Householder, They Claimed "Speculation Swirls Merrin Could Be Charged Next." "Notably, [Ohio State Congressman Craig] Riedel's campaign recently began airing a searing Merrin attack ad - blasting the legislator as 'a top henchman' to then-Ohio House Speaker Larry Householder. Householder was convicted last year in the largest bribery scheme in state history and sentenced in June to 20 years in prison. The ad suggests 'speculation swirls Merrin could be charged next.'" [The Associated Press, [3/18/24](#)]

Before Householder Was Charged With Large-Scale Bribery, "Merrin Had Taken Upwards Of \$17,000 Between Householder's Dark Money Growth & Opportunity Pac And His Official Committee"

Before Householder Was Charged With Large-Scale Bribery, "Merrin Had Taken Upwards Of \$17,000 Between Householder's Dark Money Growth & Opportunity Pac And His Official Committee." "Merrin also has some eyebrow-raising ties to former Speaker Householder, who is serving 20 years in prison after being convicted in a \$60 million bribery case. Before the scandal broke, Merrin had taken upwards of \$17,000 between Householder's dark money Growth & Opportunity PAC and his official committee." [The Daily Beast, [1/30/24](#)]

2021: Merrin Was One Of The Few Ohio House Members To Vote Against Householder's Expulsion

2021: Merrin Was One Of The Few Ohio House Members To Vote Against Householder's Expulsion. "After Householder was arrested, Merrin was one of 20 Republicans who voted against expelling the former speaker from the legislature in 2021.." [The Daily Beast, [1/30/24](#)]

June 2021: Merrin Was One Of 16 Representatives To Vote Against H.Res. 69, A Resolution To Expel Householder. "To expel Representative Larry Householder from the House of Representatives." [Ohio Legislature, H.Res. 69, [6/16/21](#)]

January 2019: Merrin Voted For Householder For House Speaker

January 2019: Merrin Voted For Householder For House Speaker. "Merrin voted for Larry Householder to become speaker in January 2019 over then-Speaker Ryan Smith. Later that year, he

voted for H.B. 6, the controversial energy law that federal prosecutors say that Householder passed with the help of \$60 million in bribes from FirstEnergy, the Akron-based utility that stood to profit from the law. Last year, Merrin opposed the House's vote to expel Householder, who goes on trial next January for a federal corruption charge." [Cleveland.com, [11/23/22](#)]

2023: Merrin Waited Until The Eve Of Householder's Trial, Roughly Two Years After His Arrest, To Change Ethics Rules To Prevent Further Corruption

2023: Merrin Helped Usher In An "Ethics Reform Bill" On The Eve Of Former Ohio House Speaker Householder's Trial, Despite The Ethics Laws Remaining Unchanged In The Then Two Years Since Householder's Arrest. "As the federal trial for Ohio's largest public corruption scandal begins this week, a group of Republican representatives has introduced the 'Ohio Ethics and Financial Disclosure Reform Act.' [...] The legal case centers around former Republican House Speaker Larry Householder and four associates. Federal prosecutors allege that the men accepted more than \$60 million from FirstEnergy in exchange for a bailout that would have given the company more than \$1 billion in subsidies over seven years. [...] But in the two and half years since his arrest, Ohio's ethics and disclosure laws for elected officials haven't changed. [...] 'This bill will change the status quo and be proactive in regaining Ohioans' trust,' Rep. Derek Merrin, R-Monclova Township, said. [...] 'We're going to need help to get this through ...,' Merrin said. 'I think this is going to ultimately be a joint effort where we join together and say we need to really do what's best for Ohio.'" [The Columbus Dispatch, [1/19/23](#)]

The "Ethics Reform Bill" Took Several Cues From Householder's Case. "There are five major parts of the bill, and the first would require all lobbying income to be reported and sourced directly to the clients they represent. [...] The next change also sprung from the upcoming federal case. It deals with what needs to be disclosed about people hoping to serve on the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio. That's the state agency that regulates utility companies like FirstEnergy. This bill would require nominees to disclose any income, previous business relationships or ties to entities regulated by the PUCO by the time they are submitted to the governor for an appointment. [...] Third, the bill would prohibit elected officials from getting paid to serve on corporate boards unless the seat was held prior to taking office and the official has ownership in the corporation. [...] Fourth, the bill would require the financial disclosure statements submitted by all candidates and elected officials to be posted online in an easily searchable format. [...] And finally, the bill would make it clear that the Ohio Ethics Commission and the Joint Legislative Ethics Committee could ask Ohio's Bureau of Criminal Investigation for help investigating allegations of misconduct." [The Columbus Dispatch, [1/19/23](#)]

2023: When Merrin Lost The Ohio House Speakership To A More Moderate Republican, He Sought To "Lessen The Speaker's Power" By Changing House Rules

2023: When Merrin Lost The Ohio House Speakership To A More Moderate Republican, He Sought To "Lessen The Speaker's Power" By Changing House Rules. "With votes from 22 Republicans and 32 Democrats in the 99-member House, Stephens won with more support from Democrats than his own party. Merrin, of Monclova Township, won an unofficial vote of the Republican Congress for the position in November. [...] Merrin invited more than 40 fellow House Republicans who supported him to meet privately Wednesday to discuss seeking changes to House rules to lessen the speaker's power and ensure that they are heard." [The Ironton Tribune, [1/15/23](#)]

2023: Merrin And His Allies Sued Ohio House Speaker Jason Stephens Over "Control Of The House GOP's Campaign Fund"

2023: Merrin And His Allies Sued Ohio House Speaker Jason Stephens Over “Control Of The House GOP’s Campaign Fund.” “The months-long schism among Ohio House Republicans has turned litigious, with state Rep. Derek Merrin and two allies suing Ohio House Speaker Jason Stephens and others over control of the House GOP’s campaign fund. [...] The lawsuit, filed Saturday in Franklin County Common Pleas Court, takes the infighting within the House GOP to a new level. Merrin along with state Reps. Phil Plummer of Dayton and Ron Ferguson of Jefferson County are seeking nearly \$400,000 in reimbursements and damages from Stephens, of Lawrence County, and state Rep. Jeff LaRe of Fairfield County, Stephens’ pick to head the Ohio House Republican Alliance (OHRA), the caucus’ campaign arm. [...] The suit also asks that the court order Merrin and Plummer to be put in charge of OHRA, which campaign-finance data shows had close to \$1.1 million in its bank account as of the end of June.” [Cleveland.com, [10/12/23](#)]

After Merrin Lost The House Speakership To Stephens, Merrin’s Supporters Proposed “Allowing People To Carry Firearms On The House Floor”

After Merrin Lost The House Speakership To Jason Stephens, Merrin’s Supporters Proposed “Different Rules That Would Reduce Some Of The Speaker’s Power,” Including “Allowing People To Carry Firearms On The House Floor.” “Earlier Tuesday, a majority of the GOP members elected Rep. Derek Merrin, of Monclova, as the official leader of the House Republican Caucus and its campaign arm, which also puts him in control of its spending. Usually the majority caucus chair would be the same person chosen to lead the 99-member House, but Rep. Jason Stephens, of Kitts Hill, previously beat Merrin in the race for the powerful role of speaker, winning the job with support from the 32 Democrats and a smaller segment of the Republicans. The division played out again Tuesday as Merrin’s supporters clashed with Stephens in an unsuccessful effort to propose different rules that would reduce some of the speaker’s power and make other changes, including allowing people to carry firearms on the House floor and only having Christian prayers to begin House sessions.” [WFMJ, [1/25/23](#)]

Merrin Is Out For Himself

As Presumptive Speaker, Merrin Sought Upgrades To The Ohio House Chamber’s Furnishings, Including “Plush Carpeting,” “More Regal” Signs For Lawmakers’ Offices, And “Cream Or Beige” Stationery

Merrin Sought Upgrades To The Ohio House Chamber’s Furnishings, Including “Plush Carpeting,” “More Regal” Signs For Lawmakers’ Offices, And “Cream Or Beige” Stationery. “Rep. Derek Merrin was considering a number of upgrades to the chamber’s furnishings that have since largely been cast aside after he lost the vote for Ohio House speaker. Merrin, a Toledo-area Republican, asked House staff for a number of improvements for Ohio House members. He asked for all carpeting in the House to be replaced with plush carpeting. He sought new furniture, artwork, bookshelves, lighting and wall paint, as well as ‘larger and more regal’ signs for lawmakers’ offices. He wanted members to get new, foil-embossed business cards, like state senators already have, as well as stationery on ‘cream or beige’ paper. [...] It’s unclear how much the upgrades Merrin wanted would have cost taxpayers.” [Cleveland, [3/13/23](#)]

As Chair Of Ways And Means, Merrin Did Not Bring A Bill Regulating Pass-Through Property Sales To A Hearing

2021: As Chair Of Ways And Means, Merrin Did Not Bring A Bill Regulating Pass-Through Property Sales To A Hearing. “During a typical sale, buyers report to the county that they bought a property and pay a property conveyance tax. But when buyers purchase a home or commercial property through an LLC, they avoid paying conveyance taxes because the sale wasn’t technically a property sale but the sale of a business, which happened to come with the property, Galloway said. [...] lawmakers do not appear interested in ending property sales through LLCs. Last legislative session, a bipartisan-sponsored bill would have required anyone buying more than 50% of an ownership interest via a pass-through entity, such as an LLC, to report the sale to the county auditor in 30 days the sale amount, among other information and pay the conveyance tax. The bill went to the House Ways and Means Committee and never received a hearing. Rep. Derek Merrin, a Toledo-area Republican sponsoring HB126, chaired that committee.” [Cleveland.com, [1/9/22](#)]

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Highlights Summary

Abortion, Reproductive Justice, and Women's and Gender Equality Highlights

2022: Merrin cosponsored H.B. 598, an abortion ban with no exceptions for rape or incest that could make doctors liable to prosecution.

Merrin cosponsored H.B. 413, a bill that would have totally banned abortion and would allow women and children as young as 13 to be imprisoned for seeking an abortion.

2019: As the chair of the committee that passed Ohio's heartbeat bill to the full house, Merrin was instrumental in passing one of the nation's most restrictive pieces of abortion legislation at the time.

After losing the 2023 Speaker battle, Merrin tried to raise the threshold for passage of ballot initiatives to thwart a citizen-led ballot initiative to protect abortion in Ohio.

2021: Merrin voted in favor of S.B. 157, which would require doctors to report when "A child is born alive following an abortion or attempted abortion" and provide life-saving care.

2020: Merrin voted for S.B. 260, a bill requiring physicians to be physically present for the initial dose of an abortion-inducing drug.

2020: Merrin voted for S.B. 27, which required burial or cremation for aborted fetuses.

2018: Merrin voted for S.B. 145, a bill to "Criminalize and create a civil action for dismemberment abortions."

2016: Merrin voted for S.B. 127, a bill to ban abortion after 20 weeks.

2019: Merrin proposed amendments he claimed would help to pass H.B. 297, which would give tax credits to donors "For pregnancy centers who promote carrying a pregnancy to term."

2018: Ohio Right To Life PAC endorsed Merrin.

2021: Merrin addressed the Foundation For Life NW Ohio and lauded the organization for "Being a voice for the voiceless" in the "Fight for the unborn."

In the State House, Merrin warned that "Women are often coerced into abortion".

Merrin: "We will defend the unborn & protect our constitution just like Rep. Scott Wiggam has been doing all year!!"

2022: Asked about abortion by the Toledo Blade, Merrin declined to provide specifics and claimed to have been focused on economic issues.

Budget and Taxes Highlights

Merrin sought upgrades to the Ohio House chamber's furnishings, including "plush carpeting," "more regal" signs for lawmakers' offices, and "cream or beige" stationery.

2011: As Mayor, Merrin cut Waterville Village employees' sick days down from 18 to 10.

2010: Then-Mayor Merrin proposed raising Waterville Village employees' health insurance premiums from 14 to 30 percent.

2020: Merrin proposed massive cuts to "projects for colleges and universities, sports and cultural projects, and the Ohio department of natural resources."

2024: Merrin claimed "cut[ting] off all welfare benefits and financial incentives to illegal immigrants" was one of "the most important issues right now."

2023: Merrin favored "eliminating the state income tax altogether."

Discussing H.B. 126, which could prohibit school districts from disputing property valuations, Merrin argued that districts' attorneys are incentivized to file "as many complaints as they can."

Merrin introduced legislation to restrict property tax valuation complaints three times.

Merrin claimed he would "support a Constitutional amendment to force lawmakers to balance to budget."

Merrin favored "eliminating the state income tax altogether."

2017: Merrin added a budget bill provision that critics argued could be an attempt to "usurp" city authority on lead abatement by voiding "any law or rule governing the abatement of lead, lead-based paint, or the employment or licensing of lead abatement professionals."

In the Ways and Means Committee, Merrin shepherded a bill that would "decimate local government resources."

2017-2023: Merrin voted for the final passage of every two-year budget bill, including a 2023 budget bill that cut taxes for the wealthy.

Jobs and the Economy Highlights

2017: Merrin cosponsored a public employee right-to-work bill, which would decrease wages and weaken workers' power to unionize.

2011 and 2017: On multiple occasions, Merrin tried to cut the number of paid sick days for government employees, succeeding once in cutting days nearly in half.

Merrin supported changing Ohio's prevailing wage law, which existed to prevent government construction contract workers from getting paid less than nearby workers on similar projects.

Merrin has been trying to raise village and state employees' health insurance premiums since 2010.

2020: Merrin voted against H.B. 308, which would extend "Workers' compensation coverage to first-responders with work-related post-traumatic stress disorder."

2017: Merrin voted against H.B. 158, which would allow military spouses who quit jobs to accompany their spouses on military transfers to be eligible for unemployment.

2011: Merrin sought to rein in Waterville's budget by cutting staff members.

Merrin criticized contract spending by Ohio's unemployment agency, saying "I do not have confidence that we are paying what is appropriate for the services that we're getting."

2020: Merrin “Lambasted” the Ohio Department Of Job And Family Services’s “Broken phone and online systems.”

February 2021: Merrin promoted H.B. 127 to “Provide businesses relief from covid orders & penalties”

2022: Merrin invited Ohioans to an Americans For Prosperity event to “Remember what [gas] Prices were like before Biden!”

Merrin in August 2019: “No tax on inflation!”

Merrin in November 2020: “Our small businesses and economy are being irreparably damaged by orders/regulations that have proven non-effective in combatting the virus.”

Merrin in March 2024: “The cost of living has skyrocketed in northwest Ohio due to the fiscal insanity and failed leadership in Washington.”

Merrin in May 2024: “#bidenomics isn’t working. It’s harder for working families to make ends meet & it’s a direct result of DC democrats far left agenda.”

2017: Merrin voted for H.B. 50, a bill to require color photos on SNAP cards.

COVID-19 Highlights

Thanksgiving 2020: Merrin flouted Ohio’s Covid-19 restrictions and proudly claimed his family would “still gather indoors with 10 to 15 people and no masks.”

September 2020: When the pandemic was in full swing, Merrin bragged about attending Trump’s massive rally that touted nearly zero Covid-19 restrictions

During the pandemic, Merrin proposed legislation to shorten “the length of an emergency declaration from 120 days to 10.”

2020: Merrin supported legislation that “Dramatically” curtailed the authority of Ohio Department Of Public Health Director Amy Acton “Effectively nullifying her orders if they are not endorsed by a legislative panel.”

During the beginning of the pandemic, Merrin recklessly advocated for loosened restrictions claiming prematurely that “The surge never happened.”

Merrin repeatedly took action to reduce Covid-19 vaccinations, voting for legislation to curtail mandatory vaccinations and legitimize COVID-19 “vaccine injuries.”

During the pandemic, Merrin sponsored legislation to rake back “\$600 million promised to colleges, universities, local communities and some state agencies for capital improvement projects” to offset funding shortages.

2021: Merrin introduced H.B. 127, a bill that sought to “Halt enforcement of coronavirus health orders” and “Require the state to reimburse businesses fined for having violated health orders.”

Merrin co-sponsored legislation to “Protect individuals from being compelled to wear a mask.”

Crime, Public Safety, Criminal Justice, and Police Reform Highlights

Merrin's primary opponent accused him of being a "Top henchman" to disgraced and convicted Ohio House Speaker Larry Householder.

2012: While he was the Mayor Of Waterville, Merrin appointed Officer David LaGrange, who was later accused of purposely withholding body camera evidence, to be Police Chief.

2020: Merrin voted against House Bill 136, a bill that prohibited the death penalty if the offender was mentally ill at the time of the offense.

Merrin: "We need to adjust the local government funding formula, to try and find more financial assistance to get more officers on the streets."

Merrin voted to lower the minimum age for a police officer to 18.

2022: Merrin voted for H.B. 501, to "Authorize property taxes for school resource officer services"

2017: Merrin voted against H.B. 95, which would "Increase penalties for traffic violation if distracted driving is factor."

Education Highlights

2023: Merrin defiantly declared "the bill is alive" after critics denounced a controversial education reform bill referred to as the "Higher Education Destruction Act."

2023: Merrin voted for H.B. 8, the Parents' Bill Of Rights, which was likened to the "Don't Say Gay" bill.

2021: Merrin supported a bill that "would make it harder for school districts to argue before county boards of revision over property values."

2019: Merrin supported a bill that aimed "to restrict how public schools can approach the topic of abortion in sex education classes."

2021: Merrin co-sponsored a bill that sought to expand Ohio's school voucher program, which critics called a cynical attempt to "funnel more taxpayer funds to private schools."

2018: Merrin introduced a bill to reduce the number of sick days for school district employees from 15 days to 10.

2020: Merrin was accused by his opponent of using certain Toledo school districts' logos that "misleadingly implicate[d] he has been endorsed by those districts."

2018: Merrin accepted thousands in donations from associates of a now-defunct online charter school which was "transferred close to \$16.5 million" from Ohio school districts.

2023: Merrin spoke at an American Union PAC event with former Rep. Lee Zeldin to discuss "education."

Merrin co-sponsored several bills to limit the teaching of race and LGBTQ issues in schools.

2023: Merrin voted for H.B. 214, which "would mandate school districts to establish policies that ban teachers, job applicants and students from adhering to a certain political or ideological belief."

Merrin voted for a bill that the Office of The Ohio Public Defender said would "contribute to the school-to-prison pipeline."

Elections and Voting Highlights

Merrin sought to elevate Scott Wiggam, a "Big Lie" conspiracy theorist, to a leadership position in the Ohio House.

Merrin tried to raise the threshold for passage of ballot initiatives to thwart a citizen-led ballot initiative to protect abortion in Ohio.

Merrin introduced a ballot measure language bill that critics said would "create confusion and make levy ballot language less transparent."

2021: Merrin voted for unconstitutional Congressional maps.

Merrin repeatedly voted to damage the voting process.

- *Merrin voted for H.J.R. 4, to ban municipalities from allowing people who could not vote at the state or federal level to vote in local elections.*
- *Merrin urged Congress not to adopt the For The People Act.*
- *In 2018, Merrin voted to reduce the number of poll workers in Ohio.*
- *2017: Merrin voted for H.B. 41, which shortened the period to correct voter registrations.*

Merrin claimed he would stand "up to the entrenched political class" and slammed "career politicians" despite having held an elected office in nearly every year from 2006 to 2024.

Environment Highlights

July 2019: Merrin voted for the FirstEnergy nuclear bailout legislation, which included coal plant subsidies.

Merrin voted against a bill designed to protect Lake Erie water quality.

Merrin opposed a bill to "Let Ohio utilities offer voluntary energy saving programs."

Merrin voted for a bill to "Prohibit sale restrictions on motor vehicle based on power source" that included an "Unvetted giveaway" to utilities.

2021: Merrin voted for a bill "Blocking cities from banning natural gas."

2021: Merrin voted for a bill allowing counties to "Keep out new solar and wind farms."

2020: Merrin voted for H.B. 163, a bill creating a process for "Withholding local government funds and state water and sewer assistance from municipal corporations."

January 2024: Merrin said that "Americans should not be pressured to buy electric cars."

2019: Merrin voted against a gas tax increase that funded road work.

2016-17: Merrin voted for bills to make the "Renewable energy, energy efficiency, and peak demand reduction requirements [...] No longer true requirements."

Ethics, Government, and Miscellaneous Highlights

Merrin received campaign funds from FirstEnergy PAC and protected convicted criminal Larry Householder even after he was indicted for the FirstEnergy scandal.

2023: Merrin waited until the eve of Householder's trial, roughly two years after his arrest, to change ethics rules to prevent further corruption.

2017: Merrin added a budget bill provision that critics argued could be an attempt to “usurp” city authority on lead abatement.

2020: Merrin’s opponent claimed his use of “Logos from several suburban Toledo school districts” suggested that “The district supports the election of Mr. Merrin.”

Gun Control Highlights

Merrin voted in favor of allowing school personnel to carry firearms.

Merrin sought to eliminate license requirements to carry firearms.

Merrin worked to create loopholes and lessen violation penalties for concealed firearms carriers.

2019: Merrin voted in favor of H.B. 228 to override “Governor’s veto of bill shifting to prosecution the burden of proving whether shooter acted in self-defense.”

2020: Merrin voted in favor of H.B. 425, which would eliminate “requirement that a driver ‘promptly’ notifies law enforcement of presence of gun in a car during traffic stops.”

2018: Merrin voted in favor of H.B. 79, which would allow “tactical medical professionals with permission to carry firearms by their law enforcement agencies to carry them in their personal lives.”

2018: Merrin voted in favor of S.B. 81, which “waives concealed carry license fee for active and retired military personnel and accepts military training as proof of firearm competency.”

After Merrin lost the House Speakership to Jason Stephens, Merrin’s supporters proposed “different rules that would reduce some of the Speaker’s power,” including “allowing people to carry firearms on the House floor.”

Merrin in 2020: “With what we’ve seen with the riots and a breakdown of protecting private property, this isn’t the time to be waiving people’s constitutional [gun] rights.”

2016: Merrin was “proud to be trusted to protect gun rights & 2nd Amendment” by the NRA.

Merrin was a member of the NRA.

Ohio Gun Owners promoted Merrin’s campaign for Ohio HD-42.

Health Care, Mental Health, Drugs, and Addiction Highlights

2024: Merrin accepted the endorsement of House Speaker Mike Johnson, who advocated for slashing Medicare funding, the repeal of Obamacare, and voted against capping insulin costs.

2011: While Merrin was the Mayor Of Waterville, he personally led an effort to reduce “the number of paid sick days for village employees” from 18 to 10 days.

2011: While Merrin was the Mayor Of Waterville he “Proposed employees cover 30 percent of their health-care costs, up from the [then] Current 15 percent.”

Housing and Homelessness Highlights

2018: After “Conversations [...] With local developers,” Merrin introduced H.B. 371, “A bill preventing the taxable value of land from increasing simply because it has been subdivided for future residential development.”

2021: Merrin supported H.B. 126, which “Would make it harder for school districts to argue before county boards of revision over property values.”

April 2017: Merrin proposed legislation that would void local laws governing lead abatement in Ohio, which faced opposition from local elected officials, the Akron children’s hospital lead exposure and detoxification clinic, and nonprofits that dealt with lead poisoning.

2020: Merrin voted against H.B. 199, which would “Require commercial roofing contractors to have a license.”

Human and Civil Rights Highlights

2020: Merrin voted against H.B. 136, which would “Prohibit imposing the death penalty for aggravated murder when the offender had a serious mental illness at the time of the offense.”

2018: Merrin voted against H.B. 411, a “Bipartisan bill aimed at making sure that those wrongfully imprisoned are justly compensated.”

- Merrin opposed reproductive freedoms under the guise of concern for human rights. Merrin voted for Ohio’s heartbeat bill, which was renamed as the “Human Rights Protection Act.”

2019: A legislative aide claimed Merrin said “Mexicans are dangerous people,” which Merrin denied.

2020: Merrin shared a story announcing that an order closing in-person education had been overturned, which he described as “a big win for religious freedom.”

2017: Merrin proposed legislation that would void local laws governing lead abatement, which he argued were “Discriminatory” and harmful to “Minorities.”

Immigration Highlights

Merrin defended the 2019 government shutdown, citing his support for Trump’s wall.

Merrin co-sponsored legislation that expressed that Ohio “stood with” Texas and denounced the supposed “Open-border policy.”

2024: Merrin said that he supported “Sending our military down there immediately to stop illegal immigration.”

2024: Merrin said that the U.S. Needed to “Stop the invasion at the Southern border.”

Merrin said Laken Riley's murder was "A direct result of President Biden's and Democrats' inability to deal with unauthorized immigrants."

2024: Merrin accepted the endorsement of notorious xenophobe and former president, Donald Trump.

2024: Merrin accepted the endorsement of House Speaker Mike Johnson, who eschewed bipartisan border security legislation.

2017: Merrin voted for H.B. 380, a bill to "Prohibit unauthorized aliens from receiving workers' compensation."

MAGA, Partisanship, and Far-Right Affiliations Highlights

2024: Merrin accepted the endorsement of Former President Donald Trump, who implied that Merrin was a friend to MAGA.

2024: Merrin accepted the endorsement of far-right MAGA ally Senator Tommy Tuberville.

2023: When Merrin lost the Ohio House Speakership to a more moderate Republican, he sought to "lessen the speaker's power" by changing House rules.

2018: Merrin said it was a "true honor" to "welcome" Vice President Mike Pence to Northwest Ohio.

Before running for Congress, Merrin would not commit to voting for Trump in the 2024 primary, then changed his tune and endorsed Trump on the first day of his Congressional campaign.

Americans For Prosperity, a group that endorsed Nikki Haley over Trump, endorsed Merrin in 2022.

Merrin contributed \$10 to former Rep. Steve King, the "Congressman most openly affiliated with white nationalism."

Merrin contributed \$150 to Candice Keller, a "Far-right Republican" who blamed the 2019 Dayton shooting on gay marriage, among other supposed societal ills.

During his Waterville mayoral campaign, Merrin's "cell phone's voicemail greeting quoted conservative economist Milton Friedman."

Infrastructure Highlights

Merrin made opposition to Toledo's public transit agency a staple of his career, repeatedly encouraging audits of the organization and opposing funding.

Merrin voted against a 2023 transportation budget, citing opposition to Amtrak expansion.

2019: Merrin voted against a gas tax increase that funded road work.

2017: Merrin voted against a \$7.8 billion transportation budget.

April 2017: Merrin proposed legislation that would void local laws governing lead abatement in Ohio, which faced opposition from local elected officials, the Akron Children's Hospital lead exposure and detoxification clinic, and nonprofits that dealt with lead poisoning.

2018: After "Conversations [...] With local developers," Merrin introduced a property tax bill that could have cost school districts millions of dollars.

Merrin supported changing Ohio's prevailing wage law, which existed to prevent government construction contract workers from getting paid less than nearby workers on similar projects.

2011: Despite "Area residents' objections," Merrin and Waterville "Granted [the village] a special-use permit to operate a yard-waste transfer facility."

2017: Merrin proposed legislation in the Ohio Statehouse that sought to "Remove mandatory lead pipe testing for rental properties in Ohio cities"

2022: Merrin voted for H.B. 364, a "Waterworks infrastructure improvement surcharge."

International Relations Highlights

Merrin "hesitate[d] to support unlimited aid to Ukraine."

January 2019: a Latina legislative aid accused Merrin of saying that "Mexicans are dangerous people."

January 2024: Merrin said that "He wants to finish the wall."

2023: Merrin voted for a bill to "Prohibit state officials, employees, and contractors from using TikTok, WeChat, or any other application or service owned by an entity located in China."

LGBTQ Rights Highlights

Merrin supported anti-trans legislation as a legislator.

- *In 2022, Merrin cosponsored a bill "that would ban transgender girls and women from participating in girls' and womens' sports at Ohio public schools and universities."*
- *In 2023, Merrin supported an anti-trans bill, H.B. 68, that the Republican governor vetoed.*
- *Merrin later claimed to have been "leading the charge" to override the veto of H.B. 68.*

2021: Merrin tried to make Ohio law read that only a "Husband and wife" could adopt in Ohio, instead of any "Legally married couple." The change would have been purely semantic.

2018: Merrin voted for H.B. 36, a bill to "Allow [a] Minister not to solemnize marriages contrary to beliefs."

2023: Merrin voted for H.B. 8, the Parents' Bill Of Rights, which was likened to the "Don't Say Gay" bill in Florida.

Merrin co-sponsored several bills to limit the teaching of race and LGBTQ issues in schools.

2022: Equality Ohio gave Merrin's record an 'F' grade.

Military, National Security, and Veterans' Affairs Highlights

2020: Merrin was accused of "Failing to participate in any meetings of the Ohio House's 'Armed Services And Veterans Affairs' Committee and displaying a lack of interest in the 180th Fighter Wing."

Merrin tweeted in reference to Israel: "We cannot abandon our strongest ally in the middle east as it faces direct acts of terrorism from Iran and their proxies."

2021: During the time that confederate statues were being removed nationwide, Merrin voted in favor of H.B. 190 "To prohibit a war relic located on public property or cemetery association property from being sold, disturbed, or otherwise disposed of."

Unions and Organized Labor Highlights

2017: Merrin cosponsored a public employee right-to-work bill, thus trying to weaken union power.

2017: Merrin introduced a bill requiring state employees to pay 15% of their dental, vision, and life insurance premiums.

2011 and 2017: On multiple occasions, Merrin tried to cut the number of paid sick days for government employees, succeeding once in cutting days nearly in half.

2011: Merrin supported a bill intended to limit the collective bargaining rights of public employees, which Ohio voters later voted to overturn.

Merrin supported changing Ohio's prevailing wage law, which existed to prevent government construction contract workers from getting paid less than nearby workers on similar projects.

Ohio House, 2016-2024 Highlights

August 2, 2016-2024: Merrin served in the Ohio House of Representatives.

- *2023: Merrin served as Vice Chair of the Ways and Means Committee but no longer served on the committee by May 2023.*
- *2022: Merrin served on six committees and chaired the Ways and Means Committee.*
- *2019-2020: Merrin served on the Health, Insurance, and Ways and Means Committees and chaired the Health Committee.*

2023: Merrin lost a dramatic fight for the Ohio House Speakership to a more moderate Republican amid concerns about his ultra-conservative record.

2023: Speaker Stephens removed Merrin from his Vice Chair role on the Ways and Means Committee.

2016-2024: Merrin introduced 40 house bills as primary sponsor, nine of which were signed into law.

As Chair of the Ways and Means Committee, Merrin represented the interests of business.

FirstEnergy H.B. 6 Scandal Highlights

- *July 2019: Merrin Voted For The FirstEnergy Nuclear Bailout Legislation, Which Included Coal Plant Subsidies*
- *Merrin's Primary Opponent Accused Him Of Being A "Top Henchman" To Disgraced And Convicted Ohio House Member Larry Householder, They Claimed "Speculation Swirls Merrin Could Be Charged Next"*

- 2023: Merrin Helped Usher In An “Ethics Reform Bill” On The Eve Of Former Ohio House Speaker Householder’s Trial, Despite The Ethics Laws Remaining Unchanged In The Then Two Years Since Householder’s Arrest

Campaign Finance Highlights

Merrin’s campaign raised \$256,565.41 and spent \$168,399.79

Merrin loaned his campaign \$30,000 in February 2024, then refunded himself in March 2024

Merrin accepted \$17,000 from “Big Lie” supporting Members of Congress and their leadership PACs.

Merrin accepted over \$10,000 from entities involved with the FirstEnergy scandal.

2018-2022: Merrin accepted \$16,250 from gas, oil, and energy industry PACs.

2018-2023: Merrin accepted \$11,400 from pharmaceutical industry PACs.

2018-2022: Merrin accepted \$7,750 from insurance industry PACs.

2018-2023: Merrin’s committee contributed \$381,825 to Republican Party organizations.

2019-2023: Merrin’s committee contributed \$410 to anti-abortion organizations.

Personal Finance Highlights

- 2024: Merrin Had An Estimated Net Worth Between \$315,546 And \$1,478,506
- 2024: Merrin Reported Earning \$70,656.11 From The State Of Ohio In 2023 And \$5,924.91 In January 2024
- 2024: Merrin Reported Between \$597,040 and \$1,760,000 In Assets, With Between \$1,207 And \$6,200 In Income In January 2024

Waterville Mayor and City Council Highlights

2011: As Waterville Mayor, Merrin cut the number of paid sick days for Village employees by nearly half.

2011: Merrin supported a bill intended to limit the collective bargaining rights of public employees, which Ohio voters later voted to overturn.

2011: while Merrin was the Mayor of Waterville he “Proposed employees cover 30 percent of their health-care costs, up from the [then] Current 15 percent.”

2011: Merrin sought to rein in Waterville’s budget by cutting staff members.

2011: Merrin attended the Tea Party’s “Third annual Tax Day Rally” wherein he advocated for attendants to use local government as a stepping stone to push their agenda in “State and national posts.”

2012: While he was the Mayor of Waterville, Merrin appointed Officer David LaGrange, who was later accused of purposely withholding body camera evidence, to be Police Chief.

2010: Then-Mayor Merrin sought to have a monthly trash fee put on the ballot after he failed to have the City Council approve it.

2011: despite "Area residents' objections," Merrin and Waterville "Granted [the village] A special-use permit to operate a yard-waste transfer facility."

2008: Merrin voiced opposition to TARTA, claiming Waterville "Gets poor value for its tax dollars and that many who board buses in Waterville live outside the village."

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Abortion, Reproductive Justice, and Women's and Gender Equality

Abortion, Reproductive Justice, and Women's and Gender Equality Highlights

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2020: Merrin voted for S.B. 260, a bill requiring physicians to be physically present for the initial dose of an abortion-inducing drug.

2020: Merrin voted for S.B. 27, which required burial or cremation for aborted fetuses.

2018: Merrin voted for S.B. 145, a bill to "Criminalize and create a civil action for dismemberment abortions."

2016: Merrin voted for S.B. 127, a bill to ban abortion after 20 weeks.

2019: Merrin proposed amendments he claimed would help to pass H.B. 297, which would give tax credits to donors "For pregnancy centers who promote carrying a pregnancy to term."

2018: Ohio Right To Life PAC endorsed Merrin.

2021: Merrin addressed the Foundation For Life NW Ohio and lauded the organization for "Being a voice for the voiceless" in the "Fight for the unborn."

In the State House, Merrin warned that "Women are often coerced into abortion".

Merrin: "We will defend the unborn & protect our constitution just like Rep. Scott Wiggam has been doing all year!!"

2022: Asked about abortion by the Toledo Blade, Merrin declined to provide specifics and claimed to have been focused on economic issues.

2022: Merrin Cosponsored H.B. 598, An Abortion Ban With No Exceptions For Rape Or Incest That Could Make Doctors Liable To Prosecution

Merrin Cosponsored H.B. 598, Which Was An Abortion Ban

Merrin Cosponsored H.B. 598, Which Was An Abortion Ban. “To enact sections 2904.01, 2904.02, 2904.03, 2904.031, 2904.032, 2904.04, 2904.05, 2904.22, 2904.30, 2904.35, and 2904.40 of the Revised Code to enact the Human Life Protection Act to prohibit abortions based upon a condition precedent.” [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 598, introduced [3/15/22](#)]

H.B. 598 Would Make “Criminal Abortion” And “Abortion Manslaughter” Felony Crimes

H.B. 598 Would Make “Criminal Abortion” And “Abortion Manslaughter” Felony Crimes. “Both bills, known as the Human Life Protection Act, remain in legislative committees. The bills create the crime of criminal abortion and expand on the crime of abortion manslaughter, which would both be felonies. They also create the crime of promoting abortion, a misdemeanor aimed at people who sell or manufacture medicines or tools to perform an abortion.” [Cleveland.com, [11/7/22](#)]

H.B. 598 Would Make “Promoting Abortion,” Aimed At People Who Sell Or Manufacture Medicine Or Tools To Perform An Abortion, Including The Drugs Used In Half Of Abortions, A Misdemeanor Crime

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H.B. 598’s “Promoting Abortion” Crime Was “Aimed At People Who Sell Or Manufacture Medicines Or Tools To Perform An Abortion.” “Both bills, known as the Human Life Protection Act, remain in legislative committees. The bills create the crime of criminal abortion and expand on the crime of abortion manslaughter, which would both be felonies. They also create the crime of promoting abortion, a misdemeanor aimed at people who sell or manufacture medicines or tools to perform an abortion.” [Cleveland.com, [11/7/22](#)]

Mifepristone And Misoprostol Were Drugs Used In About 50% Of Abortions

Mifepristone And Misoprostol Were Used In About 50% Of Abortions. “Mifepristone and misoprostol, the two-drug regimen, is used in about 50% of abortions now. Since its approval by the FDA in 2000, the drug has been used for abortions by more than 5 million women in the U.S.” [NPR, [8/16/23](#)]

H.B. 598 Had No Exceptions For Rape Or Incest And Would Require Two Doctors To Certify An Abortion Was Necessary Or Be Liable To Prosecution

H.B. 598 Had No Exceptions For Rape Or Incest And Would Require Doctors To Certify An Abortion Was Necessary Or Be Liable To Prosecution. “There are no exceptions in the bills for rape or

incest. Each bill allows doctors to use an affirmative defense - which is different than an exception - if prosecuted for criminal abortion if they perform one when a woman's life or health is in peril. Physicians would have to certify in writing that the abortion was necessary, and so would a second doctor with whom the first doctor has no professional relationship." [Cleveland.com, [11/7/22](#)]

Under The Bill, Physicians Would Have To Certify In Writing That The Abortion Was Necessary, And So Would A Second Doctor With Whom The First Doctor Has No Professional Relationship. "There are no exceptions in the bills for rape or incest. Each bill allows doctors to use an affirmative defense - which is different than an exception - if prosecuted for criminal abortion if they perform one when a woman's life or health is in peril. Physicians would have to certify in writing that the abortion was necessary, and so would a second doctor with whom the first doctor has no professional relationship." [Cleveland.com, [11/7/22](#)]

H.B. 598 Would "Ban All Abortions In Ohio Except For Those Performed 'To Save The Life Of The Mother.'" "H.B. 598 was introduced on Tuesday by state Rep. Jean Schmidt, R-Loveland. The bill would ban all abortions in Ohio except for those performed 'to save the life of the mother,' according to the bill." [Ohio Capital Journal, [3/17/22](#)]

[Merrin Cosponsored H.B. 413, A Bill That Would Have Totally Banned Abortion And Would Allow Women And Children As Young As 13 To Be Imprisoned For Seeking An Abortion](#)

Merrin Cosponsored H.B. 413

Merrin Cosponsored H.B. 413. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 413, introduced [11/14/19](#)]

H.B. 413 Was A Total Abortion Ban

ACLU Ohio: H.B. 413 Was A "Total Abortion Ban." "House Bill 413 - The 'total abortion ban'. The global-attention grabbing of the nine, this bill, which claims life begins at conception, is a total ban on abortion, with additional regulations forcing doctors to re-implant ectopic pregnancies and punishments for doctors and individuals seeking abortions." [ACLU Ohio, [12/19/19](#)]

The Guardian: H.B. 413 Would Ban Abortion Outright And Define A Fertilized Egg As An "Unborn Child." "In addition to ordering doctors to do the impossible or face criminal charges, H.B. 413 bans abortion outright and defines a fertilized egg as an 'unborn child'." [The Guardian, [11/29/19](#)]

H.B. 413 Would Require Doctors To "Reimplant" Ectopic Pregnancies, Which Had An Increased Risk During Fertility Treatments Like IVF, Or Face "Abortion Murder" Charges

The Guardian: H.B. 413 Would Require Doctors To "Reimplant" Ectopic Pregnancies, Which Doctors Say Is "Medically Impossible," Or Face Charges Of "Abortion Murder." "A bill to ban abortion introduced in the Ohio state legislature requires doctors to 'reimplant an ectopic pregnancy' into a woman's uterus - a procedure that does not exist in medical science - or face charges of 'abortion murder'. This is the second time practising obstetricians and gynecologists have tried to tell the Ohio legislators that the idea is currently medically impossible." [The Guardian, [11/29/19](#)]

ACLU Ohio: H.B. 413 Would Force "Doctors To Re-Implant Ectopic Pregnancies." "House Bill 413 - The 'total abortion ban'. The global-attention grabbing of the nine, this bill, which claims life begins at conception, is a total ban on abortion, with additional regulations forcing doctors to re-implant ectopic pregnancies and punishments for doctors and individuals seeking abortions." [ACLU Ohio, [12/19/19](#)]

Medications Taken During Fertility Treatments Like IVF Posed An Increased Risk For Developing An Ectopic Pregnancy. “An ectopic pregnancy is when a fertilized egg starts growing outside of the uterus—and about 90% of ectopic pregnancies involve a fertilized egg growing inside a fallopian tube[1]. If the embryo is left to grow, it can cause the fallopian tube to rupture (burst), which can cause internal bleeding and can become a medical emergency. [...] It’s not always clear why a person may develop an ectopic pregnancy, but there are some risk factors, including: Previous fallopian tube surgery Taking medication to stimulate ovulation (during some fertility treatments like IVF).” [Forbes Health, [8/14/23](#)]

H.B. 413 Created “The Capital Offense Of Aggravated Abortion Murder And The Offense Of Abortion Murder,” Which Would Allow Women And Children As Young As 13 To Be Imprisoned For Having An Abortion

Bill Text: H.B. 413 Created “The Capital Offense Of Aggravated Abortion Murder And The Offense Of Abortion Murder”

H.B. 413 Created “The Capital Offense Of Aggravated Abortion Murder And The Offense Of Abortion Murder.” “To amend sections 109.57, 109.572, 109.97, 177.01, 313.131, 2105.19, 2108.77, 2151.356, 2151.414, 2151.419, 2152.02, 2152.021, 2152.11, 2152.12, 2152.16, 2152.17, 2152.20, 2152.59, 2152.72, 2152.74, 2152.86, 2317.02, 2901.01, 2901.02, 2901.07, 2901.13, 2903.41, 2909.24, 2921.32, 2921.34, 2923.01, 2923.02, 2923.131, 2923.132, 2923.31, 2923.32, 2927.21, 2929.01, 2929.02, 2929.021, 2929.022, 2929.023, 2929.024, 2929.03, 2929.04, 2929.05, 2929.06, 2929.13, 2929.14, 2929.143, 2929.31, 2929.32, 2929.34, 2930.16, 2933.51, 2933.81, 2933.82, 2937.222, 2941.14, 2941.143, 2941.147, 2941.148, 2945.06, 2945.11, 2945.38, 2945.57, 2945.74, 2949.02, 2950.01, 2950.99, 2953.08, 2953.09, 2953.11, 2953.21, 2953.25, 2967.01, 2967.05, 2967.12, 2967.121, 2967.13, 2967.18, 2967.19, 2967.193, 2967.26, 2971.01, 2971.03, 2971.07, 3301.32, 3301.541, 3313.662, 3319.31, 3319.39, 3712.09, 3721.121, 3734.44, 4715.30, 4717.05, 4717.051, 4717.14, 4723.092, 4723.281, 4730.25, 4731.22, 4734.36, 4741.22, 4757.361, 4759.07, 4760.13, 4761.09, 4762.13, 4765.114, 4774.13, 4776.10, 4778.14, 5103.0319, 5120.032, 5120.53, 5120.61, 5139.05, 5139.20, 5149.101, and 5153.111 and to enact sections 2904.01, 2904.02, 2904.03, 2904.04, 2904.20, 2904.30, and 2904.35 of the Revised Code to create the capital offense of aggravated abortion murder and the offense of abortion murder.” [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 413, introduced [11/14/19](#)]

The Guardian: H.B. 413 Would Create Crimes For “Abortion Murder” Punishable By Life In Prison For Doctors And Children As Young As 13 And “Aggravated Abortion Murder” Punishable By Death

H.B. 413 Would Punish Doctors And Children As Young As 13 With “Abortion Murder,” Punishable By Life In Prison, If They Have An Abortion. “It also appears to punish doctors, women and children as young as 13 with ‘abortion murder’ if they ‘perform or have an abortion’. This crime is punishable by life in prison. Another new crime, ‘aggravated abortion murder’, is punishable by death, according to the bill.” [The Guardian, [11/29/19](#)]

H.B. 413 Would Create A Crime For “Aggravated Abortion Murder” Punishable By Death. “It also appears to punish doctors, women and children as young as 13 with ‘abortion murder’ if they ‘perform or have an abortion’. This crime is punishable by life in prison. Another new crime, ‘aggravated abortion murder’, is punishable by death, according to the bill.” [The Guardian, [11/29/19](#)]

Vox: H.B. 413 “Would Appear To Allow Ohioans To Be Sentenced To Life In Prison For Getting An Abortion”

Vox: “As Written, The Bill Would Appear To Allow Ohioans To Be Sentenced To Life In Prison For Getting An Abortion.” “But the new crimes are notable in large part because they would apparently allow patients to be charged with a felony for ending their pregnancies. A spokesperson for Keller told Vox that ‘the intent of the bill is towards the doctors, it’s not toward punishing the women that are going through these crisis situations.’ But as written, the bill would appear to allow Ohioans to be sentenced to life in prison for getting an abortion.” [Vox, [12/5/19](#)]

Planned Parenthood Advocates Of Ohio: H.B. 413 Would Endanger “The Lives Of Anyone Who Can Become Pregnant”

Planned Parenthood Advocates Of Ohio Vice President Of Government Affairs And Public Advocacy Lauren Blauvelt-Copelin: “If This Bill Was To Become Law, The Lives Of Anyone Who Can Become Pregnant Would Be Endangered.” “But abortion-rights advocates say the bill puts Ohioans at risk of being jailed over an abortion or even dying as a result of an untreated ectopic pregnancy. ‘If this bill was to become law, the lives of anyone who can become pregnant would be endangered,’ Lauren Blauvelt-Copelin, vice president of government affairs and public advocacy at Planned Parenthood Advocates of Ohio, told Vox. [...] Ohio H.B. 413, introduced on November 18, is 723 pages long. The bill has gotten attention in part for its striking language - it creates a new felony called ‘abortion murder.’ Under the legislation, people would be guilty of this crime if they purposely ‘perform or have an abortion,’ and could face 15 years to life in prison.” [Vox, [12/5/19](#)]

ACLU Ohio: H.B. 413 Would Punish “Doctors And Individuals Seeking Abortions”

ACLU Ohio: H.B. 413 Would Include “Punishments For Doctors And Individuals Seeking Abortions.” “House Bill 413 - The ‘total abortion ban’. The global-attention grabbing of the nine, this bill, which claims life begins at conception, is a total ban on abortion, with additional regulations forcing doctors to re-implant ectopic pregnancies and punishments for doctors and individuals seeking abortions.” [ACLU Ohio, [12/19/19](#)]

H.B. 413 Included Language That Anyone That Purposely Performed Or Had An Abortion Was “Guilty Of Abortion Murder”

H.B. 413 Included Language That Anyone That Purposely Performed Or Had An Abortion Was “Guilty Of Abortion Murder.” “Sec. 2904.04. (A) No person shall purposely perform or have an abortion. (B) No person shall cause an abortion as a proximate result of the offender’s committing or attempting to commit an offense of violence that is a felony of the first or second degree and that is not a violation of section 2904.03 of the Revised Code. (C) Division (B) of this section does not apply to an offense that becomes a felony of the first or second degree only if the offender previously has been convicted of that offense or another specified offense. (D) Whoever violates this section is guilty of abortion murder and shall be punished as provided in section 2929.02 of the Revised Code.” [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 413, introduced [11/14/19](#)]

H.B. 413 Created The Offense Of Aggravated Abortion Murder, Which Was Punishable By Death And Would Find People Guilty For Performing An Abortion While Committing A Crime

H.B. 413 Created “The Capital Offense Of Aggravated Abortion Murder.” “To amend sections 109.57, 109.572, 109.97, 177.01, 313.131, 2105.19, 2108.77, 2151.356, 2151.414, 2151.419, 2152.02, 2152.021, 2152.11, 2152.12, 2152.16, 2152.17, 2152.20, 2152.59, 2152.72, 2152.74, 2152.86, 2317.02, 2901.01, 2901.02, 2901.07, 2901.13, 2903.41, 2909.24, 2921.32, 2921.34, 2923.01, 2923.02, 2923.131, 2923.132, 2923.31, 2923.32, 2927.21, 2929.01, 2929.02, 2929.021, 2929.022, 2929.023, 2929.024,

2929.03, 2929.04, 2929.05, 2929.06, 2929.13, 2929.14, 2929.143, 2929.31, 2929.32, 2929.34, 2930.16, 2933.51, 2933.81, 2933.82, 2937.222, 2941.14, 2941.143, 2941.147, 2941.148, 2945.06, 2945.11, 2945.38, 2945.57, 2945.74, 2949.02, 2950.01, 2950.99, 2953.08, 2953.09, 2953.11, 2953.21, 2953.25, 2967.01, 2967.05, 2967.12, 2967.121, 2967.13, 2967.18, 2967.19, 2967.193, 2967.26, 2971.01, 2971.03, 2971.07, 3301.32, 3301.541, 3313.662, 3319.31, 3319.39, 3712.09, 3721.121, 3734.44, 4715.30, 4717.05, 4717.051, 4717.14, 4723.092, 4723.281, 4730.25, 4731.22, 4734.36, 4741.22, 4757.361, 4759.07, 4760.13, 4761.09, 4762.13, 4765.114, 4774.13, 4776.10, 4778.14, 5103.0319, 5120.032, 5120.53, 5120.61, 5139.05, 5139.20, 5149.101, and 5153.111 and to enact sections 2904.01, 2904.02, 2904.03, 2904.04, 2904.20, 2904.30, and 2904.35 of the Revised Code to create the capital offense of aggravated abortion murder and the offense of abortion murder.” [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 413, introduced [11/14/19](#)]

Aggravated Abortion Murder, Punishable By Death, Would Find People Guilty For Performing An Abortion While Committing A Crime, Such As “Kidnapping, Rape, Aggravated Arson, Arson, Aggravated Robbery, Robbery, Aggravated Burglary, Or Burglary.” “The bill also creates a crime called ‘aggravated abortion murder,’ of which people could be found guilty if they ‘purposely perform an abortion while committing or attempting to commit kidnapping, rape, aggravated arson, arson, aggravated robbery, robbery, aggravated burglary, burglary,’ or other crimes. For aggravated abortion murder, the maximum penalty is death.” [Vox, [12/5/19](#)]

[2019: As The Chair Of The Committee That Passed Ohio’s Heartbeat Bill To The Full House, Merrin Was Instrumental In Passing One Of The Nation’s Most Restrictive Pieces Of Abortion Legislation At The Time](#)

In The Health Committee, Merrin Voted To Grant Favorable Passage To S.B. 23, A Bill To “Prohibit Abortion If Detectable Heartbeat”

In The Health Committee, Merrin Voted To Grant Favorable Passage To S.B. 23, A Bill To “Prohibit Abortion If Detectable Heartbeat.” [Ohio Legislature, S.B. 23, [4/9/19](#)]

2019: Merrin Voted For S.B. 23, A Bill To “Prohibit Abortion If Detectable Heartbeat”

2019: Merrin Voted For S.B. 23. In April 2019, Merrin voted for S.B. 23 as the House passed the bill in a 56-36 vote. “Prohibit abortion if detectable heartbeat. To amend sections 2317.56, 2919.171, 2919.19, 2919.191, 2919.192, 2919.193, and 4731.22; to amend, for the purpose of adopting new section numbers as indicated in parentheses, sections 2919.191 (2919.192), 2919.192 (2919.194), and 2919.193 (2919.198); and to enact new sections 2919.191 and 2919.193 and sections 2919.195, 2919.196, 2919.197, 2919.199, 2919.1910, 2919.1912, 2919.1913, and 5103.11 of the Revised Code to enact the Human Rights and Heartbeat Protection Act.” The bill received 56 Republican votes and 0 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, S.B. 23, [4/10/19](#)]

Merrin Passed The Ohio Heartbeat Bill As The Chair Of The Committee That Passed The Bill To The Full House

Merrin Passed The Ohio Heartbeat Bill As The Chair Of The Committee That Passed The Bill To The Full House. “‘It would be hard for any one of us to justify supporting the person who passed the heartbeat bill here in the state of Ohio,’ she said of Merrin, then-chair of the committee that passed it to the full House.” [Talking Points Memo, [1/23/23](#)]

News 5 Cleveland: “Merrin Shepherded The Six-Week Abortion Ban Through The House” And Insisted He And Other Republican Legislators Were “Not Injecting Our Personal Faith Into This Bill.” “In 2019, as chair of the House Health committee, Merrin shepherded the six-week abortion ban through the House. On the floor, Merrin insisted he and other lawmakers were not ‘injecting our personal faith into this bill.’ This despite challenging a reverend in committee about a verse from Jeremiah, and then recounting testimony on the floor from two women who turned to their Christian faith after regretting their abortions. Instead, Merrin argued, it was the bill’s opponents who were injecting ‘secular humanism’ into public debate. Merrin went a step further, too, accusing opponents of arguing more abortion restrictions would lead to higher Medicaid costs. ‘What they’re saying is we need to have abortion so we can weed out the babies that are weak,’ Merrin argued on the House floor, calling the arguments ‘despicable’ and ‘beyond utterly offensive.’ How Merrin arrived at that interpretation is unclear. In committee and on the floor Rep. Beth Liston, D-Dublin, pointed out that Medicaid pays for about half of pregnancies in the state. If more pregnancies are carried to term, she reasoned, more money will be needed. On the floor, she offered an amendment expanding Medicaid coverage to all children and all mothers for five years postpartum. That amendment failed.” [News 5 Cleveland, [1/3/23](#)]

News 5 Cleveland: Merrin Was “Rarely The One Leading The Charge On Big-Ticket, Conservative Legislation. The Obvious Departure Is Abortion.” “Merrin signed on as co-sponsor for some of the most conservative legislation to come forward in recent years. Right-to-work, anti-trans bills, life at conception and permitless concealed carry legislation - Merrin has added his name to each. But he’s rarely the one leading the charge on big-ticket, conservative legislation. The obvious departure is abortion.” [News 5 Cleveland, [1/3/23](#)]

The Heartbeat Bill Banned Abortions After A Detectable Heartbeat And Made No Exceptions For Rape Or Incest

The Heartbeat Bill Banned Abortions After A Detectable Heartbeat. “A bill imposing one of the most stringent abortion restrictions in the nation was signed into law in Ohio on Thursday, banning abortions after a detectable heartbeat in a long-sought victory for abortion opponents that drew an immediate constitutional challenge.” [Associated Press, [4/12/19](#)]

The Heartbeat Bill Made No Exceptions For Rape Or Incest. “The law makes no exceptions for pregnancies resulting from rape or incest.” [Associated Press, [4/12/19](#)]

Cincinnati Right To Life Called The Heartbeat Bill “The Nation’s Strongest Pro-Life Bill”

When The Heartbeat Bill Became Law, Cincinnati Right To Life Called It “The Nation’s Strongest Pro-Life Bill.” “Cincinnati Right to Life labeled the measure ‘the nation’s strongest pro-life bill,’ while Senate Democrats said it ‘would become the most extreme abortion ban in the country.’” [Ohio University, [4/10/19](#)]

Merrin Previously Voted For Another Heartbeat Bill

2018: Merrin Voted For H.B. 258. In November 2018, Merrin voted for H.B. 258 as the House passed the bill in a 60-35 vote. “Prohibit abortion if unborn has detectable heartbeat. To amend sections 2317.56, 2919.171, 2919.19, 2919.191, 2919.192, 2919.193, and 4731.22; to amend, for the purpose of adopting new section numbers as indicated in parentheses, sections 2919.191 (2919.192), 2919.192 (2919.194), and 2919.193 (2919.198); and to enact new sections 2919.191 and 2919.193 and sections 2919.195, 2919.196, 2919.197, 2919.199, 2919.1910, and 2919.1911 of the Revised Code to generally prohibit an abortion of an unborn human individual with a detectable heartbeat and to create the Joint Legislative

Committee on Adoption Promotion and Support.” The bill received 58 Republican votes and 2 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 258, [11/15/18](#)]

Merrin Voted For H.B. 258 In The House Health Committee. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 258, [12/13/17](#)]

After Losing The Speaker Battle, Merrin Tried To Raise The Threshold For Passage Of Ballot Initiative To Thwart A Citizen-Led Ballot Initiative To Protect Abortion In Ohio

Merrin Tried To Raise The Threshold For Passage Of Citizen-Led Ballot Initiatives

Merrin Tried To Raise The Threshold For Passage Of A Ballot Initiative To Thwart Issue One.

“Merrin is now demanding outsized committee power for his far-right ‘caucus,’ and that one of the biggest priorities for its members get a vote before the end of the month. The bill in question would raise the threshold for passage of ballot initiatives to 60 percent from a simple majority, and its primary sponsor admitted it was intended to thwart two major Democratic priorities: abortion protections and redistricting reforms. The newest version of the bill would also require that signatures be collected from every Ohio county to get a question on the ballot and eliminate the cure period.” [Talking Points Memo, [1/23/23](#)]

2023: Merrin Voted For S.J.R. 2, To Propose An Amendment To The Ohio Constitution “To Require A Vote Of At Least 60% Of The Electors To Approve Any Constitutional Amendment”

2023: Merrin Voted For S.J.R. 2. In May 2023, Merrin voted for S.J.R. 2 as the House passed the resolution in a 62-37 vote. “CA: Require 60% vote to approve any constitutional amendment. Proposing to amend Sections 1b, 1e, and 1g of Article II and Sections 1 and 3 of Article XVI of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to require a vote of at least 60% of the electors to approve any constitutional amendment and to modify the procedures for an initiative petition proposing a constitutional amendment.” The resolution received 62 Republican votes and 0 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, S.J.R. 2, [5/10/23](#)]

Issue 1 Was A Ballot Initiative That Changed The Threshold Of Passing A Constitutional Amendment From A Simple Majority To 60%

Issue 1 Would Have Made It Harder For Voters To Change Ohio’s Constitution By Increasing The Threshold For Ballot Initiatives From 50% Plus 1 To 60%. “On Aug. 8, Ohio voters will have the opportunity to vote in a rare statewide summer election on a matter with far-reaching consequences. Issue 1 is a ballot initiative that, if passed, would make it harder for citizens to change the state constitution. The most significant change would be requiring that a ballot initiative win 60% of the vote to pass. Since 1912, the requirement has been a simple majority, 50% plus one vote.” [Signal Cleveland, [6/27/23](#)]

2023: Issue 1 Was Put On The Ballot For A Special August Election Weeks After An Abortion Amendment Was Certified For The November Election

Mar. 13, 2023: The Ohio Ballot Board “Unanimously Certified An Initiative To Enshrine The Right To Abortion Up To The Point Of Fetal Viability In The State Constitution”

Mar. 13, 2023: The Ohio Ballot Board “Unanimously Certified An Initiative To Enshrine The Right To Abortion Up To The Point Of Fetal Viability In The State Constitution.” “Abortion is one step

closer to appearing on Ohioans' ballots in November. The five-member Ohio Ballot Board on Monday unanimously certified an initiative to enshrine the right to abortion up to the point of fetal viability in the state constitution, allowing the citizen-led Ohioans for Reproductive Freedom to start collecting signatures to pose the question before voters in November. [...] The ballot board's approval of the initiative comes after Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost certified the initiative's language on March 2." [NBC4I, [3/13/23](#)]

- **February 2023: Ohioans For Reproductive Freedom Filed The Ohio Right To Make Reproductive Decisions Including Abortion Initiative.** "Ohioans hoping to put a constitutional amendment on abortion on the November ballot took the first step Tuesday. Proponents filed language with the Ohio Attorney General's Office, kicking off a months-long process that could end with Ohioans voting on abortion later this year." [Cincinnati Enquirer, [2/23/23](#)]
- **The Proposed Constitutional Amendment Sought To "Ban The State From 'Directly Or Indirectly' Interfering With The Exercise Of That Right" To Abortion.** "Their proposal would amend Article I, Section 22 of Ohio's constitution to include a right for every individual 'to make and carry out one's own reproductive decisions' on contraception, fertility treatments, continuing a pregnancy, miscarriage care and abortion. It would ban the state from 'directly or indirectly' interfering with the exercise of that right except for 'widely accepted and evidence-based standards of care' until fetal viability, which is the point in a pregnancy when physicians say a fetus can survive with reasonable measures. [...] The amendment would also allow for abortions past viability 'in the professional judgment of the pregnant patient's treating physician it is necessary to protect the pregnant patient's life or health.'" [Cincinnati Enquirer, [2/23/23](#)]
- **Proponents Of The Constitutional Amendment Were Brought Together To File The Initiative Because Issue 1 "Would Make It Harder To Amend The State Constitution."** "Last week, two groups announced they would band together to craft this proposal for the November ballot. They had previously worked separately from one another, which could have put voters in the confusing situation of voting on two different measures in two different years. But another proposed constitutional amendment brought them together. This other one would make it harder to amend the state constitution by raising the voting percentage needed to pass from 50% plus one vote to 60%. 'One of the reasons we felt very strongly about putting this on the ballot in November 2023 is because this might be one of the last chances we have to put this on the ballot,' said Dr. Lauren Beene from Ohio Physicians for Reproductive Rights. 'We are doing this just in time to avoid being impacted if that did go into law.'" [Cincinnati Enquirer, [2/23/23](#)]

Republicans Supported Issue 1 As A Means Of Stopping The November Abortion Rights Amendment

Ohio Secretary Of State Frank LaRose: Initiative 1 Was "100% About Keeping A Radical, Pro-Abortion Amendment Out Of Our Constitution." "The Left Wants To Jam It In There This Coming November." "A Republican-backed effort to make it harder to amend the Ohio Constitution is '100%' about blocking an abortion rights question eyed for the November ballot, Secretary of State Frank LaRose said recently. For the first time since he and Rep. Brian Stewart (R-Ashville) unveiled a proposal to raise the threshold for enacting a constitutional amendment, LaRose directly linked the measure - which will appear as Issue 1 on the Aug. 8 ballot - to preventing the passage of a citizen-led petition to permit Ohioans' access to abortion. 'Some people say, 'This is all about abortion.' Well, you know what, I'm pro-life; I think many of you are as well, right?' LaRose said at a Lincoln Day event in Seneca County on May 22. 'This is 100% about keeping a radical, pro-abortion amendment out of our constitution. The left wants to jam it in there this coming November.'" [NBC4I, [6/5/23](#)]

LaRose Had Previously Denied That Issue 1 Was About Abortion. “After months of denial, Ohio Secretary of State Frank LaRose admitted that the proposal to make the constitution harder to amend is ‘100%’ due to efforts to legalize abortion. Advocates have argued that Issue 1, which would make it harder to amend the Ohio Constitution, is actually about trying to make it harder to make abortion a constitutional right. But on Nov. 17, 2022, Secretary of State Frank LaRose said otherwise. ‘That’s not what this kind of a change should ever be about,’ the secretary said. [...] ‘Why are you doing it now?’ ‘Because it’s ready now,’ he added. Every single time LaRose has been asked if Issue 1 was related to an abortion vote, he has denied it. ‘If this is about one specific issue, then somebody’s not really focused on what we’re trying to accomplish here,’ the secretary said. [...] But the words he said to reporters appear different than when he spoke to his supporters. ‘It’s 100% about keeping a radical pro-abortion amendment out of our constitution,’ LaRose said. [...] LaRose has continuously denied that his idea is related to any specific policies. In the secretary’s testimony in support of the legislation, he said, ‘Campaigns will make this a fight over the provocative political issues of the moment... We all need to take a deep breath, put aside current political disputes, and ask whether this is the best way to govern our state over the long run.’” [Ohio Capital Journal, [6/5/23](#)]

Ohio House Republican Brian Stewart Introduced The Measure To Protect “Decades Of Republicans’ Work To Make Ohio A Pro-Life State.” “For more than a century, Ohio voters could amend the state constitution with a simple majority of more than 50% of the vote. That could change in August, when Ohio voters head to the polls in a special election to decide whether future amendments will instead need the approval of 60% of the electorate. The change, if approved, would almost certainly determine the fate of abortion access in the state. In a memo last December to his Republican colleagues, state Rep. Brian Stewart, who first introduced the measure in the Ohio House, did not hide the role the abortion issue was playing in motivating his efforts. ‘After decades of Republicans’ work to make Ohio a pro-life state, the Left intends to write abortion on demand into Ohio’s Constitution,’ Stewart wrote. ‘If they succeed, all the work accomplished by multiple Republican majorities will be undone, and we will return to 19,000+ babies being aborted each and every year.’” [CBS News, [6/21/23](#)]

Ohio Senate President Matt Huffman Said That Preventing The Passage Of An Abortion Rights Amendment Was Worth The August Referendum On Issue 1. “Ohio Senate President Matt Huffman on Thursday said it’s worth spending millions to hold an August special election to vote on a proposal to make it harder to amend the Ohio Constitution if it succeeds in stopping a proposed abortion-rights amendment in November. ‘If we save 30,000 lives as a result of spending \$20 million, I think that’s a great thing,’ Huffman, a Lima Republican, told reporters. Huffman was referring to the number of abortions performed annually in Ohio - 21,813 in 2021, according to the state health department, more than 8,000 less than what Huffman said - and the anticipated cost of holding an August special election on a proposed amendment to require future constitutional changes to be passed with at least 60% support, rather than a simple majority of voters.” [Cleveland.com, [5/23/23](#)]

Merrin: “Although We Did Not Defeat Issue 1, We Must Continue to Be the Voice for the Voiceless. [...] We Will Not Give Up”

Merrin: “Although We Did Not Defeat Issue 1, We Must Continue to Be the Voice for the Voiceless. [...] We Will Not Give Up.”



Derek Merrin ✓

@DerekMerrin

...

Many fought hard to protect innocent life and defend parental rights. Although we did not defeat Issue 1, we must continue to be the voice for the voiceless.

House Republicans will look at all available avenues to defend the unborn moving forward. We will not give up.

8:50 AM · Nov 8, 2023 · **22.4K** Views



295



23



156



2



[Twitter, DerekMerrin, [11/8/23](#)]

2024: Merrin Refused To Say Whether He Supported A Federal Abortion Ban Or Not

Merrin Refused To Say Whether He Supported A Federal Abortion Ban. HOST: [27:58] “If you're elected, would you support a house vote in favor of a federal abortion ban, and if so, will it be after 6 weeks, 15 weeks or something else? Also, would there be any exceptions?” [...] MERRIN: “When the Supreme Court effectively overturned Roe v. Wade, the issue of abortion largely returned to the states. This last year, we saw a constitutional amendment on the ballot that effectively enshrined late-term abortions into our constitution. I did not agree with that amendment, I thought it was poorly written, but I respect our process and I respect the Democratic vote that was taken. And I’m running for Congress, this issue of abortion is going to be largely left up to the states. What we can all agree on, whether you’re pro-choice or pro-life, we have to realize that there’s many young women in very tough and difficult situations, and we need to look to see how can we support them. We need a more robust adoption system, we need to try to get more tax-free items for baby care, we need to look into more affordable health insurance. There’s a whole host of things that we can do to support young mothers and to be pro-life.” HOST: “Thank you, Representative. So under no conditions would you support repealing Ohio’s reproductive rights?” MERRIN: “I think I’ve made my position clear on that issue. I have been a pro-life lawmaker, but you’re dealing with hypotheticals that are never going to come to fruition. There’s a filibuster rule in the Senate that requires 60 votes. I think your viewers all know that this issue was settled in the state of Ohio last year. It may be revisited with another ballot amendment in the future, I don’t know, but this is—I was in the state legislature and now I’m trying to move to Congress, but the voters have made their decision in Ohio, whether I agree with them or not, you have to respect votes—votes that were taken.” [OH-9 Candidate Forum, 27:58 - 31:25, [2/27/24](#)] (VIDEO)

2021: Merrin Voted In Favor Of S.B. 157, Which Would Require Doctors To Report When “A Child Is Born Alive Following An Abortion Or Attempted Abortion” And Provide Life-Saving Care

2021: Merrin Voted For S.B. 157. In December 2021, Merrin voted for S.B. 157 as the House passed the bill in a 61-35 vote. “Regards child born alive after attempted abortion. To amend sections 2919.13, 3701.79, 3701.99, 3702.3010, and 4731.22; to amend, for the purpose of adopting a new section number as indicated in parentheses, section 3702.305 (3702.3011); and to enact new section 3702.305 and sections 3701.792 and 4731.911 of the Revised Code to require reports to be made after a child is born alive following an abortion or attempted abortion, to establish certain civil or criminal penalties for failing to preserve the health or life of such a child, and to make changes regarding variances from written transfer agreements.” The bill received 61 Republican votes and 0 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, S.B. 157, [12/8/21](#)]

S.B. 157 Would Require Doctors To Report When “A Child Is Born Alive Following An Abortion Or Attempted Abortion” And Establish Penalties For “Failing To Preserve The Health Or Life Of Such A Child.”

S.B. 157 Would Require Doctors To Report When “A Child Is Born Alive Following An Abortion Or Attempted Abortion” And Establish Penalties For “Failing To Preserve The Health Or Life Of Such A Child.” “To amend sections 2919.13, 3701.79, 3701.99, 3702.3010, and 4731.22; to amend, for the purpose of adopting a new section number as indicated in parentheses, section 3702.305 (3702.3011); and to enact new section 3702.305 and sections 3701.792 and 4731.911 of the Revised Code to require reports to be made after a child is born alive following an abortion or attempted abortion, to establish certain civil or criminal penalties for failing to preserve the health or life of such a child, and to make changes regarding variances from written transfer agreements.” [The Ohio Legislature, S.B. 157, introduced [4/13/21](#)]

2020: Merrin Voted For S.B. 260, A Bill Requiring Physicians To Be Physically Present For The Initial Dose Of An Abortion-Inducing Drug

2020: Merrin Voted For S.B. 260. In December 2020, Merrin voted for S.B. 260 as the House passed the bill in a 54-30 vote. “Regards abortion-inducing drugs. To amend sections 109.572, 2919.123, 2953.25, 4729.291, 4731.22, and 4731.223 and to enact section 2919.124 of the Revised Code regarding abortion-inducing drugs.” The bill received 54 Republican votes and 0 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, S.B. 260, [12/17/20](#)]

S.B. 260 “Prohibits A Physician From Personally Furnishing Or Providing An Abortion-Inducing Drug To A Pregnant Woman Unless The Physician Is Physically Present Where And When The Initial Dose Of The Drug Is Consumed.” [Ohio Legislature, S.B. 260, Final Analysis, [4/12/21](#)]

2020: Merrin Voted For S.B. 27, Which Required Burial Or Cremation For Aborted Fetuses

2020: Merrin Voted For S.B. 27. In December 2020, Merrin voted for S.B. 27 as the House passed the bill in a 60-36 vote. “Regards disposition of fetal remains from surgical abortion. To amend sections 2317.56, 3701.341, and 3701.79 and to enact sections 3726.01, 3726.02, 3726.03, 3726.04, 3726.041, 3726.042, 3726.05, 3726.09, 3726.10, 3726.11, 3726.12, 3726.13, 3726.14, 3726.15, 3726.16, 3726.95, 3726.99, and 4717.271 of the Revised Code to impose requirements on the final disposition of fetal remains from surgical abortions.” The bill received 60 Republican votes and 0 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, S.B. 27, [12/3/20](#)]

S.B. 27 “Requires The Final Disposition Of Fetal Remains From A Surgical Abortion To Be By Cremation Or Interment.” S.B. 27 “Requires the final disposition of fetal remains from a surgical abortion to be by cremation or interment. Defines ‘fetal remains’ as the product of human conception that is aborted and if a woman is carrying more than one zygote, blastocyte, embryo, or fetus, each one, or any of its parts that is aborted, is a separate product of human conception that has been aborted. [Ohio Legislature, S.B. 27, Final Analysis, [4/6/21](#)]

December 2020: Merrin Voted For S.B. 27 In The House Civil Justice Committee. [Ohio Legislature, S.B. 27, [12/3/20](#)]

2018: In The House Health Committee, Merrin Voted For S.B. 28, A Fetal Burial Bill

2018: In The House Health Committee, Merrin Voted For S.B. 28. “Address disposition of aborted fetal remains. To amend sections 2317.56, 3701.341, and 3701.79 and to enact sections 3726.01, 3726.02, 3726.03, 3726.04, 3726.041, 3726.042, 3726.05, 3726.09, 3726.10, 3726.11, 3726.12, 3726.13, 3726.14, 3726.15, 3726.16, 3726.95, 3726.99, and 4717.271 of the Revised Code to impose requirements on the final disposition of fetal remains from surgical abortions.” [Ohio Legislature, S.B. 28, [2/28/18](#)]

2018: Merrin Voted For S.B. 145, A Bill To “Criminalize And Create A Civil Action For Dismemberment Abortions”

2018: Merrin Voted For S.B. 145. In December 2018, Merrin voted for S.B. 145 as the House passed the bill in a 64-28 vote. “Criminalize and create civil action for dismemberment abortion. To amend sections 2305.114, 2307.53, 2901.01, 2903.09, 2919.123, 2919.151, and 2967.193 and to enact section 2919.15 of the Revised Code to criminalize and create a civil action for dismemberment abortions.” The bill received 61 Republican votes and 3 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, S.B. 145, [12/13/18](#)]

2016: Merrin Voted For S.B. 127, A Bill To Ban Abortion After 20 Weeks

2016: Merrin Voted For S.B. 127. In December 2016, Merrin voted for S.B. 127 as the House passed the bill in a 64-29 vote. “Prohibits abortion when gestational age is 20 weeks or more. To amend sections 2305.11 and 4731.22 and to enact sections 2307.54, 2919.20, 2919.201, 2919.202, 2919.203, 2919.204, and 2919.205 of the Revised Code to prohibit the performance of an abortion on a pregnant woman when the probable post-fertilization age of the unborn child is twenty weeks or greater.” The bill received 59 Republican votes and 5 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, S.B. 127, [12/8/16](#)]

2019: Merrin Proposed Amendments He Claimed Would Help To Pass H.B. 297, Which Would Give Tax Credits To Donors “For Pregnancy Centers Who Promote Carrying A Pregnancy To Term”

2019: Merrin Proposed Amendments He Claimed Would Help To Pass H.B. 297, Which Would Give Tax Credits To Donors “For Pregnancy Centers Who Promote Carrying A Pregnancy To Term.” “A bill giving a tax credit to donors for pregnancy centers who promote carrying a pregnancy to term was approved in the state House Ways and Means Committee on Tuesday, moving it toward a full House vote. [...] Committee Chair Derek Merrin, R-Monclova Township, presented amendments to the bill, which included a cap of \$1,000 for any tax credit and an expiration date for the credits of 2025. Merrin also said the amended bill would limit donations to pregnancy centers within the state of Ohio. ‘I think this

amendment goes a long way in strengthening this bill, and also putting it in a position to make it all the way through the legislature,' Merrin said." [Ohio Capital Journal, [12/12/19](#)]

2018: Ohio Right To Life PAC Endorsed Merrin

Merrin: "I Have Always Defended The Unborn. As The Only Endorsed Pro-Life Candidate, Stand With Me To Defend The Sanctity Of Life." "I have always defended the unborn. As the only endorsed pro-life candidate, stand with me to defend the sanctity of life." [Derek Merrin, Facebook, [4/13/18](#)]



[Derek Merrin, Facebook, [4/13/18](#)]

July 2018: Merrin Promoted His Endorsement From The Ohio Right To Life PAC, Saying "It's Been An Honor To Fulfill My Duty To Protect Innocent Life." "It's been an honor to fulfill my duty to protect innocent life and partner with @OHVotes4Life to defend the unborn." [Derek Merrin, Twitter, [7/25/18](#)]



Derek Merrin ✓
@DerekMerrin

...

It's been an honor to fulfill my duty to protect innocent life and partner with [@OHVotes4Life](#) to defend the unborn.



Ohio Right to Life PAC @OHVotes4Life · Jul 24, 2018

We're proud to endorse @dmerrin with Honor Roll Status for Ohio House!
#VoteProLife



5:21 PM · Jul 25, 2018 from Ohio, USA

[Derek Merrin, Twitter, [7/25/18](#)]

2021: Merrin Addressed The Foundation For Life NW Ohio And Lauded The Organization For “Being A Voice For The Voiceless” In The “Fight For The Unborn”

2021: Merrin Addressed The Foundation For Life NW Ohio And Lauded The Organization For “Being A Voice For The Voiceless” In The “Fight For The Unborn.”



Derek Merrin is at The Pinnacle Maumee,.

March 20, 2021 · Maumee, OH · 🌐

We must continue to fight for the unborn and defend innocent life. Thank you to [Foundation for Life NW Ohio](#) for being a voice for the voiceless and lending a helping hand to many pregnant women in crisis - helping to avoid a tragic decision. Adoption is the best option!



👍❤️ 114

7 comments 2 shares

[Facebook, Derek Merrin, 3/20/21]

In The State House, Merrin Warned That “Women Are Often Coerced Into Abortion”

In The State House, Merrin Warned That “Women Are Often Coerced Into Abortion.”



Jo Ingles
@joingles



Republican Rep. Derek Merrin says women are often coerced into abortion. He reads from a letter from a woman who describes her feelings as she underwent an abortion. [#heartbeatbill](#) [#abortion](#) [#humanrightsprotectionact](#)



1:49 PM · Apr 10, 2019



[Twitter, joingles, [4/10/19](#)]

Merrin: “We Will Defend the Unborn & Protect Our Constitution Just Like Rep. Scott Wiggam Has Been Doing All Year!!”

Merrin: “We Will Defend the Unborn & Protect Our Constitution Just Like Rep. Scott Wiggam Has Been Doing All Year!!”



Derek Merrin ✓

@DerekMerrin

...

Every Pro-Life Ohioan should thank [@Scott_Wiggam](#) for his service. We are only in the 1st Q fighting for the heart & soul of the Republican Party in the Ohio House. We will defend the unborn & protect our Constitution just like Rep. Scott Wiggam has been doing all year!!



Jessie Balmert @jbalmert · Mar 30, 2023

A change up on the House Constitutional Resolutions Committee after the discharge petition.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
OHIO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
HOUSE DISTRICT 93



77 S. HIGH STREET, 14TH FLOOR
COLUMBUS, OH 43215
REP93@OHIOHOUSE.GOV

Jason Stephens

March 30, 2023

Representative Scott Wiggam
Vern Riffe Center
77 South High Street, 13th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Representative Wiggam:

It is an honor to serve as a Chair of a standing committee in the Ohio House of Representatives. With that honor comes the responsibility to undertake the duties and obligations required of a Chair. Your handling of House Joint Resolution 1 over the last month and a half has made it clear that you are either unable or unwilling to fulfill those responsibilities.

As we all know, HJR 1 is a priority for our caucus. Because it is a priority, HJR 1 was referred to the House Constitutional Resolutions Committee on February 16, 2023. Since then, you have had ample time to hear the resolution and take a vote. However, the first and only hearing was not held until March 22, five weeks after it was referred. Any complaints about the timing and process for reporting HJR 1 out of the House Constitutional Resolutions Committee lie solely at your feet.

Therefore, I was dismayed to see your name and signature on a discharge petition for HJR 1. By signing a discharge petition to remove a resolution from the very committee you oversee, you have proven that you are ill-equipped to serve as Chair. Accordingly, under the authority granted to me by House Rule 13 and 28(c), I am removing you as Chair of the House Constitutional Resolutions Committee. You are also being removed from the Committee. Both actions are effective immediately.

I am profoundly disappointed that I have to take this action. Ohio's Constitution is the bedrock of our democracy, and I believe any changes to it should only result from an honest, open, and public debate. After all, this is the People's House.

Sincerely,

Speaker Jason Stephens
House District 93

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
OHIO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
HOUSE DISTRICT 93



77 S. HIGH STREET, 14TH FLOOR
COLUMBUS, OH 43215
REP93@OHIOHOUSE.GOV

Jason Stephens

March 30, 2023

Representative Phil Plummer
Vern Riffe Center
77 S. High Street, 13th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Representative Plummer,

As Speaker of the House, I hereby appoint you to serve on the House Constitutional Resolutions Committee. In addition, I appoint you as Chair of the Committee effective immediately. Congratulations on this honor. I look forward to a robust committee process that results in good public policy for Ohio.

Sincerely,

Speaker Jason Stephens
House District 93

Last edited 8:18 PM · Mar 30, 2023 · **5,092** Views



6



4



11



2



[Twitter, DerekMerrin, [3/30/23](#)]

2022: Asked About Abortion By The Toledo Blade, Merrin Declined To Provide Specifics And Claimed To Have Been Focused On Economic Issues

2022: Asked About Abortion By The Toledo Blade, Merrin Declined To Provide Specifics. “The Republican declined to directly answer a question about the specifics of his stance on abortion, other than to say he’s ‘a pro-life legislator, but my focus in the legislature has been on economic issues.’ He has advocated in the past for strict anti-abortion legislation.” [Toledo Blade, [11/1/22](#)]

+++

Budget and Taxes

Budget and Taxes Highlights

Merrin sought upgrades to the Ohio House chamber's furnishings, including "plush carpeting," "more regal" signs for lawmakers' offices, and "cream or beige" stationery.

2011: As Mayor, Merrin cut Waterville Village employees' sick days down from 18 to 10.

2010: Then-Mayor Merrin proposed raising Waterville Village employees' health insurance premiums from 14 to 30 percent.

2020: Merrin proposed massive cuts to "projects for colleges and universities, sports and cultural projects, and the Ohio department of natural resources."

2024: Merrin claimed "cut[ting] off all welfare benefits and financial incentives to illegal immigrants" was one of "the most important issues right now."

2023: Merrin favored "eliminating the state income tax altogether."

Discussing H.B. 126, which could prohibit school districts from disputing property valuations, Merrin argued that districts' attorneys are incentivized to file "as many complaints as they can."

Merrin introduced legislation to restrict property tax valuation complaints three times.

Merrin claimed he would "support a Constitutional amendment to force lawmakers to balance to budget."

Merrin favored "eliminating the state income tax altogether."

2017: Merrin added a budget bill provision that critics argued could be an attempt to "usurp" city authority on lead abatement by voiding "any law or rule governing the abatement of lead, lead-based paint, or the employment or licensing of lead abatement professionals."

In the Ways and Means Committee, Merrin shepherded a bill that would "decimate local government resources."

2017-2023: Merrin voted for the final passage of every two-year budget bill, including a 2023 budget bill that cut taxes for the wealthy.

2017-2023: Merrin Voted For The Final Passage Of Every Two-Year Budget Bill, Including A 2023 Budget Bill That Cut Taxes For The Wealthy

2017-2023: Merrin Voted For The Final Passage Of Every Two-Year Budget Bill.

