

2016 ELECTION GUIDE

Will you show up on Election Day?

Decisions are made by those who show up. Election Day is our democracy's greatest example of that.

But showing up on Election Day is only part of the challenge. The other part is having adequate information to make a selection, which is especially true with judicial candidates. Many people simply skip those selections. The 2014 Ohio Judicial Election Survey found that only 50 percent of registered voters say they "always" cast a ballot for judges. Unfortunately, 30 percent say they vote "most" or about "half the time" and 21 percent say they vote "not very often," "rarely," or "never" in judicial elections.



This Ohio Farm Bureau Election Guide will help you get to know some of the candidates better and identify those who've earned our "Friend of Agriculture" designation. These designations matter and represent the hard

work of your fellow members who took the time to screen and evaluate candidates and elected officials based on their positions on issues and voting records.

These friends have demonstrated through their actions that they recognize agriculture's value to Ohio. This election guide isn't here to tell you who to vote for, but we do want you to know who has an open door to our message and who has been supportive of our organization's policies.

Voting is a tremendous right and I believe an important responsibility. Study this guide and other trustworthy sources, then cast your vote. You can make a difference!

Frank Burkett III
Ohio Farm Bureau president

INSIDE 2 Presidential candidates | 3 U.S. Senate candidates | 4 Supreme Court candidates

ELECTION DAY
November 8

THE 2016 PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES

What is the appropriate role of government in assuring Americans continue to have access to a safe, affordable and abundant food supply?



Hillary Clinton (D)

I believe that ensuring a safe, affordable and abundant food supply for all starts with a real commitment to America's farmers and ranchers. Farmers and

ranchers supply food to dinner tables across America, and throughout my career I've championed family farmers, who are so important to our access to fresh food and produce.

When I was senator of New York, I was struck by the disconnect between upstate, rural New York, which had struggled for years, and the downstate, urban communities. So I decided to take action. I launched the Farm-to-Fork initiative, which linked upstate farmers with downstate markets like distributors, farmers markets, schools and restaurants.

As president, I will continue this work. I'll invest in education, mentoring and technical assistance for aspiring farmers and ranchers through the Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program. And I'll double funding to the Farmers Market Promotion Program and the Local Food Promotion Program—both of which will create new food hubs for Ohio farmers while expanding SNAP recipients' access to fresh food.

I will also protect and strengthen emergency food assistance programs to make sure no American goes hungry. Throughout my career, I've championed supplemental nutrition programs, and as president I would continue in this vein. I will protect SNAP—maintaining its funding at or above current levels and defending the program from any attempt to weaken it.

Lastly, I will provide a focused safety net for Ohio farmers and ranchers through commodity payment, crop insurance and disaster assistance programs to support family farms when things like weather-related disasters hit. The government has a responsibility to help families get through challenging times. And when farms thrive, all of America's communities thrive. ★



Donald Trump (R)

The federal government does have a significant role in assuring all Americans have access to a safe, affordable and abundant food supply. The Trump administration will view food security and safety as a national security issue.

There are several actions the Trump administration will take that will allow our food producers to thrive. First, we will address tax reform. Our new tax policies will eliminate the death tax, will allow business operations 100 percent expensing and will lower tax rates. We will work with Congress to ensure that our food producers have insurance protections that will allow them to stay in business, even when things are tough. We will eliminate onerous regulations that impose costs and restrict the ability of producers to bring more produce to markets. We will also invest in infrastructure so that all our crops can make it to market at the lowest possible cost. We will ensure that property rights are protected and will encourage expanded research and development so that more food can be produced to feed an ever-growing population around the world.

A Trump administration will fight to make America energy independent and will pursue an "all the above" approach to ensure that Americans have choices. We will also devote time and energy to working with Congress to ensure that rural economic development does not wither in the years ahead. We must work hard at keeping our rural communities strong and vibrant.

