



The Ohio Seal as Carved in The Speaker's Chair.

# Ohio House of Representatives

112th General Assembly 1977-1978



“It is the responsibility of each member of the House of Representatives to listen, ask questions and decide what is in the best interest for Ohio. There is no magic to conducting the people’s business, just hard work and each citizen’s concern.”

Vern Riffe  
Speaker  
Ohio House of  
Representatives



**Majority Leadership**, Majority Whip Tom Fries, Speaker ProTem Barney Quilter, Floor Leader William L. Mallory, Speaker Vern Riffe, Assistant Floor Leader Patrick Sweeney.



**Minority Leadership**, Minority Leader Charles F. Kurfess, Minority Whip Alan Norris, Assistant Minority Leader Norman A. Murdock.

### **The Ohio House of Representatives**

Ohio House of Representatives has 99 members, elected every two years from 99 individual districts. The House is one side of the legislative branch which, along with the judicial and executive branches of Ohio government, is provided for in the Constitution of the State of Ohio. The other side of the legislative branch is the Ohio Senate. Together, these two legislative bodies form the Ohio General Assembly, literally a "general assembly" of the representatives of the people of Ohio.

All 99 members of the House come up for election every even-numbered year. In the case of the members of the House of the present 112th General Assembly, the election was in 1976 for a term which includes all of 1977-78.

The House members elect a presiding officer, called the Speaker of the House. They also elect a Speaker Pro Tempore to preside in case of the Speaker's absence, and "floor leaders" and "assistant floor leaders" of both the majority and minority parties.

The House, since it is part of the branch of government which makes the state's laws, also makes its own rules and hires statutory officers and employees to carry on its administrative and clerical business—all part of the organization needed to face the responsibilities of making laws for all Ohio citizens.