<i>Bill Number</i>	<i>Roll Details</i>	<i>Result</i>	<i>Merrin Vote</i>	<i>Date</i>
<i>H.B. 33</i>	<i>Establishes operating appropriations for fiscal years 2024-2025</i>	<i>House Passed - Line Item Veto Override</i>	<i>Yea</i>	<i>12/13/2023</i>
<i>H.B. 33</i>	<i>Establishes operating appropriations for fiscal years 2024-2025</i>	<i>House Passed</i>	<i>Yea</i>	<i>6/30/2023</i>
<i>H.B. 33</i>	<i>Establishes operating appropriations for fiscal years 2024-2025</i>	<i>House Failed</i>	<i>Yea</i>	<i>6/21/2023</i>
<i>H.B. 33</i>	<i>Establishes operating appropriations for fiscal years 2024-2025</i>	<i>House Passed</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>4/26/2023</i>
<i>H.B. 110</i>	<i>Creates appropriations for FY 2022-2023.</i>	<i>House Passed</i>	<i>Yea</i>	<i>6/28/2021</i>
<i>H.B. 110</i>	<i>Creates appropriations for FY 2022-2023.</i>	<i>House Failed</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>6/10/2021</i>
<i>H.B. 110</i>	<i>Creates appropriations for FY 2022-2023.</i>	<i>House Passed</i>	<i>Yea</i>	<i>4/21/2021</i>
<i>H.B. 166</i>	<i>Creates FY 2020-2021 operating budget</i>	<i>House Passed</i>	<i>Yea</i>	<i>7/17/2019</i>
<i>H.B. 166</i>	<i>Creates FY 2020-2021 operating budget</i>	<i>House Failed</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>6/20/2019</i>

<i>Bill Number</i>	<i>Roll Details</i>	<i>Result</i>	<i>Merrin Vote</i>	<i>Date</i>
<i>H.B. 166</i>	<i>Creates FY 2020-2021 operating budget</i>	<i>House Passed</i>	<i>Yea</i>	<i>5/9/2019</i>
<i>H.B. 49</i>	<i>Creates FY 2018-2019 operating budget</i>	<i>House Passed</i>	<i>Yea</i>	<i>6/28/2017</i>
<i>H.B. 49</i>	<i>Creates FY 2018-2019 operating budget</i>	<i>House Failed</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>6/21/2017</i>
<i>H.B. 49</i>	<i>Creates FY 2018-2019 operating budget</i>	<i>House Passed</i>	<i>Yea</i>	<i>5/2/2017</i>

Bolded result indicates final passage.

[Ohio Legislature, H.B. 33, [12/13/23](#); H.B. 110, [6/28/21](#); H.B. 166, [7/17/19](#); H.B. 49, [6/28/17](#)]

The 2023 Budget Bill Featured “Tax Cuts That Mostly Benefit The Wealthy” Alongside Cuts To Free School Meals And Food Access

The 2023 Budget Bill Featured “Tax Cuts That Mostly Benefit The Wealthy” Alongside Cuts To Free School Meals And Food Access. “The Ohio Senate today passed a budget that will cost the state nearly a billion dollars each year for tax cuts that mostly benefit the wealthy. To pay for another tax cut to the wealthiest Ohioans and a handout to millionaires who are already sending their kids to private schools, the Senate takes away free school meals, food access, and long overdue increases teacher pay. It also increases barriers to basic health and economic security supports, including kids’ health insurance, and turns a blind eye to infant and maternal mortality. [...] The new analysis finds that more than four fifths (86%) of the proposed income tax cut would go to the 20% of households with the highest incomes. Half of the households in the state - the half with less than \$62,000 in annual income - would see little or no change to their tax bill. Some middle-income households will in fact see a temporary net increase on their annual tax bill for the next two years.” [Policy Matters Ohio, [6/15/23](#)]

The 2023 Budget Bill Included A “Universal Voucher Program” And A “Social Media Crackdown”

The 2023 Budget Bill Included A “Universal Voucher Program” And A “Social Media Crackdown.” “The two-year, \$86 billion budget signed by Gov. Mike DeWine this week includes social safety net spending and a universal voucher program supporting enrollment in private schools. Tax cuts. Lawmakers passed income tax cuts for individuals earning above \$26,050 a year, though the biggest breaks are expected to go toward wealthy Ohioans. The budget also exempts most businesses from paying the commercial activity tax and exempts baby products from sales tax collection. These cuts will cost Ohio nearly \$2.6 billion in revenue over the next two fiscal years, budget analysts estimate. Social media crackdown. Kids under 16 will need their parent or guardian’s consent and ID verification in order to access social media sites.” [Axios Columbus, [7/6/23](#)]

The 2023 Budget Bill Took Away Powers From The State Board of Education Following “The 2022 Election Of Left-Leaning Board Members”

The 2023 Budget Bill Took Away Powers From The State Board of Education Following “The 2022 Election Of Left-Leaning Board Members.” “K-12 education overhaul. The Statehouse transferred most powers from the State Board of Education to a newly created director of education and workforce to be appointed by the governor. This change follows the 2022 election of left-leaning board members and the controversy surrounding an anti-racism resolution passed by the board in 2020.” [Axios Columbus, [7/6/23](#)]

Gov. DeWine Vetoed A Provision Of The 2023 Budget Bill To Allow “Ohio College Students To Decline Mandatory Vaccines”

Gov. DeWine Vetoed A Provision Of The 2023 Budget Bill To Allow “Ohio College Students To Decline Mandatory Vaccines.” “What DeWine vetoed: [...] Student vaccine rules. The budget would have allowed Ohio college students to decline mandatory vaccines for medical, religious or personal reasons. DeWine countered this ‘may compromise the overall health and safety of students, residents, staff, and faculty at the institution.’” [Axios Columbus, [7/6/23](#)]

[As Presumptive Speaker, Merrin Sought Upgrades To The Ohio House Chamber’s Furnishings, Including “Plush Carpeting,” “More Regal” Signs For Lawmakers’ Offices, And “Cream Or Beige” Stationery](#)

Merrin Sought Upgrades To The Ohio House Chamber’s Furnishings, Including “Plush Carpeting,” “More Regal” Signs For Lawmakers’ Offices, And “Cream Or Beige” Stationery. “Rep. Derek Merrin was considering a number of upgrades to the chamber’s furnishings that have since largely been cast aside after he lost the vote for Ohio House speaker. Merrin, a Toledo-area Republican, asked House staff for a number of improvements for Ohio House members. He asked for all carpeting in the House to be replaced with plush carpeting. He sought new furniture, artwork, bookshelves, lighting and wall paint, as well as ‘larger and more regal’ signs for lawmakers’ offices. He wanted members to get new, foil-embossed business cards, like state senators already have, as well as stationery on ‘cream or beige’ paper. [...] It’s unclear how much the upgrades Merrin wanted would have cost taxpayers.” [Cleveland, [3/13/23](#)]

[2021: Merrin Attempted To Block A Process That Would Allow TARTA To Convert Its Funding Stream To A Countywide Sales Tax](#)

2021: Merrin Attempted To Block A Process That Would Allow TARTA To Convert Its Funding Stream To A Countywide Sales Tax. “Back in March, Mr. Merrin attempted to block TARTA’s path by removing key language from a state transportation bill, aiming to stop the process that will allow TARTA to admit Lucas County as a member and then change its funding stream from a pair of property taxes to one countywide sales tax.” [Toledo Blade, [6/26/21](#)]

TARTA Is The Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority. “*The Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority (TARTA) provides a vital link in the Toledo metro area to jobs, education, health care and other destinations. It enables everyone in our community to have access to transportation regardless of their*

age, race, physical ability or economic background.” [Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority, [Accessed 5/3/24](#)]

Merrin “Characterized TARTA’s Plans As A Land Grab And A Path To Higher Taxes”

Merrin “Characterized TARTA’s Plans As A Land Grab And A Path To Higher Taxes.” “House Bill 74 would allow the change to happen as long as a majority of the current seven TARTA communities agree. And that’s a more fair, reasonable - and doable - procedure. [...] Mr. Merrin, however, stripped the provision and characterized TARTA’s plans as a land grab and a path to higher taxes. This backward thinking reflects anachronistic ideas about what public transit is and who it is for.” [Toledo Blade, [3/6/21](#)]

2011: As Mayor, Merrin Cut Waterville Village Employees’ Sick Days Down From 18 To 10

2011: Merrin Proposed Cutting Waterville Village Employees’ Sick Days Down From 18 To 10.

“During a meeting in which three council members were absent, Mayor Derek Merrin squeezed out support for his proposal to reduce the number of paid sick days for village employees, a vote critical to his ongoing efforts to trim Waterville’s operating expenses. Effective 30 days from last week’s session, village workers will be allowed up to 10 days of paid sick time annually, down from the current 18. [...] Mr. Merrin said 18 paid sick days was too generous for taxpayers to provide, noting that overtime costs were more than \$30,000 to cover shifts when police officers called off sick last year. The average number of sick days taken last year was 14.6.” [Toledo Blade, [3/10/11](#)]

Merrin’s Motion To Reduce Sick Days Passed 3-1. “The mayor’s [Merrin’s] motion to reduce sick time days was approved on a 3-1 vote with Councilman John Gouttiere opposed and the mayor, Mr. Marty, and Jim Valtin in favor.” [Toledo Blade, [3/10/11](#)]

2010: Then-Mayor Merrin Proposed Raising Waterville Village Employees’ Health Insurance Premiums From 14 To 30 Percent

2010: Then-Mayor Merrin Proposed Raising Waterville Village Employees’ Health Insurance Premiums From 14 To 30 Percent. “Increasing group health insurance premiums paid by Waterville village employees could save taxpayers at least \$1 million in 10 years, based on figures from a proposal by Mayor Derek Merrin. His proposal, introduced as an ordinance to council last week, would raise the portion of premium for the basic plan to be paid by village employees from 14 percent to 30 percent.” [Toledo Blade, [12/22/10](#)]

2020: Merrin Proposed Massive Cuts To “Projects For Colleges And Universities, Sports And Cultural Projects, And The Ohio Department Of Natural Resources”

2020: Merrin Proposed Massive Cuts To “Projects For Colleges And Universities, Sports And Cultural Projects, And The Ohio Department Of Natural Resources.” “[Merrin-sponsored] House Bill 670 proposes spending \$697.6 million on previously approved state capital projects, compared to nearly \$1.2 billion in the version before the Ohio Senate. [...] Merrin said his proposal preserves funding for projects directly related to health and public safety, while cutting off projects for colleges and universities, sports and cultural projects and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources.” [Cleveland, [3/27/20](#)]

Discussing H.B. 126, Which Could Prohibit School Districts From Disputing Property Valuations, Merrin Argued That Districts' Attorneys Are Incentivized To File "As Many Complaints As They Can"

Discussing H.B. 126, Which Could Prohibit School Districts From Disputing Property Valuations, Merrin Argued That Districts' Attorneys Are Incentivized To File "As Many Complaints As They Can." "Ohio school districts could be prohibited from arguing before county boards of revision over the values of properties, under an amendment that could be made to a bill [H.B. 126] Tuesday. [...] In testimony before the Senate Ways and Means Committee, Merrin said that many attorneys who represent school districts in tax cases bill by the hour, and have a financial incentive to file as many complaints as they can." [Cleveland, [11/9/21](#)]

Merrin Chaired The Conference Committee on H.B. 126. [Ohio House of Representatives via Internet Archive, Conference Committee on H.B. 126, [Archived 6/27/22](#)]

Merrin Introduced Legislation To Restrict Property Tax Valuation Complaints Three Times

Ohio Association Of School Business Officials On H.B. 126: "This Is The Third Time Rep. Derek Merrin Has Introduced This Legislation." "Property Valuation Challenges and the Board of Revisions Process (HB 126) This is the third time Rep. Derek Merrin has introduced this legislation. HB 126 reverts back to the original legislation in HB 343 (132nd General Assembly) and HB 75 (133rd General Assembly) prior to the Senate twice adopting substitute bills largely removing most of the requirements. HB 126 requires a highly problematic and overly bureaucratic process for school districts when filing property valuation claims or counter-claims with county boards of revision (BOR)" [Ohio Association Of School Business Officials, [9/14/21](#)]

2021: Merrin Introduced And Voted For H.B. 126. In April 2021, Merrin voted for H.B. 126 as the House passed the bill in a 62-31 vote. "Regards process for local governments to contest property value. To amend sections 4503.06, 5715.19, and 5717.01 of the Revised Code to modify the law governing property tax complaints." The bill received 59 Republican votes and 3 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 126, [4/15/21](#)]

2019: Merrin Introduced And Voted For H.B. 75. In December 2019, Merrin voted for H.B. 75 as the House passed the bill in a 54-39 vote. "Require resolution/notice if government contests property value. To amend sections 107.03, 122.17, 3735.65, 3735.67, 3735.671, 5703.48, 5703.95, 5709.121, 5709.17, 5709.61, 5709.62, 5709.63, 5709.631, 5709.632, 5709.91, 5715.19, 5733.41, 5739.02, 5741.02, 5747.41, and 5751.01 of the Revised Code to modify the laws governing economic development and state and local tax incentives, exemptions, and procedures." The bill received 54 Republican votes and 0 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 75, [12/11/19](#)]

2018: Merrin Introduced And Voted For H.B. 343. In March 2018, Merrin voted for H.B. 343 as the House passed the bill in a 59-38 vote. "Regards how local governments are to contest property values. To amend sections 5709.17 and 5715.19 of the Revised Code to limit the authority of local governments to initiate property tax valuation complaints against residential property, to require local governments to formally pass a resolution before initiating a complaint against any type of property, to limit the authority of a school district to file counter-complaints, and to expand the existing property tax exemption for fraternal organizations to include the property of such organizations with longstanding national governing bodies." The bill received 58 Republican votes and 1 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 343, [3/21/18](#)]

2024: Merrin Claimed “Cut[ting] Off All Welfare Benefits And Financial Incentives To Illegal Immigrants” Was One Of “The Most Important Issues Right Now”

2024: Merrin Claimed “Cut[ting] Off All Welfare Benefits And Financial Incentives To Illegal Immigrants” Was One Of “The Most Important Issues Right Now.” Merrin said, “The three most important issues right now are illegal immigration at our southern border. I support sending our military down there immediately to stop illegal immigration and I want to finish Trump’s wall and I want to cut off all welfare benefits and financial incentives to illegal immigrants.” [Fremont News Messenger, [3/16/24](#)]

2024: Merrin Complained That “D.C. Democrats” And “Their Runaway Federal Spending Is Making Life Unaffordable For Hard Working Americans”

2024: Merrin Complained That “D.C. Democrats” And “Their Runaway Federal Spending Is Making Life Unaffordable For Hard Working Americans.”



[Twitter, DerekMerrin, [3/2/24](#)]

Merrin Claimed He Would “Support A Constitutional Amendment To Force Lawmakers To Balance To Budget”

Merrin Claimed He Would “Support A Constitutional Amendment To Force Lawmakers To Balance To Budget.” “Second is the fiscal irresponsibility of our federal government. We are more than \$34 trillion in debt and we are seeing the devaluation of the U.S. dollar. I want to support a constitutional amendment to force lawmakers to balance the budget.” [Fremont News Messenger, [3/16/24](#)]

2024: Merrin Touted Trump’s Tax Laws Saying They Cut Marginal Rates And Cut Business Taxes

2024: Merrin Touted Trump’s Tax Laws Saying They Cut Marginal Rates And Cut Business Taxes. “Merrin said we need a balanced budget, to lower taxes, to stop devaluing our money, and to stop spending money on things like foreign aid and the Ukraine war. Merrin cited Trump’s tax laws, saying

they cut marginal rates and cut business taxes.” [Lucas County Republican Women Event, **Please Reach Out To DCCC For Exact Transcription**, 1/15/24]

Merrin Favors ‘Eliminating The State Income Tax Altogether’

Merrin Favored “Eliminating The State Income Tax Altogether.” “Merrin and some other Republican lawmakers favor eliminating the state income tax altogether.” [Cleveland, [1/27/23](#)]

2024: Merrin Claimed He “Signed A Pledge In Opposition To Raising Federal Taxes”

Merrin Claimed He “Signed A Pledge In Opposition To Raising Federal Taxes.” Merrin “said he has signed a pledge in opposition to raising federal taxes.” [Fremont News Messenger, [3/16/24](#)]

2017: Merrin Added A Budget Bill Provision That Critics Argued Could Be An Attempt To “Usurp” City Authority On Lead Abatement

2017: Merrin Added A Budget Bill Provision That Critics Argued Could Be An Attempt To “Usurp” City Authority On Lead Abatement. “Mr. Sykes said he was concerned why the city was caught flatfooted recently when State Rep. Derek Merrin (R., Monclova Township) introduced a House Republican budget bill provision that would give the state sole authority on lead abatement. Although Toledo’s lead-safe law does not require abatement - but rather mandates that affected properties undergo lead-safe inspections, cleaning, and repairs - Mr. Merrin’s addition is seen as a possible attempt to usurp or weaken the city’s law, as it voids ‘any law or rule governing the abatement of lead, lead-based paint, or the employment or licensing of lead abatement professionals.’” [Toledo Blade, [5/9/17](#)]

2010: Then-Mayor Merrin Sought To Have A Monthly Trash Fee Put On The Ballot After He Failed To Have The City Council Approve It

2010: Then-Mayor Merrin Sought To Have A Monthly Trash Fee Put On The Ballot After He Failed To Have The City Council Approve It. “Waterville residents could cast ballots to decide whether a \$4 a month per dwelling trash fee will be imposed. During a council meeting last night Mayor Derek Merrin said he would see about putting the issue on the ballot, and would check into filing deadlines and the cost. His suggestion came after his motion to remove the trash fee from consideration by village officials, who are finalizing the 2010 general fund budget, failed to garner enough support from council members.” [Toledo Blade, 2/9/10]

Merrin In August 2019: “No Tax on Inflation!”

Merrin In August 2019: “No Tax on Inflation!”



Derek Merrin ✓
@DerekMerrin

...

So Important - No tax on inflation!



ATR ✓ @taxreformer · Aug 28, 2019

It is wrong to tax inflation. Ending the taxation on inflation for capital gains would immediately increase the value of every asset — land, homes, stocks, business — in the United States.

4:00 PM · Aug 28, 2019

[Twitter, DerekMerrin, [8/28/19](#)]

In The Ways And Means Committee, Merrin Shepherded A Bill That Would “Decimate Local Government Resources”

2021: Merrin’s Ways And Means Committee Advanced A Bill To “Block Cities From Imposing Their Income Taxes On Remote Workers For 2021”

2021: Merrin’s Ways And Means Committee Advanced A Bill To “Block Cities From Imposing Their Income Taxes On Remote Workers For 2021.” “An Ohio tax-writing committee approved legislation Tuesday that would block cities from imposing their income taxes on remote workers for 2021 but wouldn’t retroactively change a law that permitted cities to tax nonresidents during the coronavirus pandemic in 2020. The Republican-controlled House Ways and Means Committee voted 12-5 to pass H.B. 157, mostly along partisan lines. The bill would specify that a 2020 law that temporarily deems remote work performed during the pandemic to occur at an employee’s principal place of work would allow withholding flexibility for 2021 but not alter the determination of an employee’s municipal income tax liability. The bill would end the withholding relief on Dec. 31, 2021.” [Law360, [5/18/21](#)]

Merrin: “I Believe This Sub Bill Before Us Today Is A Very Reasonable And Rational

Compromise.” “A previous version of the bill would have specified that the change to the local income tax rule pertained only to withholding relief and not allowed cities to tax remote workers in 2020 or 2021. But the committee adopted a substitute bill Tuesday that declined to address tax year 2020, following testimony in April from local government representatives who cautioned that allowing retroactive refunds for a closed tax year could cripple municipal budgets. ‘I believe this sub bill before us today is a very reasonable and rational compromise that seeks to solve the uncertainty that our state currently has over this issue,’ the committee chairman, Rep. Derek Merrin, R-Monclova Township, said before the vote. The committee also adopted a technical amendment to the measure.” [Law360, [5/18/21](#)]

Cities Set Their Budgets Based On Revenue That H.B. 157 Would Have Removed

Cities Set Their Budgets Based On Revenue That H.B. 157 Would Have Removed. “Most of the committee’s Democrats voted against the bill. Rep. Jeffrey Crossman, D-Parma, disagreed with the

suggestion that the legislation wasn't retroactive because he said municipalities were required by state law to finalize their 2021 budgets by the end of March. 'It is retroactive in the sense that they budget these funds,' Crossman said, referring to the local income taxes cities are currently imposing on remote workers. 'And now, they're going to be in a position of not having these funds available to them, so they're going to have to reassess their budgets.'" [Law360, [5/18/21](#)]

Rep. Lisa Sobecki: H.B. 157 Would "Decimate Local Government Resources At A Time When They're Already Stretched Too Thin"

Rep. Lisa Sobecki: H.B. 157 Would "Decimate Local Government Resources At A Time When They're Already Stretched Too Thin." "But the committee's ranking member, Rep. Lisa Sobecki, D-Toledo, criticized the legislation, saying in a statement that the bill would 'decimate local government resources at a time when they're already stretched too thin responding to this once-in-a-century public health and economic crisis.' 'HB 157 will force cities and townships alike to make some tough choices,' Sobecki said. 'This bill should not pass.'" [Law360, [5/18/21](#)]

May 2021: Merrin Voted For H.B. 157, Which Did Not Advance In The Senate

May 2021: Merrin Voted For H.B. 157. The bill passed the House in a 63-31 vote but did not receive a vote in the Senate. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 157, [5/26/21](#)]

2024: Merrin Said He Doesn't Want To Increase Taxes On The Wealthy, Saying The Government Has A Spending Problem

2024: Merrin Said He Doesn't Want To Increase Taxes On The Wealthy, Saying The Government Has A Spending Problem. "Merrin said he doesn't want to increase taxes on the wealthy, saying the government has a spending problem. In response to the host pushing Merrin on the Trump tax cuts, saying the deficit went up, Merrin said economic growth was spurred and the government's revenue increased. Merrin said, to fight inflation, the printing presses need to stop pushing more money into the economy, and the inflation comes from supply and demand issues caused by the government trying to shut down businesses during COVID." [Q 96.5 Interview, **Please Reach Out To DCCC For Exact Transcription**, 3/13/24]

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Jobs and the Economy

Jobs and the Economy Highlights

2017: Merrin cosponsored a public employee right-to-work bill, which would decrease wages and weaken workers' power to unionize.

2011 and 2017: On multiple occasions, Merrin tried to cut the number of paid sick days for government employees, succeeding once in cutting days nearly in half.

Merrin supported changing Ohio's prevailing wage law, which existed to prevent government construction contract workers from getting paid less than nearby workers on similar projects.

Merrin has been trying to raise village and state employees' health insurance premiums since 2010.

2020: Merrin voted against H.B. 308, which would extend "Workers' compensation coverage to first-responders with work-related post-traumatic stress disorder."

2017: Merrin voted against H.B. 158, which would allow military spouses who quit jobs to accompany their spouses on military transfers to be eligible for unemployment.

2011: Merrin sought to rein in Waterville's budget by cutting staff members.

Merrin criticized contract spending by Ohio's unemployment agency, saying "I do not have confidence that we are paying what is appropriate for the services that we're getting."

2020: Merrin "Lambasted" the Ohio Department of Job And Family Services' "Broken phone and online systems."

February 2021: Merrin promoted H.B. 127 to "Provide businesses relief from covid orders & penalties"

2022: Merrin invited Ohioans to an Americans For Prosperity event to "Remember what [gas] Prices were like before Biden!"

Merrin in August 2019: "No tax on inflation!"

Merrin in November 2020: "Our small businesses and economy are being irreparably damaged by orders/regulations that have proven non-effective in combatting the virus."

Merrin in March 2024: "The cost of living has skyrocketed in northwest Ohio due to the fiscal insanity and failed leadership in washington."

Merrin in May 2024: "#bidenomics isn't working. It's harder for working families to make ends meet & it's a direct result of DC democrats far left agenda."

2017: Merrin voted for H.B. 50, a bill to require color photos on SNAP cards.

2017: Merrin Cosponsored A Public Employee Right-To-Work Bill, Which Would Decrease Wages And Weaken Workers' Power To Unionize

2017: Merrin Cosponsored A Public Employee Right-To-Work Bill

HEADLINE: “Merrin Backs Public Employee Right-To-Work Bill.” [Toledo Blade, [2/16/17](#)]

Merrin Sponsored A Right-To-Work Bill. “State Rep. Derek Merrin (R.) of Monclova Township is one of three northwest Ohioans in the General Assembly to co-sponsor a right-to-work bill in the General Assembly that would apply to public employees.” [Toledo Blade, [2/16/17](#)]

Merrin Sponsored H.B. 53, Which Would “Remove Any Requirement [...] That Public Employees Join Or Pay Dues To Any Employee Organization.” “To amend sections 9.81, 121.40, 124.14, 124.15, 3345.31, 4117.03, 4117.04, 4117.05, 4117.09, 4117.10, 4117.11, 4121.03, 4121.121, 4121.69, and 5501.20 of the Revised Code to remove any requirement under the Public Employees Collective Bargaining Law that public employees join or pay dues to any employee organization, to prohibit public employers from requiring public employees to join or pay dues to any employee organization, to prohibit an employee organization from being required to represent public employees who are not members of the employee organization, and to make an appropriation.” [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 53, filed [2/13/17](#)]

Right-To-Work Bills Decrease Wages And Weaken Workers’ Power To Unionize

Center For American Progress: Right-To-Work Laws Drive Down Wages, “Make It Easier For More Of The Economy’s Gains To Flow Straight To The Country’s Wealthiest People [...] And Weaken] Workers’ Power To Join Together In Unions.” “By reducing workers’ voice, right-to-work laws drive down the wages and reduce the economic well-being of all workers-union and nonunion alike. At the same time, right-to-work laws make it easier for more of the economy’s gains to flow straight to the country’s wealthiest people. A national right-to-work law would keep even more power in the hands of companies that, despite record corporate profits in recent years, have not shared their gains with workers. And by weakening workers’ power to join together in unions, Republicans will be able to limit the voices of ordinary Americans in our democracy, since these organizations help ensure that more people vote and advocate for policies that are essential to working Americans.” [Center for American Progress, [5/18/17](#)]

2023 House Speaker Race: Republican Members With Union Ties Were Wary To Support Merrin Due To His Right-For-Work Legislation Advocacy

In The 2023 Race For Ohio House Speaker, Republican Members With Ties To Unions Were Wary To Support Merrin Due To His Advocacy For Right-To-Work Legislation. “In Ohio, Kogan noted, ‘there is a really important interest group story as well. Given the impotence of the small Democratic minority here, organized labor has been contributing significantly to Republican legislative candidates.’ In other words, some Republican members of the Ohio House have ties to unions that made them wary of supporting Merrin because of his advocacy of right-to-work legislation.” [New York Times, Thomas Edsall Op-Ed, [1/11/23](#)]

2011 And 2017: On Multiple Occasions, Merrin Tried To Cut The Number Of Paid Sick Days For Government Employees, Succeeding Once In Cutting Days Nearly In Half

2011: As Waterville Mayor, Merrin Cut The Number Of Paid Sick Days For Village Employees By Nearly Half

2011: Merrin Cut Paid Sick Days For Village Employees From 18 To 10. “During a meeting in which three council members were absent, Mayor Derek Merrin squeezed out support for his proposal to reduce the number of paid sick days for village employees, a vote critical to his ongoing efforts to trim Waterville’s operating expenses. Effective 30 days from last week’s session, village workers will be allowed up to 10 days of paid sick time annually, down from the current 18.” [Toledo Blade, [3/9/11](#)]

2017: Merrin Sponsored A Bill To Reduce Annual Sick Leave For University And Local Public Employees In Ohio By One Third, Which Faced Criticism From Public Employee Unions And A Local City Manager

2017: Merrin Sponsored A Bill To Reduce Annual Sick Leave For University And Local Public Employees In Ohio By One Third

In The Ohio Legislature, Merrin Sponsored A Bill To Reduce Annual Sick Leave For University And Local Public Employees In Ohio. “City, county, school and college employees across Ohio could receive less annual sick leave under a bill introduced Thursday in the Ohio General Assembly. The bill reduces the number of sick days given to public employees to 10. This is already the maximum for state employees, but many local government employees get up to 15 days of sick leave a year. ‘We’re aligning what state workers get and local government,’ said state Rep. Derek Merrin, R-Monclova Twp., who sponsored the bill. He called the 15-day limit for local government ‘an excessive state mandate that drives up cost for local governments.’” [Journal-News, [9/13/17](#)]

Merrin’s Bill Would Reduce Sick Leave Time By One Third. “A bill introduced by state Rep. Derek Merrin (R., Monclova Township) would reduce by one-third the number of sick leave days university and local public employees in Ohio could accumulate. Mr. Merrin said Monday his bill is aimed at saving money for local governments, school boards, and the state.” [Toledo Blade, [7/4/17](#)]

Merrin’s Bill Was Criticized As “An Attempt To Undermine Collective Bargaining” And Intrude On Local Governments’ Authority To Set Employee Compensation

Public Employee Unions Criticized Merrin’s Bill As “An Attempt To Undermine Collective Bargaining.” “Public employee unions criticize the proposal as an attempt to undermine collective bargaining. ‘We have relationships we built up, we know the communities, the know the employees, the administration knows its workers. It’s something best left for people to agree on in their own communities,’ said Joe Weidner, spokesman for Ohio AFSCME Council 8, which represents 40,000 mostly-public-sector union workers in Ohio.” [Journal-News, [9/13/17](#)]

****A Local City Manager Said He Would Rather State Lawmakers Leave Employee Compensation To Local Governments, “If [Merrin] Wants To Be In Local Government, Why Doesn’t He Go Back And Run For Mayor Of The Community He Was At?*****David Hicks, city manager of Moraine - slightly larger than Waterville - said he would rather state lawmakers left employee compensation up to local governments. ‘If he wants to be in local government, why doesn’t he go back and run for mayor of the community he was at,’ he said.” [Journal-News, [9/13/17](#)]

Merrin Supported Changing Ohio’s Prevailing Wage Law, Which Existed To Prevent Government Construction Contract Workers From Getting Paid Less Than Nearby Workers On Similar Projects

Merrin Supported Changing Ohio's Prevailing Wage Law Which Ensured Large Local Government Construction Projects Should Be Paid At Least The Average Wage As Similar Nearby Workers.

"Just before the House speaker vote on Jan. 3, Burns texted Patton, 'I'm (sic) implore you...don't go with Stephens.' Patton, a longtime union supporter, replied a couple hours later, 'Merrin (was) bad for me,' as Merrin supported an anti-union right-to-work bill and changing the state's prevailing wage law, which ensures that workers on large local-government construction projects should be paid at least the average wage paid to nearby workers on similar jobs." [Cleveland.com, [3/27/23](#)]

Prevailing Wage Laws Were Intended To Prevent Construction Contractors "From Basing Their Bids On Wages Lower Than Those In The Prevailing Area." "Congress first passed a federal law in 1931 called the Davis-Bacon Act that requires private contractors to pay workers on projects that get more than \$2,000 in federal taxpayer money the 'prevailing wage.' It has been updated several times. Prevailing wages are usually higher than minimum wage and can reflect what union members in construction trades are paid. The original act prevented 'contractors from basing their bids on wages lower than those in the prevailing area.' States can pass their own prevailing wage laws for projects that get state taxpayer money. About half of the states have passed their own laws, which Ohio did in 1931." [Signal Cleveland, [11/21/23](#)]

Merrin Has Been Trying To Raise Village And State Employees' Health Insurance Premiums Since 2010

2010: Then-Mayor Merrin Proposed Raising Waterville Village Employees' Health Insurance Premiums From 14 To 30 Percent

2010: Then-Mayor Merrin Proposed Raising Waterville Village Employees' Health Insurance Premiums From 14 To 30 Percent. "Increasing group health insurance premiums paid by Waterville village employees could save taxpayers at least \$1 million in 10 years, based on figures from a proposal by Mayor Derek Merrin. His proposal, introduced as an ordinance to council last week, would raise the portion of premium for the basic plan to be paid by village employees from 14 percent to 30 percent." [Toledo Blade, 12/22/10]

2017: Merrin Introduced A Bill Requiring State Employees To Pay 15% Of Their Dental, Vision, And Life Insurance Premiums

2017: Merrin Introduced A Bill Requiring State Employees To Pay 15% Of Their Dental, Vision, And Life Insurance Premiums. "State Representative Derek Merrin (R-Monclova Township) introduced H.B. 169, which would require many state employees to effectively pay 15 percent of the total cost for their dental, vision, and basic life insurance premiums. The legislation impacts exempt state employees not covered by collective bargaining agreements, including state legislators, agency directors, and executive staff." [Ohio House of Representatives, Derek Merrin News, [3/29/17](#)]

2020: Merrin Voted Against H.B. 308, Which Would Extend "Workers' Compensation Coverage To First-Responders With Work-Related Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder"

2020: Merrin Voted Against H.B. 308, Which Would Extend "Workers' Compensation Coverage To First-Responders With Work-Related Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder." "H.B. 308: Extends workers'

compensation coverage to first-responders with work-related post-traumatic stress disorder (goes to Senate). Sponsor: Rep. Tom Patton (R., Strongsville). Vote: Passed on Wednesday, 74-22. Northwest Ohio representatives: Ms. Hicks-Hudson, yes; Mr. Sheehy, yes; Ms. Sobecki, yes; Mr. Merrin, no.” [Toledo Blade, 2/16/20]

2021: Merrin Voted Against H.B. 163, Which Would Prohibit Hospitals From “Requiring Nurses To Work Overtime As Condition Of Employment”

2021: Merrin Voted Against H.B. 163, Which Would Prohibit Hospitals From “Requiring Nurses To Work Overtime As Condition Of Employment.” “House Bill 163: Prohibits hospitals from requiring nurses to work overtime as condition of employment (goes to Senate). Sponsors: Reps. Alessandro Cutrona (R., Canfield), Bride Sweeney (D., Cleveland). Vote: Passed on June 10, 82-12. Northwest Ohio representatives: Paula Hicks-Hudson (D., Toledo), yes; Mike Sheehy (D., Oregon), yes; Lisa Sobecki (D., Toledo), yes; Derek Merrin (R., Monclova Township), no.” [Toledo Blade, 6/20/21]

2017: Merrin Voted Against H.B. 158, Which Would Allow Military Spouses Who Quit Jobs to Accompany Their Spouses On Military Transfers To Be Eligible For Unemployment

2017: Merrin Voted Against H.B. 158, Which Would Allow Military Spouses Who Quit Jobs to Accompany Their Spouses On Military Transfers To Be Eligible For Unemployment. “H.B. 158: Makes military spouses who quit jobs to accompany spouses on military transfers eligible for unemployment compensation (goes to Senate). Sponsor: Reps. Rick Perales (R., Beavercreek), Herscel Craig (D., Columbus). Vote: Passed on Wednesday, 87-6. Northwest Ohio representatives: Ms. Fedor, yes; Mr. Sheehy, yes; Mr. Ashford, yes; Mr. Merrin, no.” [Toledo Blade, 10/25/17]

2011: Merrin Sought To Rein In Waterville’s Budget By Cutting Staff Members

2011: Merrin Sought To Rein In Waterville’s Budget By Cutting Staff Members. “Waterville council is to hold a public hearing Monday on the village’s proposed 2011 operating budget. It reflects the village’s efforts to be more fiscally conservative and efficient, Mayor Derek Merrin said. [...] Waterville’s biggest cost is salaries and benefits, and steps have been taken to rein those in, Mr. Merrin said. [...] Savings stem in part from staff reductions. ‘We are down four employees,’ the mayor said.” [Toledo Blade, 1/5/11]

Merrin Criticized Contract Spending By Ohio’s Unemployment Agency, Saying “I Do Not Have Confidence That We Are Paying What Is Appropriate For The Services That We’re Getting”

Merrin Criticized Contract Spending By Ohio’s Unemployment Agency, Saying “I Do Not Have Confidence That We Are Paying What Is Appropriate For The Services That We’re Getting.” “A WCPO 9 I-Team analysis of records from the Ohio Controlling Board shows the state’s unemployment agency has added more than \$100 million in new expenses this year with new contracts, amendments and purchase orders. [...] In an interview, Merrin said Ohio’s rising consulting bills for the unemployment system are part of a much larger problem with IT spending by all state agencies. ‘I think the state is probably being, has been taken advantage of in these contracts,’ he said. ‘It’s very hard to prove unless

you're an IT professional and you know what these contracts should cost. But as a lawmaker in this state, no, I do not have confidence that we are paying what is appropriate for the services that we're getting.” [WCPO, [10/7/21](#)]

2020: Merrin “Lambasted” The Ohio Department Of Job and Family Services’ “Broken Phone And Online Systems”

2020: Merrin “Lambasted” The Ohio Department Of Job and Family Services’ “Broken Phone And Online Systems.” “Ohio House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Derek Merrin, R-Moncolva, lambasted the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services for what he called broken phone and online systems that laid-off workers must use to apply for jobless benefits. ‘We are in year 2020 - how do we not have a phone system that properly works?’ Merrin said. ‘We have a call system where people are losing connection.’ Merrin’s criticism echoed the complaints of countless Miami Valley residents and Ohioans who have grown angry and upset because they could not get unemployment benefits quickly, often citing problems with the application process and an inability to get a hold of call center staff.” [Dayton Daily News, [5/29/20](#)]

February 2021: Merrin Promoted H.B. 127 To “Provide Businesses Relief From COVID Orders & Penalties”

February 2021: Merrin Promoted H.B. 127 To “Provide Businesses Relief From COVID Orders & Penalties.”

Provide Businesses Relief from COVID Orders & Penalties

- ✓ All business violations related to COVID-19 orders are vacated and expunged.
- ✓ All businesses fined for violations will have their money returned.

House Bill 127  **Derek Merrin**
R-Monclova Township

Derek Merrin
February 19, 2021 · Columbus, OH

Ohio businesses and job creators have suffered enough. Hundreds of businesses have been harassed, cited, and fined by government bureaucrats for “supposedly” not abiding by Covid orders.

The orders are constantly changing and it’s impossible for business owners to control every movement of their customers and employees, such as them not wearing a mask properly or being 71 inches too close rather than 72 inches socially distanced.

The bill clears their records and ensures no administrative agency or court suspends their license or holds these specific violations against them in the future. Many businesses have been fined \$500-\$2,500 per violation. My bill requires the state to return every penny to them.

By the way, let’s marshal government officials to fight against human trafficking, drug dealers, child abusers, and those committing financial crimes against our elderly rather than harass businesses providing jobs and delivering services in Ohio. [See less](#)

— at Ohio Statehouse.

49 119 25

Most relevant

Barbara McBee
All due respect but there are literally thousands of people in your district who have been waiting for PUA from ODJFS, only to be told it may be released.

[Facebook, Derek Merrin, [2/19/21](#)]

2022: Merrin Invited Ohioans To An Americans For Prosperity Event To “Remember What [Gas] Prices Were Like Before Biden!”

2022: Merrin Invited Ohioans To An Americans For Prosperity Event To “Remember What [Gas] Prices Were Like Before Biden!” “ALERT - Fill Your Gas Tank Up for \$2.38 per gallon from 8:00am-10:00am at Barney’s Stop & Go at 801 S. Byrne Road, Toledo, Ohio 43609. Join me at the ‘True Cost of Washington Tour’ sponsored by @AFPhq @dtoneil this morning! Remember what prices were like before Biden!”



Derek Merrin ✓
@DerekMerrin

...

ALERT - Fill Your Gas Tank Up for \$2.38 per gallon from 8:00am-10:00am at Barney’s Stop & Go at 801 S. Byrne Road, Toledo, Ohio 43609.

Join me at the “True Cost of Washington Tour” sponsored by @AFPhq @dtoneil this morning! Remember what prices were like before Biden!



8:10 AM · Jul 8, 2022

12

5

17



[Derek Merrin, Twitter, 7/8/22]

Merrin In August 2019: “No Tax on Inflation!”

Merrin In August 2019: “No Tax on Inflation!”



Derek Merrin ✓
@DerekMerrin

...

So Important - No tax on inflation!



ATR ✓ @taxreformer · Aug 28, 2019

It is wrong to tax inflation. Ending the taxation on inflation for capital gains would immediately increase the value of every asset — land, homes, stocks, business — in the United States.

4:00 PM · Aug 28, 2019

[Twitter, DerekMerrin, [8/28/19](#)]

[Merrin In November 2020: “Our Small Businesses and Economy Are Being Irreparably Damaged by Orders/Regulations That Have Proven Non-Effective in Combatting the Virus”](#)

Merrin In November 2020: “Our Small Businesses and Economy Are Being Irreparably Damaged by Orders/Regulations That Have Proven Non-Effective in Combatting the Virus.”



Derek Merrin ✓
@DerekMerrin

...

Our small businesses and economy are being irreparably damaged by orders/regulations that have proven non-effective in combatting the virus.

That is why I joined many of my colleagues urging the Governor to not add more burdensome regulations.

Dear Governor DeWine:

We are writing to you as members of the Ohio General Assembly on behalf of the thousands of small businesses throughout our state. Since your televised address on Wednesday, countless constituents have reached out to us to express their deep concern that additional mandates will severely jeopardize the ability of their small businesses to survive. Ohio's businesses have been pushed to the brink this year and many have already closed. They suffered from lost revenues during the shutdown in the spring and have shown great innovation to safely reopen. In our view, asking Ohio's small businesses to shoulder even more mandates - or worse, closures - will have serious and long-lasting repercussions.

In particular, the business owners with whom we have spoken overwhelmingly believe that it is unreasonable to hold them responsible for whether customers wear masks. Retailers, whose businesses are built on customer service and a loyal clientele, should not be made to be 'the mask police'. Employees enforcing the mask mandate with customers have already led to ugly documented incidents around Ohio.

Furthermore, it is unfair to single out the three specific economic sectors of restaurants, bars, and gyms for closure. These entities have spent an incredible amount of time and dollars to provide a safe environment for their employees to work and their customers to find relief from the pandemic. This targeting is particularly troubling when the government's own data demonstrates that the majority of the virus spread is not coming from these types of businesses. Ohio State Wexner Chief Clinical Officer Dr. Andrew Thomas has noted that a second stay-at-home order that would close businesses and manufacturing is not necessary at this moment. Stopping the outbreak comes down to personal behavior and personal decisions. Other officials in your administration, including Dr. Thomas, say private gatherings such as birthday parties, weddings, and game watching events are what is driving the spread of the virus.

There is also significant concern over your decision to use the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation's (BWC) Division of Safety and Hygiene as the agents to inspect businesses. This decision will erode the decades of trust that has been built with employers. These BWC consultants' job has been to collaboratively work with businesses to create safe workplaces, not to serve as government officials who could close them down. Placing the onus on these men and women to possibly shut down businesses will destroy that collaborative government and business partnership.

Finally, while you as Governor have broad constitutional authority during a public health emergency, there are limits to your actions. Without clarifying statutory authority being granted by the state legislature, courts in Ohio, rightfully so, have already begun to rule that shutdown

 George F. Lang State Representative	 C. S. Riedel State Representative	 Bill Reinke State Representative
 Susan Manchester State Representative	 Adam Timmer State Representative	 Doug Green State Representative
 Jon Powell State Representative	 Don Joseph State Representative	 Riondan McClain State Representative
 Jon Cross State Representative	 Tracy Richardson State Representative	 Diane Grendell State Representative
 Haraz Ghannbari State Representative	 Phil Plummer State Representative	 Tom Brinkman State Representative
 Cindy Abrams State Representative	 Mark Romanchuk State Representative	 Dave Burke State Senator
 Rob McColey State Senator	 Matt Huffman State Senator	 Terry Johnson State Senator
 Andrew Brenner State Senator	 Steve Huffman State Senator	 Jay Hottinger State Senator
 Khusia D. Pronger	 Bill Ritten	 Frank Harshbarger

4:46 PM · Nov 17, 2020 from Columbus, OH

[Twitter, DerekMerrin, 11/17/20]

Merrin In March 2024: "The Cost of Living Has Skyrocketed in Northwest Ohio Due to the Fiscal Insanity and Failed Leadership in Washington"

Merrin In March 2024: "The Cost of Living Has Skyrocketed in Northwest Ohio Due to the Fiscal Insanity and Failed Leadership in Washington."



Derek Merrin ✓

@DerekMerrin



The cost of living has skyrocketed in Northwest Ohio due to the fiscal insanity and failed leadership in Washington.

As your next Congressman, I will fight relentlessly for pro-growth policies to help get these costs down. [#OH09](#)



1:40 PM · May 4, 2024 · 10K Views

[Twitter, DerekMerrin, [3/4/24](#)]

Merrin In May 2024: “#Bidenomics Isn’t Working. It’s Harder for Working Families to Make Ends Meet & It’s a Direct Result of DC Democrats Far Left Agenda”

Merrin In May 2024: “#Bidenomics Isn’t Working. It’s Harder for Working Families to Make Ends Meet & It’s a Direct Result of DC Democrats Far Left Agenda.”



Derek Merrin ✓

@DerekMerrin

#Bidenomics isn't working. It's harder for working families to make ends meet & it's a direct result of DC Democrats far left agenda of uncontrolled spending, limiting energy production, and excessive regulation. #OH09



April jobs report shows hiring, wage growth slow as unemployment unexpectedly jumps

From finance.yahoo.com

7:58 AM · May 4, 2024 · 2,596 Views

[Twitter, DerekMerrin, 5/4/24]

2017: Merrin Voted For H.B. 50, A Bill To Require Color Photos On SNAP Cards

2017: Merrin Voted For H.B. 50. In November 2017, Merrin voted for H.B. 50 as the House passed the bill in a 64-31 vote. “Establish specifications for electronic benefit transfer cards. To amend sections 4501.27, 5101.33, and 5101.542 and to enact section 5101.331 of the Revised Code to establish requirements for electronic benefit transfer cards issued under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.” The bill received 62 Republican votes and 2 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 50, 11/1/17]

The Ohio Association Of Food Banks Opposed H.B. 50, Stating That The Downsides Of The Color Photo Requirement “Outweighs Any Potential Benefits.” “While I absolutely agree that every effort should be made to crack down on fraud, I also believe the cost of doing so via an EBT photo mandate outweighs any potential benefits. According to proponent testimony, the cost of implementing this policy is estimated at \$1.5 million in the first year, with an annual maintenance fee of \$200,000. This is simply not accurate and is inconsistent with the LSC Fiscal Note concerning initial costs borne by smaller states that implemented similar policies. Research from The Urban Institute on this very topic found that Massachusetts invested: \$4 million in the inaugural year of its photo EBT program 3 million in annual costs to the EBT vendor \$1 million in annual staffing costs And upwards of \$400,000 in annual costs of notices to clients.” [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 50, Ohio Association Of Food Banks comment, [4/10/18](#)]

COVID-19

COVID-19 Highlights

Thanksgiving 2020: Merrin flouted Ohio's Covid-19 restrictions and proudly claimed his family would "still gather indoors with 10 to 15 people and no masks."

September 2020: When the pandemic was in full swing, Merrin bragged about attending Trump's massive rally that touted nearly zero Covid-19 restrictions

During the pandemic, Merrin proposed legislation to shorten "the length of an emergency declaration from 120 days to 10."

2020: Merrin supported legislation that "Dramatically" curtailed the authority of Ohio Department Of Public Health Director Amy Acton "Effectively nullifying her orders if they are not endorsed by a legislative panel."

During the beginning of the pandemic, Merrin recklessly advocated for loosened restrictions claiming prematurely that "The surge never happened."

Merrin repeatedly took action to reduce Covid-19 vaccinations, voting for legislation to curtail mandatory vaccinations and legitimize COVID-19 "vaccine injuries."

During the pandemic, Merrin sponsored legislation to rake back "\$600 million promised to colleges, universities, local communities and some state agencies for capital improvement projects" to offset funding shortages.

2021: Merrin introduced H.B. 127, a bill that sought to "Halt enforcement of coronavirus health orders" and "Require the state to reimburse businesses fined for having violated health orders."

Merrin co-sponsored legislation to "Protect individuals from being compelled to wear a mask."

Merrin Co-Sponsored Legislation To "Protect Individuals From Being Compelled To Wear A Mask"

Merrin Co-Sponsored Legislation To "Protect Individuals From Being Compelled To Wear A Mask." During the 135th General Assembly, Merrin co-sponsored H.J.R. 4 which "Proposes to amend the Ohio Constitution to protect individuals from being compelled to wear a mask or other facial covering in (1) a place of public accommodation, (2) a facility owned or operated by a political subdivision or state agency, or (3) a court. [...] Specifies that nothing in the amendment is to be construed as applying to a private residence." [The Ohio House of Representatives, [Accessed 5/6/24](#); The Ohio House of Representatives, [Accessed 5/6/24](#)]

2021: Merrin Introduced H.B. 127, A Bill That Sought To “Halt Enforcement Of Coronavirus Health Orders” And “Require The State To Reimburse Businesses Fined For Having Violated Health Orders”

2021: Merrin Introduced A Bill That Sought To “Halt Enforcement Of Coronavirus Health Orders” And “Require The State To Reimburse Businesses Fined For Having Violated Health Orders.”

“Rep. Derek Merrin, R-Monclova, introduced House Bill 127 to halt enforcement of coronavirus health orders going forward. It would also require the state to reimburse businesses fined for having violated health orders since the pandemic began. [...] ‘Ohio businesses and job creators have suffered enough,’ Merrin wrote on Facebook. ‘Hundreds of businesses have been harassed, cited, and fined by government bureaucrats for ‘supposedly’ not abiding by Covid orders.’” [Ohio Capital Journal, [2/22/21](#)]

During The Pandemic, Merrin Sponsored Legislation To Rake Back “\$600 Million Promised To Colleges, Universities, Local Communities And Some State Agencies For Capital Improvement Projects” To Offset Funding Shortages

2020: Merrin Sponsored Legislation To Rake Back “\$600 Million Promised To Colleges, Universities, Local Communities And Some State Agencies For Capital Improvement Projects” To Offset Funding Shortages.

“The Ohio House is considering raking back \$600 million promised to colleges, universities, local communities and some state agencies for capital improvement projects while state senators are looking at giving the green light to \$1.3 billion in previously appropriated money. [...] Merrin’s bill eliminates capital reappropriations for Wright State University, Sinclair Community College, Miami University and other public colleges; local cultural projects such as the Dayton Arcade, Dayton Art Institute, and YWCA Dayton; state parks; veterans services; and other state agencies. [...] Merrin said Ohioans are going through unprecedented times and lawmakers need to reexamine funding priorities. The reappropriations doesn’t impact the current operating budget but does influence future budgets since the funding comes from bond issues that must be repaid with interest in future years, he said.” [Dayton Daily News, [5/28/20](#)]

Merrin Repeatedly Took Action To Reduce COVID-19 Vaccinations

2022: Merrin Voted For H.B. 151, An Education Bill That “Prohibit[ed] Schools From Discriminating Based On COVID-19 Vaccination Status”

2022: Merrin Voted For H.B. 151. In June 2022, Merrin voted for H.B. 151 as the House passed the bill in a 57-30 vote. “Replace Ohio Teacher Residency program with local mentorship. [...] to enact new section 3301.13 and sections 3301.0731, 3301.111, 3301.132, 3313.5318, 3319.225, 3321.042, and 3792.05; and to repeal sections 3301.13, 3302.101, and 3302.102 of the Revised Code and to amend the versions of sections 3319.22 and 3319.223 of the Revised Code that are scheduled to take effect on April 12, 2023; to rename the Department of Education as the Department of Education and Workforce; to create the position of Director of Education and Workforce; and to reform the functions and responsibilities of the State Board of Education and the Superintendent of Public Instruction, to continue the changes on and after that date; to reduce the duration of the Alternative Resident Educator License from four to two years; to permit such a licensee to teach preschool; to revise the Ohio Teacher Residency Program as it exists beginning on April 12, 2023; to require one day of professional development leave each school year for classroom teachers to observe veteran teachers; to enact the

Save Women's Sports Act to require schools to designate separate single-sex teams and sports for each sex; to make changes to the home education and non-chartered nonpublic school law; to prohibit schools from discriminating based on COVID-19 vaccination status; and to permit the General Assembly to invalidate or rescind rules adopted by the Director of Education and Workforce." The bill received 57 Republican votes and 0 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 151, [6/1/22](#)]

Merrin Co-Sponsored Legislation That Prohibited Public And Private Entities From "Taking Specified Actions Against An Individual Based On The Individual's Refusal Of Any Biologic, Vaccine, Pharmaceutical, Drug, Gene Editing Technology, RNA-Based Product"

Merrin Co-Sponsored Legislation That Prohibited Public And Private Entities From "Taking Specified Actions Against An Individual Based On The Individual's Refusal Of Any Biologic, Vaccine, Pharmaceutical, Drug, Gene Editing Technology, RNA-Based Product." During the 135th General Assembly Merrin co-sponsored House Bill 319 which "Prohibits certain private and public entities from taking specified actions against an individual based on the individual's refusal of any biologic, vaccine, pharmaceutical, drug, gene editing technology, RNA-based product, or DNA-based product for reasons of conscience, including religious convictions. [...] Authorizes an individual who believes that a violation of the bill's prohibition has occurred to (1) petition a court for injunctive relief or a declaratory judgment or (2) bring a private civil action for money damages. [...] If the individual prevails, requires the court to award the individual court costs and reasonable attorney's fees and, in the case of a private civil action for money damages, also requires the court to award the individual three times the amount of the individual's actual damages or \$200, whichever is greater." [The Ohio House of Representatives, [Accessed 5/6/24](#); Ohio Legislative Services Commission, [4/2/24](#)]

2021: Merrin Voted For S.B. 111, To "Prohibit Certain Mandatory Vaccinations And Other Activities Related To An Individual's Vaccination Status"

2021: Merrin Voted For S.B. 111. In June 2021, Merrin voted for S.B. 111 as the House passed the bill in a 62-34 vote. "Provide assistance to schools and other entities. To enact section 3792.02 of the Revised Code to prohibit certain mandatory vaccinations and other activities related to an individual's vaccination status and to make an appropriation related to coronavirus local fiscal recovery." The bill received 60 Republican votes and 2 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, S.B. 111, [6/24/21](#)]

2021: Merrin Voted For H.B. 218, Which Would "Expressly Cover COVID-19 Vaccine Injuries Under The Workers' Compensation System"

2021: Merrin Voted For H.B. 218. In November 2021, Merrin voted for H.B. 218 as the House passed the bill in a 58-32 vote. "Extend bar hours; exempt bars from statewide curfew. To amend section 4123.01 and to enact sections 3792.05, 3792.06, 3792.07, 3792.08, 4123.87, 4731.77, and 4765.60 of the Revised Code to address medical requirements for employees and students; to address qualified civil immunity regarding certain coronaviruses; to authorize emergency medical technicians to administer COVID-19 tests; to expressly cover COVID-19 vaccine injuries under the workers' compensation system; and to repeal sections 3792.05, 3792.07, and 3792.08 of the Revised Code on September 30, 2025." The bill received 58 Republican votes and 0 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 218, [11/18/21](#)]

[During The Beginning Of The Pandemic, Merrin Recklessly Advocated For Loosened Restrictions, Claiming Prematurely That "The Surge Never Happened"](#)

In The Beginning Stages Of The Pandemic, Merrin Recklessly Advocated For Loosened Restrictions Claiming Prematurely That “The Surge Never Happened.” “Some have called on Gov. Mike DeWine and state health director Dr. Amy Acton to reopen businesses around Ohio. Others have outright questioned whether the economic shutdown is worse than COVID-19 itself. [...] State Rep. Derek Merrin, R-Monclove Township, near Toledo, wrote in a letter to DeWine that the number of unemployed Ohioans has neared 1 million in recent weeks because of the coronavirus crisis. Efforts used to combat the virus have created yet another crisis, Merrin said. [...] ‘The surge never happened, which is great news. Modeling used to justify the restrictions was inaccurate,’ Merrin wrote in his letter to DeWine. ‘Ohioans have sacrificed to help, but need restrictions adjusted based on new modeling.’” [Akron Beacon Journal, [4/18/20](#)]

Contrary To Merrin’s Claims, By June Of 2020, April Had Been The “Deadliest Month So Far” Of The Pandemic

The Columbus Dispatch: “April Appears To Have Been The Deadliest Month So Far.” “The coronavirus has killed thousands of Ohioans and while it hasn’t yet caused a big spike in Ohio’s total deaths for 2020, it appears on track to do so [...] April appears to have been the deadliest month so far, according to mortality data from the Ohio Department of Health as of Friday. [...] Ohio’s overall 2020 deaths mostly matched the previous five-year average from January through March, but they shot up in April to 11,155. That marks a jump of 9.5%, or a 973 spike in deaths alone in April 2020 compared to the average April from 2015 to 2019, state data shows.” [The Columbus Dispatch, [6/5/20](#)]

2020: Merrin Supported Legislation That “Dramatically” Curtailed The Authority Of Ohio Department Of Public Health Director Amy Acton “Effectively Nullifying Her Orders If They Are Not Endorsed By A Legislative Panel”

2020: Merrin Supported Legislation That “Dramatically” Curtailed The Authority Of Ohio Department Of Public Health Director Amy Acton “Effectively Nullifying Her Orders If They Are Not Endorsed By A Legislative Panel.” “The Republican majority in the House passed legislation this month - with no Democratic support - that would dramatically curtail Acton’s authority, effectively nullifying her orders if they are not endorsed by a legislative panel. [...] The legislation is considered unlikely to pass in the Ohio Senate, and DeWine has said he would veto it even if it does. But Republican legislators said they would continue to press to limit Acton’s reach. [...] ‘Unbridled power with no oversight or accountability is a recipe for economic calamity and a loss of freedom,’ said Republican Rep. Derek Merrin, who voted for the measure and supports allowing all Ohio businesses to immediately reopen. ‘That’s what we have in Ohio.’ [...] Merrin described Acton - a registered Democrat who campaigned for Barack Obama - as a negative influence on the state’s GOP governor. She has flip-flopped on questions such as whether to recommend that Ohioans wear masks, he said, and has promoted models that exaggerate the virus’s toll.” [The Herald-Dispatch, [5/19/20](#)]

2020: Merrin Voted For S.B. 311, To Limit The “Director of Health[’s] Order-Issuing Authority”

2020: Merrin Voted For S.B. 311. In November 2020, Merrin voted for S.B. 311 as the House passed the bill in a 58-32 vote. “Limit Director of Health order-issuing authority. To amend sections 3701.13 and 3701.14 of the Revised Code to modify the law governing public health orders, quarantine, and isolation.” The bill received 58 Republican votes and 0 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, S.B. 311, [11/19/20](#)]

2020: Merrin Voted For S.B. 375, “To Void The Director Of Health’s July 30th Order Regarding County Fairs”

2020: Merrin Voted For S.B. 375. In December 2020, Merrin voted for S.B. 375 as the House passed the bill in a 54-30 vote. “Void Director of Health order regarding county fairs. To void the Director of Health’s July 30th order regarding county fairs and create the Agricultural Society Working Group for 2021.” The bill received 54 Republican votes and 0 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, S.B. 375, [12/17/20](#)]

2020: Merrin Voted For S.B. 31, A Bill To Prohibit Mandated Contact Tracing

2020: Merrin Voted For S.B. 31. In May 2020, Merrin voted for S.B. 31 as the House passed the bill in a 58-34 vote. “Exempt EMS telecommunicator info from Public Records Law. To amend sections 149.43, 4123.88, and 5913.01 and to enact sections 107.22 and 3701.25 of the Revised Code to present section 149.45 of the Revised Code to confirm its harmonization, to include emergency service telecommunicators, certain Ohio National Guard members, federal judges, regional physician advisory board members, and first responders as individuals whose residential and familial information is exempt from disclosure under the Public Records Law, to address matters related to contact tracing, and to require the Bureau of Workers’ Compensation or Industrial Commission to disclose a claimant’s name to a journalist upon written request.” The bill received 58 Republican votes and 0 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, S.B. 31, [5/28/20](#)]

S.B. 31 Would Have Prohibited Mandated Contact Tracing. “[S.B. 31] Prohibits the Governor from issuing an order requiring an individual to participate in contact tracing. Prohibits the Ohio Department of Health, another state agency, a local board of health, or any other person or government entity under contract with the foregoing, from requiring an individual to participate in contact tracing. Requires written consent to participate in contact tracing.” [Ohio Legislature, S.B. 31, Bill Analysis, [5/28/20](#)]

2021: Merrin Voted For S.B. 22, “To Establish Legislative Oversight Of Certain Orders And Rules Issued By The Executive Branch, Including By Establishing The Ohio Health Oversight And Advisory Committee”

2021: Merrin Voted For S.B. 22. In March 2021, Merrin voted for S.B. 22 as the House passed the bill in a 57-38 vote. “Establish legislative oversight over Governor’s and health orders. To amend sections 106.022, 111.15, 119.03, 2743.03, 3701.13, 3701.14, 3707.01, 3707.26, 3715.74, and 4935.03 and to enact sections 101.36, 103.65, 103.651, 107.42, 107.43, 3707.11, 3707.54, 3709.212, and 3709.50 of the Revised Code to establish legislative oversight of certain orders and rules issued by the executive branch, including by establishing the Ohio Health Oversight and Advisory Committee.” The bill received 57 Republican votes and 0 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, S.B. 22, [3/10/21](#)]

During The Pandemic Merrin Proposed Legislation To Shorten “The Length Of An Emergency Declaration From 120 Days To 10”

During The Pandemic Merrin Proposed Legislation To Shorten “The Length Of An Emergency Declaration From 120 Days To 10.” “For many conservative lawmakers, COVID-19 served as a provocation - an inciting incident to react against. Merrin was no exception. But again, his tendency toward process is hard to miss. His proposals included shortening the length of an emergency declaration

from 120 days to 10. Another would vacate and expunge fines businesses received for failing to follow health guidelines.” [News 5 Cleveland, [1/3/23](#)]

Thanksgiving 2020: Merrin Flouted Ohio’s COVID-19 Restrictions And Proudly Claimed His Family Would “Still Gather Indoors With 10 To 15 People And No Masks”

Thanksgiving 2020: Merrin Flouted Ohio’s COVID-19 Restrictions On Indoor Gatherings And Proudly Claimed His Family Would “Still Gather Indoors With 10 To 15 People And No Masks.”

“Elected officials have tried to lead by example, hoping that, by sharing how their Thanksgiving traditions are changing to meet the moment, it might help others make safer choices. [...] State Rep. Derek Merrin, a Monclova Republican, said his family isn’t doing anything differently. They will still gather indoors with 10 to 15 people and no masks. [...] ‘I’m only one person, but I don’t go around telling people how they’re going to live their lives in their own homes,’ he said.” [Tolledo Blade, [11/24/20](#)]

Effective Nov. 17, 2020: Ohio Restrictions Ordered Mass Gatherings To Be “Limited To A Maximum Of 10 People.” “Mass gatherings are limited to a maximum of 10 people. A revised health order effective Nov. 17 places limits on wedding receptions, funeral observances and other events at banquet facilities. They include requiring guests to be seated at all times, limiting tables to no more than 10 people from the same household and prohibiting dancing as well as socializing in open congregate areas.” [NPR, [12/3/20](#)]

September 2020: Merrin Bragged About Attending Trump’s Massive Rally That Touted Nearly Zero COVID-19 Restrictions

September 2020: Merrin Bragged About Attending Trump’s Massive Rally That Touted Nearly Zero COVID-19 Restrictions. “An incredible rally tonight supporting President’s Trump re-election. The silent majority is ready to roar again this November! #MAGA”

← Post



Derek Merrin ✓

@DerekMerrin

...

An incredible rally tonight supporting President's Trump re-election. The silent majority is ready to roar again this November! #MAGA



7:11 PM · Sep 21, 2020

[Twitter, @DerekMerrin, 9/21/20]

Associated Press: “Thousands Of President Donald Trump’s Supporters Regularly Cram Together At Campaign Rallies Around The Country - Masks Optional And Social Distancing Frowned Upon.” “But it’s a different story in Trumpland. Thousands of President Donald Trump’s supporters regularly cram together at campaign rallies around the country - masks optional and social distancing frowned upon. [...] Trump rallies are among the nation’s biggest events being held in defiance of crowd restrictions designed to stop the virus from spreading. This at a time when public health experts are advising people to think twice even about inviting many guests for Thanksgiving dinner.” [Associated Press, [10/29/20](#)]

Stanford: Trump “Rallies Ultimately Resulted In More Than 30,000 Confirmed Cases Of Covid-19” And “More Than 700 Deaths, Though Not Necessarily Among Attendees”

Stanford: Trump “Rallies Ultimately Resulted In More Than 30,000 Confirmed Cases Of Covid-19” And “More Than 700 Deaths, Though Not Necessarily Among Attendees.” “Researchers looked at 18 Trump rallies held between June 20 and Sept. 22 and analyzed Covid-19 data the weeks following each event. They compared the counties where the events were held to other counties that had a similar trajectory of confirmed Covid-19 cases prior to the rally date. Out of the 18 rallies analyzed, only three were indoors, according to the research. [...] The researchers found that the rallies ultimately resulted in more than 30,000 confirmed cases of Covid-19. They also concluded that the rallies likely led to more than 700 deaths, though not necessarily among attendees.” [CNBC, [10/31/20](#)]

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Crime, Public Safety, Criminal Justice, and Police Reform

Crime, Public Safety, Criminal Justice, and Police Reform Highlights

Merrin's primary opponent accused him of being a "Top henchman" to disgraced and convicted Ohio House Speaker Larry Householder.

2012: While he was the Mayor Of Waterville, Merrin appointed Officer David LaGrange, who was later accused of purposely withholding body camera evidence, to be Police Chief.

2020: Merrin voted against House Bill 136, a bill that prohibited the death penalty if the offender was mentally ill at the time of the offense.

Merrin: "We need to adjust the local government funding formula, to try and find more financial assistance to get more officers on the streets."

Merrin voted to lower the minimum age for a police officer to 18.

2022: Merrin voted for H.B. 501, to "Authorize property taxes for school resource officer services"

2017: Merrin voted against H.B. 95, which would "Increase penalties for traffic violation if distracted driving is factor."

Merrin's Primary Opponent Accused Him Of Being A "Top Henchman" To Disgraced And Convicted Ohio House Member Larry Householder

Merrin's Primary Opponent Accused Him Of Being A "Top Henchman" To Disgraced And Convicted Ohio House Member Larry Householder, They Claimed "Speculation Swirls Merrin Could Be Charged Next." "Notably, [Ohio State Congressman Craig] Riedel's campaign recently began airing a searing Merrin attack ad - blasting the legislator as 'a top henchman' to then-Ohio House Speaker Larry Householder. Householder was convicted last year in the largest bribery scheme in state history and sentenced in June to 20 years in prison. The ad suggests 'speculation swirls Merrin could be charged next.'" [The Associated Press, [3/18/24](#)]

Before Householder Was Charged With Large-Scale Bribery, "Merrin Had Taken Upwards Of \$17,000 Between Householder's Dark Money Growth & Opportunity PAC And His Official Committee"

Before Householder Was Charged With Large-Scale Bribery, "Merrin Had Taken Upwards Of \$17,000 Between Householder's Dark Money Growth & Opportunity PAC And His Official Committee." "Merrin also has some eyebrow-raising ties to former Speaker Householder, who is serving 20 years in prison after being convicted in a \$60 million bribery case. Before the scandal broke, Merrin

had taken upwards of \$17,000 between Householder's dark money Growth & Opportunity PAC and his official committee." [The Daily Beast, [1/30/24](#)]

2021: Merrin Was One Of The Few Ohio House Members To Vote Against Householder's Expulsion

2021: Merrin Was One Of The Few Ohio House Members To Vote Against Householder's Expulsion. "After Householder was arrested, Merrin was one of 20 Republicans who voted against expelling the former speaker from the legislature in 2021. (Since then, Merrin has sponsored an ethics reform bill to guard against future corruption schemes)." [The Daily Beast, [1/30/24](#)]

2023: Merrin Waited Until The Eve Of Householder's Trial, Roughly Two Years After His Arrest, To Change Ethics Rules To Prevent Further Corruption

2023: Merrin Helped Usher In An "Ethics Reform Bill" On The Eve Of Former Ohio House Speaker Householder's Trial, Despite The Ethics Laws Remaining Unchanged In The Then Two Years Since Householder's Arrest. "As the federal trial for Ohio's largest public corruption scandal begins this week, a group of Republican representatives has introduced the 'Ohio Ethics and Financial Disclosure Reform Act.' [...] The legal case centers around former Republican House Speaker Larry Householder and four associates. Federal prosecutors allege that the men accepted more than \$60 million from FirstEnergy in exchange for a bailout that would have given the company more than \$1 billion in subsidies over seven years. [...] But in the two and half years since his arrest, Ohio's ethics and disclosure laws for elected officials haven't changed. [...] 'This bill will change the status quo and be proactive in regaining Ohioans' trust,' Rep. Derek Merrin, R-Monclova Township, said. [...] 'We're going to need help to get this through ...,' Merrin said. 'I think this is going to ultimately be a joint effort where we join together and say we need to really do what's best for Ohio.'" [The Columbus Dispatch, [1/19/23](#)]

The "Ethics Reform Bill" Took Several Cues From Householder's Case. "There are five major parts of the bill, and the first would require all lobbying income to be reported and sourced directly to the clients they represent. [...] The next change also sprung from the upcoming federal case. It deals with what needs to be disclosed about people hoping to serve on the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio. That's the state agency that regulates utility companies like FirstEnergy. This bill would require nominees to disclose any income, previous business relationships or ties to entities regulated by the PUCO by the time they are submitted to the governor for an appointment. [...] Third, the bill would prohibit elected officials from getting paid to serve on corporate boards unless the seat was held prior to taking office and the official has ownership in the corporation. [...] Fourth, the bill would require the financial disclosure statements submitted by all candidates and elected officials to be posted online in an easily searchable format. [...] And finally, the bill would make it clear that the Ohio Ethics Commission and the Joint Legislative Ethics Committee could ask Ohio's Bureau of Criminal Investigation for help investigating allegations of misconduct." [The Columbus Dispatch, [1/19/23](#)]

2012: While He Was The Mayor Of Waterville, Merrin Appointed Officer David LaGrange, Who Was Later Accused Of Purposely Withholding Body Camera Evidence, To Be Police Chief

2012: While He Was The Mayor Of Waterville, Merrin Appointed Officer David LaGrange To Be Police Chief. "David LaGrange will be thousands of miles away from penguins that bite when he takes over the police chief duties in the city of Waterville next week. [...] A committee made up of former Mayor

Derek Merrin, councilmen Jeff Marty and Michael Metzger, retired Chief Selders, and Mr. Bagdonas assisting with the selection process unanimously recommended Mr. LaGrange. [...] ‘Chief LaGrange is the complete package. His breadth of experience, keen intellect, and likeable personality will make him a great fit for Waterville,’ Mr. Merrin said. ‘We were fortunate to have many qualified applicants for the chief’s position. However, Chief LaGrange’s 30-plus years of law enforcement experience, including 10 years as Tiffin’s police chief, was a key factor in the decision-making process.’” [Toledo Blade, [1/25/12](#)]

2018: In A Leaked YouTube Video, LaGrange Was Accused Of Purposely Withholding Body Camera Evidence

2018: In A Leaked YouTube Video LaGrange Was Accused Of Purposely Withholding Body Camera Evidence. “Chief David LaGrange, first lies then blames his computer for why his department illegally withheld evidence. He is in clear violation of the Brady Rule, based on the supreme court ruling in Brady v. Maryland, 373 U.S. 83 (1963)- it’s explained in the video.” [YouTube, Waterville, Ohio, 0:14, [11/28/18](#)]

[2020: Merrin Voted Against House Bill 136, A Bill That Prohibited The Death Penalty If The Offender Was Mentally Ill At The Time Of The Offense](#)

2020: Merrin Voted Against House Bill 136, A Bill That Prohibited The Death Penalty If The Offender Was Mentally Ill At The Time Of The Offense. On 12/17/20 Merrin voted against Ohio House Bill 136, “To amend sections 2929.02, 2929.022, 2929.024, 2929.03, 2929.04, 2929.06, 2929.14, 2941.148, 2953.21, 2953.23, 2971.03, 2971.07, and 5120.61 and to enact section 2929.025 of the Revised Code to prohibit imposing the death penalty for aggravated murder when the offender had a serious mental illness at the time of the offense.” [The Ohio Legislature, [Accessed 5/6/24](#); The Ohio State Legislature, [Accessed 5/6/24](#)]

[Merrin: “We Need To Adjust The Local Government Funding Formula, To Try And Find More Financial Assistance To Get More Officers On The Streets”](#)

Merrin: “We Need To Adjust The Local Government Funding Formula, To Try And Find More Financial Assistance To Get More Officers On The Streets.” “Mr. Merrin said he wants more resources for public safety. ‘I want to see more police officers on the streets, especially in Toledo,’ he said. ‘Safety is a high priority, and at the state level we need to adjust the local government funding formula, to try and find more financial assistance to get more officers on the streets.’” [Toledo Blade, [11/1/22](#)]

[Merrin Voted To Lower The Minimum Age For A Police Officer To 18](#)

2023: Merrin Voted For S.B. 53, To Lower The Minimum Age For A Police Officer To 18. In June 2023, Merrin voted for S.B. 53 as the House passed the bill in a 73-21 vote. “Lower minimum age for original appointment as a police officer. To amend section 124.41 of the Revised Code to lower the minimum age for an original appointment as a police officer from twenty-one to eighteen years of age.” The bill received 64 Republican votes and 9 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, S.B. 53, [6/14/23](#)]

2022: Merrin Voted For H.B. 501, To “Authorize Property Taxes For School Resource Officer Services”

2022: Merrin Voted For H.B. 501, To “Authorize Property Taxes For School Resource Officer Services.” In June 2022, Merrin voted for H.B. 501 as the House passed the bill in a 89-2 vote.

“Authorize property taxes for school resource officer services. To amend sections 148.061, 303.213, 307.204, 503.01, 505.10, 505.266, 507.02, 507.021, 519.213, 713.081, 4113.52, 5709.41, 5709.74, 5709.75, 5709.78, and 5709.85 and to enact section 505.882 of the Revised Code to make various township law changes, to subject small solar facilities to local regulation, and to make an exception to the Uniform Depository Act for the treasurer and governing board that is a member of the Little Miami Joint Fire and Rescue District for certain investments of interim funds.” The bill received 58 Republican votes and 30 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 501, [6/1/22](#)]

2017: Merrin Voted Against H.B. 95, Which Would “Increase Penalties For Traffic Violation If Distracted Driving Is [A] Factor”

2017: Merrin Voted Against H.B. 95, Which Would “Increase Penalties For Traffic Violation If Distracted Driving Is [A] Factor.” “H.B. 95:Increases penalties for traffic violation if distracted driving is factor (goes to Senate). Sponsor: Reps. Jim Hughes (R., Columbus), Bill Seitz (R., Cincinnati). Vote: Passed on Wednesday, 82-12. Northwest Ohio representatives: Ms. Fedor, yes; Mr. Sheehy, yes; Mr. Ashford, yes; Mr. Merrin, no.” [Toledo Blade, 10/25/17]

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Education

Education Highlights

2023: Merrin defiantly declared “the bill is alive” after critics denounced a controversial education reform bill referred to as the “Higher Education Destruction Act.”

2023: Merrin voted for H.B. 8, the Parents’ Bill Of Rights, which was likened to the “Don’t Say Gay” bill.

2021: Merrin supported a bill that “would make it harder for school districts to argue before county boards of revision over property values.”

2019: Merrin supported a bill that aimed “to restrict how public schools can approach the topic of abortion in sex education classes.”

2021: Merrin co-sponsored a bill that sought to expand Ohio’s school voucher program, which critics called a cynical attempt to “funnel more taxpayer funds to private schools.”

2018: Merrin introduced a bill to reduce the number of sick days for school district employees from 15 days to 10.

2020: Merrin was accused by his opponent of using certain Toledo school districts’ logos that “misleadingly implicate[d] he has been endorsed by those districts.”

2018: Merrin accepted thousands in donations from associates of a now-defunct online charter school which was “transferred close to \$16.5 million” from Ohio school districts.

2023: Merrin spoke at an American Union PAC event with former Rep. Lee Zeldin to discuss “education.”

Merrin co-sponsored several bills to limit the teaching of race and LGBTQ issues in schools.

2023: Merrin voted for H.B. 214, which “would mandate school districts to establish policies that ban teachers, job applicants and students from adhering to a certain political or ideological belief.”

Merrin voted for a bill that the Office of The Ohio Public Defender said would “contribute to the school-to-prison pipeline.”

2023: Merrin “Screamed ‘The Bill Is Alive’” After Critics Denounced A Controversial Education Reform Bill Referred To As The “Higher Education Destruction Act”

2023: Merrin Defiantly Declared “The Bill Is Alive” After Critics Denounced A Controversial Education Reform Bill Referred To As The “Higher Education Destruction Act.” “Conservatives call Senate Bill 83 unconstitutional, labor leaders call it the worst attack on unions since Senate Bill 5, and just about every other opponent calls it the Higher Education Destruction Act. [...] Just yesterday, Rep. Derek Merrin, R-Napoleon, screamed ‘the bill’s alive’ as he exited a House Higher Education Committee meeting, according to The Statehouse News Bureau. Merrin and eight other Republican committee members passed the controversial bill in a quick vote. They took no testimony. [...] To date, more

Ohioans have testified against this bill than any other in Senate history. So far, our collective voice has beaten back this extremely unpopular overreach.” [The Columbus Dispatch, [12/7/23](#)]

S.B. 83 Was Criticized As “Part Of A National Trend Of Tamping Down The Supposed Threat Of ‘Wokeness’”

S.B. 83 Was Criticized As “Part Of A National Trend Of Tamping Down The Supposed Threat Of ‘Wokeness.’” “State investment has massively decreased, but at the same time, legislative attempts to control what’s taught on campuses have increased. This is a creeping political overreach. [...] And while SB83 is being offered as Ohio-specific, this bill is actually copycat legislation-part of a national trend of tamping down the supposed threat of ‘wokeness.’ [...] SB 83 tries to limit teaching by, for example, explicitly labeling some topics, such as climate science, reproductive health, and foreign policy, as ‘controversial’- and yet the bill is, ironically, billed as protecting ‘diversity of thought.’ [...] Diversity, equity, and inclusion programs exist to correct this inequity, opening the door to college and, once students are there, helping to ensure their retention and success. But SB 83 would weaken or kill these programs, either by inhibiting funding or by mandating reporting processes that chill their efforts.” [The Columbus Dispatch, [9/7/23](#)]

2023: Merrin Voted For S.B. 83 In Committee

2023: Merrin Voted For S.B. 83 In Committee. In December 2023, Merrin voted for S.B. 83 as the House passed the bill in a 8-7 vote. “Enact Ohio Higher Education Enhancement Act. To amend sections 3335.02, 3337.01, 3339.01, 3341.02, 3343.02, 3344.01, 3345.45, 3350.10, 3352.01, 3356.01, 3359.01, 3361.01, 3362.01, and 3364.01; to enact new section 3333.045 and sections 1715.551, 3345.029, 3345.0216, 3345.0217, 3345.0218, 3345.0219, 3345.382, 3345.451, 3345.452, 3345.453, 3345.454, 3345.455, 3345.456, 3345.591, 3345.80, and 3345.87; and to repeal section 3333.045 of the Revised Code to enact the Ohio Higher Education Enhancement Act regarding the operation of state institutions of higher education, and to revise the Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act.” The bill received 8 Republican votes and 0 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, S.B. 83, [12/6/23](#)]

2023: Merrin Voted For H.B. 8, The Parents’ Bill of Rights, Likened To The “Don’t Say Gay” Bill

2023: Merrin Voted For H.B. 8, The Parents’ Bill of Rights

2023: Merrin Voted For H.B. 8, “To Require Public Schools To Adopt A Policy On Parental Notification On Student Health And Well-Being And Instructional Materials With Sexuality Content.” In June 2023, Merrin voted for H.B. 8 as the House passed the bill in a 65-29 vote. “Enact the Parents’ Bill of Rights. To amend sections 3314.03 and 3326.11 and to enact section 3313.473 of the Revised Code to enact the “Parents’ Bill of Rights” to require public schools to adopt a policy on parental notification on student health and well-being and instructional materials with sexuality content.” The bill received 65 Republican votes and 0 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 8, [6/21/23](#)]

Critics Of H.B. 8 “Likened The Bill To Florida’s ‘Don’t Say Gay’ Bill”

Critics Of H.B. 8 “Likened The Bill To Florida’s ‘Don’t Say Gay’ Bill.” “An Ohio House bill to notify parents of any content in state schools that may contain ‘sexuality’ was introduced before an Ohio Senate committee on Tuesday. Critics likened the bill to Florida’s ‘Don’t Say Gay’ bill, which was implemented in 2022 and bars classroom discussion for some grade levels on sexual orientation and gender identity. [...]