Finally, we must get the federal government out of the way and allow rural communities to control the educational outcomes of their children. The Trump administration will work hand in hand with the states to make sure that the unique educational needs of each state are supported by federal action, not controlled by Washington bureaucrats. Together, we can Make America Great Again. ★

THE 2016 U.S. SENATE CANDIDATES

What is the appropriate role of government in assuring Americans continue to have access to a safe, affordable and abundant food supply?

Rob Portman (R)

✓ Friend of Agriculture

We have the safest, most abundant, and least expensive food in the world, and I view my job as helping keep it that way. Ohio is a key agriculture state, with over 75,000 farms, covering 14.3 million acres and producing over 200 commercial crops. Agriculture is the No. 1 industry in Ohio, employing 1 in 7 Ohioans and contributing \$105 billion to Ohio's economy. Our agricultural heritage in Ohio is a way of life that we must protect.

As we work together with the Ohio Farm Bureau in shaping the future of the agriculture industry in Ohio, we recognize that farming by its very nature is risky and our agriculture community is complex and diverse.

To develop the best policies to benefit Ohio agriculture, I have visited farms and spoken to farmers across Ohio to hear firsthand their views on burdensome regulations, costly health care, high taxes, and unfair trade policies. At a time when the economy is struggling to get back on its feet, we have to be careful that new policies, regulations, and taxes are not enacted that make it harder on agriculture. This means policies from the federal government should be sensible, practical, and designed to increase growth and jobs and help farmers be successful.

I am proud to have supported the 2014 Farm Bill. While no farm bill is perfect, it provided much-needed certainty to Ohio's farmers and makes responsible improvements to farm programs that I support. It consolidated duplicative conservation programs and made remaining conservation efforts more cost-effective by tying crop insurance to conservation compliance, thereby strengthening and streamlining conservation efforts.

I will continue to support policies that give Ohio farmers the ability to remain successful, and I will continue to fight the harmful regulations coming out of the federal government that hold Ohio's farmers back. ★



Ted Strickland (D)

I come from a rural background and married the daughter of a dairy farmer. When you're a farmer, you get up early and you work late every day. To me, government enables us to do things together that we could not do ourselves.

I worked hard to support our agricultural community as governor: fighting to expand markets for our agricultural products, creating the Ohio Food Advisory Council to help support our agriculture industry, investing in biofuels, and promoting our agricultural brand and farmers through initiatives like the Ohio Proud Program. I advocated for Issue 2 which created the Livestock Care Standards Board—helping ensure Ohioans' ability to buy safe, locally grown and raised food while protecting Ohio's 75,000 farms. I also created the Ohio Food Policy Advisory Council which supported our state's agriculture, helped those in need to access fresh produce and food products, and helped Ohio farmers and businesses market their products in Ohio, across our nation and our world.

These kinds of proposals and this commitment to Ohio agriculture that I have practiced throughout my public service is the same one I will bring to fighting for Ohio's farmers in the Senate and to ensuring that Americans have access to quality food. Whether the challenge is crafting and passing future farm bills that benefit both producers and consumers, or encouraging fair access to resources and sustainable practices, my goal will always be to ensure that our government reflects the concerns and values of Ohio's farming and agriculture community so that Ohioans will always have access to the quality food they need and deserve. ★



THE 2016 SUPREME COURT CANDIDATES

The Ohio Supreme Court is the state's highest court. The chief justice and six justices decide all state constitutional questions, cases involving questions of public or general interest, and all criminal appeals where the death penalty has been imposed.

The Supreme Court also makes rules about the operation of the courts and the practice of law in Ohio, and it has the authority to discipline lawyers and judges for misconduct.

To learn more about Ohio Supreme Court candidates, all the way down to county judicial races, please visit Judicialvotescount.org, where you can learn more about the Ohio Judicial system and the judicial candidates in all counties. In the 2016 election voters will be voting for three supreme court seats including the chief justice position, which is currently held by the unopposed Chief Justice O'Connor.

Judge

RACE 1

Pat Fischer (R) ✓ Friend of Agriculture
fischerforohio.com

I, Judge Pat Fischer, have served on the First District Court of Appeals since I first won election in 2010. Before my judicial service, I spent more than 30 years as an active member of the legal community. I have served as the president of the Ohio State Bar Association and the Cincinnati Bar Association, as well. I have visited all of Ohio's 88 counties during the campaign and have spent considerable time in Ohio's rural areas speaking to Ohio Farm Bureau members about issues that matter to them.



