



# CRITIQUE



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## CTU Needs You!

Do you want to help your Union in this important election? It's not too late! There will be an important last-days effort to get out the vote, and the CTU could use your help.

Call David Quolke, CTU's Director of Political Action, or Michele Pomerantz, Legislative Committee Chairperson, at 216-861-7676 extension 234 and 265. Get involved in the effort to Turn Ohio Around!



## FOR UNITED STATES SENATOR

# SHERROD BROWN

## A Fighter for Public Education

On November 7, Ohio will have a rare opportunity to change the direction of the United States Congress regarding education. Control of both the U.S. House and Senate are up for grabs, and several close races will determine the direction of our country for the next several years.



AFL-CIO's John Ryan (left) and CTU's Joanne DeMarco (third from left) welcome Ohio's next senator, Sherrod Brown, and his wife, Pulitzer-prize winner Connie Schultz to the CTU Leadership Conference October 26.

Ohio is once again the center of national attention. Which way will our state go? The CTU asks you to look at the two candidates, Democrat Sherrod Brown and Republic incumbent Mike DeWine, and their records on issues that affect us as public educators. We believe the record is clear.

### Vouchers

DeWine supported private school voucher programs. Brown consistently voted against federal funding for private school vouchers.

### Charter Schools

DeWine supported legislation to allow states to bypass normal federal rules, and make it easier to establish charter schools. Brown and Rep. George Miller initiated a review by the Government Accountability Office of federal aid to charter schools, citing concerns about lack of accountability for those funds. This was the first instance of this kind of inquiry by Congress.

### No Child Left Behind

DeWine failed to support legislation to fully fund NCLB mandates, and make sensible NCLB amendments that would grant districts more flexibility on assessment and accountability, school choice and tutoring requirements, and HQ (highly qualified) rules.

Brown was a co-sponsor of the Student Testing Fairness Act, which lets states use multiple criteria to measure student progress, not only standardized tests. Brown also advocates fully funding NCLB, which has been underfunded by Congress by \$40 billion.

### Merit Pay

DeWine supported an amendment that would use federal funds to establish merit pay for individual teachers.

Brown opposed efforts to implement an unproven merit pay system for teachers.

## FOR GOVERNOR OF OHIO

# TED STRICKLAND

## The Choice Has Never Been Clearer

The contrast between Ohioans' two major-party candidates for governor has never been clearer. Republican Ken Blackwell and Democrat Ted Strickland offer very different beliefs and proposals when it comes to educational issues that affect CTU members.

If elected, Blackwell would support privatizing professional and support staff in public schools. He supports issuing a tax-funded voucher to every Ohio student to attend any public, private or charter school. He would force all education employees, K-12 and higher education, to enroll in a mandatory statewide health plan, and eliminate our right to collectively bargain with our Districts for our health care. And he supports limiting collective bargaining rights in other ways.

Blackwell also advocated "Tax and Expenditure Limitations," an



initiative that would restrict state spending at a time when many K-12 school districts and Ohio's institutions of higher education are in a budget crisis.

On the other side, Ted Strickland has consistently opposed vouchers and for-profit charter schools, and has promised to work to overhaul school funding to comply with the Supreme Court's orders (four times) that Ohio's current system of funding is unconstitutional, and must be revised. He feels the legislature's decision to impose the mandatory statewide health plan for all public education employees was done unfairly, without input from stakeholders and without adequate study. He believes Ohio can help solve school funding issues, increase early childhood education opportunities,

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## It's Time to Turn Around Ohio

Ohio voters face a crossroads in the November 7 elections — which way for our state, the same direction or a new direction?

Do we reelect people who have let our state's economic, employment and educational futures continue to deteriorate? Do we validate what they have done — or failed to do — by returning those same people who have controlled Ohio government to office again?

Or will Ohioans finally say ENOUGH? Enough to lost jobs? To inadequate and unconstitutional funding of public education? To too-expensive higher education opportunities? To the exodus of thousands upon thousands of talented young Ohioans (and their creative and earning potentials) to other states? To the shameful culture of corruption that has become sadly synonymous with Ohio politics? Will Ohioans finally say ENOUGH on November 7, and begin to turn Ohio around?