During its run through the House, the bill was opposed by a variety of youth advocacy groups, including the Kaleidoscope Youth Center, the Children's Defense Fund-Ohio and the Trevor Project, along with some school districts, the ACLU of Ohio, the Ohio Education Association and the Ohio School Counselor Association. The groups took issue with House Bill 8's language, which requires schools to notify parents and allows parents to remove students from classes based on the "sexuality content" of those classes, and amendments made while the bill was still in the House that LGBTQ advocates said made topics related to the LGBTQ community 'perhaps inappropriate for the classroom,' according to Equality Ohio's then-spokesperson Kathryn Poe, during the House committee process." [Ohio Capital Journal, [12/6/23](#)]

2021: Merrin Supported A Bill That "Would Make It Harder For School Districts To Argue Before County Boards Of Revision Over Property Values"

2021: Merrin Supported A Bill That "Would Make It Harder For School Districts To Argue Before County Boards Of Revision Over Property Values." "The primary source of money for many local school districts is property taxes. Since the 1970s, districts have filed complaints when the owner of a plant, shopping mall or other property asks the county board of revision to reduce its value, which lowers its yearly property taxes. School districts also argue before the boards when they believe a property is under-valued. [...] HB 126 in its original form is sponsored by Republican Rep. Derek Merrin, a Toledo-area real estate investor. [...] In previous testimony, Merrin said that many attorneys who represent school districts in tax cases bill by the hour and have a financial incentive to file as many complaints as they can. He feels attorney fees are a waste of taxpayer money, and they force homeowners to decide whether to hire their own attorneys or represent themselves. Many homeowners feel pressured to settle, he said. [...] The school districts that testified Tuesday said that whether to argue a case at the board of revisions is made among district officials and not by the school board. Some districts have policies for when to get involved in a property tax case." [Cleveland.com, [11/10/21](#)]

Merrin Chaired The Conference Committee on H.B. 126. [Ohio House of Representatives via Internet Archive, Conference Committee on H.B. 126, [Archived 6/27/22](#)]

Merrin Introduced Legislation To Restrict Property Tax Valuation Complaints Three Times

Ohio Association Of School Business Officials On H.B. 126: "This Is The Third Time Rep. Derek Merrin Has Introduced This Legislation." "Property Valuation Challenges and the Board of Revisions Process (HB 126) This is the third time Rep. Derek Merrin has introduced this legislation. HB 126 reverts back to the original legislation in HB 343 (132nd General Assembly) and HB 75 (133rd General Assembly) prior to the Senate twice adopting substitute bills largely removing most of the requirements. HB 126 requires a highly problematic and overly bureaucratic process for school districts when filing property valuation claims or counter-claims with county boards of revision (BOR)" [Ohio Association Of School Business Officials, [9/14/21](#)]

2021: Merrin Introduced And Voted For H.B. 126. In April 2021, Merrin voted for H.B. 126 as the House passed the bill in a 62-31 vote. "Regards process for local governments to contest property value. To amend sections 4503.06, 5715.19, and 5717.01 of the Revised Code to modify the law governing property tax complaints." The bill received 59 Republican votes and 3 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 126, [4/15/21](#)]

2019: Merrin Introduced And Voted For H.B. 75. In December 2019, Merrin voted for H.B. 75 as the House passed the bill in a 54-39 vote. “Require resolution/notice if government contests property value. To amend sections 107.03, 122.17, 3735.65, 3735.67, 3735.671, 5703.48, 5703.95, 5709.121, 5709.17, 5709.61, 5709.62, 5709.63, 5709.631, 5709.632, 5709.91, 5715.19, 5733.41, 5739.02, 5741.02, 5747.41, and 5751.01 of the Revised Code to modify the laws governing economic development and state and local tax incentives, exemptions, and procedures.” The bill received 54 Republican votes and 0 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 75, [12/11/19](#)]

2018: Merrin Introduced And Voted For H.B. 343. In March 2018, Merrin voted for H.B. 343 as the House passed the bill in a 59-38 vote. “Regards how local governments are to contest property values. To amend sections 5709.17 and 5715.19 of the Revised Code to limit the authority of local governments to initiate property tax valuation complaints against residential property, to require local governments to formally pass a resolution before initiating a complaint against any type of property, to limit the authority of a school district to file counter-complaints, and to expand the existing property tax exemption for fraternal organizations to include the property of such organizations with longstanding national governing bodies.” The bill received 58 Republican votes and 1 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 343, [3/21/18](#)]

[2019: Merrin Supported A Bill That Aimed “To Restrict How Public Schools Can Approach The Topic Of Abortion In Sex Education Classes”](#)

2019: Merrin Supported A Bill That Aimed “To Restrict How Public Schools Can Approach The Topic Of Abortion In Sex Education Classes.” “Ohio’s recent entanglement in the national abortion debate is moving into Ohio public schools’ curriculum as a proposal pending in the Ohio House of Representatives aims to restrict how public schools can approach the topic of abortion in sex education classes. [...] If approved, the ‘Humanity of the Unborn Child’ bill would require the state to create an instructional program for ‘achieving an abortion-free society.’ [...] State Rep. Derek Merrin (R., Waterville) chairs the House Health Committee, where the bill is currently being considered. He has heard experts on both sides of the issue testify about the bill and said he believes opponents largely misunderstand what it’s all about, adding part of the bill also focuses on prenatal care education - including the dangers of smoking, alcohol consumption, and drug usage in pregnant women. [...] ‘That’s a big part that’s overlooked,’ Mr. Merrin said. ‘Several of the people that spoke [at the June hearing] were not familiar with the bill and what the bill’s goal was. It was apparent that many of them had not even read the bill; the bill is just simply to have medical professionals from the department of health develop standards.’” [Toledo Blade, [7/7/19](#)]

[2021: Merrin Co-Sponsored A Bill That Sought To Expand Ohio’s School Voucher Program, Which Critics Called A Cynical Attempt To “Funnel More Taxpayer Funds To Private Schools”](#)

2021: Merrin Co-Sponsored A Bill That Sought To Expand Ohio’s School Voucher Program, Which Critics Called A Cynical Attempt To “Funnel More Taxpayer Funds To Private Schools.” “Called the ‘backpack bill,’ the two-page legislation recently introduced by Ohio Rep. Marilyn John (R., Shelby) and Ohio Rep. Riordan McClain (R., Sandusky) would dramatically upend Ohio’s voucher system, which currently targets children in underperforming schools and provides vouchers of about \$4,500 for elementary and middle school children and \$6,000 for high schoolers. [...] One of the bill’s sponsors, Ohio Rep. Derek Merrin (R., Monclova), said it’s ‘beyond shameful’ that some schools closed their doors

for an entire year and, as a result, denied students an education while other schools remained open. [...] ‘Our parents and students need more options, which lead to better outcomes,’ he said in a prepared statement. ‘Our public schools have nothing to worry about with this bill. If they are doing such a good job, why would anyone leave? [...]’ You want public funds then open your doors and do your job,’ he added. [...] If anything, [Washington Local Schools Superintendent Kadee Anstadt] said, the bill would funnel more taxpayer funds to private schools that refuse a choice to families whose children and teens have learning and physical disabilities, as well as religious schools that refuse a choice for families of LGBTQ students.” [Toledo Blade, [5/16/21](#)]

2024: Merrin Said He Wants To “Crack Down On [The] Wokeness” Of DEI In Schools

2024: Merrin Said We Wants To “Crack Down On Wokeness” Of DEI In Schools. HOST: [54:40] “Let’s talk about your view on wokeness. Do you support federal education policy that curbs the influence of so-called DEI? Diversity equity and inclusion curriculum in the classroom? Is there a problem with school curriculum being too woke? Should teachers be prohibited from pushing critical race theory, gender ideology, or other racial sexual or political content onto school children in the classroom.” MERRIN: Absolutely, this is why the federal government shouldn’t be involved in education. That’s number one, on the federal level. Number two, I’ve already sponsored bills to get rid of DEI in our schools. And actually, to come back to the legislature again, I left this bill out when I said all the things we haven’t gotten done, is we have a bill to get DEI out of the universities. We passed it out of committee, we had over 50 republicans to vote on it, and the Speaker won’t bring it up for a vote. Because the 32 democrats that keep him in power tell him ‘don’t do it.’ The bill, I believe it’s H.B. 83, you can look it up, cracks down on the wokeness in the universities. We passed that –well we can’t get it on the floor, we basically have control of the Ohio House. So, you can look up all this legislation, my name is on this, and we will continue to fight it.” [OH-9 Candidate Forum, (54:40 - 56:07), 1/24/24] (VIDEO)

2023: Merrin Tweeted “House Republicans Are Committed To [...] Expanding School Choice”

2023: Merrin Tweeted “House Republicans Are Committed To [...] Expanding School Choice.” In February of 2023 Merrin tweeted: “House Republicans are committed to protecting our constitution, eliminating the state income tax, expanding school choice, ethics reform, and providing additional support to our local government partners!”

← Post



Derek Merrin ✓
@DerekMerrin

...

House Republicans are committed to protecting our constitution, eliminating the state income tax, expanding school choice, ethics reform, and providing additional support to our local government partners!



Anna Staver @AnnaStaver · Feb 22, 2023

.@DerekMerrin is announcing his caucus's 10 priority areas. They include raising the bar for constitutional amendments, eliminating the income tax and school choice.



7:00 AM · Feb 24, 2023 · **6,508** Views



12



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18



[Twitter, @DerekMerrin, 2/24/23]

2023: Merrin Tweeted “School Choice Is About Empowering Parents & Ensuring Students Have Access To A Great Education - Whether Public Or Private - No Matter Their Parents’ Wealth”

2023: Merrin Tweeted “School Choice Is About Empowering Parents & Ensuring Students Have Access To A Great Education - Whether Public Or Private - No Matter Their Parents’ Wealth!” In February of 2023 Merrin tweeted: “School choice is about empowering parents & ensuring students have access to a great education - whether public or private - no matter their parents’ wealth!”



[Twitter, @DerekMerrin, [2/3/23](#)]

2020: Merrin Tweeted “While In The Legislature, I Watched @Johnkasich Switch His Position On Abortion, Religious Liberty, Gun Rights, School Choice, And Tax Increases. He Effectively Walked-Off The Job As Gov His Last 2 Years”

2020: Merrin Tweeted “While In The Legislature, I Watched @Johnkasich Switch His Position On Abortion, Religious Liberty, Gun Rights, School Choice, And Tax Increases. He Effectively Walked-Off The Job As Gov His Last 2 Years.” In July of 2020 Merrin tweeted: “While in the legislature, I watched @JohnKasich switch his position on abortion, religious liberty, gun rights, school choice, and tax increases. He effectively walked-off the job as Gov his last 2 years. [...] Kasich holds no principles. #KAG #Trump2020 us”


← Post



Derek Merrin 
@DerekMerrin

...

While in the legislature, I watched @JohnKasich switch his position on abortion, religious liberty, gun rights, school choice, and tax increases. He effectively walked-off the job as Gov his last 2 years.

Kasich holds no principles. #KAG #Trump2020 



From dispatch.com

11:53 AM · Jul 20, 2020



[Twitter, @DerekMerrin, 7/20/20]

2018: Merrin Tweeted “A Quality Education Is Key To Success. I’m Dedicated To Putting Students First And Ensuring Suburban & Rural Districts Are Funded Fairly. We Need More Vocational Training And Less Mandates”

2018: Merrin Tweeted “A Quality Education Is Key To Success. I’m Dedicated To Putting Students First And Ensuring Suburban & Rural Districts Are Funded Fairly. We Need More Vocational

Training And Less Mandates.” In November of 2018 Merrin tweeted, along with his state representative campaign ad: “A quality education is key to success. I’m dedicated to putting students first and ensuring suburban & rural districts are funded fairly. We need more vocational training and less mandates.”



[Twitter, @DerekMerrin, [11/2/18](#)]

[2018: Merrin Introduced A Bill To Reduce The Number Of Sick Days For School District Employees From 15 Days To 10](#)

2018: Merrin Introduced A Bill To Reduce The Number Of Sick Days For School District

Employees From 15 Days To 10. “Republican State Representative Derek Merrin is proposing the state reduce the mandated 15 days of sick time given to County, Municipal, School District, and some State Employees to 10 sick days. [...] ‘We’re treating government employees more than fair; we’re being very generous to government employees, but we’ve got to be fair to the taxpayers because they’re the ones ultimately paying the bill,’ said Merrin. [...] The AFL-CIO doesn’t see it that way. President of the Ohio chapter Tim Burga says this bill is an attack on public employees’ ability to collectively bargain.” [NBC4, [1/26/18](#)]

2020: Merrin’s Opponent Accused Him Of Using Certain Toledo School Districts’ Logos That “Misleadingly Implies He Has Been Endorsed By Those Districts”

2020: Merrin’s Opponent Accused Him Of Using Certain Toledo School Districts’ Logos That “Misleadingly Implies He Has Been Endorsed By Those Districts.” “State Rep. Derek Merrin’s use of logos from several suburban Toledo school districts in campaign advertising misleadingly implies he has been endorsed by those districts, his re-election challenger has alleged. [...] In one mailer, the high-school logos from Northview and Southview High Schools were included alongside Mr. Merrin’s platform points and the slogan, ‘Derek Merrin is fighting for Sylvania Schools.’ [...] School districts and boards do not offer endorsements for political candidates, the district also said, noting that they do not have an affiliation with Mr. Merrin nor any other candidate for office.” [Toledo Blade, [10/22/20](#)]

2018: Merrin Accepted Thousands In Donations From Associates Of A Now-Defunct Online Charter School Which Was “Transferred Close To \$16.5 Million” From Ohio School Districts

2018: Merrin Accepted Thousands In Donations From Associates Of A Now-Defunct Online Charter School Which Was “Transferred Close To \$16.5 Million” From Ohio School Districts.

“Democrats and progressive activists continued to ramp up criticism of both a now-defunct virtual charter school and Republican leaders. [...] Innovation Ohio on Wednesday released a breakdown that shows how much each Ohio school district transferred to the Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow in the past six years, showing districts from Lucas and Wood counties transferred close to \$16.5 million to the charter school since 2012. Overall, school districts throughout the state transferred about \$590 million during those six years. [...] The state eventually ordered the now-shuttered online charter school to repay \$79 million in per-pupil subsidies after it determined the school could not prove enough students had been logged into the system long enough to qualify as full-time students. [...] State Rep. Derek Merrin (R., Monclova Township) received \$2,866.67, and said he has not considered returning the funds. He said he doesn’t know enough about ECOT’s practices to render judgement on the school, and instead focused on the loss of a school option for parents and students.” [Toledo Blade, [6/10/18](#)]

2023: Merrin Spoke At An American Union PAC Event With Lee Zeldin To Discuss “Education”

2023: Merrin Spoke At An American Union PAC Event With Lee Zeldin To Discuss “Education.” In July of 2023 Merrin tweeted: “I was honored to join so many fighting to protect our constitutional rights, improve education, and advance economic prosperity!”



Post



Derek Merrin ✓

@DerekMerrin



I was honored to join so many fighting to protect our constitutional rights, improve education, and advance economic prosperity!



The American Union PAC @theaupac · Jul 21, 2023

Last night we hosted our first annual General George S Patton Dinner. We were pleased to listen to Former Congressman @leezeldin, State Rep @DerekMerrin, @moore_cardoza, and our master of ceremonies @khalidnamar!



8:15 PM · Jul 27, 2023 · **1,763** Views



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[Twitter, @DerekMerrin, 7/27/23]Merrin Co-Sponsored Several Bills To Limit The Teaching Of Race And LGBTQ Issues In Schools

2021: Merrin Co-Sponsored H.B. 322, A Bill To Regulate “The Teaching Of Certain Current Events, Race, And Sex”

2021: Merrin Co-Sponsored H.B. 322, A Bill To Regulate “The Teaching Of Certain Current Events, Race, And Sex.” [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 322, [6/10/21](#)]

Equality Ohio Deemed H.B. 322 A “Bad Queer Bill.” [Equality Ohio, 2022 Lawmaker Scorecard, [Accessed 5/12/24](#)]

2021: Merrin Co-Sponsored H.B. 327, A Bill To “Prohibit Teaching, Advocating, Or Promoting Divisive Concepts”

2021: Merrin Co-Sponsored H.B. 327, A Bill To “Prohibit Teaching, Advocating, Or Promoting Divisive Concepts.” [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 327, [6/10/21](#)]

Equality Ohio Deemed H.B. 327 A “Bad Queer Bill.” [Equality Ohio, 2022 Lawmaker Scorecard, [Accessed 5/12/24](#)]

2023: Merrin Voted For H.B. 214, Which “Would Mandate School Districts To Establish Policies That Ban Teachers, Job Applicants And Students From Adhering To A Certain Political Or Ideological Belief”

2023: Merrin Voted For H.B. 214. In November 2023, Merrin voted for H.B. 214 as the House passed the bill in a 64-30 vote. “Regards public school staff member professional duties. To amend sections 3314.03 and 3326.11 and to enact section 3319.614 of the Revised Code to require each public school to adopt a policy regarding certain expectations related to the performance of staff member professional duties and to amend the version of section 3314.03 of the Revised Code that is scheduled to take effect January 1, 2025, to continue the changes on and after that effective date.” The bill received 64 Republican votes and 0 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 214, [11/15/23](#)]

H.B. 214 “Would Mandate School Districts To Establish Policies That Ban Teachers, Job Applicants And Students From Adhering To A Certain Political Or Ideological Belief.” “House Bill 214 would mandate school districts to establish policies that ban teachers, job applicants and students from adhering to a certain political or ideological belief. [...] Ohio Democrats and educators point out the Licensure Code of Professional Conduct for Ohio educators already exists as a policy with which teachers and administrators should comply. The Licensure Code was developed by the Educator Standards Board and the Ohio Department of Education and adopted by the State Board of Education in 2008, with updates added in 2019. ‘It’s not clear at all why a bill like this is necessary but it is clear to me that it could cause some harm in terms of making it harder for teachers to do their job,’ said Scott DiMauro, president of the Ohio Education Association.” [Ohio Capital Journal, [11/17/23](#)]

Merrin Voted For A Bill That The Office of the Ohio Public Defender Said Would “Contribute To The School-To-Prison Pipeline”

2018: Merrin Voted For H.B. 360. In March 2018, Merrin voted for H.B. 360 as the House passed the bill in a 58-38 vote. “Enact Ohio Anti-Bullying and Hazing Act. To amend sections 2903.31, 3301.22, 3313.66, 3313.661, 3313.666, 3314.03, and 3326.11 and to enact sections 3313.669, 3319.318, and 3345.19 of the Revised Code to enact the “Ohio Anti-Bullying and Hazing Act” with regard to school discipline and bullying and hazing policies at public schools and colleges.” The bill received 58 Republican votes and 0 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 360, [3/22/18](#)]

Office of the Ohio Public Defender: “HB360 Will Further Contribute To The School-To-Prison Pipeline That Is Currently Plaguing Ohio’S Youth.” “OPD believes that HB360 will further contribute to the school-to-prison pipeline that is currently plaguing Ohio’s youth. All too often children who struggle with their behavior are pushed from the school into the criminal justice system before they have a chance to mature into successful adults. OPD believes certain provisions of Substitute HB360 will contribute to this epidemic. According to national statistics cited by the Children’s Defense Fund of Ohio, a history of suspensions from school is one of the strongest indicators that a child will enter the juvenile justice system.¹ Furthermore, minority children and children with disabilities are disproportionately suspended compared to other students. According to the Children’s Defense Fund of Ohio, black students in Ohio make up 52% of suspensions and 53% of expulsions while only being 15.9% of the student population. Additionally, students with disabilities are 14.8% of the student population, but are approximately two times more likely to be suspended as students without disabilities.” [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 360, Office of the Ohio Public Defender, 12/12/17]

2024: Merrin Wanted The Money Going To Colleges To Be Tied To The Programs For The Most In-Demand Jobs

2024: Merrin Wanted The Money Going To Colleges To Be Tied To The Programs For The Most In-Demand Jobs. “Merrin wants the money going to colleges to be tied to the programs for the most in-demand jobs.” [Rossford Meet & Greet, **Please Reach Out To DCCC For Exact Transcription**, 3/5/24]

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Elections and Voting

Elections and Voting Highlights

Merrin sought to elevate Scott Wiggam, a big lie conspiracy theorist, to a leadership position in the Ohio House.

Merrin tried to raise the threshold for passage of ballot initiatives to thwart a citizen-led ballot initiative to protect abortion in Ohio.

Merrin introduced a ballot measure language bill that critics said would “create confusion and make levy ballot language less transparent.”

2021: Merrin voted for unconstitutional Congressional maps.

Merrin repeatedly voted to damage the voting process.

- *Merrin voted for H.J.R. 4, to ban municipalities from allowing people who could not vote at the state or federal level to vote in local elections.*
- *Merrin urged Congress not to adopt the For The People Act.*
- *In 2018, Merrin voted to reduce the number of poll workers in Ohio.*
- *2017: Merrin voted for H.B. 41, which shortened the period to correct voter registrations.*

Merrin claimed he would stand “up to the entrenched political class” and slammed “career politicians” despite having held an elected office in nearly every year from 2006 to 2024.

Merrin Sought To Elevate Scott Wiggam, A Big Lie Conspiracy Theorist, In The Ohio House

2023: Scott Wiggam Said He Was Not Willing To Accept The Narrative That “Trump Supporters Are Evil Or Try To Engage In Insurrection” And Elevated Conspiracy Theories About The Insurrection Being Conducted By FBI And The CIA

Wiggam: “I’m Not Willing To Just Simply Accept The Narrative That Somehow Trump Supporters Are Evil Or Try To Engage In Insurrection When There Was Not One Person Arrested With A Gun At The Capitol.” “Asked about those comments, Wiggam replied that he doesn’t think that the House Jan. 6 Committee has given the public all the information about the attack and that he anticipates more information coming out to back up his assertions. ‘Am I saying that Trump supporters weren’t a part of this or didn’t break the law? No, I am not saying that,’ Wiggam said. But, he said, ‘I’m not willing to just simply accept the narrative that somehow Trump supporters are evil or try to engage in insurrection when there was not one person arrested with a gun at the Capitol.’ Several people have been charged with gun crimes around the Capitol attack, according to the U.S. Department of Justice.” [Cleveland.com, [2/23/23](#)]

Wiggam Claimed January 6th Was A “False Flag” Operation Where “BLM Or Antifa Chang[ed] Into Trump Hats.” “Later in the video, Wiggam said that the Jan. 6 riot in Washington, D.C., was a ‘false flag’

operation. At that time, supporters of then-President Donald Trump stormed the U.S. Capitol to try to stop the counting of electoral votes that would declare President Joe Biden the winner of the 2020 election. 'How many FBI agents were involved in leading that? How many videos have you seen of BLM or Antifa changing into Trump hats?' he asked. He added later: 'When we've got the FBI, CIA engaged actively engaged in putting in presidents and taking them out, you know you're in trouble.' [...] Conspiracy theories have focused more on the FBI's alleged involvement in Jan. 6 than the CIA; however, fact checks have concluded that there is no evidence that FBI agents were involved in the attack." [Cleveland.com, [2/23/23](#)]

Wiggam: "Not One" Police Officer Died During January 6th. "Wiggam also asserted that 'not one' law-enforcement officer died during the attack on the Capitol. 'That was a lie,' he said. Conspiracy theories have focused more on the FBI's alleged involvement in Jan. 6 than the CIA; however, fact checks have concluded that there is no evidence that FBI agents were involved in the attack. While no law-enforcement officers died at the Capitol on Jan. 6, five died in the months after the attack. Four died by suicide. The fifth, U.S. Capitol Police Officer Brian Sicknick, died of multiples strokes hours after being assaulted by the mob; Washington, D.C.'s chief medical examiner determined he died of natural causes but added the riot 'played a role in his condition.'" [Cleveland.com, [2/23/23](#)]

2023: Merrin Planned To Make Wiggam The Ohio House Majority Leader, The Number Three House Leadership Post

Merrin Planned To Choose Wiggam To Be The Ohio House Majority Leader, The Number Three House Leadership Post. "Wiggam was chosen to become House Majority Leader, the number-three leadership post in the House, this session by state Rep. Derek Merrin, the House GOP's pick to become House speaker. However, that didn't happen as Stephens beat Merrin to become speaker thanks to votes from House Democrats." [Cleveland.com, [2/23/23](#)]

Merrin Tried To Raise The Threshold For Passage Of Ballot Initiative To Thwart A Citizen-Led Ballot Initiative To Protect Abortion In Ohio

Merrin Tried To Raise The Threshold For Passage Of A Ballot Initiative To Thwart Issue One. "Merrin is now demanding outsized committee power for his far-right 'caucus,' and that one of the biggest priorities for its members get a vote before the end of the month. The bill in question would raise the threshold for passage of ballot initiatives to 60 percent from a simple majority, and its primary sponsor admitted it was intended to thwart two major Democratic priorities: abortion protections and redistricting reforms. The newest version of the bill would also require that signatures be collected from every Ohio county to get a question on the ballot and eliminate the cure period." [Talking Points Memo, [1/23/23](#)]

Merrin Claimed That Raising The Initiative Threshold Would Protect The State Constitution

Merrin: "Let's Protect Our Constitution And Vote YES On Issue 1." "It's Election Day. Let's Protect our Constitution and vote YES on Issue 1 



Derek Merrin ✓
@DerekMerrin

...

It's Election Day. Let's Protect our Constitution and vote YES on Issue 1



@VoteYesOhio @ProtectWomenOH



8:40 AM · Aug 8, 2023 · 7,750 Views

[Derek Merrin, Twitter, [8/8/23](#)]

Merrin: “There Needs To Be A High Standard To Protect Our Constitution. That’s What We Are Trying To Do.” “This is one of the most important elections in Ohio in decades,’ Rep. Derek Merrin (R-Monclova) said. ‘There needs to be a high standard to protect our constitution. That’s what we are trying to do.’ [...] ‘If 6 out of 10 Ohioans can’t agree that the constitution should be changed, then it shouldn’t be changed,’ Merrin said. ‘We need to have consensus and bipartisan support for when you’re changing the constitution.’ [...] ‘This isn’t necessarily Republican versus Democrat,’ Merrin said. ‘This is about, ‘Do you support the constitution, for the most part, as we have it?’ or ‘Do you want to willy nilly have people trying to change this thing every election cycle?’” [NCB4i, [7/11/23](#)]

Issue 1 Was A Ballot Initiative That Changed The Threshold Of Passing A Constitutional Amendment From A Simple Majority To 60%

Issue 1 Would Have Made It Harder For Voters To Change Ohio's Constitution By Increasing The Threshold For Ballot Initiatives From 50% Plus 1 To 60%. "On Aug. 8, Ohio voters will have the opportunity to vote in a rare statewide summer election on a matter with far-reaching consequences. Issue 1 is a ballot initiative that, if passed, would make it harder for citizens to change the state constitution. The most significant change would be requiring that a ballot initiative win 60% of the vote to pass. Since 1912, the requirement has been a simple majority, 50% plus one vote." [Signal Cleveland, [6/27/23](#)]

Merrin Supported The 2023 August Initiative Despite Voting In 2022 To Ban August Elections

2022: Merrin Voted To "Eliminate August Special Elections Except For US House Nomination." In December 2022, Merrin voted in favor of H.B. 458, which passed the House in a 55-34 vote. "Eliminate August special elections except for US House nomination." [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 458, [12/14/22](#)]

Republicans Supported Issue 1 As A Means Of Stopping The November Abortion Rights Amendment

Ohio Secretary Of State Frank LaRose: Initiative 1 Was "100% About Keeping A Radical, Pro-Abortion Amendment Out Of Our Constitution." "The Left Wants To Jam It In There This Coming November." "A Republican-backed effort to make it harder to amend the Ohio Constitution is '100%' about blocking an abortion rights question eyed for the November ballot, Secretary of State Frank LaRose said recently. For the first time since he and Rep. Brian Stewart (R-Ashville) unveiled a proposal to raise the threshold for enacting a constitutional amendment, LaRose directly linked the measure - which will appear as Issue 1 on the Aug. 8 ballot - to preventing the passage of a citizen-led petition to permit Ohioans' access to abortion. 'Some people say, 'This is all about abortion.' Well, you know what, I'm pro-life; I think many of you are as well, right?' LaRose said at a Lincoln Day event in Seneca County on May 22. 'This is 100% about keeping a radical, pro-abortion amendment out of our constitution. The left wants to jam it in there this coming November.'" [NBC41, [6/5/23](#)]

LaRose Had Previously Denied That Issue 1 Was About Abortion. "After months of denial, Ohio Secretary of State Frank LaRose admitted that the proposal to make the constitution harder to amend is '100%' due to efforts to legalize abortion. Advocates have argued that Issue 1, which would make it harder to amend the Ohio Constitution, is actually about trying to make it harder to make abortion a constitutional right. But on Nov. 17, 2022, Secretary of State Frank LaRose said otherwise. 'That's not what this kind of a change should ever be about,' the secretary said. [...] 'Why are you doing it now?' 'Because it's ready now,' he added. Every single time LaRose has been asked if Issue 1 was related to an abortion vote, he has denied it. 'If this is about one specific issue, then somebody's not really focused on what we're trying to accomplish here,' the secretary said. [...] But the words he said to reporters appear different than when he spoke to his supporters. 'It's 100% about keeping a radical pro-abortion amendment out of our constitution,' LaRose said. [...] LaRose has continuously denied that his idea is related to any specific policies. In the secretary's testimony in support of the legislation, he said, 'Campaigns will make this a fight over the provocative political issues of the moment... We all need to take a deep breath, put aside current political disputes, and ask whether this is the best way to govern our state over the long run.'" [Ohio Capital Journal, [6/5/23](#)]

Ohio House Republican Brian Stewart Introduced The Measure To Protect "Decades Of Republicans' Work To Make Ohio A Pro-Life State." "For more than a century, Ohio voters could amend the state constitution with a simple majority of more than 50% of the vote. That could change in

August, when Ohio voters head to the polls in a special election to decide whether future amendments will instead need the approval of 60% of the electorate. The change, if approved, would almost certainly determine the fate of abortion access in the state. In a memo last December to his Republican colleagues, state Rep. Brian Stewart, who first introduced the measure in the Ohio House, did not hide the role the abortion issue was playing in motivating his efforts. ‘After decades of Republicans’ work to make Ohio a pro-life state, the Left intends to write abortion on demand into Ohio’s Constitution,’ Stewart wrote. ‘If they succeed, all the work accomplished by multiple Republican majorities will be undone, and we will return to 19,000+ babies being aborted each and every year.’” [CBS News, [6/21/23](#)]

Ohio Senate President Matt Huffman Said That Preventing The Passage Of An Abortion Rights Amendment Was Worth The August Referendum On Issue 1. “Ohio Senate President Matt Huffman on Thursday said it’s worth spending millions to hold an August special election to vote on a proposal to make it harder to amend the Ohio Constitution if it succeeds in stopping a proposed abortion-rights amendment in November. ‘If we save 30,000 lives as a result of spending \$20 million, I think that’s a great thing,’ Huffman, a Lima Republican, told reporters. Huffman was referring to the number of abortions performed annually in Ohio - 21,813 in 2021, according to the state health department, more than 8,000 less than what Huffman said - and the anticipated cost of holding an August special election on a proposed amendment to require future constitutional changes to be passed with at least 60% support, rather than a simple majority of voters.” [Cleveland.com, [5/23/23](#)]

[Merrin Introduced A Ballot Measure Language Bill That Critics Said Would “Create Confusion And Make Levy Ballot Language Less Transparent”](#)

2019: Merrin Introduced H.B. 76, A Bill To “Modify The Form Of Election Notices And Ballot Language For Property Tax Levies”

2019: Merrin Introduced H.B. 76, A Bill To “Modify The Form Of Election Notices And Ballot Language For Property Tax Levies.” In February 2019, Merrin introduced H.B. 76. “Enacts the Ballot Uniformity and Transparency Act for tax levies [...] To amend sections 133.18, 306.32, 306.322, 345.01, 345.03, 345.04, 505.37, 505.48, 505.481, 511.27, 511.28, 511.34, 513.18, 755.181, 1545.041, 1545.21, 1711.30, 3311.50, 3318.01, 3318.06, 3318.061, 3318.062, 3318.063, 3318.361, 3318.45, 3381.03, 3505.06, 4582.024, 4582.26, 5705.01, 5705.03, 5705.192, 5705.195, 5705.196, 5705.197, 5705.199, 5705.21, 5705.212, 5705.213, 5705.215, 5705.218, 5705.219, 5705.233, 5705.25, 5705.251, 5705.261, 5705.55, 5748.01, 5748.02, 5748.03, 5748.04, 5748.08, and 5748.09 of the Revised Code to enact the ‘Ballot Uniformity and Transparency Act’ to modify the form of election notices and ballot language for property tax levies.” The bill passed the House in a 54-39 vote but did not receive a vote in the Senate. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 76, [10/24/19](#)]

H.B. 76 Would Require “Ballot Language To Convey A Property Tax Levy’s Rate In Dollars For Each \$100,000 Of Fair Market Value Instead Of In Dollars For Each \$100 Of Taxable Value”

H.B. 76 Would Require “Ballot Language To Convey A Property Tax Levy’s Rate In Dollars For Each \$100,000 Of Fair Market Value Instead Of In Dollars For Each \$100 Of Taxable Value.” “House Bill 76, which Americans for Prosperity-Ohio endorsed last year, also requires property tax election notices and ballot language to convey a property tax levy’s rate in dollars for each \$100,000 of fair market value instead of in dollars for each \$100 of taxable value.” [The Center Square, [1/24/20](#)]

Public Children Services Association of Ohio Director On H.B. 76: “The Bill Will Instead Create Confusion And Make Levy Ballot Language Less Transparent”

Public Children Services Association of Ohio Director On H.B. 76: “The Bill Will Instead Create Confusion And Make Levy Ballot Language Less Transparent.” “A proposed bill requiring election notices and ballot language to display the estimated amount that proposed property tax increases would collect annually is drawing opposition from school groups who fear voters might be more apt to reject them. [...] ‘We appreciate that the intent of HB76 is to update antiquated ballot language, increase transparency, and provide uniformity,’ Mary Wachtel, director of public policy for the Public Children Services Association of Ohio, said in testimony. ‘However, we believe that the bill will instead create confusion and make levy ballot language less transparent.’” [The Center Square, [1/24/20](#)]

2021: Merrin Voted For Unconstitutional Legislative Maps

2021: Merrin Voted For S.B. 258, Ohio’s Restricting Bill

2021: Merrin Voted For S.B. 258, Ohio’s Restricting Bill. In November 2021, Merrin voted in favor of S.B. 258, as the House passed the bill in a 55-37 vote. “Declare intent to establish Congressional districts [...] To enact new section 3521.01 and sections 3521.011, 3521.012, 3521.013, 3521.014, 3521.015, 3521.016, 3521.017, 3521.018, 3521.019, 3521.0110, 3521.0111, 3521.0112, 3521.0113, 3521.0114, and 3521.0115 and to repeal section 3521.01 of the Revised Code to establish congressional district boundaries for the state based on the 2020 decennial census and to delay certain deadlines related to the 2022 congressional primary election.” [Ohio Legislature, S.B. 258, [11/19/21](#)]

ACLU Of Ohio: “SB 258 Artificially Inflates Partisan Control Of Ohio’s Congressional Delegation To One Political Party At The Expense Of Another”

ACLU Of Ohio: “SB 258 Artificially Inflates Partisan Control Of Ohio’s Congressional Delegation To One Political Party At The Expense Of Another.” “The ACLU of Ohio stands in opposition to the congressional districts proposed in SB 258 as they will not accurately reflect the people of Ohio in Congress. Instead of crafting a congressional district map that accurately reflects the diverse political attitudes of Ohioans, SB 258 artificially inflates partisan control of Ohio’s congressional delegation to one political party at the expense of another. This is achieved by needlessly exploiting allowable splits that crack urban areas into districts that dilute their voting power. Districts 1,2,3,4, 5, 7, 9, 10, and 15 are examples of this tactic.” [ACLU of Ohio, [11/9/21](#)]

Ohio Supreme Court: “We Hold That The [S.B. 258] Congressional-District Plan Is Invalid In Its Entirety”

Ohio Supreme Court: “We Hold That The [S.B. 258] Congressional-District Plan Is Invalid In Its Entirety.” “Demanding change following Ohio’s 2011 reapportionment of its state legislative and congressional districts, Ohio voters overwhelmingly voted to impose constraints on the government’s ability to draw districts based on partisan gerrymandering, amending Article XI of the Ohio Constitution in 2015 for the drawing of state legislative districts [...] Despite the adoption of Article XIX, the evidence in these cases makes clear beyond all doubt that the General Assembly did not heed the clarion call sent by Ohio voters to stop political gerrymandering. Conducting business as usual with no apparent concern for the reforms contemplated by Article XIX, the General Assembly enacted 2021 Sub.S.B. 258, which passed by a simple majority and was signed into law by Governor Mike DeWine on November 20, 2021.

The bill resulted in congressional districts in which undue political bias is-whether viewed through the lens of expert statistical analysis or by application of simple common sense-at least as if not more likely to favor Republican candidates than the 2011 reapportionment that impelled Ohio's constitutional reforms [...] We hold that the congressional-district plan is invalid in its entirety because it unduly favors the Republican Party and disfavors the Democratic Party in violation of Article XIX, Section 1(C)(3)(a). We also hold that the plan unduly splits Hamilton, Cuyahoga, and Summit Counties in violation of Section 1(C)(3)(b). We order the General Assembly to adopt a new congressional-district plan that complies in full with Article XIX of the Ohio Constitution." [Ohio Supreme Court, Nos. 2021-1428 and 2021-1449, [1/14/22](#)]

Merrin Repeatedly Voted To Damage The Voting Process

2022: Merrin Voted For H.J.R. 4, To Prohibit "Prohibit Local Governments From Allowing Persons Who Lack The Qualifications Of An Elector To Vote In Local Elections"

2022: Merrin Voted For H.J.R. 4. In May 2022, Merrin voted for H.J.R. 4 as the House passed the bill in a 68-28 vote. "CA: Prohibit local government from allowing non-electors to vote. Proposing to amend Section 1 of Article V, Section 3 of Article X, and Section 3 of Article XVIII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to prohibit local governments from allowing persons who lack the qualifications of an elector to vote in local elections." The bill received 63 Republican votes and 5 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, H.J.R. 4, [5/25/22](#)]

2021: Merrin Voted For A Resolution To "Urge Congress Not To Adopt" The For The People Act

2021: Merrin Voted For H.C.R. 5. In May 2021, Merrin voted for H.C.R. 5 as the House passed the bill in a 62-33 vote. "Urge Congress not to adopt HR 1 - 117th Congress. To urge the United States Congress not to adopt H.R. 1 of the 117th Congress." The bill received 62 Republican votes and 0 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, H.C.R. 5, [5/6/21](#)]

2018: Merrin Voted For S.B. 21, A Bill To Reduce The Number of Poll Workers

2018: Merrin Voted For S.B. 21. In December 2018, Merrin voted for S.B. 21 as the House passed the bill in a 57-28 vote. "Reduce minimum poll workers. To amend sections 133.18, 306.32, 306.322, 345.01, 345.03, 345.04, 505.48, 505.481, 511.27, 511.28, 511.34, 1545.041, 1545.21, 3311.50, 3318.01, 3318.06, 3318.061, 3318.062, 3318.063, 3318.361, 3318.45, 3381.03, 3501.22, 4582.024, 4582.26, 5705.01, 5705.03, 5705.192, 5705.195, 5705.196, 5705.197, 5705.199, 5705.21, 5705.213, 5705.215, 5705.218, 5705.219, 5705.233, 5705.25, 5705.251, 5705.261, 5705.55, 5748.01, 5748.02, 5748.03, 5748.04, 5748.08, and 5748.09 of the Revised Code to modify the information conveyed in election notices and ballot language for property tax levies and to reduce the minimum number of precinct election officials in a precinct in which electronic pollbooks are used." The bill received 55 Republican votes and 2 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, S.B. 21, [12/13/18](#)]

2017: Merrin Voted For H.B. 41, Which Shortened The Period To Correct Voter Registrations

2017: Merrin Voted For H.B. 41. In June 2017, Merrin voted for H.B. 41 as the House passed the bill in a 64-30 vote. "Modify voting procedures. To amend sections 3503.24, 3505.181, 3505.183, 3505.20, 3505.21, 3509.01, 3509.06, 3511.04, and 3511.11 and to enact section 3509.051 of the Revised Code and to amend Sections 2 and 5 of Am. Sub. S.B. 135 of the 132nd General Assembly to modify the law

concerning challenges to voter registrations, the appointment of observers, and absent voting, and to change the manner in which counties may use reimbursements for voting machine acquisitions.” The bill received 64 Republican votes and 0 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 41, [6/21/17](#)]

H.B. 41 “Shortens The Period Before An Election During Which An Elector May Apply To Correct A Precinct Registration List (Typically, In Order To Rectify A Mistake In The Elector’s Own Registration).” “[H.B. 41] shortens the period before an election during which an elector may apply to correct a precinct registration list (typically, in order to rectify a mistake in the elector’s own registration) or challenge another elector’s right to vote. Under the act, the application or challenge must be filed with the board of elections not later than the 30th day before an election. Prior law generally required such an application or challenge to be filed not later than the 20th day before the day of the election, although a separate section of law allowed a challenge to be filed not later than the 19th day before the election. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 41, Final Analysis, [3/20/19](#)]

Merrin Claimed He Would Stand “Up To The Entrenched Political Class” And Slammed “Career Politicians” Despite Having Held An Elected Office In Nearly Every Year From 2006 To 2024

Merrin Claimed He Would Stand “Up To The Entrenched Political Class” And Slammed “Career Politicians.” Merrin: “As a constitutional conservative deeply rooted in the values that have made America great, I stand before the hardworking men and women of Northwest Ohio offering a clear vision for our future — one built on the principles of curbing the flow of illegal immigrants into our communities, enabling true fiscal responsibility to flourish, and standing up to the entrenched political class. In this critical moment, it’s imperative we seize the opportunity to break free from the failed status quo perpetuated by career politicians like Marcy Kaptur and chart a new course toward prosperity and accountability.” [The Advertiser-Tribune, [3/7/24](#)]

Merrin Held An Elected Public Office Of Some Kind In Nearly Every Year From 2006 To 2024

2024: Merrin Sought To Represent OH-9 In The U.S. House of Representatives. According to Ballotpedia as of May 2024, in 2024, Merrin was running to represent OH-9 in the U.S. House of Representatives. [Ballotpedia, Derek Merrin, [Accessed 5/2/24](#)]

2022-2024: Merrin Represented Ohio House District 42. According to Ballotpedia as of May 2024, in 2022, Merrin ran and was elected to a two-year term representing Ohio House District 42. [Ballotpedia, Derek Merrin, [Accessed 5/2/24](#)]

2016-2020: Merrin Represented Ohio House District 47. According to Ballotpedia, in 2016, Merrin was appointed to finish incumbent Barbara Sears’ term representing Ohio House District 47. Merrin was re-elected to the seat in 2016, 2018, and 2020. [Ballotpedia, Derek Merrin, [Accessed 5/2/24](#)]

January 2008-December 2011: Merrin Served As Mayor Of Waterville. According to LinkedIn, Merrin served as the Mayor of Waterville from January 2008 to December 2011. [LinkedIn, Derek Merrin, [Accessed 5/2/24](#)]

January 2006-December 2007: Merrin Served On The Waterville City Council. According to LinkedIn, Merrin served as a Councilman for the City of Waterville from January 2006 to December 2007. [LinkedIn, Derek Merrin, [Accessed 5/2/24](#)]

Environment

Environment Highlights

July 2019: Merrin voted for the FirstEnergy nuclear bailout legislation, which included coal plant subsidies.

Merrin voted against a bill designed to protect Lake Erie water quality.

Merrin opposed a bill to “Let Ohio utilities offer voluntary energy saving programs.”

Merrin voted for a bill to “Prohibit sale restrictions on motor vehicle based on power source” that included an “Unvetted giveaway” to utilities.

2021: Merrin voted for a bill “Blocking cities from banning natural gas.”

2021: Merrin voted for a bill allowing counties to “Keep out new solar and wind farms.”

2020: Merrin voted for H.B. 163, a bill creating a process for “Withholding local government funds and state water and sewer assistance from municipal corporations.”

January 2024: Merrin said that “Americans should not be pressured to buy electric cars.”

2019: Merrin voted against a gas tax increase that funded road work.

2016-17: Merrin voted for bills to make the “Renewable energy, energy efficiency, and peak demand reduction requirements [...] No longer true requirements.”

July 2019: Merrin Voted For The FirstEnergy Nuclear Bailout Legislation, Which Included Coal Plant Subsidies

July 2019: Merrin Voted For H.B. 6. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 6, [7/23/19](#)]

H.B. 6 Was The Legislation To Bail Out FirstEnergy Nuclear Plants. “And so it went: At least \$3 million spent in 2018 to elect Republicans backing Mr. Householder’s speaker ambitions. Nearly \$17 million more in 2019 on a successful media campaign supporting H.B. 6, the legislation bailing out FirstEnergy nuclear plants.” [New York Times, [6/29/23](#)]

HEADLINE: “The Utility Bailout House Bill 6 Made Both Ohio’s Air And Politics Dirty”

HEADLINE: “The Utility Bailout House Bill 6 Made Both Ohio’s Air And Politics Dirty.” [Rob Moore op-ed, Ohio Capital Journal, [3/6/23](#)]

H.B. 6 “Reduced Ohio’s Renewable Portfolio Standard, Requiring Utilities In Ohio To Generate Just 8.5% Of Their Power From Renewables, Lowest In The Country.” “With all the drama surrounding the Householder trial for racketeering, it can be easy to forget the bill behind the former Ohio Speaker of the House’s alleged \$60 million payoff from First Energy power company. House Bill 6 had four major impacts. It required power consumers to bail out two massive nuclear power plants in northern Ohio. It also required Ohio ratepayers to bail out two coal plants: one in Ohio, one in Indiana. It reduced

energy efficiency standards, requiring Ohio utilities to reduce energy use by 17.5% rather than the previous goal of 22%. Lastly, it reduced Ohio's renewable portfolio standard, requiring utilities in Ohio to generate just 8.5% of their power from renewables, lowest in the country among states with standards." [Rob Moore op-ed, Ohio Capital Journal, [3/6/23](#)]

H.B. 6 Led To Ohio's "Biggest Racketeering Charge In History"

H.B. 6 Led To Ohio's "Biggest Racketeering Charge In History." "It's not often that scandal is so closely wedded to policy, but right now Ohio is dealing with this biggest racketeering charge in history, which stemmed from negotiations over its biggest piece of environmental legislation of the century. Let's hope we can learn from this and find ways to keep both our air and our politics clean." [Rob Moore op-ed, Ohio Capital Journal, [3/6/23](#)]

H.B. 6 Subsidized "Two 1950s-Era Coal Plants"

H.B. 6 Subsidized "Two 1950s-Era Coal Plants." "A new report highlights how much Resource Fuels has collected for coal supplied to one of the two 1950s-era coal plants subsidized by HB 6 and run by the Ohio Valley Electric Company, or OVEC." [Energy News Network, [11/13/23](#)]

A "Coal Company Got Roughly \$12.6 Million Above Market Prices To Supply One Of The 1950s-Era Plants Subsidized By Ohio House Bill 6"

A "Coal Company Got Roughly \$12.6 Million Above Market Prices To Supply One Of The 1950s-Era Plants Subsidized By Ohio House Bill 6." "A coal company got roughly \$12.6 million above market prices to supply one of the 1950s-era plants subsidized by Ohio House Bill 6. That's roughly 50 times the amount the company gave to the dark money group at the center of that coal and nuclear bailout law, according to a new analysis from the Checks and Balances Project. [...] OVEC paid roughly \$12.6 million to Resource Fuels in above-market charges for coal, said Ray Locker, executive director of the Checks and Balances Project, which produced the report. And as a result of HB 6's coal subsidies, Ohio ratepayers have been paying utilities for their share of OVEC's costs that exceed their revenue." [Energy News Network, [11/13/23](#)]

Merrin: "I Never Supported The Subsidies In HB6, I Voted To Remove The Green Energy Mandates"

Merrin: "I Never Supported The Subsidies In HB6, I Voted To Remove The Green Energy Mandates" "Merrin voted for HB6 in 2019 but said in an interview Monday he did so only because the bill also gutted the state's energy efficiency and renewable energy programs. He didn't co-sponsor GOP-introduced legislation last year repealing the OVEC bailouts but claimed he supported the idea. He said he's cosponsoring the repeal now because he supports 'free market policies' that will reduce customers' electric bills. 'I never supported the subsidies in HB6, I voted to remove the green energy mandates. But I'm all for getting rid of the subsidies,' he said. 'I think there's enough support between the House Republicans and the Democrats that are on the bill to push it through the house, whether [current House Speaker Jason Stephens] supports it or not.'" [Cleveland.com, [3/21/23](#)]

Merrin In 2020: "I Am Not In Favor Of Reinstating Green Energy Mandates." "I am willing to vote to repeal the nuclear bailout portion of House Bill 6, but I am not in favor of reinstating green energy mandates that drive up the costs for businesses and residential properties,' Rep. Derek Merrin (R., Monclova Township) said. He said his original support for House Bill 6 was due to its provisions reducing

and eventually eliminating mandates that utilities find more of their power from renewable sources and reduce energy consumption overall.” [Toledo Blade, [12/18/20](#)]

Merrin Voted Against A Bill Designed To Protect Lake Erie Water Quality

S.B. 2 Was Proposed To Address Pollution And Lake Erie Algal Blooms Caused By Sediment Dumping

Toledo Blade: S.B. 2 Was “Ohio’s Latest Effort To Fight Pollution And Dumping That Endanger Lake Erie Water Quality.” “As another season of algal blooms approaches, Gov. John Kasich on Friday signed into law Ohio’s latest effort to fight pollution and dumping that endanger Lake Erie water quality. The law will take effect in early October, after the new bloom season has largely run its course. S.B. 2, sponsored by Sen. Cliff Hite (R., Findlay), requires the state to establish rules for the safe reuse of sediment dredged from harbors and river mouths other than dumping it into the open waters of the lake’s western basin.” [Toledo Blade, [7/7/17](#)]

S.B. 2 Required Ohio To Establish Rules For Safe Reuse Of Sediment Other Than Dumping It In Lake Erie. “As another season of algal blooms approaches, Gov. John Kasich on Friday signed into law Ohio’s latest effort to fight pollution and dumping that endanger Lake Erie water quality. The law will take effect in early October, after the new bloom season has largely run its course. S.B. 2, sponsored by Sen. Cliff Hite (R., Findlay), requires the state to establish rules for the safe reuse of sediment dredged from harbors and river mouths other than dumping it into the open waters of the lake’s western basin.” [Toledo Blade, [7/7/17](#)]

The Bill Made It A Felony For People To Dispose Of Sediment Without Authorization. “Current law bans unapproved open-lake dumping of dredged sediment by July 1, 2020, a maneuver that will require the cooperation of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The bill would make it a felony for anyone to purposely dispose of such material without authorization. Some 1.5 million cubic yards of such material is dredged annually in Toledo, Cleveland, and elsewhere with an estimated 55 percent coming from Toledo Harbor.” [Toledo Blade, [7/7/17](#)]

The Kasich Administration Advocated For S.B. 2, Which Passed With Unanimously In The Senate And Only 10 No Votes In The House

The Kasich Administration Advocated For S.B. 2. “The bill was pushed by the Kasich administration, passed the Senate and House by votes of 33-0 and 85-10 respectively, and enjoys support from both environmental and business organizations. The sole negative votes from northwest Ohio came from Reps. Derek Merrin (R., Monclova Township) and Wes Goodman (R., Cardington).” [Toledo Blade, [7/7/17](#)]

S.B. 2 Passed Unanimously In The Ohio Senate And Only 10 No Votes In The Ohio House. “The bill was pushed by the Kasich administration, passed the Senate and House by votes of 33-0 and 85-10 respectively, and enjoys support from both environmental and business organizations. The sole negative votes from northwest Ohio came from Reps. Derek Merrin (R., Monclova Township) and Wes Goodman (R., Cardington).” [Toledo Blade, [7/7/17](#)]

Merrin Voted Against S.B. 2, Saying He Was “Concerned About Giving EPA Bureaucrats More Power And Regulatory Authority”

Merrin Said He Voted Against S.B. 2 Because He Was “Concerned About Giving EPA Bureaucrats More Power And Regulatory Authority.” “The sole negative votes from northwest Ohio came from Reps. Derek Merrin (R., Monclova Township) and Wes Goodman (R., Cardington). ‘It was a difficult vote,’ Mr. Merrin said. ‘The legislation has some good parts, but I was concerned about giving EPA bureaucrats more power and regulatory authority. The Legislative Service Commission had over 75 bullet points trying to explain the legislation, and we were provided very little time to review and properly vet it.’” [Toledo Blade, [7/7/17](#)]

An Estimated 55% Of The Dredged Material Was From Toledo Harbor, Near Merrin’s District

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Merrin’s District Included Parts Of Toledo. [Ohio House of Representatives, accessed [1/23/24](#)]

Merrin Opposed A Bill To “Let Ohio Utilities Offer Voluntary Energy Saving Programs”

H.B. 79 Would “Let Ohio Utilities Offer Voluntary Energy Saving Programs” After The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio Blocked Such Programs

H.B. 79 Would “Let Ohio Utilities Offer Voluntary Energy Saving Programs.” “Just before an expected vote to let Ohio utilities offer voluntary energy saving programs to customers, the Ohio chapter of Americans for Prosperity issued a ‘key vote alert’ on Oct. 9, encouraging state House leadership to pull the bill [H.B. 79] and urging members to vote ‘no’ if it came to the floor. ‘[T]he last thing Ohioans need is another mandatory program being foisted upon them,’ said the alert. But the programs allowed by the bill would be voluntary, and in addition to that mischaracterization, the group claimed they could cost consumers five times more than what the bill would let utilities charge.” [Energy News Network, [1/10/24](#)]

“Rulings By The Public Utilities Commission Of Ohio Have Blocked Utilities From Offering Programs To Help Customers Save Energy” After H.B. 6. “Rulings by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio have blocked utilities from offering programs to help customers save energy after the state’s previous energy efficiency targets were gutted by the scandal-tainted House Bill 6 in 2019. HB 79 would let regulated utilities voluntarily reintroduce such programs, subject to lower targets, cost caps and requirements for the programs to save money. The bill would also require utilities offering energy efficiency programs to provide ratepayers with opportunities to opt out.” [Energy News Network, [1/10/24](#)]

After Pressure From Americans for Prosperity, H.B. 79 “Was Indefinitely Delayed”

After Pressure From Americans for Prosperity, H.B. 79 “Was Indefinitely Delayed.” “A bipartisan energy efficiency bill [H.B. 79] was indefinitely delayed last fall amid a clash between a major conservative lobbying group and one of the state’s most prominent Republican lawmakers, according to previously unreported emails obtained by the Energy News Network.” [Energy News Network, [1/10/24](#)]

Merrin Said He And Other “Free-Market & Pro-Energy Republicans” Would “Speak Against” H.B. 69

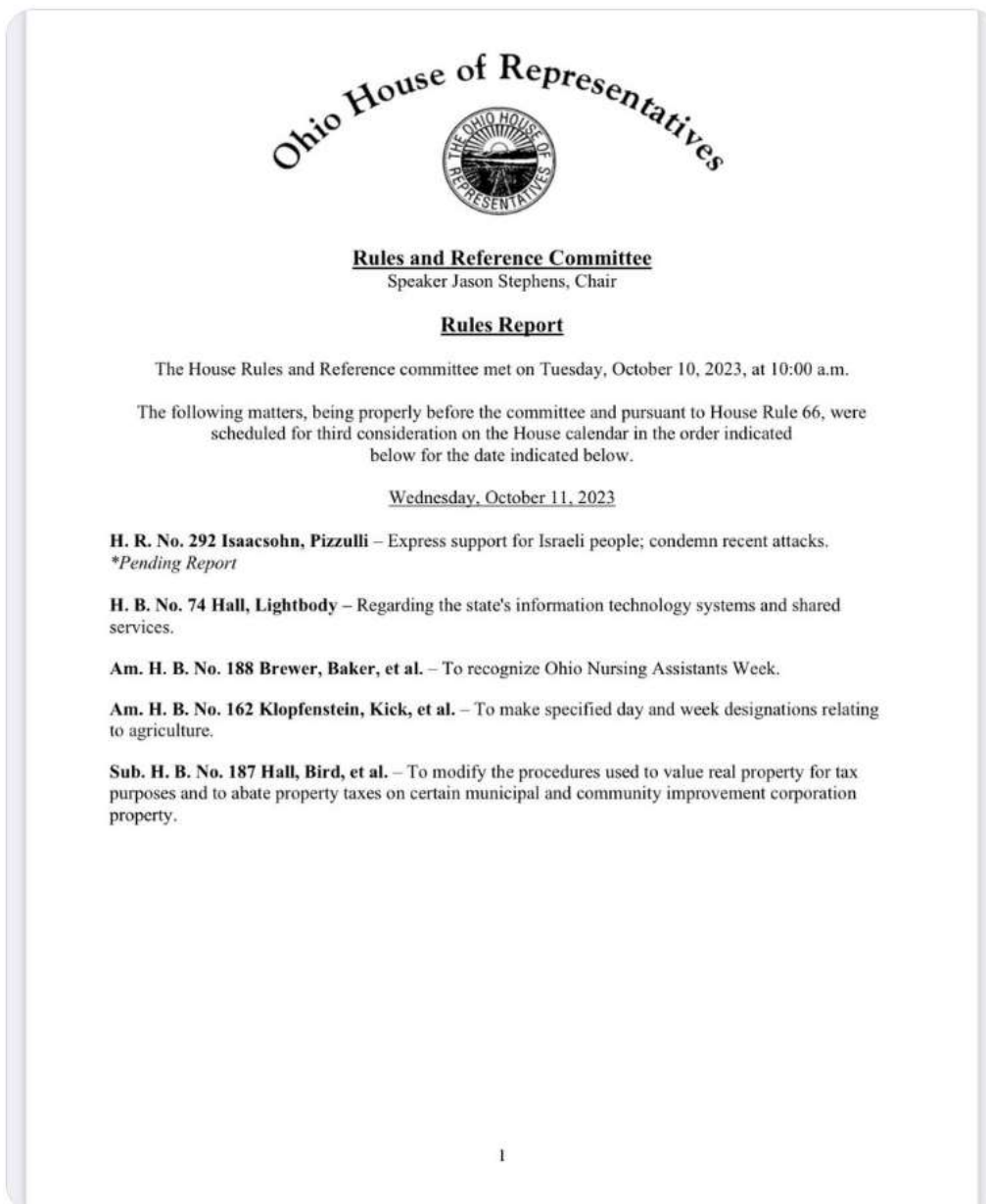
Merrin Said He And Other “Free-Market & Pro-Energy Republicans” Would “Speak Against” H.B. 69 If Recognized. “Where is HB 79? I was ready to listen to Censured @CincySeitz embrace the Sierra Club & Biden’s climate loyalists on the floor this week. Of course, the free-market & pro-energy Republicans wouldn’t be recognized to speak against it.”



Derek Merrin ✓
@DerekMerrin

...

Where is HB 79? I was ready to listen to Censured @CincySeitz embrace the Sierra Club & Biden's climate loyalists on the floor this week. Of course, the free-market & pro-energy Republicans wouldn't be recognized to speak against it.



2:30 PM · Oct 10, 2023 · 2,165 Views

[Derek Merrin, Twitter, [10/10/23](#)]

Merrin Voted For A Bill To “Prohibit Sale Restrictions On Motor Vehicle Based On Power Source” That Included An “Unvetted Giveaway” To Utilities

December 2023: Merrin Voted For H.B. 201, A Bill To “Prohibit Sale Restrictions On Motor Vehicle Based On Power Source.” On December 13, 2023, Merrin voted for H.B. 201. “Prohibit sale restrictions on motor vehicle based on power source [...] To amend sections 4929.16, 4929.161, 4929.162, 4929.163, and 4929.165 and to enact section 3704.20 of the Revised Code to prohibit a state agency, county, or township from restricting the sale or use of a motor vehicle based on the energy source used to power the motor vehicle; to prohibit a state agency from adopting the California emissions standards for motor vehicles; and to change the requirements for natural gas company infrastructure development riders and economic development projects.” The bill passed the House in a 60-30 vote and was signed into law. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 201, [12/13/23](#)]

Policy Matters Ohio On H.B. 201: “DeWine Still Has Time To Veto This Unvetted Giveaway” To Utilities

HEADLINE: “DeWine Still Has Time To Veto This Unvetted Giveaway.” [Policy Matters Ohio, [12/21/23](#)]

H.B. 201 “Would Enable Natural Gas Companies To Shift More Costs Onto Consumers.” “Governor DeWine has until December 29 to veto House Bill 201, which was introduced to prevent Ohio from adopting California’s emissions standards and prohibit local jurisdictions from restricting the use or sale of a vehicle based on its fuel source. The version of the bill awaiting DeWine’s signature, however, would enable natural gas companies to shift more costs onto consumers, thanks to a pro-utility amendment pushed through at the last minute. [...] Considering Ohio’s history of corrupt energy policy, this brazen attempt to slip a pro-utility amendment in at the expense of everyday Ohioans is an affront to the democratic process - and a commonly used strategy for Ohio’s utilities. Private utility companies have enjoyed a lack of accountability to their customers for far too long - and Ohio’s legislature has yet to provide any meaningful incentives for them to do so. While we shouldn’t count on seeing any level of accountability from the utilities any time soon, we should expect more from our legislators. It’s time we urge lawmakers to put the needs of our communities before the private interests of fossil fuel-reliant utility companies.” [Policy Matters Ohio, [12/21/23](#)]

2021: Merrin Voted For A Bill “Blocking Cities From Banning Natural Gas”

May 2021: Merrin Voted For H.B. 201 To “Prevent Local Governments From Limiting Use Of Natural Gas.” In May 2021, Merrin voted for H.B. 201. “Prevent local governments from limiting use of natural gas [...] To enact sections 4933.40, 4933.41, and 4933.42 of the Revised Code to prevent local governments from limiting use of natural gas and propane.” The House passed the bill in a 65-32 vote and the Governor signed the bill into law. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 201, [5/6/21](#)]

HEADLINE: “House Passes Bill Blocking Cities From Banning Natural Gas.” [Ohio Capital Journal, [5/11/21](#)]

H.B. 201 Was A Bill “Blocking Cities From Banning Natural Gas” Although “No Ohio Cities Have Undertaken Any Such Effort.” “House passes bill blocking cities from banning natural gas [...] All House Republicans and two Democrats voted in favor of House Bill 201, which would undercut potential efforts from cities taking a go-at-it alone approach to climate change when the state won’t act. No Ohio cities

have undertaken any such effort, though some like Cleveland and Cincinnati have passed resolutions aimed at operating exclusively on renewable energy by 2025.” [Ohio Capital Journal, 5/11/21]

2021: Merrin Voted For A Bill Allowing Counties To “Keep Out New Solar And Wind Farms”

June 2021: Merrin Voted For S.B. 52. [Ohio Legislature, 6/28/21]

S.B. 52 “Would Let Counties Keep Out New Solar And Wind Farms From All Or Part Of Their Territories”

S.B. 52 “Would Let Counties Keep Out New Solar And Wind Farms From All Or Part Of Their Territories.” Senate Bill 52 would let counties keep out new solar and wind farms from all or part of their territories, holding those projects to a higher standard than fossil fuel infrastructure. [...] In contrast, SB 52 would let counties prevent or limit any particular solar or wind project within their borders. Passed in the wee hours of June 29 with some changes from earlier versions, SB 52 still gives local governments multiple chances to nix renewable energy projects or break them up. Counties and local townships also would get two votes on Ohio Power Siting Board decisions for those projects. At a minimum, SB 52 extends project timelines and adds uncertainty that critics say will discourage developers from choosing Ohio for renewable energy projects, causing the state to lose out on thousands of jobs.” [Energy News Network, 7/7/21]

Experts Said That S.B. 52 Could Cause Ohio “To Lose Out On Thousands Of Jobs”

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S.B. 52 Supporters “Used Misinformation In Multiple Ways To Move The Bill Forward”

S.B. 52 Supporters “Used Misinformation In Multiple Ways To Move The Bill Forward.” “Lawmakers and SB 52 supporters used misinformation in multiple ways to move the bill forward, according to critics. In their view, even if the same outcome would have resulted anyway, playing fast and loose with facts makes it harder to hold politicians accountable for actions that discourage or disadvantage renewables. [...] For SB 52 in Ohio, [Andrew Gohn, director of eastern state affairs for American Clean Power] noted that proponents’ testimony included false statements aimed at splintering support for renewable projects. ‘It definitely strikes me as a pernicious kind of misinformation,’ Gohn said. As one example, Gohn noted baseless claims by some bill supporters that solar arrays could contaminate soil with chemicals such as lead or cadmium. But crystalline cadmium telluride, used in some solar panels, is not the same as free cadmium. Studies on simulated landfill conditions or hypotheticals about new solar panels in development don’t address real-world conditions when panels are in use. And manufacturing processes encapsulate active layers of photovoltaic cells in any event.” [Energy News Network, 7/7/21]

2022: “10 Ohio Counties Have Passed Resolutions Blocking The Development Of New Utility Scale Wind And Solar Projects,” Using S.B. 52

2022: “10 Ohio Counties Have Passed Resolutions Blocking The Development Of New Utility Scale Wind And Solar Projects,” Using S.B. 52. “At least 10 Ohio counties have passed resolutions blocking the development of new utility scale wind and solar projects within all or part of their jurisdictions in the last year. The counties’ moves come after the October 2021 enactment of a state law [S.B. 52] giving the locals the veto power over renewable energy generation sites - a veto power that doesn’t exist for fossil fuel developments.” [Ohio Capital Journal, [8/23/22](#)]

2020: Merrin Voted For H.B. 163, A Bill Creating A Process For “Withholding Local Government Funds And State Water And Sewer Assistance From Municipal Corporations”

2020: Merrin Voted For H.B. 163. In June 2020, Merrin voted for H.B. 163 as the House passed the bill in a 56-38 vote. “Withhold funds-municipal water/sewer extraterritorial practices. To amend sections 5747.50, 5747.51, and 5747.53 and to enact sections 9.662, 743.80, and 5747.504 of the Revised Code to create a process for withholding local government funds and state water and sewer assistance from municipal corporations that engage in certain water and sewer practices with respect to extraterritorial service.” The bill received 52 Republican votes and 4 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 163, [6/10/20](#)]

2021: Merrin Voted For H.B. 175, To Create A “Property Tax Exemption For Certain Private Wetlands”

2021: Merrin Voted For H.B. 175. In September 2021, Merrin voted for H.B. 175 as the House passed the bill in a 61-33 vote. “Deregulate certain ephemeral water features. To amend sections 3745.114, 5709.09, 6111.01, and 6111.31 and to enact sections 1571.30, 6111.011, 6111.311, 6111.312, 6111.313, 6111.314, 6111.315, and 6111.316 of the Revised Code to deregulate certain ephemeral water features, make other changes to various water pollution control laws, to authorize a property tax exemption for certain private wetlands, and to make an appropriation.” The bill received 60 Republican votes and 1 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 175, [9/29/21](#)]

January 2024: Merrin Said That “Americans Should Not Be Pressured To Buy Electric Cars”

January 2024: Merrin Said That “Americans Should Not Be Pressured To Buy Electric Cars.”

“Merrin said he wants to finish the wall, too, and said Americans should not be pressured to buy electric cars. ‘You buy whatever car you want. The government shouldn’t be manipulating the car market,’ he said.” [The Courier, [1/27/24](#)]

2019: Merrin Voted Against A Gas Tax Increase That Funded Road Work

2019: Merrin Voted Against A Gas Tax Increase That Funded Road Work. “Ohio motorists will have to open their wallets wider at the pump to pay 10.5 cents more in taxes per gallon of gasoline and 19 cents more for diesel fuel under a compromise transportation budget approved by lawmakers Tuesday. [...] In all, House Speaker Larry Householder (R., Glenford) said the plan would raise about \$865 million more a year for state and local road work. [...] State Rep. Derek Merrin (R., Monclova Township) voted ‘no,’

saying he'd prefer the state use surplus funds from the general fund rather than a gas tax hike." [Toledo Blade, [4/2/19](#)]

2016-17: Merrin Voted For Bills To Make The "Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency, And Peak Demand Reduction Requirements [...] No Longer True Requirements"

2017: Merrin Voted For H.B. 114. In March 2017, Merrin voted for H.B. 114 as the House passed the bill in a 65-31 vote. "Revise energy efficiency provisions. To amend sections 4928.01, 4928.142, 4928.143, 4928.20, 4928.61, 4928.62, 4928.64, 4928.641, 4928.643, 4928.644, 4928.645, 4928.65, 4928.66, 4928.662, 4928.6610, 4928.6611, and 5727.75 and to enact sections 4928.647, 4928.664, 4928.665, 4928.666, 4928.667, 4928.6620, and 4928.6621 of the Revised Code and to amend Section 257.80 of Am. Sub. H.B. 64 of the 132nd General Assembly and to repeal Sections 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11 of Sub. S.B. 310 of the 130th General Assembly to revise the provisions governing renewable energy, energy efficiency, and peak demand reduction and to alter funding allocations under the Home Energy Assistance Program." The bill received 61 Republican votes and 4 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 114, [3/30/17](#)]

H.B. 114 "Makes The Energy Efficiency Requirements For 2017, 2018, 2020, 2021, 2023, 2024, And 2026 No Longer True Requirements." "Effectively makes the energy efficiency requirements for 2017, 2018, 2020, 2021, 2023, 2024, and 2026 no longer true requirements. Decreases the energy efficiency benchmarks, resulting in a decrease to the current cumulative requirement from 22.2% to 17.2%. Seeks to clarify that the energy efficiency requirements terminate at the end of 2027." [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 114, *Bill Analysis*, [3/30/17](#)]

2016: Merrin Voted For H.B. 554. In December 2016, Merrin voted for H.B. 554 as the House passed the bill in a 56-41 vote. "Addresses renewable energy and energy efficiency. To amend sections 4928.143, 4928.64, 4928.643, 4928.645, 4928.65, 4928.66, 4928.662, 4928.6610, and 5727.75 and to enact sections 4928.6620 and 4928.6621 of the Revised Code and to amend Section 6 of Sub. S.B. 310 of the 130th General Assembly and Section 257.80 of Am. Sub. H.B. 64 of the 131st General Assembly to revise the requirements for renewable energy, energy efficiency, and peak demand reduction and to alter funding allocations under the Home Energy Assistance Program." The bill received 54 Republican votes and 2 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 554, [12/6/16](#)]

*H.B. 554, Which Was Vetoed, "Would Have Effectively Made The Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency, And Peak Demand Reduction Requirements For 2017 And 2018 No Longer True Requirements." "This act was vetoed in its entirety. [...] Would have effectively made the renewable energy, energy efficiency, and peak demand reduction requirements for 2017 and 2018 no longer true requirements. Would have decreased the energy efficiency benchmarks, which would have resulted in a decrease to the current cumulative requirement from 22.2% to 17.2%. Would have required that electric distribution utilities (EDUs) be deemed in compliance with the energy efficiency and peak demand reduction requirements and eligible for incentives approved by the Public Utilities Commission (PUCO) in any year in which their 'actual cumulative energy efficiency and peak demand reduction savings' meet or exceed the 'cumulative mandates.'" [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 554, *Final Analysis*, [2017](#)]*

Ethics, Government, and Miscellaneous

Ethics, Government, and Miscellaneous Highlights

Merrin received campaign funds from FirstEnergy PAC and protected convicted criminal Larry Householder even after he was indicted for the FirstEnergy scandal.

2023: Merrin waited until the eve of Householder's trial, roughly two years after his arrest, to change ethics rules to prevent further corruption.

2017: Merrin added a budget bill provision that critics argued could be an attempt to “usurp” city authority on lead abatement.

2020: Merrin’s opponent claimed his use of “Logos from several suburban Toledo school districts” suggested that “The district supports the election of Mr. Merrin.”

This section includes numerous other themes.

Merrin Received Campaign Funds From FirstEnergy PAC And Protected Convicted Criminal Larry Householder Even After He Was Indicted For The FirstEnergy Scandal

FirstEnergy Paid Former Ohio House Speaker Householder \$60 Million To Pass A \$1.3 Billion Bailout For Two Of Their Nuclear Power Plants, A Crime For Which Householder Was Sentenced To 20 Years In Prison

FirstEnergy Paid Former Ohio House Speaker Householder \$60 Million To Pass A \$1.3 Billion Bailout For Two Of Their Nuclear Power Plants

Householder Accepted \$60 Million From FirstEnergy In Exchange For Passing A \$1.3 Billion Bailout For Two Of FirstEnergy’s Nuclear Power Plants. “The former speaker, Larry L. Householder, was convicted in March of racketeering and bribery for accepting some \$60 million from a major utility holding company, FirstEnergy Corporation, in exchange for arranging a \$1.3 billion bailout for two troubled nuclear power plants the company operates.” [New York Times, [6/29/23](#)]

A Federal Investigation Focused On Allegations That “An Unnamed Energy Company That Is Widely Understood To Be FirstEnergy” Secretly Contributed Millions That Went Toward Securing Householder’s Speaker Position. “The federal investigation has so far focused on allegations that Householder, along with several political operatives also charged in the case, used Generation Now to secretly receive \$60 million from an unnamed energy company that is widely understood to be FirstEnergy. That money was used to secure Householder the position of speaker and pass and defend a billion-dollar bailout for two nuclear power plants owned by a FirstEnergy subsidiary, which later emerged

from bankruptcy as a new company called Energy Harbor. No energy company has been charged in the case, but FirstEnergy and, reportedly Energy Harbor, have been subpoenaed.” [Energy and Policy Institute, [12/2/20](#)]

FirstEnergy Gave Householder Money To Regain The Speaker’s Post Un Exchange For Housholder Pushing Legislation To Bail Out FirstEnergy’s Nuclear Plants. “Over several days of socializing at high-end restaurants, prosecutors said, they discussed a deal: Mr. Householder needed money to regain the speaker’s post when its occupant left office in 2018. The company needed a legislative solution to its nuclear power woes. What began with a handshake became a multimillion-dollar political operation, with the money laundered through nonprofit groups allowed by the tax code to conceal donors’ names.” [New York Times, [6/29/23](#)]

Householder Was Sentenced To 20 Years In Prison

Householder Was Sentenced To 20 Years In Prison For The Scandal. “Former Ohio House Speaker Larry Householder, 64, of Glenford, Ohio, was sentenced in federal court here today to 240 months in prison for leading a racketeering conspiracy to receive nearly \$61 million in bribes to pass and uphold a billion-dollar nuclear plant bailout. The Court remanded Householder to the custody of the U.S. Marshals at the conclusion of sentencing.” [Department of Justice, [6/29/23](#)]

2016-2019: Merrin Benefitted From The Support Of Householder And FirstEnergy As They Worked To Have Householder Regain Speakership And Pass The Nuclear Bailout Law

2018: Householder Supported The Candidacy Of 21 House Republicans, Including Merrin, So They Would Support Him As Speaker Of The House

2018: Householder Supported The Candidacy Of 21 Republicans In The State House To Support His Speaker Campaign And Pass The Nuclear Bailout Law. “After returning to the legislature in 2016, Mr. Householder secretly spent millions in 2018 to support Republican candidates for 21 seats in the State House - more than a fifth of the 99 seats - who would back his insurgent campaign to again become House speaker. He spent more millions on a media campaign to push the nuclear bailout law to passage, and then tens of millions on a scorched-earth crusade to undermine a ballot initiative that threatened to undo it.” [New York Times, [6/29/23](#)]

2018: Householder Was Merrin’s Largest Campaign Donor, Donating \$7,708 To His Campaign. “On the Republican side, Rep. Derek Merrin, of Monclova Township, is running against primary challenger Barbara Lang in the 47th District consisting of Lucas County’s western suburbs and most of Fulton County. Mr. Merrin raised \$47,673 with his largest contributions coming on behalf of House Speaker candidate Larry Householder (R., Glenford), whose campaign donated \$7,708.” [Toledo Blade, [4/26/18](#)]

2016-2019: Merrin Received Significant Campaign Donations And A Gift From Householder And Campaign Donations From FirstEnergy PAC

2016-2017: Merrin Accepted \$1,500 From FirstEnergy PAC. [Ohio Secretary of State, File Transfer Page, accessed [1/23/24](#)]

<i>Date</i>	<i>Contributor</i>	<i>Recipient</i>	<i>Amount</i>
8/4/17	FirstEnergy PAC FSL	Friends of Derek Merrin	\$500

<i>Date</i>	<i>Contributor</i>	<i>Recipient</i>	<i>Amount</i>
11/19/16	FirstEnergy PAC FSL	Friends of Derek Merrin	\$1,000

[Ohio Secretary of State, File Transfer Page, accessed [1/23/24](#)]

2018-2022: Merrin Did Not Return Campaign Contributions From FirstEnergy PAC. [Ohio Secretary of State, Expenditures, accessed [1/23/24](#)]

2019: Merrin Received A Gift From “Friends Of Householder.” [Ohio Joint Legislative Ethics Committee, Derek Merrin 2019 Addendum #1, filed [2/18/20](#)]

2018: Householder Was Merrin’s Largest Campaign Donor, Donating \$7,708 To His Campaign. “On the Republican side, Rep. Derek Merrin, of Monclova Township, is running against primary challenger Barbara Lang in the 47th District consisting of Lucas County’s western suburbs and most of Fulton County. Mr. Merrin raised \$47,673 with his largest contributions coming on behalf of House Speaker candidate Larry Householder (R., Glenford), whose campaign donated \$7,708.” [Toledo Blade, [4/26/18](#)]

2016-2021: Merrin Accepted \$2,500.00 From American Electric Power Ohio Committee For Responsible Government, Whose Shareholder Made Claims “Against American Electric Power Related To The HB 6 Scandal”

2021: Merrin Accepted \$1,000.00 From American Electric Power Ohio Committee For Responsible Government. [Ohio Secretary of State, Friends of Derek Merrin, Accessed 5/13/24]

2016-2017: Merrin Accepted \$1,500.00 rom American Electric Power Ohio Committee For Responsible Government. [Ohio Secretary of State, [Accessed 5/14/24](#)]

An American Electric Power Shareholder Made Claims “Against American Electric Power Related To The HB 6 Scandal.” “A March 17 hearing in a separate federal court case will address whether a shareholder can move forward with claims against American Electric Power related to the HB 6 scandal. [...] Federal Judge Sarah Morrison will hear arguments on March 17 in Columbus on whether to let an additional shareholder join litigation against American Electric Power based on alleged actions related to HB 6.” [Energy News Network, [3/14/23](#)]

2019: Merrin Voted For Householder For House Speaker And For The FirstEnergy Nuclear Bailout Legislation

January 2019: Merrin Voted For Householder For House Speaker

January 2019: Merrin Voted For Householder For House Speaker. “Merrin voted for Larry Householder to become speaker in January 2019 over then-Speaker Ryan Smith. Later that year, he voted for H.B. 6, the controversial energy law that federal prosecutors say that Householder passed with the help of \$60 million in bribes from FirstEnergy, the Akron-based utility that stood to profit from the law. Last year, Merrin opposed the House’s vote to expel Householder, who goes on trial next January for a federal corruption charge.” [Cleveland.com, [11/23/22](#)]

July 2019: Merrin Voted For The FirstEnergy Nuclear Bailout Legislation

July 2019: Merrin Voted For H.B. 6. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 6, [7/23/19](#)]

H.B. 6 Was The Legislation To Bail Out FirstEnergy Nuclear Plants. “And so it went: At least \$3 million spent in 2018 to elect Republicans backing Mr. Householder’s speaker ambitions. Nearly \$17

million more in 2019 on a successful media campaign supporting H.B. 6, the legislation bailing out FirstEnergy nuclear plants.” [New York Times, [6/29/23](#)]

2021: Merrin Voted Against Expelling Householder From The Ohio House, Even After He Was Indicted On Racketeering Charges

July 2020: Householder Was Indicted On Racketeering Charges In Connection To The FirstEnergy Scheme

July 2020: Householder Was Indicted On Racketeering Charges In Connection To The FirstEnergy Scheme. “An ugly campaign for a taxpayer-funded corporate bailout was itself funded by an even uglier criminal conspiracy, federal law enforcement officials said Tuesday. Ohio House Speaker Larry Householder, four political operatives and a dark-money group were charged Tuesday in a criminal complaint that an Ohio energy company paid them \$61 million to get a \$1.3 billion nuclear bailout from taxpayers. Charged along with Householder were Matt Borges, a lobbyist who was formerly chairman of the Ohio Republican Party, Neil Clark, a lobbyist who owns Grant Street Consulting, Juan Cespedes, also a lobbyist, and Householder’s aide, Jeffrey Longstreth. All are charged with racketeering, which carries a prison sentence of up to 20 years.” [Ohio Capital Journal, [7/21/20](#)]

June 2021: Merrin Voted Against Expelling Householder

June 2021: Merrin Was One Of 16 Representatives To Vote Against H.Res. 69, A Resolution To Expel Householder. “To expel Representative Larry Householder from the House of Representatives.” [Ohio Legislature, H.Res. 69, [6/16/21](#)]

2021: Merrin Was One Of The Few Ohio House Members To Vote Against Householder’s Expulsion. “After Householder was arrested, Merrin was one of 20 Republicans who voted against expelling the former speaker from the legislature in 2021. (Since then, Merrin has sponsored an ethics reform bill to guard against future corruption schemes).” [The Daily Beast, [1/30/24](#)]

2023: Merrin Waited Until The Eve Of Householder's Trial, Roughly Two Years After His Arrest, To Change Ethics Rules To Prevent Further Corruption

2023: Merrin Helped Usher In An “Ethics Reform Bill” On The Eve Of Former Ohio House Speaker Householder’s Trial, Despite The Ethics Laws Remaining Unchanged In The Then Two Years Since Householder’s Arrest. “As the federal trial for Ohio’s largest public corruption scandal begins this week, a group of Republican representatives has introduced the ‘Ohio Ethics and Financial Disclosure Reform Act.’[...] The legal case centers around former Republican House Speaker Larry Householder and four associates. Federal prosecutors allege that the men accepted more than \$60 million from FirstEnergy in exchange for a bailout that would have given the company more than \$1 billion in subsidies over seven years. [...] But in the two and half years since his arrest, Ohio’s ethics and disclosure laws for elected officials haven’t changed. [...] ‘This bill will change the status quo and be proactive in regaining Ohioans’ trust,’ Rep. Derek Merrin, R-Monclova Township, said. [...] ‘We’re going to need help to get this through ...,’ Merrin said. ‘I think this is going to ultimately be a joint effort where we join together and say we need to really do what’s best for Ohio.’” [The Columbus Dispatch, [1/19/23](#)]

The “Ethics Reform Bill” Took Several Cues From Householder’s Case. “There are five major parts of the bill, and the first would require all lobbying income to be reported and sourced directly to the clients they represent. [...] The next change also sprung from the upcoming federal case. It deals with what

needs to be disclosed about people hoping to serve on the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio. That's the state agency that regulates utility companies like FirstEnergy. This bill would require nominees to disclose any income, previous business relationships or ties to entities regulated by the PUCO by the time they are submitted to the governor for an appointment. [...] Third, the bill would prohibit elected officials from getting paid to serve on corporate boards unless the seat was held prior to taking office and the official has ownership in the corporation. [...] Fourth, the bill would require the financial disclosure statements submitted by all candidates and elected officials to be posted online in an easily searchable format. [...] And finally, the bill would make it clear that the Ohio Ethics Commission and the Joint Legislative Ethics Committee could ask Ohio's Bureau of Criminal Investigation for help investigating allegations of misconduct." [The Columbus Dispatch, [1/19/23](#)]

2017: Merrin Added A Budget Bill Provision That Critics Argued Could Be An Attempt To "Usurp" City Authority On Lead Abatement

2017: Merrin Added A Budget Bill Provision That Critics Argued Could Be An Attempt To "Usurp" City Authority On Lead Abatement. "Mr. Sykes said he was concerned why the city was caught flatfooted recently when State Rep. Derek Merrin (R., Monclova Township) introduced a House Republican budget bill provision that would give the state sole authority on lead abatement. Although Toledo's lead-safe law does not require abatement - but rather mandates that affected properties undergo lead-safe inspections, cleaning, and repairs - Mr. Merrin's addition is seen as a possible attempt to usurp or weaken the city's law, as it voids 'any law or rule governing the abatement of lead, lead-based paint, or the employment or licensing of lead abatement professionals.'" [Toledo Blade, [5/9/17](#)]

2020: Merrin's Opponent Claimed His Use Of "Logos From Several Suburban Toledo School Districts" Suggested That "The District Supports The Election Of Mr. Merrin"

HEADLINE: "Ohio House Candidate Accuses Incumbent of Misleading Public About Endorsements." [Toledo Blade, [10/22/20](#)]

2020: Merrin's Opponent Claimed His Use Of "Logos From Several Suburban Toledo School Districts" Suggested That "The District Supports The Election Of Mr. Merrin." "State Rep. Derek Merrin's use of logos from several suburban Toledo school districts in campaign advertising misleadingly implies he has been endorsed by those districts, his re-election challenger has alleged. [...] In one mailer, the high-school logos from Northview and Southview High Schools were included alongside Mr. Merrin's platform points and the slogan, 'Derek Merrin is fighting for Sylvania Schools.' [The] statements made suggest that Mr. Merrin is in support of the school district and/or that the district supports the election of Mr. Merrin,' the Sylvania School District stated Tuesday." [Toledo Blade, [10/22/20](#)]

Merrin Is Heavily Invested In The Cryptocurrency Industry

2024: Merrin Owned Between \$17,004 And \$81,000 In Cryptocurrency

2024: Merrin Owned Between \$17,004 And \$81,000 In Cryptocurrency. [United States House of Representatives Financial Disclosure Report, Derek Merrin, [Filed 2/18/24](#)]

Asset	Min Value	Max Value
Bitcoin [CT]	\$15,001	\$50,000
Cardano [CT]	\$1,001	\$15,000
Ether [CT]	\$1	\$1,000
Solana [CT]	\$1,001	\$15,000

[United States House of Representatives Financial Disclosure Report, Derek Merrin, [Filed 2/18/24](#)]

Merrin Also Owned Stock In The First Public Bitcoin Fund And Cryptocurrency Mining Companies

2024: Merrin Also Owned Between \$1,001 And \$15,000 Of Grayscale Bitcoin Trust (GBTC) Stock.

