



Introduction

The **Blystone Plan for Ohio** consists of three pillars: Restoring **FREEDOM**, **FISCAL** Responsibility, and Securing our **FUTURE**. These three pillars will form the basis to establish Ohio as one of the Nation's leading conservative States.

Ohioans have watched as hospital staff, first responders, and teachers **went from heroes to not worthy of keeping their jobs** in a matter of months. We were divided into groups of "essential" and "non-essential" workers and are **threatened with our livelihoods** because we will not succumb to a mandated medical procedure. A mandated procedure for thee, but not for Congress nor for the hundreds of thousands of illegal immigrants flooding across our southern border.

Loyal employees who just want to put in a good day's work for a fair wage, then go home to their families are being forced to choose between **providing** for those families or a **forced injection**. *Our political elite have stood by and allowed this to happen.* Funded by **donations** from **Big Pharma**, **healthcare** and **insurance industry lobbyists**, and a long list of other **special interests**, these career politicians have chosen to fatten their already huge bank accounts over your ability to, literally, put food on the table.

The freedom to make our own medical decisions is not the only one under attack. **Parents speaking out** against systemic corruption on the school boards and inappropriate material in the classroom **are labeled "domestic terrorists"**. Conservative voices and damning facts about Liberals (and a particular Liberal's son) have been **silenced** by Big Tech and the Main Stream Media with a chilling effect on the national debate and potentially influencing an election for President of the United States. The free speech and open debate that has made this country a bastion of knowledge and innovation is in serious jeopardy.

Any conversation about the 2020 General Election would be remiss without talking about the **sanctity of our election system**. As many of you know, one reason I am asking the people of Ohio to hire me for Governor is a vote I cast for Donald J. Trump was not registered in my home county of Franklin. Regardless of your personal beliefs on the matter, over half of Americans have doubts about the security and accuracy of our election system. And regardless of what side of the aisle you sit, having any significant number of Americans **who don't believe one legal vote cast is one legal vote counted** is as **fundamental an issue** as there is in our Republic. Because of this, *I support a full forensic audit of Ohio's 2020 General Election*. More importantly, I **encourage the Legislature to take up the comprehensive election integrity package** outlined in this Plan.

In addition to our right to free speech, the Founders could not have been more clear when they wrote "**Shall not be infringed**" regarding We the People's right to keep and bear arms. The Blystone Plan will ensure any Federal Government overreach that does infringe on those rights **shall not be enforced** by any police power granted to the States by the U.S. Constitution. While we will be diligent in protecting all Ohioan's rights, we must also have a frank conversation about the **root cause** of most gun violence, **mental illness**. So called "red flag" laws are **not** the answer, let me be clear. The answer lies in **removing the stigma** related to mental illness; providing available, affordable **mental health services**; ensuring a way for a person's **rights to be restored** after having fully addressed their challenges; and having the fortitude to enforce the laws **already on the books** to keep firearms out of the hands of those not responsible enough to possess them. It's been reported there are over 72 million law abiding

citizens in the United States that own 393 million legal firearms. If legal, gun owning citizens were the problem, I believe we'd know it.

The **economic shutdown** caused by the pandemic, and our revolving door career politicians' unwillingness to act, has had an arguably **more devastating** effect than the virus itself. Industries cannot turn off and back on like a light switch. Again, inaction in Columbus has failed us. Ohio is well positioned to be a **global powerhouse in innovation and manufacturing**. Our colleges & universities, world renown research & development assets, and access to raw materials and industrial supply chains through rail, sea, road, and air make us a very attractive place to do business. **Rampant spending by career politicians** supporting their **special interest buddies** has caused our *tax burden to be higher than any surrounding state except Pennsylvania, including Democrat controlled Michigan*. Ohio RINOs and Michigan Liberals are cut from the same cloth. We will **cut wasteful spending**; provide a talented, trained, and **motivated workforce**; provide a **fair environment** to operate your business; and **stamp out corruption** at all levels of government within the State. We have seen billions of our tax dollars consumed in scandal after scandal under Mike DeWine, First Energy and now the Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services just to name two. People are waking up and recognizing who the political elite actually represent, and the truth is not only ugly, it's expensive to all Ohioans. The nation has seen what life can be like when we hire a non-politician. Joe Biden's disastrous administration has done nothing but reinforce those thoughts. It's time to **hire a non-politician** closer to home.

