

JOHN R. KASICH GOVERNOR STATE OF OHIO



January 18, 2013

Ohio House of Representatives 77 S. High Street Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Speaker Batchelder,

It has been a privilege for me to serve as governor of the State of Ohio for the past two years and I am proud of what we have accomplished together to get Ohio back on track. I know that working together during the next two years, we can continue to strengthen Ohio and help all Ohioans prosper.

In 2012, I was honored that the 129th General Assembly passed a resolution allowing me to update Ohioans on our progress by giving the annual State of the State address at Steubenville's Wells Academy. Not only did this recognize the top-ranked public school in the state, but also brought attention to the economic resurgence that the emerging oil and gas industry is bringing to Eastern Ohio.

I understand that many of you regard the governor's State of the State address as a tradition typically held in the chambers of the Ohio House of Representatives. As a former member of the General Assembly I share your respect for this tradition, and also believe that we, as the state's leaders, have a responsibility to make the work of government more accessible to Ohioans. Taking the State of the State address out of Columbus and bringing all 132 members of the General Assembly, the governor and lieutenant governor and members of the cabinet to communities across Ohio helps achieve this, and also showcases the diversity of our great state with little or no extra expense.

As we discussed previously, I am writing to share with you my desire to hold this year's State of the State address in Lima on Tuesday, February 19, at 6:30 p.m. I ask for your support because I believe that bringing the address to Northwest Ohio helps share the work of state government more directly to more parts of Ohio and shine the light on the many accomplishments and contributions that Lima, Allen County and the region make to Ohio and our economic recovery.

As always, I value our partnership of service to our great state and look forward to working with you throughout the 130th General Assembly.

Sincere

John K. Kasich Governor