[United States House of Representatives Financial Disclosure Report, Derek Merrin, [Filed 2/18/24](#)]

“GBTC Has The Longest Operational History As The First Publicly-Traded Bitcoin Fund.” [Grayscale, [Accessed 5/15/24](#)]

2024: Merrin Owned Between \$1,001 And \$15,000 Of Marathon Digital Holdings (MARA) Stock.

[United States House of Representatives Financial Disclosure Report, Derek Merrin, [Filed 2/18/24](#)]

Marathon Digital “Operates As A Digital Asset Technology Company That Mines Digital Assets With A Focus On The Bitcoin Ecosystem.” [Yahoo! Finance, [Accessed 5/15/24](#)]

2024: Merrin Owned Between \$1,001 And \$15,000 Of Riot Platforms, Inc. (RIOT) Stock. [United States House of Representatives Financial Disclosure Report, Derek Merrin, [Filed 2/18/24](#)]

Riot Platforms “Operates As A Bitcoin Mining Company In North America.” [Yahoo! Finance, [Accessed 5/15/24](#)]

2024: Merrin Owned Between \$1,001 And \$15,000 Of Hut 8 Corp. (HUT) Stock. [United States House of Representatives Financial Disclosure Report, Derek Merrin, [Filed 2/18/24](#)]

Hut 8 Corp. “Acquires, Builds, Manages, And Operates Data Centers For Digital Assets Mining, Computing, And Artificial Intelligence In The United States. [...] The Company Mines Bitcoin.” [Yahoo! Finance, [Accessed 5/15/24](#)]

Study: “Mining Cryptocurrencies Can Have Major Environmental Impacts On Climate, Water, And Land”

Study: “Mining Cryptocurrencies Can Have Major Environmental Impacts On Climate, Water, And Land.” “Mining cryptocurrencies can have major environmental impacts on climate, water, and land, according to new research by United Nations scientists. [...] According to study results, published by the United Nations University and Earth’s Future journal, during the 2020-2021 period, the global Bitcoin mining network consumed 173.42 Terawatt hours of electricity. This means that if Bitcoin were a country, its energy consumption would have ranked 27th in the world, ahead of a country like Pakistan, with a population of over 230 million people. The resulting carbon footprint was equivalent to that of burning 84 billion pounds of coal or operating 190 natural gas-fired power plants. To offset this footprint, 3.9 billion

trees should be planted, covering an area almost equal to the area of the Netherlands, Switzerland, or Denmark or 7% of the Amazon rainforest.” [United Nations University, Press Release, [10/24/23](#)]

2021-2022: Merrin Reported Being Owed Money By Genesis Global Capital LLC, Which Operated An Unregistered Crypto Asset Lending Program

2015-2022: Merrin Reported Being Owed Money By Genesis Global Capital LLC. [Ohio Joint Legislative Ethics Committee, Derek Merrin 2021 Personal Financial Disclosure, filed [4/3/22](#); Derek Merrin 2022 Personal Financial Disclosure, filed [5/12/23](#)]

Genesis Global Capital LLC Operated An Unregistered Crypto Asset Lending Program, Resulting In A \$21 Million Penalty In 2024. “The Securities and Exchange Commission today announced that Genesis Global Capital, LLC agreed to a final judgment ordering it to pay a \$21 million civil penalty and imposing a permanent injunction to settle charges that it engaged in the unregistered offer and sale of securities through a crypto asset lending program known as the Gemini Earn program. Under the terms of the settlement, the SEC will not receive any portion of the penalty until after payment of all other allowed claims by the bankruptcy court, including claims by retail investors in the Gemini Earn program.” [Securities and Exchange Commission, [3/24/24](#)]

2021: Merrin Reported Holding 12 Cryptocurrencies

2021: Merrin Reported Holding 12 Cryptocurrencies. [Ohio Joint Legislative Ethics Committee, Derek Merrin 2021 Personal Financial Disclosure, filed [4/3/22](#)]

Asset

REN (crypto)

Cardano (crypto)

Decentraland (crypto)

NuCypher (crypto)

Litecoin (crypto)

Matic (crypto)

Celo (crypto)

Tellor (crypto)

Balancer (crypto)

Enjin (crypto)

1Inch (crypto)

Compound (crypto)

[Ohio Joint Legislative Ethics Committee, Derek Merrin 2021 Personal Financial Disclosure, filed [4/3/22](#)]

October 2017: Merrin Sponsored Legislation That Would Make It Easier To Evict Tenants, Risking Increased Housing Insecurity And Homelessness In Ohio

October 2017: Merrin Sponsored H.B. 390, Which Would Allow Landlords To Evict Tenants More Quickly After Filing An Eviction Notice

October 2017: Merrin Sponsored H.B. 390, Legislation That Would Change Eviction Notice Rules To Include Weekends And Holidays In The Three-Day Count That Tenants Have To Vacate A Property After Receiving An Eviction Notice. “The bill specifies how time periods are calculated regarding the Eviction Law’s requirement of prior notice before the filing of an eviction action and the deadline for law enforcement to execute an order of eviction (a writ of execution) in the action. Under the bill, the period begins the day after the notice or writ is delivered, and all intervening days, including Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays, are counted. Under existing law, Sundays and legal holidays are excluded if they fall on the last day. Generally, continuing law requires a property owner to give the person to be evicted at least three-days’ notice to leave the property before filing an eviction action. If that person voluntarily leaves the property within three days, no action for eviction is needed.” [Ohio Legislative Service Commission, accessed [1/19/24](#)]

Cleveland.com Editorial Board: The Bill “Would Greatly Collapse The Actual Time Periods Involved” With Providing Eviction Notices And Evicting Tenants. “The bill doesn’t change the three-day notice requirement for an eviction notice before a landlord can file an eviction action in court, or the 10-day deadline for law enforcement to execute an order of eviction, but by counting weekends and holidays, it would greatly collapse the actual time periods involved.” [Cleveland.com, Editorial, [12/9/18](#)]

Housing Rights Groups Warned That H.B. 390 Could Increase Housing Insecurity And Homelessness

Housing Rights Groups Warned That H.B. 390 Would Increase Housing Insecurity And Homelessness. “Despite urgent warnings from housing-rights groups that H.B. 390 would increase housing insecurity and homelessness by making it harder for poorer tenants to stay in their homes or have time to seek help to protect their legal rights, HB 390 was sent to the House floor Nov. 28 on a party-line 8-4 committee vote.” [Cleveland.com, Editorial, [12/9/18](#)]

Affordable And Fair Housing Coordinator For The Coalition On Homelessness And Housing In Ohio: H.B. 390 “Could Ultimately Cause More Evictions To Be Filed, Which In Turn Would Lead To More Homelessness And Greater Housing Insecurity For Ohio Families.” “We oppose this legislation for several reasons, but primarily because it could ultimately cause more evictions to be filed, which in turn would lead to more homelessness and greater housing insecurity for Ohio families. Tenants comprise one-third of Ohio’s total of 4.5 million households. While middle-class Ohioans have increasingly gravitated to the rental market in recent years, lower-income Ohioans still represent the vast majority of these 1.5 million households.” [Ohio Legislature, Joe Maskovyak Testimony, accessed [1/19/24](#)]

November 2018: H.B. 390 Passed Out Of Committee On Party Lines, But Was Never Given A Vote On The House Floor

November 2018: H.B. 390 Passed Out Of Committee 8-4 With Total Republican Support, But Was Never Given A Vote On The House Floor. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 390 Votes, [11/28/18](#)]

2017: Merrin Cosponsored A Public Employee Right-To-Work Bill, Thus Trying To Weaken Union Power

2017: Merrin Cosponsored A Public Employee Right-To-Work Bill

HEADLINE: “Merrin Backs Public Employee Right-To-Work Bill.” [Toledo Blade, [2/16/17](#)]

Merrin Sponsored A Right-To-Work Bill. “State Rep. Derek Merrin (R.) of Monclova Township is one of three northwest Ohioans in the General Assembly to co-sponsor a right-to-work bill in the General Assembly that would apply to public employees.” [Toledo Blade, [2/16/17](#)]

Merrin Sponsored H.B. 53, Which Would “Remove Any Requirement [...] That Public Employees Join Or Pay Dues To Any Employee Organization.” “To amend sections 9.81, 121.40, 124.14, 124.15, 3345.31, 4117.03, 4117.04, 4117.05, 4117.09, 4117.10, 4117.11, 4121.03, 4121.121, 4121.69, and 5501.20 of the Revised Code to remove any requirement under the Public Employees Collective Bargaining Law that public employees join or pay dues to any employee organization, to prohibit public employers from requiring public employees to join or pay dues to any employee organization, to prohibit an employee organization from being required to represent public employees who are not members of the employee organization, and to make an appropriation.” [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 53, filed [2/13/17](#)]

2017: Merrin Cosponsored A Private Employee Right-To-Work Bill

Merrin Cosponsored H.B. 113, Which Would “Prohibit Any Requirement That Employees Of Private Employers Join Or Pay Dues To Any Employee Organization.” “To enact sections 4119.01, 4119.02, 4119.04, 4119.05, 4119.06, 4119.07, 4119.08, and 4119.99 of the Revised Code to prohibit any requirement that employees of private employers join or pay dues to any employee organization and to establish civil and criminal penalties against employers who violate that prohibition.” [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 113, filed, [3/7/17](#)]

Right-To-Work Bills Decrease Wages And Weaken Workers’ Power To Unionize

Center For American Progress: Right-To-Work Laws Drive Down Wages, “Make It Easier For More Of The Economy’s Gains To Flow Straight To The Country’s Wealthiest People [...] And Weaken] Workers’ Power To Join Together In Unions.” “By reducing workers’ voice, right-to-work laws drive down the wages and reduce the economic well-being of all workers-union and nonunion alike. At the same time, right-to-work laws make it easier for more of the economy’s gains to flow straight to the country’s wealthiest people. A national right-to-work law would keep even more power in the hands of companies that, despite record corporate profits in recent years, have not shared their gains with workers. And by weakening workers’ power to join together in unions, Republicans will be able to limit the voices of ordinary Americans in our democracy, since these organizations help ensure that more people vote and advocate for policies that are essential to working Americans.” [Center for American Progress, [5/18/17](#)]

2023 House Speaker Race: Republican Members With Union Ties Were Wary To Support Merrin Due To His Right-For-Work Legislation Advocacy

In The 2023 Race For Ohio House Speaker, Republican Members With Ties To Unions Were Wary To Support Merrin Due To His Advocacy For Right-To-Work Legislation. “In Ohio, Kogan noted, ‘there is a really important interest group story as well. Given the impotence of the small Democratic minority here, organized labor has been contributing significantly to Republican legislative candidates.’ In other words, some Republican members of the Ohio House have ties to unions that made them wary of

supporting Merrin because of his advocacy of right-to-work legislation.” [New York Times, Thomas Edsall Op-Ed, [1/11/23](#)]

2011 And 2017: On Multiple Occasions, Merrin Tried To Cut The Number Of Paid Sick Days For Government Employees, Succeeding Once In Cutting Days Nearly In Half

2011: As Waterville Mayor, Merrin Cut The Number Of Paid Sick Days For Village Employees By Nearly Half

2011: Merrin Cut Paid Sick Days For Village Employees From 18 To 10. “During a meeting in which three council members were absent, Mayor Derek Merrin squeezed out support for his proposal to reduce the number of paid sick days for village employees, a vote critical to his ongoing efforts to trim Waterville’s operating expenses. Effective 30 days from last week’s session, village workers will be allowed up to 10 days of paid sick time annually, down from the current 18.” [Toledo Blade, [3/9/11](#)]

2017: Merrin Sponsored A Bill To Reduce Annual Sick Leave For University And Local Public Employees In Ohio By One Third

In The Ohio Legislature, Merrin Sponsored A Bill To Reduce Annual Sick Leave For University And Local Public Employees In Ohio. “City, county, school and college employees across Ohio could receive less annual sick leave under a bill introduced Thursday in the Ohio General Assembly. The bill reduces the number of sick days given to public employees to 10. This is already the maximum for state employees, but many local government employees get up to 15 days of sick leave a year. ‘We’re aligning what state workers get and local government,’ said state Rep. Derek Merrin, R-Monclova Twp., who sponsored the bill. He called the 15-day limit for local government ‘an excessive state mandate that drives up cost for local governments.’” [Journal-News, [9/13/17](#)]

Merrin’s Bill Would Reduce Sick Leave Time By One Third. “A bill introduced by state Rep. Derek Merrin (R., Monclova Township) would reduce by one-third the number of sick leave days university and local public employees in Ohio could accumulate. Mr. Merrin said Monday his bill is aimed at saving money for local governments, school boards, and the state.” [Toledo Blade, [7/4/17](#)]

Merrin’s Bill Was Criticized As “An Attempt To Undermine Collective Bargaining” And Intrude On Local Governments’ Authority To Set Employee Compensation

Public Employee Unions Criticized Merrin’s Bill As “An Attempt To Undermine Collective Bargaining.” “Public employee unions criticize the proposal as an attempt to undermine collective bargaining. ‘We have relationships we built up, we know the communities, the know the employees, the administration knows its workers. It’s something best left for people to agree on in their own communities,’ said Joe Weidner, spokesman for Ohio AFSCME Council 8, which represents 40,000 mostly-public-sector union workers in Ohio.” [Journal-News, [9/13/17](#)]

****A Local City Manager Said He Would Rather State Lawmakers Leave Employee Compensation To Local Governments, “If [Merrin] Wants To Be In Local Government, Why Doesn’t He Go Back And Run For Mayor Of The Community He Was At?*****David Hicks, city manager of Moraine - slightly larger than Waterville - said he would rather state lawmakers left employee compensation up to local governments. ‘If he wants to be in local government, why doesn’t he go back and run for mayor of the community he was at,’ he said.” [Journal-News, [9/13/17](#)]

2011: Merrin Supported A Bill Intended To Limit The Collective Bargaining Rights Of Public Employees, Which Ohio Voters Later Voted To Overturn

2011: Merrin Supported A Bill Intended “To Limit The Collective Bargaining Rights Of Public Employees” By Prohibiting Them From Striking, Limiting Negotiation Subjects, And Requiring Employees To Pay For At Least 15% Of Their Health Insurance

2011: Merrin Supported A Bill, S.B. 5, “To Limit The Collective Bargaining Rights Of Public Employees,” Calling The Bill “Reasonable And Fair.” “On the heels of Toledo Mayor Mike Bell’s official endorsement of a contentious law to limit the collective bargaining rights of public employees, the mayor of Waterville yesterday announced his own support for the measure. Derek Merrin, a Republican who took office in 2008, told The Blade he believes the law commonly referred-to as S.B. 5 is ‘reasonable and fair’ and protects taxpayers. He planned to announce his support last night at a ‘Taxpayer Town Hall’ event in Tiffin, sponsored by the conservative group Americans for Prosperity. ‘I think all communities need to implement these reasonable measures,’ Mayor Merrin said. ‘I was proud of Mayor Bell and I’m glad he’s standing up to the union and standing up for the people of Toledo.’” [Toledo Blade, [9/2/11](#)]

S.B. 5 “Prohibits Public Employees From Striking, Limits Subjects Of Negotiation At The Bargaining Table, [And] Requires Employees To Pay At Least 15 Percent Of Their Health Insurance.” “The far-reaching S.B. 5, among other things, prohibits all public employees from striking, limits the subjects of negotiation at the bargaining table, requires employees to pay at least 15 percent of their health insurance, and prohibits the automatic deduction of ‘fair-share’ fees in lieu of dues from the paychecks of employees who refuse to join the workplace union.” [Toledo Blade, [9/2/11](#)]

The Law Ended The Rights Of Ohio Employees To Collectively Bargain For Fair Wages And Safer Work Conditions. “Ohio House Democratic lawmakers reflected on the GOP-led passage of S.B. 5 today, marking the three year anniversary of Gov. Kasich signing the bill into law. The law ended the rights of Ohio employees— educators, firefighters, police officers, prison guards, school employees, healthcare professionals and others-to collectively bargain for fair wages and safe work conditions. Ultimately, SB 5 was overwhelmingly overturned by a citizen-led repeal.” [Ohio House of Representatives, Democratic Newsroom, [3/31/14](#)]

Seven Months After The Bill Was Signed Into Law, 61% Of Ohio Residents Voted To Overturn It

Seven Months After S.B. 5 Was Signed Into Law, 61% Of Ohio Residents Voted To Overturn It.

“More than seven months after Republican Gov. John Kasich signed it into law, Ohioans have repealed SB 5, the anti-union legislation that would curb collective bargaining rights for 350,000 public workers and gut the political power of public-sector unions. With nearly 2.4 million votes cast, Issue 2, the up-or-down ballot referendum deciding SB 5’s fate, was headed for a whopping defeat, 61 percent to 39 percent. The Associated Press called the race for Issue 2 opponents around 9:15 p.m.” [Mother Jones, [11/9/11](#)]

Merrin Supported Changing Ohio’s Prevailing Wage Law, Which Existed To Prevent Government Construction Contract Workers From Getting Paid Less Than Nearby Workers On Similar Projects

Merrin Supported Changing Ohio’s Prevailing Wage Law Which Ensured Large Local Government Construction Projects Should Be Paid At Least The Average Wage As Similar Nearby Workers.

“Just before the House speaker vote on Jan. 3, Burns texted Patton, ‘I’m (sic) implore you...don’t go with Stephens.’ Patton, a longtime union supporter, replied a couple hours later, ‘Merrin (was) bad for me,’ as Merrin supported an anti-union right-to-work bill and changing the state’s prevailing wage law, which ensures that workers on large local-government construction projects should be paid at least the average wage paid to nearby workers on similar jobs.” [Cleveland.com, [3/7/23](#)]

Prevailing Wage Laws Were Intended To Prevent Construction Contractors “From Basing Their Bids On Wages Lower Than Those In The Prevailing Area.” “Congress first passed a federal law in 1931 called the Davis-Bacon Act that requires private contractors to pay workers on projects that get more than \$2,000 in federal taxpayer money the ‘prevailing wage.’ It has been updated several times. Prevailing wages are usually higher than minimum wage and can reflect what union members in construction trades are paid. The original act prevented ‘contractors from basing their bids on wages lower than those in the prevailing area.’ States can pass their own prevailing wage laws for projects that get state taxpayer money. About half of the states have passed their own laws, which Ohio did in 1931.” [Signal Cleveland, [11/21/23](#)]

[2017: Merrin Introduced A Bill Requiring State Employees To Pay 15% Of Their Dental, Vision, And Life Insurance Premiums](#)

2017: Merrin Introduced A Bill Requiring State Employees To Pay 15% Of Their Dental, Vision, And Life Insurance Premiums. “State Representative Derek Merrin (R-Monclova Township) introduced H.B. 169, which would require many state employees to effectively pay 15 percent of the total cost for their dental, vision, and basic life insurance premiums. The legislation impacts exempt state employees not covered by collective bargaining agreements, including state legislators, agency directors, and executive staff.” [Ohio House of Representatives, Derek Merrin News, [3/29/17](#)]

[Merrin Co-Sponsored Legislation To “Protect Individuals From Being Compelled To Wear A Mask”](#)

Merrin Co-Sponsored Legislation To “Protect Individuals From Being Compelled To Wear A Mask.” During the 135th General Assembly, Merrin co-sponsored H.J.R. 4 which “Proposes to amend the Ohio Constitution to protect individuals from being compelled to wear a mask or other facial covering in (1) a place of public accommodation, (2) a facility owned or operated by a political subdivision or state agency, or (3) a court. [...] Specifies that nothing in the amendment is to be construed as applying to a private residence.” [The Ohio House of Representatives, [Accessed 5/6/24](#); The Ohio House of Representatives, [Accessed 5/6/24](#)]

[2021: Merrin Introduced H.B. 127, A Bill That Sought To “Halt Enforcement Of Coronavirus Health Orders” And “Require The State To Reimburse Businesses Fined For Having Violated Health Orders”](#)

2021: Merrin Introduced A Bill That Sought To “Halt Enforcement Of Coronavirus Health Orders” And “Require The State To Reimburse Businesses Fined For Having Violated Health Orders.” “Rep. Derek Merrin, R-Monclova, introduced House Bill 127 to halt enforcement of coronavirus health orders going forward. It would also require the state to reimburse businesses fined for having violated health orders since the pandemic began. [...] ‘Ohio businesses and job creators have suffered enough,’

Merrin wrote on Facebook. 'Hundreds of businesses have been harassed, cited, and fined by government bureaucrats for 'supposedly' not abiding by Covid orders.'" [Ohio Capital Journal, [2/22/21](#)]

During The Pandemic, Merrin Sponsored Legislation To Rake Back “\$600 Million Promised To Colleges, Universities, Local Communities And Some State Agencies For Capital Improvement Projects” To Offset Funding Shortages

2020: Merrin Sponsored Legislation To Rake Back “\$600 Million Promised To Colleges, Universities, Local Communities And Some State Agencies For Capital Improvement Projects” To Offset Funding Shortages. “The Ohio House is considering raking back \$600 million promised to colleges, universities, local communities and some state agencies for capital improvement projects while state senators are looking at giving the green light to \$1.3 billion in previously appropriated money. [...] Merrin’s bill eliminates capital reappropriations for Wright State University, Sinclair Community College, Miami University and other public colleges; local cultural projects such as the Dayton Arcade, Dayton Art Institute, and YWCA Dayton; state parks; veterans services; and other state agencies. [...] Merrin said Ohioans are going through unprecedented times and lawmakers need to reexamine funding priorities. The reappropriations doesn’t impact the current operating budget but does influence future budgets since the funding comes from bond issues that must be repaid with interest in future years, he said.” [Dayton Daily News, [5/28/20](#)]

Merrin Repeatedly Took Action To Reduce COVID-19 Vaccinations

2022: Merrin Voted For H.B. 151, An Education Bill That “Prohibit[ed] Schools From Discriminating Based On COVID-19 Vaccination Status”

2022: Merrin Voted For H.B. 151. In June 2022, Merrin voted for H.B. 151 as the House passed the bill in a 57-30 vote. “Replace Ohio Teacher Residency program with local mentorship. [...] to enact new section 3301.13 and sections 3301.0731, 3301.111, 3301.132, 3313.5318, 3319.225, 3321.042, and 3792.05; and to repeal sections 3301.13, 3302.101, and 3302.102 of the Revised Code and to amend the versions of sections 3319.22 and 3319.223 of the Revised Code that are scheduled to take effect on April 12, 2023; to rename the Department of Education as the Department of Education and Workforce; to create the position of Director of Education and Workforce; and to reform the functions and responsibilities of the State Board of Education and the Superintendent of Public Instruction, to continue the changes on and after that date; to reduce the duration of the Alternative Resident Educator License from four to two years; to permit such a licensee to teach preschool; to revise the Ohio Teacher Residency Program as it exists beginning on April 12, 2023; to require one day of professional development leave each school year for classroom teachers to observe veteran teachers; to enact the Save Women’s Sports Act to require schools to designate separate single-sex teams and sports for each sex; to make changes to the home education and non-chartered nonpublic school law; to prohibit schools from discriminating based on COVID-19 vaccination status; and to permit the General Assembly to invalidate or rescind rules adopted by the Director of Education and Workforce.” The bill received 57 Republican votes and 0 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 151, [6/1/22](#)]

Merrin Co-Sponsored Legislation That Prohibited Public And Private Entities From “Taking Specified Actions Against An Individual Based On The Individual’s Refusal Of

Any Biologic, Vaccine, Pharmaceutical, Drug, Gene Editing Technology, RNA-Based Product”

Merrin Co-Sponsored Legislation That Prohibited Public And Private Entities From “Taking Specified Actions Against An Individual Based On The Individual’s Refusal Of Any Biologic, Vaccine, Pharmaceutical, Drug, Gene Editing Technology, RNA-Based Product.” During the 135th General Assembly Merrin co-sponsored House Bill 319 which “Prohibits certain private and public entities from taking specified actions against an individual based on the individual’s refusal of any biologic, vaccine, pharmaceutical, drug, gene editing technology, RNA-based product, or DNA-based product for reasons of conscience, including religious convictions. [...] Authorizes an individual who believes that a violation of the bill’s prohibition has occurred to (1) petition a court for injunctive relief or a declaratory judgment or (2) bring a private civil action for money damages. [...] If the individual prevails, requires the court to award the individual court costs and reasonable attorney’s fees and, in the case of a private civil action for money damages, also requires the court to award the individual three times the amount of the individual’s actual damages or \$200, whichever is greater.” [The Ohio House of Representatives, [Accessed 5/6/24](#); Ohio Legislative Services Commission, [4/2/24](#)]

2021: Merrin Voted For S.B. 111, To “Prohibit Certain Mandatory Vaccinations And Other Activities Related To An Individual’s Vaccination Status”

2021: Merrin Voted For S.B. 111. In June 2021, Merrin voted for S.B. 111 as the House passed the bill in a 62-34 vote. “Provide assistance to schools and other entities. To enact section 3792.02 of the Revised Code to prohibit certain mandatory vaccinations and other activities related to an individual’s vaccination status and to make an appropriation related to coronavirus local fiscal recovery.” The bill received 60 Republican votes and 2 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, S.B. 111, [6/24/21](#)]

2021: Merrin Voted For H.B. 218, Which Would “Expressly Cover COVID-19 Vaccine Injuries Under The Workers’ Compensation System”

2021: Merrin Voted For H.B. 218. In November 2021, Merrin voted for H.B. 218 as the House passed the bill in a 58-32 vote. “Extend bar hours; exempt bars from statewide curfew. To amend section 4123.01 and to enact sections 3792.05, 3792.06, 3792.07, 3792.08, 4123.87, 4731.77, and 4765.60 of the Revised Code to address medical requirements for employees and students; to address qualified civil immunity regarding certain coronaviruses; to authorize emergency medical technicians to administer COVID-19 tests; to expressly cover COVID-19 vaccine injuries under the workers’ compensation system; and to repeal sections 3792.05, 3792.07, and 3792.08 of the Revised Code on September 30, 2025.” The bill received 58 Republican votes and 0 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 218, [11/18/21](#)]

During The Beginning Of The Pandemic, Merrin Recklessly Advocated For Loosened Restrictions, Claiming Prematurely That “The Surge Never Happened”

In The Beginning Stages Of The Pandemic, Merrin Recklessly Advocated For Loosened Restrictions Claiming Prematurely That “The Surge Never Happened.” “Some have called on Gov. Mike DeWine and state health director Dr. Amy Acton to reopen businesses around Ohio. Others have outright questioned whether the economic shutdown is worse than COVID-19 itself. [...] State Rep. Derek Merrin, R-Monclova Township, near Toledo, wrote in a letter to DeWine that the number of unemployed Ohioans has neared 1 million in recent weeks because of the coronavirus crisis. Efforts used to combat the virus have created yet another crisis, Merrin said. [...] ‘The surge never happened, which is

great news. Modeling used to justify the restrictions was inaccurate,' Merrin wrote in his letter to DeWine. 'Ohioans have sacrificed to help, but need restrictions adjusted based on new modeling.'" [Akron Beacon Journal, [4/18/20](#)]

Contrary To Merrin's Claims, By June Of 2020, April Had Been The "Deadliest Month So Far" Of The Pandemic

The Columbus Dispatch: "April Appears To Have Been The Deadliest Month So Far." "The coronavirus has killed thousands of Ohioans and while it hasn't yet caused a big spike in Ohio's total deaths for 2020, it appears on track to do so [...] April appears to have been the deadliest month so far, according to mortality data from the Ohio Department of Health as of Friday. [...] Ohio's overall 2020 deaths mostly matched the previous five-year average from January through March, but they shot up in April to 11,155. That marks a jump of 9.5%, or a 973 spike in deaths alone in April 2020 compared to the average April from 2015 to 2019, state data shows." [The Columbus Dispatch, [6/5/20](#)]

2020: Merrin Supported Legislation That "Dramatically" Curtailed The Authority Of Ohio Department Of Public Health Director Amy Acton "Effectively Nullifying Her Orders If They Are Not Endorsed By A Legislative Panel"

2020: Merrin Supported Legislation That "Dramatically" Curtailed The Authority Of Ohio Department Of Public Health Director Amy Acton "Effectively Nullifying Her Orders If They Are Not Endorsed By A Legislative Panel." "The Republican majority in the House passed legislation this month - with no Democratic support - that would dramatically curtail Acton's authority, effectively nullifying her orders if they are not endorsed by a legislative panel. [...] The legislation is considered unlikely to pass in the Ohio Senate, and DeWine has said he would veto it even if it does. But Republican legislators said they would continue to press to limit Acton's reach. [...] 'Unbridled power with no oversight or accountability is a recipe for economic calamity and a loss of freedom,' said Republican Rep. Derek Merrin, who voted for the measure and supports allowing all Ohio businesses to immediately reopen. 'That's what we have in Ohio.' [...] Merrin described Acton - a registered Democrat who campaigned for Barack Obama - as a negative influence on the state's GOP governor. She has flip-flopped on questions such as whether to recommend that Ohioans wear masks, he said, and has promoted models that exaggerate the virus's toll." [The Herald-Dispatch, [5/19/20](#)]

2020: Merrin Voted For S.B. 311, To Limit The "Director of Health[']s Order-Issuing Authority"

2020: Merrin Voted For S.B. 311. In November 2020, Merrin voted for S.B. 311 as the House passed the bill in a 58-32 vote. "Limit Director of Health order-issuing authority. To amend sections 3701.13 and 3701.14 of the Revised Code to modify the law governing public health orders, quarantine, and isolation." The bill received 58 Republican votes and 0 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, S.B. 311, [11/19/20](#)]

2020: Merrin Voted For S.B. 375, "To Void The Director Of Health's July 30th Order Regarding County Fairs"

2020: Merrin Voted For S.B. 375. In December 2020, Merrin voted for S.B. 375 as the House passed the bill in a 54-30 vote. "Void Director of Health order regarding county fairs. To void the Director of Health's July 30th order regarding county fairs and create the Agricultural Society Working Group for

2021.” The bill received 54 Republican votes and 0 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, S.B. 375, [12/17/20](#)]

2020: Merrin Voted For S.B. 31, A Bill To Prohibit Mandated Contact Tracing

2020: Merrin Voted For S.B. 31. In May 2020, Merrin voted for S.B. 31 as the House passed the bill in a 58-34 vote. “Exempt EMS telecommunicator info from Public Records Law. To amend sections 149.43, 4123.88, and 5913.01 and to enact sections 107.22 and 3701.25 of the Revised Code to present section 149.45 of the Revised Code to confirm its harmonization, to include emergency service telecommunicators, certain Ohio National Guard members, federal judges, regional physician advisory board members, and first responders as individuals whose residential and familial information is exempt from disclosure under the Public Records Law, to address matters related to contact tracing, and to require the Bureau of Workers’ Compensation or Industrial Commission to disclose a claimant’s name to a journalist upon written request.” The bill received 58 Republican votes and 0 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, S.B. 31, [5/28/20](#)]

S.B. 31 Would Have Prohibited Mandated Contact Tracing. “[S.B. 31] Prohibits the Governor from issuing an order requiring an individual to participate in contact tracing. Prohibits the Ohio Department of Health, another state agency, a local board of health, or any other person or government entity under contract with the foregoing, from requiring an individual to participate in contact tracing. Requires written consent to participate in contact tracing.” [Ohio Legislature, S.B. 31, Bill Analysis, [5/28/20](#)]

2021: Merrin Voted For S.B. 22, “To Establish Legislative Oversight Of Certain Orders And Rules Issued By The Executive Branch, Including By Establishing The Ohio Health Oversight And Advisory Committee”

2021: Merrin Voted For S.B. 22. In March 2021, Merrin voted for S.B. 22 as the House passed the bill in a 57-38 vote. “Establish legislative oversight over Governor’s and health orders. To amend sections 106.022, 111.15, 119.03, 2743.03, 3701.13, 3701.14, 3707.01, 3707.26, 3715.74, and 4935.03 and to enact sections 101.36, 103.65, 103.651, 107.42, 107.43, 3707.11, 3707.54, 3709.212, and 3709.50 of the Revised Code to establish legislative oversight of certain orders and rules issued by the executive branch, including by establishing the Ohio Health Oversight and Advisory Committee.” The bill received 57 Republican votes and 0 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, S.B. 22, [3/10/21](#)]

[During The Pandemic Merrin Proposed Legislation To Shorten “The Length Of An Emergency Declaration From 120 Days To 10”](#)

During The Pandemic Merrin Proposed Legislation To Shorten “The Length Of An Emergency Declaration From 120 Days To 10.” “For many conservative lawmakers, COVID-19 served as a provocation - an inciting incident to react against. Merrin was no exception. But again, his tendency toward process is hard to miss. His proposals included shortening the length of an emergency declaration from 120 days to 10. Another would vacate and expunge fines businesses received for failing to follow health guidelines.” [News 5 Cleveland, [1/3/23](#)]

[Thanksgiving 2020: Merrin Flouted Ohio’s COVID-19 Restrictions And Proudly Claimed His Family Would “Still Gather Indoors With 10 To 15 People And No Masks”](#)

Thanksgiving 2020: Merrin Flouted Ohio's COVID-19 Restrictions On Indoor Gatherings And Proudly Claimed His Family Would "Still Gather Indoors With 10 To 15 People And No Masks."

"Elected officials have tried to lead by example, hoping that, by sharing how their Thanksgiving traditions are changing to meet the moment, it might help others make safer choices. [...] State Rep. Derek Merrin, a Monclova Republican, said his family isn't doing anything differently. They will still gather indoors with 10 to 15 people and no masks. [...] 'I'm only one person, but I don't go around telling people how they're going to live their lives in their own homes,' he said." [Toldedo Blade, [11/24/20](#)]

Effective Nov. 17, 2020: Ohio Restrictions Ordered Mass Gatherings To Be "Limited To A Maximum Of 10 People." *"Mass gatherings are limited to a maximum of 10 people. A revised health order effective Nov. 17 places limits on wedding receptions, funeral observances and other events at banquet facilities. They include requiring guests to be seated at all times, limiting tables to no more than 10 people from the same household and prohibiting dancing as well as socializing in open congregate areas."* [NPR, [12/3/20](#)]

September 2020: Merrin Bragged About Attending Trump's Massive Rally That Touted Nearly Zero COVID-19 Restrictions

September 2020: Merrin Bragged About Attending Trump's Massive Rally That Touted Nearly Zero COVID-19 Restrictions. "An incredible rally tonight supporting President's Trump re-election. The silent majority is ready to roar again this November! #MAGA"

← Post



Derek Merrin ✓

@DerekMerrin

...

An incredible rally tonight supporting President's Trump re-election. The silent majority is ready to roar again this November! #MAGA



7:11 PM · Sep 21, 2020

[Twitter, @DerekMerrin, 9/21/20]

Associated Press: “Thousands Of President Donald Trump’s Supporters Regularly Cram Together At Campaign Rallies Around The Country - Masks Optional And Social Distancing Frowned Upon.” “But it’s a different story in Trumpland. Thousands of President Donald Trump’s supporters regularly cram together at campaign rallies around the country - masks optional and social distancing frowned upon. [...] Trump rallies are among the nation’s biggest events being held in defiance of crowd restrictions designed to stop the virus from spreading. This at a time when public health experts are advising people to think twice even about inviting many guests for Thanksgiving dinner.” [Associated Press, [10/29/20](#)]

Stanford: Trump “Rallies Ultimately Resulted In More Than 30,000 Confirmed Cases Of Covid-19” And “More Than 700 Deaths, Though Not Necessarily Among Attendees”

Stanford: Trump “Rallies Ultimately Resulted In More Than 30,000 Confirmed Cases Of Covid-19” And “More Than 700 Deaths, Though Not Necessarily Among Attendees.” “Researchers looked at 18 Trump rallies held between June 20 and Sept. 22 and analyzed Covid-19 data the weeks following each event. They compared the counties where the events were held to other counties that had a similar trajectory of confirmed Covid-19 cases prior to the rally date. Out of the 18 rallies analyzed, only three were indoors, according to the research. [...] The researchers found that the rallies ultimately resulted in more than 30,000 confirmed cases of Covid-19. They also concluded that the rallies likely led to more than 700 deaths, though not necessarily among attendees.” [CNBC, [10/31/20](#)]

[Merrin Is A MAGA Extremist](#)

[2024: Merrin Accepted The Endorsement Of Former President Donald Trump](#)

2024: Merrin Accepted The Endorsement Of Former President Donald Trump. “Former President Donald Trump issued a last-minute endorsement in a highly sought northwest Ohio congressional district Monday, backing state Rep. Derek Merrin over a rival Republican whom Trump’s closest ally in the state has described as ‘a rock-solid conservative.’” [Associated Press, [3/18/24](#)]

Merrin Continued To Reiterate MAGA Talking Points Into 2024

2024: Merrin Tweeted “Great News!!!” In Response To The Supreme Court Decision That Kept Trump On The Colorado Ballot. In March of 2024 Merrin tweeted: “Great News!!! us us us #MAGA”

← Post



Derek Merrin ✓

@DerekMerrin

...

Great News!!! 🇺🇸 🇺🇸 🇺🇸 #MAGA x.com/FoxNews/status...



Fox News ✓ @FoxNews · Mar 4

'GREAT WIN FOR AMERICA': Former President Donald Trump reacts to the Supreme Court's unanimous 9-0 decision to reverse Colorado's attempt to kick him off the 2024 primary ballot. His exclusive interview with Fox News Digital. trib.al/cOwehSU

"Today's decision, especially the fact that it was unanimous, 9-0, is both **unifying** and **inspirational** for the people of the **United States of America.**"

Donald Trump



[Twitter, @DerekMerrin, 3/4/24]

2024: Merrin Tweeted “Lucas County - Our Momentum is Growing & Conservatives are Rallying to our Team! #BalanceBudget #FinishWall #MAGA.” In March of 2024 Merrin tweeted: “Lucas County - Our Momentum is Growing & Conservatives are Rallying to our Team! #BalanceBudget #FinishWall #MAGA [...] Join Us. Let’s Save America!! us us”



[Twitter, @DerekMerrin, 3/11/24]

2024: Merrin Said He “Stood With” President Trump And House Speaker Mike Johnson To Fight The “Radical Left Agenda”

2024: Merrin Said He “Stood With” President Trump And House Speaker Mike Johnson To Fight The “Radical Left Agenda.” In May of 2024 Merrin tweeted: “D.C. Democrats are making our country less safe & their runaway federal spending is making life unaffordable for hard working Americans. We must stay united. I stand with President Trump & support @SpeakerJohnson & the work the @HouseGOP is doing fighting the radical left agenda.”



[Twitter, @DerekMerrin, 5/2/24]

2024: Merrin Accepted The Endorsement Of Senator Tommy Tuberville, Who Blocked The Promotion Of Hundreds Of Senior Military Officers Because The Armed Services Provided Abortion Care To Service Members

2024: Merrin Accepted The Endorsement Of Far-Right MAGA Ally Senator Tommy Tuberville. “It’s an honor to receive the endorsement from @TTuberville - a true patriot who has been critical in fighting for President Trump’s America First agenda! us us”

← Post



Derek Merrin ✓

@DerekMerrin

...

It's an honor to receive the endorsement from @TTuberville - a true patriot who has been critical in fighting for President Trump's America First agenda! 🇺🇸 🇺🇸



8:00 AM · Mar 15, 2024 · 22.2K Views

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[Twitter, @DerekMerrin, [3/15/24](#)]

2023: For Months, Tuberville Blocked The Promotion Of Hundreds Of Senior Military Officers Because The Armed Services Provided Abortion Care To Service Members

2023: For Months, Tuberville Blocked The Promotion Of Hundreds Of Senior Military Officers Because The Armed Services Provided Abortion Care To Service Members. “For months, the Alabama senator and former college football coach has blocked the confirmation of hundreds of senior military officers because he’s mad about a Pentagon policy that ensures soldiers have abortion access. [...] The group of anti-abortion Republicans had worked with him since February to try to find a solution. They’d flattered his ego. They’d mostly defended him in public as his game of chicken stretched nine months, punishing hundreds of senior service members who have no say over the policy and hurting U.S. military readiness at a time of global chaos.” [Rolling Stone, [11/3/23](#)]

2023: When Asked About White Nationalists, Tuberville Said “Well, They Call Them That, [...] I Call Them Americans”

2023: When Asked About White Nationalists, Tuberville Said “Well, They Call Them That, [...] I Call Them Americans.” “The Monday CNN interview was an incredible exchange, which began as an opportunity for Tuberville to explain his Pentagon obstruction as a protest of Biden administration abortion policy. More on that below. [...] In the White nationalism portion of the interview, Tuberville was being asked to explain comments he made to an Alabama radio station back in May, when he was asked if he thought White nationalists should be allowed to serve in the military. [...] ‘Well, they call them that,’ Tuberville said back then of people who oppose White nationalists. ‘I call them Americans.’” [CNN, [7/11/23](#)]

2023: When Merrin Lost The Ohio House Speakership To A More Moderate Republican, He Sought To “Lessen The Speaker’s Power” By Changing House Rules

2023: When Merrin Lost The Ohio House Speakership To A More Moderate Republican, He Sought To “Lessen The Speaker’s Power” By Changing House Rules. “With votes from 22 Republicans and 32 Democrats in the 99-member House, Stephens won with more support from Democrats than his own party. Merrin, of Monclova Township, won an unofficial vote of the Republican Congress for the position in November. [...] Merrin invited more than 40 fellow House Republicans who supported him to meet privately Wednesday to discuss seeking changes to House rules to lessen the speaker’s power and ensure that they are heard.” [The Ironton Tribune, [1/15/23](#)]

2023: Merrin And His Allies Sued Ohio House Speaker Jason Stephens Over “Control Of The House GOP’s Campaign Fund”

2023: Merrin And His Allies Sued Ohio House Speaker Jason Stephens Over “Control Of The House GOP’s Campaign Fund.” “The months-long schism among Ohio House Republicans has turned litigious, with state Rep. Derek Merrin and two allies suing Ohio House Speaker Jason Stephens and others over control of the House GOP’s campaign fund. [...] The lawsuit, filed Saturday in Franklin County Common Pleas Court, takes the infighting within the House GOP to a new level. Merrin along with state Reps. Phil Plummer of Dayton and Ron Ferguson of Jefferson County are seeking nearly \$400,000 in reimbursements and damages from Stephens, of Lawrence County, and state Rep. Jeff LaRe of Fairfield County, Stephens’ pick to head the Ohio House Republican Alliance (OHRA), the caucus’ campaign arm.

[...] The suit also asks that the court order Merrin and Plummer to be put in charge of OHRA, which campaign-finance data shows had close to \$1.1 million in its bank account as of the end of June.”
[Cleveland.com, [10/12/23](#)]

Merrin Allies Attempted To Censure GOP House Members Who Voted For Stephens As Speaker

Merrin Allies Attempted To Censure GOP House Members Who Voted For Stephens As Speaker.

“In November, the Ohio House GOP Caucus voted to support Merrin, but it wasn’t unanimous. Twenty-two of the 31 Republicans that Rep. Jason Stephens, a Republican from Kitts Hill, backed him in November also voted for him on Tuesday. Now some Republicans want to censure those 22 Republicans. [...] On Friday, a draft of a resolution was publicized to censure the Ohio House Republicans that backed Stephens. The resolution claims their vote for Stephens ‘dishonors the vote of the Ohio House Republican Caucus, dishonors the historic brand of the Republican Party, and misrepresents the voice of Ohio Republican voters who collectively voted for these 22 members in order to defeat the dangerous and perverse Democratic Party Caucus agenda.’ [...] ‘I, at no time, promised to vote for Dereck Merrin (for Ohio House Speaker),’ said [Rep. Sara] Carruthers in an interview with the Journal-News. ‘I never voted for Derek Merrin. Derek never talked to anybody on the Stephens team. He never made a call, never did anything.’” [Journal-News, [1/6/23](#)]

2018: Merrin Said It Was A “True Honor” To “Welcome” Vice President Mike Pence To Northwest Ohio

2018: Merrin Said It Was A “True Honor” To “Welcome” Vice President Mike Pence To Northwest Ohio. In August of 2018 Merrin tweeted: “A true honor to welcome @VP & @JimRenacci to NW Ohio w/ @Mark_Wagoner @OhioRepGavarone. #MAGA #Renacci4Senate”

← Post



Derek Merrin

@DerekMerrin

...

A true honor to welcome @VP & @JimRenacci to NW Ohio w/
@Mark_Wagoner @OhioRepGavarone. #MAGA #Renacci4Senate



6:42 PM · Aug 14, 2018 from Ohio, USA



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[Twitter, @DerekMerrin, 8/14/18]

2017: Pence Defended Trump's Comments About White Nationalists Being "Very Fine People" Following The Charlottesville Unite The Right Riot

2017: Pence Defended Trump's Comments About White Nationalists Being "Very Fine People" Following The Charlottesville Unite The Right Riot. "Vice President Mike Pence on Monday continued to defend President Donald Trump's response to the violence in Charlottesville, Virginia over the weekend, telling NBC News the president 'made it very clear' he condemns 'the KKK and white supremacists.' [...] Trump has endured a steady drumbeat of criticism from Republicans as well as Democrats for what they view as the president's tepid response to Saturday's clash between white nationalists and counter-protesters that killed one and injured 19 after an Ohio man allegedly drove his

car through a group of counter-demonstrators. [...] The president's remarks Saturday faulted 'many sides' for the violence, and he left the podium without addressing a shouted question about whether he would denounce support from white nationalists." [NBC News, [8/13/17](#)]

Before Running For Congress, Merrin Would Not Commit To Voting For Trump In The 2024 Primary, Then Changed His Tune And Endorsed Trump On The First Day Of His Congressional Campaign

June 2023: When Asked Who He Was Supporting In The 2024 Republican Presidential Primary, Merrin Said "I Don't Know Who's All Gonna Run." REPORTER: "Who are you supporting in the presidential election in 2024?" MERRIN: "Aw man, I can, I can only take care of myself right now, so-" REPORTER: "Aw come on, you ain't got no opinion on it?" MERRIN: "I'll be voting for the Republican that's for sure." REPORTER: "Oh yeah you're voting for the Republican?" MERRIN: "No matter what." REPORTER: "Yeah, who are you voting in the primary?" MERRIN: "I don't know who's all gonna run." REPORTER: "What? Man, man that's a coward's answer, brother." [The Rooster, Twitter, [7/24/23](#)] (VIDEO)

December 2023: Merrin's First Campaign Act Was To Endorse Trump

Merrin Campaign Announcement: "As The First Action Of His Campaign, Merrin Formally Endorsed President Donald J. Trump For Re-Election." "As the first action of his campaign, Merrin formally endorsed President Donald J. Trump for re-election, saying: 'It's clear Joe Biden is destroying America, and Marcy Kaptur is nothing more than a rubber stamp for his failed policies. Donald Trump is going to be the next President, and I'm proud to endorse him on day one. As our next Congressman, I'll work hand-in-hand with President Trump to put our country back on track when he is back in the White House.'" [Merrin for Congress, News, [12/20/23](#)]

Merrin's First Campaign Act Was To Endorse Trump. "Merrin is term-limited, so he was always going to be looking for a new gig. And although he's starting later than his opponents, he's jumping in with the encouragement of U.S. House Speaker Mike Johnson, and by extension, the deep pocketed campaign apparatus the speaker controls. His campaign's first act was to endorse Trump for President, but Riedel was quick to remind him of some other recent endorsements as well. Sharing Merrin's previous endorsement of his own campaign, Riedel taunted, 'you had it right the first time: Our campaign is the best chance to defeat Marcy Kaptur and send a real conservative to Congress.'" [Ohio Capital Journal, [1/8/24](#)]

Merrin Has An Anti-LGBTQ+ Agenda

2021: Merrin Tried To Make Ohio Law Read That Only A "Husband And Wife" Could Adopt In Ohio, Instead Of Any "Legally Married Couple"

2021: Merrin Asked State Budget Drafters To Replace A "Legally Married Couple" Reference With "Husband And Wife." "A dispute over a single line in the 2,057-page state budget bill - passed by the Ohio House of Representatives on Wednesday - has some civil rights advocates frustrated as they continue urging the enactment of an anti-discrimination law in this state. [...] Two Republican state representatives in particular asked that budget drafters strike the 'legally married couple' reference and

reinsert 'husband and wife' - Reps. Reggie Stoltzfus, R-Paris Twp., and Derek Merrin, R-Monclova." [Ohio Capital Journal, [4/23/21](#)]

Merrin Requested That The Budget Language Remain That Only A "Husband And Wife" Could Adopt In Ohio, Instead Of Any "Legally Married Couple." "Later on Thursday, the Ohio Capital Journal obtained the budget amendment requests. Two Republican state representatives in particular asked that budget drafters strike the 'legally married couple' reference and reinsert 'husband and wife' - Reps. Reggie Stoltzfus, R-Paris Twp., and Derek Merrin, R-Monclova." [Ohio Capital Journal, [4/23/21](#)]

Due To Obergefell, The Language Change Would Be Purely Semantics And Carry No Legal Weight. "House Finance Chairman Scott Oelslager said doing so carries no legal weight and that LGBTQ+ couples retain their right to adopt children. 'It's a semantic issue. It does not prevent adoptions (for) same-sex couples,' the North Canton Republican said. 'It's just simply a semantic definition so to speak, or semantic statement that was in the code.'" [Ohio Capital Journal, [4/23/21](#)]

[2023: Merrin Voted For H.B. 8, The Parents' Bill of Rights, Likened To The "Don't Say Gay" Bill](#)

2023: Merrin Voted For H.B. 8, The Parents' Bill of Rights

2023: Merrin Voted For H.B. 8. In June 2023, Merrin voted for H.B. 8 as the House passed the bill in a 65-29 vote. "Enact the Parents' Bill of Rights. To amend sections 3314.03 and 3326.11 and to enact section 3313.473 of the Revised Code to enact the "Parents' Bill of Rights" to require public schools to adopt a policy on parental notification on student health and well-being and instructional materials with sexuality content." The bill received 65 Republican votes and 0 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 8, [6/21/23](#)]

Critics Of H.B. 8 "Likened The Bill To Florida's 'Don't Say Gay' Bill"

Critics Of H.B. 8 "Likened The Bill To Florida's 'Don't Say Gay' Bill." "An Ohio House bill to notify parents of any content in state schools that may contain 'sexuality' was introduced before an Ohio Senate committee on Tuesday. Critics likened the bill to Florida's 'Don't Say Gay' bill, which was implemented in 2022 and bars classroom discussion for some grade levels on sexual orientation and gender identity. [...]

During its run through the House, the bill was opposed by a variety of youth advocacy groups, including the Kaleidoscope Youth Center, the Children's Defense Fund-Ohio and the Trevor Project, along with some school districts, the ACLU of Ohio, the Ohio Education Association and the Ohio School Counselor Association. The groups took issue with House Bill 8's language, which requires schools to notify parents and allows parents to remove students from classes based on the "sexuality content" of those classes, and amendments made while the bill was still in the House that LGBTQ advocates said made topics related to the LGBTQ community 'perhaps inappropriate for the classroom,' according to Equality Ohio's then-spokesperson Kathryn Poe, during the House committee process." [Ohio Capital Journal, [12/6/23](#)]

[Merrin Co-Sponsored Several Bills To Limit The Teaching Of Race And LGBTQ Issues In Schools](#)

2021: Merrin Co-Sponsored H.B. 322, A Bill To Regulate "The Teaching Of Certain Current Events, Race, And Sex"

2021: Merrin Co-Sponsored H.B. 322, A Bill To Regulate “The Teaching Of Certain Current Events, Race, And Sex.” [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 322, [6/10/21](#)]

Equality Ohio Deemed H.B. 322 A “Bad Queer Bill.” [Equality Ohio, 2022 Lawmaker Scorecard, [Accessed 5/12/24](#)]

2021: Merrin Co-Sponsored H.B. 327, A Bill To “Prohibit Teaching, Advocating, Or Promoting Divisive Concepts”

2021: Merrin Co-Sponsored H.B. 327, A Bill To “Prohibit Teaching, Advocating, Or Promoting Divisive Concepts.” [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 327, [6/10/21](#)]

Equality Ohio Deemed H.B. 327 A “Bad Queer Bill.” [Equality Ohio, 2022 Lawmaker Scorecard, [Accessed 5/12/24](#)]

2022: Equality Ohio Gave Merrin’s Record An ‘F’ Grade

2022: Equality Ohio Gave Merrin’s Record An ‘F’ Grade. In 2022, Equality Ohio gave Merrin’s legislative record an “F” grade. [Equality Ohio, 2022 Lawmaker Scorecard, [Accessed 5/3/24](#)]

The Center For Christian Virtue, An Anti-LGBTQ Group, Supported Merrin’s Candidacy For Ohio House Speaker

The Center For Christian Virtue Opposed Making Sexual Orientation A Protected Class From Discrimination

The Center For Christian Virtue Opposed Making Sexual Orientation A Protected Class From Discrimination. “The (Un)Fairness Act Deceptively titled the ‘Ohio Fairness Act,’ sponsors say this legislation is similar to the Equality Act in Washington. SB132 prioritizes the desires of adults over the well-being of children. By deeming that ‘sexual orientation’ and ‘gender identity’ are classes protected from discrimination, this proposed legislation would allow men and boys in women’s bathrooms, locker rooms, showers, and domestic violence shelters, as well as force girls to compete against boys in interscholastic sports.” [Center for Christian Virtue, Advocacy, [Accessed 5/11/24](#)]

The Center For Christian Virtue Promoted “Strong Marriages Between One Man And One Woman”

One Of The Center For Christian Virtue’s “Core Issues” Was “Ensuring Government Policy Promotes Strong Families And Strong Marriages Between One Man And One Woman.” “Core issues for a thriving America [...] Strong Families - Ensuring government policy promotes strong families and strong marriages between one man and one woman.” [Center for Christian Virtue, About, [Accessed 5/11/24](#)]

Gun Control

Gun Control Highlights

Merrin voted in favor of allowing school personnel to carry firearms.

Merrin sought to eliminate license requirements to carry firearms.

Merrin worked to create loopholes and lessen violation penalties for concealed firearms carriers.

2019: Merrin voted in favor of H.B. 228 to override “Governor’s veto of bill shifting to prosecution the burden of proving whether shooter acted in self-defense.”

2020: Merrin voted in favor of H.B. 425, which would eliminate “requirement that a driver ‘promptly’ notifies law enforcement of presence of gun in a car during traffic stops.”

2018: Merrin voted in favor of H.B. 79, which would allow “tactical medical professionals with permission to carry firearms by their law enforcement agencies to carry them in their personal lives.”

2018: Merrin voted in favor of S.B. 81, which “waives concealed carry license fee for active and retired military personnel and accepts military training as proof of firearm competency.”

After Merrin lost the House Speakership to Jason Stephens, Merrin’s supporters proposed “different rules that would reduce some of the Speaker’s power,” including “allowing people to carry firearms on the House floor.”

Merrin in 2020: “With what we’ve seen with the riots and a breakdown of protecting private property, this isn’t the time to be waiving people’s constitutional [gun] rights.”

2016: Merrin was “proud to be trusted to protect gun rights & 2nd Amendment” by the NRA.

Merrin was a member of the NRA.

Ohio Gun Owners promoted Merrin’s campaign for Ohio HD-42.

Merrin Voted In Favor Of Allowing School Personnel To Carry Firearms

2022: Merrin Voted In Favor Of H.B. 99, Which Would Lessen “Training Requirements For School Personnel Authorized To Carry Firearms”

2022: Merrin Voted In Favor Of H.B. 99, Which Would Lessen “Training Requirements For School Personnel Authorized To Carry Firearms.” “OHIO HOUSE House Bill 99: Concurs on Senate changes to bill lessening training requirements for school personnel authorized to carry firearms (goes to governor). Sponsor: Rep. Thomas Hall (R., Middletown). Vote: Passed on Wednesday, 56-35. Northwest Ohio representatives: Paula Hicks-Hudson (D., Toledo), no; Mike Sheehy (D., Oregon), no; Lisa Sobecki (D., Toledo), no; Derek Merrin (R., Monclova Township), yes.” [Toledo Blade, 6/5/22]

2021: Merrin Voted In Favor Of H.B. 99, Which Would Allow “School Boards To Authorize Teachers And Other Employees To Carry Firearms In School Safety Zones After 20 Hours Of Training”

2021: Merrin Voted In Favor Of H.B. 99, Which Would Allow “School Boards To Authorize Teachers And Other Employees To Carry Firearms In School Safety Zones After 20 Hours Of Training.” “House Bill 99: Allows school boards to authorize teachers and other employees to carry firearms in school safety zones after 20 hours of training (goes to Senate). Sponsor: Rep. Thomas Hall (R., Middletown). Vote: Passed on Nov. 17, 59-33. Northwest Ohio representatives: Ms. Hicks-Hudson, no; Mr. Sheehy, no; Ms. Sobacki, no; Mr. Merrin, yes.” [Toledo Blade, 11/28/21]

Merrin Sought To Eliminate License Requirements To Carry Firearms

Merrin: “You Don’t Need a Government License to Exercise First Amendment Rights, You Shouldn’t Need One to Exercise Your Second Amendment Rights”

Merrin: “You Don’t Need a Government License to Exercise First Amendment Rights, You Shouldn’t Need One to Exercise Your Second Amendment Rights.” ““You don’t need a government license to exercise First Amendment rights, you shouldn’t need one to exercise your Second Amendment rights,’ [Merrin] said.” [Toledo Blade, [3/29/19](#)]

2021: Merrin Celebrated The Passage Of H.B. 227, “Concealed Weapons Without License”

2021: Merrin Celebrated The Passage Of H.B. 227, “Concealed Weapons Without License.”



Derek Merrin
@DerekMerrin

Big 2nd Amendment win! 🇺🇸

Constitutional Carry passed the Ohio House delivering a major victory for Ohioans. I'm proud to have been a cosponsor for every year I've served in the General Assembly!

This is a GREAT win for our constitutional rights. 🇺🇸 🙌

#NeverGiveUp



3:48 PM · Nov 17, 2021



13



12



36



[Twitter, DerekMerrin, 11/17/21]

Merrin Worked To Create Loopholes And Lessen Violation Penalties For Concealed Firearms Carriers

2017: Merrin Voted In Favor Of S.B. 142, Which Would Ease “Penalties For Concealed-Carry License Holders Who Fail To Promptly Tell A Police Officer Of Presence Of Gun In Car”

2017: Merrin Voted In Favor Of S.B. 142, Which Would Ease “Penalties For Concealed-Carry License Holders Who Fail To Promptly Tell A Police Officer Of Presence Of Gun In Car.” “S.B. 142:Eases penalties for concealed-carry license holders who fail to promptly tell a police officer of presence of gun in car (goes to Senate). Sponsor:Rep. Scott Wiggam (R., Wooster). Vote: Passed on Tuesday, 69-25. Northwest Ohio representatives:Teresa Fedor (D., Toledo), yes; Mike Sheehy (D., Oregon), no; Michael Ashford (D., Toledo), no; Derek Merrin (R., Monclova Township), yes.” [Toledo Blade, 10/29/17]

2020: Merrin Voted In Favor Of H.B. 425, Which Would Eliminate The “Requirement That A Driver ‘Promptly’ Notifies Law Enforcement Of Presence Of Gun In A Car During Traffic Stops”

2020: Merrin Voted In Favor Of H.B. 425, Which Would Eliminate “Requirement That A Driver ‘Promptly’ Notifies Law Enforcement Of Presence Of Gun In A Car During Traffic Stops.” “House Bill 425: Eliminates requirement that a driver ‘promptly’ notifies law enforcement of presence of gun in a car during traffic stops (goes to Senate). Sponsor: Rep. Scott Wiggam (R., Wooster). Vote: Passed on Thursday, 58-32. Northwest Ohio representatives: Ms. Hicks-Hudson, no; Mr. Sheehy, did not vote; Ms. Sobecki, did not vote; Mr. Merrin, yes.” [Toledo Blade, 6/14/20]

2017: Merrin Voted In Favor Of H.B. 233, Which Would Give “Those Who Legally Carry Concealed Handguns Into Gun-Free Zones The Option Of Voluntarily Leaving Before Criminal Charges Are Filed”

2017: Merrin Voted In Favor Of H.B. 233, Which Would Give “Those Who Legally Carry Concealed Handguns Into Gun-Free Zones The Option Of Voluntarily Leaving Before Criminal Charges Are Filed.” “H.B. 233: Gives those who legally carry concealed handguns into gun-free zones the option of voluntarily leaving before criminal charges are filed (goes to Senate). Sponsor: Rep. John Becker (R., Cincinnati). Vote: Passed on Thursday, 65-31. Northwest Ohio representatives: Ms. Fedor, no; Mr. Sheehy, no; Mr. Ashford, no; Mr. Merrin, yes.” [Toledo Blade, 7/9/17]

2016: Merrin Voted In Favor Of S.B. 199, Which Would Expand “Where Concealed Handguns Can Be Legally Carried”

2016: Merrin Voted In Favor Of S.B. 199, Which Would Expand “Where Concealed Handguns Can Be Legally Carried.” “S.B. 199: Expands where concealed handguns can be legally carried (returned to Senate) Sponsors: Sens. Joe Uecker (R., Loveland), Randy Gardner (R., Bowling Green) Vote: Passed 68-25 on Thursday. Northwest Ohio representatives: Ms. Fedor, yes; Mr. Sheehy, no; Mr. Ashford, did not vote; Mr. Merrin, yes.” [Toledo Blade, 12/11/16]

2019: Merrin Co-Sponsored H.B. 174, Which Aimed To Expand Ohio’s Concealed Carry Laws From Handguns To Rifles And Shotguns

2019: Merrin Co-Sponsored H.B. 174, Which Aimed To Expand Ohio’s Concealed Carry Laws From Handguns To Rifles And Shotguns. “A new proposal by Ohio House Republicans would permit law-abiding Ohioans age 21 and older to carry concealed firearms without a permit. [...] Currently Ohio’s concealed carry laws apply to only handguns. House Bill 174, reintroduced Wednesday, expands those provisions beyond to firearms such as rifles and shotguns. The bill also would end a requirement that people carrying concealed weapons notify police that they are armed if stopped by police officers. [...] State Rep. Derek Merrin (R., Monclova Township), a co-sponsor of the bill, downplayed concerns from law enforcement groups like the Fraternal Order of Police.” [Toledo Blade, [3/29/19](#)]

Regarding H.B. 174, Merrin Dismissed “Concerns From Law Enforcement Groups Like The Fraternal Order Of The Police, Claiming Their Leaders ‘Do Not Represent Their Membership Appropriately Or Accurately’”

Regarding H.B. 174, Merrin Dismissed “Concerns From Law Enforcement Groups Like The Fraternal Order Of The Police, Claiming Their Leaders ‘Do Not Represent Their Membership Appropriately Or Accurately.’” “State Rep. Derek Merrin (R., Monclova Township), a co-sponsor of the bill [H.B. 174], downplayed concerns from law enforcement groups like the Fraternal Order of Police. He added that many members of those groups are very conservative and pro-gun rights, and leaders at times ‘do not represent their membership appropriately or accurately.’” [Toledo Blade, [3/29/19](#)]

2019: Merrin Voted In Favor Of H.B. 228 To Override “Governor’s Veto Of Bill Shifting To Prosecution The Burden Of Proving Whether Shooter Acted In Self-Defense”

2019: Merrin Voted In Favor Of H.B. 228 To Override “Governor’s Veto Of Bill Shifting To Prosecution The Burden Of Proving Whether Shooter Acted In Self-Defense.” “H.B. 228: To override of governor’s veto of bill shifting to prosecution the burden of proving whether shooter acted in self-defense (went to Senate). Sponsors: Mr. Johnson, Ms. LaTourette. Vote: Override passed on Dec. 27, 67-22. Northwest Ohio representatives: Ms. Fedor, no; Mr. Sheehy, no; Mr. Ashford, did not vote; Mr. Merrin, yes.” [Toledo Blade, [1/6/19](#)]

H.B. 228 Included “A ‘Stand Your Ground’ Provision That Expands the Locations at Which a Person Has No Duty to Retreat Before Using Force”

H.B. 228 Included “A ‘Stand Your Ground’ Provision That Expands the Locations at Which a Person Has No Duty to Retreat Before Using Force.” “The bill removes restrictions in the areas of self-defense and carrying concealed weapons penalties. It seeks to increase protections for those who use a firearm in self-defense by (a) introducing a ‘Stand Your Ground’ provision that expands the locations at which a person has no duty to retreat before using force from just one’s residence and vehicle to any place a person is lawfully present, and (b) shifting the burden of disproving a self-defense assertion from the defense to the prosecution.” [American Civil Liberties Union of Ohio, H.B. 228, [Accessed 5/12/24](#)]

H.B. 228 Would Reduce “Penalties For Illegally Carrying A Concealed Firearm Or Improperly Handling Firearms In A Motor Vehicle”

H.B. 228 Would Reduce “Penalties For Illegally Carrying A Concealed Firearm Or Improperly Handling Firearms In A Motor Vehicle.” “The bill also modifies the Concealed Handgun Licensing Law by eliminating a licensee’s duty to keep the their hand in plain sight if impracticable, reducing the

penalties for illegally carrying a concealed firearm or improperly handling firearms in a motor vehicle, and eliminating the requirement of posting warning signs regarding the possession of weapons on specified premises.” [American Civil Liberties Union of Ohio, H.B. 228, [Accessed 5/12/24](#)]

The Buckeye Firearms Association Lauded The Ohio General Assembly’s “True Grit” In Overriding Gov. Kasich’s Veto Of H.B. 228

The Buckeye Firearms Association Lauded The Ohio General Assembly’s “True Grit” In Overriding Gov. Kasich’s Veto Of H.B. 228. “The recent battle over House Bill 228 proves that power and money don’t always win when it comes to Ohio law. But it also proves that the fight never ends when it comes to protecting Ohioans’ Constitutional rights. The Ohio General Assembly showed true grit in returning during Christmas break to override Gov. John Kasich’s veto, but it took removing ‘duty to retreat’ and other provisions to get it done.” [Buckeye Firearms, [1/3/19](#)]

2024: Merrin Claimed That “All Of The Mass Shootings Have Taken Place In Gun-Free Zones”

2024: Merrin Claimed That “All Of The Mass Shootings Have Taken Place In Gun-Free Zones.”

GUEST: [25:42] “What’s your stance on the gun issue? A lot of mass killings, what’s your take on that?”

MERRIN: “Back to the constitution, I believe that we have a right to bear arms. I think, a lot of the shootings, I think guns into law-abiding citizens’ hands makes us safer. The criminals already have the guns, they’re not giving them up. So, people that are trying to defend themselves and their homes, they have a right to legally bear arms.” GUEST: “What about defending innocent children that in school, we have a lot of mass killings in this country, I mean, people who were alive in January are dead now because of mass killings. It’s huge. So, I’d like to see something change, regardless of what the second amendment says. Because it just doesn’t make sense to continue as we are.” MERRIN: “Before I was born, my grandfather was murdered by a gun, by a maniac. My father grew up without a father the vast majority of my life, his life. I never had the opportunity to meet my grandfather. So, I certainly understand horrific crimes that have taken place. I would contend that mass shootings, I mean it’s just heartbreaking what has happened. I would contend that all of the mass shootings have all taken place in gun-free zones, where we say we’re banning guns. And that’s typically where these things happen. What we’re having a lot is mental health problems that aren’t being addressed. We have a lot of young men, I call them men but they’re 15, 16 years old, that have problems, they have criminal records as juveniles. And a lot of those records are actually hidden, we don’t even realize that they have records and if they’re actually allowed to get guns. We don’t address these issues. If you’re out here, you know, burning animals alive, violently breaking things and you’re 17 years old, I think we all need to know about that. And I don’t think when you’re a violent criminal person like that those people need to get guns. So we have problems in the background system, we have people that are obviously mentally unstable, that have records of being violent, getting ahold of guns, and a lot of those kids, men, should actually be in prison and they shouldn’t have a gun. So, We have to [...] My response to you is, my heart breaks for all the people that we’ve lost through senseless crimes, and we’ve gotta do a better way with our mental health system, our criminal justice system. We have laws in place trying to make sure violent criminals don’t get guns, and even the systems we have in Ohio a lot of times fail to catch it.” GUEST: “Do we need stronger background checks?” MERRIN: “Um, What’s happening is, a lot of the data people, you’re running people’s checks and it’s not catching them, and I believe a lot of juvenile, when I talk about these young men, a lot of that stuff is blocked from public records, and I don’t think it should be, not for violent crimes. You know, there’s a difference between a 12 year old and a 16 year old. I think there’s some balance there. But I think you guys all know what I’m talking about. We see we’ve got a lot of young men with issues.” [Bryan Meet & Greet, 25:42-29:32, 3/14/24] (AUDIO)

2020: Merrin Voted In Favor Of H.B. 425, Which Would Eliminate “Requirement That A Driver ‘Promptly’ Notifies Law Enforcement Of Presence Of Gun In A Car During Traffic Stops”

2020: Merrin Voted In Favor Of H.B. 425, Which Would Eliminate “Requirement That A Driver ‘Promptly’ Notifies Law Enforcement Of Presence Of Gun In A Car During Traffic Stops.” “House Bill 425: Eliminates requirement that a driver ‘promptly’ notifies law enforcement of presence of gun in a car during traffic stops (goes to Senate). Sponsor: Rep. Scott Wiggan (R., Wooster). Vote: Passed on Thursday, 58-32. Northwest Ohio representatives: Ms. Hicks-Hudson, no; Mr. Sheehy, did not vote; Ms. Sobecki, did not vote; Mr. Merrin, yes.” [Toledo Blade, 6/14/20]

2018: Merrin Voted In Favor Of H.B. 79, Which Would Allow “Tactical Medical Professionals With Permission To Carry Firearms By Their Law Enforcement Agencies To Carry Them In Their Personal Lives”

2018: Merrin Voted In Favor Of H.B. 79, Which Would Allow “Tactical Medical Professionals With Permission To Carry Firearms By Their Law Enforcement Agencies To Carry Them In Their Personal Lives.” “H.B. 79 : Concurrence vote on Senate changes to bill allowing tactical medical professionals with permission to carry firearms by their law enforcement agencies to carry them in their personal lives (goes to governor).Sponsors : Reps. Wes Retherford (R., Hamilton), Christina Hagan (R., Alliance).Vote : Passed on Wednesday, 92-2.Northwest Ohio representatives : Teresa Fedor (D., Toledo), yes; Mike Sheehy (D., Oregon), yes; Michael Ashford (D., Toledo), yes; Derek Merrin (R., Monclova Township), yes.” [Toledo Blade, 2/18/18]

2018: Merrin Voted In Favor Of S.B. 81, Which “Waives Concealed Carry License Fee For Active And Retired Military Personnel And Accepts Military Training As Proof Of Firearm Competency”

2018: Merrin Voted In Favor Of S.B. 81, Which “Waives Concealed Carry License Fee For Active And Retired Military Personnel And Accepts Military Training As Proof Of Firearm Competency.” “S.B. 81: Waives concealed carry license fee for active and retired military personnel and accepts military training as proof of firearm competency (goes to governor). Sponsors: Sen. Louis Terhar (R., Cincinnati). Vote: Passed on Wednesday, 84-7. Northwest Ohio representatives: Ms. Fedor, yes; Mr. Sheehy, yes; Mr. Ashford, yes; M. Merrin, yes.” [Toledo Blade, 7/1/18]

After Merrin Lost The House Speakership To Jason Stephens, Merrin’s Supporters Proposed “Different Rules That Would Reduce Some Of The Speaker’s Power,” Including “Allowing People To Carry Firearms On The House Floor”

After Merrin Lost The House Speakership To Jason Stephens, Merrin’s Supporters Proposed “Different Rules That Would Reduce Some Of The Speaker’s Power,” Including “Allowing People To Carry Firearms On The House Floor.” “Earlier Tuesday, a majority of the GOP members elected Rep. Derek Merrin, of Monclova, as the official leader of the House Republican Caucus and its campaign arm, which also puts him in control of its spending. Usually the majority caucus chair would be the same

person chosen to lead the 99-member House, but Rep. Jason Stephens, of Kitts Hill, previously beat Merrin in the race for the powerful role of speaker, winning the job with support from the 32 Democrats and a smaller segment of the Republicans. The division played out again Tuesday as Merrin's supporters clashed with Stephens in an unsuccessful effort to propose different rules that would reduce some of the speaker's power and make other changes, including allowing people to carry firearms on the House floor and only having Christian prayers to begin House sessions." [WFMJ, 1/25/23]

Merrin In 2020: "With What We've Seen With the Riots and a Breakdown of Protecting Private Property, This Isn't the Time to Be Waiving People's Constitutional [Gun] Rights"

Merrin In 2020: "With What We've Seen With the Riots and a Breakdown of Protecting Private Property, This Isn't the Time to Be Waiving People's Constitutional [Gun] Rights." "Regarding gun issues, Merrin does not support efforts to restrict people's access to the Second Amendment. 'With what we've seen with the riots and a breakdown of protecting private property, this isn't the time to be waiving people's constitutional rights,' he said." [Swanton Enterprise, 10/20/20]

2016: Merrin Was "Proud To Be Trusted To Protect Gun Rights & 2nd Amendment" By The NRA

2016: Merrin Was "Proud To Be Trusted To Protect Gun Rights & 2nd Amendment" By The NRA.








Derek Merrin 
@DerekMerrin

...


Proud to be trusted to protect Gun Rights & 2nd Amendment.

[@NRA](#) [@BuckeyeFirearms](#)



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NRA-PVF
POLITICAL VICTORY FUND



STATE HOUSE - DISTRICT 47

Vicki Donovan-Lyle

Candidate (R)

?

Kevin G. Haddad

Candidate (R)

D

Derek Merrin

Candidate (R)

AQ

STATE HOUSE - DISTRICT 49

Joyce Healy-Abrams

Candidate (D)




?

Thomas F. West



Candidate (R)

?

12:25 AM · Feb 28, 2016 from Wauseon, OH



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[Twitter, DerekMerrin, 2/28/16]

Merrin Was A Member Of The NRA

Merrin Was A Member Of The NRA. “Member, National Rifle Association (NRA), present.” [Vote Smart, Derek Merrin, Accessed 5/12/24]

2024: Merrin Said He Had An A Rating From The NRA And Buckeye Firearms

2024: Merrin Had An A Rating From The NRA And Buckeye Firearms. “Merrin passed a constitutional carry act, and has a A rating from the NRA and Buckeye Firearms.” [Sandusky Meet & Greet, **Please Reach Out To DCCC For Exact Transcription**, 3/11/24]

Ohio Gun Owners Promoted Merrin’s Campaign For Ohio HD-42

Ohio Gun Owners Promoted Merrin’s Campaign For Ohio HD-42.

The image shows a Facebook post from the "Ohio Gun Owners" group, dated November 4, 2022. The post features a campaign graphic for the Ohio House District 42 race between Derek Merrin (R) and Erika White (D). The graphic lists four positions: "SUPPORTS SECOND AMENDMENT PRESERVATION ACT", "OPPOSES RED FLAG GUN CONFISCATION", "OPPOSES BANS ON AR15'S", and "OPPOSES STATEWIDE GUN REGISTRATION". Merrin's side is marked with green checkmarks, while White's side is marked with red X's. The post text states that Merrin is the only candidate to survey 100% pro-gun and asks voters to vote PRO-GUN on November 8th. Comments from Lance Gallatin and Audie Goble encourage voting red.

Ohio Gun Owners
November 4, 2022

In the Ohio House District 42 race for State Representative, Derek Merrin is the only candidate to survey 100% pro-gun. 🇺🇸🔫🔫🔫

Vote PRO-GUN on November 8th! 🗳️

59 likes · 3 comments · 10 shares

Most relevant

Lance Gallatin
Vote red.
1y · Like · Reply

Audie Goble
Red
1y · Like · Reply

[Facebook, Derek Merrin, 11/4/22]

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Health Care, Mental Health, Drugs, and Addiction

Health Care, Mental Health, Drugs, and Addiction Highlights

2024: Merrin accepted the endorsement of House Speaker Mike Johnson, who advocated for slashing Medicare funding, the repeal of Obamacare, and voted against capping insulin costs.

2011: While Merrin was the Mayor Of Waterville, he personally led an effort to reduce “the number of paid sick days for village employees” from 18 to 10 days.

2011: While Merrin was the Mayor Of Waterville he “Proposed employees cover 30 percent of their health-care costs, up from the [then] Current 15 percent.”

2011: While Merrin Was The Mayor Of Waterville, He Personally Led An Effort To Reduce “The Number Of Paid Sick Days For Village Employees” From 18 To 10 Days

2011: While Merrin Was The Mayor Of Waterville, He Personally Led An Effort To Reduce “The Number Of Paid Sick Days For Village Employees” From 18 To 10 Days. “During a meeting in which three council members were absent, Mayor Derek Merrin squeezed out support for his proposal to reduce the number of paid sick days for village employees, a vote critical to his ongoing efforts to trim Waterville’s operating expenses. [...] Effective 30 days from last week’s session, village workers will be allowed up to 10 days of paid sick time annually, down from the current 18.” [Toledo Blade, [3/10/11](#)]

2011: While Merrin Was The Mayor Of Waterville He “Proposed Employees Cover 30 Percent Of Their Health-Care Costs, Up From The [Then] Current 15 Percent”

2011: While Merrin Was The Mayor Of Waterville He “Proposed Employees Cover 30 Percent Of Their Health-Care Costs, Up From The [Then] Current 15 Percent.” “Mayor Merrin said he did not know why health-care prices were the highest in the region, but added that Waterville’s relatively small size—a population of 5,523 in 2010 – factored into health insurance rates and predisposed the city to higher costs in the wake of any individual needs. [...] The mayor said there were no planned policy changes as a result of the survey. He added that he proposed employees cover 30 percent of their health-care costs, up from the current 15 percent, by boosting their share by 3 percent a year over a five-year period. Municipal Administrator Jim Bagdonas said the proposal was tabled six months ago.” [Toledo Blade, [7/12/11](#)]

2024: Merrin Accepted The Endorsement Of House Speaker Mike Johnson Who Advocated For Slashing Medicare Funding, The Repeal Of Obamacare, And Voted Against Capping Insulin Costs

January 2024: Merrin Accepted The Endorsement Of U.S. House Speaker Mike Johnson. “I’m honored to have the support of Speaker @MikeJohnson. We will expand the Republican majority with NW Ohio delivering a mandate to uphold the Constitution, Balance the Budget, Secure our Border, Protect the US Dollar from further devaluation & enact congressional term-limits. Let’s take back America us us us”

← Post



Derek Merrin ✓

@DerekMerrin

...

I'm honored to have the support of Speaker [@MikeJohnson](#). We will expand the Republican majority with NW Ohio delivering a mandate to uphold the Constitution, Balance the Budget, Secure our Border, Protect the US Dollar from further devaluation & enact congressional term-limits. Let's take back America 🇺🇸 🇺🇸 🇺🇸

**SPEAKER MIKE JOHNSON
ENDORSES DEREK MERRIN
FOR CONGRESS**

“Derek is a proven conservative and demonstrated leader with a backbone who will prioritize economic growth, safer communities, and America First policies. He has what it takes to turn OH-09 red and grow our Republican majority in Congress.”

- Speaker Mike Johnson

Derek MERRIN
FOR CONGRESS
ROCK SOLID CONSERVATIVE

The graphic features a portrait of Speaker Mike Johnson on the right, wearing a dark suit and a red striped tie, standing in front of an American flag. On the left, a dark blue box contains a quote from him endorsing Derek Merrin. The background of the entire graphic is a stylized American flag.

8:14 AM · Jan 25, 2024 · 10.2K Views

[Twitter, @DerekMerrin, [1/25/24](#)]

Merrin Refused To Say Whether He Would Repeal Obamacare Or Not But Mentioned That It “Has Not Lived Up To Its Promises”

Merrin Refused To Say Whether He Would Repeal Obamacare Or Not But Mentioned That It “Has Not Lived Up To Its Promises.” HOST: [46:13] “If you are elected, and there is a Congressional vote to repeal Obamacare, how would you vote?” [...] Merrin: “I really appreciate that question. Obamacare has not lived up to its promises. I would ask those that are watching: as Obamacare lowered price of healthcare in the United States? No. Have prescriptions gotten cheaper? No, Do we have more providers, doctors, physicians delivering services because of Obamacare? No. Has the waiting lines at the emergency room and at the physician's office gotten shorter? No. The government isn't good at managing anything, let alone the healthcare system. When I was a child my dad was diagnosed with leukemia, and I watched my parents shell out tens of thousands of dollars every year in prescription drug costs, trying to pay for his treatment. And it really hurt our family financially. I know the pain and frustration so many people have experienced and the devastation it's caused to so many people's pocketbooks. We have to lower cost of healthcare. This should be bipartisan issue. We need more providers in health care, we need to expand the medical schools, we need price transparency so when you walk into a physicians' office or hospital, you need to be able to tell what the costs are so you can shop around and make informed choices. We got to hold the drug industry accountable for all these prescription drugs. They're paying a lot less in other countries. We can do better in our healthcare system here in America. The policies in DC are not going to solve the problem. They're in large part a big part of the problem.” [OH-9 Candidate Forum, (46:13 - 50:10), 1/24/24] (VIDEO)

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Housing and Homelessness

Housing and Homelessness Highlights

2018: After “Conversations [...] With local developers,” Merrin introduced H.B. 371, “A bill preventing the taxable value of land from increasing simply because it has been subdivided for future residential development.”

2021: Merrin supported H.B. 126, which “Would make it harder for school districts to argue before county boards of revision over property values.”

April 2017: Merrin proposed legislation that would void local laws governing lead abatement in Ohio, which faced opposition from local elected officials, the Akron children’s hospital lead exposure and detoxification clinic, and nonprofits that dealt with lead poisoning.

2020: Merrin voted against H.B. 199, which would “Require commercial roofing contractors to have a license.”