I have shown a knowledge and interest in issues that are important to the agriculture community and for this reason I have been endorsed by the Ohio Farm Bureau.

I reside in Hamilton County with my wife, Jane. ★



Judge

John P. O'Donnell (D)

judgeodonnellforjustice.com

Judge

RACE 2

Pat DeWine (R) ✓ Friend of Agriculture
patdewine.com

I am a constitutional conservative. The role of the courts is to apply the law as it is written, not to legislate from the bench. I believe strongly in the rule of law – we ensure fairness by applying the same rules to ALL who come before our courts. My philosophy is shaped by my experience. Having served as a county commissioner and council member, I understand how our court system affects the lives of real people. I also have a particular understanding of the needs of our farming families: I grew up in a rural community and worked in a family seed business and on a family farm as a youth. ★



Judge

Cynthia Rice (D)

riceforjustice.com

RUNNING UNOPPOSED

Chief Justice

Maureen O'Connor (R)
INCUMBENT ✓ Friend of Agriculture

Whether running the first farm or being the third, fourth, or fifth generation farmer, the Ohio farmer, like all business owners, is concerned with maintaining a stable, predictable legal environment in Ohio. The farmer depends on businesses being able to grow and expand in Ohio in order to produce and to purchase farm products. The business environment will not flourish without experienced, judicially conservative justices that respect the rule of law and the separation of powers. The stability, predictability and quality of our Supreme Court must not be jeopardized.

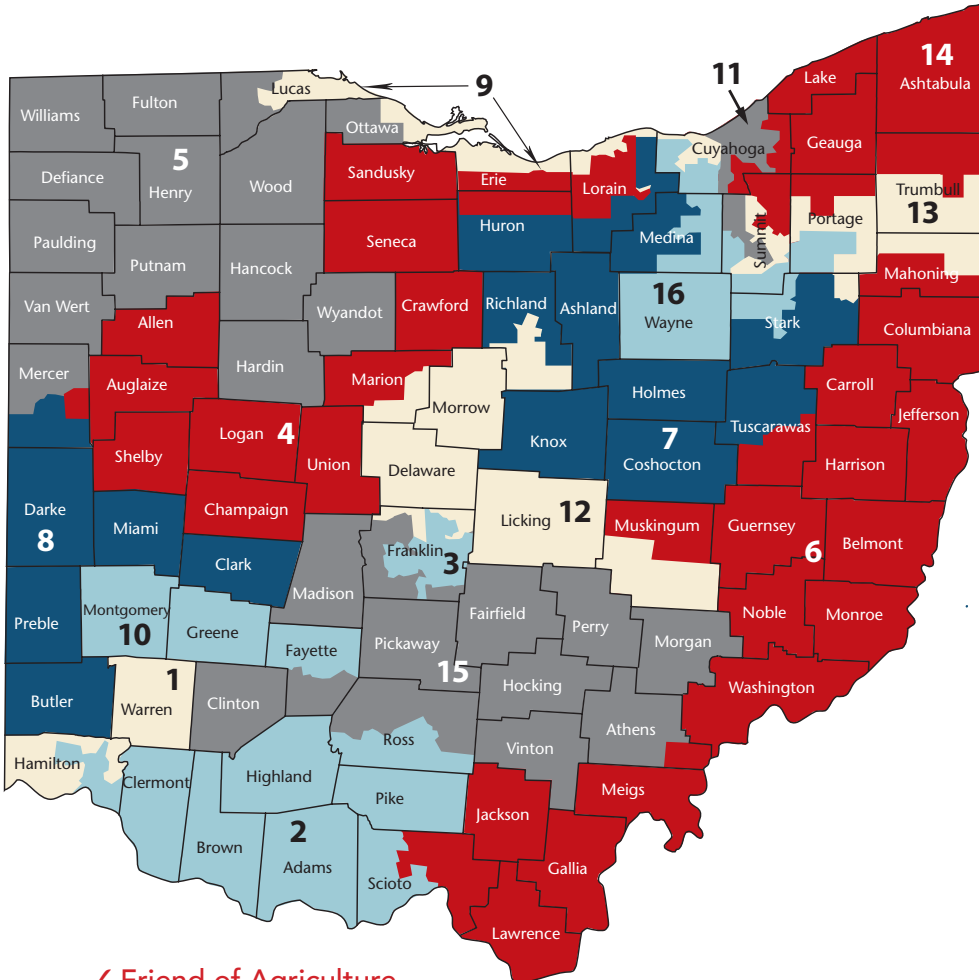
As chief justice of the Ohio Supreme Court for the past six years, I have demonstrated that I am a proven leader on the court. I have authored opinions that are nationally recognized and I have unmatched administrative experience.

