

**44<sup>th</sup> House District**

Lucas County  
Ottawa County  
Wood County

**Committees**

Energy  
Finance  
Judiciary  
Rules and Reference  
Workforce and Higher  
Education



**Columbus Office**  
Vern Riffe Center  
77 South High Street, 11<sup>th</sup>  
Floor,  
Columbus, OH 43215  
Phone: (614) 466-1418  
[Rep44@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Rep44@ohiohouse.gov)

**State Representative Joshua E. Williams**  
**Ohio House of Representatives**

Chairman Click, Vice-Chair Mullins, Ranking Member Brewer, and members of the House Community Revitalization Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 262. I would also like to thank my joint sponsor, Representative Lear, for her work on this legislation.

As Rep. Lear stated, this bill would designate the time between Mother's Day and Father's Day as Natural Family Month. By establishing this month, we intend to recognize and celebrate the foundational role that mothers, fathers, and their children play in our society.

In recent years, we've observed concerning trends: a drop in birth and marriage rates and a rise of single-parent households. These shifts have significant implications for the social and economic fabric of our communities. Children raised in stable, two-parent households often have better educational outcomes, lower instances of poverty, and reduced involvement in criminal activity.

By establishing this time period as Natural Family Month, we aim to promote these benefits and encourage the formation and maintenance of strong families. Promoting strong family units is one of my biggest priorities this General Assembly; this bill, along with HB 231 and several other bills I have yet to introduce, are part of my Family First Agenda.

**44<sup>th</sup> House District**

Lucas County  
Ottawa County  
Wood County

**Committees**

Energy  
Finance  
Judiciary  
Rules and Reference  
Workforce and Higher  
Education



**Columbus Office**  
Vern Riffe Center  
77 South High Street, 11<sup>th</sup>  
Floor,  
Columbus, OH 43215  
Phone: (614) 466-1418  
[Rep44@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Rep44@ohiohouse.gov)

**State Representative Joshua E. Williams**  
**Ohio House of Representatives**

By prioritizing the notion of a stable household, we can foster stronger communities and a more prosperous future for our state. This is what we hope to do with HB 262 and other bills like it. Chairman Click, Vice-Chair Mullins, Ranking Member Brewer, and members of the Community Revitalization Committee, thank you again for the chance to speak in favor of this legislation. I welcome any questions you may have.