2018: After “Conversations [...] With Local Developers,” Merrin Introduced H.B. 371, “A Bill Preventing The Taxable Value Of Land From Increasing Simply Because It Has Been Subdivided For Future Residential Development”

2018: After “Conversations [...] With Local Developers,” Merrin Introduced H.B. 371, “A Bill Preventing The Taxable Value Of Land From Increasing Simply Because It Has Been Subdivided For Future Residential Development.” “The Ohio House could vote soon on a bill preventing the taxable value of land from increasing simply because it has been subdivided for future residential development. The property tax restriction would remain in place until construction begins, a parcel is sold, or eight years have passed. House Bill 371, which faces opposition from local governments and school districts, cleared the House Ways and Means Committee Tuesday with bipartisan support. ‘The idea resulted from conversations I had with local developers in northwest Ohio ... who believed that this bill would spur residential development and activity,’ said the bill’s sponsor, Rep. Derek Merrin (R., Monclova Township). If a residential developer wins local zoning approval to subdivide an existing vacant parcel into multiple lots, that in itself would not trigger an increase in the overall parcels’ taxable value. The new parcels could have differing assessments, but their total could not exceed that of the original parcel.” [Toledo Blade, [1/16/18](#)]

Merrin’s Bill “Could Cost School Districts And Other Local Governments Levying Property Taxes In The ‘Low Millions Of Dollars.’” “The Ohio Legislative Service Commission estimates that the bill could cost school districts and other local governments levying property taxes in the ‘low millions of dollars.’ ‘The reason we strongly oppose this bill is we see it as yet another way the state continues to take away our ability to fund our schools,’ Jeff Dornbusch, Port Clinton school district treasurer, said in testimony submitted recently to the committee. ‘While the intent to possibly spur economic activity is understood, we believe there are other tools available at the local level that could provide incentives that can be judged on their individual merits by the local officials,’ he said.” [Toledo Blade, [1/16/18](#)]

As A Realtor, Merrin Had “Been Involved In Flipping Existing Homes, But He Said He Hasn’t Done So For About Two Years”

As A Realtor, Merrin Had “Been Involved In Flipping Existing Homes, But He Said He Hasn’t Done So For About Two Years.” “Mr. Merrin doesn’t accept the argument from local governments that the bill could reduce their tax revenue. ‘It’s important to understand that we are talking about vacant land,’ he said. ‘Vacant land does not send anyone to school. Vacant land does not need police and fire protection. What we’re trying to do is ultimately increase the value of that property, which will increase tax revenue. ‘Rather than taxing a \$40,000 lot, we’d rather be able to tax a \$300,000 property,’ Mr. Merrin said. ‘That’s better for everyone.’ Mr. Merrin, a licensed Realtor, has been involved in flipping existing homes, but he said he hasn’t done so for about two years.” [Toledo Blade, [1/16/18](#)]

2021: Merrin Supported H.B. 126, Which “Would Make It Harder For School Districts To Argue Before County Boards Of Revision Over Property Values”

2021: Merrin Supported H.B. 126, Which “Would Make It Harder For School Districts To Argue Before County Boards Of Revision Over Property Values.” “The primary source of money for many local school districts is property taxes. Since the 1970s, districts have filed complaints when the owner of a plant, shopping mall or other property asks the county board of revision to reduce its value, which lowers its yearly property taxes. School districts also argue before the boards when they believe a property is under-valued. [...] HB 126 in its original form is sponsored by Republican Rep. Derek Merrin, a Toledo-area real estate investor. [...] In previous testimony, Merrin said that many attorneys who represent school districts in tax cases bill by the hour and have a financial incentive to file as many complaints as they can. He feels attorney fees are a waste of taxpayer money, and they force homeowners to decide whether to hire their own attorneys or represent themselves. Many homeowners feel pressured to settle, he said. [...] The school districts that testified Tuesday said that whether to argue a case at the board of revisions is made among district officials and not by the school board. Some districts have policies for when to get involved in a property tax case.” [Cleveland.com, [11/10/21](#)]

Merrin’s H.B. 126 “Would Have Required Local Boards Of Education To give Approval For Each Property Value Change That Involves An Attorney For Their District”

Merrin’s H.B. 126 “Would Have Required Local Boards Of Education To give Approval For Each Property Value Change That Involves An Attorney For Their District.” “It’s not often you get unanimous agreement from all of the members of the Ohio House. But that’s exactly what happened Wednesday when the House unanimously rejected changes the Senate made to a bill that reforms the process for challenging property tax values. Rep. Derek Merrin (R-Monclova Township), the sponsor of the bill, said he had worked on it for years, trying hard to address problems with the current process for disputing property tax valuation. [...] Originally, the [sic] House-passed version of [H.B. 126] would have required local boards of education to give approval for each property value challenge that involves an attorney for their district.” [Statehouse News Bureau, [3/3/22](#)]

Senate Changes To H.B.. 126 “Would Have Made It Harder For School Districts To Participate In Challenges Or Get Private Settlements From Property Owners”

Senate Changes To H.B.. 126 “Would Have Made It Harder For School Districts To Participate In Challenges Or Get Private Settlements From Property Owners.” “But the Senate’s changes [to H.B.

126] went beyond that and [sic] would have made it harder for school districts to participate in challenges or get private settlements from property owners.” [Statehouse News Bureau, [3/3/22](#)]

Previously, State Law “Allowed School Districts To Initiate Property Value Challenges,” Which Could Keep Tax Revenues Higher

Previously, State Law “Allowed School Districts To Initiate Property Value Challenges,” Which Could Keep Tax Revenues Higher. “Since 1976, state law has allowed school districts to initiate property value challenges with their local board of revision when they think the value of a property is higher than the amount that has been assessed. So when owners of commercial properties challenge the assessed value of their properties, school districts can, and often do, get involved in the dispute to try to keep their tax revenues higher.” [Statehouse News Bureau, [3/3/22](#)]

[April 2017: Merrin Proposed Legislation That Would Void Local Laws Governing Lead Abatement In Ohio, Which Faced Opposition From Local Elected Officials, The Akron Children’s Hospital Lead Exposure And Detoxification Clinic, And Nonprofits That Dealt With Lead Poisoning](#)

2017: Merrin Proposed Legislation That Would Void Local Laws Government Lead Abatement In Ohio

Merrin Proposed An Amendment To The State Budget That Would Strip Municipalities Of Authority To Create Local Efforts Addressing Childhood Lead Poisoning. “Doctors, parents, city leaders and healthy home advocates took turns Wednesday telling the Ohio Senate Finance subcommittee on Health and Medicaid why they oppose an amendment to the state budget that would strip municipalities of authority to create local efforts to address childhood lead poisoning. [...] Rep. Derek Merrin, a Republican who represents parts of Lucas and Fulton counties, proposed the amendment last month and has argued that a fractured system of rules that change from city-to-city is not only unfair to landlords but doesn’t give all children in Ohio equal protection from lead exposure. Merrin, in an editorial post on his web site and in print in the Toledo Blade, said the state’s approach needs to be more proactive. It currently only outlines a response for after a child is poisoned. Merrin also said more money needs to be spent to address the problem.” [Cleveland.com, [5/25/17](#)]

Merrin’s Legislation Would Void Laws Governing Lead Abatement. “Although Toledo’s law does not require abatement - but rather mandates that affected properties undergo lead-safe inspections, cleaning, and repairs - Mr. Merrin’s addition is seen as a possible attempt to usurp or weaken the city’s law, as it voids ‘any law or rule governing the abatement of lead, lead-based paint, or the employment or licensing of lead abatement professionals.’” [Toledo Blade, [4/29/17](#)]

Merrin’s Legislation Would Remove Mandatory Lead Pipe Testing For Rental Properties. “The National Republican Congressional Committee has turned to Derek Merrin, a state representative and real estate investor who once proposed legislation to remove mandatory lead pipe testing for rental properties in Ohio cities, in the state’s Ninth Congressional District race.” [Heartland Signal, [1/11/24](#)]

Merrin Called A Local Ordinance Requiring Lead Pipe Testing “Unconstitutional” And “Targeted Discrimination” Against Property Owners

When Discussing His Amendment, Merrin Pointed To Toledo's Lead Ordinance, Which He Called "Unconstitutional" And "Targeted Discrimination Against A Small Minority Of Property Owners."

"The City of Toledo's unconstitutional lead ordinance is targeted discrimination against a small minority of property owners. The City plans to generate millions of dollars in revenue from fines on property owners who are unable to comply. 'Toledo's discriminatory law will decrease affordable housing options, increase tenants' rental rates, depress property values, and illegally undermines state efforts to protect children from lead poisoning. Toledo's law is unenforceable and so poorly written that it will hurt the people they are trying to protect, especially minorities. My budget amendment ensures that lead issues will be subject to sensible, enforceable and uniform oversight at the state level.'" [Ohio House of Representatives, Derek Merrin News, [4/28/17](#)]

Toledo's Ordinance Called For Rental Properties Built Before 1978 To Be Inspected For Lead Paint Before Leasing To Tenants.

"Toledo City Council today approved a controversial 'lead safe' ordinance that calls for some rental properties built before 1978 to be inspected and deemed safe before leasing to tenants. Council voted 10-0 to approve the law that won't take effect for one year." [Toledo Blade, [8/16/16](#)]

Landlords Opposed Toledo's Lead Ordinance. *"Councilman Yvonne Harper called out landlords who opposed the lead ordinance during a recent public hearing. 'Shame on you,' Ms. Harper said after the 10-0 vote."* [Toledo Blade, [8/16/16](#)]

Local Elected Officials Opposed Merrin's Amendment

In Response To Merrin's Amendment, The Toledo Mayor Pointed Out He Was A Landlord And "Accused Mr. Merrin Of Catering To The Interests Of Landlords."

"Toledo Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson pointed out Mr. Merrin is a landlord and claimed he 'profoundly misunderstands' the problem, the inadequacy of existing state law, and what Toledo's law actually says. 'Toledo would fully support a proactive state-law approach to prevent lead poisoning in children,' she said. 'Unfortunately, Representative Merrin's amendment does nothing to prevent lead poisoning or address worsening health threats. In fact, the amendment guarantees that thousands of Toledo's children will become lead-poisoned in the future.' The mayor also accused Mr. Merrin of catering to the interests of landlords." [Toledo Blade, [4/29/17](#)]

Toledo Mayor: "Representative Merrin Is Trying To Give Himself, And Other Landlords, Safe Harbor To Keep Unsafe And Unregulated Rental Properties In The Market. [... His] Attempt To Put Profits Ahead Of The Health Of Children Is Shameful." "Representative Merrin is trying to give himself, and other landlords, safe harbor to keep unsafe and unregulated rental properties in the market," she said. 'Representative Merrin's attempt to put profits ahead of the health of children is shameful.'" [Toledo Blade, [4/29/17](#)]

A Bipartisan Coalition Of Ohio Mayors Opposed Merrin's Amendment Because It "Would Prevent Local Efforts To Thoughtfully And Constructively Protect Against Lead Exposure."

"Keary McCarthy, the Ohio Mayor's Alliance McCarthy said the bi-partisan coalition he represented opposes the amendment because it would prevent local efforts to thoughtfully and constructively protect against lead exposure. The alliance also cited concerns that the Ohio Department of Health was not consulted about the changes and could not explain the implications." [Cleveland.com, [5/25/17](#)]

The City Of Toledo Opposed Merrin's Amendment After Broad Support Of Their Local Lead Ordinance.

"Peter Ujvagi, Toledo City Council Ujvagi said the city opposes the amendment. The City of Toledo did not take the passage and implementation of our lead ordinance lightly. A great deal of

community dialogue, research, evaluation of lead ordinances in other cities, health statistics in Toledo and similar communities, and the involvement of the medical community in Toledo along with the Toledo Lead Safe Coalition went into the development of the ordinance. He said ProMedica Health Partners and Mercy Health Partners, the two premier health systems in Northwest Ohio, along with the University of Toledo Medical Center strongly supported the legislation. The lead ordinance as it is written today has responded to the concerns of investment property owners. Investment owners will be able to easily identify which priority area their property is located. Compliance time has been extended to June 2018, 2019, and 2020 for the properties. A hardship program for those property owners who may have financial difficulties is being set up. Health Department Certification fee for the first two thousand inspections are being waived to encourage compliance.” [Cleveland.com, [5/25/17](#)]

The Medical Director Of The Lead Exposure And Detoxification Clinic At Akron’s Children’s Hospital Opposed Merrin’s Amendment

The Medical Director Of The Lead Exposure And Detoxification Clinic At Akron’s Children’s Hospital Provided Testimony In Opposition To Merrin’s Amendment. “Dr. Joel Davidson, medical director Lead Exposure and Detoxification Clinic, Akron Children’s Hospital Davidson said for every dollar spent preventing lead poisoning, between \$17 and \$221 is returned. In some Summit County communities the hospital serves, more than 14 percent of children have lead levels in their blood over the established threshold. Akron Children’s opposes the amendment. He said public policy can work to reduce lead exposure. It worked by reducing lead in paint, gasoline and consumer products. State level solutions are important to address lead toxicity. Local communities, local governments, local health departments and housing authorities can also be a great resource and can collaborate with the Ohio Health Department to address the problem.” [Cleveland.com, [5/25/17](#)]

Nonprofits That Dealt With Lead Poisoning Opposed Merrin’s Amendment

The Executive Director Of The Ohio Health Homes Network Said Merrin’s Amendment Would Invalidate An Ordinance Calling For More Than 50,000 Toledo Rental Units To Be Lead Safe, Strike Down Laws On Lead Paint Disclosure In Real Estate Transactions, And Impact Lead Abatement In Drinking Water Service Lines. “Particia Barnes, executive director of the Ohio Health Homes Network Barnes said the amendment was designed to invalidate a Toledo [sic] ordinance that called for more than 50,000 rental units to be lead safe. But the amendment would also preempt codes declaring lead-based paint to be a ‘public health nuisance.’ It would strike down laws on lead paint disclosure in real estate transactions and impact lead abatement of lead in drinking water service lines, currently regulated by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency.” [Cleveland.com, [5/25/17](#)]

A Non-Profit Law Firm That Represents Children With Lead Poisoning Opposed Merrin’s Amendment, Saying It Would Take Away Local Control For Addressing Lead Poisoning. “Danielle Godomski Littleton, attorney, The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland Littleton said the non-profit law firm often represents children who were poisoned by lead. [...] Even with that action pending, Legal Aid believes it can work with Cleveland to improve how lead poisoning is addressed. The firm opposes the amendment that would take away local control that would allow cities like Cleveland Toledo to be innovative with solutions.” [Cleveland.com, [5/25/17](#)]

Children Defense Fund Of Ohio Policy Director: Merrin’s Amendment “Would Undermine Efforts To Be Proactive In Preventing Lead Poisoning Through Local Ordinances.” “Ashon McKenzie, policy director, Children Defense Fund (Ohio) McKenzie said the group opposes the amendment because

it would undermine efforts to be proactive in preventing lead poisoning through local ordinances, such as the one passed in Toledo last year.” [Cleveland.com, [5/25/17](#)]

The Ohio Department Of Health Was Not Consulted About Merrin’s Amendment

The Ohio Department Of Health Was Not Consulted About The Changes To Addressing Lead Poisoning In Merrin’s Amendment. “Keary McCarthy, the Ohio Mayor’s Alliance McCarthy said the bi-partisan coalition he represented opposes the amendment because it would prevent local efforts to thoughtfully and constructively protect against lead exposure. The alliance also cited concerns that the Ohio Department of Health was not consulted about the changes and could not explain the implications.” [Cleveland.com, [5/25/17](#)]

Cleveland.com Editorial Board: Merrin’s Amendment Was “A Shameful, Self-Serving Effort To Keep Children In Unsafe Housing Just To Save Landlords A Little Money”

Cleveland.com Editorial Board: Merrin’s Amendment Was “A Shameful, Self-Serving Effort To Keep Children In Unsafe Housing Just To Save Landlords A Little Money.” “The Ohio House’s bid to make it easier for landlords to rent tainted properties takes direct aim at a recent Toledo law that requires that small rental properties – up to four-units – built before 1978 must be lead-safe, based on some simple tests, before they can be rented. State Rep. Derek Merrin, a Toledo-area lawmaker who has rental properties himself, according to The Toledo Blade, got the Ohio House to go along with his proposal to give the overwhelmed (and underfunded) state Department of Health sole control over lead control. But the state already relies on localities to enforce lead-poisoning laws. The amendment is a shameful, self-serving effort to keep children in unsafe housing just to save landlords a little money.” [Cleveland.com, [5/6/17](#)]

The Ohio Association Of Real Estate Investors Supported Merrin’s Amendment

The Ohio Association Of Real Estate Investors Supported Merrin’s Amendment. “Dan Acton, Ohio Association of Real Estate Investors Acton said the association supports giving Ohio Department of Health exclusive jurisdiction over lead-based paint regulation and for the state to create a registry of lead safe homes.” [Cleveland.com, [5/25/17](#)]

2024: Merrin Stood By His Proposed Amendment, Calling It “The Only Legislative Solution” To Address The Lead Paint Problem

(VIDEO) 2024: Merrin Defended His Amendment, Calling It “The Only Legislative Solution” To Address The Lead Paint Problem. REPORTERS: “Remember when you tried to poison children with your landlord buddies and the lead paint?” MERRIN: “Oh, stop, stop.” REPORTER: “You didn’t fight against lead paint regulations?” MERRIN: “Oh no, I actually put the Ohio Department of Health in charge of it. They would, they would be better equipped to take care of it than all the different counties would, yeah, yeah, because they haven’t solved the problem. That’s why I tried to actually have a solution for it. Mine was actually the only legislative solution to do it.” [The Rooster, Twitter, [1/12/24](#)]



The Rooster ✓

@rooster_ohio

...

Actually asked Merrin about this on Wednesday. Majewski is winning the primary, but the one upshot to Merrin somehow winning would be seeing him in a competitive General Election for the first time in his career.



Heartland Signal @HeartlandSignal · Jan 12

Derek Merrin, an establishment-backed GOP candidate vying to unseat Rep. Marcy Kaptur in Ohio's Ninth District, attempted to ban efforts to remove lead pipes. He called the effort "discriminatory" against landlords.

heartlandsignal.com/2024/01/11/in-...

7:27 PM · Jan 12, 2024 · **13.1K** Views

[The Rooster, Twitter, [1/12/24](#)]

2020: Merrin Voted Against H.B. 199, Which Would "Require Commercial Roofing Contractors To Have A License"

2020: Merrin Voted Against H.B. 199, Which Would "Require Commercial Roofing Contractors To Have A License." "To amend sections 715.27, 3781.102, 4740.01, 4740.02, 4740.04, 4740.12, and 4764.03 of the Revised Code to require commercial roofing contractors to have a license." Merrin voted against the bill. [The Ohio Legislature, H.B. 199, introduced [4/16/19](#); [11/18/20](#)]

Human and Civil Rights

Human and Civil Rights Highlights

2020: Merrin voted against H.B. 136, which would “Prohibit imposing the death penalty for aggravated murder when the offender had a serious mental illness at the time of the offense.”

2018: Merrin voted against H.B. 411, a “Bipartisan bill aimed at making sure that those wrongfully imprisoned are justly compensated.”

- *Merrin opposed reproductive freedoms under the guise of concern for human rights. Merrin voted for Ohio’s heartbeat bill, which was renamed as the “Human Rights Protection Act.”*

2019: A legislative aide claimed Merrin said “Mexicans are dangerous people,” which Merrin denied.

2020: Merrin shared a story announcing that an order closing in-person education had been overturned, which he described as “a big win for religious freedom.”

2017: Merrin proposed legislation that would void local laws governing lead abatement, which he argued were “Discriminatory” and harmful to “Minorities.”

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2020: Merrin Voted Against H.B. 136, Which Would “Prohibit Imposing The Death Penalty For Aggravated Murder When The Offender Had A Serious Mental Illness At The Time Of The Offense.” “To amend sections 2929.02, 2929.022, 2929.024, 2929.03, 2929.04, 2929.06, 2929.14, 2941.148, 2953.21, 2953.23, 2971.03, 2971.07, and 5120.61 and to enact section 2929.025 of the Revised Code to prohibit imposing the death penalty for aggravated murder when the offender had a serious mental illness at the time of the offense.” Merrin voted against the bill on December 17, 2020. [The Ohio Legislature, H.B. 136, introduced [3/19/19](#); [12/17/20](#)]

2018: Merrin Voted Against H.B. 411, A “Bipartisan Bill Aimed At Making Sure That Those Wrongfully Imprisoned Are Justly Compensated”

2018: Merrin Voted Against H.B. 411. “To amend sections 2305.02, 2743.48, 2929.01, 2967.141, and 2969.21 of the Revised Code to modify the state’s wrongful imprisonment law and to modify the purpose of violation sanction centers.” Merrin voted against the bill on December 13, 2018. [The Ohio Legislature, H.B. 411, introduced [11/7/17](#); [12/13/18](#)]

H.B. 411 Was A “Bipartisan Bill Aimed At Making Sure That Those Wrongfully Imprisoned Are Justly Compensated.” “Compensating the wrongfully imprisoned isn’t a novelty in Ohio. Ohio’s spending on such settlements has averaged about \$2.73 million a year over the last eight years, according to

Legislative Service Commission data. It's an important corrective to prosecutorial misconduct, forensic errors or simple human mistakes that can land the wrong person in prison – sometimes for years. But Ohio's current system has sprung loopholes. That's why the Ohio House should pass a bipartisan bill aimed at making sure that those wrongfully imprisoned are justly compensated. Last month, a House committee voted 10-1 to approve House Bill 411, co-sponsored by state Reps. Bill Seitz, a conservative Republican from suburban Cincinnati, and Emilia Sykes, an Akron Democrat. That sets up a possible floor vote." [Cleveland.com, [4/11/18](#)]

Merrin Supported Abortion Bans In The Guise Of Human Rights Legislation

2019: An Ohio Statehouse Staffer Alleged That Merrin Told Her “Mexicans Are Dangerous People.” “Marissa Reyes posted a letter Sunday on Twitter that she wrote Rep. Kristin Boggs, D-Columbus, about how she ‘had to endure months of unacceptable treatment and was forced to listen to the representatives’ opinions that painted myself, my family and other Hispanics in a demeaning light.’ [...] She also accused Rep. Derek Merrin, R-Monclova, of telling her that Mexicans are dangerous people. She said another legislative staffer would ‘yell stereotypical Spanish words, such as ‘Taco! Nacho! Burrito!’ when he overheard me speaking in Spanish, and (he) changed my name to Maria ‘because that sounds more Mexican.’[...] ‘It’s false. It’s pure slander,’ Merrin said of his alleged statement, adding that Sunday was the first he’d heard of the complaint. ‘It probably was coordinated with the Smith camp, designed to try to get a few extra votes in the speaker’s race.’” [The Columbus Dispatch, [1/7/19](#)]

2017: Merrin Opposed Reproductive Freedoms Under The Guise Of Concern For Human Right

Merrin Passed The Ohio Heartbeat Bill As The Chair Of The Committee That Passed The Bill To The Full House

Merrin Passed The Ohio Heartbeat Bill As The Chair Of The Committee That Passed The Bill To The Full House. “‘It would be hard for any one of us to justify supporting the person who passed the heartbeat bill here in the state of Ohio,’ she said of Merrin, then-chair of the committee that passed it to the full House.” [Talking Points Memo, [1/23/23](#)]

News 5 Cleveland: “Merrin Shepherded The Six-Week Abortion Ban Through The House” And Insisted He And Other Republican Legislators Were “Not Injecting Our Personal Faith Into This Bill.” “In 2019, as chair of the House Health committee, Merrin shepherded the six-week abortion ban through the House. On the floor, Merrin insisted he and other lawmakers were not ‘injecting our personal faith into this bill.’ This despite challenging a reverend in committee about a verse from Jeremiah, and then recounting testimony on the floor from two women who turned to their Christian faith after regretting their abortions. Instead, Merrin argued, it was the bill’s opponents who were injecting ‘secular humanism’ into public debate. Merrin went a step further, too, accusing opponents of arguing more abortion restrictions would lead to higher Medicaid costs. ‘What they’re saying is we need to have abortion so we can weed out the babies that are weak,’ Merrin argued on the House floor, calling the arguments ‘despicable’ and ‘beyond utterly offensive.’ How Merrin arrived at that interpretation is unclear. In committee and on the floor Rep. Beth Liston, D-Dublin, pointed out that Medicaid pays for about half of pregnancies in the state. If more pregnancies are carried to term, she reasoned, more money will be needed. On the floor, she offered an amendment expanding Medicaid coverage to all children and all mothers for five years postpartum. That amendment failed.” [News 5 Cleveland, [1/3/23](#)]

NPR In April 2019: S.B. 23, Ohio’s “Heartbeat Bill,” Was “Now Known As The ‘Human Rights Protection Act’”

NPR In April 2019: S.B. 23, Ohio’s “Heartbeat Bill,” Was “Now Known As The ‘Human Rights Protection Act.’” “The six-week abortion ban known as the ‘heartbeat bill’ is now law in Ohio. That makes Ohio the sixth state in the nation to attempt to outlaw abortions at the point heartbeat activity can be detected. [...] Now known as the ‘Human Rights Protection Act,’ SB 23 outlaws abortions as early as five or six weeks into a pregnancy, before many women know they’re pregnant. It is one of the most restrictive abortion laws in the country.” [NPR, [4/11/19](#)]

2019: A Legislative Aide Claimed Merrin Said “Mexicans Are Dangerous People”

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A House Republican Staffer Accused Householder Supporters, Including Merrin, Of Subjecting Her To “Racist And Sexist Behavior.” “A last-minute complication came in the form of a letter Sunday to state Rep. Kristin Boggs (D., Columbus) from a House Republican staffer. Marissa Reyes accused supporters of Mr. Householder of subjecting her to ‘racist and sexist behavior,’ in part because she is Hispanic. Among several current and former House members and staff members specifically mentioned — and the only one from northwest Ohio — was Rep. Derek Merrin (R., Monclova Township), a Householder ally, about his alleged comment during a conversation at a legislative fund-raiser that ‘Mexicans are dangerous people.’” [Toledo Blade, [1/7/19](#)]

Merrin Allegedly Said “Mexicans Are Dangerous People” And He Was “Nearly Killed” By “Mexican Thugs While Visiting Mexico.” “Among several current and former House members and staff members specifically mentioned — and the only one from northwest Ohio — was Rep. Derek Merrin (R., Monclova Township), a Householder ally, about his alleged comment during a conversation at a legislative fund-raiser that ‘Mexicans are dangerous people.’ ‘He went on to tell a story of how he was ‘nearly killed’ by a group of Mexican thugs while visiting Mexico,’ Ms. Reyes wrote.” [Toledo Blade, [1/7/19](#)]

Merrin Denied That He Made These Comments. “Mr. Merrin said after session that it wasn’t true. ‘It’s ludicrous, and it’s pure slander,’ he said. ‘Politically motivated. Everybody knows that. They were trying to steal a few votes at the very end. They were trying to slander me and some of the other Householder people. I strongly believe that it was initiated and drafted by the Smith camp.’” [Toledo Blade, [1/7/19](#)]

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Derek Merrin ✓
@DerekMerrin

...

A big win for religious freedom & for students to receive an education!
Every student in Lucas Co should have the opportunity to attend school in-person.

Lucas Co public schools should stand-up for students like the private schools have done.

ccv.org/2020/12/31/bre...

5:36 PM · Dec 31, 2020



[Twitter, DerekMerrin, [12/31/20](#); Citizens for Community Values, [Archived 1/1/21](#)]

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Merrin: Current Lead Abatement Laws “Will Hurt The People They Are Trying To Protect, Especially Minorities”

Merrin: Current Lead Abatement Laws “Will Hurt The People They Are Trying To Protect, Especially Minorities.” “Regarding an amendment he submitted to Substitute House Bill 49, the state operating budget, State Representative Derek Merrin (R-Monclova Township) released the following statement: ‘Last week, I offered an amendment to the state budget that will strengthen state government’s oversight of lead exposure. I was proud and enthusiastic to sponsor it. [...] Toledo’s discriminatory law will decrease affordable housing options, increase tenants’ rental rates, depress property values, and illegally undermine state efforts to protect children from lead poisoning. Toledo’s law is unenforceable and so poorly written that it will hurt the people they are trying to protect, especially minorities. My budget amendment ensures that lead issues will be subject to sensible, enforceable and uniform oversight at the state level.’” [The Ohio House of Representatives, [4/28/17](#)]

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Immigration

Immigration Highlights

Merrin defended the 2019 government shutdown, citing his support for Trump's wall.

Merrin co-sponsored legislation that expressed that Ohio "stood with" Texas and denounced the supposed "Open-border policy."

2024: Merrin said that he supported "Sending our military down there immediately to stop illegal immigration."

2024: Merrin said that the U.S. Needed to "Stop the invasion at the Southern border."

Merrin said Laken Riley's murder was "A direct result of President Biden's and Democrats' inability to deal with unauthorized immigrants."

2024: Merrin accepted the endorsement of notorious xenophobe and former president, Donald Trump.

2024: Merrin accepted the endorsement of House Speaker Mike Johnson, who eschewed bipartisan border security legislation.

2017: Merrin voted for H.B. 380, a bill to "Prohibit unauthorized aliens from receiving workers' compensation."

Merrin Defended The 2019 Government Shutdown, Citing His Support For Trump's Wall

Merrin Defended The 2019 Government Shutdown, Citing His Support For Trump's Wall And Back-Pay For Government Workers. "Derek Merrin (R., Monclova Township) said the shutdown is a federal issue and he supports the President and his desire to build a wall at the southern border of the United States. 'Most of the federal workers will receive back pay,' he said. 'Most of the federal workers are likely going to get a very good deal out of this. Typically when these things happen, the government workers get back pay when they didn't work to begin with.'" [Toledo Blade, [1/24/19](#)]

Merrin Co-Sponsored Legislation That Expressed That Ohio "Stood With" Texas And Denounced The Supposed "Open-Border Policy"

Merrin Co-Sponsored Legislation That Expressed That Ohio "Stood With" Texas And Denounced The Supposed "Open-Border Policy." During the 135th General Assembly, Merrin co-sponsored H.C.R. 12 "To express that Ohio stands with Texas and to denounce President Biden's administration's open-border policies." [The Ohio House of Representatives, [Accessed 5/6/24](#); The Ohio House of Representatives, [Accessed 5/6/24](#)]

2024: Merrin Said That He Supported “Sending Our Military Down There Immediately To Stop Illegal Immigration”

2024: Merrin Said That He Supported “Sending Our Military Down There Immediately To Stop Illegal Immigration.” “The three most important issues right now are illegal immigration at our southern border. I support sending our military down there immediately to stop illegal immigration and I want to finish Trump’s wall and I want to cut off all welfare benefits and financial incentives to illegal immigrants.” [Fremont News Messenger, [3/16/24](#)]

2024: Merrin Said That The U.S. Needed To “Stop The Invasion At The Southern Border”

Merrin Said We Need To “Stop The Invasion At The Southern Border.” “I’m emphasizing illegal immigration,” Mr. Merrin said. “We have to secure the border immediately and stop the invasion at the southern border.” [Toledo Blade, [3/4/24](#)]

2024: Merrin Said That He Would Crack Down On Sanctuary Cities

2024: Merrin Said That He Would Crack Down On Sanctuary Cities. “Merrin said the number one threat is illegal immigration. Merrin said there isn’t an immigration problem, but an invasion problem with millions incoming, causing human trafficking, bringing drugs, abusing people. Merrin said he’d send the military to the border, finish building the wall, and crack down on sanctuary cities.” [Lucas County Republican Women Event, **Please Reach Out To DCCC For Exact Transcription**, 1/15/24]

2024: Merrin Said Undocumented Immigrants Were “Breaking Down The Rule Of Law, [...] Taking Many Union Jobs, Driving Down Wages, And Contributing A Lot Of The Crime Surge In Our Area”

2024: Merrin Said Undocumented Immigrants Were “Breaking Down The Rule Of Law, [...] Taking Many Union Jobs, Driving Down Wages, And Contributing A Lot Of The Crime Surge In Our Area.” MERRIN: [1:56] “Lastly, we’ve gotta stop the invasion at the southern border. We have millions of illegal immigrants pouring into our country, breaking down the rule of law, coming into our community and taking many union jobs, driving down wages, and contributing to a lot of the crime surge in our area. We have to have the rule of law and have the border secure.” [ABC 13 Primary Election Results Interview, 1:56 - 2:20, [3/19/24](#)] (VIDEO)

Merrin Said Laken Riley’s Murder Was “A Direct Result Of President Biden’s And Democrats’ Inability To Deal With Unauthorized Immigrants”

Merrin Said Laken Riley’s Murder Was “A Direct Result Of President Biden’s And Democrats’ Inability To Deal With Unauthorized Immigrants.” “Ohio State Rep. Derek Merrin (R., Monclova), who is seeking the GOP nomination to run against Ms. Kaptur, said he also would have supported the Laken Riley Act. ‘We have an invasion at the southern border,’ said Mr. Merrin, explaining that he feels Ms. Riley’s death is a direct result of President Biden’s and Democrats’ inability to deal with unauthorized immigrants. ‘We need to send the military down there immediately to support the border,’ said Mr. Merrin,

adding that, if elected, he also would work to end public assistance to any unauthorized immigrants.” [Toledo Blade, [3/8/24](#)]

2024: Merrin Accepted The Endorsement Of Notorious Xenophobe And Former President Donald Trump

2024: Merrin Accepted The Endorsement Of Former President Donald Trump, Trump Said Merrin Would “Fight Hard To Secure Our Border.” “‘Derek Merrin is an incredible America First Patriot who is running for Congress in Ohio’s 9th District against a RINO, Craig Riedel, who is no friend of MAGA,’ Trump wrote on his Truth Social platform. ‘As your next Congressman, Derek will fight hard to Secure our Border, Stop Inflation, Support our Military / Vets, and Protect our always under siege Second Amendment.’” [Fox News, [3/18/24](#)]

2015: Of Mexican Immigrants, Trump Said “They’re Bringing Drugs, They’re Bringing Crime. They’re Rapists And Some, I Assume, Are Good People”

When Announcing His Presidential Bid, Trump Said Of Mexicans “They’re Bringing Drugs, They’re Bringing Crime. They’re Rapists And Some, I Assume, Are Good People.” “‘When Mexico sends its people, they’re not sending the best. They’re not sending you, they’re sending people that have lots of problems and they’re bringing those problems,’ Trump said in a speech at Trump Tower in New York. ‘They’re bringing drugs, they’re bringing crime. They’re rapists and some, I assume, are good people, but I speak to border guards and they’re telling us what we’re getting.’” [NBC News, [6/16/15](#)]

2024: Merrin Ran Ads “Calling For Stricter Immigration Control Along The Mexican Border, Including The Completion Of A Wall Advocated By Former President Trump”

2024: Merrin Ran Ads “Calling For Stricter Immigration Control Along The Mexican Border, Including The Completion Of A Wall Advocated By Former President Trump.” “Mr. Merrin, who got former President Donald Trump’s endorsement Monday afternoon, and Mr. Riedel have both run television advertising emphasizing their positions calling for stricter immigration control along the Mexican border, including the completion of a wall advocated by former President Trump.” [Toledo Blade, [3/19/24](#)]

2024: Merrin Accepted The Endorsement Of House Speaker Mike Johnson, Who Eschewed Bipartisan Border Security Legislation

Merrin Accepted The Endorsement Of House Speaker Johnson. “‘Derek Merrin has my full endorsement for his campaign in Ohio’s 9th Congressional District. Derek is a proven conservative and demonstrated leader with a backbone who will prioritize economic growth, safer communities, and America First policies. He has what it takes to turn OH-09 red and grow our Republican majority in Congress,’ said Speaker Mike Johnson. [...] ‘I am honored to receive the endorsement from Speaker Johnson who is a strong man of faith standing in the gap holding back Biden, the Democrat Senate, and Mary Kaptur from having full control to push America further to fiscal insolvency and a woke society,’ said Representative Merrin. ‘I have a proven record of fighting against the established political class in Ohio, and I look forward to bringing that fight to Congress with a strong Republican majority where we will

uphold the Constitution, balance the budget, secure our borders, protect the U.S. dollar from further devaluation, and enact congressional term limits.” [Derek Merrin for Congress, [1/25/24](#)]

Johnson Helped Kill The 2024 Bipartisan Border Agreement

In 2024 Johnson Helped Kill The Bipartisan Border Agreement. “It is hard to analyze a bill that hasn’t been released. But according to reports and senators briefed on its structure, the bill would require the Department of Homeland Security to immediately turn away migrants crossing illegally if border encounters reach an average of 5,000 a day over the course of a week. The idea is to prevent the sorts of surges—such as the all-time record of 302,000 encounters in December—that have overwhelmed border and immigration authorities. The bill would also aim to speed up the asylum process to adjudicate claims within six months. [...] The main policy objection from Republicans who’ve vehemently written off the deal is, essentially, that the federal government is putting into statute that the first 5,000 migrants trying to enter illegally each day would earn a golden ticket to Willy Wonka’s chocolate factory. [...] ‘Why would you tolerate 5,000 a day before you sought to suddenly enforce the law? That would be surrender,’ Johnson said on Tuesday. ‘The goal should be zero illegal crossings a day, not 5,000. And all the president’s authority should be utilized at zero.’” [Slate, [1/30/24](#)]

[2017: Merrin Voted For H.B. 380, A Bill To “Prohibit Unauthorized Aliens From Receiving Workers’ Compensation”](#)

2017: Merrin Voted For H.B. 380. In December 2017, Merrin voted for H.B. 380 as the House passed the bill in a 64-30 vote. “Prohibit unauthorized aliens from receiving Workers’ Compensation. To amend sections 2743.02, 2744.02, 4123.01, 4123.51, and 4123.59 and to enact sections 2307.82 and 4123.513 of the Revised Code to prohibit illegal and unauthorized aliens from receiving compensation and certain benefits under Ohio’s Workers’ Compensation Law.” The bill received 62 Republican votes and 2 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 380, [12/5/17](#)]

[2024: Merrin Wanted To Crack Down On Employers Hiring Illegal Immigrants](#)

2024: Merrin Wanted To Crack Down On Employers Hiring Illegal Immigrants. “Merrin said we have an invasion at our border, and wants to finish Trump’s wall, send the military to combat armed drug and human traffickers, end welfare benefits to illegal immigrants, crack down on employers hiring illegal immigrants, and to deport those here illegally.” [Q 96.5 Interview, **Please Reach Out To DCCC For Exact Transcription**, 3/13/24]

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MAGA, Partisanship, and Far-Right Affiliations

MAGA, Partisanship, and Far-Right Affiliations Highlights

2024: Merrin accepted the endorsement of Former President Donald Trump, who implied that Merrin was a friend to MAGA.

2024: Merrin accepted the endorsement of far-right MAGA ally Senator Tommy Tuberville.

2023: When Merrin lost the Ohio House Speakership to a more moderate Republican, he sought to “lessen the speaker’s power” by changing House rules.

2018: Merrin said it was a “true honor” to “welcome” Vice President Mike Pence to Northwest Ohio.

Before running for Congress, Merrin would not commit to voting for Trump in the 2024 primary, then changed his tune and endorsed Trump on the first day of his Congressional campaign.

Americans For Prosperity, a group that endorsed Nikki Haley over Trump, endorsed Merrin in 2022.

Merrin contributed \$10 to former Rep. Steve King, the “Congressman most openly affiliated with white nationalism.”

Merrin contributed \$150 to Candice Keller, a “Far-right Republican” who blamed the 2019 Dayton shooting on gay marriage, among other supposed societal ills.

During his Waterville mayoral campaign, Merrin’s “cell phone’s voicemail greeting quoted conservative economist Milton Friedman.”

2024: Merrin Accepted The Endorsement Of Former President Donald Trump, Who Implied That Merrin Was A Friend To MAGA

2024: Merrin Accepted The Endorsement Of Former President Donald Trump, Who Implied That Merrin Was A Friend To MAGA “Derek Merrin is an incredible America First Patriot who is running for Congress in Ohio’s 9th District against a RINO, Craig Riedel, who is no friend of MAGA,’ Trump wrote on his Truth Social platform. ‘As your next Congressman, Derek will fight hard to Secure our Border, Stop Inflation, Support our Military / Vets, and Protect our always under siege Second Amendment.’” [Fox News, [3/18/24](#)]

A House Investigation Into The Events Of January 6th Alleged That Trump “Criminally Engaged In A ‘Multi-Part Conspiracy’ To Overturn The Lawful Results Of The 2020 Presidential Election.” “The House Jan. 6 committee’s final report asserts that Donald Trump criminally engaged in a ‘multi-part conspiracy’ to overturn the lawful results of the 2020 presidential election and failed to act to stop his supporters from attacking the Capitol, concluding an extraordinary 18-month investigation into the former

president and the violent insurrection two years ago. [...] Trump 'lit that fire,' the committee's chairman, Mississippi Rep. Bennie Thompson, writes." [PBS, [12/23/22](#)]

Merrin Bragged About His Trump Endorsement, Reminding Voters That He Was "The Only Trump Endorsed Candidate In The Race." In March of 2024 Merrin tweeted: "I am the only Trump endorsed candidate in the race. We need your help to defeat Biden/Kaptur in November us"

← Post



Derek Merrin ✓
@DerekMerrin

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VOTE TODAY - Polls open until 7:30 pm.

I am the only Trump endorsed candidate in the race. We need your help to defeat Biden/Kaptur in November 🇺🇸



5:56 AM · Mar 19, 2024 from Toledo, OH · 6,458 Views

200

[Twitter, @DerekMerrin, [3/19/24](#)]

Merrin Continued To Reiterate MAGA Talking Points Into 2024

2024: Merrin Tweeted “Great News!!!” In Response To The Supreme Court Decision That Kept Trump On The Colorado Ballot. In March of 2024 Merrin tweeted: “Great News!!! us us us #MAGA”

← Post



Derek Merrin ✓

@DerekMerrin

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Great News!!! 🇺🇸 🇺🇸 🇺🇸 #MAGA x.com/FoxNews/status...



Fox News ✓ @FoxNews · Mar 4

'GREAT WIN FOR AMERICA': Former President Donald Trump reacts to the Supreme Court's unanimous 9-0 decision to reverse Colorado's attempt to kick him off the 2024 primary ballot. His exclusive interview with Fox News Digital. trib.al/cOwehSU

"Today's decision, especially the fact that it was unanimous, 9-0, is both **unifying** and **inspirational** for the people of the **United States of America.**"

Donald Trump



[Twitter, @DerekMerrin, 3/4/24]

2024: Merrin Tweeted “Lucas County - Our Momentum is Growing & Conservatives are Rallying to our Team! #BalanceBudget #FinishWall #MAGA.” In March of 2024 Merrin tweeted: “Lucas County - Our Momentum is Growing & Conservatives are Rallying to our Team! #BalanceBudget #FinishWall #MAGA [...] Join Us. Let’s Save America!! us us”



[Twitter, @DerekMerrin, 3/11/24]

2024: Merrin Said He “Stood With” President Trump And House Speaker Mike Johnson To Fight The “Radical Left Agenda”

2024: Merrin Said He “Stood With” President Trump And House Speaker Mike Johnson To Fight The “Radical Left Agenda.” In May of 2024 Merrin tweeted: “D.C. Democrats are making our country less safe & their runaway federal spending is making life unaffordable for hard working Americans. We must stay united. I stand with President Trump & support @SpeakerJohnson & the work the @HouseGOP is doing fighting the radical left agenda.”



[Twitter, @DerekMerrin, 5/2/24]

2024: Merrin Accepted The Endorsement Of Senator Tommy Tuberville, Who Blocked The Promotion Of Hundreds Of Senior Military Officers Because The Armed Services Provided Abortion Care To Service Members

2024: Merrin Accepted The Endorsement Of Far-Right MAGA Ally Senator Tommy Tuberville. “It’s an honor to receive the endorsement from @TTuberville - a true patriot who has been critical in fighting for President Trump’s America First agenda! us us”

← Post



Derek Merrin ✓

@DerekMerrin

...

It's an honor to receive the endorsement from @TTuberville - a true patriot who has been critical in fighting for President Trump's America First agenda! 🇺🇸 🇺🇸



8:00 AM · Mar 15, 2024 · 22.2K Views

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[Twitter, @DerekMerrin, [3/15/24](#)]

2023: For Months, Tuberville Blocked The Promotion Of Hundreds Of Senior Military Officers Because The Armed Services Provided Abortion Care To Service Members

2023: For Months, Tuberville Blocked The Promotion Of Hundreds Of Senior Military Officers Because The Armed Services Provided Abortion Care To Service Members. “For months, the Alabama senator and former college football coach has blocked the confirmation of hundreds of senior military officers because he’s mad about a Pentagon policy that ensures soldiers have abortion access. [...] The group of anti-abortion Republicans had worked with him since February to try to find a solution. They’d flattered his ego. They’d mostly defended him in public as his game of chicken stretched nine months, punishing hundreds of senior service members who have no say over the policy and hurting U.S. military readiness at a time of global chaos.” [Rolling Stone, [11/3/23](#)]

2023: When Asked About White Nationalists, Tuberville Said “Well, They Call Them That, [...] I Call Them Americans”

2023: When Asked About White Nationalists, Tuberville Said “Well, They Call Them That, [...] I Call Them Americans.” “The Monday CNN interview was an incredible exchange, which began as an opportunity for Tuberville to explain his Pentagon obstruction as a protest of Biden administration abortion policy. More on that below. [...] In the White nationalism portion of the interview, Tuberville was being asked to explain comments he made to an Alabama radio station back in May, when he was asked if he thought White nationalists should be allowed to serve in the military. [...] ‘Well, they call them that,’ Tuberville said back then of people who oppose White nationalists. ‘I call them Americans.’” [CNN, [7/11/23](#)]

2024: Merrin Touted The Endorsement Of Far-Right Political Figure JR Majewski

2024: Merrin Touted The Endorsement Of Far-Right Political Figure JR Majewski. “Hey guys, Derek Merrin here running for Congress. Tonight we’re in Toledo, Stubborn Brother’s Pizza holding an event for everyone in Lucas County. Our campaign has a lot of momentum, been endorsed by Lucas County and Fulton County republican party, our friend JR has endorsed our candidacy and people are responding to our message. They want the border secure, the invasion at the southern border stopped, fiscal responsibility, balance the budget, and we gotta take on the political class, and that means term limits and bringing these guys home. I hope you guys will join me, and if you’re in the neighborhood, stop by tonight. Take care.” [Facebook, [3/10/24](#)]

Majewski Has Been Criticized For Allegedly Being Affiliated With Q-Anon, Which He Denied

Majewski Has Been Criticized For Allegedly Being Affiliated With Q-Anon, Which He Denied. “In 2020, Majewski wore a white shirt bearing a ‘Q’ during a local television interview about his yard painting. Majewski even incorporated QAnon into his painting, turning the zeroes in the sign’s ‘2020’ into Q’s. Liberal watchdog group Media Matters has compiled multiple instances of Majewski using QAnon slogans like ‘WWG1WGA’ — short for the QAnon slogan ‘Where we go one, we go all.’ [...] In an April 2021 interview with the Toledo Blade, Majewski denied supporting QAnon. He said he had donated the Q shirt from his television interview to charity and never read the anonymous online clues that make up the conspiracy theory, dubbed ‘Q-Drops.’ [...] Majewski’s claim that he’s never seen a QAnon clue contradicts evidence available online. In an Oct. 2020 livestream video with fellow QAnon supporters, Majewski

reviewed posts made by 'Q,' the anonymous poster behind the conspiracy theory, and offered his own interpretations. Majewski wore a 'Q' sweatshirt while he discussed the posts." [The Daily Beast, [5/4/22](#)]

2024: Merrin Said There Is A Swamp In Columbus Too, Saying That "Most People In Columbus And DC Are Bad People"

2024: Merrin Said There Is A Swamp In Columbus Too, Saying That Most People In Columbus And DC Are Bad People. "Merrin said he is anti-establishment, will challenge democrats and republicans. Merrin said he doesn't want to go to DC, the "swamp," because he wants the republicans to retain their majority, and not fall to the democrats whom he called socialists. Merrin said there is a swamp in Columbus too, saying that most people in Columbus and DC are bad people." [Lucas County Republican Women Event, **Please Reach Out To DCCC For Exact Transcription**, 1/15/24]

2023: When Merrin Lost The Ohio House Speakership To A More Moderate Republican He Sought To "Lessen The Speaker's Power" By Changing House Rules

2023: When Merrin Lost The Ohio House Speakership To A More Moderate Republican, He Sought To "Lessen The Speaker's Power" By Changing House Rules. "With votes from 22 Republicans and 32 Democrats in the 99-member House, Stephens won with more support from Democrats than his own party. Merrin, of Monclova Township, won an unofficial vote of the Republican Congress for the position in November. [...] Merrin invited more than 40 fellow House Republicans who supported him to meet privately Wednesday to discuss seeking changes to House rules to lessen the speaker's power and ensure that they are heard." [The Ironton Tribune, [1/15/23](#)]

2023: Merrin And His Allies Sued Ohio House Speaker Jason Stephens Over "Control Of The House GOP's Campaign Fund"

2023: Merrin And His Allies Sued Ohio House Speaker Jason Stephens Over "Control Of The House GOP's Campaign Fund." "The months-long schism among Ohio House Republicans has turned litigious, with state Rep. Derek Merrin and two allies suing Ohio House Speaker Jason Stephens and others over control of the House GOP's campaign fund. [...] The lawsuit, filed Saturday in Franklin County Common Pleas Court, takes the infighting within the House GOP to a new level. Merrin along with state Reps. Phil Plummer of Dayton and Ron Ferguson of Jefferson County are seeking nearly \$400,000 in reimbursements and damages from Stephens, of Lawrence County, and state Rep. Jeff LaRe of Fairfield County, Stephens' pick to head the Ohio House Republican Alliance (OHRA), the caucus' campaign arm. [...] The suit also asks that the court order Merrin and Plummer to be put in charge of OHRA, which campaign-finance data shows had close to \$1.1 million in its bank account as of the end of June." [Cleveland.com, [10/12/23](#)]

Merrin Allies Attempted To Censure GOP House Members Who Voted For Stephens As Speaker

Merrin Allies Attempted To Censure GOP House Members Who Voted For Stephens As Speaker. "In November, the Ohio House GOP Caucus voted to support Merrin, but it wasn't unanimous. Twenty-two of the 31 Republicans that Rep. Jason Stephens, a Republican from Kitts Hill, backed him in November also voted for him on Tuesday. Now some Republicans want to censure those 22 Republicans. [...] On Friday, a draft of a resolution was publicized to censure the Ohio House

Republicans that backed Stephens. The resolution claims their vote for Stephens ‘dishonors the vote of the Ohio House Republican Caucus, dishonors the historic brand of the Republican Party, and misrepresents the voice of Ohio Republican voters who collectively voted for these 22 members in order to defeat the dangerous and perverse Democratic Party Caucus agenda.’ [...] ‘I, at no time, promised to vote for Dereck Merrin (for Ohio House Speaker),’ said [Rep. Sara] Carruthers in an interview with the Journal-News. ‘I never voted for Derek Merrin. Derek never talked to anybody on the Stephens team. He never made a call, never did anything.’” [Journal-News, [1/6/23](#)]

2024: Merrin Said He Lost The Ohio House Speaker Race Because They Redrew His District

2024: Merrin Said He Lost The Ohio House Speaker Race Because They Redrew His District.

“Merrin said he lost the Ohio house speaker race because they redrew his district, democrats wanted him out by forcing him to spend time in the district than campaigning in the house, and said a faction of republicans conspired to overthrow him by voting with democrats.” [Lucas County Republican Women Event, **Please Reach Out To DCCC For Exact Transcription**, 1/15/24]

2018: Merrin Said It Was A “True Honor” To “Welcome” Vice President Mike Pence To Northwest Ohio

2018: Merrin Said It Was A “True Honor” To “Welcome” Vice President Mike Pence To Northwest Ohio. In August of 2018 Merrin tweeted: “A true honor to welcome @VP & @JimRenacci to NW Ohio w/ @Mark_Wagoner @OhioRepGavarone. #MAGA #Renacci4Senate”

← Post



Derek Merrin 
@DerekMerrin

...

A true honor to welcome @VP & @JimRenacci to NW Ohio w/
@Mark_Wagoner @OhioRepGavarone. #MAGA #Renacci4Senate



6:42 PM · Aug 14, 2018 from Ohio, USA



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[Twitter, @DerekMerrin, 8/14/18]

2017: Pence Defended Trump's Comments About White Nationalists Being "Very Fine People" Following The Charlottesville Unite The Right Riot

2017: Pence Defended Trump's Comments About White Nationalists Being "Very Fine People" Following The Charlottesville Unite The Right Riot. "Vice President Mike Pence on Monday continued to defend President Donald Trump's response to the violence in Charlottesville, Virginia over the weekend, telling NBC News the president 'made it very clear' he condemns 'the KKK and white supremacists.' [...] Trump has endured a steady drumbeat of criticism from Republicans as well as Democrats for what they view as the president's tepid response to Saturday's clash between white nationalists and counter-protesters that killed one and injured 19 after an Ohio man allegedly drove his

car through a group of counter-demonstrators. [...] The president's remarks Saturday faulted 'many sides' for the violence, and he left the podium without addressing a shouted question about whether he would denounce support from white nationalists." [NBC News, [8/13/17](#)]

Before Running For Congress, Merrin Would Not Commit To Voting For Trump In The 2024 Primary, Then Changed His Tune And Endorsed Trump On The First Day Of His Congressional Campaign

June 2023: When Asked Who He Was Supporting In The 2024 Republican Presidential Primary, Merrin Said "I Don't Know Who's All Gonna Run." REPORTER: "Who are you supporting in the presidential election in 2024?" MERRIN: "Aw man, I can, I can only take care of myself right now, so-" REPORTER: "Aw come on, you ain't got no opinion on it?" MERRIN: "I'll be voting for the Republican that's for sure." REPORTER: "Oh yeah you're voting for the Republican?" MERRIN: "No matter what." REPORTER: "Yeah, who are you voting in the primary?" MERRIN: "I don't know who's all gonna run." REPORTER: "What? Man, man that's a coward's answer, brother." [The Rooster, Twitter, [7/24/23](#)] (VIDEO)

December 2023: Merrin's First Campaign Act Was To Endorse Trump

Merrin Campaign Announcement: "As The First Action Of His Campaign, Merrin Formally Endorsed President Donald J. Trump For Re-Election." "As the first action of his campaign, Merrin formally endorsed President Donald J. Trump for re-election, saying: 'It's clear Joe Biden is destroying America, and Marcy Kaptur is nothing more than a rubber stamp for his failed policies. Donald Trump is going to be the next President, and I'm proud to endorse him on day one. As our next Congressman, I'll work hand-in-hand with President Trump to put our country back on track when he is back in the White House.'" [Merrin for Congress, News, [12/20/23](#)]

Merrin's First Campaign Act Was To Endorse Trump. "Merrin is term-limited, so he was always going to be looking for a new gig. And although he's starting later than his opponents, he's jumping in with the encouragement of U.S. House Speaker Mike Johnson, and by extension, the deep pocketed campaign apparatus the speaker controls. His campaign's first act was to endorse Trump for President, but Riedel was quick to remind him of some other recent endorsements as well. Sharing Merrin's previous endorsement of his own campaign, Riedel taunted, 'you had it right the first time: Our campaign is the best chance to defeat Marcy Kaptur and send a real conservative to Congress.'" [Ohio Capital Journal, [1/8/24](#)]

Americans For Prosperity, A Group That Endorsed Nikki Haley Over Trump, Endorsed Merrin In 2022

2023: Americans For Prosperity Action Endorsed Nikki Haley Over Trump

November 2023: Americans For Prosperity Action Endorsed Nikki Haley Over Donald Trump In The 2024 Republican Presidential Primary. "Americans for Prosperity Action, an advocacy organization backed by billionaire Charles Koch and his network of wealthy conservatives, on Tuesday morning endorsed Nikki Haley as the Republican alternative to Donald Trump ahead of the Iowa caucus that begins the 2024 primary in less than 50 days." [ABC News, [11/28/23](#)]

Americans For Prosperity Reported Raising \$70 Million In June 2023, Which ABC News Referenced As “Significant Resources To Try And Boost Haley’s Campaign.” “The Koch-backed group stayed out of the 2016 and 2020 presidential cycles but has significant resources to try and boost Haley’s campaign, though AFP Action is so far staying mum on how much it plans to spend. The group reported raising more than \$70 million in its last public filing, in June, with \$25 million coming from Koch himself and another \$25 million from one of his nonprofit groups.” [ABC News, [11/28/23](#)]

2022: Americans For Prosperity Ohio Endorsed Merrin

October 2022: Americans For Prosperity Ohio Endorsed Merrin. “State House Rep. @DerekMerrin is a proven leader who enacts policy solutions that benefit all Ohioans. Re-elect Derek Merrin! He is leading a bolder, better buckeye state.” [AFPOhio, Twitter, [10/21/22](#)]



AFPOhio 
@AfpOhio

...

State House Rep. [@DerekMerrin](#) is a proven leader who enacts policy solutions that benefit all Ohioans.

Re-elect Derek Merrin! He is leading a bolder, better buckeye state. Learn more here: bit.ly/3eOqlBy



12:07 PM · Oct 21, 2022

[AFPOhio, Twitter, [10/21/22](#)]

2018-2020: Merrin Supported Trump

2020: Merrin Supported Trump's Reelection And Tweeted Using Pro-Trump Hashtags "#MAGA," "#KAG," And "#Trump2020"

September 2020: Merrin Supported Trump's Reelection. "An incredible rally tonight supporting President's Trump re-election. The silent majority is ready to roar again this November! #MAGA" [Derek Merrin, Twitter, [9/21/20](#)]



Derek Merrin ✓
@DerekMerrin

...

An incredible rally tonight supporting President's Trump re-election. The silent majority is ready to roar again this November! #MAGA



10:11 PM · Sep 21, 2020

[Derek Merrin, Twitter, [9/21/20](#)]

2020: Merrin Tweeted The Hashtags “#KAG” And “#Trump2020”. In July of 2020 Merrin tweeted: “While in the legislature, I watched @JohnKasich switch his position on abortion, religious liberty, gun rights, school choice, and tax increases. He effectively walked-off the job as Gov his last 2 years. [...] Kasich holds no principles. #KAG #Trump2020 us” [Twitter, @DerekMerrin, [7/20/20](#)]


← Post



Derek Merrin 
@DerekMerrin

...

While in the legislature, I watched @JohnKasich switch his position on abortion, religious liberty, gun rights, school choice, and tax increases. He effectively walked-off the job as Gov his last 2 years.

Kasich holds no principles. #KAG #Trump2020 



From dispatch.com

11:53 AM · Jul 20, 2020



[Twitter, @DerekMerrin, 7/20/20]

2018: Merrin Posted “#MAGA”

2018: Merrin Posted “#MAGA” “It was honor to welcome Vice-President Mike Pence & Congressman Jim Renacci to NW Ohio. #MAGA” [Derek Merrin, Facebook, 8/14/18]



[Derek Merrin, Facebook, [8/14/18](#)]

Merrin Contributed \$10 To Rep. Steve King, The “Congressman Most Openly Affiliated With White Nationalism”

2012: Merrin Contributed \$10 To Rep. Steve King. According to the Federal Election Commission, Merrin contributed \$10 to Steve King’s Congressional campaign via earmarked contributions to the Club for Growth PAC in 2012. [Federal Election Commission, [Accessed 5/3/24](#)]

2018: The Washington Post Called King The “Congressman Most Openly Affiliated With White Nationalism.” “No one questioned whether their well-liked representative, Steve King - the U.S. congressman most openly affiliated with white nationalism - might be contributing to anti-Semitism or racism through his unapologetic embrace of white nationalist rhetoric and his praise of far-right politicians and groups in other nations. [...] In his 16 years in the House, King has become better known for making incendiary remarks about immigration and race than for passing a bill. He has maligned some Latinos as having ‘calves the size of cantaloupes because they’re hauling 75 pounds of marijuana across the desert.’ He has defended the Confederate flag and displayed one on his desk. He has embraced far-right Dutch politician Geert Wilders and recently endorsed Faith Goldy, a fringe candidate for Toronto mayor

who was fired by a far-right publication for appearing on a podcast produced by the neo-Nazi site Daily Stormer.” [The Washington Post, [10/28/18](#)]

[Merrin Contributed \\$150 To Candice Keller, A “Far-Right Republican” Who Blamed The 2019 Dayton Shooting On Gay Marriage, Among Other Supposed Societal Ills](#)

2016: Merrin Contributed \$150 To Candice Keller

November 2016: Merrin Contributed \$150 To Candice Keller. [Follow The Money, [11/2/16](#)]

WOUB-FM: Keller Was A “Far-Right Republican Who’s Made Misleading Statements About Vaccines”

WOUB-FM: Keller Was A “Far-Right Republican Who’s Made Misleading Statements About Vaccines.” “Lipps appears angry at times, accusing Gross of not controlling rumors among anti-vaccination activists and of coordinating with former Rep. Candice Keller, a far-right Republican who’s made misleading statements about vaccines and has threatened to find a primary challenger to Lipps.” [WOUB-FM, [9/2/21](#)]

Keller Blamed The 2019 Dayton Shooting On “Breakdown Of The Traditional Family, Gay Marriage, Violent Video Games, Professional Athletes Who Protest The American Flag, Recreational Marijuana And ‘Snowflakes, Who Can’t Accept A Duly-Elected President’”

Keller Blamed The 2019 Dayton Shooting On “Breakdown Of The Traditional Family, Gay Marriage, Violent Video Games, Professional Athletes Who Protest The American Flag, Recreational Marijuana And ‘Snowflakes, Who Can’t Accept A Duly-Elected President.’” “State Rep. Candice Keller, R-Middletown, said in a post to her Facebook page that blame for the Dayton shootings should be placed on the breakdown of the traditional family, gay marriage, violent video games, professional athletes who protest the American flag, recreational marijuana and ‘snowflakes, who can’t accept a duly-elected President.’ When reached by phone Sunday, Keller said she posted something to her private, personal Facebook page. When a reporter read the entire statement to her, Keller said it sounded like part of her posting but she couldn’t be sure if it had been altered. The posting apparently has been removed, but screen grabs of the post were circulated on social media.” [Dayton Daily News, [8/4/19](#)]

[During His Waterville Mayoral Campaign, Merrin’s “Cell Phone’s Voicemail Greeting Quoted Conservative Economist Milton Friedman”](#)

During His Waterville Mayoral Campaign, Merrin’s “Cell Phone’s Voicemail Greeting Quoted Conservative Economist Milton Friedman.” “Merrin didn’t wait long to enter politics: at age 19, he was elected to city council in Waterville, a city of 6,000 south of Toledo. In 2007, while a 21-year-old student at the University of Toledo, he successfully ran for mayor of Waterville, unseating the incumbent to become the youngest mayor in the state. Even then, Merrin wore his politics on his sleeve: during his mayoral campaign, the Toledo Blade reported that his cell phone’s voicemail greeting quoted conservative economist Milton Friedman as saying ‘If you put the federal government in charge of the Sahara Desert, in five years there’d be a shortage of sand.’” [Cleveland.com, [11/23/22](#)]

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Infrastructure

Infrastructure Highlights

Merrin made opposition to Toledo's public transit agency a staple of his career, repeatedly encouraging audits of the organization and opposing funding.

Merrin voted against a 2023 transportation budget, citing opposition to Amtrak expansion.

2019: Merrin voted against a gas tax increase that funded road work.

2017: Merrin voted against a \$7.8 billion transportation budget.

April 2017: Merrin proposed legislation that would void local laws governing lead abatement in Ohio, which faced opposition from local elected officials, the Akron Children's Hospital lead exposure and detoxification clinic, and nonprofits that dealt with lead poisoning.

2018: After "Conversations [...] With local developers," Merrin introduced a property tax bill that could have cost school districts millions of dollars.

Merrin supported changing Ohio's prevailing wage law, which existed to prevent government construction contract workers from getting paid less than nearby workers on similar projects.

2011: Despite "Area residents' objections," Merrin and Waterville "Granted [the village] a special-use permit to operate a yard-waste transfer facility."

2017: Merrin proposed legislation in the Ohio Statehouse that sought to "Remove mandatory lead pipe testing for rental properties in Ohio cities"

2022: Merrin voted for H.B. 364, a "Waterworks infrastructure improvement surcharge."

Merrin Made Opposition To Toledo's Public Transit Agency A Staple Of His Career

EDITORIAL: "Mr. Merrin Is Clearly Intent On Thwarting The Modernization Of A Transit Agency That Is Necessary To Keep Northwest Ohio's Economic Development And Renewal On Track"

EDITORIAL: "Mr. Merrin Is Clearly Intent On Thwarting The Modernization Of A Transit Agency That Is Necessary To Keep Northwest Ohio's Economic Development And Renewal On Track." "In the last several years the Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority has come a long way. It's brought on new leadership, a new vision, and new modern plans to transform the agency from a 70's era clunker to a forward-thinking asset for a growing region. On the road to reinvention, however, TARTA keeps finding the same pothole in the road - State Rep. Derek Merrin (R, Monclova). Mr. Merrin is clearly intent on thwarting the modernization of a transit agency that is necessary to keep northwest Ohio's economic development and renewal on track." [Toledo Blade, [6/26/21](#)]

2021: Merrin Attempted To Block A Process That Would Allow TARTA To Convert Its Funding Stream To A Countywide Sales Tax

2021: Merrin Attempted To Block A Process That Would Allow TARTA To Convert Its Funding Stream To A Countywide Sales Tax. “Back in March, Mr. Merrin attempted to block TARTA’s path by removing key language from a state transportation bill, aiming to stop the process that will allow TARTA to admit Lucas County as a member and then change its funding stream from a pair of property taxes to one countywide sales tax.” [Toledo Blade, [6/26/21](#)]

TARTA Is The Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority. “*The Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority (TARTA) provides a vital link in the Toledo metro area to jobs, education, health care and other destinations. It enables everyone in our community to have access to transportation regardless of their age, race, physical ability or economic background.*” [Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority, [Accessed 5/3/24](#)]

2021: Merrin Inserted Anti-TARTA Language Into A Wetlands Protection Bill

2021: Merrin Inserted Anti-TARTA Language Into A Wetlands Protection Bill. “In an eleventh-hour attempt to throw one more wrench in the works, Mr. Merrin has turned his sights to a wetlands protection bill. What does wetlands protection have to do with regional transit? Nothing. But that didn’t stop Mr. Merrin from sneaking in an amendment that would limit the sales tax to 0.3 percent unless every jurisdiction within the service area approves a higher amount and also delay the effective date of adding new territory to a transit authority once election results have been certified. Essentially, the changes would nullify the portions of the earlier transportation bill that allow TARTA to move forward as a countywide authority funded by a sales tax. Mr. Merrin added the language without debate and when questioned, his defense was that he was trying to block the agency from burdening constituents with both a property tax and a sales tax. But TARTA officials, who have already gotten their proposal for a 0.5 percent sales tax endorsed by Lucas County’s Citizens’ Levy Review Committee, will drop the two existing property tax levies, which Mr. Merrin very well knows.” [Toledo Blade, [6/26/21](#)]

2021: Merrin Removed Language From A Bill To Allow TARTA To Add Lucas County As A Member

2021: Merrin Removed Language From A Bill To Allow TARTA To Add Lucas County As A Member. “Mr. Merrin has removed language from House Bill 74 that would ease the process for TARTA to admit Lucas County as a member and then change its funding stream from a pair of property taxes to one countywide sales tax.” [Toledo Blade, [3/6/21](#)]

Merrin “Characterized TARTA’s Plans As A Land Grab And A Path To Higher Taxes”

Merrin “Characterized TARTA’s Plans As A Land Grab And A Path To Higher Taxes.” “House Bill 74 would allow the change to happen as long as a majority of the current seven TARTA communities agree. And that’s a more fair, reasonable - and doable - procedure. [...] Mr. Merrin, however, stripped the provision and characterized TARTA’s plans as a land grab and a path to higher taxes. This backward thinking reflects anachronistic ideas about what public transit is and who it is for.” [Toledo Blade, [3/6/21](#)]

2019: Merrin Sought An Investigation Into TARTA Over “Jeans Day”

2019: Merrin Sought An Investigation Into TARTA Over “Jeans Day.” “The Ohio auditor is looking into a state lawmaker’s complaint about the Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority and whether it violated the law by allowing employees to wear jeans to work in exchange for donations that funded the agency’s political activities. State Rep. Derek Merrin (R., Monclova Township) wrote to Auditor Keith Faber asking the state to investigate the Citizens for TARTA political action committee and its

contributions marked 'Jeans Day.' Mr. Merrin found that between 2013 and 2018, the PAC collected \$4,775 from Jeans Day, which he contends is a legal and ethical violation for a public agency. 'Campaign finance reports suggest employees were provided the benefit of wearing jeans in exchange for making political contributions to 'Citizens for TARTA,' Mr. Merrin said." [Toledo Blade, [7/26/19](#)]

2011: Merrin "Lodged A Complaint Against TARTA" To The State Auditor

2011: Merrin "Lodged A Complaint Against TARTA" To The State Auditor. "In 2011, [Merrin] lodged a complaint with then-auditor Dave Yost. The investigation found that TARTA illegally loaned its PAC \$67,000 to help pass a transit levy." [Toledo Blade, [7/26/19](#)]

2008: Merrin Voiced Opposition To TARTA, Claiming Waterville "Gets Poor Value For Its Tax Dollars And That Many Who Board Buses In Waterville Live Outside The Village"

2008: Merrin Voiced Opposition To TARTA, Claiming Waterville "Gets Poor Value For Its Tax Dollars And That Many Who Board Buses In Waterville Live Outside The Village." "A Toledo city councilman yesterday said a proposal to give communities the option of voting themselves out of regional transportation systems such as TARTA would hinder regional economic development. [...] Waterville Village Council debated the merits of House Bill 480 during its meeting last week, but took no action. Mayor Derek Merrin said the village gets poor value for its tax dollars and that many who board buses in Waterville live outside the village, in Whitehouse or Monclova Township." [Toledo Blade, [4/1/08](#)]

[Merrin Voted Against A 2023 Transportation Budget, Citing Opposition To Amtrak Expansion](#)

Merrin Voted Against H.B. 23, Ohio's Transportation Budget

Merrin Voted Against H.B. 23, Ohio's Transportation Budget, Before Later Voting For The Bill's Final Passage. On March 1, 2023, Merrin voted against H.B. 23, to "Enact FY 2024-2025 Transportation Budget." The bill passed the House in a 73-21 vote. Merrin voted for the bill's final passage later in March 2023. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 23, [3/29/23](#)]

H.B. 23 Was A "A \$12.6 Billion Transportation Budget" And "A Huge Jobs Bill"

H.B. 23 Was A "A \$12.6 Billion Transportation Budget" And "A Huge Jobs Bill." "Ohio's House of Representatives passed a \$12.6 billion transportation budget Wednesday, and one provision paved the way for Amtrak to one day connect Cleveland, Columbus and Cincinnati. 'This is a huge jobs bill,' Rep. Tom Patton, R-Strongsville, said. 'This is all about enhancing job opportunity and economic development in all parts of our state.' [...] Here's an overview of what it would do: Allocate \$2.2 billion for pavement projects and \$717 million for bridges. Spend \$1 billion to on road projects that would reduce commute times to employment centers. Allocates \$3 billion in federal and state funding for Cincinnati's Brent Spence Corridor project. Require the Public Utilities Commission, which regulates train companies like Norfolk Southern, to create a report on Ohio's transportation of hazardous materials and waste with the Environmental Protection Agency." [Columbus Dispatch, [3/1/23](#)]

Merrin "Said That Many Members Of His Caucus Of Republicans Were Concerned About [...] Amtrak's Potential Expansion"

Merrin "Said That Many Members Of His Caucus Of Republicans Were Concerned About [...] Amtrak's Potential Expansion." "The House passed the transportation budget with broad bipartisan

support, but it didn't get 50 votes from Republicans. Rep. Derek Merrin, R-Monclova Township, said that many members of his caucus of Republicans were concerned about increased spending, Amtrak's potential expansion, and something called 'force accounts.' 'There are many good parts of the bill, but there are some areas of concern,' he said. 'I think the Senate will address those areas. Hopefully, I can vote for the bill that comes back from the Senate.'" [Columbus Dispatch, [3/1/23](#)]

2019: Merrin Voted Against A Gas Tax Increase That Funded Road Work

2019: Merrin Voted Against A Gas Tax Increase That Funded Road Work. "Ohio motorists will have to open their wallets wider at the pump to pay 10.5 cents more in taxes per gallon of gasoline and 19 cents more for diesel fuel under a compromise transportation budget approved by lawmakers Tuesday. [...] In all, House Speaker Larry Householder (R., Glenford) said the plan would raise about \$865 million more a year for state and local road work. [...] State Rep. Derek Merrin (R., Monclova Township) voted 'no,' saying he'd prefer the state use surplus funds from the general fund rather than a gas tax hike." [Toledo Blade, [4/2/19](#)]

2017: Merrin Voted Against A \$7.8 Billion Transportation Budget

2017: Merrin Voted Against A \$7.8 Billion Transportation Budget. "The Ohio House on March 2 overwhelmingly supported a \$7.8 billion, two-year transportation and public safety budget that would experiment with varying speed limits to regulate traffic flow on selected highways. [...] The sole negative vote from northwest Ohio came from state Rep. Derek Merrin (R-Monclova Township). He said after the vote that he opposed it because of the tax and fee increases it contains. 'The citizens of my district did not send me to Columbus to take more money out of their pockets,' he said." [Transport Topics, [3/2/17](#)]

April 2017: Merrin Proposed Legislation That Would Void Local Laws Governing Lead Abatement In Ohio, Which Faced Opposition From Local Elected Officials, The Akron Children's Hospital Lead Exposure And Detoxification Clinic, And Nonprofits That Dealt With Lead Poisoning

2017: Merrin Proposed Legislation That Would Void Local Laws Government Lead Abatement In Ohio

Merrin Proposed An Amendment To The State Budget That Would Strip Municipalities Of Authority To Create Local Efforts Addressing Childhood Lead Poisoning. "Doctors, parents, city leaders and healthy home advocates took turns Wednesday telling the Ohio Senate Finance subcommittee on Health and Medicaid why they oppose an amendment to the state budget that would strip municipalities of authority to create local efforts to address childhood lead poisoning. [...] Rep. Derek Merrin, a Republican who represents parts of Lucas and Fulton counties, proposed the amendment last month and has argued that a fractured system of rules that change from city-to-city is not only unfair to landlords but doesn't give all children in Ohio equal protection from lead exposure. Merrin, in an editorial post on his web site and in print in the Toledo Blade, said the state's approach needs to be more proactive. It currently only outlines a response for after a child is poisoned. Merrin also said more money needs to be spent to address the problem." [Cleveland.com, [5/25/17](#)]

Merrin's Legislation Would Void Laws Governing Lead Abatement. "Although Toledo's law does not require abatement - but rather mandates that affected properties undergo lead-safe inspections, cleaning, and repairs - Mr. Merrin's addition is seen as a possible attempt to usurp or weaken the city's law, as it voids 'any law or rule governing the abatement of lead, lead-based paint, or the employment or licensing of lead abatement professionals.'" [Toledo Blade, [4/29/17](#)]

Merrin's Legislation Would Remove Mandatory Lead Pipe Testing For Rental Properties. "The National Republican Congressional Committee has turned to Derek Merrin, a state representative and real estate investor who once proposed legislation to remove mandatory lead pipe testing for rental properties in Ohio cities, in the state's Ninth Congressional District race." [Heartland Signal, [1/11/24](#)]

Merrin Called A Local Ordinance Requiring Lead Pipe Testing "Unconstitutional" And "Targeted Discrimination" Against Property Owners

When Discussing His Amendment, Merrin Pointed To Toledo's Lead Ordinance, Which He Called "Unconstitutional" And "Targeted Discrimination Against A Small Minority Of Property Owners." "The City of Toledo's unconstitutional lead ordinance is targeted discrimination against a small minority of property owners. The City plans to generate millions of dollars in revenue from fines on property owners who are unable to comply. 'Toledo's discriminatory law will decrease affordable housing options, increase tenants' rental rates, depress property values, and illegally undermines state efforts to protect children from lead poisoning. Toledo's law is unenforceable and so poorly written that it will hurt the people they are trying to protect, especially minorities. My budget amendment ensures that lead issues will be subject to sensible, enforceable and uniform oversight at the state level.'" [Ohio House of Representatives, Derek Merrin News, [4/28/17](#)]

Toledo's Ordinance Called For Rental Properties Built Before 1978 To Be Inspected For Lead Paint Before Leasing To Tenants. "Toledo City Council today approved a controversial 'lead safe' ordinance that calls for some rental properties built before 1978 to be inspected and deemed safe before leasing to tenants. Council voted 10-0 to approve the law that won't take effect for one year." [Toledo Blade, [8/16/16](#)]

Landlords Opposed Toledo's Lead Ordinance. "Councilman Yvonne Harper called out landlords who opposed the lead ordinance during a recent public hearing. 'Shame on you,' Ms. Harper said after the 10-0 vote." [Toledo Blade, [8/16/16](#)]

Local Elected Officials Opposed Merrin's Amendment

In Response To Merrin's Amendment, The Toledo Mayor Pointed Out He Was A Landlord And "Accused Mr. Merrin Of Catering To The Interests Of Landlords." "Toledo Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson pointed out Mr. Merrin is a landlord and claimed he 'profoundly misunderstands' the problem, the inadequacy of existing state law, and what Toledo's law actually says. 'Toledo would fully support a proactive state-law approach to prevent lead poisoning in children,' she said. 'Unfortunately, Representative Merrin's amendment does nothing to prevent lead poisoning or address worsening health threats. In fact, the amendment guarantees that thousands of Toledo's children will become lead-poisoned in the future.' The mayor also accused Mr. Merrin of catering to the interests of landlords." [Toledo Blade, [4/29/17](#)]

Toledo Mayor: "Representative Merrin Is Trying To Give Himself, And Other Landlords, Safe Harbor To Keep Unsafe And Unregulated Rental Properties In The Market. [... His] Attempt To Put Profits Ahead Of The Health Of Children Is Shameful." "Representative Merrin is trying to give himself, and other

landlords, safe harbor to keep unsafe and unregulated rental properties in the market,' she said. 'Representative Merrin's attempt to put profits ahead of the health of children is shameful.'" [Toledo Blade, [4/29/17](#)]

A Bipartisan Coalition Of Ohio Mayors Opposed Merrin's Amendment Because It "Would Prevent Local Efforts To Thoughtfully And Constructively Protect Against Lead Exposure." "Keary McCarthy, the Ohio Mayor's Alliance McCarthy said the bi-partisan coalition he represented opposes the amendment because it would prevent local efforts to thoughtfully and constructively protect against lead exposure. The alliance also cited concerns that the Ohio Department of Health was not consulted about the changes and could not explain the implications." [Cleveland.com, [5/25/17](#)]

The City Of Toledo Opposed Merrin's Amendment After Broad Support Of Their Local Lead Ordinance. "Peter Ujvagi, Toledo City Council Ujvagi said the city opposes the amendment. The City of Toledo did not take the passage and implementation of our lead ordinance lightly. A great deal of community dialogue, research, evaluation of lead ordinances in other cities, health statistics in Toledo and similar communities, and the involvement of the medical community in Toledo along with the Toledo Lead Safe Coalition went into the development of the ordinance. He said ProMedica Health Partners and Mercy Health Partners, the two premier health systems in Northwest Ohio, along with the University of Toledo Medical Center strongly supported the legislation. The lead ordinance as it is written today has responded to the concerns of investment property owners. Investment owners will be able to easily identify which priority area their property is located. Compliance time has been extended to June 2018, 2019, and 2020 for the properties. A hardship program for those property owners who may have financial difficulties is being set up. Health Department Certification fee for the first two thousand inspections are being waived to encourage compliance." [Cleveland.com, [5/25/17](#)]

The Medical Director Of The Lead Exposure And Detoxification Clinic At Akron's Children's Hospital Opposed Merrin's Amendment

The Medical Director Of The Lead Exposure And Detoxification Clinic At Akron's Children's Hospital Provided Testimony In Opposition To Merrin's Amendment. "Dr. Joel Davidson, medical director Lead Exposure and Detoxification Clinic, Akron Children's Hospital Davidson said for every dollar spent preventing lead poisoning, between \$17 and \$221 is returned. In some Summit County communities the hospital serves, more than 14 percent of children have lead levels in their blood over the established threshold. Akron Children's opposes the amendment. He said public policy can work to reduce lead exposure. It worked by reducing lead in paint, gasoline and consumer products. State level solutions are important to address lead toxicity. Local communities, local governments, local health departments and housing authorities can also be a great resource and can collaborate with the Ohio Health Department to address the problem." [Cleveland.com, [5/25/17](#)]

Nonprofits That Dealt With Lead Poisoning Opposed Merrin's Amendment

The Executive Director Of The Ohio Health Homes Network Said Merrin's Amendment Would Invalidate An Ordinance Calling For More Than 50,000 Toledo Rental Units To Be Lead Safe, Strike Down Laws On Lead Paint Disclosure In Real Estate Transactions, And Impact Lead Abatement In Drinking Water Service Lines. "Patricia Barnes, executive director of the Ohio Health Homes Network Barnes said the amendment was designed to invalidate a Toledo [sic] ordinance that called for more than 50,000 rental units to be lead safe. But the amendment would also preempt codes declaring lead-based paint to be a 'public health nuisance.' It would strike down laws on lead paint disclosure in real estate

transactions and impact lead abatement of lead in drinking water service lines, currently regulated by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency.” [Cleveland.com, [5/25/17](#)]

A Non-Profit Law Firm That Represents Children With Lead Poisoning Opposed Merrin’s Amendment, Saying It Would Take Away Local Control For Addressing Lead Poisoning. “Danielle Godomski Littleton, attorney, The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland Littleton said the non-profit law firm often represents children who were poisoned by lead. [...] Even with that action pending, Legal Aid believes it can work with Cleveland to improve how lead poisoning is addressed. The firm opposes the amendment that would take away local control that would allow cities like Cleveland Toledo to be innovative with solutions.” [Cleveland.com, [5/25/17](#)]

Children Defense Fund Of Ohio Policy Director: Merrin’s Amendment “Would Undermine Efforts To Be Proactive In Preventing Lead Poisoning Through Local Ordinances.” “Ashon McKenzie, policy director, Children Defense Fund (Ohio) McKenzie said the group opposes the amendment because it would undermine efforts to be proactive in preventing lead poisoning through local ordinances, such as the one passed in Toledo last year.” [Cleveland.com, [5/25/17](#)]

The Ohio Department Of Health Was Not Consulted About Merrin’s Amendment

The Ohio Department Of Health Was Not Consulted About The Changes To Addressing Lead Poisoning In Merrin’s Amendment. “Keary McCarthy, the Ohio Mayor’s Alliance McCarthy said the bi-partisan coalition he represented opposes the amendment because it would prevent local efforts to thoughtfully and constructively protect against lead exposure. The alliance also cited concerns that the Ohio Department of Health was not consulted about the changes and could not explain the implications.” [Cleveland.com, [5/25/17](#)]

Cleveland.com Editorial Board: Merrin’s Amendment Was “A Shameful, Self-Serving Effort To Keep Children In Unsafe Housing Just To Save Landlords A Little Money”

Cleveland.com Editorial Board: Merrin’s Amendment Was “A Shameful, Self-Serving Effort To Keep Children In Unsafe Housing Just To Save Landlords A Little Money.” “The Ohio House’s bid to make it easier for landlords to rent tainted properties takes direct aim at a recent Toledo law that requires that small rental properties – up to four-units – built before 1978 must be lead-safe, based on some simple tests, before they can be rented. State Rep. Derek Merrin, a Toledo-area lawmaker who has rental properties himself, according to The Toledo Blade, got the Ohio House to go along with his proposal to give the overwhelmed (and underfunded) state Department of Health sole control over lead control. But the state already relies on localities to enforce lead-poisoning laws. The amendment is a shameful, self-serving effort to keep children in unsafe housing just to save landlords a little money.” [Cleveland.com, [5/6/17](#)]

The Ohio Association Of Real Estate Investors Supported Merrin’s Amendment

The Ohio Association Of Real Estate Investors Supported Merrin’s Amendment. “Dan Acton, Ohio Association of Real Estate Investors Acton said the association supports giving Ohio Department of Health exclusive jurisdiction over lead-based paint regulation and for the state to create a registry of lead safe homes.” [Cleveland.com, [5/25/17](#)]

2024: Merrin Stood By His Proposed Amendment, Calling It “The Only Legislative Solution” To Address The Lead Paint Problem

(VIDEO) 2024: Merrin Defended His Amendment, Calling It “The Only Legislative Solution” To Address The Lead Paint Problem. REPORTERS: “Remember when you tried to poison children with your landlord buddies and the lead paint?” MERRIN: “Oh, stop, stop.” REPORTER: “You didn’t fight against lead paint regulations?” MERRIN: “Oh no, I actually put the Ohio Department of Health in charge of it. They would, they would be better equipped to take care of it than all the different counties would, yeah, yeah, because they haven’t solved the problem. That’s why I tried to actually have a solution for it. Mine was actually the only legislative solution to do it.” [The Rooster, Twitter, [1/12/24](#)]



The Rooster 
@rooster_ohio

...