I am delighted that I am running for my second term as chief justice and am unopposed. I am very fortunate to have earned the confidence of Ohio's voters in 2002, 2008 and 2010.

I am proud to have had the support of the Farm Bureau each and every time I have run for the court. ★



THE 2016 U.S. CONGRESSIONAL CANDIDATES



- 1 Michele Young-D
✓ Steve Chabot-R, **Incumbent**
- 2 William Smith-D
✓ Brad Wenstrup-R, **Incumbent**
- 3 Joyce Beatty-D, **Incumbent**
John Adams-R
- 4 Janet Garrett-D
✓ Jim Jordan-R, **Incumbent**
- 5 James Neu Jr.-D
✓ Robert E Latta-R, **Incumbent**
- 6 Michael L. Lorentz-D
✓ Bill Johnson-R, **Incumbent**
- 7 Roy Rich-D
✓ Bob Gibbs-R, **Incumbent**
- 8 Corey Foister-D
✓ Warren Davidson-R*, **Incumbent**
- 9 Marcy Kaptur-D, **Incumbent**
Donald Larson-R
- 10 Robert Klepinger-D
✓ Mike Turner-R, **Incumbent**
- 11 Marcia L. Fudge-D, **Incumbent**
Beverly A. Goldstein-R
- 12 Ed Albertson-D
✓ Pat Tiberi-R, **Incumbent**
- 13 Tim Ryan-D, **Incumbent**
Richard A. Morckel-R
- 14 Michael Wager-D
✓ David P Joyce-R, **Incumbent**
- 15 Scott Wharton-D
✓ Steve Stivers-R, **Incumbent**
- 16 Keith Mundy-D
✓ Jim Renacci-R, **Incumbent**

HOW FARM BUREAU DESIGNATES FARM FRIENDLY FEDERAL CANDIDATES

Both American Farm Bureau and Ohio Farm Bureau have a process to determine candidates that have demonstrated support for agriculture. Only one candidate in each race may receive this designation, to which two factors are used to determine. One is an evaluation conducted by each county in the congressional district. Local Farm Bureau leaders provide input on the representative's level of engagement, as well as his or her responsiveness to agricultural and business issues.

The second factor used is the legislator's voting record on American Farm Bureau's key issues. Votes that were considered included Farm Bureau priorities on trade, GMO labeling, tax policy, U.S. EPA overreach and infrastructure funding.