Restoring the freedoms that have been stripped away over the last two years and fully reopening our economy are important pieces to the puzzle. But we must also **prepare for a bright and prosperous future**. And the success of this State tomorrow will be determined by the most vulnerable within our State today, **our children**. Our schools have become battle grounds between the woke mob pushing racism, hate, and indoctrination and those brave parents standing up and saying, "Enough". To those parents, **know that I stand with you**. We will **address unfit curriculum** in the classroom and the pornography (let's call it what it is) seeping into our school libraries. We will **provide parents a choice** for their children in underperforming schools where your tax dollars stay with your child. And we will continue to push for **preserving the sanctity of life**, giving the unborn a voice they so badly need. An adoption system that takes too long and some can argue, doesn't always look out for the best interest of the child, is vital to any pro-life agenda. Mother's who would struggle to provide can have the peace of mind their child will be loved and cared for by someone as if they were their own. Hopefully this leads to different decisions that save many, many more precious lives. We will make sure Ohio has an effective and efficient system in place that always puts the best interest of the child first.

Any plan for securing the future of Ohio would be incomplete without addressing the scourge of human trafficking within our State's borders. Ohio's position on the map with interstates and interchanges that run in all directions, makes us the **fourth worst state in the nation for human trafficking**. According to victim advocacy groups, the average age predators start trafficking young girls is 13 and for boys it's age 11. **We will hit this problem head on** with all the resources the State can bring to bear, any and all available help from our Federal partners, and establishing ways for effected industries like hotels, trucking, and various service providers to engage in real time. This is an issue we hope can span the aisle and gain support from Republicans and anyone who **share those values**, even if they happen to vote with the other party.

Restoring FREEDOM

Executive Order on Health Autonomy

Ohioans should not have to wait until January 8th, 2023 for their rights to choose what goes in their body for themselves is protected. I support HB 248 and encourage the legislature to pass it immediately. However, if they fail to act, I will not.

Several states have enacted Executive Orders restoring the freedom of their citizens to decide for themselves whether masks and vaccines make sense for them. The Constitution of Ohio, Article 1 Section 21, § A states, “No Federal, State, or Local law or rule shall compel directly or indirectly, any person, employer, or health care provider to participate in a health care system.” §E part 2 further defines health care system as “any public or private entity or program whose function or purpose includes the management of, processing of, enrollment of individuals for, or payment for, in full or in part, health care services, health care data, or health care information for its participants.”

On Day 1, I will sign the Executive Order for Ohioans Health Autonomy. Deciding what we put into our bodies is as fundamental a personal choice as there is. The EO for OH Health Autonomy will:

- Outlaw vaccine mandates for all employees, public and private, within the state
- Establish vaccination status as private health information, and government or private entities shall not compel proof, certification, documentation, or disclosure of the same, whether by mandating what has been characterized as a “vaccine passport” or otherwise, for the purpose of conditioning receipt of goods, services, or assistance or restricting access to any building, structure, facility, or other physical or geographic location based on an individual’s vaccination status
- Will bar Ohio police power that is reserved to the States to impose such a requirement should it be issued by the Federal Government
- Force a review of any county, municipality, or other political subdivision of the State to ensure any restrictions still in place are narrowly tailored to serve a legitimate and compelling public health or other necessary and appropriate purpose, are properly limited in scope and duration also as not to needlessly restrict or infringe upon recognized rights or liberty interests without sufficient justification