Actually asked Merrin about this on Wednesday. Majewski is winning the primary, but the one upshot to Merrin somehow winning would be seeing him in a competitive General Election for the first time in his career.



Heartland Signal @HeartlandSignal · Jan 12

Derek Merrin, an establishment-backed GOP candidate vying to unseat Rep. Marcy Kaptur in Ohio’s Ninth District, attempted to ban efforts to remove lead pipes. He called the effort “discriminatory” against landlords.
heartlandsignal.com/2024/01/11/in-...

7:27 PM · Jan 12, 2024 · **13.1K** Views

[The Rooster, Twitter, [1/12/24](#)]

2018: After “Conversations [...] With Local Developers,” Merrin Introduced A Bill That Could Have Cost School Districts Millions Of Dollars

2018: After “Conversations [...] With Local Developers,” Merrin Introduced “A Bill Preventing The Taxable Value Of Land From Increasing Simply Because It Has Been Subdivided For Future Residential Development.” “The Ohio House could vote soon on a bill preventing the taxable value of land from increasing simply because it has been subdivided for future residential development. The property tax restriction would remain in place until construction begins, a parcel is sold, or eight years have passed. House Bill 371, which faces opposition from local governments and school districts, cleared the House Ways and Means Committee Tuesday with bipartisan support. ‘The idea resulted from conversations I had with local developers in northwest Ohio ... who believed that this bill would spur residential development and activity,’ said the bill’s sponsor, Rep. Derek Merrin (R., Monclova Township). If a residential developer wins local zoning approval to subdivide an existing vacant parcel into multiple lots, that in itself would not trigger an increase in the overall parcels’ taxable value. The new parcels could have differing assessments, but their total could not exceed that of the original parcel.” [Toledo Blade, [1/16/18](#)]

Merrin’s Bill “Could Cost School Districts And Other Local Governments Levying Property Taxes In The ‘Low Millions Of Dollars.’” “The Ohio Legislative Service Commission estimates that the bill could cost school districts and other local governments levying property taxes in the ‘low millions of dollars.’ ‘The reason we strongly oppose this bill is we see it as yet another way the state continues to take away our ability to fund our schools,’ Jeff Dornbusch, Port Clinton school district treasurer, said in testimony submitted recently to the committee. ‘While the intent to possibly spur economic activity is understood, we believe there are other tools available at the local level that could provide incentives that can be judged on their individual merits by the local officials,’ he said.” [Toledo Blade, [1/16/18](#)]

[Merrin Supported Changing Ohio’s Prevailing Wage Law, Which Existed To Prevent Government Construction Contract Workers From Being Paid Less Than Nearby Workers On Similar Projects](#)

Merrin Supported Changing Ohio’s Prevailing Wage Law Which Ensured Large Local Government Construction Projects Should Be Paid At Least The Average Wage As Similar Nearby Workers. “Just before the House speaker vote on Jan. 3, Burns texted Patton, ‘I’m (sic) implore you...don’t go with Stephens.’ Patton, a longtime union supporter, replied a couple hours later, ‘Merrin (was) bad for me,’ as Merrin supported an anti-union right-to-work bill and changing the state’s prevailing wage law, which ensures that workers on large local-government construction projects should be paid at least the average wage paid to nearby workers on similar jobs.” [Cleveland.com, [3/27/23](#)]

Prevailing Wage Laws Were Intended To Prevent Construction Contractors “From Basing Their Bids On Wages Lower Than Those In The Prevailing Area.” “Congress first passed a federal law in 1931 called the Davis-Bacon Act that requires private contractors to pay workers on projects that get more than \$2,000 in federal taxpayer money the ‘prevailing wage.’ It has been updated several times. Prevailing wages are usually higher than minimum wage and can reflect what union members in construction trades are paid. The original act prevented ‘contractors from basing their bids on wages lower than those in the prevailing area.’ States can pass their own prevailing wage laws for projects that get state taxpayer money. About half of the states have passed their own laws, which Ohio did in 1931.” [Signal Cleveland, [11/21/23](#)]

2011: Despite “Area Residents’ Objections,” Merrin And Waterville “Granted [The Village] A Special-Use Permit To Operate A Yard-Waste Transfer Facility”

2011: Despite “Area Residents’ Objections,” Merrin And Waterville “Granted [The Village] A Special-Use Permit To Operate A Yard-Waste Transfer Facility.” “Despite area residents’ objections and a lack of recommendation by the planning commission, the city of Waterville has granted itself a special-use permit to operate a yard-waste transfer facility. [...] Council had referred the special-use permit application to the city’s planning commission for a recommendation, but none was made after a split 2-2 commission vote with one member absent. [...] During a public hearing, residents who live near the site raised questions about the safety of motorists as traffic enters and leaves the site and about smell and noise. Mike Hudkins, who lives across the Anthony Wayne Trail from the site, said he wasn’t informed until April 11 about plans for the facility, leaving him little time to present his objections. He accused the city of doing a last-minute runaround. Mayor Derek Merrin said he is confident the city gave proper notification in a timely manner.” [Toledo Blade, 5/18/11]

2017: Merrin Proposed Legislation In The Ohio Statehouse That Sought To “Remove Mandatory Lead Pipe Testing For Rental Properties In Ohio Cities”

2017: Merrin Proposed Legislation That Attempted To “Remove Mandatory Lead Pipe Testing For Rental Properties In Ohio Cities.” “The National Republican Congressional Committee has turned to Derek Merrin, a state representative and real estate investor who once proposed legislation to remove mandatory lead pipe testing for rental properties in Ohio cities, in the state’s Ninth Congressional District race. [...] In 2017, the northwest Ohio representative introduced an amendment to the state budget which would have stripped cities of the authority to test water pipes for lead. The amendment came after a law was unanimously passed by the Toledo City Council to require certain buildings to pass lead pipe inspections before landlords could lease units to tenants. [...] Merrin called the law ‘unconstitutional’ and ‘discriminatory’, sparking his amendment; he said it would protect the Ohio Department of Health from being “undermined and hindered.” At the time, reports also suggested that Merrin received at least \$12,000 in campaign donations from a realtor political action committee and other real estate investors.” [Heartland Signal, 1/11/24]

2022: Merrin Voted For H.B. 364, A “Waterworks Infrastructure Improvement Surcharge”

2022: Merrin Voted For H.B. 364. In May 2022, Merrin voted for H.B. 364 as the House passed the bill in a 74-15 vote. “Regards waterworks infrastructure improvement surcharge. To amend sections 3734.123, 4909.172, 5721.10, 6109.01, 6109.072, and 6109.24 and to enact section 5301.93 of the Revised Code to make changes to the application process for the waterworks infrastructure improvement surcharge and to residential PACE lien priority, to create exceptions to the moratorium on modifications to hazardous waste incinerator installation and operation permits, and to eliminate public water system asset management program requirements for transient noncommunity water systems.” The bill received 61 Republican votes and 13 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 364, 5/18/22]

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International Relations

International Relations Highlights

Merrin “hesitate[d] to support unlimited aid to Ukraine.”

January 2019: a Latina legislative aid accused Merrin of saying that “Mexicans are dangerous people.”

January 2024: Merrin said that “He wants to finish the wall.”

2023: Merrin voted for a bill to “Prohibit state officials, employees, and contractors from using TikTok, WeChat, or any other application or service owned by an entity located in China.”

February 2024: Merrin “Hesitate[d] To Support Unlimited Aid To Ukraine”

February 2024: Merrin “Hesitate[d] To Support Unlimited Aid To Ukraine” And Defended Trump’s NATO Comments. “When Westerhold asked about allegations Trump is too close to Russian leader Vladimir Putin, Merrin said, ‘Oh, stop, come on now.’ He also argued that Trump’s statements about NATO - in which the former president stated he would ‘not protect’ allies who didn’t ‘pay (their) bills’ - have been misconstrued. [...] Both candidates [Merrin and Lankenau] said they oppose Putin and hope Ukraine will win, but they hesitate to support unlimited aid to Ukraine.” [Review Times, [2/28/24](#)]

January 2019: A Latina Legislative Aid Accused Merrin Of Saying That “Mexicans Are Dangerous People”

January 2019: A Latina Legislative Aid Accused Merrin Of Saying That “Mexicans Are Dangerous People.” “[legislative aide Marissa Reyes] also wrote that Monclova Township Rep. Derek Merrin interjected himself into a conversation she was having about her southern Texas hometown at a legislative fundraiser. Merrin added that ‘Mexicans are dangerous people.’ ‘He went on to tell a story of how he was ‘nearly killed’ by a group of Mexican thugs while visiting Mexico,’ Reyes wrote. Merrin told The Enquirer that ‘the allegation is false, pure slander and ludicrous. It is a politically coordinated attack at the last hours to influence the vote for speaker of the House.’” [Cincinnati Enquirer, [1/7/19](#)]

January 2024: Merrin Said “He Wants To Finish The Wall”

January 2024: Merrin Said “He Wants To Finish The Wall” At A Congressional Candidate Forum. “It’s time to ‘finish Trump’s wall,’ said [state Rep. Craig] Riedel, who added that he ‘really struggle(s) with sending any more money to Ukraine.’ [...] Merrin said he wants to finish the wall, too.” [The Courier, [1/27/24](#)]

2023: Merrin Voted For A Bill To “Prohibit State Officials, Employees, And Contractors From Using Tiktok, Wechat, Or Any Other Application Or Service Owned By An Entity Located In China”

2023: Merrin Voted For H.B. 17. In June 2023, Merrin voted for H.B. 17 as the House passed the bill in a 73-21 vote. “Prohibit state officials, employees from using TikTok, other apps. To enact section 125.183 of the Revised Code to prohibit state officials, employees, and contractors from using TikTok, WeChat, or any other application or service owned by an entity located in China.” The bill received 64 Republican votes and 9 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 17, [6/14/23](#)]

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LGBTQ Rights

LGBTQ Rights Highlights

Merrin supported anti-trans legislation as a legislator.

- *In 2022, Merrin cosponsored a bill “that would ban transgender girls and women from participating in girls’ and womens’ sports at Ohio public schools and universities.”*
- *In 2023, Merrin supported an anti-trans bill, H.B. 68, that the Republican governor vetoed.*
- *Merrin later claimed to have been “leading the charge” to override the veto of H.B. 68.*

2021: Merrin tried to make Ohio law read that only a “Husband and wife” could adopt in Ohio, instead of any “Legally married couple.” The change would have been purely semantic.

2018: Merrin voted for H.B. 36, a bill to “Allow [a] Minister not to solemnize marriages contrary to beliefs.”

2023: Merrin voted for H.B. 8, the Parents’ Bill Of Rights, which was likened to the “Don’t Say Gay” bill in Florida.

Merrin co-sponsored several bills to limit the teaching of race and LGBTQ issues in schools.

2022: Equality Ohio gave Merrin’s record an ‘F’ grade.

Merrin Supported Anti-Trans Legislation As A Legislator

2022: Merrin Cosponsored A Bill Requiring A Genital Investigation If Someone’s Gender Was Questioned On A Sports Team

Merrin Cosponsored A Bill Requiring A Genital Investigation If Someone’s Gender Was Questioned On A Sports Team And Banning Transgender Women From Participating In Women’s Sports At Ohio Public Schools And Universities. “Both Merrin and Powell, of Ohio, were co-sponsors of a controversial 2022 bill, which passed the Ohio House, that would ban transgender girls and women from participating in girls’ and womens’ sports at Ohio public schools and universities, and require an invasive investigation of the athlete’s genitals and hormone levels if any other participant questioned their gender. This would mean that, if the bill were to become law, students could be forced to submit to demeaning medical examinations against their will if they wish to play sports, based on nothing more than the suspicions of teammates, opposing players, parents, or anyone else who wanted to interfere with the student’s ability to participate in athletics. Ohio Democrats denounced it as ‘extremist’ and ‘state-sanctioned sexual abuse.’” [Business Insider, [9/21/22](#)]

2023: Merrin Supported An Anti-Trans Bill That The Republican Governor Vetoed

June 2023: Merrin Voted For H.B. 68. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 68, [6/21/23](#)]

December 2023: Merrin Voted For H.B. 68. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 68, [12/13/23](#)]

H.B. 68 Would Restrict Gender-Affirming Care. “H.B. 68 would prevent doctors from prescribing hormones, puberty blockers or gender reassignment surgery before patients turn 18. The legislation does not ban talk therapy, but it requires mental health providers to get permission from at least one parent or guardian to diagnose and treat gender dysphoria.” [Cincinnati Enquirer, [1/23/24](#)]

H.B. 68 Would Ban Trans Women From Playing On High School And College Women’s Sports Teams. “The bill would also ban transgender girls and women from playing on female sports teams in high school and college. The bill doesn’t specify how schools would verify an athlete’s gender if it’s questioned. Players and their families could sue if they believe they lost an opportunity because of a transgender athlete.” [Cincinnati Enquirer, [1/23/24](#)]

Republican Governor DeWine Vetoed H.B. 68, Claiming Decisions About Gender-Affirming Care Should Be Left To Families And Medical Providers. “DeWine vetoed H.B. 68 in December, arguing decisions about gender transition care should be left to families and their medical providers. But the governor’s fellow Republicans disagree and say the bill is necessary to protect Ohio children.” [Cincinnati Enquirer, [1/23/24](#)]

January 2024: Merrin Voted To Override DeWine’s Veto Of H.B. 68. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 68, [1/10/24](#)]

December 2023: Merrin Tweeted “I Strongly Support Vote To Override The Governor’s Veto Of HB 68.” “I strongly support vote to override the Governor’s veto of HB 68. House Republicans have the necessary votes to override in the House. We should do it at our first session in January. We must protect minors from permanent, life-altering surgeries & defend women’s sports.” Derek Merrin, Twitter, [12/29/23](#)]

Merrin Was “Leading The Charge” To Override Gov. DeWine’s Veto Of H.B. 68. “State Representative Derek Merrin, leader of the Ohio House Republicans, is leading the charge to override Governor DeWine’s veto of HB 68. ‘I strongly support overriding the Governor’s outrageous veto of H.B. 68, which I co-sponsored,’ said Representative Merrin. ‘The bill protects minors from permanent, life-altering surgeries from the radical transgender movement pressuring our youth. The bill also protects women’s sports by stopping men forcing their way onto women’s sports teams and dominating the competition.’” [Derek Merrin for Congress, [1/9/24](#)]

HEADLINE: “Ohio To Ban Transition Care After Lawmakers Override Governor’s Veto.” [New York Times, [1/24/24](#)]

Ohio Legislators Voted To Override DeWine’s Veto. “Ohio lawmakers on Wednesday overrode Gov. Mike DeWine’s veto of a bill that would bar transgender minors from receiving puberty blockers, hormone therapy or gender transition surgery. The move by the Republican-controlled state legislature comes less than four weeks after the Republican governor’s veto. The state House voted on Jan. 10 to override Mr. DeWine’s veto, and the Senate has now cleared the way for the law to go into effect, in 90 days.” [New York Times, [1/24/24](#)]

2024: Merrin Said Physicians Perform Gender Reassignment Surgeries “To Make Money And A Profit”

2024: Merrin Said Physicians Perform Gender Reassignment Surgeries “To Make Money And A Profit.” “Let’s be clear, gov. Has an obligation to protect all children from adults who are praying on them and misleading them. What this bill does is says we aren’t going to allow our children to have permanent life altering surgeries done to them that are irreversible. We’re not going to have men being allowed to force their way onto women’s sports teams and dominate them. We’re bringing common sense and sanity

back to Ohio. [...] I'll tell you what a lot of this is about- money. We have a lot of physicians in the medical community, not a lot very few, that are doing these procedures to make money and a profit. Profiting off of vulnerable children and it is outrageous." [American Agenda Interview, 1/25/24]

2021: Merrin Co-Sponsored HB 61, A Bill To Limit Transgender Youth Participation In Girls' Sports

2021: Merrin Co-Sponsored H.B. 61, A Bill To Limit Transgender Youth Participation In Girls' Sports. "The 134th General Assembly is less than a month old, and extreme anti-LGBTQ+ lawmakers have already begun their attacks on transgender youth. [...] The sponsors erroneously claim that girls' and women's sports are somehow under attack by boys and men 'pretending' to be women in order to gain an advantage. In reality, this bill is among the most extreme attacks on transgender young people in recent history." Merrin was listed as a co-sponsor of the bill, H.B. 61. [Equality Ohio, [2/5/21](#)]

2021: Merrin Voted For S.B. 187, The "Save Women's Sports Act"

2021: Merrin Voted For S.B. 187, To Enact The "Save Women's Sports Act." In June 2021, Merrin voted for S.B. 187 as the House passed the bill in a 58-36 vote. "Allow intercollegiate athletes to earn compensation for names. To enact sections 3313.5317, 3345.561, 3376.01, 3376.02, 3376.03, 3376.04, 3376.05, 3376.06, 3376.07, and 3376.08 of the Revised Code to allow intercollegiate athletes to earn compensation from their name, image, or likeness, to enact the Save Women's Sports Act to require schools, state institutions of higher education, and private colleges to designate separate single-sex teams and sports for each sex." The bill received 58 Republican votes and 0 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, S.B. 187, [6/24/21](#)]

2022: Merrin Voted For H.B. 151, An Education Bill That Contained The "Save Women's Sports Act"

2022: Merrin Voted For H.B. 151. In June 2022, Merrin voted for H.B. 151 as the House passed the bill in a 57-30 vote. "Replace Ohio Teacher Residency program with local mentorship. [...] to enact new section 3301.13 and sections 3301.0731, 3301.111, 3301.132, 3313.5318, 3319.225, 3321.042, and 3792.05; and to repeal sections 3301.13, 3302.101, and 3302.102 of the Revised Code and to amend the versions of sections 3319.22 and 3319.223 of the Revised Code that are scheduled to take effect on April 12, 2023; to rename the Department of Education as the Department of Education and Workforce; to create the position of Director of Education and Workforce; and to reform the functions and responsibilities of the State Board of Education and the Superintendent of Public Instruction, to continue the changes on and after that date; to reduce the duration of the Alternative Resident Educator License from four to two years; to permit such a licensee to teach preschool; to revise the Ohio Teacher Residency Program as it exists beginning on April 12, 2023; to require one day of professional development leave each school year for classroom teachers to observe veteran teachers; to enact the Save Women's Sports Act to require schools to designate separate single-sex teams and sports for each sex; to make changes to the home education and non-chartered nonpublic school law; to prohibit schools from discriminating based on COVID-19 vaccination status; and to permit the General Assembly to invalidate or rescind rules adopted by the Director of Education and Workforce." The bill received 57 Republican votes and 0 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 151, [6/1/22](#)]

Merrin Initially Voted In Favor Of A Bill To Ban Trans Athletes From High School Sports, But Later Voted Against An Amended Version That Also Made Changes To The Education Department

Merrin Initially Voted In Favor Of A Bill To Ban Trans Athletes From High School Sports, But Later Voted Against An Amended Version. “Riedel also leveled a disingenuous attack, arguing Merrin voted against a bill to ban trans athletes in high school sports. In fact, Merrin voted for that measure when it initially passed the House. At the very end of the legislative session, however, state Senators amended the measure to include a separate bill overhauling the state education department. Several conservative House members, including Merrin, rejected the idea.” [Ohio Capital Journal, [1/8/24](#)]

2021: Merrin Tried To Make Ohio Law Read That Only A “Husband And Wife” Could Adopt In Ohio, Instead Of Any “Legally Married Couple”

2021: Merrin Asked State Budget Drafters To Replace A “Legally Married Couple” Reference With “Husband And Wife.” “A dispute over a single line in the 2,057-page state budget bill - passed by the Ohio House of Representatives on Wednesday - has some civil rights advocates frustrated as they continue urging the enactment of an anti-discrimination law in this state. [...] Two Republican state representatives in particular asked that budget drafters strike the ‘legally married couple’ reference and reinsert ‘husband and wife’ - Reps. Reggie Stoltzfus, R-Paris Twp., and Derek Merrin, R-Monclova.” [Ohio Capital Journal, [4/23/21](#)]

Merrin Requested That The Budget Language Remain That Only A “Husband And Wife” Could Adopt In Ohio, Instead Of Any “Legally Married Couple.” “Later on Thursday, the Ohio Capital Journal obtained the budget amendment requests. Two Republican state representatives in particular asked that budget drafters strike the ‘legally married couple’ reference and reinsert ‘husband and wife’ - Reps. Reggie Stoltzfus, R-Paris Twp., and Derek Merrin, R-Monclova.” [Ohio Capital Journal, [4/23/21](#)]

Due To Obergefell, The Language Change Would Be Purely Semantics And Carry No Legal Weight. “House Finance Chairman Scott Oelslager said doing so carries no legal weight and that LGBTQ+ couples retain their right to adopt children. ‘It’s a semantic issue. It does not prevent adoptions (for) same-sex couples,’ the North Canton Republican said. ‘It’s just simply a semantic definition so to speak, or semantic statement that was in the code.’” [Ohio Capital Journal, [4/23/21](#)]

2018: Merrin Voted For H.B. 36, A Bill To “Allow [A] Minister Not To Solemnize Marriages Contrary To Beliefs”

2018: Merrin Voted For H.B. 36. In June 2018, Merrin voted for H.B. 36 as the House passed the bill in a 61-30 vote. “Allow minister not to solemnize marriages contrary to beliefs. To amend sections 3101.08 and 4112.02 of the Revised Code to provide that an ordained or licensed minister or religious society is not required to solemnize a marriage and a religious society is not required to allow any building or property of the religious society to be used to host a marriage ceremony if the marriage does not conform to the ordained or licensed minister’s or religious society’s sincerely held religious beliefs, to provide that an ordained or licensed minister or religious society is not subject to civil or criminal liability for such a denial, to provide that the state and political subdivisions may not penalize or withhold benefits to an ordained or licensed minister or religious society for such a denial, and to make changes to the law governing unlawful discriminatory practices.” The bill received 57 Republican votes and 4 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 36, [6/27/18](#)]

2023: Merrin Voted For H.B. 8, The Parents’ Bill of Rights, Likened To The “Don’t Say Gay” Bill

2023: Merrin Voted For H.B. 8, The Parents’ Bill of Rights

2023: Merrin Voted For H.B. 8. In June 2023, Merrin voted for H.B. 8 as the House passed the bill in a 65-29 vote. “Enact the Parents’ Bill of Rights. To amend sections 3314.03 and 3326.11 and to enact section 3313.473 of the Revised Code to enact the “Parents’ Bill of Rights” to require public schools to adopt a policy on parental notification on student health and well-being and instructional materials with sexuality content.” The bill received 65 Republican votes and 0 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 8, [6/21/23](#)]

Critics Of H.B. 8 “Likened The Bill To Florida’s ‘Don’t Say Gay’ Bill”

Critics Of H.B. 8 “Likened The Bill To Florida’s ‘Don’t Say Gay’ Bill.” “An Ohio House bill to notify parents of any content in state schools that may contain ‘sexuality’ was introduced before an Ohio Senate committee on Tuesday. Critics likened the bill to Florida’s ‘Don’t Say Gay’ bill, which was implemented in 2022 and bars classroom discussion for some grade levels on sexual orientation and gender identity. [...] During its run through the House, the bill was opposed by a variety of youth advocacy groups, including the Kaleidoscope Youth Center, the Children’s Defense Fund-Ohio and the Trevor Project, along with some school districts, the ACLU of Ohio, the Ohio Education Association and the Ohio School Counselor Association. The groups took issue with House Bill 8’s language, which requires schools to notify parents and allows parents to remove students from classes based on the “sexuality content” of those classes, and amendments made while the bill was still in the House that LGBTQ advocates said made topics related to the LGBTQ community ‘perhaps inappropriate for the classroom,’ according to Equality Ohio’s then-spokesperson Kathryn Poe, during the House committee process.” [Ohio Capital Journal, [12/6/23](#)]

Merrin Co-Sponsored Several Bills To Limit The Teaching Of Race And LGBTQ Issues In Schools

2021: Merrin Co-Sponsored H.B. 322, A Bill To Regulate “The Teaching Of Certain Current Events, Race, And Sex”

2021: Merrin Co-Sponsored H.B. 322, A Bill To Regulate “The Teaching Of Certain Current Events, Race, And Sex.” [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 322, [6/10/21](#)]

Equality Ohio Deemed H.B. 322 A “Bad Queer Bill.” [Equality Ohio, 2022 Lawmaker Scorecard, [Accessed 5/12/24](#)]

2021: Merrin Co-Sponsored H.B. 327, A Bill To “Prohibit Teaching, Advocating, Or Promoting Divisive Concepts”

2021: Merrin Co-Sponsored H.B. 327, A Bill To “Prohibit Teaching, Advocating, Or Promoting Divisive Concepts.” [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 327, [6/10/21](#)]

Equality Ohio Deemed H.B. 327 A “Bad Queer Bill.” [Equality Ohio, 2022 Lawmaker Scorecard, [Accessed 5/12/24](#)]

2022: Equality Ohio Gave Merrin’s Record An ‘F’ Grade

2022: Equality Ohio Gave Merrin’s Record An ‘F’ Grade. In 2022, Equality Ohio gave Merrin’s legislative record an “F” grade. [Equality Ohio, 2022 Lawmaker Scorecard, [Accessed 5/3/24](#)]

Military, National Security, and Veterans' Affairs

Military, National Security, and Veterans' Affairs Highlights

2020: Merrin was accused of "Failing to participate in any meetings of the Ohio House's 'Armed Services And Veterans Affairs' Committee and displaying a lack of interest in the 180th Fighter Wing."

Merrin tweeted in reference to Israel: "We cannot abandon our strongest ally in the middle east as it faces direct acts of terrorism from Iran and their proxies."

2021: During the time that confederate statues were being removed nationwide, Merrin voted in favor of H.B. 190 "To prohibit a war relic located on public property or cemetery association property from being sold, disturbed, or otherwise disposed of."

2020: Merrin Was Accused Of "Failing To Participate In Any Meetings Of The Ohio House's 'Armed Services And Veterans Affairs' Committee And Displaying A Lack Of Interest In The 180Th Fighter Wing"

2020: Merrin Was Accused Of "Failing To Participate In Any Meetings Of The Ohio House's 'Armed Services And Veterans Affairs' Committee And Displaying A Lack Of Interest In The 180Th Fighter Wing." "Mr. [Adam] Miller [D, Columbus] accused Mr. Merrin, who resides in Monclova Township, of failing to participate in any meetings of the Ohio House's 'Armed Services and Veterans Affairs' committee and displaying a lack of interest in the 180th Fighter Wing when he did not show up to a tour of the base in 2019. [...] According to Mr. Miller, he was one of the few representatives across the political aisle not to do so statewide, a decision Mr. Miller described as a 'slap in the face.'" [Toledo Blade, 10/27/20]

Merrin Tweeted In Reference To Israel: "We Cannot Abandon Our Strongest Ally In The Middle East As It Faces Direct Acts Of Terrorism From Iran And Their Proxies"

Merrin Tweeted In Reference To Israel: "We Cannot Abandon Our Strongest Ally In The Middle East As It Faces Direct Acts Of Terrorism From Iran And Their Proxies." In April of 2024 Merrin tweeted: "America must stand with @Israel, and show the world that Israel and the Jewish people are not alone. [...] We cannot abandon our strongest ally in the Middle East as it faces direct acts of terrorism from Iran and their proxies. Pray for Israel! 🙏"



[Twitter, @DerekMerrin, [4/13/24](#)]

Over 30,000 Palestinians Have Been Killed Since The Onset Of The Israel-Gaza War

Over 30,000 Palestinians Have Been Killed Since The Onset Of The Israel-Gaza War. “Gaza’s health ministry said Thursday that the number of Palestinians killed in the war has surpassed 30,000. The official number now stands at 30,035 deaths. The figure is widely viewed as the most reliable one available. [...] Thousands remain unaccounted for - either missing under the rubble, buried hastily in side streets or decomposing in areas that can’t be safely reached.” [NPR, [2/29/24](#)]

Following A Suspected Israeli Strike On An Iranian Diplomatic Complex In Syria, Iran Carried Out Limited Retaliatory Strikes Against Israel

Following A Suspected Israeli Strike On An Iranian Diplomatic Complex In Syria, Iran Carried Out Limited Retaliatory Strikes Against Israel. “Iran launched an unprecedented large-scale drone and missile attack at Israel on Saturday night, in retaliation for a suspected Israeli strike on an Iranian diplomatic complex in Syria, bringing the long-running shadow war between the two sides into the open and raising the prospect of full-blown regional conflict. [...] Biden told Netanyahu he should consider the events of Saturday night a ‘win’ as Iran’s attacks had been largely unsuccessful, and instead demonstrated Israel’s ‘remarkable capacity to defend against and defeat even unprecedented attacks.’ [...] Fears that Israel’s war in Gaza could spiral into a wider regional conflict have been rising since Iran accused Israel of bombing its diplomatic complex in Syria earlier this month. [...] The airstrike destroyed the consulate building in the capital Damascus, killing at least seven officials including Mohammed Reza Zahedi, a top commander in Iran’s elite Revolutionary Guards (IRGC), and senior commander Mohammad Hadi Haji Rahimi, Iran’s foreign ministry said at the time.” [CNN, [4/13/24](#)]

United Nations World Food Program: “Gaza Has Entered ‘Full-Blown Famine’ After Nearly Seven Months Of War Between Israel And Hamas”

United Nations World Food Program: “Gaza Has Entered ‘Full-Blown Famine’ After Nearly Seven Months Of War Between Israel And Hamas.” “The head of the United Nations World Food Program says northern Gaza has entered ‘full-blown famine’ after nearly seven months of war between Israel and Hamas. But a formal, and highly sensitive, famine declaration faces the complications of politics and of confirming how many people have died. [...] Cindy McCain in an NBC interview broadcast Sunday said severe Israeli restrictions on humanitarian deliveries to the territory that has long relied on outside food assistance have pushed civilians in the most isolated, devastated part of Gaza over the brink. Famine was now moving south in Gaza, she said. [...] A WFP spokesman later told The Associated Press that one of the three benchmarks for a formal famine declaration has already been met in northern Gaza and another is nearly met - important details on how far the effort to document deadly hunger has progressed.” [AP News, [5/6/24](#)]

[2021: During The Time That Confederate Statues Were Being Removed Nationwide, Merrin Voted In Favor Of H.B. 190 “To Prohibit A War Relic Located On Public Property Or Cemetery Association Property From Being Sold, Disturbed, Or Otherwise Disposed Of”](#)

2021: During The Time That Confederate Statues Were Being Removed Nationwide, Merrin Voted In Favor Of H.B. 190 “To Prohibit A War Relic Located On Public Property Or Cemetery Association Property From Being Sold, Disturbed, Or Otherwise Disposed Of.” On 6/10/21 Merrin voted in favor of H.B. 190: “To amend sections 149.30 and 155.99 and to enact section 155.28 of the Revised Code to prohibit a war relic located on public property or cemetery association property from being sold, disturbed, or otherwise disposed of, except under certain circumstances, and to designate this act as the ‘Ohio Veterans’ Heritage Protection Act.” The bill unanimously passed the House 67-0. [Ohio Legislature, [6/10/21](#)]

Most Of Ohio’s Confederate Monuments Were In Confederate Memorial Cemeteries, Courtesy Of The United Daughters Of The Confederacy

Most Of Ohio’s Confederate Monuments Were In Confederate Memorial Cemeteries, Courtesy Of The United Daughters Of The Confederacy. “As racial tensions have risen across the country following George Floyd’s death in Minneapolis, Minnesota last month, some have called for removing statues of Confederate military figures. [...] In Ohio, Columbus State Community College removed its statue of the namesake explorer Christopher Columbus. [...] It’s hardly surprising that Ohio is full of monuments dedicated to those who fought on the Union side to end slavery and preserve the country. The Buckeye State was forged from the Northwest Ordinance of 1787 as a free state and furnished more than 300,000 troops to winning the Civil War that ended in 1865. [...] The United Daughters of the Confederacy, a group that blanketed the South with memorials, also had a hand in seeding monuments to Confederate soldiers in Union states after the war. [...] The group has placed at least five Confederate-related memorials in Ohio, the last as recently as 2003. Most are located in a cemetery where Confederate soldiers who perished in a prisoner-of-war camp are buried.” [Dayton Daily News, [6/24/20](#)]

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Unions and Organized Labor

Unions and Organized Labor Highlights

2017: Merrin cosponsored a public employee right-to-work bill, thus trying to weaken union power.

2017: Merrin introduced a bill requiring state employees to pay 15% of their dental, vision, and life insurance premiums.

2011 and 2017: On multiple occasions, Merrin tried to cut the number of paid sick days for government employees, succeeding once in cutting days nearly in half.

2011: Merrin supported a bill intended to limit the collective bargaining rights of public employees, which Ohio voters later voted to overturn.

Merrin supported changing Ohio's prevailing wage law, which existed to prevent government construction contract workers from getting paid less than nearby workers on similar projects.

2017: Merrin Cosponsored A Public Employee Right-To-Work Bill, Thus Trying To Weaken Union Power

2017: Merrin Cosponsored A Public Employee Right-To-Work Bill

HEADLINE: "Merrin Backs Public Employee Right-To-Work Bill." [Toledo Blade, [2/16/17](#)]

Merrin Sponsored A Right-To-Work Bill. "State Rep. Derek Merrin (R.) of Monclova Township is one of three northwest Ohioans in the General Assembly to co-sponsor a right-to-work bill in the General Assembly that would apply to public employees." [Toledo Blade, [2/16/17](#)]

Merrin Sponsored H.B. 53, Which Would "Remove Any Requirement [...] That Public Employees Join Or Pay Dues To Any Employee Organization." "To amend sections 9.81, 121.40, 124.14, 124.15, 3345.31, 4117.03, 4117.04, 4117.05, 4117.09, 4117.10, 4117.11, 4121.03, 4121.121, 4121.69, and 5501.20 of the Revised Code to remove any requirement under the Public Employees Collective Bargaining Law that public employees join or pay dues to any employee organization, to prohibit public employers from requiring public employees to join or pay dues to any employee organization, to prohibit an employee organization from being required to represent public employees who are not members of the employee organization, and to make an appropriation." [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 53, filed [2/13/17](#)]

2017: Merrin Cosponsored A Private Employee Right-To-Work Bill

Merrin Cosponsored H.B. 113, Which Would "Prohibit Any Requirement That Employees Of Private Employers Join Or Pay Dues To Any Employee Organization." "To enact sections 4119.01, 4119.02, 4119.04, 4119.05, 4119.06, 4119.07, 4119.08, and 4119.99 of the Revised Code to prohibit any requirement that employees of private employers join or pay dues to any employee organization and to establish civil and criminal penalties against employers who violate that prohibition." [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 113, filed, [3/7/17](#)]

Right-To-Work Bills Decrease Wages And Weaken Workers' Power To Unionize

Center For American Progress: Right-To-Work Laws Drive Down Wages, “Make It Easier For More Of The Economy’s Gains To Flow Straight To The Country’s Wealthiest People [... And Weaken] Workers’ Power To Join Together In Unions.” “By reducing workers’ voice, right-to-work laws drive down the wages and reduce the economic well-being of all workers-union and nonunion alike. At the same time, right-to-work laws make it easier for more of the economy’s gains to flow straight to the country’s wealthiest people. A national right-to-work law would keep even more power in the hands of companies that, despite record corporate profits in recent years, have not shared their gains with workers. And by weakening workers’ power to join together in unions, Republicans will be able to limit the voices of ordinary Americans in our democracy, since these organizations help ensure that more people vote and advocate for policies that are essential to working Americans.” [Center for American Progress, [5/18/17](#)]

2023 House Speaker Race: Republican Members With Union Ties Were Wary To Support Merrin Due To His Right-For-Work Legislation Advocacy

In The 2023 Race For Ohio House Speaker, Republican Members With Ties To Unions Were Wary To Support Merrin Due To His Advocacy For Right-To-Work Legislation. “In Ohio, Kogan noted, ‘there is a really important interest group story as well. Given the impotence of the small Democratic minority here, organized labor has been contributing significantly to Republican legislative candidates.’ In other words, some Republican members of the Ohio House have ties to unions that made them wary of supporting Merrin because of his advocacy of right-to-work legislation.” [New York Times, Thomas Edsall Op-Ed, [1/11/23](#)]

2011 And 2017: On Multiple Occasions, Merrin Tried To Cut The Number Of Paid Sick Days For Government Employees, Succeeding Once In Cutting Days Nearly In Half

2011: As Waterville Mayor, Merrin Cut The Number Of Paid Sick Days For Village Employees By Nearly Half

2011: Merrin Cut Paid Sick Days For Village Employees From 18 To 10. “During a meeting in which three council members were absent, Mayor Derek Merrin squeezed out support for his proposal to reduce the number of paid sick days for village employees, a vote critical to his ongoing efforts to trim Waterville’s operating expenses. Effective 30 days from last week’s session, village workers will be allowed up to 10 days of paid sick time annually, down from the current 18.” [Toledo Blade, [3/9/11](#)]

2017: Merrin Sponsored A Bill To Reduce Annual Sick Leave For University And Local Public Employees In Ohio By One Third

In The Ohio Legislature, Merrin Sponsored A Bill To Reduce Annual Sick Leave For University And Local Public Employees In Ohio. “City, county, school and college employees across Ohio could receive less annual sick leave under a bill introduced Thursday in the Ohio General Assembly. The bill reduces the number of sick days given to public employees to 10. This is already the maximum for state employees, but many local government employees get up to 15 days of sick leave a year. ‘We’re aligning what state workers get and local government,’ said state Rep. Derek Merrin, R-Monclova Twp., who sponsored the bill. He called the 15-day limit for local government ‘an excessive state mandate that drives up cost for local governments.’” [Journal-News, [9/13/17](#)]

Merrin's Bill Would Reduce Sick Leave Time By One Third. "A bill introduced by state Rep. Derek Merrin (R., Monclova Township) would reduce by one-third the number of sick leave days university and local public employees in Ohio could accumulate. Mr. Merrin said Monday his bill is aimed at saving money for local governments, school boards, and the state." [Toledo Blade, [7/4/17](#)]

Merrin's Bill Was Criticized As "An Attempt To Undermine Collective Bargaining" And Intrude On Local Governments' Authority To Set Employee Compensation

Public Employee Unions Criticized Merrin's Bill As "An Attempt To Undermine Collective Bargaining." "Public employee unions criticize the proposal as an attempt to undermine collective bargaining. 'We have relationships we built up, we know the communities, the know the employees, the administration knows its workers. It's something best left for people to agree on in their own communities,' said Joe Weidner, spokesman for Ohio AFSCME Council 8, which represents 40,000 mostly-public-sector union workers in Ohio." [Journal-News, [9/13/17](#)]

****A Local City Manager Said He Would Rather State Lawmakers Leave Employee Compensation To Local Governments, "If [Merrin] Wants To Be In Local Government, Why Doesn't He Go Back And Run For Mayor Of The Community He Was At?"****David Hicks, city manager of Moraine - slightly larger than Waterville - said he would rather state lawmakers left employee compensation up to local governments. 'If he wants to be in local government, why doesn't he go back and run for mayor of the community he was at,' he said." [Journal-News, [9/13/17](#)]

2011: Merrin Supported A Bill Intended To Limit The Collective Bargaining Rights Of Public Employees, Which Ohio Voters Later Voted To Overturn

2011: Merrin Supported A Bill Intended "To Limit The Collective Bargaining Rights Of Public Employees" By Prohibiting Them From Striking, Limiting Negotiation Subjects, And Requiring Employees To Pay For At Least 15% Of Their Health Insurance

2011: Merrin Supported A Bill, S.B. 5, "To Limit The Collective Bargaining Rights Of Public Employees," Calling The Bill "Reasonable And Fair." "On the heels of Toledo Mayor Mike Bell's official endorsement of a contentious law to limit the collective bargaining rights of public employees, the mayor of Waterville yesterday announced his own support for the measure. Derek Merrin, a Republican who took office in 2008, told The Blade he believes the law commonly referred-to as S.B. 5 is 'reasonable and fair' and protects taxpayers. He planned to announce his support last night at a 'Taxpayer Town Hall' event in Tiffin, sponsored by the conservative group Americans for Prosperity. 'I think all communities need to implement these reasonable measures,' Mayor Merrin said. 'I was proud of Mayor Bell and I'm glad he's standing up to the union and standing up for the people of Toledo.'" [Toledo Blade, [9/2/11](#)]

S.B. 5 "Prohibits Public Employees From Striking, Limits Subjects Of Negotiation At The Bargaining Table, [And] Requires Employees To Pay At Least 15 Percent Of Their Health Insurance." "The far-reaching S.B. 5, among other things, prohibits all public employees from striking, limits the subjects of negotiation at the bargaining table, requires employees to pay at least 15 percent of their health insurance, and prohibits the automatic deduction of 'fair-share' fees in lieu of dues from the paychecks of employees who refuse to join the workplace union." [Toledo Blade, [9/2/11](#)]

The Law Ended The Rights Of Ohio Employees To Collectively Bargain For Fair Wages And Safer Work Conditions. "Ohio House Democratic lawmakers reflected on the GOP-led passage of S.B. 5

today, marking the three year anniversary of Gov. Kasich signing the bill into law. The law ended the rights of Ohio employees— educators, firefighters, police officers, prison guards, school employees, healthcare professionals and others-to collectively bargain for fair wages and safe work conditions. Ultimately, SB 5 was overwhelmingly overturned by a citizen-led repeal.” [Ohio House of Representatives, Democratic Newsroom, [3/31/14](#)]

Seven Months After The Bill Was Signed Into Law, 61% Of Ohio Residents Voted To Overturn It

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“More than seven months after Republican Gov. John Kasich signed it into law, Ohioans have repealed SB 5, the anti-union legislation that would curb collective bargaining rights for 350,000 public workers and gut the political power of public-sector unions. With nearly 2.4 million votes cast, Issue 2, the up-or-down ballot referendum deciding SB 5’s fate, was headed for a whopping defeat, 61 percent to 39 percent. The Associated Press called the race for Issue 2 opponents around 9:15 p.m.” [Mother Jones, [11/9/11](#)]

[Merrin Supported Changing Ohio’s Prevailing Wage Law, Which Existed To Prevent Government Construction Contract Workers From Getting Paid Less Than Nearby Workers On Similar Projects](#)

Merrin Supported Changing Ohio’s Prevailing Wage Law Which Ensured Large Local Government Construction Projects Should Be Paid At Least The Average Wage As Similar Nearby Workers.

“Just before the House speaker vote on Jan. 3, Burns texted Patton, ‘I’m (sic) implore you...don’t go with Stephens.’ Patton, a longtime union supporter, replied a couple hours later, ‘Merrin (was) bad for me,’ as Merrin supported an anti-union right-to-work bill and changing the state’s prevailing wage law, which ensures that workers on large local-government construction projects should be paid at least the average wage paid to nearby workers on similar jobs.” [Cleveland.com, [3/7/23](#)]

Prevailing Wage Laws Were Intended To Prevent Construction Contractors “From Basing Their Bids On Wages Lower Than Those In The Prevailing Area.” “Congress first passed a federal law in 1931 called the Davis-Bacon Act that requires private contractors to pay workers on projects that get more than \$2,000 in federal taxpayer money the ‘prevailing wage.’ It has been updated several times. Prevailing wages are usually higher than minimum wage and can reflect what union members in construction trades are paid. The original act prevented ‘contractors from basing their bids on wages lower than those in the prevailing area.’ States can pass their own prevailing wage laws for projects that get state taxpayer money. About half of the states have passed their own laws, which Ohio did in 1931.” [Signal Cleveland, [11/21/23](#)]

[2024: Merrin Said “The Construction Trades Endorsed Me The Last Time, Marcy Is Very Close To Them But I Think Many Of Them Are Realizing The Dems Aren’t Necessarily The Pro-Union Folks”](#)

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GUEST: [35:20] “Any difference with the unions always backing Marcy?” MERRIN: “Yeah, the construction trades endorsed me the last time, in my race for the state house Marcy is very close to them but I think many of them are realizing that the democrats aren’t necessarily the pro-union folks.

Immigration is a classic example of that. Illegal immigration is taking a lot of the union jobs, it needs to be said and it needs to be called out on. I think a lot of the union folks will vote for us." [Port Clinton Meet & Greet, 35:20-36:03, 3/13/24] (AUDIO)

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Waterville Mayor and City Council

Waterville Mayor and City Council Highlights

2011: As Waterville Mayor, Merrin cut the number of paid sick days for Village employees by nearly half.

2011: Merrin supported a bill intended to limit the collective bargaining rights of public employees, which Ohio voters later voted to overturn.

2011: while Merrin was the Mayor Of Waterville he “Proposed employees cover 30 percent of their health-care costs, up from the [then] Current 15 percent.”

2011: Merrin sought to rein in Waterville’s budget by cutting staff members.

2011: Merrin attended the Tea Party’s “Third annual Tax Day Rally” wherein he advocated for attendants to use local government as a stepping stone to push their agenda in “State and national posts.”

2012: While he was the Mayor Of Waterville, Merrin appointed Officer David LaGrange, who was later accused of purposely withholding body camera evidence, to be Police Chief.

2010: Then-Mayor Merrin sought to have a monthly trash fee put on the ballot after he failed to have the City Council approve it.

2011: Despite “Area residents’ objections,” Merrin and Waterville “Granted [the village] A special-use permit to operate a yard-waste transfer facility.”

2008: Merrin voiced opposition to TARTA, claiming Waterville “Gets poor value for its tax dollars and that many who board buses in Waterville live outside the village.”

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Merrin’s Motion To Reduce Sick Days Passed 3-1. “The mayor’s [Merrin’s] motion to reduce sick time days was approved on a 3-1 vote with Councilman John Gouttiere opposed and the mayor, Mr. Marty, and Jim Valtin in favor.” [Toledo Blade, [3/10/11](#)]

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The Bill Would Prohibit Public Employees From Striking, Limit Subjects Of Negotiation At The Bargaining Table, And Require Employees To Pay At Least 15% Of Their Health Insurance. “The far-reaching S.B. 5, among other things, prohibits all public employees from striking, limits the subjects of negotiation at the bargaining table, requires employees to pay at least 15 percent of their health insurance, and prohibits the automatic deduction of ‘fair-share’ fees in lieu of dues from the paychecks of employees who refuse to join the workplace union.” [Toledo Blade, [9/2/11](#)]

The Law Ended The Rights Of Ohio Employees To Collectively Bargain For Fair Wages And Safer Work Conditions. “Ohio House Democratic lawmakers reflected on the GOP-led passage of S.B. 5 today, marking the three year anniversary of Gov. Kasich signing the bill into law. The law ended the rights of Ohio employees— educators, firefighters, police officers, prison guards, school employees, healthcare professionals and others-to collectively bargain for fair wages and safe work conditions. Ultimately, SB 5 was overwhelmingly overturned by a citizen-led repeal.” [Ohio House of Representatives, Democratic Newsroom, [3/31/14](#)]

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2011: While Merrin Was The Mayor Of Waterville He “Proposed Employees Cover 30 Percent Of Their Health-Care Costs, Up From The [Then] Current 15 Percent.” “Mayor Merrin said he did not know why health-care prices were the highest in the region, but added that Waterville’s relatively small

size—a population of 5,523 in 2010 – factored into health insurance rates and predisposed the city to higher costs in the wake of any individual needs. [...] The mayor said there were no planned policy changes as a result of the survey. He added that he proposed employees cover 30 percent of their health-care costs, up from the current 15 percent, by boosting their share by 3 percent a year over a five-year period. Municipal Administrator Jim Bagdonas said the proposal was tabled six months ago.” [Toledo Blade, [7/12/11](#)]

2011: Merrin Sought To Rein In Waterville’s Budget By Cutting Staff Members

2011: Merrin Sought To Rein In Waterville’s Budget By Cutting Staff Members. “Waterville council is to hold a public hearing Monday on the village’s proposed 2011 operating budget. It reflects the village’s efforts to be more fiscally conservative and efficient, Mayor Derek Merrin said. [...] Waterville’s biggest cost is salaries and benefits, and steps have been taken to rein those in, Mr. Merrin said. [...] Savings stem in part from staff reductions. ‘We are down four employees,’ the mayor said.” [Toledo Blade, [1/5/11](#)]

2011: Merrin Attended The Tea Party’s “Third Annual Tax Day Rally,” Where He Advocated For Attendees To Use Local Government As A Stepping Stone To Push Their Agenda In “State And National Posts”

2011: Merrin Attended The Tea Party’s “Third Annual Tax Day Rally,” Where He Advocated For Attendees To Use Local Government As A Stepping Stone To Push Their Agenda In “State And National Posts.” “An estimated 75 Tea Party supporters braved rain, wind, and chilly conditions to attend the third annual Tax Day Rally held Saturday afternoon at Hood Park, sponsored by the Northwest Ohio Patriot Coalition. [...] Waterville Mayor Derek Merrin seemed to take LeRoux’s message a step further, encouraging attendees to run for local political posts, including city council and school boards. That is the way change happens, he said, explaining that such positions often serve as stepping stones to state and national posts.” [Sentinel-Tribune, [4/18/11](#)]

Tea Party Rally Attendants Often Sported Racist And Bigoted Signage Denouncing Obama’s Presidency

Tea Party Rally Attendants Often Sported Racist And Bigoted Signage Denouncing Obama’s Presidency. “Within days of President Obama’s inauguration seven and a half years ago, the Tea Party took national politics by storm. Sympathetic pundits and affiliated politicians claimed that the movement amounted to the formation of a new third party that represented widespread economic concerns, its motivation based on outrage over deficit spending, the stimulus package, and the national debt. [...] Yet coverage of Tea Party rallies also included images of protest signs covered with racist slogans such as ‘A Village in Kenya Is Missing Its Idiot: Deport Obama!’ ‘Congress = Slave Owner; Taxpayer = N**gar,’ and ‘Imam Obama Wants to Ban Pork: Don’t Let Him Steal Your Meat,’ among other inflammatory proclamations.” [Vox, [7/7/16](#)]

2012: While He Was The Mayor Of Waterville, Merrin Appointed Officer David LaGrange, Who Was Later Accused Of Purposely Withholding Body Camera Evidence, To Be Police Chief

2012: While He Was The Mayor Of Waterville, Merrin Appointed Officer David LaGrange To Be Police Chief. “David LaGrange will be thousands of miles away from penguins that bite when he takes over the police chief duties in the city of Waterville next week. [...] A committee made up of former Mayor Derek Merrin, councilmen Jeff Marty and Michael Metzger, retired Chief Selders, and Mr. Bagdonas assisting with the selection process unanimously recommended Mr. LaGrange. [...] ‘Chief LaGrange is the complete package. His breadth of experience, keen intellect, and likeable personality will make him a great fit for Waterville,’ Mr. Merrin said. ‘We were fortunate to have many qualified applicants for the chief’s position. However, Chief LaGrange’s 30-plus years of law enforcement experience, including 10 years as Tiffin’s police chief, was a key factor in the decision-making process.’” [Toledo Blade, [1/25/12](#)]

2018: In A Leaked YouTube Video LaGrange Was Accused Of Purposely Withholding Body Camera Evidence

2018: In A Leaked YouTube Video LaGrange Was Accused Of Purposely Withholding Body Camera Evidence. “Chief David LaGrange, first lies then blames his computer for why his department illegally withheld evidence. He is in clear violation of the Brady Rule, based on the supreme court ruling in Brady v. Maryland, 373 U.S. 83 (1963)- it’s explained in the video.” [YouTube, Waterville, Ohio, 0:14, [11/28/18](#)]

[2010: Then-Mayor Merrin Sought To Have A Monthly Trash Fee Put On The Ballot After He Failed To Have The City Council Approve It](#)

2010: Then-Mayor Merrin Sought To Have A Monthly Trash Fee Put On The Ballot After He Failed To Have The City Council Approve It. “Waterville residents could cast ballots to decide whether a \$4 a [sic] month per dwelling trash fee will be imposed. During a council meeting last night Mayor Derek Merrin said he would see about putting the issue on the ballot, and would check into filing deadlines and the cost. His suggestion came after his motion to remove the trash fee from consideration by village officials, who are finalizing the 2010 general fund budget, failed to garner enough support from council members.” [Toledo Blade, 2/9/10]

[2011: Despite “Area Residents’ Objections,” Merrin And Waterville “Granted \[The Village\] A Special-Use Permit To Operate A Yard-Waste Transfer Facility”](#)

2011: Despite “Area Residents’ Objections,” Merrin And Waterville “Granted [The Village] A Special-Use Permit To Operate A Yard-Waste Transfer Facility.” “Despite area residents’ objections and a lack of recommendation by the planning commission, the city of Waterville has granted itself a special-use permit to operate a yard-waste transfer facility. [...] Council had referred the special-use permit application to the city’s planning commission for a recommendation, but none was made after a split 2-2 commission vote with one member absent. [...] During a public hearing, residents who live near the site raised questions about the safety of motorists as traffic enters and leaves the site and about smell and noise. Mike Hudkins, who lives across the Anthony Wayne Trail from the site, said he wasn’t informed until April 11 about plans for the facility, leaving him little time to present his objections. He accused the city of doing a last-minute runaround. Mayor Derek Merrin said he is confident the city gave proper notification in a timely manner.” [Toledo Blade, 5/18/11]

2008: Merrin Voiced Opposition To TARTA, Claiming Waterville “Gets Poor Value For Its Tax Dollars And That Many Who Board Buses In Waterville Live Outside The Village”

2008: Merrin Voiced Opposition To TARTA, Claiming Waterville “Gets Poor Value For Its Tax Dollars And That Many Who Board Buses In Waterville Live Outside The Village.” “A Toledo city councilman yesterday said a proposal to give communities the option of voting themselves out of regional transportation systems such as TARTA would hinder regional economic development. [...] Waterville Village Council debated the merits of House Bill 480 during its meeting last week, but took no action. Mayor Derek Merrin said the village gets poor value for its tax dollars and that many who board buses in Waterville live outside the village, in Whitehouse or Monclova Township.” [Toledo Blade, [4/1/08](#)]

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Ohio House, 2016-2024

Ohio House, 2016-2024 Highlights

August 2, 2016-2024: Merrin served in the Ohio House of Representatives.

- *2023: Merrin served as Vice Chair of the Ways and Means Committee but no longer served on the committee by May 2023.*
- *2022: Merrin served on six committees and chaired the Ways and Means Committee.*
- *2019-2020: Merrin served on the Health, Insurance, and Ways and Means Committees and chaired the Health Committee.*

2023: Merrin lost a dramatic fight for the Ohio House Speakership to a more moderate Republican amid concerns about his ultra-conservative record.

2023: Speaker Stephens removed Merrin from his Vice Chair role on the Ways and Means Committee.

2016-2024: Merrin introduced 40 house bills as primary sponsor, nine of which were signed into law.

As Chair of the Ways and Means Committee, Merrin represented the interests of business.

August 2, 2016-2024: Merrin Served In The Ohio House of Representatives

August 2, 2016: Merrin Was Sworn Into The Ohio House Of Representatives. “Derek Merrin, the former Waterville mayor now living in Monclova Township, and Theresa Charters Gavarone, former Bowling Green city councilman, were sworn in to the Ohio House to represent the 47th and 3rd Districts, respectively. Mr. Merrin replaced former Rep. Barbara Sears (R., Monclova Township), who is the new assistant director of Gov. John Kasich’s Office of Health Transformation. The 47th District includes Lucas County’s western suburbs and most of Fulton County.” [Toledo Blade, [8/2/16](#)]

2016-2020: Merrin Represented Ohio House District 47. According to Ballotpedia, in 2016, Merrin was appointed to finish incumbent Barbara Sears’ term representing Ohio House District 47. Merrin was re-elected to the seat in 2016, 2018, and 2020. [Ballotpedia, Derek Merrin, [Accessed 5/2/24](#)]

2022-2024: Merrin Represented Ohio House District 42. According to Ballotpedia as of May 2024, in 2022, Merrin ran and was elected to a two-year term representing Ohio House District 42. [Ballotpedia, Derek Merrin, [Accessed 5/2/24](#)]

Committee Assignments

2024: Merrin Served On The Financial Institutions, Higher Education, Primary and Secondary Education, And Constitutional Relations Committee

2024: Merrin Served On The Financial Institutions, Higher Education, Primary and Secondary Education, And Constitutional Relations Committee. [Ohio House of Representatives, [Accessed 5/11/24](#)]

Merrin Served As Vice Chair Of The Ways And Means Committee But Was Removed From The Committee In May 2023

March 2023: Merrin Served As Vice Chair Of The Ways And Means Committee. [Ohio Legislature via Internet Archive, Derek Merrin Committees, [Archived 3/24/24](#)]

May 2023: The Ways And Means Committee Did Not Appear On Merrin's Legislative Profile. [Ohio Legislature via Internet Archive, Derek Merrin Committees, [Archived 3/24/24](#)]

HEADLINE: "Ohio House Speaker Removes GOP Rival From Plum Committee Assignment." [Cleveland.com, [5/22/23](#)]

2023: Speaker Stephens Removed Merrin From His Vice Chair Role On The Ways And Means Committee. *"The speaker can change chair and vice chair positions at any point, for any reason. For example, Stephens removed Rep. Derek Merrin, a Republican rival for the speaker's job, from vice chair of the House Ways and Means Committee earlier this year. GOP Reps. Ron Ferguson, of Wintersville, and Jena Powell, of Arcanum, also lost leadership roles. A House GOP spokesman told Cleveland.com at the time that the three were removed to make room for newly appointed lawmakers."* [Akron Beacon Journal, [8/30/23](#)]

2022: Merrin Served On Six Committees And Chaired The Ways And Means Committee

2022: Merrin Served On Six Committees. Merrin served on the Civil Justice, Financial Institutions, Technology and Innovation, Ways and Means committees. He also served on Conference Committees on H.B. 126 and S.B. 19. [Ohio House of Representatives via Internet Archive, Derek Merrin Committees, [Archived 6/27/22](#)]

- **Merrin Chaired The Ways And Means Committee.** [Ohio House of Representatives via Internet Archive, Ways and Means Committee, [Archived 7/4/22](#)]
- **Merrin Chaired The Conference Committee on H.B. 126.** [Ohio House of Representatives via Internet Archive, Conference Committee on H.B. 126, [Archived 6/27/22](#)]
- **Merrin Vice-Chaired The Conference Committee on S.B. 19.** [Ohio House of Representatives via Internet Archive, Conference Committee on S.B. 19, [Archived 6/27/22](#)]

2019-2020: Merrin Served On The Health, Insurance, And Ways And Means Committees And Chaired The Health Committee

2019-2020: Merrin Served On The Health, Insurance, And Ways And Means Committees. [Ballotpedia, [Accessed 5/11/24](#)]

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2017-2018: Merrin Served On The Aging And Long Term Care, Agriculture And Rural Development, Federalism And Interstate Relations, Health, And Ways And Means Committees

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[Ballotpedia, [Accessed 5/11/24](#)]

2023: Merrin Lost A Dramatic Fight For The Ohio House Speakership To A More Moderate Republican Amid Concerns About His Ultra-Conservative Record

November 2022: House Republicans Selected Merrin As The Next Speaker Of The Ohio House

November 2022: House Republicans Selected Merrin As The Next Speaker Of The Ohio House.

“State Rep. Derek Merrin, a Lucas County Republican, will be named the next Ohio House speaker after his fellow House Republicans picked him over two rivals, according to several people in the room for the vote. Merrin, a 36-year-old Realtor and real estate investor, was voted the House Republicans’ pick for speaker after the GOP caucus met behind closed doors for more than 90 minutes on Wednesday evening. Given Republicans hold more than two-thirds of Ohio House seats, they can elect Merrin speaker next January without needing any Democratic votes.” [Cleveland.com, [11/16/22](#)]

Merrin: “We Are Very Excited – We Will Have A United Caucus.” “‘I have an incredible amount of gratitude to my colleagues for trusting me to lead this caucus moving forward,’ Merrin told [cleveland.com/The Plain Dealer](#) after the vote. ‘We are very excited – we will have a united caucus, and we will move a conservative agenda to make Ohio as prosperous of a state as it can be.’ As speaker, Merrin will have broad power over which bills are voted on by the lower chamber and which die in committee. State lawmakers will have to pass a massive new two-year state budget plan next year and have a number of controversial issues to tackle, from abortion to taxes.” [Cleveland.com, [11/16/22](#)]

“House Republicans Chose Merrin Over State Rep. Jason Stephens.” “House Republicans chose Merrin over state Rep. Jason Stephens of Lawrence County and state Rep. Phil Plummer of Montgomery County. Plummer was elected speaker pro tempore, the number-two leadership spot in the House, according to Merrin. State Rep. Scott Wiggam, a Wooster Republican, was elected majority floor leader.” [Cleveland.com, [11/16/22](#)]

As Speaker-Elect, Merrin Sought Upgrades To The Ohio House Chamber’s Furnishings, Including “Plush Carpeting,” “More Regal” Signs For Lawmakers’ Offices, And “Cream Or Beige” Stationery

Merrin Sought Upgrades To The Ohio House Chamber’s Furnishings, Including “Plush Carpeting,” “More Regal” Signs For Lawmakers’ Offices, And “Cream Or Beige” Stationery. “Rep. Derek Merrin was considering a number of upgrades to the chamber’s furnishings that have since largely been cast aside after he lost the vote for Ohio House speaker. Merrin, a Toledo-area Republican, asked House staff for a number of improvements for Ohio House members. He asked for all carpeting in the House to be replaced with plush carpeting. He sought new furniture, artwork, bookshelves, lighting and wall paint, as well as ‘larger and more regal’ signs for lawmakers’ offices. He wanted members to get new, foil-embossed business cards, like state senators already have, as well as stationery on ‘cream or beige’ paper. [...] It’s unclear how much the upgrades Merrin wanted would have cost taxpayers.” [Cleveland.com, [3/13/23](#)]

Merrin Sought Upgrade Quotes Within Three Days Of Being Named Speaker-Elect. “Records show that House staff discussed Merrin’s requests as early as mid-December. However, before any of the changes were finalized, a twist occurred that derailed Merrin’s plans: on Jan. 3, he lost the speaker’s race to Jason Stephens, a Lawrence County Republican. [...] Three days after Stephens was chosen as speaker, Kim Zianno, the Ohio House’s chief administrative officer, sent his office director an email marked ‘confidential draft’ outlining the changes Merrin had previously requested. The Plain Dealer/cleveland.com obtained a copy of the email via a public-records request.” [Cleveland.com, [3/13/23](#)]

Cleveland.com: “Ohio House of Representatives [...] Soon Could Become Even More Conservative Thanks To” Merrin

Cleveland.com: “Ohio House of Representatives [...] Soon Could Become Even More Conservative Thanks To” Merrin. “The Ohio House of Representatives, which has passed a wide array of conservative legislation in recent years, soon could become even more conservative thanks to Republicans’ pick to become the next speaker: state Rep. Derek Merrin. Merrin, a 36-year-old Toledo-area Republican, has been a proponent of several proposals that, to date, haven’t passed the House, including a near-total abortion ban, a major expansion of school vouchers, and an anti-union ‘right-to-work’ bill.” [Cleveland.com, [11/23/22](#)]

2023 House Speaker Race: Republican Members With Union Ties Were Wary To Support Merrin Due To His Right-For-Work Legislation Advocacy, Though The Affiliated Construction Trades of Ohio Expressed Openness To Merrin

In The 2023 Race For Ohio House Speaker, Republican Members With Ties To Unions Were Wary To Support Merrin Due To His Advocacy For Right-To-Work Legislation. “In Ohio, Kogan noted, ‘there is a really important interest group story as well. Given the impotence of the small Democratic minority here, organized labor has been contributing significantly to Republican legislative candidates.’ In other words, some Republican members of the Ohio House have ties to unions that made them wary of supporting Merrin because of his advocacy of right-to-work legislation.” [New York Times, Thomas Edsall Op-Ed, [1/11/23](#)]

Merrin Supported Changing Ohio’s Prevailing Wage Law Which Ensured Large Local Government Construction Projects Should Be Paid At Least The Average Wage As Similar Nearby Workers.

“Just before the House speaker vote on Jan. 3, Burns texted Patton, ‘I’m (sic) implore you...don’t go with Stephens.’ Patton, a longtime union supporter, replied a couple hours later, ‘Merrin (was) bad for me,’ as Merrin supported an anti-union right-to-work bill and changing the state’s prevailing wage law, which ensures that workers on large local-government construction projects should be paid at least the average wage paid to nearby workers on similar jobs.” [Cleveland.com, [3/27/23](#)]

“Matt Szollosi, Executive Director Of The Affiliated Construction Trades Of Ohio, Noted That His Group Endorsed And Donated To Merrin’S Reelection Campaign This Year.” “Some groups that could be hurt by Merrin’s agenda have already taken action to get in Merrin’s good graces - such as building trades unions, which have fought against ‘right-to-work’ and anti-prevailing wage legislation. Matt Szollosi, executive director of the Affiliated Construction Trades of Ohio, noted that his group endorsed and donated to Merrin’s reelection campaign this year. ‘We may not agree on every point, but we feel that ... Speaker-elect Merrin will do right by the construction industry,’ Szollosi said.” [Cleveland.com, [11/23/22](#)]

An Ohio State Political Scientist Suggested That “Merrin’s Support Of Highly Contentious Issues Like Seemingly Limitless Gun Rights And Anti-Abortion Legislation” Worried Republican Interest Groups

An Ohio State Political Scientist Suggested That “Merrin’s Support Of Highly Contentious Issues Like Seemingly Limitless Gun Rights And Anti-Abortion Legislation” Worried Republican Interest Groups. “[Vladimir Kogan, a political scientist at the Ohio State University,] pointed out, Merrin’s support of highly contentious issues like seemingly limitless gun rights and anti-abortion legislation worried ‘some historically Republican-aligned interest groups in Ohio - particularly those in the business community and folks who care about economic development - which seem also concerned about some proposed and recently enacted legislation, especially legislation on social issues. I would not be surprised if they were involved behind the scenes as well.’” [New York Times, Thomas Edsall Op-Ed, [1/11/23](#)]

January 3, 2023: In The Speaker Vote, “Merrin Was Defeated By A Bipartisan Coalition Of 32 Democrats And 22 Republicans”

January 3, 2023: In The Speaker Vote, “Merrin Was Defeated By A Bipartisan Coalition Of 32 Democrats And 22 Republicans.” “Merrin had won majority support from the 67-member Republican caucus in the 99-member Ohio House. His ascent would have marked a significant shift to the right in a state Republican Party known traditionally for its centrism. On Jan. 3, however, when the full Ohio House met to pick a speaker, Merrin was defeated by a bipartisan coalition of 32 Democrats and 22 Republicans, a rarity in this polarized era. The coalition supported a less conservative, less confrontational Republican, Jason Stevens, who told the House after his victory, ‘I pledge to respect and to work with each and every one of us to address the many concerns of our state.’” [New York Times, Thomas Edsall Op-Ed, [1/11/23](#)]

Republican Rep When Nominating Stephens: “We Need A Speaker Who Is Willing To Listen To Everyone”

Republican Rep When Nominating Stephens: “We Need A Speaker Who Is Willing To Listen To Everyone.” “But support for Merrin started to erode in recent days and it culminated in a 54-43 victory for Stephens. The Kitts Hill Republican won all 32 Democratic votes and 22 Republicans for a total of 54. Merrin had 43. [...] ‘We need a speaker who is willing to listen to everyone,’ Rep. Brett Hillyer, R-Ulrichsville, said as he nominated Stephens. He thought the new speaker would listen to everyone and unite factions.” [Columbus Dispatch, [1/3/23](#)]

2023: When Merrin Lost The Ohio House Speakership To A More Moderate Republican, He Sought To “Lessen The Speaker’s Power” By Changing House Rules

2023: When Merrin Lost The Ohio House Speakership To A More Moderate Republican, He Sought To “Lessen The Speaker’s Power” By Changing House Rules. “With votes from 22 Republicans and 32 Democrats in the 99-member House, Stephens won with more support from Democrats than his own party. Merrin, of Monclova Township, won an unofficial vote of the Republican Congress for the position in November. [...] Merrin invited more than 40 fellow House Republicans who supported him to meet privately Wednesday to discuss seeking changes to House rules to lessen the speaker’s power and ensure that they are heard.” [The Ironton Tribune, [1/15/23](#)]

2023: Merrin And His Allies Sued Ohio House Speaker Jason Stephens Over “Control Of The House GOP’s Campaign Fund”

2023: Merrin And His Allies Sued Ohio House Speaker Jason Stephens Over “Control Of The House GOP’s Campaign Fund.” “The months-long schism among Ohio House Republicans has turned litigious, with state Rep. Derek Merrin and two allies suing Ohio House Speaker Jason Stephens and others over control of the House GOP’s campaign fund. [...] The lawsuit, filed Saturday in Franklin County Common Pleas Court, takes the infighting within the House GOP to a new level. Merrin along with state Reps. Phil Plummer of Dayton and Ron Ferguson of Jefferson County are seeking nearly \$400,000 in reimbursements and damages from Stephens, of Lawrence County, and state Rep. Jeff LaRe of Fairfield County, Stephens’ pick to head the Ohio House Republican Alliance (OHRA), the caucus’ campaign arm. [...] The suit also asks that the court order Merrin and Plummer to be put in charge of OHRA, which campaign-finance data shows had close to \$1.1 million in its bank account as of the end of June.” [Cleveland.com, [10/12/23](#)]

Merrin After Losing The Speaker Vote: “I’m The Leader Of The House Republicans”

Merrin After Losing The Speaker Vote: “I’m The Leader Of The House Republicans.” “State Rep. Derek Merrin, after meeting with a majority of Ohio House Republicans on Wednesday, asserted that he is the leader of the House GOP, even though he lost the House speaker’s race to fellow Republican Jason Stephens last week. ‘We’re going to do everything within our power to pass conservative policies and Republican policies,’ said Merrin, a Toledo-area Republican. Asked who the leader of the House Republicans is, he replied, ‘I’m the leader of the House Republicans.’” [Cleveland.com, [1/12/23](#)]

Merrin Said That If He Had Been Elected Speaker, He Would Have Brought Forward Ethics Legislation Changing “How People Are Appointed The Public Utilities Commission Of Ohio”

Merrin Said That If He Had Been Elected Speaker, He Would Have Brought Forward Ethics Legislation Changing “How People Are Appointed The Public Utilities Commission Of Ohio.”

