# THE GOP RED PRESS



# WHERE TRUMBULL GOP PATRIOTS STAY INFORMED TO



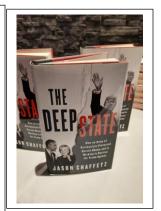
To subscribe to this newsletter, visit our website: trumbullohrepublicans.com



A special thank you to our Fundraising Committee and everyone that supported our Lincoln Day Dinner with Former Congressman Jason Chaffetz. Here are a few highlights. Please visit our Facebook page to view all the photos.

Mike Bollas. Chairman













Fundraising Chair -**Katie Tingler** 





Artist Ray Simon - donated the "America's Story" print for auction





Fundraising Co-Chair – Carol Jochman and Emcee – Tom Jochman























### Parental Rights Bills Advance Across the Nation

WASHINGTON / March 28, 2023 – In a historic move, the U.S. House of Representatives passed H.R. 5, the Parents Bill of Rights Act this past Friday.

- (1) The bill requires schools to notify parents of their rights regarding the education of their children, including the rights to review the curriculum, meet with teachers, inspect the books, and more.
- (2) Long-time observers say this is the first parental rights bill that has been ever approved by the House of Representatives.

Thus far in 2023, parental rights bills have been introduced in 25 states across the country. In some states, two or more parental rights bills are under consideration:

- 1. Alaska HB 105 and SB 96
- 2. Alabama HB 6
- Arizona SB 1005
- 4. Connecticut SB 280, SB 269, SB 279, and SB 278
- 5. Georgia SB 88
- 6. Hawaii HB 1363
- 7. lowa SF 496
- 8. Indiana HB 1407 and SB 413
- 9. Louisiana HB 152
- 10. Maine LR 1329
- 11. Maryland HB 666 and SB 566
- 12. Minnesota HF 682, HF 353, and SF 76
- 13. Missouri SB 4, HB 165, HB 482, SB 134, and S.J. Res 29
- 14. Mississippi HB 509
- 15. North Dakota HB 1403 and SB 2260
- 16. Nebraska LB 374
- 17. New Hampshire HB 10
- 18. Ohio HB 8
- 19. Oklahoma SB 95
- 20. South Carolina HB 3197, HB 3463, HB 3485, and SB 234
- 21. Texas HB 42, H.J.R 58, HB 631, SB 394, and SJR 29
- 22. Utah SB 93 and SB 100
- 23. Virginia HB 2170 and HB 1707
- 24. Washington SB 5024
- 25. West Virginia HB 3118

These bills reveal how parental rights has become a hot-button issue as growing numbers of parents from across the political spectrum express alarm over policies that allow schools to promote sexually charged agendas to students. Many of these policies are based on controversial interpretations of the federal Title IX law, which was originally intended to stop sex discrimination in schools (3).

Parental rights have become a bipartisan issue. For example, the *New York Times* published an article highlighting the concerns of parents in liberal Westchester County, NY, who were kept in the dark about their child's gender dilemmas (4). In January, Democrat Jimmy Gomez of California established the first-ever Congressional Dads Caucus (5).

Release published here: <a href="https://www.saveservices.org/2023/03/parental-rights-bills-advance-across-the-nation/">https://www.saveservices.org/2023/03/parental-rights-bills-advance-across-the-nation/</a>

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## SENATE REJECTS EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT



In a 51 -47 vote, the U.S. Senate rejected a resolution to remove the deadline for ratification of the 1971 Equal Rights Amendment (ERA).

Prior to Thursday's vote, Senate majority leader Chuck Schumer, D-NY, <u>touted</u> the bill as "necessary as ... America can never hope to be a land of freedom and opportunity so long as half its population is treated like second class citizens."

U.S. Bishops warned the ERA amendment would be used to persecute Catholic and other pro-life Americans!