Executive Order Establishing Ohio as a 2nd Amendment Sanctuary State

Fourteen states and hundreds of counties and towns across the Country have enacted 2nd Amendment Sanctuary laws. Ohio’s 2A Sanctuary Executive Order will forbid Ohio’s Constitutionally granted police powers to be used to enforce any federal law in violation of the Second Amendment including, but not limited to, red flag laws, universal gun background checks, and bans on semi-automatic rifles or magazine capacity. In the meantime, I also support HB 227, the Constitutional Carry Bill that passed the Ohio House on October 28th. Among other things, the bill removes the “duty to inform” requirement, meaning if a person is carrying a concealed weapon, they no longer have to “promptly” inform an officer of that fact. I support that provision on Constitutional grounds, but we would encourage everyone to communicate open and freely with law enforcement on this matter. Both the officer and the individual have families to go home to and transparency and full disclosure will provide the safest environment for everyone. It is your right to keep and bear arms, but it must be done safely and responsibly. I happen to have faith in the people of Ohio they can do just that.

Election Integrity Plan

Election integrity is the bedrock of our Republic. Public confidence that one legal vote cast is one legal vote counted is fundamental to a government by the People for the People. Therefore, the Blystone Election Integrity Plan is based on best-in-class legislation submitted across the Country. Joe will work with willing State Representatives and Senators to:

- Prohibit private funding of election activities (ie “Zuckbucks”)
- Prohibit mass mailing of ballots to voters who did not request one. Adds a Fourth Degree felony for violation.
- Require an affirmative request to be registered to vote (prohibits mandatory or automatic voter registration). Adds a Fifth Degree felony for violation.
- Prohibit an agent of the government from modifying a statutory prescribed election deadline. Adds a class 6 felony for violation.
- Prohibit same day voter registration and voting. Adds a Fifth Degree felony for violation.
- Prohibit “ballot harvesting” by limiting the number of votes that can be submitted by a single caretaker. Adds a Fourth Degree felony for violation.
- Require hand count audits to be of statistically significant accuracy with at least a 99% confidence interval in order to certify an election.

Securing Free Speech

We watched as Conservative voices were silenced by Big Tech censorship leading up to the 2020 election. There is an argument to be made, and supported by recent court precedent, that the infrastructure that carries information, or otherwise creates our digital “public square”, is just as important to the free exchange of information that powers our democracy as the infrastructure that carries, water and electricity to our homes and businesses. The energy and water public utilities are regulated to ensure the system is available and functioning for all who need it. Big Tech has become the water supply and power grid of how Americans consume and transmit information. My administration will form a Commission on Free and Open Speech to explore the implications of these cases and how the rulings may be used to ensure conversations from both sides of the aisle are able to be exchanged. The Commission will have 90 days to provide a report to the Governor with options to reign in Big Tech censorship and address them as the vital “information exchange” infrastructure they have become.

FISCAL Responsibility

Reduce the Tax Burden

When we look at the Tax Revenue per Capita of each state in our region, Ohio has the second highest figure behind Pennsylvania. The Buckeye State’s tax revenue per capita is higher than Indiana, West Virginia, Tennessee, and Michigan. We will form the Governors Commission on Tax Review and provide 90 days to provide a report on alternatives to the current tax structure, including reviewing elimination of the state income tax, and moving to a consumption-based sales tax structure.

grOwHIO Business

I will continue reducing burdensome regulations that inhibit responsible growth. The Blystone Plan will examine how the State currently distributes the revenue from State liquor sales. Moving away from a model mainly based on providing bridge funding for capital expenditures to more strategic investments

in growth industries that require the brains from our universities and the brawn of our manufacturing. We have a long history in industries such as aviation, steel, agriculture, and manufacturing everything from yesterday's tractors to today's most advanced jet engines. The Blystone Plan will continue to move our economy forward by making sure investments are made in growth industries that create jobs here. We believe with taking on a small amount of risk and making smart bets on Ohio entrepreneurs and growing corporations will greatly increase the number of jobs created and provide a much greater return on how your tax dollars are spent.

Manufacture Ohio

Ohio has a rich history in manufacturing and innovation. I believe having a strong production capability within the State is key to securing Ohio's prosperity and security. The State boasts a tremendous portfolio of manufacturing assets from world renown research and development institutions to global industrial powerhouses. Ohio not only competes for facility development and corporate headquarters nationally against other states, but internationally as well as the barriers to EXIT have been lowered under Clinton, Obama, and now Joe Biden. The Blystone Plan for Ohio will ensure we offer the best business environment in the Country in terms of resource availability, policies that support responsible growth, and a trained & educated workforce to fill the jobs these businesses create.

