



To: Interested Parties
From: Sweda for Ohio
Subject: Ohio's 13th State Senate District

Sharon Sweda has always fought for the underdog. The daughter of a UAW 425 worker, **Sharon learned her political lessons at the kitchen table, watching her father review union-endorsed candidates.** In 1972, she started attending night classes to obtain her real estate license. After graduating, she entered the industry and soon began working with underserved groups after observing discriminatory practices in the field.



Sharon married Richard Sweda in 1987, and the two pulled together what little resources they had to start a real estate brokerage and building company. Together, they were able to **grow their small business into a seven-branch firm of nearly 150 agents**, prior to selling their business in 2004.

During her time as a real estate broker, Sharon served on both the local and state levels. She held office as the President of the Lorain County Association of Realtors, Chairman of the Board for the Cleveland Area Board of Realtors as well as the District Vice President for the Ohio Association of Realtors.

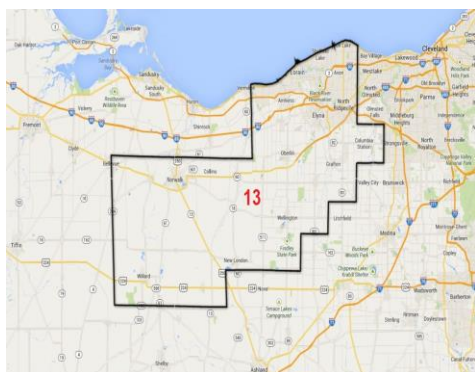
Additionally, **Sharon lobbied annually on behalf of homeownership protection and health insurance inclusion for independent contractors** with the National Association of Realtors in Washington D.C.

Currently, Sharon runs her own small business, American Patriot Title Agency, which is **the only Lorain County title company to be owned and operated by a woman.** In this position, she continues to work diligently with Ohio homeowners, providing pro bono short sales work for sellers who are in need.

Sharon Sweda lives in Amherst with her husband, Richard, a United Brotherhood of Carpenters retiree. Together, they have a family of six children, eleven grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Four of their children are educators, and one granddaughter recently completed an enlistment with the U.S. Army.

State of the Race

Ohio's 13th State Senate District is a true Democratic-leaning, toss-up district. The Democratic Performance Index in this district is 52%. In 2012, United States Senator Sherrod Brown won the district with 58% of the vote; in 2016, Democratic Presidential Candidate Hilary Clinton pulled 47% of the vote.



The 13th Senate District presents a unique opportunity with the term-limited State Senator Gayle Manning unable to run again for re-election.

The Sweda name is widely known in Lorain County due to the success of Sharon's former real estate firm. In a recent poll conducted by the State Senate Caucus, Sharon's Name ID was rated high, and she polled within the margin of her opponent—**effectively guaranteeing that they are tied in their race**, with Sharon making up significant ground since May.

Sharon's opponent, Nathan Manning, is currently suffering from public relations and legal problems resulting from the Cliff Rosenberger scandal. In April, it was reported by multiple outlets that Manning



was present on the trip that Rosenberger took to London to meet with title and payday-lending lobbyists. In May, the FBI raided Rosenberger's home and storage unit; **when asked whether he was under investigation, Manning declined to comment.**



This race is further influenced by the fact that **Manning is abdicating his current seat for his mother.** As she is termed out of this district, mother and son are essentially 'flip-flopping' seats. **This decision is seen as a way to skirt term-limits laws by the electorate.** When combined with his FBI involvement, persuadable voters view Manning as corrupt, which will lead them to either stay home or vote for Sweda.

Additionally, Sharon has been endorsed by: every major women's political organization in Ohio (EMILY's List, PPAO, NARAL and The Matriots), the Ohio AFL-CIO, AFSCME Council 8, OAPSE, United Steelworkers, UAW Region 2-B and others. She has additionally been designated a 'Gun-Sense Candidate' by Mom's Demand Action as well as a '2018 Friend of Agriculture' by the Ohio Farm Bureau.

What Is at Stake

Providing a rational balance in the Ohio Senate requires electing strong Democrats in toss-up seats. The Ohio Senate Democratic Caucus understands this and views Sharon's seat as a top pick-up opportunity.

With your help, **we can flip the first State Senate seat since 2006 from 'R' to Democrat.**

During the last three cycles, the Ohio Senate Caucus has been successful despite significant obstacles. In 2012, Lou Gentile won in Senate District 30. Not even President Obama carried that district in 2012.

Sharon Sweda and Senate District 13 are key to restoring balance and ethics to the Ohio Senate. This seat is a top pick-up opportunity in 2018 and a key focus of the Ohio Senate Democratic Caucus's efforts.

How We Win

The path to victory is simple, using a three-pronged approach:

- **Implement a strong communication campaign** to contrast Sharon's contributions to the district and history as a small-business owner vs. her opponent's history of scandals and corruption;
- **Raise the funds needed** to finance a strong mail program as well as paid media, along with funding the campaign's early vote and GOTV programs;
- **Mount an aggressive volunteer and intern-based field campaign** targeting 28,000 key voters who will support Democrats if we give them a strong candidate, and message, to vote for.

How You Can Help

This campaign is crucial for the state of our democracy. If you can help fund Sharon's effort, please contact her campaign manager, Zach Nickels, at 614-579-6953 or via email at zach@swedforohio.com.

You can also make donations online at www.swedaforohio.com or make checks payable to "Sweda for Ohio" and mail them to Argenta Patouhas, Treasurer at 67 Beech Cliff Dr., Amherst, OH 44001.

Sharon Sweda is an important pick-up opportunity for the Senate Democrats to be able to provide a voice for average Ohioans in the Ohio Senate. Balance in the Ohio Senate is **the best weapon we have to combat the extremist policies** that Republicans are attempting to pass in the Legislature.