“Merrin said if he was elected speaker, the first House bill introduced would be legislation to change state ethics rules. While Merrin declined to speak in detail about the proposed bill, he said that would, among other things, make reforms regarding how people are appointed the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio. The PUCO, which regulate state utilities, has come under major scrutiny since FirstEnergy admitted to bribing ex-PUCO Chair Sam Randazzo to secure a number of policy priorities. Randazzo did not clearly disclose the \$4.3 million payment, which terminated an ongoing consultant agreement he had with FirstEnergy, but which the company since has said was a bribe, in state disclosure paperwork.” [Cleveland.com, [1/12/23](#)]

Merrin Allies Censured GOP House Members Who Voted For Stephens As Speaker

Merrin Allies Drafted A Resolution To Censure GOP House Members Who Voted For Stephens As Speaker. “In November, the Ohio House GOP Caucus voted to support Merrin, but it wasn’t unanimous. Twenty-two of the 31 Republicans that Rep. Jason Stephens, a Republican from Kitts Hill, backed him in November also voted for him on Tuesday. Now some Republicans want to censure those 22 Republicans. [...] On Friday, a draft of a resolution was publicized to censure the Ohio House Republicans that backed Stephens. The resolution claims their vote for Stephens ‘dishonors the vote of the Ohio House Republican Caucus, dishonors the historic brand of the Republican Party, and misrepresents the voice of Ohio Republican voters who collectively voted for these 22 members in order to defeat the dangerous and perverse Democratic Party Caucus agenda.’ [...] ‘I, at no time, promised to vote for Derek Merrin (for Ohio House Speaker),’ said [Rep. Sara] Carruthers in an interview with the

Journal-News. 'I never voted for Derek Merrin. Derek never talked to anybody on the Stephens team. He never made a call, never did anything.'" [Journal-News, [1/6/23](#)]

HEADLINE: "Ohio Republican Party Passes Resolution Condemning 22 GOP Lawmakers Over Bipartisan Ohio House Speaker Vote." [Cleveland.com, [1/6/23](#)]

***"Before The Vote, Committee Members Softened The Resolution Slightly By Removing Language That Would Have Made The Group Ineligible For Endorsements Or Future Party Support. **"The Ohio Republican Party has voted to condemn newly-elected Ohio House Speaker Jason Stephens and the other 21 Republican House members who joined with minority Democrats to elect him to his position earlier this week. The Ohio Republican Party's central committee overwhelmingly approved a censure resolution against the 22 Republicans. The move communicates the committee's displeasure with the group of lawmakers, according newly chosen state party Chairman Alex Triantafilou. But before the vote, committee members softened the resolution slightly by removing language that would have made the group ineligible for endorsements or future party support."* [Cleveland.com, [1/6/23](#)]

2024: Merrin "Allies Are Recasting The Drama As A Plus For The Candidate"

2024: Merrin "Allies Are Recasting The Drama As A Plus For The Candidate". "Merrin's allies are recasting the drama as a plus for the candidate. In the rough-and-tumble world of the congressional GOP conference, enduring a speaker battle can only make a candidate more prepared for intra-party conflict. 'He's tried and he's tested. He also lives and fights by his values, even though it doesn't always benefit him to do so,' [Ohio Republican Operative Mehek] Cooke told The Daily Beast." [The Daily Beast, [1/30/24](#)]

2023: Speaker Stephens Removed Merrin From His Vice Chair Role On The Ways And Means Committee

2023: Speaker Stephens Removed Merrin From His Vice Chair Role On The Ways And Means Committee. "The speaker can change chair and vice chair positions at any point, for any reason. For example, Stephens removed Rep. Derek Merrin, a Republican rival for the speaker's job, from vice chair of the House Ways and Means Committee earlier this year. GOP Reps. Ron Ferguson, of Wintersville, and Jena Powell, of Arcanum, also lost leadership roles. A House GOP spokesman told Cleveland.com at the time that the three were removed to make room for newly appointed lawmakers." [Akron Beacon Journal, [8/30/23](#)]

HEADLINE: "Ohio House Speaker Removes GOP Rival From Plum Committee Assignment." [Cleveland.com, [5/22/23](#)]

Merrin On Stephens After Being Stripped Of His Ways And Means Role: "He Is A Weak Man Trying To Act Tough." "State Rep. Derek Merrin, of Monclova Township, learned on Friday, via a memo from the Speaker's office, that Stephens had removed him as vice-chair of the House Ways and Means Committee, which writes and reviews proposed changes to state tax policy. Tax policy is one of Merrin's core interests, and Merrin, a Lucas County Republican, is a former chairman of the committee. But the move isn't just an ego bruise for Merrin - it also means a pay cut, since vice-chair spots come with a \$6,750-a-year stipend. 'He is a weak man trying to act tough,' Merrin said in a text message." [Cleveland.com, [5/22/23](#)]

Merrin Had Previously Been Demoted From Chair Of Ways And Means To Vice Chair

January 2023: Merrin “Was Demoted From Chair Of The House Ways And Means Committee To Vice Chair.” “Since Stephens was elected speaker on Jan. 3, he has worked to unite the Republican caucus behind him. Stephens’ picks for committee chairs - which do not require approval from the full House - include 14 Republicans who voted for Merrin and 13 Stephens supporters. Merrin himself, though, was demoted from chair of the House Ways and Means Committee to vice chair.”
[Cleveland.com, [1/24/23](#)]

2016-2024: Merrin Introduced 40 House Bills As Primary Sponsor, Nine Of Which Were Signed Into Law

2016-2024: Merrin Introduced 40 House Bills As Primary Sponsor, Nine Of Which Were Signed Into Law, While Nine Others Passed The House But Not The Senate. [Ohio Legislature, [Accessed 5/11/24](#); [Accessed 5/11/24](#); [Accessed 5/11/24](#); [Accessed 5/11/24](#)]

<i>Number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Sponsor(s)</i>	<i>Version</i>	<i>Session</i>
<i>H.B. 16</i>	<i>Enact the Ethics and Financial Disclosure Reform Act</i>	<i>Merrin</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>135th</i>
<i>H.B. 96</i>	<i>Provide permanent registration option for noncommercial trailers</i>	<i>Merrin</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 98</i>	<i>Enact Legalize Window Tinting Act</i>	<i>Merrin</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 103</i>	<i>Regards adoption / duration of emergency rules</i>	<i>Merrin</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 126</i>	<i>Regards process for local governments to contest property value</i>	<i>Merrin</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 127</i>	<i>Vacate and expunge COVID-19 order violations</i>	<i>Merrin</i>	<i>As Re-Referred by the House Rules and Reference Committee</i>	<i>134th</i>

<i>Number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Sponsor(s)</i>	<i>Version</i>	<i>Session</i>
<i>H.B. 140</i>	<i>Enact Ballot Uniformity and Transparency Act</i>	<i>Merrin</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 348</i>	<i>Revise the Unclaimed Funds Law</i>	<i>Merrin</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 568</i>	<i>Revise Unemployment Compensation Law</i>	<i>Fraizer; Merrin</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 66</i>	<i>Enact Theft Victims' Restitution Act</i>	<i>Merrin</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 75</i>	<i>Require resolution/notice if government contests property value</i>	<i>Merrin</i>	<i>As Passed by the Senate</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 76</i>	<i>Enacts the Ballot Uniformity and Transparency Act for tax levies</i>	<i>Merrin</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 77</i>	<i>Enacts the Legalize Window Tinting Act for motor vehicles</i>	<i>Merrin</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 110</i>	<i>Display fuel tax rates on service station fuel pumps</i>	<i>Merrin; Romanchuk</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 149</i>	<i>Enact Affordable Homebuilding and Housing Act</i>	<i>Merrin</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 150</i>	<i>Reduce taxes on new banks and mortgage lenders</i>	<i>Merrin</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 187</i>	<i>Prohibits voting on local tax</i>	<i>Merrin; Wiggam</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>133rd</i>

<i>Number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Sponsor(s)</i>	<i>Version</i>	<i>Session</i>
	<i>proposals in August election</i>			
<i>H.B. 197</i>	<i>Make technical and corrective changes to tax law</i>	<i>Powell; Merrin</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 270</i>	<i>Enact Unclaimed Funds Reform Act</i>	<i>Merrin</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 339</i>	<i>Enacts the Insurance Code Correction Act</i>	<i>Merrin</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 371</i>	<i>Grant in-state tuition if receive high school equivalence in Ohio</i>	<i>Merrin</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 372</i>	<i>Renew driver's license/ID cards every eight years</i>	<i>Merrin</i>	<i>As Reported by House Committee</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 670</i>	<i>Reappropriate capital funds</i>	<i>Merrin</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 760</i>	<i>Modify in-state residency for certain survivor tuition waivers</i>	<i>Merrin</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 70</i>	<i>Adopt Fuel Tax Transparency Act</i>	<i>Merrin</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 75</i>	<i>Expedite licensing process for armed forces and spouses</i>	<i>Gavarone; Gavarone; Merrin</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 101</i>	<i>Improve access to epinephrine</i>	<i>Merrin</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 116</i>	<i>Exempt optical aids from sales tax</i>	<i>Merrin</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>132nd</i>

<i>Number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Sponsor(s)</i>	<i>Version</i>	<i>Session</i>
<i>H.B. 118</i>	<i>Prohibit dismissing tax complaint if fails to identify owner</i>	<i>Merrin</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 169</i>	<i>Require exempt employees to pay for dental/vision/life insurance</i>	<i>Merrin</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 214</i>	<i>Prohibit abortion if unborn has or may have Down Syndrome</i>	<i>LaTourette; Merrin</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 298</i>	<i>Change public employee sick day allowance</i>	<i>Merrin</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 299</i>	<i>Enact Lead Safety and Uniformity Act</i>	<i>Merrin</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 342</i>	<i>Regards timing and content of tax ballot issues</i>	<i>Merrin</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 343</i>	<i>Regards how local governments are to contest property values</i>	<i>Merrin</i>	<i>As Reported by Senate Committee</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 371</i>	<i>Exempt increased value of subdivided land until building starts</i>	<i>Merrin</i>	<i>As Reported by House Committee</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 390</i>	<i>Clarify computation of timelines for forcible entry and detainer</i>	<i>Merrin</i>	<i>As Reported by House Committee</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 391</i>	<i>Grant restitution for cost of</i>	<i>Merrin</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>132nd</i>

<i>Number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Sponsor(s)</i>	<i>Version</i>	<i>Session</i>
	<i>accounting for economic loss</i>			
<i>H.B. 777</i>	<i>Lower income tax rates</i>	<i>Merrin</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 592</i>	<i>Change taxation of small business investment companies</i>	<i>Merrin</i>	<i>As Pending in House Committee</i>	<i>131st</i>

[Ohio Legislature, [Accessed 5/11/24](#); [Accessed 5/11/24](#); [Accessed 5/11/24](#); [Accessed 5/11/24](#); [Accessed 5/11/24](#)]

Merrin Only Voted For One Bill, H.B. 33, That Received More No Votes From Republicans Than Yes Votes

Merrin Only Voted For One Bill, H.B. 33, That Received More No Votes From Republicans Than Yes Votes. [Legiscan, [Accessed 5/11/24](#)]

Merrin Did Not Vote For Any Bills That Received More Democratic Than Republican Votes

Merrin Did Not Vote For Any Bills That Received More Democratic Than Republican Votes. [Legiscan, [Accessed 5/11/24](#)]

As Chair Of The Ways And Means Committee, Merrin Represented The Interests Of Business

2021: The Ohio Society Of CPAs Recognized Merrin With An “OSCPA Outstanding Legislator Award” For His Work As Ways And Means Chair. “The Ohio Society of CPAs was pleased to recognize Rep. Derek Merrin, R-Monclova Township, with an OSCPAs Outstanding Legislator Award at our October Virtual Accounting Show on Oct. 26. OSCPAs periodically awards legislators who are critical to our success on key OSCPAs issues of concern, who regularly work closely with OSCPAs to help move our professions priorities forward, and who merit special recognition for their significant efforts and involvement on behalf of the CPA profession and Ohio. Merrin has been a reliable advocate for the profession and even encouraged young professionals to become involved in advocacy efforts as hes spoken before at our YCPA Day at the Statehouse event. As chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee this session, Merrin has been instrumental on several OSCPAs priorities.” [Ohio Society of CPAs, Press Release, 11/5/21]

Ohio Society Of CPAs: “Chair Merrin Has Truly Been An Advocate For Common Sense Changes Benefiting Ohio Taxpayers And Ohio Businesses Alike.” “Chair Merrin has truly been an advocate for common sense changes benefiting Ohio taxpayers and Ohio businesses alike, and he is one of just four legislators OSCPAs is recognizing this year with our 2021 Outstanding Legislator Award, along with:

Rep. Thomas West, D-Canton, Rep. Bill Roemer, CPA, R-Richfield, and Sen. Kristina Roegner, R-Hudson.” [Ohio Society of CPAs, Press Release, 11/5/21]

Merrin “Ensured Ohio’s Deductibility Of Forgiven PPP Loan Expenses” Through S.B. 18

Merrin “Ensured Ohio’s Deductibility Of Forgiven PPP Loan Expenses.” “On another front, Chair Merrin was also able to secure several victories in Senate Bill 18, Ohios tax conformity legislation enacted on March 31. It ensured Ohios deductibility of forgiven PPP loan expenses and excluded Ohio BWC dividends (refunds) from the CAT. Notably, he also successfully enacted another OSCPA priority by lowering Ohios PTE withholding rates (former H.B. 124) with an amendment to S.B. 18. The rate changes to 3% apply to a PTEs taxable years beginning on or after Jan. 1, 2023.” [Ohio Society of CPAs, Press Release, 11/5/21]

Merrin Was The “Primary Sponsor Of Other Tax-Related Legislation, Most Notably Bills Dealing With Property Tax Issues”

Merrin Was The “Primary Sponsor Of Other Tax-Related Legislation, Most Notably Bills Dealing With Property Tax Issues.” “[Merrin] is also the primary sponsor of other tax-related legislation, most notably bills dealing with property tax issues (H.B. 126 and H.B. 140) and legislation revising the unclaimed funds process (H.B. 348).” [Ohio Society of CPAs, Press Release, 11/5/21]

2022: Merrin Said That He “Helped Usher Through Last Year’s Big Income Tax Cut,” Which Supported High Earners

2022: Merrin Said That He “Helped Usher Through Last Year’s Big Income Tax Cut.” “In an interview, Mr. Merrin touted his experience. As chairman of Ways and Means, he noted he has the ability to shape the tax code - ‘anything dealing with income tax, sales tax, property tax issues, credits and deductions.’ Mr. Merrin said he’s especially proud of having helped usher through last year’s big income tax cut, successfully pushing through an eight-year driver’s license renewal period, rather than four, several years ago, and producing legislation to save people on prescription eyewear.” [Toledo Blade, [11/1/22](#)]

The 2021 Ohio Income Tax Cut Resulted In “73 Percent Of The Economic Benefit Going To Those Who Make More Than \$100,000 Per Year.” “While it may be unclear how income taxes have affected Ohio’s economy, it is clear who has benefitted. In 2021, Ohio cut income tax rates to 3.99 percent for the highest bracket of earners. That tax cut resulted in 73 percent of the economic benefit going to those who make more than \$100,000 per year, according to a report from the Urban Institute.” [Governing, [3/27/23](#)]

As Chair Of Ways And Means, Merrin Did Not Bring A Bill Regulating Pass-Through Property Sales To A Hearing

2021: As Chair Of Ways And Means, Merrin Did Not Bring A Bill Regulating Pass-Through Property Sales To A Hearing. “During a typical sale, buyers report to the county that they bought a property and pay a property conveyance tax. But when buyers purchase a home or commercial property through an LLC, they avoid paying conveyance taxes because the sale wasn’t technically a property sale but the sale of a business, which happened to come with the property, Galloway said. [...] lawmakers do not appear interested in ending property sales through LLCs. Last legislative session, a bipartisan-sponsored bill would have required anyone buying more than 50% of an ownership interest via a pass-through entity, such as an LLC, to report the sale to the county auditor in 30 days the sale amount,

among other information and pay the conveyance tax. The bill went to the House Ways and Means Committee and never received a hearing. Rep. Derek Merrin, a Toledo-area Republican sponsoring HB126, chaired that committee.” [Cleveland.com, [1/9/22](#)]

2022: Merrin Earned \$77K As A Representative

2022: Merrin Earned \$77K As A Representative. [The Buckeye Institute, [Accessd 5/12/24](#)]

<i>Name</i>	<i>Earnings</i>	<i>Year</i>
<i>DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>\$77,674.20</i>	<i>2022</i>
<i>DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>\$75,815.74</i>	<i>2021</i>
<i>DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>\$74,527.32</i>	<i>2020</i>
<i>Derek Merrin</i>	<i>\$71,069.46</i>	<i>2019</i>
<i>Derek S. Merrin</i>	<i>\$60,583.68</i>	<i>2018</i>
<i>Derek S. Merrin</i>	<i>\$60,583.68</i>	<i>2017</i>
<i>DEREK S. MERRIN</i>	<i>\$25,080.34</i>	<i>2016</i>

[The Buckeye Institute, [Accessd 5/12/24](#)]

As An Administrative Staff Member At The State Auditor, Merrin Earned Around \$50K

As An Administrative Staff Member At The State Auditor, Merrin Earned Around \$50K. [The Buckeye Institute, [Accessd 5/12/24](#)]

<i>Name</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Department</i>	<i>Earnings</i>	<i>Year</i>
<i>DEREK S. MERRIN</i>	<i>Administrative Staff</i>	<i>Auditor of State</i>	<i>\$46,688.30</i>	<i>2015</i>
<i>DEREK S. MERRIN</i>	<i>Administrative Staff</i>	<i>Auditor of State</i>	<i>\$49,784.28</i>	<i>2014</i>
<i>DEREK S. MERRIN</i>	<i>Administrative Staff</i>	<i>Auditor of State</i>	<i>\$48,499.21</i>	<i>2013</i>

[The Buckeye Institute, [Accessd 5/12/24](#)]

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FirstEnergy H.B. 6 Scandal

FirstEnergy H.B. 6 Scandal Highlights

- *July 2019: Merrin voted for H.B. 6, the FirstEnergy Nuclear Bailout Legislation, which included coal plant subsidies.*
 - *H.B. 6 led to Ohio's "biggest racketeering charge in history."*
- *2016-2021: Merrin accepted campaign funds from FirstEnergy PAC, American Electric Power, and convicted criminal Larry Householder.*
 - *2018: Householder supported the candidacy of 21 House Republicans, including Merrin, so they would support him as Speaker of the House.*
 - *2016-17: Merrin accepted \$1,500.00 from FirstEnergy Corp.*
 - *2018: Householder was Merrin's largest campaign donor, donating \$7,708 to his campaign.*
 - *2016-2021: Merrin accepted \$2,500.00 from American Electric Power Ohio Committee For Responsible Government, whose shareholder made claims "against American Electric Power related to the HB 6 scandal."*
 - *FirstEnergy paid former Ohio House Speaker Householder \$60 million to pass a \$1.3 billion bailout for two of their nuclear power plants, a crime for which Householder was sentenced to 20 years in prison.*
- *Merrin's primary opponent accused him of being a "top henchman" to disgraced and convicted Ohio House Member Larry Householder, they claimed "speculation swirls Merrin could be charged next."*
 - *Before Householder was charged with large-scale bribery, "Merrin had taken upwards of \$17,000 between Householder's dark money Growth & Opportunity PAC and his official committee."*
 - *2021: Merrin was one of the few Ohio House members to vote against Householder's expulsion.*
- *2023: Merrin waited until the eve of Householder's trial, roughly two years after his arrest, to change ethics rules to prevent further corruption.*

July 2019: Merrin Voted For The FirstEnergy Nuclear Bailout Legislation, Which Included Coal Plant Subsidies

July 2019: Merrin Voted For H.B. 6. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 6, [7/23/19](#)]

H.B. 6 Was The Legislation To Bail Out FirstEnergy Nuclear Plants

H.B. 6 Was The Legislation To Bail Out FirstEnergy Nuclear Plants. “And so it went: At least \$3 million spent in 2018 to elect Republicans backing Mr. Householder’s speaker ambitions. Nearly \$17 million more in 2019 on a successful media campaign supporting H.B. 6, the legislation bailing out FirstEnergy nuclear plants.” [New York Times, [6/29/23](#)]

HEADLINE: “The Utility Bailout House Bill 6 Made Both Ohio’s Air And Politics Dirty”

HEADLINE: “The Utility Bailout House Bill 6 Made Both Ohio’s Air And Politics Dirty.” [Rob Moore op-ed, Ohio Capital Journal, [3/6/23](#)]

H.B. 6 “Reduced Ohio’s Renewable Portfolio Standard, Requiring Utilities In Ohio To Generate Just 8.5% Of Their Power From Renewables, Lowest In The Country.” “With all the drama surrounding the Householder trial for racketeering, it can be easy to forget the bill behind the former Ohio Speaker of the House’s alleged \$60 million payoff from First Energy power company. House Bill 6 had four major impacts. It required power consumers to bail out two massive nuclear power plants in northern Ohio. It also required Ohio ratepayers to bail out two coal plants: one in Ohio, one in Indiana. It reduced energy efficiency standards, requiring Ohio utilities to reduce energy use by 17.5% rather than the previous goal of 22%. Lastly, it reduced Ohio’s renewable portfolio standard, requiring utilities in Ohio to generate just 8.5% of their power from renewables, lowest in the country among states with standards.” [Rob Moore op-ed, Ohio Capital Journal, [3/6/23](#)]

H.B. 6 Led To Ohio’s “Biggest Racketeering Charge In History”

H.B. 6 Led To Ohio’s “Biggest Racketeering Charge In History.” “It’s not often that scandal is so closely wedded to policy, but right now Ohio is dealing with this biggest racketeering charge in history, which stemmed from negotiations over its biggest piece of environmental legislation of the century. Let’s hope we can learn from this and find ways to keep both our air and our politics clean.” [Rob Moore op-ed, Ohio Capital Journal, [3/6/23](#)]

H.B. 6 Subsidized “Two 1950s-Era Coal Plants”

H.B. 6 Subsidized “Two 1950s-Era Coal Plants.” “A new report highlights how much Resource Fuels has collected for coal supplied to one of the two 1950s-era coal plants subsidized by HB 6 and run by the Ohio Valley Electric Company, or OVEC.” [Energy News Network, [11/13/23](#)]

A “Coal Company Got Roughly \$12.6 Million Above Market Prices To Supply One Of The 1950s-Era Plants Subsidized By Ohio House Bill 6”

A “Coal Company Got Roughly \$12.6 Million Above Market Prices To Supply One Of The 1950s-Era Plants Subsidized By Ohio House Bill 6.” “A coal company got roughly \$12.6 million above market prices to supply one of the 1950s-era plants subsidized by Ohio House Bill 6. That’s roughly 50 times the amount the company gave to the dark money group at the center of that coal and nuclear bailout law, according to a new analysis from the Checks and Balances Project. [...] OVEC paid roughly \$12.6 million to Resource Fuels in above-market charges for coal, said Ray Locker, executive director of the Checks and Balances Project, which produced the report. And as a result of HB 6’s coal subsidies, Ohio ratepayers have been paying utilities for their share of OVEC’s costs that exceed their revenue.” [Energy News Network, [11/13/23](#)]

Merrin: “I Never Supported The Subsidies In HB6, I Voted To Remove The Green Energy Mandates”

Merrin: “I Never Supported The Subsidies In HB6, I Voted To Remove The Green Energy Mandates” “Merrin voted for HB6 in 2019 but said in an interview Monday he did so only because the bill also gutted the state’s energy efficiency and renewable energy programs. He didn’t co-sponsor GOP-introduced legislation last year repealing the OVEC bailouts but claimed he supported the idea. He said he’s cosponsoring the repeal now because he supports ‘free market policies’ that will reduce customers’ electric bills. ‘I never supported the subsidies in HB6, I voted to remove the green energy mandates. But I’m all for getting rid of the subsidies,’ he said. ‘I think there’s enough support between the House Republicans and the Democrats that are on the bill to push it through the house, whether [current House Speaker Jason Stephens] supports it or not.’” [Cleveland.com, [3/21/23](#)]

Merrin In 2020: “I Am Not In Favor Of Reinstating Green Energy Mandates.” “‘I am willing to vote to repeal the nuclear bailout portion of House Bill 6, but I am not in favor of reinstating green energy mandates that drive up the costs for businesses and residential properties,’ Rep. Derek Merrin (R., Monclova Township) said. He said his original support for House Bill 6 was due to its provisions reducing and eventually eliminating mandates that utilities find more of their power from renewable sources and reduce energy consumption overall.” [Toledo Blade, [12/18/20](#)]

2016-2021: Merrin Accepted Campaign Funds From FirstEnergy PAC, American Electric Power, And Convicted Criminal Larry Householder

2018: Householder Supported The Candidacy Of 21 House Republicans, Including Merrin, So They Would Support Him As Speaker Of The House

2018: Householder Supported The Candidacy Of 21 Republicans In The State House To Support His Speaker Campaign And Pass The Nuclear Bailout Law. “After returning to the legislature in 2016, Mr. Householder secretly spent millions in 2018 to support Republican candidates for 21 seats in the State House - more than a fifth of the 99 seats - who would back his insurgent campaign to again become House speaker. He spent more millions on a media campaign to push the nuclear bailout law to passage, and then tens of millions on a scorched-earth crusade to undermine a ballot initiative that threatened to undo it.” [New York Times, [6/29/23](#)]

2018: Householder Was Merrin’s Largest Campaign Donor, Donating \$7,708 To His Campaign. “On the Republican side, Rep. Derek Merrin, of Monclova Township, is running against primary challenger Barbara Lang in the 47th District consisting of Lucas County’s western suburbs and most of Fulton County. Mr. Merrin raised \$47,673 with his largest contributions coming on behalf of House Speaker candidate Larry Householder (R., Glenford), whose campaign donated \$7,708.” [Toledo Blade, [4/26/18](#)]

2016-2019: Merrin Received Significant Campaign Donations From Entities Involved With The FirstEnergy Scandal

2016-17: Merrin Accepted \$1,500.00 From FirstEnergy Corp

2016-2017: Merrin Accepted \$1,500 From FirstEnergy PAC. [Ohio Secretary of State, File Transfer Page, accessed [1/23/24](#)]

Date	Contributor	Recipient	Amount
8/4/17	FirstEnergy PAC FSL	Friends of Derek Merrin	\$500

<i>Date</i>	<i>Contributor</i>	<i>Recipient</i>	<i>Amount</i>
11/19/16	FirstEnergy PAC FSL	Friends of Derek Merrin	\$1,000

[Ohio Secretary of State, File Transfer Page, accessed [1/23/24](#)]

2018-2022: Merrin Did Not Return Campaign Contributions From FirstEnergy PAC. [Ohio Secretary of State, Expenditures, accessed [1/23/24](#)]

2019: Merrin Received A Gift From “Friends Of Householder.” [Ohio Joint Legislative Ethics Committee, Derek Merrin 2019 Addendum #1, filed [2/18/20](#)]

2018: Householder Was Merrin’s Largest Campaign Donor, Donating \$7,708 To His Campaign

2018: Householder Was Merrin’s Largest Campaign Donor, Donating \$7,708 To His Campaign. “On the Republican side, Rep. Derek Merrin, of Monclova Township, is running against primary challenger Barbara Lang in the 47th District consisting of Lucas County’s western suburbs and most of Fulton County. Mr. Merrin raised \$47,673 with his largest contributions coming on behalf of House Speaker candidate Larry Householder (R., Glenford), whose campaign donated \$7,708.” [Toledo Blade, [4/26/18](#)]

2016-2021: Merrin Accepted \$2,500.00 From American Electric Power Ohio Committee For Responsible Government, Whose Shareholder Made Claims “Against American Electric Power Related To The HB 6 Scandal”

2021: Merrin Accepted \$1,000.00 From American Electric Power Ohio Committee For Responsible Government. [Ohio Secretary of State, Friends of Derek Merrin, Accessed 5/13/24]

2016-2017: Merrin Accepted \$1,500.00 From American Electric Power Ohio Committee For Responsible Government. [Ohio Secretary of State, [Accessed 5/14/24](#)]

An American Electric Power Shareholder Made Claims “Against American Electric Power Related To The HB 6 Scandal.” “A March 17 hearing in a separate federal court case will address whether a shareholder can move forward with claims against American Electric Power related to the HB 6 scandal. [...] Federal Judge Sarah Morrison will hear arguments on March 17 in Columbus on whether to let an additional shareholder join litigation against American Electric Power based on alleged actions related to HB 6.” [Energy News Network, [3/14/23](#)]

FirstEnergy Paid Former Ohio House Speaker Householder \$60 Million To Pass A \$1.3 Billion Bailout For Two Of Their Nuclear Power Plants, A Crime For Which Householder Was Sentenced To 20 Years In Prison

FirstEnergy Paid Former Ohio House Speaker Householder \$60 Million To Pass A \$1.3 Billion Bailout For Two Of Their Nuclear Power Plants

Householder Accepted \$60 Million From FirstEnergy In Exchange For Passing A \$1.3 Billion Bailout For Two Of FirstEnergy’s Nuclear Power Plants. “The former speaker, Larry L. Householder, was convicted in March of racketeering and bribery for accepting some \$60 million from a major utility holding company, FirstEnergy Corporation, in exchange for arranging a \$1.3 billion bailout for two troubled nuclear power plants the company operates.” [New York Times, [6/29/23](#)]

A Federal Investigation Focused On Allegations That “An Unnamed Energy Company That Is Widely Understood To Be FirstEnergy” Secretly Contributed Millions That Went Toward Securing

Householder's Speaker Position. "The federal investigation has so far focused on allegations that Householder, along with several political operatives also charged in the case, used Generation Now to secretly receive \$60 million from an unnamed energy company that is widely understood to be FirstEnergy. That money was used to secure Householder the position of speaker and pass and defend a billion-dollar bailout for two nuclear power plants owned by a FirstEnergy subsidiary, which later emerged from bankruptcy as a new company called Energy Harbor. No energy company has been charged in the case, but FirstEnergy and, reportedly Energy Harbor, have been subpoenaed." [Energy and Policy Institute, [12/2/20](#)]

FirstEnergy Gave Householder Money To Regain The Speaker's Post Un Exchange For Housholder Pushing Legislation To Bail Out FirstEnergy's Nuclear Plants. "Over several days of socializing at high-end restaurants, prosecutors said, they discussed a deal: Mr. Householder needed money to regain the speaker's post when its occupant left office in 2018. The company needed a legislative solution to its nuclear power woes. What began with a handshake became a multimillion-dollar political operation, with the money laundered through nonprofit groups allowed by the tax code to conceal donors' names." [New York Times, [6/29/23](#)]

July 2020: Householder Was Indicted On Racketeering Charges In Connection To The FirstEnergy Scheme

July 2020: Householder Was Indicted On Racketeering Charges In Connection To The FirstEnergy Scheme. "An ugly campaign for a taxpayer-funded corporate bailout was itself funded by an even uglier criminal conspiracy, federal law enforcement officials said Tuesday. Ohio House Speaker Larry Householder, four political operatives and a dark-money group were charged Tuesday in a criminal complaint that an Ohio energy company paid them \$61 million to get a \$1.3 billion nuclear bailout from taxpayers. Charged along with Householder were Matt Borges, a lobbyist who was formerly chairman of the Ohio Republican Party, Neil Clark, a lobbyist who owns Grant Street Consulting, Juan Cespedes, also a lobbyist, and Householder's aide, Jeffrey Longstreth. All are charged with racketeering, which carries a prison sentence of up to 20 years." [Ohio Capital Journal, [7/21/20](#)]

June 2023: Householder Was Sentenced To 20 Years In Prison

June 2023: Householder Was Sentenced To 20 Years In Prison For The Scandal. "Former Ohio House Speaker Larry Householder, 64, of Glenford, Ohio, was sentenced in federal court here today to 240 months in prison for leading a racketeering conspiracy to receive nearly \$61 million in bribes to pass and uphold a billion-dollar nuclear plant bailout. The Court remanded Householder to the custody of the U.S. Marshals at the conclusion of sentencing." [Department of Justice, [6/29/23](#)]

Merrin's Primary Opponent Accused Him Of Being A "Top Henchman" To Disgraced And Convicted Ohio House Member Larry Householder, Whose Position Merrin Voted To Maintain Even After His Indictment

Merrin's Primary Opponent Accused Him Of Being A "Top Henchman" To Disgraced And Convicted Ohio House Member Larry Householder, They Claimed "Speculation Swirls Merrin Could Be Charged Next." "Notably, [Ohio State Congressman Craig] Riedel's campaign recently began airing a searing Merrin attack ad - blasting the legislator as 'a top henchman' to then-Ohio House Speaker Larry Householder. Householder was convicted last year in the largest bribery scheme in state history

and sentenced in June to 20 years in prison. The ad suggests ‘speculation swirls Merrin could be charged next.’” [The Associated Press, [3/18/24](#)]

Before Householder Was Charged With Large-Scale Bribery, “Merrin Had Taken Upwards Of \$17,000 Between Householder’s Dark Money Growth & Opportunity Pac And His Official Committee”

Before Householder Was Charged With Large-Scale Bribery, “Merrin Had Taken Upwards Of \$17,000 Between Householder’s Dark Money Growth & Opportunity Pac And His Official Committee.” “Merrin also has some eyebrow-raising ties to former Speaker Householder, who is serving 20 years in prison after being convicted in a \$60 million bribery case. Before the scandal broke, Merrin had taken upwards of \$17,000 between Householder’s dark money Growth & Opportunity PAC and his official committee.” [The Daily Beast, [1/30/24](#)]

2021: Merrin Was One Of The Few Ohio House Members To Vote Against Householder’s Expulsion

2021: Merrin Was One Of The Few Ohio House Members To Vote Against Householder’s Expulsion. “After Householder was arrested, Merrin was one of 20 Republicans who voted against expelling the former speaker from the legislature in 2021. (Since then, Merrin has sponsored an ethics reform bill to guard against future corruption schemes).” [The Daily Beast, [1/30/24](#)]

- **June 2021: Merrin Was One Of 16 Representatives To Vote Against H.Res. 69, A Resolution To Expel Householder.** “To expel Representative Larry Householder from the House of Representatives.” [Ohio Legislature, H.Res. 69, [6/16/21](#)]

January 2019: Merrin Voted For Householder For House Speaker

January 2019: Merrin Voted For Householder For House Speaker. “Merrin voted for Larry Householder to become speaker in January 2019 over then-Speaker Ryan Smith. Later that year, he voted for H.B. 6, the controversial energy law that federal prosecutors say that Householder passed with the help of \$60 million in bribes from FirstEnergy, the Akron-based utility that stood to profit from the law. Last year, Merrin opposed the House’s vote to expel Householder, who goes on trial next January for a federal corruption charge.” [Cleveland.com, [11/23/22](#)]

2023: Merrin Waited Until The Eve Of Householder's Trial, Roughly Two Years After His Arrest, To Change Ethics Rules To Prevent Further Corruption

2023: Merrin Helped Usher In An “Ethics Reform Bill” On The Eve Of Former Ohio House Speaker Householder’s Trial, Despite The Ethics Laws Remaining Unchanged In The Then Two Years Since Householder’s Arrest. “As the federal trial for Ohio’s largest public corruption scandal begins this week, a group of Republican representatives has introduced the ‘Ohio Ethics and Financial Disclosure Reform Act.’[...] The legal case centers around former Republican House Speaker Larry Householder and four associates. Federal prosecutors allege that the men accepted more than \$60 million from FirstEnergy in exchange for a bailout that would have given the company more than \$1 billion in subsidies over seven years. [...] But in the two and half years since his arrest, Ohio’s ethics and disclosure laws for elected officials haven’t changed. [...] ‘This bill will change the status quo and be proactive in regaining Ohioans’ trust,’ Rep. Derek Merrin, R-Monclova Township, said. [...] ‘We’re going to need help to get this

through ...,' Merrin said. 'I think this is going to ultimately be a joint effort where we join together and say we need to really do what's best for Ohio.'" [The Columbus Dispatch, [1/19/23](#)]

- ***The "Ethics Reform Bill" Took Several Cues From Householder's Case.*** "There are five major parts of the bill, and the first would require all lobbying income to be reported and sourced directly to the clients they represent. [...] The next change also sprung from the upcoming federal case. It deals with what needs to be disclosed about people hoping to serve on the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio. That's the state agency that regulates utility companies like FirstEnergy. This bill would require nominees to disclose any income, previous business relationships or ties to entities regulated by the PUCO by the time they are submitted to the governor for an appointment. [...] Third, the bill would prohibit elected officials from getting paid to serve on corporate boards unless the seat was held prior to taking office and the official has ownership in the corporation. [...] Fourth, the bill would require the financial disclosure statements submitted by all candidates and elected officials to be posted online in an easily searchable format. [...] And finally, the bill would make it clear that the Ohio Ethics Commission and the Joint Legislative Ethics Committee could ask Ohio's Bureau of Criminal Investigation for help investigating allegations of misconduct." [The Columbus Dispatch, [1/19/23](#)]

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Campaign Finance

Campaign Finance Highlights

Merrin's campaign raised \$256,565.41 and spent \$168,399.79

Merrin loaned his campaign \$30,000 in February 2024, then refunded himself in March 2024

Merrin accepted \$17,000 from "Big Lie" supporting Members of Congress and their leadership PACs.

Merrin accepted over \$10,000 from entities involved with the FirstEnergy scandal.

2018-2022: Merrin accepted \$16,250 from gas, oil, and energy industry PACs.

2018-2023: Merrin accepted \$11,400 from pharmaceutical industry PACs.

2018-2022: Merrin accepted \$7,750 from insurance industry PACs.

2018-2023: Merrin's committee contributed \$381,825 to Republican Party organizations.

2019-2023: Merrin's committee contributed \$410 to anti-abortion organizations.

Financial Summary As Of March 31, 2024

Merrin's Campaign Raised \$256,565.41 And Spent \$168,399.79

Cycle	Total Receipts	Individuals	Party Cmtes	Other Cmtes	Candidate	Loans
2024	\$256,565.41	\$117,088.74	\$0	\$92,350	\$0	\$30,000

[FEC Committee Candidate and Committee Viewer, [Accessed 5/10/24](#)]

Cycle	Total Disbursements	Operating Expen	Refunds	Loan Repayments
2024	\$168,399.79	\$131,841.92	\$6,502.87	\$30,000.00

[FEC Committee Candidate and Committee Viewer, [Accessed 5/10/24](#)]

Merrin Loaned His Campaign \$30,000 In February 2024, Then Refunded Himself In March 2024

February 28, 2024: Merrin Loaned His Campaign \$30,000. [Federal Election Commission, [2/28/24](#)]

March 12, 2024: Merrin Repaid His Loan To Himself. [Federal Election Commission, [3/12/24](#)]

Questionable Donors

Merrin Accepted \$17K From Big Lie-Supporting Members of Congress And Their Leadership PACs

Merrin Accepted \$5K From American Revival PAC, The Leadership PAC For Speaker Mike Johnson, Who Voted Against Certifying The 2020 Election

Merrin Accepted \$5K From American Revival PAC, Speaker Mike Johnson's Leadership PAC.
[Federal Election Commission, [2/1/24](#)]

Mike Johnson Voted Against Certifying The 2020 Election. [The New York Times, [1/7/21](#)]

Merrin Accepted \$5K From First In Freedom PAC, The Leadership PAC For Richard Hudson, Who Voted Against Certifying The 2020 Election

Merrin Accepted \$5K From First In Freedom PAC, The Leadership PAC For Richard Hudson.
[Federal Election Commission, [2/21/24](#)]

Richard Hudson Voted Against Certifying The 2020 Election. [The New York Times, [1/7/21](#)]

Merrin Accepted \$5K From Greater Tomorrow PAC, The Leadership PAC For Glenn Thompson, Who Voted Against Certifying The 2020 Election

Merrin Accepted \$5K From Greater Tomorrow PAC, The Leadership PAC For Glenn Thompson.
[Federal Election Commission, [2/15/24](#)]

Glenn Thompson Voted Against Certifying The 2020 Election. [The New York Times, [1/7/21](#)]

Merrin Accepted \$1K From VALOR PAC, The Leadership PAC For Brian Mast, Who Voted Against Certifying The 2020 Election

Merrin Accepted \$1K From VALOR PAC, The Leadership PAC For Brian Mast. [Federal Election Commission, [2/28/24](#)]

Brian Mast Voted Against Certifying The 2020 Election. [The New York Times, [1/7/21](#)]

Merrin Accepted \$1K From Brian Babin, Who Voted Against Certifying The 2020 Election

Merrin Accepted \$1K From Brian Babin For Congress [Federal Election Commission, [2/28/24](#)]

Brian Babin Voted Against Certifying The 2020 Election. [The New York Times, [1/7/21](#)]

Merrin Accepted Over \$10K From Entities Involved With The FirstEnergy Scandal

2018: Merrin Accepted \$7,707.79 From Friends Of Larry Householder, Who Later Faced Charges Of Large-Scale Bribery

2018: Merrin Accepted \$7,707.79 From Friends Of Larry Householder. [Ohio Secretary of State, Friends of Derek Merrin, Accessed 5/13/24]

Before Householder Was Charged With Large-Scale Bribery, "Merrin Had Taken Upwards Of \$17,000 Between Householder's Dark Money Growth & Opportunity Pac And His Official Committee." "Merrin also has some eyebrow-raising ties to former Speaker Householder, who is serving 20 years in prison after being convicted in a \$60 million bribery case. Before the scandal broke, Merrin had taken upwards of \$17,000 between Householder's dark money Growth & Opportunity PAC and his official committee." [The Daily Beast, [1/30/24](#)]

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2021: Merrin Was One Of The Few Ohio House Members To Vote Against Householder’s Expulsion. “After Householder was arrested, Merrin was one of 20 Republicans who voted against expelling the former speaker from the legislature in 2021. (Since then, Merrin has sponsored an ethics reform bill to guard against future corruption schemes).” [The Daily Beast, [1/30/24](#)]

2016-17: Merrin Accepted \$1,500.00 From FirstEnergy Corp

2016-2017: Merrin Accepted \$1,500.00 From FirstEnergy Corp. [Follow the Money, [Accessed 5/13/24](#)]

July 2019: Merrin Voted For The FirstEnergy Nuclear Bailout Legislation

July 2019: Merrin Voted For H.B. 6. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 6, [7/23/19](#)]

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Merrin Accepted \$3,300 From Marshall McCrea, The Co-CEO Of Energy Transfer Partners

Merrin Accepted \$3,300 From Marshall McCrea, The Co-CEO Of Energy Transfer Partners. [Federal Election Commission, [Accessed 5/10/24](#); Energy Transfer Partners, [Accessed 5/11/24](#)]

2024: Merrin Accepted \$13K In PAC Contributions

Merrin Accepted \$13K In PAC Contributions. [Federal Election Commission, [Accessed 5/10/24](#)]

<i>Contributor</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Amount</i>
CONGRESSIONAL LEADERSHIP FUND	2/21/24	\$5,000.00
AMERICAN REVIVAL PAC	2/1/24	\$5,000.00
GREATER CINCINNATI NKY APARTMENT ASSOCIATION OH PAC 739	2/28/24	\$1,000.00
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA PAC (US CHAMBER PAC)	2/21/24	\$1,000.00
1890 PAC	2/22/24	\$1,000.00
<i>Grand Total</i>		\$13,000.00

[Federal Election Commission, [Accessed 5/10/24](#)]

2018-2022: Merrin Accepted \$621,021.42 From Republican Party Organizations

2018-2022: Merrin Accepted \$621,021.42 From Republican Party Organizations.

<i>Contributor Name</i>	<i>Total Contribution</i>	<i>Earliest Contribution</i>	<i>Latest Contribution</i>
OHIO HOUSE REPUBLICAN ALLIANCE	\$319,042.97	10/19/2022	12/09/2022
OHIO REPUBLICAN STATE AND CENTRAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE	\$177,883.80	04/27/2018	11/24/2020
OHIO REPUBLICAN PARTY	\$117,990.43	10/19/2022	12/1/2022
OHIO HOUSE REPUBLICAN ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITTEE	\$5,704.22	04/30/2018	05/14/2018

<i>Contributor Name</i>	<i>Total Contribution</i>	<i>Earliest Contribution</i>	<i>Latest Contribution</i>
FALLEN TIMBERS REPUBLICAN CLUB	\$400.00	04/23/2018	07/27/2022
Grand Total	\$621,021.42	04/23/2018	12/09/2022

[Ohio Secretary of State, Friends of Derek Merrin, Accessed 5/13/24]

2018-2022: Merrin Accepted \$80,800.14 From Other Candidates' Committees

2018-2022: Merrin Accepted \$80,800.14 From Other Candidates' Committees.

<i>Contributor Name</i>	<i>Total Contribution</i>	<i>Earliest Contribution</i>	<i>Latest Contribution</i>
FRIENDS OF JAY EDWARDS	\$13,292.35	10/15/2020	10/15/2020
SUPPORTERS AND FRIENDS OF RON FERGUSON	\$13,000.00	10/27/2022	10/27/2022
SEITZ FOR OHIO	\$13,000.00	10/05/2020	10/26/2020
FRIENDS OF LARRY HOUSEHOLDER	\$7,707.79	04/05/2018	04/05/2018
WILKIN FOR OHIO	\$7,000.00	10/05/2020	11/02/2020
COMMITTEE FOR WIGGAM	\$5,300.00	4/30/2018	10/22/2022
ROMANCHUK FOR OHIO	\$5,000.00	02/25/2022	08/12/2022
DAVE YOST FOR OHIO	\$5,000.00	10/29/2022	10/29/2022
BUTLER FOR OHIO	\$5,000.00	10/15/2020	10/15/2020
COMMITTEE TO ELECT SARAH FOWLER ARTHUR	\$2,000.00	10/21/2022	10/21/2022
FRIENDS OF JON CROSS COMMITTEE	\$1,500.00	10/29/2022	10/29/2022
SCHMIDT FOR OHIO	\$1,000.00	11/01/2022	11/01/2022
BALDRIDGE FOR OHIO	\$1,000.00	10/10/2020	10/10/2020

<i>Contributor Name</i>	<i>Total Contribution</i>	<i>Earliest Contribution</i>	<i>Latest Contribution</i>
ROB LUDEMAN CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE	\$500.00	10/05/2022	10/05/2022
CITIZENS TO ELECT CRAIG RIEDEL	\$250.00	10/24/2022	10/24/2022
CITIZENS FOR BUEHRER	\$250.00	08/28/2018	08/28/2018
Grand Total	\$80,800.14	04/05/2018	11/01/2022

[Ohio Secretary of State, Friends of Derek Merrin, Accessed 5/13/24]

2018-2023: Merrin Accepted Over \$120K From Organizations And Individuals Tied To The Real Estate, Construction, And Development Industries

2018-2023: Merrin Accepted \$61,404.41 From Real Estate, Construction, And Development Industry PACs

2018-2023: Merrin Accepted \$61,404.41 From Real Estate, Construction, And Development Industry PACs.

<i>Contributor Name</i>	<i>Total Contribution</i>	<i>Earliest Contribution</i>	<i>Latest Contribution</i>
ACT OHIO FOUNDATION PCE	\$14,704.41	10/13/20	12/8/22
REALTORS PAC	\$13,000.00	11/9/19	3/8/22
OHIO HOME BUILDERS ASSOCIATION BUILDERS PAC	\$11,000.00	4/5/18	1/18/23
ABC OF OHIO PAC OH	\$5,000.00	9/19/22	9/19/22
OREIA PAC	\$3,750.00	4/6/18	10/27/22
OHIO MORTGAGE BANKERS PAC	\$3,000.00	7/30/18	9/21/22
HOME BUILDERS ASSOCIATION OF GREATER TOLEDO PAC	\$2,600.00	7/20/21	8/3/22

<i>Contributor Name</i>	<i>Total Contribution</i>	<i>Earliest Contribution</i>	<i>Latest Contribution</i>
MCA OF NW OHIO PAC	\$1,500.00	10/31/20	10/24/22
HBA OF GREATER TOLEDO PAC	\$1,500.00	3/16/18	3/16/18
THE MANNIK & SMITH GROUP INC PAC AKA (MSG PAC)	\$1,000.00	7/20/21	8/3/22
OHIO AGGREGATES PAC	\$1,000.00	8/28/18	11/15/21
COLUMBUS APARTMENT ASSOCIATION PAC	\$1,000.00	12/9/21	12/9/21
OHIO CONCRETE PAC	\$750.00	6/6/18	6/6/18
CATERPILLAR INC PAC	\$750.00	9/20/22	9/20/22
OHIO ARCHITECTS PAC	\$500.00	8/28/18	8/28/18
OHIO MANUFACTURED HOMES ASSOC. PAC	\$350.00	10/30/18	10/30/18
<i>Grand Total</i>	\$61,404.41	3/16/18	1/18/23

[Ohio Secretary of State, Friends of Derek Merrin, Accessed 5/13/24]

2018-2023: Merrin Accepted At Least \$61,479.00 From Individuals Employed In The Real Estate And Development Industries

2018-2023: Merrin Accepted At Least \$61,479.00 From Individuals Employed In The Real Estate And Development Industries.

<i>Contributor Name</i>	<i>Employer/Occupat ion</i>	<i>Total Contribution</i>	<i>Earliest Contribution</i>	<i>Latest Contribution</i>
KEVIN PRATER	PRATER DEVELOPMENT LTD/PRESIDENT	\$13,704.00	9/1/22	9/1/22

<i>Contributor Name</i>	<i>Employer/Occupation</i>	<i>Total Contribution</i>	<i>Earliest Contribution</i>	<i>Latest Contribution</i>
KAREN PAGANINI	K & D REAL ESTATE SERVICES/PARTNER	\$5,000.00	8/1/22	10/29/22
DOUGLAS PRICE III	K & D REAL ESTATE SERVICES/PARTNER	\$5,000.00	8/1/22	10/29/22
THOMAS SCHLACHTER	SELF-EMPLOYED/HOMEBUILDER	\$500.00	8/3/22	8/3/22
THOMAS SCHLACHTER	SELF-EMPLOYED/REAL ESTATE	\$2,250.00	3/16/18	7/6/20
THOMAS SCHLACHTER	SELF-EMPLOYED/REAL ESTATE DEVELOPER & HOMEBUILDER	\$1,000.00	3/10/20	7/16/21
THOMAS SCHLACHTER	SELF/HOMEBUILDER	\$250.00	6/24/22	6/24/22
JAMES MOLINE	SELF-EMPLOYED/HOME BUILDER	\$2,500.00	2/15/18	10/5/22
JAMES MOLINE	SELF/JAMES MOLINE BUILDERS INC HOMEBUILDER	\$1,000.00	8/3/22	8/3/22
JOSH DOYLE	SELF-EMPLOYED/HOMEBUILDER	\$3,000.00	10/21/20	10/21/20
DOYLE JOSH	SELF-EMPLOYED/HOMEBUILDER	\$3,000.00	3/16/18	3/16/18

<i>Contributor Name</i>	<i>Employer/Occupation</i>	<i>Total Contribution</i>	<i>Earliest Contribution</i>	<i>Latest Contribution</i>
ANNA MILLS	SELF EMPLOYED/HOUSING PROVIDER	\$500.00	7/20/21	7/20/21
ANNA MILLS	SELF EMPLOYED/REAL ESTATE	\$2,000.00	2/15/18	2/15/18
ANNA MILLS	SELF- EMPLOYED/HOUSING PROVIDER	\$100.00	10/5/22	10/5/22
RICHARD IOTT	SELF/REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT	\$2,500.00	1/26/18	1/26/18
CHRISTOPHER HITE	SUGAR CREEK REALTY/EXECUTIVE	\$2,500.00	11/4/21	11/4/21
FRANKLIN KASS	CONTINENTAL REALTY/CHAIRMAN & CEO	\$1,000.00	10/24/22	10/24/22
FRANKLIN KASS	CONTINENTAL REALTY/CHAIRMAN & CEO/	\$1,000.00	6/3/22	6/3/22
BRIAN MCCARTHY	OWNER/MCCARTHY BUILDERS, INC.	\$1,800.00	3/16/18	8/3/22
DOUGLAS DYMARKOWSKI	DEVONSHIRE REIT/ATTORNEY	\$1,300.00	5/18/18	9/24/18
MIKE HOJNACKI	OWNER/HOJ DEVELOPMENT	\$1,000.00	3/16/18	7/8/20
MICHAEL J WHITE	BUCKEYE REAL ESTATE COMPANY/PRESIDENT	\$1,000.00	8/6/22	8/6/22
STEPHEN SERCHUK	SIGNATURE ASSOCIATES/RE	\$950.00	10/6/18	12/31/23

<i>Contributor Name</i>	<i>Employer/Occupation</i>	<i>Total Contribution</i>	<i>Earliest Contribution</i>	<i>Latest Contribution</i>
	AL ESTATE AGENT			
DENNIS NONEMAN	NONEMAN REAL ESTATE COMPANY/OWNER	\$800.00	3/18/20	6/18/21
REBECCA MCLEAN	NATIONAL REAL ESTATE INVESTORS ASSN/ED	\$600.00	2/23/22	7/6/22
PAUL KWAPICH	RIVER ASSET MANAGEMENT/REAL ESTATE MANAGEMENT	\$500.00	7/26/22	7/26/22
MIKE GABRAIL	SELF-EMPLOYED/HOUSING PROVIDER	\$500.00	12/28/21	12/28/21
JEFFREY MARCH	BRG REALTY GROUP/REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT/MANAGEMENT	\$500.00	7/6/22	7/6/22
JACK JOLLY	GREATER TOLEDO HOME BUILDERS ASSOCIATION/STAFF	\$500.00	8/3/22	8/3/22
CAROL WALLS	SELF-EMPLOYED/HOUSING PROVIDER	\$300.00	7/20/21	6/16/22
CAROL WALLS	SELF/HOUSING PROVIDER & REAL ESTATE INVESTOR	\$150.00	3/18/20	3/18/20
MICHAEL TEMPLE	PRESIDENT, TEMPLE	\$400.00	2/15/18	10/5/22

<i>Contributor Name</i>	<i>Employer/Occupation</i>	<i>Total Contribution</i>	<i>Earliest Contribution</i>	<i>Latest Contribution</i>
	DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION			
KATHLEEN SALLAH	SALLAH PROPERTIES/SELF-EMPLOYED	\$350.00	4/18/18	10/24/20
MATTHEW RUBIN	CRANE DEVELOPMENT/OWNER	\$325.00	6/16/22	8/3/22
KEVIN KOEPFER	SELF-EMPLOYED/HOUSING PROVIDER	\$200.00	7/20/21	7/20/21
KEVIN KOEPFER	SELF-EMPLOYED/REAL ESTATE	\$125.00	2/15/18	2/15/18
WADE SMITH	THE DANBERRY CO/REAL ESTATE DEVELOPER	\$250.00	8/6/22	8/6/22
THOMAS SALLAH	SALLAH PROPERTIES/SELF-EMPLOYED	\$250.00	8/19/22	8/19/22
SCOTT BOLLIN	SUMMERLYN BUILDERS/REAL ESTATE DEVELOPER	\$250.00	8/3/22	8/3/22
ROBERT J WAHLKE	TOWNE PROPERTIES/MANAGEMENT	\$250.00	7/6/22	7/6/22
MICHAEL WEIGEL	DAWN MANAGEMENT/PROPERTY MANAGER	\$250.00	7/6/22	7/6/22
JEFFREY SOCLOF	COLDWELL BANKER COMMERCIAL/R	\$250.00	1/20/22	1/20/22

<i>Contributor Name</i>	<i>Employer/Occupat ion</i>	<i>Total Contribution</i>	<i>Earliest Contribution</i>	<i>Latest Contribution</i>
	EAL ESTATE BROKER			
JAMES ANKNEY	GULFSTREAM DEVELOPMENT/ OWNER	\$250.00	8/3/22	8/3/22
KYLE KOEPFER	SELF- EMPLOYED/HOU SING PROVIDER	\$200.00	7/20/21	10/5/22
DAN BUMPUS	SELF- EMPLOYED/REA L ESTATE INVESTMENT	\$200.00	7/13/20	7/13/20
DAN ACTON	SELF- EMPLOYED/REA L ESTATE INVESTOR	\$200.00	10/10/18	2/23/22
KEITH BROWN	BROKER/REAL ESTATE	\$175.00	2/15/18	6/16/22
JOHNATHAN MODENE	REMAX/REAL ESTATE AGENT & BROKER	\$150.00	3/10/20	3/10/20
CHRIS EWERT	SELF- EMPLOYED/HOU SING PROVIDER	\$125.00	10/5/22	10/5/22
ALYCE CERVI	SELF EMPLOYED/REA L ESTATE	\$125.00	2/15/18	2/15/18
PHILIP CARTER	SELF EMPLOYED/REA L ESTATE INVESTOR	\$100.00	2/15/18	2/15/18
JAN LOWE	SELF- EMPLOYED/REA L ESTATE	\$100.00	6/3/22	6/3/22

<i>Contributor Name</i>	<i>Employer/Occupation</i>	<i>Total Contribution</i>	<i>Earliest Contribution</i>	<i>Latest Contribution</i>
CHARLES BARCHICK	BARCHICK CUSTOM HOMES/HOMEB UILDER	\$100.00	10/11/18	10/11/18
JULIA RANGLES	CRANE DEVELOPMENT HOLDINGS/OWN ER	\$75.00	8/3/22	8/3/22
CINDY YOUNG	SELF- EMPLOYED/HOU SING PROVIDER	\$75.00	7/20/21	7/20/21
<i>Grand Total</i>		\$61,479.00	1/26/18	12/31/23

[Ohio Secretary of State, Friends of Derek Merrin, Accessed 5/13/24]

2018-2024: Merrin Accepted \$59,350.00 From Health Care Industry PACs

2018-2024: Merrin Accepted \$59,350.00 From Health Care Industry PACs.

<i>Contributor Name</i>	<i>Total Contribution</i>	<i>Earliest Contribution</i>	<i>Latest Contribution</i>
THE ACADEMY OF SENIOR HEALTH SCIENCES PAC	\$13,700.00	9/21/22	9/21/22
OHIO DENTAL ASSOCIATION POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE (ODPAC)	\$9,000.00	4/11/18	4/18/23
OHIO OPTOMETRY PAC	\$8,000.00	5/2/18	10/14/24
OHIO CERTIFIED REGISTERED NURSE ANESTHETIST PAC	\$5,000.00	9/4/18	7/14/20
OSANA NURSE ANESTHETISTS PAC	\$4,500.00	4/14/20	11/5/22
OHIO HEALTH CARE ASSOC. PAC	\$4,000.00	4/3/19	10/31/20

<i>Contributor Name</i>	<i>Total Contribution</i>	<i>Earliest Contribution</i>	<i>Latest Contribution</i>
FRIENDS OF OHIO HOSPITALS	\$4,000.00	3/26/19	10/15/22
OHIO COUNCIL FOR HOME CARE AND HOSPICE PAC	\$2,000.00	1/24/23	1/24/23
OHIO ASSOC. OF HEALTH UNDERWRITERS PAC	\$1,500.00	8/28/18	7/10/20
UNITEDHEALTH GROUP PAC	\$1,000.00	10/21/22	10/21/22
OHIO STATE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION PAC (OSMAPAC)	\$1,000.00	3/26/19	11/9/22
OHIO STATE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION PAC	\$1,000.00	4/10/18	4/10/18
MOLINA HEALTHCARE PAC	\$1,000.00	9/21/22	9/21/22
OSCA CHIROPRACTIC POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE	\$500.00	5/12/22	5/12/22
OHIO STATE CHIROPRACTIC ASSOCIATION C-PAC	\$500.00	3/26/19	3/26/19
OHIO PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOC. PAC	\$500.00	4/5/19	4/5/19
OHIO MEDICAL EYE PAC	\$500.00	10/10/22	10/10/22
OHIO ASSOCIATION OF ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSES PAC	\$500.00	6/10/19	6/10/19

<i>Contributor Name</i>	<i>Total Contribution</i>	<i>Earliest Contribution</i>	<i>Latest Contribution</i>
BRIGHTSPRING LEGACY FUND	\$500.00	10/19/22	10/19/22
OH CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS PAC	\$350.00	8/24/18	8/24/18
OHIO PODIATRIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE	\$300.00	11/5/22	11/5/22
<i>Grand Total</i>	\$59,350.00	4/10/18	10/14/24

[Ohio Secretary of State, Friends of Derek Merrin, Accessed 5/13/24]

2018-2022: Merrin Accepted \$34,850.00 From Pro-Commerce PACs, Including Commercial Financial Services And Banks

2018-2022: Merrin Accepted \$34,850.00 From Pro-Commerce PACs, Including Commercial Financial Services And Banks.

<i>Contributor Name</i>	<i>Total Contribution</i>	<i>Earliest Contribution</i>	<i>Latest Contribution</i>
OHIO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PAC	\$12,600.00	8/28/18	11/23/22
OHIO BANK PAC	\$5,500.00	3/26/19	10/11/22
COMMUNITY BANKERS ASSOCIATION OF OHIO FEDERAL PAC	\$5,500.00	3/26/19	10/28/22
OHIO MORTGAGE BANKERS PAC	\$3,000.00	7/30/18	9/21/22
THE TOLEDO REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE LEADERSHIP FUND	\$1,500.00	10/5/18	10/7/20
NFIB PAC	\$1,000.00	9/28/22	9/28/22
NFIB OHIO POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE	\$1,000.00	4/30/18	10/7/20

<i>Contributor Name</i>	<i>Total Contribution</i>	<i>Earliest Contribution</i>	<i>Latest Contribution</i>
KEYCORP ADVOCATES FUND	\$1,000.00	10/16/20	4/8/22
JPMORGAN CHASE & CO PAC	\$1,000.00	12/30/19	12/30/19
HUNTINGTON BANCSHARES INC. PAC (HBI-PAC)	\$1,000.00	11/23/19	3/14/20
PNC PAC	\$500.00	6/24/22	6/24/22
ONEMAIN HOLDINGS INC PAC	\$500.00	11/16/21	11/16/21
MARINER FINANCE LLC PAC	\$500.00	11/10/21	11/10/21
U.S. BANCORP POLITICAL PARTICIPATION PROGRAM	\$250.00	3/31/22	3/31/22
<i>Grand Total</i>	<i>\$34,850.00</i>	<i>4/30/18</i>	<i>11/23/22</i>

[Ohio Secretary of State, Friends of Derek Merrin, Accessed 5/13/24]

2018-2022: Merrin Accepted \$16,250.00 From Gas, Oil, And Energy Industry PACs

2018-2022: Merrin Accepted \$16,250.00 From Gas, Oil, And Energy Industry PACs.

<i>Contributor Name</i>	<i>Total Contribution</i>	<i>Earliest Contribution</i>	<i>Latest Contribution</i>
NISOURCE INC. PAC	\$6,000.00	3/26/19	10/31/22
DOMINION PAC	\$1,500.00	8/31/20	9/20/22
OHIO PROPANE PAC	\$1,000.00	3/17/22	3/17/22
OHIO OIL AND GAS PRODUCERS FUND	\$1,000.00	11/10/21	11/19/22
MARATHON PETROLEUM CORPORATION EMPLOYEES POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE (MPAC)	\$1,000.00	10/15/22	10/15/22

<i>Contributor Name</i>	<i>Total Contribution</i>	<i>Earliest Contribution</i>	<i>Latest Contribution</i>
IGS VENTURES COMMITTEE FOR RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT	\$1,000.00	1/20/22	1/20/22
ENBRIDGE (U.S.) INC. PAC (ENBRIDGE-DCP PAC)	\$1,000.00	4/18/18	9/27/22
BP NORTH AMERICAN EMPLOYEE PAC	\$1,000.00	11/30/19	8/19/20
AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER OHIO COMMITTEE FOR RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT	\$1,000.00	7/30/21	7/30/21
GULFPORT ENERGY PAC	\$750.00	9/26/18	9/26/18
NISOURCE INC PAC	\$500.00	11/10/21	11/10/21
EXELONPAC	\$500.00	1/1/21	1/1/21
<i>Grand Total</i>	\$16,250.00	4/18/18	11/19/22

[Ohio Secretary of State, Friends of Derek Merrin, Accessed 5/13/24]

2018-2022: Merrin Accepted \$14,950.00 From Special Interest PACs

2018-2022: Merrin Accepted \$14,950.00 From Special Interest PACs.

<i>Contributor Name</i>	<i>Total Contribution</i>	<i>Earliest Contribution</i>	<i>Latest Contribution</i>
PAC EQUINE RACING	\$3,500.00	12/3/21	10/8/22
G-TOWN STATE PAC	\$3,000.00	11/22/19	6/2/22
OHIO ASSOCIATION OF JUSTICE PAC	\$2,350.00	4/12/19	7/11/22
OHIO ACTION COMMITTEE FOR RURAL ELECTRIFICATION (ACRE)/OHIO RURAL	\$1,850.00	8/27/18	2/25/22

<i>Contributor Name</i>	<i>Total Contribution</i>	<i>Earliest Contribution</i>	<i>Latest Contribution</i>
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES INC./NATIONAL RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION			
PENNANT PAC	\$1,500.00	7/8/20	7/8/20
JOBS, EDUCATION, AND TAX POLICY PAC	\$1,500.00	9/13/22	9/13/22
BOAT OHIO FOUNDATION PAC	\$1,000.00	11/18/19	7/19/21
GREATER CLEVELAND PARTNERSHIP PAC	\$250.00	11/18/19	11/18/19
Grand Total	\$14,950.00	8/27/18	10/8/22

[Ohio Secretary of State, Friends of Derek Merrin, Accessed 5/13/24]

2018-2023: Merrin Accepted \$11,400.00 From Pharmaceutical Industry PACs

2018-2023: Merrin Accepted \$11,400.00 From Pharmaceutical Industry PACs.

<i>Contributor Name</i>	<i>Total Contribution</i>	<i>Earliest Contribution</i>	<i>Latest Contribution</i>
PHARMACY PAC	\$1,950.00	2/26/18	4/14/21
REYNOLDS AMERICAN PAC	\$1,900.00	10/19/20	10/20/23
PFIZER PAC	\$1,900.00	2/13/18	6/16/22
MERCK PAC	\$1,500.00	3/27/18	10/11/22
SANOFI US SERVICES INC. EMPLOYEES' PAC	\$1,050.00	11/5/19	5/19/21
NOVARTIS PAC	\$1,000.00	10/5/18	5/17/19
MCKESSON CORPORATION EMPLOYEE POLITICAL FUND	\$500.00	11/9/19	11/9/19

<i>Contributor Name</i>	<i>Total Contribution</i>	<i>Earliest Contribution</i>	<i>Latest Contribution</i>
HUMANA PAC	\$500.00	12/7/19	12/7/19
GLAXOSMITHKLINE LLC POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE (GSK PAC)	\$500.00	7/22/22	7/22/22
GENENPAC	\$350.00	7/24/19	7/24/19
ZENECA INC PAC	\$250.00	10/20/18	10/20/18
<i>Grand Total</i>	<i>\$11,400.00</i>	<i>2/13/18</i>	<i>10/20/23</i>

[Ohio Secretary of State, Friends of Derek Merrin, Accessed 5/13/24]

2018-2022: Merrin Accepted \$11,400.00 From Law Firm And Legal Industry PACs

2018-2022: Merrin Accepted \$11,400.00 From Law Firm And Legal Industry PACs.

<i>Contributor Name</i>	<i>Total Contribution</i>	<i>Earliest Contribution</i>	<i>Latest Contribution</i>
TAFT, STETTINIUS & HOLLISTER BETTER GOVERNMENT FUND	\$2,500.00	10/9/18	10/21/22
KEGLER, BROWN, HILL & RITTER, PAC	\$1,450.00	10/26/18	4/14/21
CALFEE FUND FOR GOOD GOVERNMENT	\$1,250.00	8/28/18	7/19/21
VORYS SATER SEYMOUR AND PEASE ADVOCATES FOR EFFECTIVE GOVERNMENT	\$1,000.00	7/16/21	3/4/22
OHIO LAW PAC	\$1,000.00	9/20/18	2/10/20
STRATEGIC PUBLIC PARTNERS PAC	\$750.00	10/27/22	10/27/22
MCDONALD HOPKINS LLC PAC	\$750.00	9/26/18	9/26/18
ICE MILLER PAC	\$700.00	7/13/21	2/16/22
KEGLER, BROWN, HILL & RITTER PAC	\$500.00	2/3/22	2/3/22

<i>Contributor Name</i>	<i>Total Contribution</i>	<i>Earliest Contribution</i>	<i>Latest Contribution</i>
FROST BROWN TODD LLC POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE	\$500.00	10/5/18	10/5/18
BAKER & HOSTETLER LLP OHIO PAC	\$500.00	10/22/18	10/22/18
ICE MILLER PAC - OH	\$250.00	11/20/21	11/20/21
OHIO PROSECUTING ATTORNEYS PAC	\$250.00	12/11/21	12/11/21
<i>Grand Total</i>	<i>\$11,400.00</i>	<i>8/28/18</i>	<i>10/27/22</i>

[Ohio Secretary of State, Friends of Derek Merrin, Accessed 5/13/24]

2018-2022: Merrin Accepted \$10,850.00 From Beverage Industry PACs

2018-2022: Merrin Accepted \$10,850.00 From Beverage Industry PACs.

<i>Contributor Name</i>	<i>Total Contribution</i>	<i>Earliest Contribution</i>	<i>Latest Contribution</i>
BEER & WINE PAC	\$7,850.00	7/12/18	10/17/22
BEER& WINE PAC	\$1,500.00	3/1/18	3/22/19
SIX PAC - PAC OF OHIO LICENSED BEVERAGE ASSOCIATION	\$1,000.00	11/26/21	11/26/21
OHIO SOFT DRINK ASSOC. PAC	\$500.00	10/23/18	10/23/18
<i>Grand Total</i>	<i>\$10,850.00</i>	<i>3/1/18</i>	<i>10/17/22</i>

[Ohio Secretary of State, Friends of Derek Merrin, Accessed 5/13/24]

2018-2022: Merrin Accepted \$7,750.00 From Insurance Industry PACs

2018-2022: Merrin Accepted \$7,750.00 From Insurance Industry PACs.

<i>Contributor Name</i>	<i>Total Contribution</i>	<i>Earliest Contribution</i>	<i>Latest Contribution</i>
OHIO STATE FARM AGENTS AND ASSOCIATES PAC	\$2,000.00	10/10/18	6/19/21
NATIONWIDE MUTUAL INSURANCE	\$2,000.00	3/8/18	10/2/20

<i>Contributor Name</i>	<i>Total Contribution</i>	<i>Earliest Contribution</i>	<i>Latest Contribution</i>
COMPANY POLITICAL PARTICIPATION COMMITTEE			
OHIO INSURANCE AGENTS POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE (OIA PAC)	\$1,250.00	8/28/18	11/20/21
LIBERTY MUTUAL INSURANCE CO PAC	\$1,000.00	6/16/22	6/16/22
NATIONWIDE MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY PAC	\$500.00	7/23/22	7/23/22
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF INSURANCE & FINANCIAL ADVISORS OHIO (NAIFA - OHIO PAC)	\$500.00	3/26/19	9/19/20
ANTHEM PAC	\$500.00	3/24/22	3/24/22
<i>Grand Total</i>	<i>\$7,750.00</i>	<i>3/8/18</i>	<i>7/23/22</i>

[Ohio Secretary of State, Friends of Derek Merrin, Accessed 5/13/24]

2021-2022: Merrin Accepted \$5,000.00 From Home Depot PAC

2021-2022: Merrin Accepted \$5,000 From Home Depot PAC. [Ohio Secretary of State, Friends of Derek Merrin, Accessed 5/13/24]

MAGA Home Depot Co-Founder Bernie Marcus Has Contributed Over \$1 Million To Organizations Backing Anti-Choice Candidates

2022: Marcus Gave \$250K To The Republican Attorneys General Association, Which Supported “Anti-Choice Republican Candidates.” According to the American Prospect in June 2022,

In these battleground races, the anti-choice Republican candidates will be supported by spending from the Republican Attorneys General Association (RAGA), a national political group that has already raised \$17.7 million this election cycle from conservative ‘dark money’ groups, corporations, and individuals to support Republican AG candidates.

Later in the article, the Prospect noted that Bernie Marcus contributed \$250,000.00 to RAGA in January 2022. [The American Prospect, [6/21/22](#)]

Bernie Marcus Contributed \$1M To The Republican Governors Association, Which Supported Anti-Abortion Candidates Like Brian Kemp And Doug Mastriano. According to More Perfect Union in August 2022,

Other national GOP groups supporting state candidates are the Republican State Leadership Committee (RSLC), which works to elect state legislators and downballot candidates, and the Republican Governors Association (RGA), which this year will be active in over a half-dozen battleground races for governor with crucial implications for abortion access.

[...] The RGA's slate includes Gov. Brian Kemp of Georgia, who signed a 2019 'heartbeat' bill that bans abortions after about six weeks of pregnancy, one of the most restrictive anti-abortion laws in the country. Far-right Republican nominee for Pennsylvania governor Doug Mastriano, who had called banning abortion his 'number one issue,' recently spoke at a fundraising event sponsored by the RGA.

[...] At the fore of individual donors to the RGA, TD Ameritrade founder Joe Ricketts has given more than \$1.6 million and Bernie Marcus has given \$1 million. Other GOP megadonors giving to the RGA include Amway heir and former Michigan gubernatorial candidate Dick DeVos (\$875,000), Ron Cameron (\$1 million), and billionaire investor Paul Singer (\$750,000).

[More Perfect Union, [8/3/22](#)]

Home Depot Co-Founder Bernie Marcus Was A Trump Supporter Who Has Drawn Criticism For “Bankrolling A Campaign To Place The Green Party On Election Ballots In Order To Take Votes Away From Democrats.” According to Haaretz in June 2022, Bernie Marcus contributed \$1,000,000.00 to the United Democracy Project in 2022. Reportedly,

Home Depot co-founder Marcus, 93, was among the first Republican Party mainstays to support Donald Trump. He donated \$7 million to his 2016 campaign, saying that the 'fate of the nation depends on sending him, and not Hillary Clinton, to the White House' - particularly due to a 'leftward' shift of the Supreme Court had she been elected.

In recent years, Marcus has drawn criticism for backing Republican candidates who have compared Democrats to Nazis and bankrolling a campaign to place the Green Party on election ballots in order to take away votes from Democrats.

[Haaretz, [6/27/22](#)]

2018-2022: Merrin Accepted At Least \$4,600.00 From Individuals Employed In The Beverage Industry

2018-2022: Merrin Accepted At Least \$4,600.00 From Individuals Employed In The Beverage Industry.

<i>Contributor Name</i>	<i>Employer/Occupation</i>	<i>Total Contribution</i>	<i>Earliest Contribution</i>	<i>Latest Contribution</i>
JOSEPH SCHETZ	NWO BEVERAGE/OWNER	\$2,000.00	10/9/20	6/10/22
JOSEPH SCHETZ	NWO BEVERAGE/VICE -PRESIDENT OF OPERATIONS	\$1,500.00	9/17/18	6/30/20
JOSEPH SCHETZ	NWO OHIO BEVERAGE/OWNER	\$1,000.00	7/8/21	7/8/21
PATRICK SULLIVAN	NWO BEVERAGE/VICE -PRESIDENT OF SALES	\$100.00	10/10/18	10/10/18
<i>Grand Total</i>		\$4,600.00	9/17/18	6/10/22

[Ohio Secretary of State, Friends of Derek Merrin, Accessed 5/13/24]

2018-2022: Merrin Accepted \$3,700.00 From Telecommunications Industry PACs

2018-2022: Merrin Accepted \$3,700.00 From Telecommunications Industry PACs.

<i>Contributor Name</i>	<i>Total Contribution</i>	<i>Earliest Contribution</i>	<i>Latest Contribution</i>
CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS OHIO PAC	\$2,100.00	08/28/2018	05/06/2022
MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS INC PAC	\$850.00	01/27/2021	10/14/2022
WINDSTREAM HOLDINGS II LLC PAC	\$500.00	09/12/2022	09/12/2022
OHIO CABLE PAC	\$250.00	04/07/2018	04/07/2018
<i>Grand Total</i>	\$3,700.00	04/07/2018	10/14/2022

[Ohio Secretary of State, Friends of Derek Merrin, Accessed 5/13/24]

2018-2022: Merrin Accepted \$3,450.00 From Agricultural Industry PACs

2018-2022: Merrin Accepted \$3,450.00 From Agricultural Industry PACs.

<i>Contributor Name</i>	<i>Total Contribution</i>	<i>Earliest Contribution</i>	<i>Latest Contribution</i>
OHIO FARM BUREAU FEDERATION INC AGRICULTURE FOR GOOD GOVT PAC	\$1,000.00	10/11/18	10/11/18
OHIO CORN & WHEAT GROWERS ASSOCIATION PAC	\$1,000.00	9/29/21	9/29/21
OHIO SOYBEAN ASSOCIATION PAC	\$500.00	11/1/18	11/1/18
FRIENDS OF PORK	\$350.00	10/25/18	10/25/18
AGRICULTURE FOR GOOD GOVERNMENT PAC	\$350.00	10/11/22	10/11/22
OHIO POULTRY ASSOCIATION PAC	\$250.00	10/29/22	10/29/22
<i>Grand Total</i>	<i>\$3,450.00</i>	<i>10/11/18</i>	<i>10/29/22</i>

[Ohio Secretary of State, Friends of Derek Merrin, Accessed 5/13/24]

2018-2022: Merrin Accepted \$3,100.00 From Shipping Industry PACs

2018-2022: Merrin Accepted \$3,100.00 From Shipping Industry PACs.

<i>Contributor Name</i>	<i>Total Contribution</i>	<i>Earliest Contribution</i>	<i>Latest Contribution</i>
NORFOLK SOUTHERN GOOD GOVERNMENT FUND	\$1,350.00	7/2/18	3/8/22
UPSPAC	\$1,000.00	11/10/21	9/27/22
NORFOLK SOUTHERN CORPORATION GOOD GOVERNMENT FUND	\$500.00	10/11/22	10/11/22
CSX GOOD GOVERNMENT FUND	\$250.00	9/19/18	9/19/18
<i>Grand Total</i>	<i>\$3,100.00</i>	<i>7/2/18</i>	<i>10/11/22</i>

[Ohio Secretary of State, Friends of Derek Merrin, Accessed 5/13/24]

2020-2022: Merrin Accepted \$2,305.76 From Businesses**2020-2022: Merrin Accepted \$2,305.76 From Businesses.**

<i>Contributor Name</i>	<i>Total Contribution</i>	<i>Earliest Contribution</i>	<i>Latest Contribution</i>
CHECKSMART FINANCIAL LLC	\$1,000.00	12/27/2022	12/27/2022
JOHNSON & JOHNSON	\$500.00	10/08/2022	10/08/2022
FROST BROWN TODD LLC	\$500.00	10/11/2022	10/11/2022
PATRIOT SIGNAGE INC	\$305.76	10/02/2020	10/02/2020
<i>Grand Total</i>	<i>\$2,305.76</i>	<i>10/02/2020</i>	<i>12/27/2022</i>

[Ohio Secretary of State, Friends of Derek Merrin, Accessed 5/13/24]

2022: Merrin Accepted \$2,000.00 From Auto Industry PACs**2022: Merrin Accepted \$2,000.00 From Auto Industry PACs.**

<i>Contributor Name</i>	<i>Total Contribution</i>	<i>Earliest Contribution</i>	<i>Latest Contribution</i>
GENERAL MOTORS COMPANY POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE (GM PAC)	\$1,000.00	10/21/2022	10/21/2022
FORD MOTOR COMPANY CIVIC ACTION FUND	\$1,000.00	06/02/2022	06/02/2022
<i>Grand Total</i>	<i>\$2,000.00</i>	<i>06/02/2022</i>	<i>10/21/2022</i>

[Ohio Secretary of State, Friends of Derek Merrin, Accessed 5/13/24]

2020-2022: Merrin Accepted \$1,350.00 From Altria Group, Inc PAC

2020-2022: Merrin Accepted \$1,350.00 From Altria Group, Inc PAC. [Ohio Secretary of State, Friends of Derek Merrin, Accessed 5/13/24]

Questionable Disbursements**2018-2023: Merrin's Committee Contributed \$381,825.00 To Republican Party Organizations**

2018-2023: Merrin's Committee Contributed \$381,825.00 To Republican Party Organizations.

<i>Recipient</i>	<i>Purpose</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Earliest Date</i>	<i>Latest Date</i>
OHIO HOUSE REPUBLICAN ALLIANCE	CONTRIBUTION	\$255,000.00	1/19/22	10/30/22
OHIO REPUBLICAN PARTY	CONTRIBUTION	\$83,000.00	10/17/18	11/16/20
OHIO HOUSE REPUBLICAN ALLIANCE	CONTRIBUTION	\$30,000.00	11/1/22	11/1/22
LUCAS COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY	SPONSORSHIP OF LINCOLN DAY DINNER	\$1,250.00	9/11/22	9/11/22
LUCAS COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY	LINCOLN DAY DINNER SPONSORSHIP	\$1,000.00	2/27/19	2/27/19
LUCAS COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY	CONTRIBUTION - LINCOLN DAY DINNER 2021	\$1,000.00	8/30/21	8/30/21
LUCAS COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY	CONTRIBUTION	\$1,000.00	3/1/20	3/1/20
LUCAS COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY	CONTRIBUTION/ SPONSORSHIP FOR CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR LCRP	\$250.00	12/18/18	12/18/18
LUCAS COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY	CONTRIBUTION/ CHRISTMAS PARTY	\$100.00	12/18/19	12/18/19
OHIO REPUBLICAN PARTY STATE CANDIDATE FUND	CONTRIBUTION	\$2,500.00	10/23/20	10/23/20
REPUBLICANS FOR A NEW	CONTRIBUTION	\$2,000.00	6/8/18	6/8/18

<i>Recipient</i>	<i>Purpose</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Earliest Date</i>	<i>Latest Date</i>
LUCAS COUNTY PAC (RNLCPAC)				
COLUMBIANA COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY	CONTRIBUTION	\$2,000.00	4/4/22	4/4/22
REPUBLICAN PARTY OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY	CONTRIBUTION	\$1,000.00	1/20/22	1/20/22
OHIO CONSERVATIVE S PAC	CONTRIBUTION	\$500.00	11/16/23	11/16/23
LUCAS COUNTY YOUNG REPUBLICAN PAC	CONTRIBUTION	\$500.00	5/6/19	5/6/19
STRONGSVILLE GOP	DONATION	\$250.00	9/15/23	9/15/23
OHIO YOUNG REPUBLICANS PAC	DONATION	\$250.00	5/9/21	5/9/21
SUMMIT COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY	DONATION/TICK ET TO ANNUAL LINCOLN DAY DINNER	\$125.00	7/9/21	7/9/21
LUCAS COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY JUDICIAL FUND	CONTRIBUTION	\$100.00	9/6/18	9/6/18
<i>Grand Total</i>		\$381,825.00	6/8/18	11/16/23

[Ohio Secretary of State, Friends of Derek Merrin, Accessed 5/13/24]

2018-2023: Merrin Spent At Least \$105,063.66 On Multimedia Marketing Efforts

2018-2023: Merrin Spent At Least \$105,063.66 On Multimedia Marketing Efforts.

<i>Recipient</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Earliest Payment</i>	<i>Latest Payment</i>	
MEDIUM BUYING LCC	MEDIA BUY & PRODUCTION	\$22,500.00	9/29/20	9/29/20
MEDIUM BUYING LCC	MEDIA	\$18,000.00	10/19/20	10/19/20
CAMPAIGN ADVOCACY MANAGEMENT PROFESSIONAL S LLC	PRINTING, DESIGN, POSTAGE FOR MAILER	\$11,869.65	11/1/20	11/1/20
CAMPAIGN ADVOCACY MANAGEMENT PROFESSIONAL S LLC	PRINTING & POSTAGE FOR MAILER	\$4,676.34	12/20/21	12/20/21
CAMPAIGN ADVOCACY MANAGEMENT PROFESSIONAL S LLC	DESIGN, PRINTING, SHIPPING	\$1,600.00	8/22/20	8/22/20
STRATEGIC MEDIA PLACEMENT	RADIO ADVERTISING & PRODUCTION	\$9,000.00	10/31/18	10/31/18
RING LIMITED	DIGITAL ADS	\$6,465.42	4/19/18	5/2/18
CONSTANT CONTENT	POSTCARD MAILER/PRINTING & POSTAGE	\$5,706.80	4/10/20	4/10/20
CLEAR IMAGES	YARD SIGNS	\$2,535.18	4/20/18	8/14/18
CLEAR IMAGES	SHIRTS, STICKERS, MAGNETS	\$1,408.29	7/8/22	7/8/22
CLEAR IMAGES	CAMPAIGN T-SHIRTS	\$313.04	8/11/20	8/11/20
CLEAR IMAGES	T-SHIRTS	\$238.10	8/14/18	8/14/18

<i>Recipient</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Earliest Payment</i>	<i>Latest Payment</i>	
CLEAR IMAGES	EMBROIDERED CAMPAIGN SHIRTS	\$162.48	8/11/20	8/11/20
RING LIMITED, LLC	DIGITAL ADS	\$3,500.00	11/1/20	11/1/20
RIGHT DIGITAL	WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT AND VIDEO	\$3,300.00	5/7/18	5/7/18
RIGHT DIGITAL	WEBSITE EDITS	\$187.50	9/17/22	9/17/22
METZGERS	PRINTED FLYERS, ENVELOPES , CARDS	\$2,212.39	7/22/22	7/22/22
METZGERS	PRINTING LITERATURE	\$656.29	4/4/18	4/4/18
MORRISON PRINTING	SIGNS	\$2,460.00	7/24/22	7/24/22
JPL & ASSOCIATES	PRINTING, POSTAGE, WEB HOSTING	\$2,020.35	11/16/18	11/16/18
PATRIOT SIGNAGE INC	YARD SIGNS	\$1,960.00	9/15/20	9/15/20
MERRIN, DEREK	REIMBURSE FOR FACEBOOK ADS	\$505.00	5/26/18	6/3/18
MERRIN, DEREK	REIMBURSEMEN T FOR FACEBOOK ADS	\$474.73	12/2/18	1/18/20
THE MIRROR	ADVERTISING/IN SERTS	\$915.00	10/31/22	10/31/22
SQUARE SPACE INC	WEB SERVICE	\$393.07	5/16/22	7/17/23
SQUARE SPACE INC	WEB SERVICES	\$156.25	8/16/23	12/18/23

<i>Recipient</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Earliest Payment</i>	<i>Latest Payment</i>	
PHOTOGRAPHIC DESIGN	PHOTOGRAPHY	\$499.00	7/15/22	7/15/22
SYLVANIA ADVANTAGE	ADVERTISING	\$300.00	10/9/20	10/9/20
THE KEY SHOPPERS NEWS	FLYER INSERTS	\$244.40	10/25/18	10/25/18
IPOWER	DOMAIN NAME	\$96.47	10/11/19	10/11/19
IPOWER	WEB SERVICES	\$32.28	8/1/22	7/31/23
IPOWER	DOMAIN SERVICEW	\$16.07	7/28/20	7/28/20
IPOWER	DOMAIN SERVICE	\$16.07	7/28/21	7/28/21
ARCHBOLD BUCKEYE	CAMPAIGN INSERTS IN PAPER	\$146.20	10/8/18	10/8/18
GOOGLE	WEB SERVICES	\$121.97	5/9/22	12/14/23
GOOGLE	WEB SERVICES	\$6.42	2/2/23	2/2/23
FULTON COUNTY EXPOSITOR	NEWSPAPER INSERTS	\$127.30	10/19/18	10/19/18
THE MIRROR NEWSPAPERS	INSERTS	\$120.00	11/16/18	11/16/18
FACEBOOK	DIGITAL ADS	\$100.00	11/3/20	11/3/20
FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS	ABSENTEE ADDRESS LABELS	\$21.60	12/26/18	12/26/18
Grand Total		\$105,063.66	4/4/18	12/18/23

[Ohio Secretary of State, Friends of Derek Merrin, Accessed 5/13/24]

2018-2023: Merrin's Committee Contributed \$89,900.00 To Other Candidates' Committees

2018-2023: Merrin's Committee Contributed \$89,900.00 To Other Candidates' Committees.

<i>Recipient</i>	<i>Purpose</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Earliest Date</i>	<i>Latest Date</i>
TRACY RICHARDSON FOR OHIO	CONTRIBUTION	\$5,000.00	4/10/22	4/10/22
SCHMIDT FOR OHIO	CONTRIBUTION	\$5,000.00	4/10/22	4/10/22
KLOPFENSTEIN FOR OHIO	CONTRIBUTION	\$5,000.00	7/23/22	7/23/22
FRIENDS OF THOMAS HALL	CONTRIBUTION	\$5,000.00	4/10/22	4/10/22
FRIENDS OF ANGIE KING	CONTRIBUTION	\$5,000.00	7/23/22	7/23/22
COMMITTEE TO ELECT MELANIE MILLER	CONTRIBUTION	\$5,000.00	7/23/22	7/23/22
COMMITTEE TO ELECT GAIL PAVLIGA STATE REP	CONTRIBUTION	\$5,000.00	4/10/22	4/10/22
COMMITTEE TO ELECT BETH BIGHAM	CONTRIBUTION	\$4,000.00	9/25/20	8/14/22
SUPPORTERS & FRIENDS OF RON FERGUSON	CONTRIBUTION	\$3,000.00	9/24/20	9/24/20
COMMITTEE TO ELECT SARAH FOWLER	CONTRIBUTION	\$3,000.00	10/1/20	10/1/20
COMMITTEE TO ELECT GARY CLICK	CONTRIBUTION	\$3,000.00	8/1/20	8/1/20
CITIZENS FOR LAMPTON	CONTRIBUTION	\$3,000.00	6/10/22	6/10/22
MONICA ROBB BLASDEL FOR STATE	CONTRIBUTION	\$2,500.00	3/3/22	3/3/22

<i>Recipient</i>	<i>Purpose</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Earliest Date</i>	<i>Latest Date</i>
REPRESENTATIVE				
FRIENDS OF SWEARINGEN	CONTRIBUTION	\$2,500.00	10/23/20	10/23/20
FRIENDS OF NICK SANTUCCI	CONTRIBUTION	\$2,500.00	2/10/22	2/10/22
FRIENDS OF GEORGE PHILLIPS	CONTRIBUTION	\$2,500.00	4/10/22	4/10/22
DEMETRIOU FOR OHIO	CONTRIBUTION	\$2,500.00	3/30/22	3/30/22
THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT JOSH WILLIAMS	CONTRIBUTION	\$2,000.00	5/26/22	8/15/22
ELECT BOB YOUNG	CONTRIBUTION	\$2,000.00	9/25/20	9/25/20
COMMITTEE TO ELECT RODNEY CREECH	CONTRIBUTION	\$2,000.00	9/15/20	9/15/20
CITIZENS FOR MONZEL	CONTRIBUTION	\$2,000.00	9/15/20	9/15/20
LINDSAY HOIPKEMIER FOR AW SCHOOL BOARD	CONTRIBUTION	\$1,250.00	11/16/23	11/16/23
BROWN FOR JUDGE COMMITTEE	CONTRIBUTION	\$1,200.00	1/20/20	9/19/20
WILLIS FOR OHIO	CONTRIBUTION	\$1,000.00	10/10/22	10/10/22
TIM BARHORST FOR OHIO	CONTRIBUTION	\$1,000.00	10/10/22	10/10/22
REPUBLICANS FOR JENNIFER GROSS	CONTRIBUTION	\$1,000.00	9/19/20	9/19/20

<i>Recipient</i>	<i>Purpose</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Earliest Date</i>	<i>Latest Date</i>
MERRIN FOR CONGRESS	CONTRIBUTION	\$1,000.00	12/30/23	12/30/23
LARE FOR OHIO	CONTRIBUTION	\$1,000.00	10/12/20	10/12/20
LARE FOR CONGRESS	CONTRIBUTION	\$1,000.00	6/18/21	6/18/21
JIM THOMAS FOR OHIO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES	CONTRIBUTION	\$1,000.00	10/10/22	10/10/22
JILL RUDLER FOR OHIO	CONTRIBUTION	\$1,000.00	9/1/22	9/1/22
FRIENDS OF ADAM MATHEWS	CONTRIBUTION	\$1,000.00	10/10/22	10/10/22
DOBOS FOR OHIO	CONTRIBUTION	\$1,000.00	10/11/22	10/11/22
CRAIG RIEDEL FOR OHIO	CONTRIBUTION	\$1,000.00	4/10/22	4/10/22
COMMITTEE TO ELECT MICHAEL LAMB	CONTRIBUTION	\$1,000.00	6/23/22	6/23/22
CLAGGETT FOR OHIO	CONTRIBUTION	\$1,000.00	10/10/22	10/10/22
CITIZENS FOR TARAZI	CONTRIBUTION	\$500.00	8/16/22	8/16/22
CITIZENS FOR NIRAJ ANTANI	CONTRIBUTION	\$500.00	3/28/20	3/28/20
HAGAN FOR CONGRESS	CONTRIBUTION	\$250.00	2/14/20	2/14/20
FRIENDS OF MIKE LOYCHIK	CONTRIBUTION	\$250.00	10/30/20	10/30/20
FRIENDS OF HOECHERL	CONTRIBUTION	\$250.00	5/6/19	5/6/19

<i>Recipient</i>	<i>Purpose</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Earliest Date</i>	<i>Latest Date</i>
CITIZENS FOR ADAM MILLER	CONTRIBUTION	\$250.00	10/25/21	10/25/21
VOTE4MILLER	CONTRIBUTION	\$200.00	10/16/21	10/16/21
DENSIC FOR SCHOOL BOARD	CONTRIBUTION	\$200.00	10/14/19	10/14/19
COMMITTEE TO ELECT TIM PEDRO	CONTRIBUTION	\$150.00	9/30/19	9/30/19
FRIENDS OF FABER	CONTRIBUTION	\$100.00	10/14/18	10/14/18
CITIZENS FOR WARNER	CONTRIBUTION	\$100.00	3/14/20	3/14/20
BRODIE FOR TREASUSER	CONTRIBUTION	\$100.00	4/25/18	4/25/18
BRODIE FOR TREASURER	CONTRIBUTION	\$100.00	8/2/18	8/2/18
<i>Grand Total</i>		\$89,900.00	4/25/18	12/30/23

[Ohio Secretary of State, Friends of Derek Merrin, Accessed 5/13/24]

2018-2023: Merrin Spent \$12,660.37 On Food And Beverages

2018-2023: Merrin Spent \$12,660.37 On Food And Beverages.