# House of Representatives

## 112th General Assembly



Vern Riffe  
Speaker  
89th District



Barney Quilter  
Speaker Pro Tem  
47th District



William L. Mallory  
Majority Leader  
23rd District



Patrick A. Sweeney  
Asst. Majority Leader  
6th District



Tom Fries  
Majority Whip  
35th District



Charles F. Kurfess  
Minority Leader  
83rd District



Norman A. Murdock  
Asst. Minority Leader  
21st District



Alan E. Norris  
Minority Whip  
27th District



Virginia Aveni  
17th District



Claire M. Ball  
91st District



William G. Batchelder  
93rd District



James L. Baumann  
32nd District



John Begala  
62nd District



Thomas M. Bell  
10th District



James E. Betts  
3rd District



Robert J. Boggs  
97th District



Arthur R. Bowers  
98th District



Eugene Branstool  
1st District



Arthur V. N. Brooks  
14th District



Les Brown  
29th District



Sherrod Brown  
61st District



J. Leonard Camera  
53rd District



Thomas J. Carney  
71st District



Larry H. Christman  
67th District



Rocco J. Colonna  
4th District



Vernon F. Cook  
39th District



Robert Corbin  
38th District



Pete Crossland  
42nd District



Gene Damschroder  
65th District



Frederick H. Deering  
84th District



Michael Del Bane  
56th District



William Donham  
57th District



Dennis Eckart  
18th District



Scribner Fauver  
54th District



Edward F. Feighan  
8th District



Richard H. Finan  
19th District



Helen Fix  
26th District



Michael Fox  
58th District



John A. Galbraith  
69th District



Thomas P. Gilmartin  
51st District



Fred B. Hadley  
79th District



Phale D. Hale  
31st District



David Hartley  
60th District



William Healy  
50th District



William E. Hinig  
96th District



Edward Hughes  
59th District



Lawrence E. Hughes  
66th District



Rodney H. Hughes  
78th District



Ronald James  
92nd District



Troy Lee James  
9th District



Robert W. Jaskulski  
11th District



John E. Johnson  
68th District



Thomas W. Johnson  
95th District



Casey C. Jones  
45th District



Irma L. Karmol  
44th District



John Kellogg  
70th District



Rex F. Kieffer  
94th District



A. G. Lancione  
99th District



Harry J. Lehman  
16th District



Paul R. Leonard  
37th District



Dale Locker  
80th District



Walter D. McClaskey  
86th District



Bob McEwen  
77th District



C. J. McLin  
36th District



Don S. Maddux  
90th District



Richard F. Maier  
48th District



Harry Malott  
87th District



Edith Mayer  
22nd District



Robert A. Nader  
55th District



Robert Nettle  
41st District



Robert E. Netzey  
81st District



Corwin M. Nixon  
73rd District



C. William O'Neill  
28th District



Edward J. Orlett  
34th District



Michael G. Oxley  
82nd District



Francine Panehal  
5th District



Mack Pemberton  
33rd District



Donna Pope  
12th District



Thomas Pottenger  
20th District



James W. Rankin  
25th District



Kenneth Rocco  
7th District



Waldo Bennett Rose  
64th District



Thomas Sawyer  
40th District



Charles Rockwell Saxbe  
75th District



Myrl H. Shoemaker  
88th District



Cliff Skeen  
43rd District



Irene B. Smart  
49th District



Mike Stinziano  
30th District



George D. Tablack  
52nd District



Robert Taft  
65th District



Marie Tansey  
72nd District



Ike Thompson  
13th District



John D. Thompson, Jr.  
15th District



Terry Tranter  
24th District



Harry E. Turner  
76th District



John P. Wargo  
2nd District



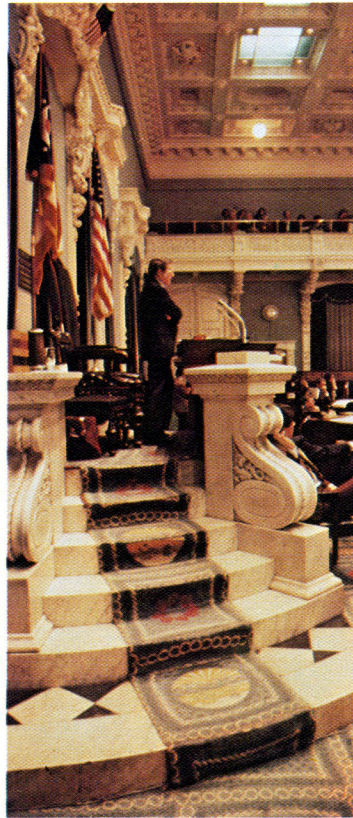
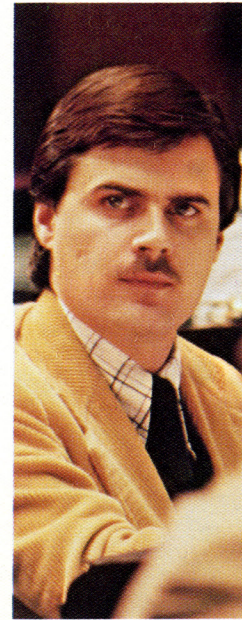
Arthur Wilkowski  
46th District



Dennis L. Wojtanowski  
74th District



James Zehner  
63rd District



### **The Business of the House**

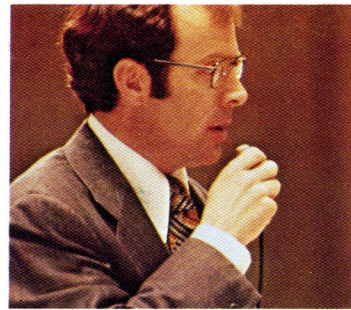
The business of the Ohio House of Representatives is the sum of all of the state's laws. The House members work on new laws and old laws, continually responding to the changing needs of citizens and circumstances. The duties of each member by no means end when he or she leaves the Statehouse. The responsibility to assist individual constituents with their problems is an important aspect of the job.

The House cannot make a law by itself. It takes passage by the House, the Senate and a signature from the Governor (or a vote overriding the Governor's veto) before a law can be created or altered. Prior to that, the proposed new laws are called "bills", and the 99 members of the House discuss, debate and decide on the shape of these bills with the aid of a system of committees and procedures.

Any House member can introduce a new bill. Once that happens, the title of the bill is announced on the floor of the House and the bill is sent to the Reference Committee. The House includes 18 Standing Committees, one of which is selected by the Reference Committee to consider the bill.

The real work of the House of Representatives is carried out in the various standing committees. Public hearings are held to accumulate all pertinent information. Research, discussion, and amendments by committee members contribute to the shape of the bill. Sometimes a special sub-committee is entrusted with this work.

If the committee concludes its investigation of the bill with a vote to recommend passage by the full House, the bill moves to the House Rules Committee for scheduling. At the designated date, the bill then returns to the floor of the House for debate, possible amendment and a final vote.



The size of the House necessitates a sophisticated electronic tally system for recording and tabulating votes. Green lights are triggered by "yea" votes, and red lights appear representing the "nay" votes. The Legislative Clerk operates the system, under the direction of the Speaker of the House.

When a bill passes the full House, it is sent to the Senate, and vice versa. Passage through both sides of the legislative branch sends the bill to the Governor for his consideration. When the proposed legislation has passed both parts of the General Assembly it is known as an "act". The Governor's signature can make it law, but even if the Governor vetoes the act it can still become law. In that case, however, the House must pass the bill again, this time with at least three-fifths of its members voting "yea". If the Senate does the same, the bill becomes law despite the Governor's action.







The State House Rotunda

I want to thank you for the interest you have demonstrated in the General Assembly by reading this brochure. As Speaker I am the presiding officer of the House of Representatives. It is an important task and one in which I am proud to serve. That pride stems from the fact that it is your House over which I preside and the members are your most direct voice in State Government.

Collectively, the members of the Ohio House of Representatives are proud of our independence as a branch of your government and our responsiveness to you, the people of Ohio.



Speaker Vern Riffe