The changes that Ohio — and the country — desperately need won't happen by reelecting the same people who have controlled the power in Columbus and Washington for the past several years.

Had enough? It's time to restore balance, responsibility and accountability to our government. We deserve better. American workers must support candidates who will work for us and protect our interests. Your state and your country need you to help turn things around.

Make your voice heard. Vote on November 7. And please vote for your Union's endorsed candidates, those who will help turn Ohio, and the nation, around. Enough is enough.

## State School Board Races Offer Exciting Opportunities

The election theme reverberating across the state is "Turn Around Ohio." This year's election of State School Board members offers an opportunity for us to elect members who support public education, not vouchers and charters. The OFT endorsed three candidates who will represent areas with CTU voters.

**John Bender** is the endorsed candidate in District 2 (Lorain, Huron, Erie, Seneca, Ottawa, Lucas, Wood counties). Bender is a former ranking member of the House Education Committee, with experience in state education issues.



**Tom Sawyer** is endorsed in District 7 (Summit, Portage, Trumbull, Ashtabula counties). Sawyer is a former U.S. Congressman, with a record of support for public education.



**Debbie Cain** is endorsed in District 8 (Stark, Mahoning, Tuscarawas, Belmont, Carroll, Harrison, Jefferson, Columbiana counties). Cain is a 31-year teacher, a school board member and currently School Board President of Lake Local Schools in Stark County.



### Strickland

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and reinvest in higher education by shifting state funding priorities, and by eliminating a hidden "corruption tax" (the extra cost of contracting out to benefit wealthy campaign contributors).

Strickland has also promised to clean up the corruption which has become a costly and embarrassing part of government in Ohio.

The choice is clear. The CTU asks you to support a candidate for governor who will turn Ohio around: Ted Strickland.

— OHIO FEDERATION OF TEACHERS

### Brown

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### AFT Voting Record

Both DeWine and Brown have several years of experience in Washington: DeWine has been in the Senate for 11 years, and Brown has been in the House of Representatives for 14 years. They both have had many opportunities to vote on issues that matter to public educators. On a measure of educational issues, Mike DeWine's Lifetime AFT Voting Record is 16%; Sherrod Brown's Lifetime AFT Voting Record is 97%.

### Who Will Stand for Public Educators?

Congress has not been a friend to public educators in recent years. Their current record includes: NCLB, with its excessive testing requirements, unfunded and underfunded mandates, and many legal glitches that hurt school districts that are actually improving; vouchers and charter school programs imposed on Washington, D.C.; lavish federal aid to charter schools in the states; rejection of proposals to fully fund IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act); elimination of teachers' rights to participate in most IEP conferences; higher interest rates on student loans; and cuts in Pell Grants for low-income students just as college tuition rises.

The record speaks for itself, and the choice is yours. Protect your future. Ohio needs a senator who will stand with us, and other working people. The OFT and CTU strongly endorse Sherrod Brown for Ohio's next Senator.

— OHIO FEDERATION OF TEACHERS

## MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE

# Vote Yes on Issue 2

**Issue 2, the amendment to raise Ohio's minimum wage from \$5.15 to \$6.85 an hour in January, 2007 is the right thing to do for Ohio economically and morally.**

While some opponents argue that it would hurt employers who hire employees under 18 years of age, 74% of workers who would be affected by this raise are over 20, 28% are married and about one in five is a parent. Approximately 253,000 Ohio children have a parent who would see a raise if Issue 2 passes.

In 38% of affected families, those minimum wage workers provide the entire family earnings; 78% work at least 20 hours a week, and 43% work full time. 58% are women and 42% are men. Passage of Issue 2 would directly affect 297,000 workers who currently earn less than \$6.85.

Studies in other areas where the minimum wage was raised show that these workers are likely to put the additional earnings right back into their local economies.

