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## ***Honoring our Veterans, Fighting for Families, Workers, and Small Businesses***

### ***Update from Washington – November 2009***

Dear Friends,

It's been a busy month in Washington, and I wanted to update you on a few things that may be of interest to you, your family, and your community.

### **Celebrating Veterans Day**



Sen. Brown meets with veterans at Youngstown State University.

credit goes to YSU for making this lasting tribute to the sacrifices of our service members and their families. On November 13, I heard about the importance of giving thanks to our veterans from students at Isham Memorial Elementary in Wadsworth. Isham Elementary was chosen by the Armed Forces Foundation to be Ohio's representative for Operation Caring Classroom, an initiative connecting civilian schools with military schools to teach children about the experiences of military families.

Veterans Day is also a reminder that we should recognize the ongoing challenges facing millions of veterans and their families. As a member of the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee, I'm working to ensure our veterans have access to the health, education, and work opportunities they have earned and deserve.

[\(Read More\)](#)

### **What We Can Do**

As your United States Senator, my top priority is ensuring the best constituent services possible. My office is able to help you with concerns and questions you have about the federal government. We can also help you navigate federal programs and agencies.

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### **Website**

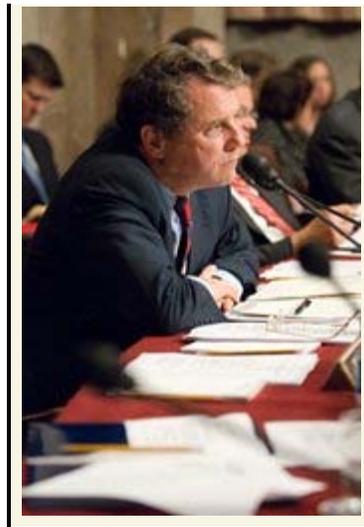
To better serve you, I have created a website that is as much a "virtual office" as it is a source for information about your government.

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### **Sign-up**

Sign up to receive my e-Newsletters and stay connected with what's happening in Congress. I send out monthly newsletters as well as regular issue-based e-alerts to help keep you informed about the latest actions in Congress.

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### **Unfreezing Credit for Ohio's Small Businesses**



Sen. Brown at a hearing on opening lines of credit for manufacturers.

Small businesses are the backbone of our economy and are critical to rebuilding our middle class. But just as it may be difficult for families to secure loans to buy a home or car in the current economic climate, small business owners are having trouble getting credit and loans to expand their businesses and hire workers.

To help open up the credit lines for small businesses, I recently introduced the Small Business Emergency Loan Relief Act, which would make loans more accessible through the Small Business Administration

(SBA).

[\(Read More\)](#)

### **Extending Unemployment Benefits, the Homebuyer Tax Credit, and COBRA**

With unemployment reaching levels not seen in 26 years and the economy still fragile, we must act to spur the economy and help those who are unable to find work. Unemployment benefits and the first-time homebuyer tax credit are critical to getting our economy back on track. Earlier this month I cosponsored legislation that would extend these programs - legislation which President Obama signed into law.



Sen. Brown at the new home of a Columbus couple who used the first-time homebuyer federal tax credit to build their first house

I also introduced legislation to extend the "COBRA" subsidy to help unemployed workers and their families afford temporary health coverage. Continuing this subsidy as the economy recovers serves the best interests of American families and taxpayers alike.

[\(Read More\)](#)

Thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter. Please don't hesitate to contact me with your comments, concerns, or questions by visiting [www.brown.senate.gov](http://www.brown.senate.gov).

Sincerely,

Sherrod Brown



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