

YOUR SUPPORT.
YOUR IMPACT.



ACLU OF OHIO IMPACT REPORT

SPRING 2020



SINCE OUR LAST REPORT:

17 ACTIVE LEGAL CASES

PUBLICATIONS **30**

OVER **1,500** ACTION TAKERS

LEGISLATIVE TESTIMONY PROVIDED **14**

INSIDE: PODCAST | MODERN ELECTIONS | BILLBOARDS | TWENTY IN '20 | CINCINNATI

YOUR GIFTS IN ACTION:



TEN BILLBOARDS. MILLIONS OF IMPRESSIONS.

In late January, we placed a series of billboards across the state with one simple message: **Abortion is still legal in Ohio.** Ten billboards appeared in Akron, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, Dayton, Toledo, Wheeling, and Youngstown reminding Ohioans, and others commuting to and from the state, that Ohio clinics remain open and services are available to individuals in need of abortion and other reproductive healthcare.

After the near-total abortion bill was signed into law in April of 2019 misinformation spread like wildfire. **The good news is, as a result of our lawsuit, a federal judge blocked the law from taking effect in July. Our fight for abortion access continues.**



MODERNIZE OHIO'S ELECTIONS

Ohioans need to have an urgent, nonpartisan, consensus-driven conversation about a subject we rarely talk about: our state's woefully lackluster voter participation.

But the fault is not an apathetic electorate. Instead, the root of the problem is Ohio's lack of commonsense modernizations that would make it easier for eligible citizens to register, have their voices heard and their votes counted.

Ohioans deserve an election system geared toward broad inclusion, ensuring that every eligible voter can cast a secure ballot. Fair and inclusive measures include:

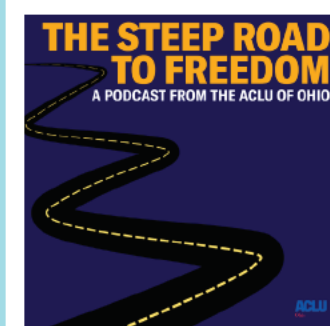
- Automatic voter registration for eligible citizens when they interact with the Ohio BMV.
- Early voting with consistent and guaranteed evening and weekend voting hours.
- Rigorous audits to ensure the accuracy and trustworthiness of our results.

All eligible citizens in Ohio should be able to cast a ballot without obstacles or interference.



FOR A FULL LIST OF STOPS, VISIT ACLUOHIO.ORG/CALENDAR

INAUGURAL PODCAST PREMIERED



We've recently launched **The Steep Road to Freedom**, a limited-series podcast devoted to untangling the crisis of pretrial detention. What does the path to end Ohio's reliance on cash bail actually look like? We aim for our listeners to understand this growing statewide and national movement through the lens of compelling personal narratives, subject matter experts, and activists, ready to mobilize a base of passionate Ohioans driven by the goal of transforming the pretrial system. **Subscribe and listen wherever you get your podcasts!**



WE'RE GROWING IN CINCINNATI

We closed out 2019 by hiring a full-time staff member in Cincinnati! Greer Aeschbury is leading our grassroots efforts in Southwest Ohio as the newest member of our organizing team. She is connecting with residents in Hamilton County and supporting the growing grassroots coalition for bail reform. The strong engagement in Cincinnati and surrounding areas is pivotal to our work and statewide impact. Your support allowed for this critical expansion. **Thank you!**



Greer Aeschbury

DONOR PROFILE

“Ohio's state government has made me gasp in horror recently. Some legislators are trying to control bodies that are not their own. They've made outrageously false claims about abortion, and then made laws based on those claims. They've imposed unreasonable regulations that have shut down many of the clinics in Ohio that provide abortions--as well as many other essential medical services. In fact, they've passed a bill that would ban all abortions in Ohio.



Pat Relf Hanavan
Cleveland Heights

It's easy to feel powerless right now. The ACLU is using the power of the law to fight for all Ohioans to have access to the health care they need and the choice to use it. I can't stand by and see my grandchildren thrown back to the bad old days when abortion was illegal and dangerous. Abortion is LEGAL in Ohio, and ACLU lawyers are in court right now, fighting to keep it legal and to help make safe medical care accessible to all.

My support for the ACLU has never meant more to me. Our donations give us power.”



/ACLUOH @ACLUOHIO @ACLUOH

FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, BEN

Happy birthday to us! The ACLU of Ohio is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year. To honor the milestone, we've been hitting the road to celebrate with ACLU supporters statewide who care about protecting freedom and democracy. We're sharing food, drinks, laughter, conversation—and relishing in the friendship of committed civil libertarians.

Our first stop on January 7 was in Youngstown, which boasts one of the first ACLU chapters in the country, organized in 1920. From there, our “Twenty in '20 Tour” has enjoyed several events with more stops in the coming weeks.

With 32,000 members in all of Ohio's 88 counties, we are truly a statewide organization with considerable muscle, constantly present in the courts, the statehouse, and in local communities. We change hearts and minds—and laws and policies—for the sake of justice and equality.

No matter where you live in Ohio, you are important to us. Your voice, activism, and financial support are essential to our big wins in 2020. Thank you!

Onward together!

J. Bennett Guess
Executive Director

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