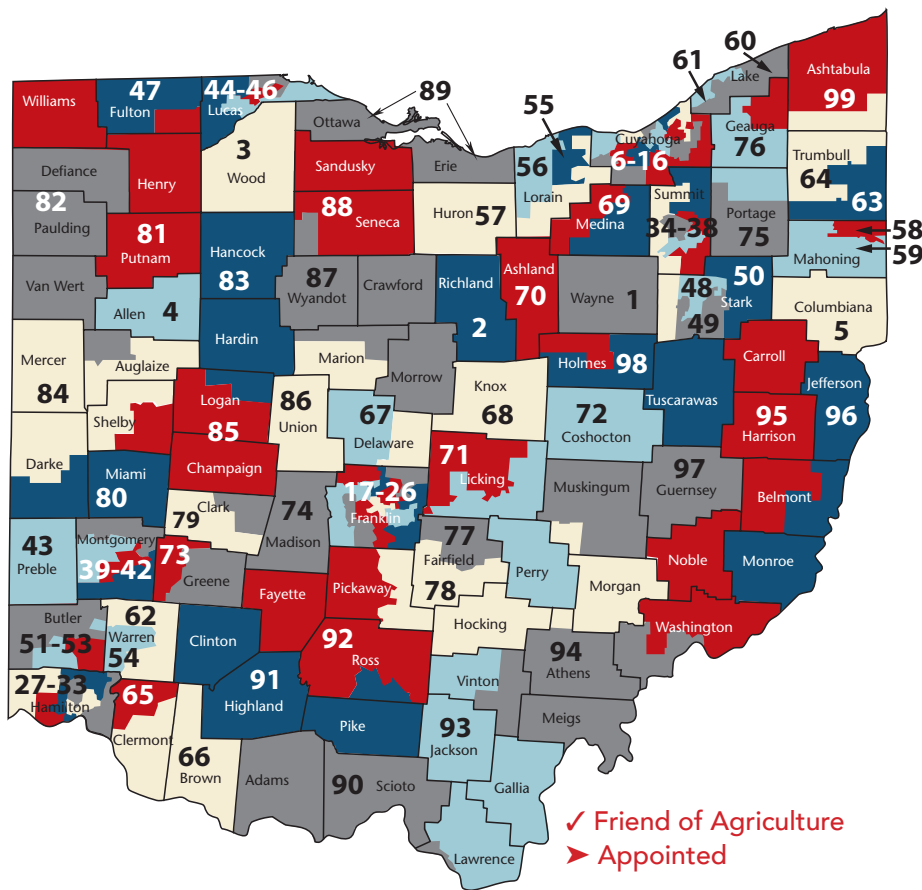
*For the 8th District open seat, county Farm Bureaus held a local screening meeting with both candidates to determine who should receive the designation.

KEY:
Political Parties
D – Democrat
R – Republican

THE 2016 OHIO HOUSE CANDIDATES

Candidates by District

- 1 ✓ Scott Wiggam-R
- 2 Brittany Bowman-D
✓ Mark J. Romanchuk-R, **Incumbent**
- 3 Kelly Wicks-D
Theresa Gavarone-R, **Incumbent** ➤
- 4 ✓ Bob Cupp-R, **Incumbent**
- 5 John R. Dyce-D
✓ Tim Ginter-R, **Incumbent**
- 6 Phillip Robinson-D
Marlene Anielski-R, **Incumbent**
- 7 David J. Thurau-D
✓ Thomas Patton-R
- 8 ✓ Kent Smith-D, **Incumbent**
Cassandra McDonald-R
- 9 Janine Boyd-D, **Incumbent**
Joe Miller-R
- 10 Bill Patmon-D, **Incumbent**
Thomas Pekarek-R
- 11 ✓ Stephanie Howse-D, **Incumbent**
Shalira Taylor-R
- 12 John E. Barnes Jr.-D, **Incumbent**
- 13 ✓ Nickie Antonio-D, **Incumbent**
- 14 ✓ Martin J. Sweeney-D, **Incumbent**
- 15 ✓ Nicholas J. Celebrezze-D, **Incumbent**
- 16 Tommy Greene-D
✓ Dave Greenspan-R
- 17 Adam Miller-D
✓ John Rush-R
- 18 Kristin Boggs-D, **Incumbent** ➤
- 19 Michael Johnston-D
✓ Anne Gonzales-R, **Incumbent**
- 20 ✓ Heather Bishoff-D, **Incumbent**
Lisa Schacht-R
- 21 Ryan Koch-D
✓ Mike Duffey-R, **Incumbent**
- 22 ✓ David Leland-D, **Incumbent**
Linda L. Jarrett-R
- 23 Lee Schreiner-D
Laura Lanese-R
- 24 Kristopher Keller-D
✓ Jim Hughes-R
- 25 ✓ Bernadine Kennedy Kent-D
Seth B. Golding-R