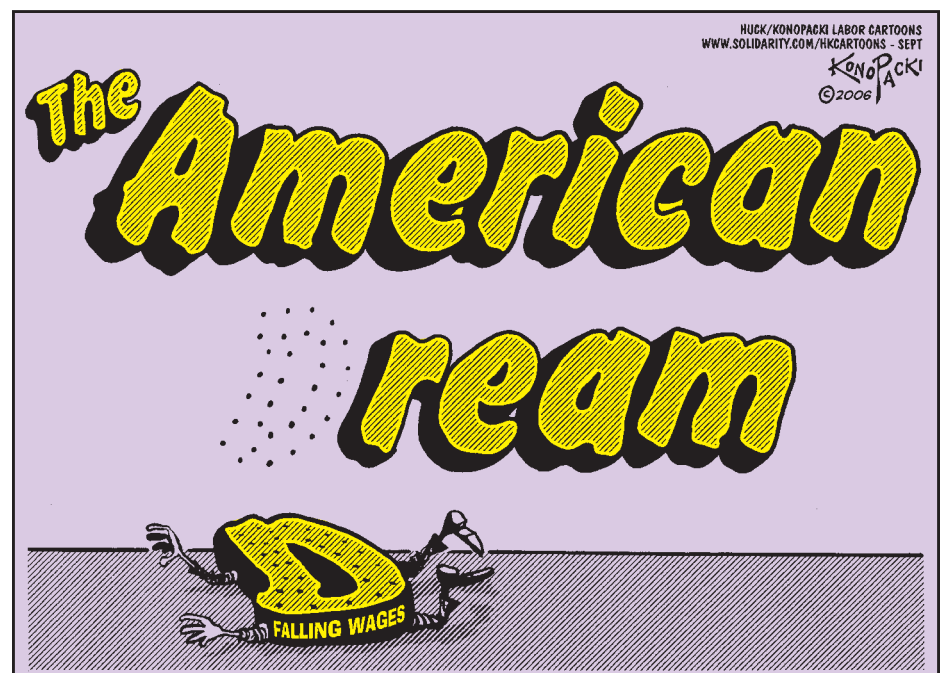
Issue 2 is endorsed by many labor, community and faith-based groups, including the AFL-CIO, AFSCME, Ohio Federation of Teachers, Ohio

Education Association, Council of Black Trade Unions, Ohio NAACP, SEIU, and the Urban League.

"Raising the minimum wage is the right thing to do — it's a moral

issue," said Ted Strickland, Congressman and candidate for Governor. "People who get up every day and work hard to make our neighborhoods and state a better place to live deserve a decent wage."

Every hard-working Ohio family deserves a decent wage. Vote YES on Issue 2.



## Other State-Wide Candidates Offer New Direction for Ohio

While the races for governor and senator have received most of the attention in Ohio this election season, four other state-wide executive office contests offer Ohioans a chance to change the status quo and direction of state government.

Whoever is elected to these four offices will directly impact our lives and our working conditions through future election rules, accountability for charter schools, and appointments to STRS. Choose wisely when you vote November 7.

### Barbara Sykes for State Auditor

Sykes was the first African-American elected to Akron City Council. She also served as Summit County Deputy Auditor of Administration,



and is now in her third term in the Ohio House of Representatives. She is President of the Ohio Legislative Black Caucus and a member of the National Council of State Legislatures Human Services and Welfare Committee.

### Jennifer Brunner for Secretary of State

Brunner was a judge in Franklin County's Common Pleas Court. As Legislative Counsel to the Office of Secretary of State, she was responsible for communications with 88 county boards of elections, and administrative and budget issues. She was a member of the Franklin County Board of Elections. She has promised to restore trust to election procedures.



### Richard Cordray for State Treasurer

Cordray has served as a State Representative and Ohio's first State Solicitor, and has been elected twice as Franklin County Treasurer where he manages an investment portfolio averaging \$500 million for the only Ohio county with an AAA bond rating. He received the Ohio Legal Assistance Foundation's Presidential Award for his work supporting legal services for the poor. As Treasurer, he will make an appointment to the STRS Board, and has pledged to name someone who will protect our pensions and hold down health care costs.



### Marc Dann for Attorney General

Dann, a State Senator and native of Cleveland, has pledged to make Ohio fix its broken school funding system when he is elected Attorney General. He has a long history of working to make college more affordable, and protecting school systems from state funding cuts that lead to teacher layoffs and larger class sizes. He is a former member of the Liberty Board of Education.



