



# OHIO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

## 2026 Post-Primary Impact Ohio Event

May 7<sup>th</sup> at the Ohio Statehouse

**8:30 AM - 9:00 AM**                      **Registration & Networking**

**9:00 AM – 9:10 AM**                      **Conference Welcome**

**9:10 AM – 10:10 AM**                      **A Reflection & Look Ahead to the General Election**

*A Reflection & Look Ahead to the General Election brings together bipartisan political strategists to break down key takeaways from Primary Election Day, including major results, voter trends, and campaign dynamics. The panel will also look ahead to how races up and down the ballot are shaping up for the fall, highlighting key battlegrounds and what to expect in the general election.*

**Moderator: Jeremy Pelzer**, Chief Political Reporter, Cleveland.com

**Joe Rettorf**, Co-Founder and Partner, RT Advisors

**Millie Vaughn**, Principal, Summit Strategies

**Bryan Gray**, Senior Vice President, Big Dog Strategies

**Matt Dole**, Consultant, Communications Counsel

**10:10 AM - 10:30 AM**                      **Ohio House Minority Leader Dani Isaacsohn**

**10:30 AM - 10:50 AM**                      **Ohio House Assistant Majority Leader Adam Bird**

**10:50 AM - 11:00 AM**                      **Networking break**

**11:00 AM - 11:20 AM**                      **Ohio Senate Majority Whip George Lang**

**11:20 AM – 11:40 AM**                      **Ohio Senate Assistant Minority Whip Beth Liston**

**11:40 AM – 12:00 PM**                      **Grab Lunch**

**12:00 PM – 12:45 PM**                      **Lunch & Updates from Party Leadership**

*Lunch & Updates from Party Leadership features remarks from Alex Triantafilou and Kathleen Clyde, offering their perspectives on the key takeaways from Primary Election Day. Each will share insights on their party's performance, priorities, and outlook as Ohio heads toward a competitive general election.*

**Moderator: Holly Harris**, Executive Vice President of Advocacy, Arnold Ventures

**Alex Triantafilou**, Chairman of the Ohio Republican Party

**Kathleen Clyde**, Chair of the Ohio Democratic Party



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**12:45 PM - 1:00 PM**                      **Networking Break**

**1:00 PM – 1:45 PM**                      **Ballot Battles Ahead — What Could Shape Ohio’s 2026  
General Election**

*A wave of citizen-led constitutional amendments is positioning Ohio for a high-stakes 2026 ballot. Proposals ranging from abolishing property taxes and banning data center development to statewide nondiscrimination protections and a voter bill of rights reflect growing voter activism on issues impacting communities and the state’s economic future. This panel will explore voter sentiment driving these initiatives, their likelihood of reaching and passing on the ballot, and the potential impacts on Ohio’s economy, public services, and business climate.*

**Moderator: Doug Buchanan**, Editor in Chief, Columbus Business First  
**Larry Obhof**, Chief Legal Counsel, Ohio Secretary of State  
**Zach Schiller**, Research Director, Policy Matters Ohio  
**Greg R. Lawson**, Senior Research Fellow, The Buckeye Institute

**1:45 PM - 2:00 PM**                      **Networking Break**

**2:00 PM - 3:00 PM**                      **The Politics of Data Centers: Growth, Concerns, and Ohio’s  
Path Forward**

*The Politics of Data Centers: Growth, Concerns, and Ohio’s Path Forward examines one of Ohio’s fastest-growing and most complex policy debates. Featuring voices from industry, labor, and both parties, the panel will explore the unique coalitions forming around data center development, key voter concerns, and what those mean for policy and regulation. Panelists will also discuss how Ohio can remain competitive while balancing economic growth, energy demands, and community impact.*

**Moderator: Brian Hicks**, President & CEO, Hicks Partners  
**Jack Irvin**, Vice President, Public Policy, Ohio Farm Bureau Federation  
**Mark Douglas**, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, Ohio State Building Trades Council  
**State Senator Shane Wilkin**  
**State Senator Kent Smith**

**3:00 PM**                                      **Conclude**