# 'LOOP-HOLE' AMENDMENT

Critics of the bill, however, <u>warn</u> that the ERA is a thinly veiled attempt by Democrats to impose abortion-on-demand after the fall of ROE VS. WADE last June. CatholicVote Director of Government Affairs Tom McClusky said that there is a passage in the ERA that "would enshrine abortion into the Constitution and allow for full taxpayer funding of abortion."

"Placing this language in the Constitution would further us from equality," added CatholicVote President Brian Burch. "Our First Amendment rights would be infringed upon. Male-only clergy, marriage beliefs, and candid conversations about these matters would be policed by the whims of the federal government."

# THE LGBT AMENDMENT

As CatholicVote <u>reported</u> during the ERA Senate Judiciary Committee hearing: Critics also warn that the language of the ERA plays into the hands of the current Democratic agenda of expanding traditional protections against sex-discrimination to include "gender" and "sexual orientation" – effectively outlawing dissent against LGBTQ ideology.

Section 1 of the ERA states: "Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex." Proponents <u>argue</u> that the amendment is necessary as a "fundamental constitutional remedy against sex discrimination."

However, Rep. Ayana Pressley's, D-MA office stated in <u>a press release</u>: "As the 28th Amendment, the ERA would serve as a new tool—for Congress, for federal agencies, and in the courts—to advance equality in the fields of workforce and pay, pregnancy discrimination, sexual harassment and violence, reproductive autonomy, and protections for LGBTQ+ individuals."

Since the ERA's first appearance over 50 years ago, the legal meaning of the word "sex" has undergone significant transformation. The Biden administration and multiple federal courts <u>have</u> recently redefined "sex" more broadly to include sexual orientation and fluid gender identity.



# Introducing Judge Megan Shanahan

**Judge Megan Shanahan** is a skilled and experienced trial court judge who has earned the respect of the people who come into her courtroom and the citizens who elected her. Judge Shanahan's transparent, no-nonsense, plain-spoken approach is on display in every case.

Prior to taking the bench, Megan Shanahan was a felony level criminal prosecutor, where she successfully tried over 50 jury trials. As a prosecutor, she helped send hundreds of the most dangerous criminals to prison. She brought a particular passion to prosecuting child predators. She gave comfort to these victims and gave no quarter to their abusers.

In one case, she persuaded the court to permit closed circuit television for the live testimony of a young victim, which allowed the child to testify in a separate room so as not to be intimidated by his offender. The judge agreed and the jury convicted the criminal.

After reaching the highest levels of prosecution, Megan Shanahan was first elected to the Municipal Court in 2011 and re-elected in 2013. She presided over hundreds of cases and helped keep a docket with thousands of cases moving smoothly and fairly.

After she was appointed to fill a judicial vacancy, voters overwhelmingly approved, and in 2016 promoted Judge Shanahan to the Common Pleas Court, where the most serious criminal cases and most complex civil cases are decided. In winning an impressive 65% of the vote, she outperformed some better known statewide and national candidates on the same county ballot and won more votes than any other contested judicial candidate in the county.

The Cincinnati Enquirer in May 2022 identified Judge Shanahan as an "electoral juggernaut" who has "the highest ceiling" of any Cincinnati Republican.

Judge Shanahan was re-elected in November 2022 winning the most votes of any other Republican judicial candidate in Hamilton County. Judge Shanahan's impressive November victory was evidenced by the fact that she outperformed all but two Republican statewide candidates in "blue Hamilton County."

In 2012, the Enquirer named Judge Shanahan one of the "Women to Watch," and noted that with her election she became the "youngest of the 14 Hamilton County Municipal Court judges, achieving a growing respect as a courthouse leader and political force."

Throughout her career, Judge Shanahan has shown a commitment to public safety and her passion was rewarded by the Hope in Heels Organization, advocate for crime victims. They recognized her with the Peggy Caldwell Award for professionalism, creativity, and determination in working with victims of violent crime.

Born and raised in coal country, Judge Shanahan was the youngest of eight children in a working-class family. She earned her Bachelor of Arts degree from Kent State University before going on to a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Cincinnati's College of Law.

