

STATE OF OHIO
Executive Department

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Columbus

I, Mike DeWine, Governor of the State of Ohio, do hereby appoint Vernon Sykes, Democrat, from Akron, Summit County, Ohio, as a Member of the Ohio Civil Rights Commission for a term beginning January 1, 2025, and ending at the close of business July 28, 2029, replacing Madhu K. Singh, whose term expired.

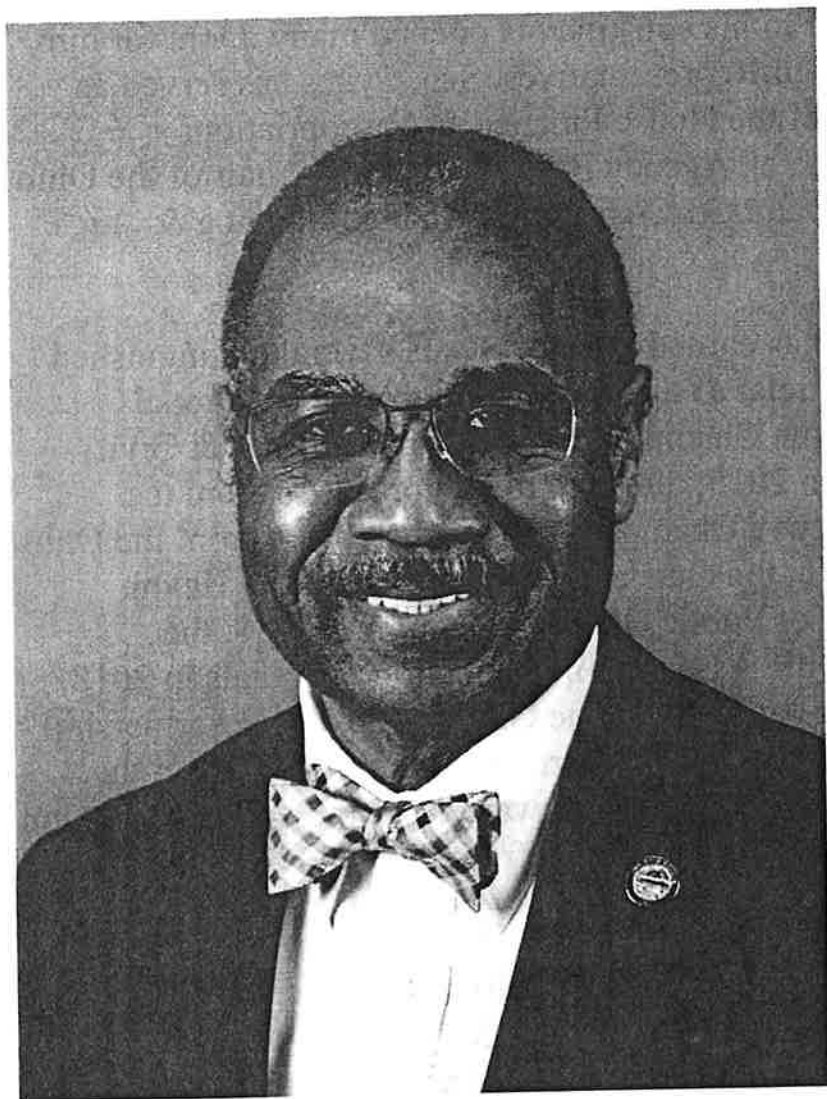


IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name and caused the Great Seal of the State of Ohio to be affixed, at Columbus, this 19th day of December in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Four.

Mike DeWine

Mike DeWine
Governor

VERNON SYKES BIOGRAPHY



Senator Vernon Sykes serves the people of Senate District 28

Senator Sykes is currently serving his second term in the Ohio Senate, where he represents the 28th Senate district, encompassing portions of Summit and Geauga counties, and all of Portage County. In addition to his work as a Senator, Sykes is a Professor Emeritus of Political Science and former Director of the Columbus Program in State Issues at Kent State University. He serves as the Parliamentarian of the Ohio Legislative Black Caucus. Sykes has held previous positions in the Akron City Council and the Ohio House of Representatives.

As a longtime advocate for redistricting reform, Sykes was the joint sponsor of the two constitutional amendments that reformed the redistricting process for Ohio's state legislative and congressional maps. The amendments, which Ohio voters overwhelmingly approved in 2015 and 2018 respectively, attempted to end gerrymandering and ensure

Ohioans are better represented in the General Assembly and Congress. He serves as co-chair of the Ohio Redistricting Commission, which is tasked with drawing state legislative maps and is also involved in congressional redistricting. Sykes argued that both the state legislative and congressional maps approved by the majority in 2021 failed to comply with the historic reforms adopted by voters. In January 2022, the Supreme Court of Ohio agreed, in an unprecedented ruling, that both sets of maps were unconstitutional and asked the Ohio Redistricting Commission and the legislature to go back to the drawing board.

During his time in the legislature, Senator Sykes has also passionately and successfully fought for meaningful legislation that expands access to early childhood education,

GOVERNOR'S APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Appointment Date: 1/1/2025

Name of Appointee: Vernon Sykes

Address: Senate Building
Columbus, OH 43215
1 Capitol Square, Ground Floor
Franklin County
(H):
(W): 6144667041
(M):
(E): Sykes@ohiosenate.gov

Name of Commission: Ohio Civil Rights Commission
Angela Phelps-White, Executive Director
(614) 466-4032
30 E Broad, 5th Floor
Columbus, OH 43205-1379
(P): (614) 466-2785
(E): angela.phelps-white@civ.ohio.gov

Term Begins: 7/29/2024
Term Ends: 7/28/2029
Party Affiliation: Democrat
Senate Confirmation: Appointed by the Governor, confirmed by the Senate
Financial Disclosure: Public disclosure required
Vice: Madhu K. Singh