## Contest Often Overlooked

# Espy, O'Neill for Ohio Supreme Court

**Two outstanding candidates for Ohio's Supreme Court are running for election in November, but these important races are often overlooked by voters. However, the Supreme Court's rulings have a major impact on public education and workers, including the constitutionality of charter schools and vouchers, school funding, and Ohio workers' and consumers' rights, so these races are important.**

The composition of the Ohio Supreme Court has changed in recent years, due to mandatory retirement and sizable campaign spending, and six of the seven current justices are Republican. With the GOP controlling the House and Senate and every executive office in state government, there is no real system of checks and balances in effect in Ohio. In recent years, the election of Ohio's Supreme Court Justices has brought record campaign spending, often by wealthy persons or corporations with cases

pending before the court.

To restore the checks and balances in Ohio, the OFT endorsed Ben Espy and William O'Neill.

Ben Espy is a former city council member, Assistant State Attorney General, and State Senator. Espy, who lives in Columbus, is running to replace the only Democratic justice, Alice Robie Resnick, who is retiring.



Espy wrote a friend of the court brief in support of the DeRolph school funding case.

O'Neill is a Vietnam veteran in his second term as 11th District Court of Appeals Judge. O'Neill, who lives in South Russell, has decided not to accept any campaign contributions for his race. His opponent is Judge Terrence O'Donnell, who was spotlighted in an expose by *The New York Times* (October 1, 2006) for his rulings: he sided with his campaign contributors in 91% of his cases.



The *Times* article examined the Ohio Supreme Court and found that its justices routinely made decisions on cases after receiving big campaign contributions from the parties involved in the cases, or groups that filed briefs about the cases. On average, they voted in favor of their contributors 70% of the time; O'Donnell's 91% rate was the highest of any justice.

Akron entrepreneur and for-profit charter school magnate David Brennan, his family and associates have contributed millions of dollars to committees that support Supreme Court candidates. The Court recently decided in favor of the charter schools in a lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of charter schools as a separate and unequal system of education.

As educators, we need justices who will support what is best for public education in Ohio, not just private interests or the interests of campaign donors. Vote for Ben Espy and William O'Neill for the Ohio Supreme Court, and help bring balance back to Ohio government.

**I VOTED TODAY!**

## Are You A DROP-OFF VOTER?

Are you one of Ohio's many "drop-off" voters? Those are voters who vote regularly in Presidential elections, but do not usually vote in other elections.

Now, there's no excuse to be a drop-off voter in Ohio! New voting laws allow registered voters to apply for an absentee ballot for any reason or no reason at all. You don't have to go out to the polls, or stand in line, or wait to vote any longer. It can all be done at your leisure, in your home, at your convenience. Just use an absentee ballot. And with an absentee ballot, you don't have to wonder if your vote will be correctly counted on the new electronic voting machines.

What if it's too late to apply for an absentee ballot for this election? Well, this November the stakes are so high, both for Ohio and the nation, and your vote is critical. So get to the polls, do your duty as a citizen, and vote for your Union-endorsed candidates. This election is too important to stay home.

And next time, apply early for your absentee ballot.

## Don't Forget Your ID on November 7

Be sure to take identification to the polls with you on November 7. New voting laws require a form of ID to vote. Acceptable forms of ID include:

- government photo ID (Ohio driver's license or state ID with current or former address, as long as the ID hasn't expired) OR, one of the following showing your current address:
- military ID, or a copy of any of the following:
- current utility bill
- bank statement
- paycheck
- government check
- government document (but not the notice you get from the Board of Elections).

### Voting by Provisional Ballot

If you don't have an acceptable form of ID, vote a Provisional Ballot by stating, in writing, that you are a registered voter, and providing the last four digits of your Social Security number. Or, you can take a valid form of ID or the last four digits of your Social Security number to your Board of Elections within 10 days after the election.

### Important Points to Remember

Polls are open from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. If you haven't already got a card from your local Board of Elections saying you're registered, call your Board immediately to check. You must be in the right precinct or your vote won't count.