Judge Shanahan frequently lectures at schools and civic groups. She has supported the Cincinnati Living Hope organization that helps provide transitional housing for homeless women and their children. Judge Shanahan is married, has two children, and resides in Cincinnati.





# Former Fiscal Officer Used Vinton Township Funds to Buy Wildebeest, Hot Tubs, Windows for Primate Exhibit at His Roadside Zoo

COLUMBUS – A former Vinton Township fiscal officer, convicted of theft in office and other criminal counts, used public funds to buy a wildebeest, two owls, windows for a primate exhibit at his roadside zoo, hot tubs, a snow cone machine, and other personal purchases that had nothing to do with the operations of the township.

Details of the investigation into Cyril S. Vierstra, of Wilkesville, who legally changed his name to "Cy" in 2017, were released Tuesday as part of a special audit by the Auditor of State's Special Investigations Unit (SIU), which served as special prosecutor in the case.

A copy of the full report is available <u>online</u> (<u>ohioauditor.gov/auditsearch/search.aspx</u>).

"This was an abuse of the public trust at its worst," Auditor of State Keith Faber said. "Public funds that were supposed to be used for roads and bridges and needed services instead were stolen to buy kayaks, a popcorn cart, a swimming pool, a drum set, gazebos – the list goes on and on."

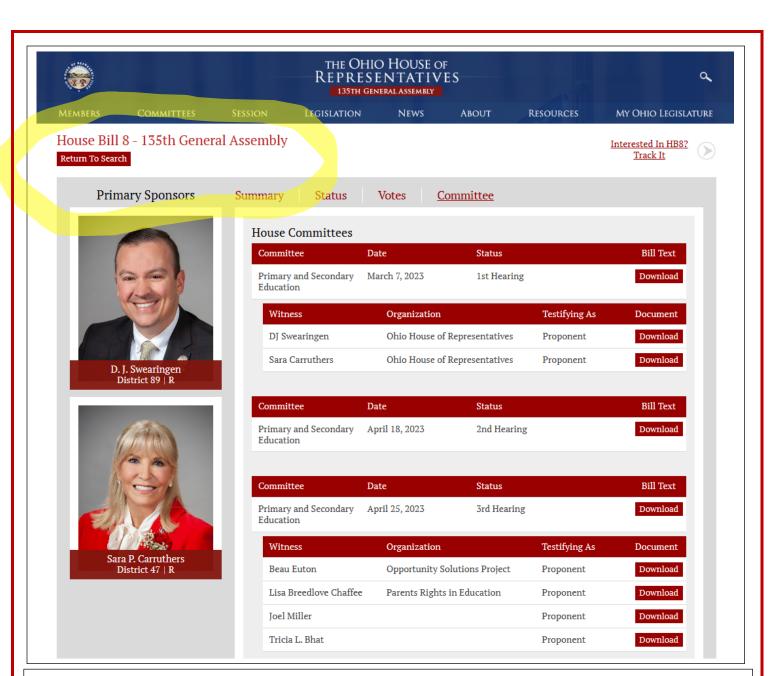
SIU began its investigation after receiving a complaint from Vinton County Auditor Cindy Owings Waugh with allegations that "Cy" Vierstra was misusing township debit and credit cards.

A subsequent review of bank records uncovered a number of questionable transactions between January 2016 and July 2020 to fund renovations to his residence and for expenses at the Union Ridge Wildlife Center, a nonprofit wildlife refuge he operated. He created fake invoices, billing slips, and other fraudulent documents to hide his activities.

Among other improper purchases, SIU determined "Cy" Vierstra made 812 debit card transactions totaling \$127,204 on an online auction website, including purchases of generators, bicycles, a video game system, tricycles, telescopes, a drone, and numerous other items not related to the operations of the township.

Other significant improper purchases included a wildebeest, two snow owls from England, animal food, custom-built enclosures for his residence and wildlife refuge, indoor and outdoor furniture, and a dishwasher.