Providing the best location for building a new plant isn't just about offering the lowest tax breaks. No municipality, regardless of size, wins in this race to the bottom. The way we win manufacturing jobs is to offer the entire ecosystem that manufacturing needs to seed and bloom. Access to capital, trained & motivated people, and robust distribution networks, when combined, position Ohio remarkably well to attract and retain these businesses than just buying them off with your tax dollars. Incentives are important for growth, but they are not the only, and certainly not the most important, factor in those decisions. Our plans will ensure industry and academia are aligned to train Ohioans in the next generation of jobs, some which haven't even been defined yet.

Securing our FUTURE

Protecting the Sanctity of Life

I believe in protecting freedom for all people, especially the unborn, and am unapologetically anti-abortion. Per the Guttmacher Institute, the world's leading pro-choice research organization, roughly 96.5% of abortions are done for social reasons, i.e. convenience. That statistic is unconscionable. We have to do better.

My administration's policies will be shaped to save as many of these precious, God-given lives as possible. We believe the 14th Amendment offers equal protection under the law to all people, whether inside the womb or out. A Mississippi law being challenged before the Supreme Court in December may ultimately decide the fate of Roe and greatly influence the abortion debate nationwide. The MS law states all abortions after 15 weeks, except in cases of health emergencies or fetal abnormalities, are unlawful. We believe any concept of a "viability line" is arbitrary and thus, the only true determination of life is conception.

Should Roe ultimately be found unconstitutional, we will work with our partners in the Legislature to pass relevant laws here in Ohio that at a minimum, lead the nation in continuing to raise the bar on

situations where abortion is Constitutionally protected with the ultimate goal of recognition life begins at conception and abortion shall be illegal in all but the most rare and heart wrenching cases.

Educate FIRST (Freedom from Indoctrination, Racism, and State Totalitarianism)

Our Educate FIRST initiative has three goals: support the Backpack Bill allowing for school taxes to be utilized in the school of the parent or guardian's choice. Your tax money will follow your child as if it were in their own backpack. Freedom from indoctrination and racism includes legislation to block Critical Race Theory, or whatever the Leftist establishment calls it these days to hide what it truly is: segregation and indoctrination based on race. We are all equal in the eyes of God, the Constitution, and the hearts of all true Ohioans. There is no place for a curriculum that divides based on the color of your skin. Further, I believe that a basic understanding of civics and American history is imperative to ensuring freedom for generations to come. American history that illustrates this Country in its true light, as the one place on Earth that has done more to advance the notion of individual freedom and liberties, regardless of age, sex, race, religion, or creed, than any other place in any other time during the history of mankind.

Human Trafficking Taskforce

The painful truth is Ohio, with its network of Interstate highways and exchanges running in all directions, is a hotbed for human trafficking activity. If there is one issue that should bring members of all parties together, it is protecting our most vulnerable, our children. We will bring the resources of the entire State Government and any available Federal resources to bear, law enforcement at all levels, social services, business leaders in industries with trafficking exposure (trucking, hotels, food service, etc.), technology companies with the ability to help identify those at risk will all be leveraged to stop this plague on humanity in its tracks at the Ohio border. As President Trump showed focus and leadership developing a task force to combat human trafficking, the Blystone Plan will lead a similar approach to ensure this effort delivers results...trying is not good enough. We must, and we will, succeed in this mission.

Summary

While our plan for Ohio will not include every issue on the minds of every Ohioan, it is important for those considering hiring me as your next Governor understand the **plan behind the platform**. There will be other initiatives undertaken to address other specific concerns, but if **We the People** find Joe Blystone **worthy** of their votes over the next 12 months, rest assured, you will have hired a team that will fight for your **Freedom**, fight for restoring **Fiscal** responsibility, and fight for ensuring our **Future** every single day.