— GREATER CLEVELAND VOTER COALITION, WWW.CLEVELANDVOTES.ORG



# VOTE 2006

# The Teacher Ticket

Ohio Federation of Teachers Endorsements



FOR GOVERNOR  
**TED STRICKLAND**



FOR U.S. SENATE  
**SHERROD BROWN**



FOR SECRETARY OF STATE  
**JENNIFER BRUNER**



FOR ATTORNEY GENERAL  
**MARC DANN**



FOR AUDITOR  
**BARBARA SYKES**



FOR TREASURER  
**RICHARD CORDRAY**



FOR OHIO SUPREME COURT  
**WILLIAM O'NEILL**



FOR OHIO SUPREME COURT  
**BEN ESPY**

## U.S. Congress

FOR U.S. REPRESENTATIVE, 10TH DISTRICT  
**DENNIS KUCINICH**

FOR U.S. REPRESENTATIVE, 11TH DISTRICT  
**STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES**

FOR U.S. REPRESENTATIVE, 13TH DISTRICT  
**BETTY SUTTON**

## Ohio Senate

FOR OHIO SENATE, 13TH DISTRICT  
**SUSAN MORANO**

FOR OHIO SENATE, 21ST DISTRICT  
**SHIRLEY SMITH**

FOR OHIO SENATE, 23RD DISTRICT  
**DALE MILLER**

FOR OHIO SENATE, 25TH DISTRICT  
**LANCE MASON**

FOR OHIO SENATE, 27TH DISTRICT  
**JUDY HANNA**

## Ohio House

FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE, 7TH DISTRICT  
**KENNY YUKO**

FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE, 8TH DISTRICT  
**ARMOND BUDISH**

FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE, 9TH DISTRICT  
**BARBARA BOYD**

FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE, 11TH DISTRICT  
**SANDRA WILLIAMS**

FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE, 12TH DISTRICT  
**MICHAEL DEBOSE**

FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE, 13TH DISTRICT  
**MICHAEL SKINDELL**

FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE, 14TH DISTRICT  
**MICHAEL FOLEY**

FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE, 15TH DISTRICT  
**TIM DEGEETER**

FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE, 16TH DISTRICT  
**JENNIFER BRADY**

FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE, 17TH DISTRICT  
**ROGER GOUDY**

FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE, 18TH DISTRICT  
**JOHN CELEBREZZE**

FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE, 41ST DISTRICT  
**BRIAN WILLIAMS**

FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE, 43RD DISTRICT  
**STEVE DYER**

FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE, 44TH DISTRICT  
**VERNON SYKES**

FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE, 45TH DISTRICT  
**ROBERT OTTERMAN**

FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE, 56TH DISTRICT  
**JOE KOZIURA**

FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE, 57TH DISTRICT  
**MATT LUNDY**

FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE, 58TH DISTRICT  
**MATTHEW BARRETT**

FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE, 62ND DISTRICT  
**LORRAINE FENDE**

FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE, 63RD DISTRICT  
**TIM CASSELL**

FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE, 81ST DISTRICT  
**DARRELL OPFER**

FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE, 98TH DISTRICT  
**RAYMOND KU**

## Ohio Board of Education

DISTRICT 2: LORAIN, HURON, ERIE, SENECA, OTTAWA, LUCAS AND WOOD COUNTIES  
**JOHN BENDER**

DISTRICT 7: SUMMIT, PORTAGE, TRUMBULL AND ASHTABULA COUNTIES  
**TOM SAWYER**

DISTRICT 8: STARK, MAHONING, TUSCARAWAS, BELLMONT, CARROLL, HARRISON, JEFFERSON, AND COLUMBIANA COUNTIES  
**DEBBIE CAIN**

## Ohio Issues

ISSUE 2, **RAISE MINIMUM WAGE**  
**VOTE YES**

ISSUE 3, **LEARN AND EARN**  
**VOTE YES** (ENDORSED BY AFL-CIO)

## Cuyahoga Issues

ISSUE 18, **ARTS AND CULTURE**  
**VOTE YES**

ISSUE 19, **HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES**  
**VOTE YES**

### THE CRITIQUE

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