"Cy" Vierstra pleaded guilty in October 2022 to felony counts of engaging in a pattern of corrupt activity, theft in office, and tampering with records, plus a misdemeanor count of dereliction of duty.



A BILL 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 sexually explicit content.

Sec. 3313.473. (A) The board of education of each city, local, exempted village, and joint vocational school district shall develop and adopt a policy to promote parental involvement in the public school system. The policy shall require a school district to do all of the following:

(1)(a) Notify the parents of students prior to instruction involving materials that include sexually explicit content and identify the specific instructional material and sexually explicit subjects; .....

You can follow this important bill by accessing:

https://legistlature.ohio.gov/legislation/135/hb8





# Nick Santucci LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

## **Santucci Supports State Operating Budget**

The balanced budget commits to grow the economy and workforce, protect Ohio families and most vulnerable, and invest in educating our communities

April 27, 2023

COLUMBUS – State Representative Nick Santucci (R- Howland Twp.) voted to support the Ohio House state operating budget and the bill passed during session Wednesday. The legislation provides billions in funding over the next two fiscal years to grow the economy and workforce, protect Ohio families and most vulnerable, and record investments in education.

The House budget invests \$500 million in site cleanup and brownfield remediation, a critical concern in the Mahoning Valley. The \$200 million investment in career tech education will help students all across Ohio gain valuable skills and work experience. The 64th district is well-positioned to benefit from these critical investments and help the people of the Mahoning Valley thrive.

"Trumbull County has so much potential for growth and development," Santucci said. "I was happy to vote for a budget that will have a direct impact on businesses and families in the valley".

Other amendments and projects supported by Santucci include major investments in workforce development, \$3 million for infrastructure improvements at Youngstown/Warren Regional Airport, increased training funds for School Resource Officers, MARCS tower funding, broadband access, Innovation Hubs, newborn health screenings, and making critical baby care items tax-free.

The budget bill now moves to the Senate for further consideration.

# HOW MANY OHIO HOUSE REPUBLICANS BACK CONTROVERSIAL AMENDMENT PROPOSAL? BACKERS SUBMIT SUPPORT LIST



COLUMBUS, Ohio – Backers of a proposal to make citizen-led constitutional amendments much harder to pass have told Ohio House Speaker Jason Stephens they have the support of 59 House Republicans who want a floor vote on the proposal.

In a full 99-member House, that would mean they're one vote shy of the 60 votes needed to pass House Joint Resolution 1. If approved by Ohio voters, that would require future constitutional changes to be passed with at least 60% support, rather than a simple majority of voters. However, multiple lawmakers have said only 59 votes are needed for the resolution to clear the House, given that two seats are currently vacant.

The Buckeye Firearms Association, one of the groups behind the signature effort, told lawmakers in a letter that Stephens committed to holding a floor vote on HJR1 if 60 members indicate support for it. Cleveland.com/The Plain Dealer has reached out to a Stephens spokesman for comment.

A vote on the House floor is the last thing in the way of passing the resolution. The Ohio Senate already has passed its own joint resolution similar to HJR1, as well as a bill that would make it possible to put the question before voters during a special election in August, just months after they voted to ban most August elections.

<u>Gov. Mike DeWine has said he would sign the August election bill;</u> his support isn't needed for a proposed constitutional amendment passed by lawmakers to go before voters.

Ohio Right To Life, a prominent statewide anti-abortion group also involved in the effort to press Stephens for a House vote, says it has collected signatures or messages of support from all but six of the 65 Republicans currently serving in the Ohio House.

One of the six holdouts is Stephens himself. However, the speaker told reporters last week that "if I bring it to the floor, I'm going to vote for it." In a break from tradition, Stephens, a Lawrence County Republican, declined to take questions from reporters after a floor session Wednesday.