- 26 ✓ Hearcel F. Craig-D, **Incumbent**
Kenneth H. Collins-R
- 27 Joe Otis-D
Tom Brinkman Jr.-R, **Incumbent**
- 28 Jessica Miranda-D
✓ Jonathan Dever-R, **Incumbent**
- 29 ✓ Louis W. Blessing, III-R, **Incumbent**
- 30 Mark A. Childers-D
✓ Bill Seitz-R
- 31 ✓ Brigid Kelly-D
Mary Yeager-R
- 32 Catherine Ingram-D
✓ Matthew H. Wahlert-R
- 33 ✓ Alicia Reece-D, **Incumbent**
David Miller-R
- 34 ✓ Emilia Sykes-D, **Incumbent**
Gene Littlefield-R
- 35 ✓ Greta Johnson-D, **Incumbent**
Aimee N. Cooper-R
- 36 Bobby McDowall-D
✓ Anthony DeVitis-R, **Incumbent**
- 37 Casey Weinstein-D
✓ Kristina Daley Roegner-R, **Incumbent**
- 38 Judith Lynn Lee-D
✓ Marilyn Slaby-R, **Incumbent**
- 39 ✓ Fred Strahorn-D, **Incumbent**
- 40 David L. Richards-D
✓ Michael E. Henne-R, **Incumbent**
- 41 James M. Calhoun-D
✓ Jim Butler-R, **Incumbent**
- 42 Pat Merris-D
Niraj J. Antani-R, **Incumbent**
- 43 David B. Sparks-D
✓ Jeff Rezabek-R, **Incumbent**
- 44 ✓ Michael D. Ashford-D, **Incumbent**
John Insko-R
- 45 Teresa Fedor-D, **Incumbent**
James S. Nowak-R