<i>Recipient</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Earliest Payment</i>	<i>Latest Payment</i>	
<i>BRANDYWINE COUNTRY CLUB</i>	<i>FOOD & BEVERAGES FOR FUNDRAISING EVENT</i>	<i>\$3,600.57</i>	<i>7/8/20</i>	<i>7/20/21</i>
<i>BRANDYWINE COUNTRY CLUB</i>	<i>FOOD, BEVERAGES FOR FUNDRAISER</i>	<i>\$772.00</i>	<i>2/15/18</i>	<i>2/15/18</i>
<i>ATHLETIC CLUB OF COLUMBUS</i>	<i>ROOM, FOOD, BEVERAGES</i>	<i>\$1,058.67</i>	<i>10/16/20</i>	<i>10/16/20</i>

<i>Recipient</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Earliest Payment</i>	<i>Latest Payment</i>	
ATHLETIC CLUB OF COLUMBUS	FOOD, BEVERAGES, ROOM FOR FUNDRAISER	\$502.61	4/14/19	4/14/19
CHARLIE'S RESTURANT	ELECTION NIGH PARTY - FOOD AND BEVERAGES	\$871.00	11/3/20	11/3/20
TOLEDO COUNTRY CLUB	FOOD & BEVERAGES FOR FUNDRAISER	\$750.50	10/17/18	10/17/18
THE GREYJOY GROUP LLC	REIMBURSEMEN T FOR FOOD & BEVERAGES FOR FUNDRAISING EVENT	\$426.12	11/21/21	11/21/21
THE GREYJOY GROUP LLC	REIMBURSEMEN T FOR 4/14/2021 FUNDRAISER FOOD & BEVERAGES	\$172.60	4/23/21	4/23/21
THE GREYJOY GROUP LLC	FOOD & BEVERAGES	\$143.12	10/16/20	10/16/20
PINS MECHANICAL COMPANY	FOOD FOR FUNDRAISER	\$598.32	12/7/21	12/7/21
DONATOS	FOOD FOR CAUCUS MEETING	\$295.16	2/28/23	3/8/23
DONATOS	FOOD & BEVERAGES FOR CAUCUS MEETING	\$273.48	5/11/23	6/15/23

<i>Recipient</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Earliest Payment</i>	<i>Latest Payment</i>	
MAUMEE RIVER YACHT CLUB	FOOD, BEVERAGE, ROOM	\$468.71	10/13/22	10/13/22
MAUMEE RIVER YACHT CLUB	FOOD & BEVERAGES	\$71.47	10/5/22	10/5/22
DANNY DELICIOUS DELI	FOOD FOR CAUCUS MEETING	\$428.00	2/22/23	2/22/23
LOCAL CANTINA	BEVERAGES FOR FUNDRAISER	\$396.00	12/7/21	12/7/21
CHARLIES RESTAURANT	FOOD & BEVERAGE FOR ELECTION NIGHT EVENT	\$345.43	11/8/22	11/8/22
THE GOAT RIVERSOUTH	FOOD & BEVERAGES	\$340.58	1/27/22	1/27/22
DON JUAN RESTURANT	FOOD & BEVERAGES FOR FUNDRAISING EVENT	\$255.00	10/20/20	10/20/20
16 BIT BAR & ARCADE	FOOD & BEVERAGES	\$250.52	1/18/23	1/18/23
ANNA LIPPINCOTT & ASSOCIATES	FOOD & BEVERAGES FOR FUNDRAISER	\$200.95	9/18/18	9/18/18
CAPITAL CLUB	FOOD & BEVERAGES FOR CONSTITUENTS & VOLUNTEERS	\$149.00	1/7/19	1/7/19
EL SALTO	FOOD & BEVERAGE FOR VOLUNTEERS	\$142.39	9/10/22	9/10/22

<i>Recipient</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Earliest Payment</i>	<i>Latest Payment</i>	
MERRIN, DEREK	REIMBURSEMENT FOR FOOD, BEVERAGE, SERVICE AT THE GOAT EVENT	\$100.24	12/2/18	12/2/18
MANCINO'S PIZZA	FOOD & BEVERAGES FOR VOLUNTEERS	\$41.93	8/27/22	8/27/22
OPPORTUNITIES FOR OHIOIANS WITH DISABILITIES	BEVERAGES FOR CAUCUS MEETING	\$4.50	4/28/23	4/28/23
HOUSE TACO	Beverage For Caucus Meeting	\$1.50	4/27/23	4/27/23
<i>Grand Total</i>		\$12,660.37	2/15/18	6/15/23

[Ohio Secretary of State, Friends of Derek Merrin, Accessed 5/13/24]

2020-2023: Merrin Spent At Least \$12,150.00 On Consulting And Research Services

2020-2023: Merrin Spent At Least \$12,150.00 On Consulting And Research Services.

<i>Recipient</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Earliest Payment</i>	<i>Latest Payment</i>	
CAMPAIGN ADVOCACY MANAGEMENT PROFESSIONAL S LLC	DATA, SURVEYS, CONSULTING, CAMPAIGN APP SUBSCRIPTION	\$4,150.00	8/25/22	8/25/22
CAMPAIGN ADVOCACY MANAGEMENT PROFESSIONAL S LLC	VOTER SURVEY	\$2,000.00	10/24/22	10/24/22
SMRSC	CONSULTING	\$3,000.00	5/31/22	5/11/23
CLOUT RESEARCH	SURVEY	\$3,000.00	10/21/20	10/21/20
<i>Grand Total</i>		\$12,150.00	10/21/20	5/11/23

[Ohio Secretary of State, Friends of Derek Merrin, Accessed 5/13/24]

2018-2023: Merrin Spent \$1,466.08 On Lodging

2018-2023: Merrin Spent \$1,466.08 On Lodging.

<i>Recipient</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Earliest Payment</i>	<i>Latest Payment</i>	
HAMPTON INN	LODGING FOR 2 DAYS	\$267.38	7/15/21	7/15/21
SHERATON	LODGING	\$188.00	2/22/22	6/23/22
EMBASSY SUITES BY HILTON	LODGING	\$185.96	11/11/22	11/11/22
DOUBLETREE	LODGING	\$177.42	7/13/21	9/14/21
CHERRY VALLEY LODGE	LODGING FOR CONFERENCE/IN VITED PANELIST	\$134.77	10/27/18	10/27/18
WINGATE BY WYNDHAM	LODGING	\$112.12	11/9/22	11/9/22
QUALITY INN	LODGING	\$110.75	7/22/21	7/22/21
HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS	LODGING	\$108.72	9/24/20	9/24/20
FOUR POINTS BY SHERATON	LODGING	\$92.83	1/12/22	1/12/22
HOLIDAY INN	LODGING	\$88.13	2/14/23	2/14/23
<i>Grand Total</i>		\$1,466.08	10/27/18	2/14/23

[Ohio Secretary of State, Friends of Derek Merrin, Accessed 5/13/24]

2019-2023: Merrin's Committee Contributed \$410.00 To Anti-Abortion Organizations

2019-2023: Merrin's Committee Contributed \$410.00 To Anti-Abortion Organizations.

<i>Recipient</i>	<i>Purpose</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Earliest Date</i>	<i>Latest Date</i>
GREATER TOLEDO RIGHT TO LIFE	CONTRIBUTION	\$250.00	11/1/23	11/1/23

<i>Recipient</i>	<i>Purpose</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Earliest Date</i>	<i>Latest Date</i>
HEARTBEAT OF TOLEDO	CONTRIBUTION/ FUNDRAISING DINNER	\$100.00	9/27/23	9/27/23
FOUNDATION FOR LIFE, NWO	CONTRIBUTION/ TICKET FOR BENEFIT OF LIFE CHARITY RECEPTION	\$60.00	10/27/19	10/27/19
<i>Grand Total</i>		\$410.00	10/27/19	11/1/23

[Ohio Secretary of State, Friends of Derek Merrin, [Accessed 5/13/24](#)]

Contributions Made by Candidate

Merrin Has Given \$384 To Federal Committees

According to the Federal Election Commission, Merrin has given \$384 to federal political candidates and committees.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Candidate/Committee</i>	<i>Party</i>	<i>Amount</i>
9/29/23	Better Ohio PAC		\$250.00
3/12/19	Northwest Ohio Conservative Coalition		\$54.00
9/28/12	Jeff Flake (US Senate) via Club for Growth PAC	R	\$5.00
9/28/12	Keith Rothfus (Congress) via Club for Growth PAC	R	\$5.00
7/4/12	Jeff Flake (US Senate) via Club for Growth PAC	R	\$5.00
7/4/12	Josh Mandel (US Senate) via Club for Growth PAC	R	\$10.00
7/4/12	Steve King (Congress) via Club for Growth PAC	R	\$5.00

<i>Date</i>	<i>Candidate/Committee</i>	<i>Party</i>	<i>Amount</i>
7/4/12	Ted Cruz (US Senate) via Club for Growth PAC	R	\$5.00
5/10/12	Steve King (Congress) via Club for Growth PAC	R	\$5.00
5/10/12	Ted Cruz (US Senate) via Club for Growth PAC	R	\$5.00
3/17/12	Mark Neumann (US Senate) via Club for Growth PAC	R	\$5.00
3/17/12	Richard Mourdock (US Senate) via Club for Growth PAC	R	\$5.00
10/8/09	Doug Hoffman (Congress) via Club for Growth PAC	R	\$15.00
4/27/09	Pat Toomey (US Senate) via Club for Growth PAC	R	\$10.00
<i>Grand Total</i>			\$384.00

[Federal Election Commission, [Accessed 5/3/24](#)]

Merrin Has Given \$5,592 To State Committees In Ohio

According to the Ohio Secretary of State, Merrin has given \$5,592 to Ohio political candidates and committees.

<i>Contribution Date</i>	<i>Committee</i>	<i>Amount</i>
8/1/20	COMMITTEE TO ELECT GARY CLICK	\$3,000.00
10/13/22	DOBOS FOR OHIO	\$1,000.00
9/22/22	SUPPORTERS AND FRIENDS OF RON FERGUSON	\$250.00
9/2/22	JILL RUDLER FOR OHIO	\$250.00
8/20/22	FRIENDS OF RONALD BEACH IV	\$250.00

<i>Contribution Date</i>	<i>Committee</i>	<i>Amount</i>
8/12/22	DOBOS FOR OHIO	\$250.00
7/13/22	COMMITTEE FOR WIGGAM	\$250.00
6/17/22	FRIENDS OF GEORGE PHILLIPS	\$250.00
5/10/20	FRIENDS OF DEREK MERRIN	\$92.00
<i>Grand Total</i>		\$5,592.00

[Ohio Secretary of State, Accessed 5/3/24]

Through His State Campaign Committee, Merrin Has Given \$470,550 To State Committees In Ohio

According to the Ohio Secretary of State, Merrin's campaign committee, Friends of Derek Merrin, has given \$470,550 to Ohio political candidates and committees.

<i>Contributor Name</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Committee</i>	<i>Amount</i>
FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN	10/18/22	OHIO HOUSE REPUBLICAN ALLIANCE (OHRA)	\$80,000.00
FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN	10/28/22	OHIO HOUSE REPUBLICAN ALLIANCE (OHRA)	\$75,000.00
FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN	9/14/22	OHIO HOUSE REPUBLICAN ALLIANCE (OHRA)	\$75,000.00
FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN	11/3/22	OHIO HOUSE REPUBLICAN ALLIANCE (OHRA)	\$30,000.00
FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN	11/25/20	OHIO REPUBLICAN STATE CENTRAL & EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE STATE CANDIDATE FUND	\$23,000.00
FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN	11/1/20	OHIO REPUBLICAN STATE CENTRAL & EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE STATE CANDIDATE FUND	\$22,500.00

<i>Contributor Name</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Committee</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>10/14/20</i>	<i>OHIO REPUBLICAN STATE CENTRAL & EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE STATE CANDIDATE FUND</i>	<i>\$21,000.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>11/2/22</i>	<i>OHIO HOUSE REPUBLICAN ALLIANCE (OHRA)</i>	<i>\$15,000.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>4/10/22</i>	<i>COMMITTEE TO ELECT GAIL PAVLIGA FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE</i>	<i>\$5,000.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>4/10/22</i>	<i>FRIENDS OF THOMAS HALL</i>	<i>\$5,000.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>4/10/22</i>	<i>TRACY RICHARDSON FOR OHIO</i>	<i>\$5,000.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>1/21/22</i>	<i>OHIO HOUSE REPUBLICAN ALLIANCE (OHRA)</i>	<i>\$10,000.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>9/27/20</i>	<i>OHIO REPUBLICAN STATE CENTRAL & EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE STATE CANDIDATE FUND</i>	<i>\$9,000.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>6/8/22</i>	<i>CITIZENS FOR LAMPTON</i>	<i>\$6,000.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>8/1/22</i>	<i>COMMITTEE TO ELECT MELANIE MILLER</i>	<i>\$5,000.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>7/26/22</i>	<i>KLOPFENSTEIN FOR OHIO</i>	<i>\$5,000.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>7/23/22</i>	<i>FRIENDS OF ANGIE KING</i>	<i>\$5,000.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>4/13/22</i>	<i>SCHMIDT FOR OHIO</i>	<i>\$5,000.00</i>

<i>Contributor Name</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Committee</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>2/21/24</i>	<i>FAMILIES FOR DIANE MULLINS</i>	<i>\$2,000.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>2/21/24</i>	<i>REPUBLICANS FOR JENNIFER GROSS</i>	<i>\$2,500.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>1/2/24</i>	<i>SUPPORTERS AND FRIENDS OF RON FERGUSON</i>	<i>\$3,000.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>10/1/20</i>	<i>COMMITTEE TO ELECT SARAH FOWLER</i>	<i>\$3,000.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>9/28/20</i>	<i>SUPPORTERS AND FRIENDS OF RON FERGUSON</i>	<i>\$3,000.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>4/14/22</i>	<i>FRIENDS OF GEORGE PHILLIPS</i>	<i>\$2,500.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>4/8/22</i>	<i>DEMETRIOU FOR OHIO</i>	<i>\$2,500.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>3/3/22</i>	<i>MONICA ROBB BLASDEL FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE</i>	<i>\$2,500.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>2/9/22</i>	<i>FRIENDS OF NICK SANTUCCI</i>	<i>\$2,500.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>10/30/20</i>	<i>FRIENDS OF SWEARINGEN</i>	<i>\$2,500.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>3/8/24</i>	<i>FRIENDS OF JODI SALVO</i>	<i>\$2,000.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>2/10/24</i>	<i>FRIENDS OF NICK SANTUCCI</i>	<i>\$2,000.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>8/17/23</i>	<i>OHIO HOME BUILDERS ASSOC. BUILDERS PAC</i>	<i>\$2,000.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>10/11/22</i>	<i>FRIENDS OF ADAM MATHEWS</i>	<i>\$1,000.00</i>

<i>Contributor Name</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Committee</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>10/11/22</i>	<i>JIM THOMAS FOR OHIO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES</i>	<i>\$1,000.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>5/9/22</i>	<i>COLUMBIANA COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY RESTRICTED FUND</i>	<i>\$2,000.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>9/25/20</i>	<i>ELECT BOB YOUNG</i>	<i>\$2,000.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>9/18/20</i>	<i>CITIZENS FOR MONZEL</i>	<i>\$2,000.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>9/15/20</i>	<i>COMMITTEE TO ELECT RODNEY CREECH</i>	<i>\$2,000.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>7/22/22</i>	<i>COMMITTEE TO ELECT MELANIE MILLER</i>	<i>\$1,750.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>2/25/20</i>	<i>REALTORS PAC</i>	<i>\$1,500.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>3/20/24</i>	<i>SALLY CULLING FOR OHIO</i>	<i>\$1,000.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>2/15/24</i>	<i>LEAR FOR LIBERTY</i>	<i>\$1,000.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>2/13/24</i>	<i>FRIENDS OF WEZLYNN DAVIS</i>	<i>\$1,000.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>2/12/24</i>	<i>WORKMAN FOR THE PEOPLE</i>	<i>\$1,000.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>2/7/24</i>	<i>SALLY CULLING FOR OHIO</i>	<i>\$1,000.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>10/19/22</i>	<i>TIM BARHORST FOR OHIO</i>	<i>\$1,000.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>9/2/22</i>	<i>JILL RUDLER FOR OHIO</i>	<i>\$1,000.00</i>

<i>Contributor Name</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Committee</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>8/15/22</i>	<i>THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT JOSH WILLIAMS</i>	<i>\$1,000.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>8/14/22</i>	<i>COMMITTEE TO ELECT BETH BIGHAM</i>	<i>\$1,000.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>6/23/22</i>	<i>COMMITTEE TO ELECT MICHAEL LAMB</i>	<i>\$1,000.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>5/23/22</i>	<i>THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT JOSH WILLIAMS</i>	<i>\$1,000.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>1/31/22</i>	<i>REPUBLICAN PARTY OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY - RESTRICTED ACCOUNT</i>	<i>\$1,000.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>6/7/21</i>	<i>SIX PAC - PAC OF OHIO LICENSED BEVERAGE ASSOCIATION</i>	<i>\$1,000.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>10/26/20</i>	<i>LARE FOR OHIO</i>	<i>\$1,000.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>9/19/20</i>	<i>REPUBLICANS FOR JENNIFER GROSS</i>	<i>\$1,000.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>3/11/24</i>	<i>LEVI DEAN FOR OHIO</i>	<i>\$500.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>8/16/22</i>	<i>CITIZENS FOR TARAZI</i>	<i>\$500.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>3/28/20</i>	<i>CITIZENS FOR NIRAJ ANTANI</i>	<i>\$500.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>5/13/19</i>	<i>LUCAS COUNTY YOUNG REPUBLICANS PAC</i>	<i>\$500.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>1/31/24</i>	<i>CITIZENS FOR JOSIAH LEINBACH</i>	<i>\$300.00</i>

<i>Contributor Name</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Committee</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>5/17/21</i>	<i>OHIO YOUNG REPUBLICAN PAC</i>	<i>\$250.00</i>
<i>FREINDS OF DEREK MERRIN</i>	<i>11/10/20</i>	<i>FRIENDS OF MIKE LOYCHIK</i>	<i>\$250.00</i>
<i>MERRIN FRIENDS OF, DEREK</i>	<i>9/25/20</i>	<i>COMMITTEE TO ELECT BETH BIGHAM</i>	<i>\$3,000.00</i>
<i>FRIENDS OF DERRICK MERRIN</i>	<i>10/14/22</i>	<i>CLAGGETT FOR OHIO</i>	<i>\$1,000.00</i>
<i>FRIENDS OF DERRICK MERRIN</i>	<i>10/10/22</i>	<i>WILLIS FOR OHIO</i>	<i>\$1,000.00</i>
<i>FRIENDS OF DERREK MERRIN</i>	<i>2/16/24</i>	<i>BRUNEMANN FRIENDS OF LIBERTY</i>	<i>\$1,000.00</i>
<i>Grand Total</i>			<i>\$470,550.00</i>

[Ohio Secretary of State, Accessed 5/3/24]

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2024 Personal Finance

2024 Personal Finance Highlights

- 2024: Merrin had an estimated net worth between \$315,546 and \$1,478,506.
- 2024: Merrin reported earning \$70,656.11 from the State Of Ohio in 2023 and \$5,924.91 in January 2024.
- 2024: Merrin reported between \$597,040 and \$1,760,000 in assets, with between \$1,207 and \$6,200 in income in January 2024.

2024: Merrin Had An Estimated Net Worth Between \$315,546 And \$1,478,506

2024: Merrin Had An Estimated Net Worth Between \$315,546 And \$1,478,506. [United States House of Representatives Financial Disclosure Report, Derek Merrin, [Filed 2/18/24](#)]

Earned Income

2024: Merrin Reported Earning \$70,656.11 From The State Of Ohio In 2023 And \$5,924.91 In January 2024

2024: Merrin Reported Earning \$70,656.11 From The State Of Ohio In 2023 And \$5,924.91 In January 2024. [United States House of Representatives Financial Disclosure Report, Derek Merrin, [Filed 2/18/24](#)]

Assets & Unearned Income

2024: Merrin Reported Between \$597,040 and \$1,760,000 In Assets, With Between \$1,207 And \$6,200 In Income In January 2024

2024: Merrin Reported Between \$597,040 and \$1,760,000 In Assets, With Between \$1,207 And \$6,200 In Income In January 2024. [United States House of Representatives Financial Disclosure Report, Derek Merrin, [Filed 2/18/24](#)]

Asset	Min Value	Max Value	Income Type	2024 Min Income	2024 Max Income
Albemarle Corporation (ALB) [ST]	N/A	N/A	Capital Gains	N/A	N/A
American Eagle Outfitters,	N/A	N/A	Capital Gains	N/A	N/A

<i>Asset</i>	<i>Min Value</i>	<i>Max Value</i>	<i>Income Type</i>	<i>2024 Min Income</i>	<i>2024 Max Income</i>
<i>Inc. (AEO) [OP]</i>					
<i>Annaly Capital Management Inc. (NLY) [ST]</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>Capital Gains, Dividends</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Annaly Capital Management REIT [OP]</i>	<i>\$1,001</i>	<i>\$15,000</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Bitcoin [CT]</i>	<i>\$15,001</i>	<i>\$50,000</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Cardano [CT]</i>	<i>\$1,001</i>	<i>\$15,000</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Charles Schwab Brokerage Account Cash [OT]</i>	<i>\$1,001</i>	<i>\$15,000</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Charles Schwab Checking Account [BA]</i>	<i>\$1,001</i>	<i>\$15,000</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Charles Schwab Corp [OP]</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>Capital Gains</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Citizens National Bank Checking Account [BA]</i>	<i>\$1</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Directions Credit Union Checking Account [BA]</i>	<i>\$1</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Direxion Daily Regional Banks Bull 3X Shares</i>					

<i>Asset</i>	<i>Min Value</i>	<i>Max Value</i>	<i>Income Type</i>	<i>2024 Min Income</i>	<i>2024 Max Income</i>
<i>(DPST) [ST]</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>Capital Gains, Dividends</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Equity Trust Self-Directed Roth IRA [OT]</i>	<i>\$15,001</i>	<i>\$50,000</i>	<i>Tax-Deferred</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Ether [CT]</i>	<i>\$1</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Glass City Federal Credit Union Checking Account [BA]</i>	<i>\$1,001</i>	<i>\$15,000</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Grayscale Bitcoin Trust (GBTC) [ST]</i>	<i>\$1,001</i>	<i>\$15,000</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Hut 8 Corp. (HUT) [ST]</i>	<i>\$1,001</i>	<i>\$15,000</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Key Bank Checking Account [BA]</i>	<i>\$1,001</i>	<i>\$15,000</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>KeyCorp [OP]</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>Capital Gains</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>KeyCorp [ST]</i>	<i>\$1,001</i>	<i>\$15,000</i>	<i>Capital Gains, Dividends</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Marathon Digital Holdings, Inc. (MARA) [ST]</i>	<i>\$1,001</i>	<i>\$15,000</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Notes [DO]</i>	<i>\$15,001</i>	<i>\$50,000</i>	<i>Debt payments</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>BlackRock MSCI ACWI ex US Index Fund J [OT]</i>	<i>\$15,001</i>	<i>\$50,000</i>	<i>Tax-Deferred</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>

<i>Asset</i>	<i>Min Value</i>	<i>Max Value</i>	<i>Income Type</i>	<i>2024 Min Income</i>	<i>2024 Max Income</i>
<i>Blackrock Russell 1000 Index Fund J [OT]</i>	<i>\$15,001</i>	<i>\$50,000</i>	<i>Tax-Deferred</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Blackrock Russell 2000 Index Fund J [OT]</i>	<i>\$15,001</i>	<i>\$50,000</i>	<i>Tax-Deferred</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Blackrock Russell 3000 Index Fund J [OT]</i>	<i>\$15,001</i>	<i>\$50,000</i>	<i>Tax-Deferred</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Invesco Stable Value Trust [OT]</i>	<i>\$1,001</i>	<i>\$15,000</i>	<i>Tax-Deferred</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Retiree Medical Account [OT]</i>	<i>\$15,001</i>	<i>\$50,000</i>	<i>Tax-Deferred</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>T. Rowe Price All-Cap Opportunities Fund</i>					
<i>(PRWAX) [MF]</i>	<i>\$15,001</i>	<i>\$50,000</i>	<i>Tax-Deferred</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>T. Rowe Price Global Technology Fd Inc (PRGTX) [MF]</i>	<i>\$15,001</i>	<i>\$50,000</i>	<i>Tax-Deferred</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Vanguard High Yield Corporate Fund (VWEHX) [MF]</i>	<i>\$1,001</i>	<i>\$15,000</i>	<i>Tax-Deferred</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Vanguard Specialized</i>					

<i>Asset</i>	<i>Min Value</i>	<i>Max Value</i>	<i>Income Type</i>	<i>2024 Min Income</i>	<i>2024 Max Income</i>
<i>Portfolios</i>					
<i>Energy Fund</i>					
<i>(VGENX) [MF]</i>	<i>\$15,001</i>	<i>\$50,000</i>	<i>Tax-Deferred</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Vanguard</i>					
<i>Specialized</i>					
<i>Portfolios</i>					
<i>Health Care</i>					
<i>Fund</i>					
<i>(VGHCX) [MF]</i>	<i>\$1,001</i>	<i>\$15,000</i>	<i>Tax-Deferred</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Vanguard</i>	<i>\$15,001</i>	<i>\$50,000</i>	<i>Tax-Deferred</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Wellesley</i>					
<i>Income Fund</i>					
<i>(VWINX) [MF]</i>					
<i>PayPal</i>	<i>\$1,001</i>	<i>\$15,000</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Holdings,</i>					
<i>Inc. (PYPL)</i>					
<i>[ST]</i>					
<i>Premier</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>Capital Gains</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Financial</i>					
<i>Corp. (PFC)</i>					
<i>[ST]</i>					
<i>Rental</i>	<i>\$100,001</i>	<i>\$250,000</i>	<i>Rent</i>	<i>\$201</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>
<i>Property [RP]</i>					
<i>Rental</i>	<i>\$50,001</i>	<i>\$100,000</i>	<i>Rent</i>	<i>\$201</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>
<i>Property [RP]</i>					
<i>Rental</i>	<i>\$50,001</i>	<i>\$100,000</i>	<i>Rent</i>	<i>\$201</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>
<i>Property [RP]</i>					
<i>Rental</i>	<i>\$50,001</i>	<i>\$100,000</i>	<i>Rent</i>	<i>\$201</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>
<i>Property [RP]</i>					
<i>Rental</i>	<i>\$100,001</i>	<i>\$250,000</i>	<i>Rent</i>	<i>\$201</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>
<i>Property [RP]</i>					
<i>Rental</i>	<i>\$50,001</i>	<i>\$100,000</i>	<i>Rent</i>	<i>\$201</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>
<i>Property [RP]</i>					

<i>Asset</i>	<i>Min Value</i>	<i>Max Value</i>	<i>Income Type</i>	<i>2024 Min Income</i>	<i>2024 Max Income</i>
<i>Riot Platforms, Inc. (RIOT) [ST]</i>	<i>\$1,001</i>	<i>\$15,000</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Root, Inc. (ROOT) [ST]</i>	<i>\$1</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Schwab Value Advantage Money Fund (SWVXX) [MF]</i>	<i>\$1,001</i>	<i>\$15,000</i>	<i>Dividends</i>	<i>\$1</i>	<i>\$200</i>
<i>Solona [CT]</i>	<i>\$1,001</i>	<i>\$15,000</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Starwood Property Trust Reit [OP]</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>Capital Gains</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Tesla, Inc. (TSLA) [ST]</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>Capital Gains</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Two Harbors Investment Corp (TWO) [ST]</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>Capital Gains, Dividends</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Two Harbors Investment Corp [OP]</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>Capital Gains</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>U.S. Bancorp (USB) [ST]</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>Capital Gains</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>US Bank Checking Account [BA]</i>	<i>\$1</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$597,040.00</i>	<i>\$1,760,000.00</i>		<i>\$1,207.00</i>	<i>\$6,200.00</i>

[United States House of Representatives Financial Disclosure Report, Derek Merrin, [Filed 2/18/24](#)]

Merrin Reported Earning Between \$40,421 And \$122,600 In Unearned Income In 2023

Merrin Reported Earning Between \$40,421 And \$122,600 In Unearned Income In 2023. [United States House of Representatives Financial Disclosure Report, Derek Merrin, [Filed 2/18/24](#)]

<i>Asset</i>	<i>Income Type</i>	<i>2023 Min Income</i>	<i>2023 Max Income</i>
<i>Albemarle Corporation (ALB) [ST]</i>	<i>Capital Gains</i>	<i>\$201</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>
<i>American Eagle Outfitters, Inc. (AEO) [OP]</i>	<i>Capital Gains</i>	<i>\$201</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>
<i>Annaly Capital Management Inc. (NLY) [ST]</i>	<i>Capital Gains, Dividends</i>	<i>\$201</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>
<i>Annaly Capital Management REIT [OP]</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Bitcoin [CT]</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Cardano [CT]</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Charles Schwab Brokerage Account Cash [OT]</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Charles Schwab Checking Account [BA]</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Charles Schwab Corp [OP]</i>	<i>Capital Gains</i>	<i>\$201</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>
<i>Citizens National Bank Checking Account [BA]</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Directions Credit Union Checking Account [BA]</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Direxion Daily Regional Banks Bull 3X Shares (DPST) [ST]</i>	<i>Capital Gains, Dividends</i>	<i>\$201</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>
<i>Equity Trust Self-Directed Roth IRA [OT]</i>	<i>Tax-Deferred</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Ether [CT]</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>

<i>Asset</i>	<i>Income Type</i>	<i>2023 Min Income</i>	<i>2023 Max Income</i>
<i>Glass City Federal Credit Union Checking Account [BA]</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Grayscale Bitcoin Trust (GBTC) [ST]</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Hut 8 Corp. (HUT) [ST]</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Key Bank Checking Account [BA]</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>KeyCorp [OP]</i>	<i>Capital Gains</i>	<i>\$201</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>
<i>KeyCorp [ST]</i>	<i>Capital Gains, Dividends</i>	<i>\$1,001</i>	<i>\$2,500</i>
<i>Marathon Digital Holdings, Inc. (MARA) [ST]</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Notes [DO]</i>	<i>Debt payments</i>	<i>\$5,001</i>	<i>\$15,000</i>
<i>BlackRock MSCI ACWI ex US Index Fund J [OT]</i>	<i>Tax-Deferred</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Blackrock Russell 1000 Index Fund J [OT]</i>	<i>Tax-Deferred</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Blackrock Russell 2000 Index Fund J [OT]</i>	<i>Tax-Deferred</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Blackrock Russell 3000 Index Fund J [OT]</i>	<i>Tax-Deferred</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Invesco Stable Value Trust [OT]</i>	<i>Tax-Deferred</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Retiree Medical Account [OT]</i>	<i>Tax-Deferred</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>T. Rowe Price All-Cap Opportunities Fund (PRWAX) [MF]</i>	<i>Tax-Deferred</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>

<i>Asset</i>	<i>Income Type</i>	<i>2023 Min Income</i>	<i>2023 Max Income</i>
<i>T. Rowe Price Global Technology Fd Inc (PRGTX) [MF]</i>	<i>Tax-Deferred</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Vanguard High Yield Corporate Fund (VWEHX) [MF]</i>	<i>Tax-Deferred</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Vanguard Specialized Portfolios Energy Fund (VGENX) [MF]</i>	<i>Tax-Deferred</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Vanguard Specialized Portfolios Health Care Fund (VGHCX) [MF]</i>	<i>Tax-Deferred</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Vanguard Wellesley Income Fund (VWINX) [MF]</i>	<i>Tax-Deferred</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>PayPal Holdings, Inc. (PYPL) [ST]</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Premier Financial Corp. (PFC) [ST]</i>	<i>Capital Gains</i>	<i>\$1,001</i>	<i>\$2,500</i>
<i>Rental Property [RP]</i>	<i>Rent</i>	<i>\$5,001</i>	<i>\$15,000</i>
<i>Rental Property [RP]</i>	<i>Rent</i>	<i>\$5,001</i>	<i>\$15,000</i>
<i>Rental Property [RP]</i>	<i>Rent</i>	<i>\$5,001</i>	<i>\$15,000</i>
<i>Rental Property [RP]</i>	<i>Rent</i>	<i>\$5,001</i>	<i>\$15,000</i>
<i>Rental Property [RP]</i>	<i>Rent</i>	<i>\$5,001</i>	<i>\$15,000</i>
<i>Rental Property [RP]</i>	<i>Rent</i>	<i>\$5,001</i>	<i>\$15,000</i>
<i>Riot Platforms, Inc. (RIOT) [ST]</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Root, Inc. (ROOT) [ST]</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>

<i>Asset</i>	<i>Income Type</i>	<i>2023 Min Income</i>	<i>2023 Max Income</i>
<i>Schwab Value Advantage Money Fund (SWVXX) [MF]</i>	<i>Dividends</i>	<i>\$1</i>	<i>\$200</i>
<i>Solona [CT]</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Starwood Property Trust Reit [OP]</i>	<i>Capital Gains</i>	<i>\$1,001</i>	<i>\$2,500</i>
<i>Tesla, Inc. (TSLA) [ST]</i>	<i>Capital Gains</i>	<i>\$1,001</i>	<i>\$2,500</i>
<i>Two Harbors Investment Corp (TWO) [ST]</i>	<i>Capital Gains, Dividends</i>	<i>\$1</i>	<i>\$200</i>
<i>Two Harbors Investment Corp [OP]</i>	<i>Capital Gains</i>	<i>\$201</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>
<i>U.S. Bancorp (USB) [ST]</i>	<i>Capital Gains</i>	<i>\$1</i>	<i>\$200</i>
<i>US Bank Checking Account [BA]</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Total</i>		<i>\$40,421.00</i>	<i>\$122,600.00</i>

[United States House of Representatives Financial Disclosure Report, Derek Merrin, [Filed 2/18/24](#)]

Liabilities

2024: Merrin Reported \$281,494 In Liabilities

2024: Merrin Reported \$281,494 In Liabilities. [United States House of Representatives Financial Disclosure Report, Derek Merrin, [Filed 2/18/24](#)]

<i>Creditor</i>	<i>Purpose</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<i>US Bank</i>	<i>Loan</i>	<i>Incurred July 2022</i>	<i>\$26,076</i>
<i>Citizens National Bank (Ohio)</i>	<i>Real Estate Loan</i>	<i>Incurred May 2021</i>	<i>\$127,668</i>
<i>Citizens National Bank (Ohio)</i>	<i>Real Estate Loan</i>	<i>Incurred September 2021</i>	<i>\$38,331</i>
<i>Farmers & Merchants Bank (Ohio)</i>	<i>Real Estate Loan</i>	<i>Incurred June 2019</i>	<i>\$32,076</i>

<i>Creditor</i>	<i>Purpose</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<i>Farmers & Merchants Bank (Ohio)</i>	<i>Real Estate Loan</i>	<i>Incurred April 2019</i>	<i>\$57,343</i>
<i>TOTAL</i>			<i>\$281,494</i>

[United States House of Representatives Financial Disclosure Report, Derek Merrin, [Filed 2/18/24](#)]

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Derek Merrin Background

Name: Derek Merrin

Date of Birth: 1/4/1986

- *Political Experience:*
 - *City Councilmember, City of Waterville (2006-2007)*
 - *Mayor, City of Waterville (2008-2011)*
 - *District 47 Representative, Ohio House of Representatives (2016-2020)*
 - *District 42 Representative, Ohio House of Representatives (2022-2024)*
 - *Candidate For OH-9, U.S. House of Representatives (2024)*
- *Professional Experience:*
 - *Senior Performance Analyst, Ohio Auditor of State (2012-2013)*
 - *Regional Liason, Ohio Auditor of State (2014-2015)*
 - *Realtor, Key Realty (2013-2017)*
 - *Owner, Merrin Property Holdings LLC (2015-Present)*
- *Education:*
 - *B.A., University of Toledo (2008)*
 - *M.P.A., International Relations, Bowling Green University (2009)*
 - *Certificate, Public Performance Measurement, Rutgers University (2014)*

Merrin Is A “New York Native”

Merrin Is A “New York Native.” [Cleveland.com, [11/23/22](#)]

Education

2014: Merrin Earned A Public Performance Measurement Certificate From Rutgers University.

According to LinkedIn, Merrin earned a Public Performance Measurement Certificate from Rutgers University in 2014. [LinkedIn, Derek Merrin, [Accessed 5/2/24](#)]

2009: Merrin Earned His M.P.A. In International Relations From Bowling Green University.

According to LinkedIn, Merrin earned his Master of Public Administration in International Relations from Bowling Green State University in 2009. [LinkedIn, Derek Merrin, [Accessed 5/2/24](#)]

2008: Merrin Earned His B.A. From The University Of Toledo. According to LinkedIn, Merrin earned his Bachelor of Arts from the University of Toledo in 2008. [LinkedIn, Derek Merrin, [Accessed 5/2/24](#)]

Merrin “Attended High School At Monclova Christian Academy, A School Founded By His Father, Baptist Pastor Russ Merrin.” [Cleveland.com, [11/23/22](#)]

Professional History

2015-Present: Merrin Owned Merrin Property Holdings, LLC. According to LinkedIn as of May 2024, Merrin had been the owner of Merrin Property Holdings, LLC since March 2015. [LinkedIn, Derek Merrin, [Accessed 5/2/24](#)]

2013-2017: Merrin Worked As A Realtor At Key Realty. According to LinkedIn, Merrin worked as a realtor at Key Realty, LTD from June 2013 to January 2017. [LinkedIn, Derek Merrin, [Accessed 5/2/24](#)]

2014-2015: Merrin Worked As A Regional Liaison For The Ohio Auditor Of State. According to LinkedIn, Merrin worked as a Regional Liaison for the Ohio Auditor of State from January 2014 to October 2015. [LinkedIn, Derek Merrin, [Accessed 5/2/24](#)]

2012-2013: Merrin Worked As A Senior Performance Analyst For The Ohio Auditor Of State. According to LinkedIn, Merrin worked as a Senior Performance Analyst for the Ohio Auditor of State from January 2012 to December 2013. [LinkedIn, Derek Merrin, [Accessed 5/2/24](#)]

Political History

2024: Merrin Sought To Represent OH-9 In The U.S. House of Representatives. According to Ballotpedia as of May 2024, in 2024, Merrin was running to represent OH-9 in the U.S. House of Representatives. [Ballotpedia, Derek Merrin, [Accessed 5/2/24](#)]

- **March 2024: Merrin Received 52% Of The Vote In The OH-09 Republican Primary, Or 27,632 Votes.** [Ohio Secretary of State, [Accessed 5/10/24](#)]

2022-2024: Merrin Represented Ohio House District 42. According to Ballotpedia as of May 2024, in 2022, Merrin ran and was elected to a two-year term representing Ohio House District 42. [Ballotpedia, Derek Merrin, [Accessed 5/2/24](#)]

- **November 2022: Merrin Defeated Democrat Erika White With 53.9% Of The Vote, Or 22,594 Votes.** [Ballotpedia, Derek Merrin, [Accessed 5/2/24](#)]

2016-2020: Merrin Represented Ohio House District 47. According to Ballotpedia, in 2016, Merrin was appointed to finish incumbent Barbara Sears' term representing Ohio House District 47. Merrin was re-elected to the seat in 2016, 2018, and 2020. [Ballotpedia, Derek Merrin, [Accessed 5/2/24](#)]

- **March 2016: Merrin Won With 45.52% Of The Vote In The Republican Primary For Ohio House District 47.** [Ballotpedia, Derek Merrin, [Accessed 5/2/24](#)]
- **August 2, 2016: Merrin Was Sworn Into The Ohio House Of Representatives.** “Derek Merrin, the former Waterville mayor now living in Monclova Township, and Theresa Charters Gavarone, former Bowling Green city councilman, were sworn in to the Ohio House to represent the 47th and 3rd Districts, respectively. Mr. Merrin replaced former Rep. Barbara Sears (R., Monclova Township), who is the new assistant director of Gov. John Kasich’s Office of Health

Transformation. The 47th District includes Lucas County's western suburbs and most of Fulton County." [Toledo Blade, [8/2/16](#)]

- **November 2016: Merrin Defeated Democrat Lauri Cooper With 60.85% Of The Vote, Or 36,446 Votes.** [Ballotpedia, Derek Merrin, [Accessed 5/2/24](#)]
- **November 2018: Merrin Defeated Democrat Gary Newnham With 58% Of The Vote, Or 29,476 Votes.** [Ballotpedia, Derek Merrin, [Accessed 5/2/24](#)]
- **November 2020: Merrin Defeated Democrat Nancy Larson With 58.6% Of The Vote, Or 40,445 Votes.** [Ballotpedia, Derek Merrin, [Accessed 5/2/24](#)]

January 2008-December 2011: Merrin Served As Mayor Of Waterville. According to LinkedIn, Merrin served as the Mayor of Waterville from January 2008 to December 2011. [LinkedIn, Derek Merrin, [Accessed 5/2/24](#)]

January 2006-December 2007: Merrin Served On The Waterville City Council. According to LinkedIn, Merrin served as a Councilman for the City of Waterville from January 2006 to December 2007. [LinkedIn, Derek Merrin, [Accessed 5/2/24](#)]

Appendix I - Campaign Finance

Federal Campaign Committee

Merrin's Campaign Raised \$256,565.41 And Spent \$168,399.79

<i>Cycle</i>	<i>Total Receipts</i>	<i>Individuals</i>	<i>Party Cmtes</i>	<i>Other Cmtes</i>	<i>Candidate</i>	<i>Loans</i>
2024	\$256,565.41	\$117,088.74	\$0	\$92,350	\$0	\$30,000

[FEC Committee Candidate and Committee Viewer, [Accessed 5/10/24](#)]

<i>Cycle</i>	<i>Total Disbursements</i>	<i>Operating Expen</i>	<i>Refunds</i>	<i>Loan Repayments</i>
2024	\$168,399.79	\$131,841.92	\$6,502.87	\$30,000.00

[FEC Committee Candidate and Committee Viewer, [Accessed 5/10/24](#)]

Top Contributors

<i>Contrib</i>	<i>Indivs</i>	<i>Pacs</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>First Solar</i>	\$7,500.00	\$15,000.00	\$22,500.00
<i>Fair Shot PAC</i>	\$13,200.00	\$7,500.00	\$20,700.00
<i>Service Employees International Union</i>	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$20,000.00
<i>Ford Motor Co</i>	\$-	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
<i>Teamsters Union</i>	\$-	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
<i>Poet LLC</i>	\$-	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
<i>United Steelworkers</i>	\$-	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
<i>Communications Workers of America</i>	\$-	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
<i>Sheet Metal, Air, Rail & Transportation Union</i>	\$-	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
<i>Lone Pine Capital</i>	\$13,200.00	\$-	\$13,200.00

<i>Contrib</i>	<i>Indivs</i>	<i>Pacs</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>RMS Investment Group</i>	\$13,200.00	\$-	\$13,200.00
<i>Minute Men Staffing</i>	\$13,200.00	\$-	\$13,200.00
<i>Medley Partners</i>	\$13,200.00	\$-	\$13,200.00
<i>In-Depth Engineering</i>	\$13,200.00	\$-	\$13,200.00
<i>Paloma Partners</i>	\$13,100.00	\$-	\$13,100.00
<i>General Atomics</i>	\$1,130.00	\$10,000.00	\$11,130.00
<i>Savage & Assoc (Ohio)</i>	\$11,100.00	\$-	\$11,100.00
<i>American Federation of State/Cnty/Munic Employees</i>	\$1,002.00	\$10,000.00	\$11,002.00
<i>University Of Toledo</i>	\$10,661.00	\$-	\$10,661.00
<i>Baker, Donelson et al</i>	\$9,100.00	\$1,500.00	\$10,600.00
<i>E-PAC</i>	\$-	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
<i>Electing Majority Making Effective Republicans</i>	\$-	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
<i>Greater Tomorrow PAC</i>	\$-	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
<i>Working For Ohio</i>	\$-	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
<i>First In Freedom PAC</i>	\$-	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
<i>Congressional Leadership Fund</i>	\$-	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
<i>American Revival PAC</i>	\$-	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
<i>Forever YOUNG PAC</i>	\$-	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
<i>Crownquest Operating</i>	\$3,300.00	\$-	\$3,300.00
<i>Mountaire Corp</i>	\$3,300.00	\$-	\$3,300.00
<i>Dynalab Inc</i>	\$3,300.00	\$-	\$3,300.00
<i>Jw Childs Assoc</i>	\$3,300.00	\$-	\$3,300.00

<i>Contrib</i>	<i>Indivs</i>	<i>Pacs</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>Performance Contractors Inc</i>	\$3,300.00	\$-	\$3,300.00
<i>Block Communications</i>	\$3,300.00	\$-	\$3,300.00
<i>Junction</i>	\$3,300.00	\$-	\$3,300.00
<i>Energy Transfer LP</i>	\$3,300.00	\$-	\$3,300.00
<i>Investments Ltd</i>	\$3,025.00	\$-	\$3,025.00
<i>Alban Investment Management LLC</i>	\$3,000.00	\$-	\$3,000.00
<i>Ring Ltd</i>	\$3,000.00	\$-	\$3,000.00
<i>Shumaker</i>	\$2,500.00	\$-	\$2,500.00

[OpenSecrets, [Accessed 5/10/24](#)]

Top Industries

<i>Industry</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>Leadership PACs</i>	\$54,000
<i>Retired</i>	\$43,814
<i>Candidate Committees</i>	\$15,350
<i>Real Estate</i>	\$12,520
<i>Securities & Investment</i>	\$9,940
<i>Oil & Gas</i>	\$6,600
<i>Republican/Conservative</i>	\$6,250
<i>Business Services</i>	\$5,301
<i>General Contractors</i>	\$4,591
<i>Food & Beverage</i>	\$4,300
<i>Lawyers/Law Firms</i>	\$4,250
<i>Home Builders</i>	\$3,541
<i>Poultry & Eggs</i>	\$3,300

<i>Industry</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>Misc Communications/Electronics</i>	<i>\$3,300</i>
<i>Electronics Mfg & Equip</i>	<i>\$3,300</i>
<i>Lobbyists</i>	<i>\$2,500</i>
<i>Misc Finance</i>	<i>\$1,837</i>
<i>Civil Servants/Public Officials</i>	<i>\$1,528</i>
<i>Commercial Banks</i>	<i>\$1,262</i>
<i>Construction Services</i>	<i>\$1,250</i>

[OpenSecrets, [Accessed 5/10/24](#)]

Top Sectors

<i>Sector</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>Agribusiness</i>	<i>\$3,300</i>
<i>Communic/Electronics</i>	<i>\$6,600</i>
<i>Construction</i>	<i>\$9,382</i>
<i>Energy/Nat Resource</i>	<i>\$6,600</i>
<i>Finance/Insur/RealEst</i>	<i>\$25,559</i>
<i>Health</i>	<i>\$500</i>
<i>Lawyers & Lobbyists</i>	<i>\$6,750</i>
<i>Misc Business</i>	<i>\$10,851</i>
<i>Ideology/Single-Issue</i>	<i>\$76,600</i>
<i>Other</i>	<i>\$45,842</i>

[OpenSecrets, [Accessed 5/10/24](#)]

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Appendix II: Bill Co-Sponsorships

<i>Number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Sponsor(s)</i>	<i>Version</i>	<i>Session</i>
<i>H.J.R. 1</i>	<i>CA: Require 60% vote to approve any constitutional amendment</i>	<i>Stewart</i>	<i>As Reported by House Committee</i>	<i>135th</i>
<i>S.J.R. 2</i>	<i>CA: Require 60% vote to approve any constitutional amendment</i>	<i>McColley; Gavarone</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>135th</i>
<i>H.J.R. 3</i>	<i>Applies to Congress for a Convention of the States</i>	<i>McClain; Willis</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>135th</i>
<i>H.J.R. 4</i>	<i>CA: Protect individuals from being compelled to wear a mask</i>	<i>Wiggam</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>135th</i>
<i>H.B. 6</i>	<i>Enact the Save Women's Sports Act</i>	<i>Powell</i>	<i>As Reported by House Committee</i>	<i>135th</i>
<i>H.B. 11</i>	<i>Establish the Backpack Scholarship Program</i>	<i>McClain; John</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>135th</i>
<i>S.B. 17</i>	<i>Add capitalism to high school financial literacy standards</i>	<i>Wilson</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>135th</i>
<i>H.B. 27</i>	<i>Require state higher ed provide</i>	<i>Mathews; Thomas, J.</i>	<i>As Passed by the Senate</i>	<i>135th</i>

<i>Number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Sponsor(s)</i>	<i>Version</i>	<i>Session</i>
	<i>financial cost and aid disclosure</i>			
<i>H.B. 37</i>	<i>Increase penalties for OVI and aggravated vehicular homicide</i>	<i>Johnson; Miller, K.</i>	<i>As Reported by House Committee</i>	<i>135th</i>
<i>H.B. 49</i>	<i>Regards availability of hospital price information</i>	<i>Ferguson; Barhorst</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>135th</i>
<i>H.B. 58</i>	<i>Enact the Provider of Boutique Services Opportunity Act</i>	<i>Gross</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>135th</i>
<i>H.B. 64</i>	<i>Modify eminent domain law</i>	<i>Kick; Creech</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>135th</i>
<i>H.B. 68</i>	<i>Enact Ohio Saving Adolescents from Experimentation (SAFE) Act</i>	<i>Click</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>135th</i>
<i>H.B. 74</i>	<i>Regards state information technology systems and shared services</i>	<i>Hall; Lightbody</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>135th</i>
<i>S.B. 91</i>	<i>Regards fraud, waste, and abuse of public funds</i>	<i>Schaffer</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>135th</i>
<i>H.B. 92</i>	<i>Enact Save Ohio Safe Rx Act</i>	<i>Young, T.; Santucci</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>135th</i>
<i>H.B. 93</i>	<i>Regards limits on recovery and lien imposition by municipalities</i>	<i>Johnson; McClain</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>135th</i>

<i>Number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Sponsor(s)</i>	<i>Version</i>	<i>Session</i>
<i>H.B. 105</i>	<i>Regards filing of municipal income tax returns</i>	<i>Thomas, J.</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>135th</i>
<i>H.B. 111</i>	<i>Increase sentence range for third degree felony domestic violence</i>	<i>LaRe; Miller, K.</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>135th</i>
<i>H.B. 120</i>	<i>Repeal H.B. 6 of the 133rd General Assembly</i>	<i>Weinstein; Brennan</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>135th</i>
<i>H.B. 147</i>	<i>Regards teacher licensure revocation, hiring practices, conduct</i>	<i>Fowler Arthur; Miller, A.</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>135th</i>
<i>H.B. 158</i>	<i>Regards the regulation of cosmetologists and barbers</i>	<i>Roemer; Miller, M.</i>	<i>As Reported by Senate Committee</i>	<i>135th</i>
<i>H.B. 165</i>	<i>Designate Representative Kris Jordan Memorial Highway</i>	<i>Lear; Ferguson</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>135th</i>
<i>H.B. 183</i>	<i>Regards single-sex bathroom access in schools, universities</i>	<i>Lear; Bird</i>	<i>As Reported by House Committee</i>	<i>135th</i>
<i>H.B. 201</i>	<i>Prohibit sale restrictions on motor vehicle based on power source</i>	<i>Hillyer; Demetriou</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>135th</i>
<i>H.B. 238</i>	<i>Regards occupational regulations</i>	<i>Fowler Arthur; Klopfenstein</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>135th</i>
<i>H.B. 295</i>	<i>Enact the Innocence Act</i>	<i>Demetriou</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>135th</i>

<i>Number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Sponsor(s)</i>	<i>Version</i>	<i>Session</i>
<i>H.B. 319</i>	<i>Enact Conscientious Right to Refuse Act</i>	<i>Gross; Wiggam</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>135th</i>
<i>H.B. 327</i>	<i>Require certain contractors and employers to use E-verify</i>	<i>Wiggam; Swearingen</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>135th</i>
<i>H.B. 377</i>	<i>Enact Human Trafficking Prevention Act</i>	<i>Williams; Santucci</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>135th</i>
<i>S.B. 1</i>	<i>Regards teaching financial literacy in high school</i>	<i>Wilson; McColley</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.J.R. 1</i>	<i>Request Constitutional Convention to limit federal government.</i>	<i>McClain; Riedel</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 4</i>	<i>Regards child abuse and neglect reporting</i>	<i>Plummer; Manchester</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.J.R. 4</i>	<i>CA: Prohibit local government from allowing non- electors to vote</i>	<i>Edwards; Seitz</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>S.B. 9</i>	<i>Reduce regulatory restrictions in administrative rules</i>	<i>McColley; Roegner</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>S.B. 13</i>	<i>Regards certain statutes of limitation and repose</i>	<i>Lang</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>S.B. 18</i>	<i>Incorporates federal IRS changes</i>	<i>Roegner; Schaffer</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>134th</i>

<i>Number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Sponsor(s)</i>	<i>Version</i>	<i>Session</i>
<i>S.B. 19</i>	<i>Create property tax exemption for wetland mitigation projects</i>	<i>Schaffer</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>S.B. 22</i>	<i>Establish legislative oversight over Governor's and health orders</i>	<i>Johnson; McColley</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>S.B. 33</i>	<i>Expand tax deduction for 529 education savings plans</i>	<i>Hottinger; Brenner</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>S.B. 47</i>	<i>Excepts certain tasks from overtime pay requirements</i>	<i>Brenner; Peterson</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 51</i>	<i>Regards valuation adjustments for destroyed / injured property</i>	<i>Lampton</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>S.B. 57</i>	<i>Exempt certain housing from property taxation</i>	<i>Hackett; Antonio</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>S.B. 58</i>	<i>Enact Esther's Law re: long-term care facility room monitoring</i>	<i>Antonio; Brenner</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 61</i>	<i>Enact Save Women's Sports Act</i>	<i>Powell; Stoltzfus</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 62</i>	<i>Designate Ohio a Second Amendment Sanctuary State</i>	<i>Loychik; Grendell</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 63</i>	<i>Revise eminent domain law</i>	<i>Cutrona; Stoltzfus</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>134th</i>

<i>Number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Sponsor(s)</i>	<i>Version</i>	<i>Session</i>
<i>H.B. 64</i>	<i>Regards fraudulent assisted reproduction</i>	<i>Powell</i>	<i>As Reported by House Committee</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>S.B. 80</i>	<i>Require certain judicial candidates have party ballot designation</i>	<i>Gavarone; Cirino</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 89</i>	<i>Revise concealed handgun licensee requirement to notify upon stop</i>	<i>Wiggam</i>	<i>As Reported by House Committee</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 90</i>	<i>Establish legislative oversight over Governor's and health orders</i>	<i>Wiggam; Edwards</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 92</i>	<i>Require specified reporting of child abuse in military families</i>	<i>Abrams; Loychik</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 94</i>	<i>Designate President Donald J. Trump Day</i>	<i>Stoltzfus; Cross</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>S.B. 111</i>	<i>Provide assistance to schools and other entities</i>	<i>Blessing; Brenner</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 120</i>	<i>Permit compassionate care visits in long-term care facilities</i>	<i>Fraizer; Richardson</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 123</i>	<i>Modify the law governing community reinvestment areas</i>	<i>Fraizer; Cross</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>134th</i>

<i>Number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Sponsor(s)</i>	<i>Version</i>	<i>Session</i>
<i>H.B. 128</i>	<i>Revise electric utility service law; repeal portions of HB 6</i>	<i>Hoops; Stein</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>S.B. 135</i>	<i>Regards state institutions of higher education and free speech</i>	<i>Cirino</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 149</i>	<i>Require certain judicial candidates have party ballot designation</i>	<i>Swearingen; Stewart</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 151</i>	<i>Replace Ohio Teacher Residency program with local mentorship</i>	<i>Jones</i>	<i>As Passed by the Senate</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>S.B. 156</i>	<i>Regards the regulation of knives</i>	<i>Roegner</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>S.B. 157</i>	<i>Regards child born alive after attempted abortion</i>	<i>Johnson; Huffman, S.</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 157</i>	<i>Modify municipal income tax rules - COVID work from home</i>	<i>Jordan; Edwards</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 161</i>	<i>Enact Jacob's Law re:certain child abuse-related offenses</i>	<i>Lampton</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 175</i>	<i>Deregulate certain ephemeral water features</i>	<i>Hillyer</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 177</i>	<i>Allow government use distributed</i>	<i>Carfagna; Fraizer</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>134th</i>

<i>Number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Sponsor(s)</i>	<i>Version</i>	<i>Session</i>
	<i>ledger technology, blockchain</i>			
<i>S.B. 185</i>	<i>Regards emergency powers when suppressing a riot; firearms rights</i>	<i>Schaffer</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>S.B. 187</i>	<i>Allow intercollegiate athletes to earn compensation for names</i>	<i>Antani</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 201</i>	<i>Prevent local governments from limiting use of natural gas</i>	<i>Stephens</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 202</i>	<i>Void facial coverings health order; prohibit future orders</i>	<i>Powell</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 203</i>	<i>Require occupational license if experienced in another state</i>	<i>Powell</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 211</i>	<i>Enact State Property Protection and Prosecution Act</i>	<i>LaRe; Plummer</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>S.B. 215</i>	<i>Regards concealed handgun licensee duties</i>	<i>Johnson</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 215</i>	<i>Enact The Business Fairness Act</i>	<i>Wilkin; Cross</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>134th</i>

<i>Number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Sponsor(s)</i>	<i>Version</i>	<i>Session</i>
<i>H.B. 218</i>	<i>Extend bar hours; exempt bars from statewide curfew</i>	<i>Cutrona</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 223</i>	<i>Allow vendors deduct sales tax remitted for certain bad debts</i>	<i>Hillyer</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>S.B. 225</i>	<i>Temporarily modify certain tax credits</i>	<i>Schuring</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 227</i>	<i>Regards concealed weapons and concealed carry without license</i>	<i>Brinkman; Jordan</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 228</i>	<i>Regards state-administered municipal net profits taxes</i>	<i>Roemer</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 229</i>	<i>Provide qualified immunity to camp operators for inherent risks</i>	<i>Wilkin; Swearingen</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 230</i>	<i>Regards Ohio's information technology systems/shared services</i>	<i>Ray; Hall</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>S.B. 231</i>	<i>Authorize income tax refund - deceased taxpayer's fiduciary</i>	<i>Hottinger</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 231</i>	<i>Prohibit restrictions on used motor vehicle dealer hours</i>	<i>Fowler Arthur</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>134th</i>

<i>Number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Sponsor(s)</i>	<i>Version</i>	<i>Session</i>
<i>H.B. 234</i>	<i>Repeal the commercial activity tax</i>	<i>Gross; McClain</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>S.B. 235</i>	<i>Exempt certain fees and service charges from sales and use tax</i>	<i>Roegner</i>	<i>As Reported by House Committee</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 240</i>	<i>Enact Parents Right to Know Act</i>	<i>Stoltzfus; Fowler Arthur</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 243</i>	<i>Regards the regulation of knives</i>	<i>Cutrona</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>S.B. 246</i>	<i>Levy tax on pass-through entity's income; allow owner credit</i>	<i>Rulli; Lang</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 248</i>	<i>Enact Vaccine Choice and Anti-Discrimination Act</i>	<i>Gross</i>	<i>As Pending in House Committee</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>S.B. 249</i>	<i>Create regulatory sandbox for financial products, services</i>	<i>Wilson</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 255</i>	<i>Permit second delinquent property tax publication online</i>	<i>Lipps</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 261</i>	<i>Rename Mosquito Lake State Park to Donald J. Trump State Park</i>	<i>Loychik</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 267</i>	<i>Regards public health orders and public health emergencies</i>	<i>Jordan</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>134th</i>

<i>Number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Sponsor(s)</i>	<i>Version</i>	<i>Session</i>
<i>H.B. 268</i>	<i>Exempt sale of investment metal bullion and coins from sales tax</i>	<i>Jordan</i>	<i>As Reported by House Committee</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 276</i>	<i>Prohibit receiving proceeds of prostitution</i>	<i>Powell; Schmidt</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 277</i>	<i>Revise regulation of cosmetologists and barbers</i>	<i>Powell</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 286</i>	<i>Change the venue for appeal from an agency order</i>	<i>Seitz</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 288</i>	<i>Establish requirements for SNAP benefit transfer cards</i>	<i>Koehler</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 290</i>	<i>Express intent for school funding formula</i>	<i>McClain; John</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 297</i>	<i>Enact Firearms Industry Nondiscrimination Act</i>	<i>Wiggam</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 298</i>	<i>Change voting membership - State Board of Education</i>	<i>Bird; Miller, J.</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>S.B. 302</i>	<i>Revise Unemployment Compensation Law</i>	<i>Hackett; Reineke</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 314</i>	<i>Exempt watercraft seasonally stored, repaired from certain taxes</i>	<i>Swearingen; Click</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>134th</i>

<i>Number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Sponsor(s)</i>	<i>Version</i>	<i>Session</i>
<i>H.B. 322</i>	<i>Regards the teaching of certain current events, race, and sex</i>	<i>Jones</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 324</i>	<i>Enact Shirley and Wilma's Law</i>	<i>Click; Lipps</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 325</i>	<i>Regards emergency powers when suppressing a riot; firearms rights</i>	<i>Wiggam</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 327</i>	<i>Prohibit teaching, advocating, or promoting divisive concepts</i>	<i>Grendell; Fowler Arthur</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 329</i>	<i>Enact Taxpayer Protection Against Frivolous Vaccine Lottery Act</i>	<i>Powell</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 335</i>	<i>Require online posting of certain financial disclosure statements</i>	<i>Schmidt</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 372</i>	<i>Revise building inspection law</i>	<i>Ray; Roemer</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 378</i>	<i>Regards notice of possibility of reversing abortion</i>	<i>Koehler; Fowler Arthur</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 390</i>	<i>Require sex assault exam kits for trafficking in persons cases</i>	<i>Lanese; John</i>	<i>As Reported by Senate Committee</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 400</i>	<i>Prohibit public schools from requiring students to wear a mask</i>	<i>Loychik; Schmidt</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>134th</i>

<i>Number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Sponsor(s)</i>	<i>Version</i>	<i>Session</i>
<i>H.B. 411</i>	<i>Enact Individual Privacy and Anti-Discrimination Act</i>	<i>Click; Grendell</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 418</i>	<i>Reduce mental state - allow underaged person possess alcohol</i>	<i>Bird; Stewart</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 422</i>	<i>Regards billing for municipal utility, other services</i>	<i>Fraizer; West</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 433</i>	<i>Enact Provider of Boutique Services Opportunity Act</i>	<i>Gross</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 441</i>	<i>Regards interactive computer services and social media censorship</i>	<i>Wiggam; Cutrona</i>	<i>As Reported by House Committee</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 447</i>	<i>Regards workers' compensation and employees who work from home</i>	<i>Lampton</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 454</i>	<i>Enact the Save Adolescents from Experimentation (SAFE) Act</i>	<i>Click; Grendell</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 458</i>	<i>Eliminate August special elections except for US House nomination</i>	<i>Hall</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 465</i>	<i>Establish Dept of Transportation school project requirements</i>	<i>Sheehy; Bird</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 480</i>	<i>Authorize private right of action for</i>	<i>Powell; Hall</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>134th</i>

<i>Number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Sponsor(s)</i>	<i>Version</i>	<i>Session</i>
	<i>abortion or aiding abortion</i>			
<i>H.B. 481</i>	<i>Enact COVID-19 Vaccination and Passport Protection Act</i>	<i>Jordan</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 505</i>	<i>Allow carrying concealed deadly weapons without a license</i>	<i>Grendell; Gross</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 506</i>	<i>Codify Office of Solicitor General; create 10th Amendment Center</i>	<i>LaRe; Bird</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 509</i>	<i>Revise and streamline occupational regulations</i>	<i>John; Fowler Arthur</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 513</i>	<i>Regards bad debts for cigarette, tobacco, vapor product taxes</i>	<i>Cross; Roemer</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 519</i>	<i>Regards extensions for filing municipal income tax returns</i>	<i>Roemer; Lanese</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 554</i>	<i>Require issuance of certain temporary educator licenses</i>	<i>Lightbody; Bird</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 561</i>	<i>Designate January 11th as Human Trafficking Awareness Day</i>	<i>Richardson; Jarrells</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 563</i>	<i>Limit local regulation of</i>	<i>Fowler Arthur; Ferguson</i>	<i>As Reported by House Committee</i>	<i>134th</i>

<i>Number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Sponsor(s)</i>	<i>Version</i>	<i>Session</i>
	<i>short-term rental property</i>			
<i>H.B. 567</i>	<i>Require common pleas court docket to appear on clerk's web site</i>	<i>Stewart; Brown</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 598</i>	<i>Enact Human Life Protection Act</i>	<i>Schmidt</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 640</i>	<i>Require certain vehicular homicide offender pay child maintenance</i>	<i>Grendell; Young, T.</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>H.B. 651</i>	<i>Regards Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program eligibility</i>	<i>Wiggam; Johnson</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>134th</i>
<i>S.B. 1</i>	<i>Reduce number of regulatory restrictions</i>	<i>McColley; Roegner</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>S.B. 7</i>	<i>Regards temporary occupational licensing for military</i>	<i>Lehner; Hackett</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 8</i>	<i>Regards foster caregiver training</i>	<i>Manchester; Galonski</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 18</i>	<i>Exempt veterans disability severance pay from income tax</i>	<i>Vitale; Crawley</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>S.B. 23</i>	<i>Prohibit abortion if detectable heartbeat</i>	<i>Roegner</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>S.B. 27</i>	<i>Regards disposition of fetal</i>	<i>Uecker</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>133rd</i>

<i>Number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Sponsor(s)</i>	<i>Version</i>	<i>Session</i>
	<i>remains from surgical abortion</i>			
<i>S.B. 40</i>	<i>Enact the Forming Open and Robust University Minds Act</i>	<i>Brenner; McColley</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 46</i>	<i>Establish the Ohio State Government Expenditure Database</i>	<i>Greenspan</i>	<i>As Passed by the Senate</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>S.B. 55</i>	<i>Enhance penalty for drug offense near addiction services provider</i>	<i>Gavarone</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 58</i>	<i>Establish requirements for SNAP electronic benefit transfer cards</i>	<i>Schaffer</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 65</i>	<i>Regards parental notice of risks to children receiving child care</i>	<i>Carfagna</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>S.B. 68</i>	<i>Allow community service in lieu of driver reinstatement fee</i>	<i>Williams</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 68</i>	<i>Prohibit abortion if detectable heartbeat</i>	<i>Hood; Keller</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 86</i>	<i>Correct error in definition of “dangerous ordnance”</i>	<i>Plummer</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 88</i>	<i>Enact Forming Open and Robust University Minds Act</i>	<i>Antani</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>133rd</i>

<i>Number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Sponsor(s)</i>	<i>Version</i>	<i>Session</i>
<i>S.B. 95</i>	<i>Enhance tax inducements for fixed asset and employment investment</i>	<i>Peterson; Kunze</i>	<i>As Reported by House Committee</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 115</i>	<i>Require agencies to reduce regulatory restrictions</i>	<i>Riedel; Roemer</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 119</i>	<i>Regards traffic law violations</i>	<i>Stoltzfus</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 122</i>	<i>Create Opportunity Scholarship Program; eliminate pilot programs</i>	<i>Koehler</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>S.B. 125</i>	<i>Expand tax deduction for 529 education savings plan</i>	<i>Hottinger; Brenner</i>	<i>As Reported by House Committee</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 126</i>	<i>Bar one-subject challenge more than 275 days after effective date</i>	<i>Hillyer</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 133</i>	<i>Issue temporary occupational license if in Ohio for active duty</i>	<i>Perales; Weinstein</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 152</i>	<i>Requires subdivision to get ok from creating body to levy tax</i>	<i>Brinkman</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 163</i>	<i>Withhold funds-municipal water/sewer extraterritorial practices</i>	<i>Brinkman</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>133rd</i>

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<i>H.B. 164</i>	<i>Regards student religious expression</i>	<i>Ginter</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 174</i>	<i>Modifies weapons law, including concealed carry changes</i>	<i>Hood; Brinkman</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>S.B. 175</i>	<i>Grant civil immunity-injury, death, loss from carrying handguns</i>	<i>Schaffer</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 178</i>	<i>Modifies weapons law; permit concealed carry without license</i>	<i>Hood; Brinkman</i>	<i>As Re-Referred by the House Rules and Reference Committee</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 196</i>	<i>Exempts from sales tax membership to gyms operated by a nonprofit</i>	<i>Powell</i>	<i>As Reported by House Committee</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 200</i>	<i>Regards Supplemental Nutrition Assistance benefit eligibility</i>	<i>Wiggam</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>S.B. 212</i>	<i>Authorize areas in which new homes and improvements tax exempt</i>	<i>Schuring</i>	<i>As Reported by House Committee</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 224</i>	<i>Regards practice of certified registered nurse anesthetists</i>	<i>Cross; Wilkin</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 242</i>	<i>Authorize use of auxiliary containers</i>	<i>Lang; Jones</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>133rd</i>

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<i>H.B. 251</i>	<i>Shorten the period of limitations for actions on a contract</i>	<i>Lang; Hillyer</i>	<i>As Passed by the Senate</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 258</i>	<i>Grant occupational license to those completing apprenticeship</i>	<i>Powell</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>S.B. 260</i>	<i>Regards abortion-inducing drugs</i>	<i>Huffman, S.</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 273</i>	<i>Permit second publishing of delinquent property tax list online</i>	<i>Ryan; Lipps</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>S.B. 277</i>	<i>Change Ohio Pooled Collateral Program</i>	<i>Schuring</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 288</i>	<i>Amend eminent domain laws</i>	<i>Manning, D.</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 302</i>	<i>Include child abuse-related offenses in violent offender database</i>	<i>Perales</i>	<i>As Reported by House Committee</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>S.B. 311</i>	<i>Limit Director of Health order-issuing authority</i>	<i>McColley; Roegner</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 312</i>	<i>Permits certain intrastate equity crowdfunding</i>	<i>Powell</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 352</i>	<i>Modify civil rights laws relating to employment</i>	<i>Cross; Lang</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 355</i>	<i>Provides immunity to camp operators</i>	<i>Wilkin; Swearingen</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>133rd</i>

<i>Number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Sponsor(s)</i>	<i>Version</i>	<i>Session</i>
	<i>for inherent camping risks</i>			
<i>H.B. 381</i>	<i>Enact modifications to law regarding self-defense</i>	<i>Keller; Hood</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 399</i>	<i>Revise laws regulating barbers and cosmetologists</i>	<i>Powell</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 413</i>	<i>Define offenses: aggravated abortion murder and abortion murder</i>	<i>Keller; Hood</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 419</i>	<i>Exempts seasonal storage/use of non-Ohio watercraft from use tax</i>	<i>Swearingen</i>	<i>As Reported by House Committee</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 425</i>	<i>Modify duty-notify police if carrying gun when stopped</i>	<i>Wiggam</i>	<i>As Reported by Senate Committee</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 432</i>	<i>Grant Ohio occupational licenses to out-of-state licensees</i>	<i>Powell; Lang</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 467</i>	<i>Reduce pass-through entity withholding tax rate</i>	<i>Scherer; Rogers</i>	<i>As Reported by House Committee</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 476</i>	<i>Revises eminent domain law</i>	<i>Manning, D.; Hambley</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 486</i>	<i>Define crime/civil action with regard to assisted reproduction</i>	<i>Powell</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>133rd</i>

<i>Number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Sponsor(s)</i>	<i>Version</i>	<i>Session</i>
<i>H.B. 527</i>	<i>Designate separate sports and teams for each sex at schools</i>	<i>Powell; Stoltzfus</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 558</i>	<i>Child abuse in military families-report to military authorities</i>	<i>Abrams</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 602</i>	<i>Modify publication of property tax foreclosures</i>	<i>Rogers; Lipps</i>	<i>As Reported by House Committee</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 614</i>	<i>Study and reform unemployment compensation system</i>	<i>Fraizer; Richardson</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 618</i>	<i>Limit authority to issue infectious/contagious disease orders</i>	<i>Becker</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 621</i>	<i>Enact Business Fairness Act</i>	<i>Cross; Wilkin</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 682</i>	<i>Provide only General Assembly can require face masks</i>	<i>Vitale</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 770</i>	<i>Permit essential caregivers to enter facilities during COVID-19</i>	<i>Richardson; Fraizer</i>	<i>As Reported by House Committee</i>	<i>133rd</i>
<i>H.B. 799</i>	<i>Terminate order requiring facial coverings in businesses</i>	<i>Reineke; Lang</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>133rd</i>

<i>Number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Sponsor(s)</i>	<i>Version</i>	<i>Session</i>
<i>H.B. 3</i>	<i>Improve transparency of public data</i>	<i>Duffey; Hagan</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>S.B. 20</i>	<i>Add prison term if permanently disable victim</i>	<i>Hackett</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>S.B. 21</i>	<i>Reduce minimum poll workers</i>	<i>Uecker</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>S.B. 28</i>	<i>Address disposition of aborted fetal remains</i>	<i>Uecker</i>	<i>As Reported by House Committee</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 30</i>	<i>Add prison term if permanently disable victim</i>	<i>Koehler</i>	<i>As Reported by House Committee</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 36</i>	<i>Allow minister not to solemnize marriages contrary to beliefs</i>	<i>Vitale</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 40</i>	<i>Establish State Government Expenditure Database</i>	<i>Dever; Greenspan</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 50</i>	<i>Establish specifications for electronic benefit transfer cards</i>	<i>Schaffer</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 51</i>	<i>Review and sunset cabinet departments</i>	<i>Faber</i>	<i>As Reported by House Committee</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 53</i>	<i>Remove requirements to join public employee union</i>	<i>Becker</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>132nd</i>

<i>Number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Sponsor(s)</i>	<i>Version</i>	<i>Session</i>
<i>H.B. 63</i>	<i>Add prison term if disfigure or incapacitate victim</i>	<i>Hughes</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 71</i>	<i>Make failure to display front license plate a secondary offense</i>	<i>DeVitis</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 79</i>	<i>Provide for firearms training for tactical medical professionals</i>	<i>Retherford; Hagan</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>S.B. 81</i>	<i>Revise licensing rules for military personnel concealed carry</i>	<i>Terhar</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 104</i>	<i>Allow vendors to receive sales tax refunds for certain bad debts</i>	<i>Schaffer</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 113</i>	<i>Prohibit employees from having to join or pay dues to unions</i>	<i>Brinkman</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 115</i>	<i>Create register of persons having a communication disability</i>	<i>Gavarone; Gavarone; Wiggam</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>S.B. 119</i>	<i>Address opioid prescribing and addiction treatment</i>	<i>Hackett; Hottinger</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 119</i>	<i>Address Nutrition Assistance and Medicaid benefits</i>	<i>Henne; McColley</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>132nd</i>

<i>Number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Sponsor(s)</i>	<i>Version</i>	<i>Session</i>
<i>H.B. 133</i>	<i>Exempt out-of-state disaster relief persons from taxes and laws</i>	<i>Ryan</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 142</i>	<i>Eliminate need when stopped to notify carrying firearm</i>	<i>Wiggam; Holmes</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>S.B. 145</i>	<i>Criminalize and create civil action for dismemberment abortion</i>	<i>Huffman; Wilson</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 163</i>	<i>Allow subdivisions elect to apply Prevailing Wage Law</i>	<i>Roegner; Riedel</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>S.B. 164</i>	<i>Prohibit abortion if unborn has or may have Down Syndrome</i>	<i>LaRose</i>	<i>As Reported by House Committee</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 167</i>	<i>Address opioid prescribing and addiction treatment</i>	<i>Edwards</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 189</i>	<i>Change Cosmetology Licensing Law</i>	<i>Roegner; Reece</i>	<i>As Re-Referred by the House Rules and Reference Committee</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 200</i>	<i>Create Opportunity Scholarship Program</i>	<i>Koehler</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>S.B. 201</i>	<i>Enact Reagan Tokes Law-</i>	<i>Bacon; O'Brien</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>132nd</i>

<i>Number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Sponsor(s)</i>	<i>Version</i>	<i>Session</i>
	<i>indefinite prison terms</i>			
<i>H.B. 201</i>	<i>Expand right to concealed carry</i>	<i>Hood; Brinkman</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 216</i>	<i>Grant sales tax trade-in credit for buying used motor vehicle</i>	<i>Hambley; Brinkman</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>S.B. 226</i>	<i>Make sales tax holiday for clothes and school supplies permanent</i>	<i>Bacon</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 228</i>	<i>Regards self-defense and handling firearms</i>	<i>Johnson; LaTourette</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>S.B. 231</i>	<i>Create violent offender database and address offender releases</i>	<i>Gardner</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 233</i>	<i>Avoid crime if concealed carry into prohibited space and leave</i>	<i>Becker</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 253</i>	<i>Permit law enforcement to conceal carry where prohibited</i>	<i>Householder; Lanese</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>S.B. 255</i>	<i>Reform occupational licensing</i>	<i>McColley</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 258</i>	<i>Prohibit abortion if unborn has detectable heartbeat</i>	<i>Hagan; Hood</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>S.B. 268</i>	<i>Expand penalties for theft in office</i>	<i>Wilson</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>132nd</i>

<i>Number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Sponsor(s)</i>	<i>Version</i>	<i>Session</i>
	<i>and recover audit costs</i>			
<i>H.B. 271</i>	<i>Give notice before action for access; allow attorney's fees</i>	<i>McColley; Rezabek</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 282</i>	<i>Prohibit criminal mischief against residential rental property</i>	<i>Hambley</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 291</i>	<i>Authorize insurance in lieu of bonds for local officers/employees</i>	<i>Wiggam</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 310</i>	<i>Permit official to conceal carry handgun in government facility</i>	<i>Vitale</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 334</i>	<i>Specifies wages paid to pass-through owner can be business income</i>	<i>Scherer</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 351</i>	<i>Require municipalities to tax exempt pay of NOAA and PHS members</i>	<i>Perales; Butler</i>	<i>As Reported by Senate Committee</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 363</i>	<i>Enact Campus Free Speech Act</i>	<i>Goodman; Brenner</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 373</i>	<i>Permit concealed carry in courthouses and govt buildings</i>	<i>Vitale</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 380</i>	<i>Prohibit unauthorized</i>	<i>Seitz; Householder</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>132nd</i>

<i>Number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Sponsor(s)</i>	<i>Version</i>	<i>Session</i>
	<i>aliens from receiving Workers' Compensation</i>			
<i>H.B. 410</i>	<i>Regulate civil enforcement scheme for traffic cameras</i>	<i>Seitz; Butler</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 428</i>	<i>Enact Ohio Student Religious Liberties Act of 2018</i>	<i>Ginter; LaTourette</i>	<i>As Reported by Senate Committee</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 430</i>	<i>Expand sales tax exemption for oil and gas production property</i>	<i>Schaffer</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 451</i>	<i>Exclude depictions of crime victim's body from public records</i>	<i>Retherford</i>	<i>As Reported by Senate Committee</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 455</i>	<i>Enact Drug Trafficking Deterrence Act</i>	<i>Wiggam</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 488</i>	<i>Modify information in property tax levy notices and ballots</i>	<i>Hood; Becker</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 494</i>	<i>Clarify status of franchisees for social insurance programs</i>	<i>Antani</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 545</i>	<i>Remit sales tax after item or service delivered</i>	<i>Arndt</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 565</i>	<i>Regards abolition of abortion</i>	<i>Hood; Vitale</i>	<i>As Referred</i>	<i>132nd</i>

<i>Number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Sponsor(s)</i>	<i>Version</i>	<i>Session</i>
<i>H.B. 568</i>	<i>Arrest driver if moving violation causes serious harm or death</i>	<i>Butler</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 569</i>	<i>Modify sales tax on business-related electronic services</i>	<i>Lipps; Reineke</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 590</i>	<i>Regards defense of self, others, and property against crimes</i>	<i>Vitale; Keller</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 620</i>	<i>Require agencies to reduce regulatory restrictions</i>	<i>Roegner; Riedel</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 622</i>	<i>Allow judge or magistrate to carry firearm in courthouse</i>	<i>Perales</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 625</i>	<i>Authorize and regulate use of auxiliary containers</i>	<i>Lang; Lipps</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 712</i>	<i>Repeals prevailing wage law</i>	<i>Hood; Dean</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 716</i>	<i>Issue temporary license to out-of-state licensees on active duty</i>	<i>Butler; Perales</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 719</i>	<i>Create system for processing sex assault exam kits</i>	<i>Pelanda</i>	<i>As Passed by the House</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>H.B. 736</i>	<i>Require board to have approval of creating board to levy tax</i>	<i>Brinkman</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>132nd</i>

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<i>H.B. 758</i>	<i>Regards free speech on college campuses</i>	<i>Antani; Brenner</i>	<i>As Introduced</i>	<i>132nd</i>
<i>S.B. 127</i>	<i>Prohibits abortion when gestational age is 20 weeks or more</i>	<i>Lehner; Hottinger</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>131st</i>
<i>S.B. 199</i>	<i>Permits active duty armed forces to conceal carry</i>	<i>Uecker; Gardner</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>131st</i>
<i>S.B. 329</i>	<i>Revise sunset review law</i>	<i>Jordan; Faber</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>131st</i>
<i>S.B. 331</i>	<i>Regulate dog sales and license pet stores</i>	<i>Peterson</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>131st</i>
<i>H.B. 476</i>	<i>Prohibits agencies from contracting with anti-Israel companies</i>	<i>Schuring</i>	<i>As Enrolled</i>	<i>131st</i>

[Ohio Legislature, [Accessed 5/11/24](#); [Accessed 5/11/24](#); [Accessed 5/11/24](#); [Accessed 5/11/24](#); [Accessed 5/11/24](#)]