The other five Republicans who haven't pledged their support, according to the list, are state Reps. Jay Edwards of Athens County, Brett Hillyer of Tuscawaras County, Gayle Manning of North Ridgeville, Scott Oelslager of North Canton, and Tom Patton of Strongsville.

The lobbyists say they have 59 votes. But they only provided signatures or letters of commitment from 53 lawmakers. They haven't yet offered proof for: Reps. Cindy Abrams, Haraz Ghanbari, Don Jones, Jeff LaRe, Jamie Callender and Andrea White.

Lawmakers have timed the issue to preempt an effort to put a proposed state constitutional right to abortion access on the November ballot.

Source: www.cleveland.com

Continued.....

Should lawmakers pass their resolution and it receives the support of a majority of voters in August, the abortion-rights contingent would need to win 60% of the vote to prevail in November. None of the abortion-rights proposals that have passed in other states over the last year have cleared that benchmark.

The matter has further divided an already fractious House Republican caucus, which has passed the legislation out of committee but has yet to put it on the floor.

Dialing up the pressure, pro-gun and anti-abortion lobbyists – key players in Republican primaries – have circulated a petition to lawmakers asking them to pledge their support for House Joint Resolution 1 and an August referendum on the idea. Rob Sexton of the Buckeye Firearms Association and Mike Gonidakis of Ohio Right to Life submitted that letter Wednesday.

Further complicating the math – one elected House Republican died and one another resigned to take another job. Thus, <u>according to an interpretation from House Clerk Brad Young</u>, this means the House needs only 59 votes (60% of 97 current lawmakers) as opposed to 60 (60% of 99 elected lawmakers).

Under current law, organizers seeking a constitutional amendment must submit about 413,000 signatures of valid voters, including about 5% of electors from 44 counties. If elections officials find enough signatures invalid, organizers get a 10-day "cure" period to gather more. Should they clear the threshold, they can put a question on the ballot that can pass by a 50% vote.

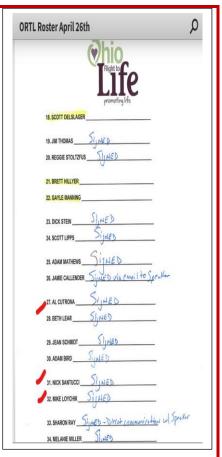
Under the House version of the resolution, however, they would need to gather signatures from all 88 counties; they wouldn't be entitled to a cure period; and they would need a 60% vote to pass. The Senate's version of the proposal specifies that the new signature rules would not apply until January 2024.

Ohio House Minority Leader Allison Russo, a Columbus-area Democrat, asked Gonidakis during a Thursday committee hearing on the Senate's version of HJR1 whether he had visited with House members and notified them whether he'll pull Ohio Right to Life's endorsement of them if they didn't sign on to his letter.

Gonidakis said that he was doing the work with Sexton. "It's a scorecard issue for us, just like any other organization has scorecard issues, important legislation," he said.

Scorecards are created by some organizations, before they make political contributions, grading lawmakers on their votes for and against bills the organizations support or oppose. Sometimes lawmakers get questionnaires, and are scored based on their responses to the questions.

"This will be the highest prioritized vote of the General Assembly and remembered for many years to come," Buckeye Firearms wrote in its letter to lawmakers.











#### HOLDING FEDERAL AGENCIES ACCOUNTABLE ON IMMIGRATION AND THE BORDER CRISIS

Important discussions on illegal immigration and the crisis at our southern border occurred during the Appropriations Homeland Security Subcommittee hearings on the FY 2024 budget requests from U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP).

During the Appropriations Homeland Security Subcommittee hearing on ICE's FY2024 budget request, ICE Acting Director Tae Johnson agreed with me that detention can deter illegal immigration. The Biden Administration has created an unprecedented crisis at our southern border. Despite this reality, their budget proposal would move to decrease detention capacity by 9,000 beds. This is extremely reckless and irresponsible, especially with no new policies in place to deter illegal immigration. I will continue pushing for the resources needed to address the historic levels of illegal immigration occurring at our southern border.