- 46 ✓ Michael P. Sheehy-D, **Incumbent**
Diana M. Skaff-R
- 47 Lori Cooper-D
✓ Derek Merrin-R, **Incumbent** ➤
- 48 Jennifer M. Bigham-D
✓ Kirk Schuring-R, **Incumbent**
- 49 Thomas E. West-D
Dan F. McMasters-R
- 50 John Juergensen-D
✓ Christina M. Hagan-R, **Incumbent**
- 51 Johnny H. Hamilton-D
✓ Wes Retherford-R, **Incumbent**
- 52 ✓ Margaret K. Conditt-R, **Incumbent**
- 53 Suzi Rubin-D
Candice Keller-R
- 54 Rick Smith-D
Paul Zeltwanger-R, **Incumbent**
- 55 Kelly Kraus Mencke-D
✓ Nathan H. Manning-R, **Incumbent**
- 56 ✓ Dan Ramos-D, **Incumbent**
Jessie Mae Tower-R
- 57 Tom Dunlap-D
Dick Stein-R
- 58 Michele Lepore-Hagan-D, **Incumbent**
Corrine Sanderson-R
- 59 ✓ John A. Bocchieri-D, **Incumbent** ➤
Don Manning-R
- 60 ✓ John M. Rogers-D, **Incumbent**
Robert Rule-R
- 61 Rick Walker-D
✓ Ron Young-R, **Incumbent**
- 62 Samuel P. Ronan-D
✓ Scott Lipps-R
- 63 ✓ Glenn W. Holmes-D
Devon A. Stanley-R
- 64 Michael J. O'Brien-D, **Incumbent**
Martha Yoder-R
- 65 Jerod L. Weber-D
✓ John Becker-R, **Incumbent**
- 66 Ken P. McNeely Jr.-D
✓ Doug Green-R, **Incumbent**
- 67 Janet Breneman-D
✓ Andrew Brenner-R, **Incumbent**
- 68 John Russell-D
✓ Rick Carfagna-R
- 69 Frank A. Zona-D
✓ Steve Hambley-R, **Incumbent**
- 70 ✓ Darrell D. Kick-R
- 71 Joseph S. Begeny-D
✓ Scott K. Ryan-R, **Incumbent**
- 72 John J. Carlisle-D
Larry Householder-R
- 73 Brian K. Housh-D
✓ Rick Perales-R, **Incumbent**
- 74 ✓ Barb Niemeyer-D
Bill Dean-R, **Incumbent** ➤
- 75 ✓ Kathleen Clyde-D, **Incumbent**
Jim Lutz-R
- 76 Terri McIntee-D
✓ Sarah LaTourette-R, **Incumbent**
- 77 Bradley S. Nicodemus-D
✓ Tim Schaffer-R, **Incumbent**
- 78 Ron Hood-R, **Incumbent**
- 79 Alex Wendt-D
✓ Kyle Koehler-R, **Incumbent**
- 80 Stephen A. Huffman-R, **Incumbent**
- 81 ✓ Robert McColley-R, **Incumbent**
- 82 ✓ Craig Riedel-R
- 83 Mary E. Harshfield-D
Robert Cole Sprague-R, **Incumbent**
- 84 Ed Huff-D
✓ Keith Faber-R
- 85 ✓ Nino Vitale-R, **Incumbent**
- 86 Scott Crider-D
✓ Dorothy Pelanda-R, **Incumbent**
- 87 ✓ Wes Goodman-R
- 88 ✓ Bill Reineke-R, **Incumbent**
- 89 Lawrence D. Hartlaub-D
✓ Steven M. Arndt-R, **Incumbent** ➤
- 90 Tara Cordle-D
✓ Terry A. Johnson-R, **Incumbent**
- 91 ✓ Cliff Rosenberger-R, **Incumbent**
- 92 ✓ Gary K. Scherer-R, **Incumbent**
- 93 ✓ Ryan Smith-R, **Incumbent**
- 94 Sarah H. Grace-D
✓ Jay Edwards-R
- 95 Ginny Favede-D
✓ Andy Thompson-R, **Incumbent**
- 96 ✓ Jack Cera-D, **Incumbent**
- 97 ✓ Brian D. Hill-R, **Incumbent**
- 98 Jeremiah M. Johnson-D
✓ Al Landis-R, **Incumbent**
- 99 ✓ John Patterson-D, **Incumbent**

HOW FARM BUREAU DESIGNATES FARM FRIENDLY STATE CANDIDATES

The Statehouse candidates deemed favorable to the agriculture community are given the designation "Friend of Agriculture." Only one candidate in each race may receive this designation.

HERE'S HOW THE PROCESS WORKS:

For races with incumbents:

Incumbents are evaluated based on their voting record, an issue

survey, and county Farm Bureau's input on their level of engagement. For incumbents to be considered for the designation, they must have a satisfactory voting record in regard to Ohio Farm Bureau key votes, which during the 131st General Assembly included water quality and agritourism.