On Thursday, I presided over the Appropriations Homeland Security Subcommittee hearing on Customs and Border Protection's (CBP) FY 2024 budget. During the hearing, I encouraged CBP Acting Commissioner Troy Miller to properly equip our Border Patrol Agents with needed physical infrastructure and additional resources to secure our borders. Our agents and officers at the border are working daily to prevent the flow of fentanyl and other illicit narcotics into our communities, so I also asked about the progress made to implement my bill, the *Prevent Exposure to Narcotics and Toxins (PREVENT Act)*, which was signed into law last Congress. My bill provides drug containment devices to Border Patrol Agents to protect them from secondary exposure to these dangerous substances in the line of duty.

#### DISCUSSING THE IMPORTANCE OF BUILDING RESILIENT ENERGY SUPPLY CHAINS





On Thursday, I had the honor of speaking at the Bipartisan Policy Center Innovation Series: Federal Investments in Secure Energy Supply Chains. The briefing focused on building robust supply chains for advanced energy technologies, which are critical to U.S. competitiveness and our nation's energy security, and included participation from Ultium Cells, located in Warren, Ohio.

As evidenced by Ultium, we have a robust and growing energy and industrial base in Northeast Ohio. However, our nation won't be able to make significant progress diversifying power sources without first addressing gaps in our energy supply chains, which includes reliable critical mineral sourcing and processing.

I enjoyed engaging in this important discussion and will continue working to make sure Ohio remains at the forefront of cutting-edge manufacturing and energy development, and that we have access to reliable and affordable energy.

## A message from your Chairman, Mike Bollas:

Rather than staying neutral in the culture wars, major companies have hitched their brands to one side of a political divide. This will not make the world a better place.

Here are some of the **WOKE** companies:

Disney Kellogg's Co. Kraft Heinz Macy's Nabisco MLB NCAA NBA NFL NHL Niki Pfizer

Wells Fargo Yahoo Adidas Bed, Bath & Beyond

Blue Cross Blue Shield Boeing Burger King
Coca-Cola Delta Airlines Dollar Tree E-Bay
ESPN (Disney) Family Dollar Giant Eagle Kohl's

McDonald's Anheuser Busch Subway

These are only a few of many. Fortunately, we still live in a Capitalistic society. It's time to use alternate products.

<u>Good companies that embrace conservatism:</u> Chick-fil-A, Hobby Lobby, Newsmax, Bass Pro Shops, Dillard's, Home Depot, Shell Oil

# You can find the Trumbull County GOP on social media:

Facebook:

**Trumbull County Republican Party** 

Instagram:

**TrumbullGOP** 

Twitter:

TrumbullCoGOP

Truth Social:

TrumbullCoGOP



#### TRUMBULL GOP HEADQUARTERS – GARAGE SALE

SATURDAY, AUGUST 12, 2023

If you have items to donate, you can drop them off at the GOP Headquarters on any open day. If you would like to volunteer, please call the headquarters at 234.806.4973

\*\*\*We are <u>NOT</u> accepting clothing, large furniture or large appliances.



#### AN INTRODUCTION TO RICK HERNADEZ

- I am now the chairman of the board of trustees for the eagle joint fire district EJFD for both the city and the township. This is for Fire and EMS service. I also am the Chairman of the Hubbard Township Board of Trustees.
- I recently Negotiated with both the sanitary engineer's department, and the commissioners in providing over 1,100 homes and businesses in Hubbard Township sewer service. This service should have been completed over 30 years ago on a consent decree with the State of Ohio for the County to provide sewers to these areas!
- I oversaw the \$60 million expansion at Elwood Engineering in Hubbard Township.
   I worked along with the Mahoning Trumbull chamber of commerce and provided a letter of support to the governor's office on this project. This expansion to date has added 67 full time positions to their workforce.
- I have attended every Commissioners workshop meetings on Tuesdays at 10am.
   year to date to better familiarize myself with the agenda items and the department supervisors!

# FOR TRUMBULL COUNTY COMMISSIONER

#### Currently:

- · Chairman Hubbard Twp. Board of Trustees
- Vice-Chairman of Board of Trustees of Eagle Joint Fire District
- Member of Ohio Township Association
- Division Administrative Coordinator Trustee for
  - Hubbard Twp. Police Division
  - Eagle Joint Fire District
- Founding member of H.E.L.P.

  Hubbard Environmental & Land Preservation

#### My Background:

- · Resident of Hubbard for 52 years
- · Married to Lin Hernandez for 36 years
- Daughters: Nicole (Dr. Timothy) Lockso and Kristen Hernandez
- · Grandchildren: Liam and Kenslee
- Current Owner/Operator of Hern Motors, established in 1969
- Founding member and musician for the Hern Bros. Band for 42 years
- Member / Greeter of Victory Christian Church in Coitsville, Ohio
- Under the direction of Trustee Hernandez the Hubbard Township Police Department was saved from financial collapse.
   "TRULY A SUCCESS STORY"! (Tribune)
- I will continue to SEARCH out and negotiate in the best interest of the County taxpayer.
- I will continue to work hard to ATTRACT dynamic new businesses to Trumbull County.
- I will work to UNIFY and "BRIDGE THE GAP" that is being experienced in the Office of the Commissioners. Bringing back dignity and staff morale within the department! (Tribune)



Rick Hernandez swearing in a Hubbard Twp. Officer Delaney Saxton



Rick Hernandez standing with residents in opposition to a C&DD Landfill meeting.

I have fought against any further placement of Toxic, Carcinogenic Landfills and or Injection Wells for over 20 years.

Trumbull County has the highest number of Injection Wells in the State of Ohio.

I will NOT ALLOW our County to become a dumping ground for other States trash!

I will bring to a conclusion long overdue Sanitary Sewer,
Water and Natural Gas projects to Communities in need
of these services!



## GOP Whip Emmer: Default Now on Hands of Senate Dems, Biden



House GOP Whip Tom Emmer, R-Minn., says the House has done its job to avoid the U.S. defaulting on its debts for the first time, but now it is up to Democrats in the Senate and President Joe Biden to do theirs.

Emmer told <u>CNN's "State of the Union"</u> on Sunday he "can" only guarantee the U.S. will not default, "assuming our president and the Schumer Senate recognize the gravity of the problem."

Thus far, they have not and have sought to pin potential debt default on Republicans, but the House GOP leaders have the path forward, while Democrats do not, Emmer reminded.

Biden is vowing to reject the House GOP authority in determined the parameters of raising the debt limit, and Democrats are only backing a clean bill raising of the debt limit without any reduction on spending.

The Democrat-held Senate is likely to block it anyway.

The House GOP passed a bill to raise the debt limit until May 2024 along with \$4.5 trillion in spending cuts.

"We have passed a debt-ceiling solution," Emmer told CNN. "We will not, House Republicans will not allow America to default on its debt, we showed that last week.

"The solution is in the Senate right now."

The U.S. is projected to run out of on-hand cash to function as soon as June, potentially putting the U.S. on the verge of defaulting on its debt for the first time in history.

Republicans say Democrats' massive spending agenda has caused the potential domestic and international economic crisis looming.

## **ATTENTION:**

IF YOU ARE PLANNING TO RUN FOR **ANY OFFICE** AND WOULD LIKE TO BE INTRODUCED IN THIS NEWSLETTER, PLEASE SEND YOUR PHOTO AND BIOGRAPHY INFO TO:

TRUMBULLGOP@MAIL.COM

YOU MAY ALSO SEND GRAPHICS AND INFORMATION FOR UPCOMING FUNDRAISING EVENTS.

DEADLINE FOR THE NEWSLETTER IS THE 26<sup>TH</sup> OF EACH MONTH.