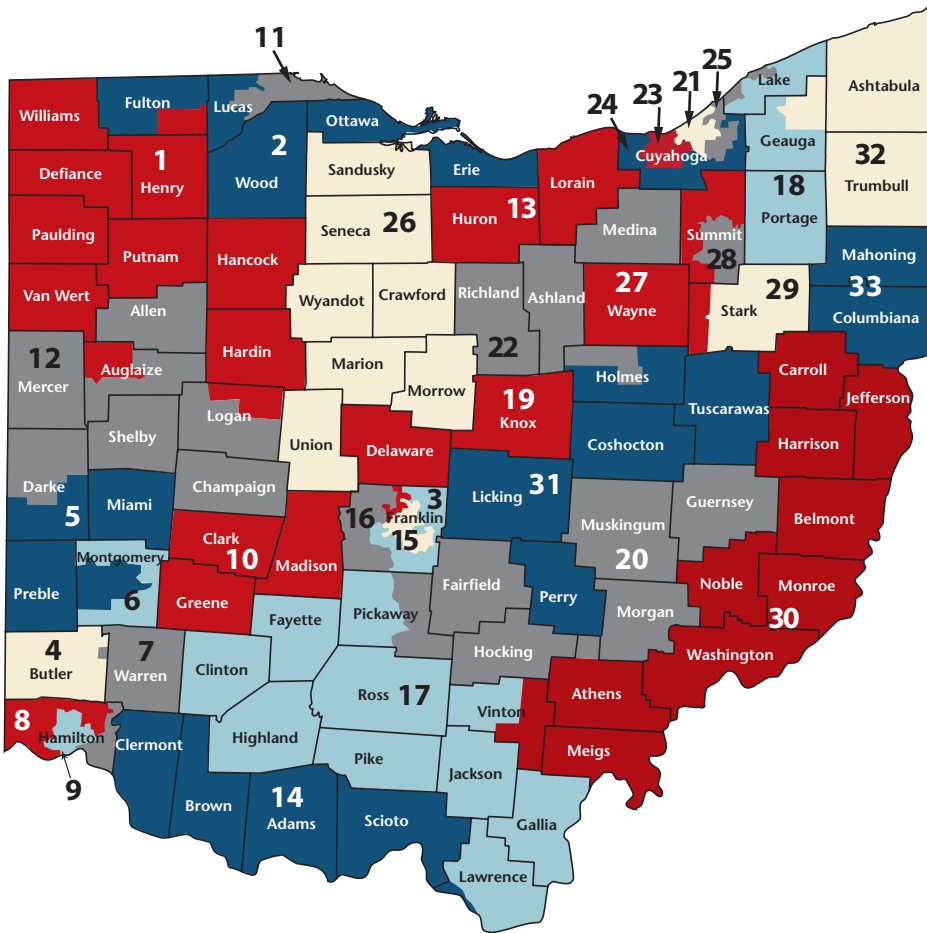
The other two components of their evaluation included satisfactory

completion of Ohio Farm Bureau's incumbent survey and a positive review by county Farm Bureaus.

For open seat races:

County Farm Bureaus have held local screenings for Statehouse candidates to determine "Friends." In some cases, the local screening committee may choose to remain neutral in a race, such as when both candidates are found to be equally qualified.

THE 2016 OHIO SENATE CANDIDATES



✓ Friend of Agriculture
➤ Appointed

*Senate seats in odd numbered districts are not up for election in 2016.

Candidates by District*

- 2 Kirk W. Halliday-D
✓ Randy Gardner-R, **Incumbent**
- 4 John D. Kinne-D
✓ Bill Coley-R, **Incumbent**
- 6 Lu Dale-D
✓ Peggy Lehner-R, **Incumbent**
- 8 Mary Rose Lierman-D
✓ Lou Terhar-R
- 10 Matthew Kirk-D
✓ Robert D. Hackett-R, **Incumbent** ➤
- 12 ✓ Matt Huffman-R
- 14 Charlie Carlier-D
✓ Joe Uecker-R, **Incumbent**
- 16 Cathy Johnson-D
✓ Stephanie L. Kunze-R
- 18 Wiley Runnestrand-D
✓ John J. Eklund-R, **Incumbent**
- 20 ✓ Troy Balderson-R, **Incumbent**
- 22 Christopher King-D
✓ Larry Obhof-R, **Incumbent**
- 24 Emily Hagan-D
✓ Matt Dolan-R
- 26 ✓ Dave Burke-R, **Incumbent**
- 28 Vernon Sykes-D
Jonathan Schulz-R
- 30 ✓ Lou Gentile-D, **Incumbent**
Frank Hoagland-R
- 32 Sean J. O'Brien-D
Robert J. Allen-R

What is AGGPAC?

The Agriculture for Good Government Political Action Committee (AGGPAC) is Ohio Farm Bureau's political action committee that routinely monitors the voting records and political campaigns of Ohio's elected officials at the state and national levels. Candidates are screened by local Farm Bureau members to determine if they are agriculture friendly and then AGGPAC supports their campaign.

What is AGGPAC's structure?

AGGPAC is a bipartisan committee of Farm Bureau leaders appointed by Ohio Farm Bureau's president.

How is AGGPAC funded?

Funding comes from voluntary contributions by Farm Bureau members.

