

Can't see the pictures? Select "Always display images" or [view this message in your browser.](#)



Homepage
Issues
Constituent Services
For Students
Press Room



[Unsubscribe](#) | [Forward this email to a friend](#) | [Web version](#)

SOUTHWEST OHIO QUARTERLY REGIONAL NEWSLETTER

SECOND QUARTER 2011

Dear Friends,

I wanted to share some updates with you from the last few months. Below you will find posts on the following subjects:

1. [Unveiling Redevelopment Plans for Former GM Moraine Plant](#)
2. [Pressing the Air Force For Assurances That Jobs Will Remain At Wright-Patterson](#)
3. [An Official Hearing of the U.S. Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs in Dayton](#)
4. [Holding a Roundtable at the Urban League of Greater Cincinnati](#)
5. [Urging the Administration to Support GE's Self-funding of the Competitive Engine](#)
6. [Taking Southwest Ohio's Values to Washington. Fighting to Keep Medicare Off the Chopping Block](#)
7. [My Office is Here to Serve You](#)

Sign Up Here
for my
Weekly Column



Unveiling Redevelopment Plans for Former GM Moraine Plant

In 2008, GM announced it would close the Moraine Assembly Plant. Following the news, Sen. Brown worked closely with Motors Liquidation Company (MLC) — the Environmental Response Trust established in GM's bankruptcy — and the Ohio Department of Development to ensure that redevelopment of the site supported the facility's status as a major employer in the region. In October 2010, Sen. Brown wrote to the CEO of Motors Liquidation Company urging him to work with the city and state on the sale to a purchaser who would redevelop the property and create jobs.



Sen. Brown meets with City of Moraine officials and workers at the former GM plant in Moraine.

Earlier this year, Brown and U.S. Rep. Mike Turner, with developer IRG and the City of Moraine, unveiled plans for the redevelopment of the former GM Moraine site. IRG anticipates the creation of 1,000 to 2,000 jobs as a result of the site's redevelopment.

Brown remains committed to site redevelopment that would bring jobs to the region.

[Pressing the Air Force For Assurances](#)

[An Official Hearing of the U.S. Senate](#)

That Jobs Will Remain At Wright-Patterson

Following reports that Air Force leadership of the enterprise logistics program could be transferred from Wright-Patterson Air Force Base to Maxwell Air Force Base in Alabama, in May 2011 Sen. Brown asked the Administration for assurance that jobs will remain in Dayton.

In a letter to Secretary of the Air Force Michael B. Donley, Brown requested a meeting with the Air Force and asked for an analysis detailing the reasoning for the proposed transfer.

The Advanced Logistics Systems Center was established at Wright-Patterson in 1967 and is critical in the development of the Air Force's automated logistics management activities.

Holding a Roundtable at the Urban League of Greater Cincinnati

In May 2011, Sen. Brown convened a meeting with local mayors, state representatives, judges, and city council members at the Urban League of Greater Cincinnati.

Brown said, "We must immediately address the unconscionable 16.1 percent unemployment rate for African Americans. In promoting economic development, it is imperative that we engage all Ohio communities."

The group discussed the economy, job creation, infrastructure investments, and the Fiscal Year 2012 budget and its local impact on communities in the Greater Cincinnati area.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs in Dayton

In 2010, Sen. Brown first learned of allegations of unhygienic practices at the Dayton VA Health Clinic. Last year, he sent a letter to U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Sec. Eric Shinseki urging the VA to investigate the complaints. Sen. Brown has spoken with Secretary Shinseki and VAMC officials repeatedly urging them to correct any issues and install effective leadership.

In April 2011, Sen. Brown convened an official hearing of the U.S. Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs in Dayton. The hearing examined a new report released by the U.S. Department of Veterans' Affairs Inspector General on mismanagement of the dental clinic at the Dayton VA Medical Center.

At the hearing, Sen. Brown heard testimony from the Office of the VA Inspector General and employees of the Dayton VA Medical Center regarding mismanagement and neglect that led to the exposure of blood-borne pathogens to patients at the VA Medical Center Dental Clinic.

Urging the Administration to Support GE's Self-funding of the Competitive Engine

Following the stop-work order for the production of the F-35 competitive engine issued by the U.S. Department of Defense, Sen. Brown called on the Obama Administration to support GE's announcement that it would self-fund for the Joint Strike Fighter (F-35) competitive engine program (F-136). Brown commented, "Although the Pentagon has repeatedly ignored Congressional will and seems content to kill a program so critical to our nation's security, I will continue to fight for this vital program to save taxpayer dollars and hundreds of Ohio jobs."

Taking Southwest Ohio's Values to Washington, Fighting to Keep Medicare Off the Chopping Block

Sen. Sherrod Brown is leading an effort to save Medicare from the budget chopping block. After passage in the House of Representatives of a bill that would end Medicare as we know it, Brown led a group of 50 Senators in signing a letter to President Obama expressing opposition to the plan.

The House budget would have thrown seniors into the private market with an insufficient voucher and no security against the rising cost of private health insurance. The group of 50 senators wrote: "So-called 'premium support' – giving seniors a voucher of approximately \$8,000 as proposed by the House budget – is



Sen. Brown discusses the future of Medicare with Ohio seniors.

a reckless and irresponsible way to address the health care needs of older Americans. And it is an unacceptable means by which to finance tax cuts for those who are earning ten times or more than the retirement income of the average Medicare recipient."

According to the Congressional Budget Office (CBO), in the first year of the voucher program, out-of-pocket expenses for seniors would double under the House plan to more than \$12,500 annually. The average Social Security benefit is only \$14,000 per year.

The Senate voted down the Republican budget, but Brown continues to work to protect Medicare. In June 2011, he wrote a letter to Vice President Biden calling for the Republican plan to end Medicare as we know it to be taken off the table during the deficit reduction negotiations.

Sen. Brown will fight any effort to dismantle Medicare and force benefit cuts upon seniors under the guise of deficit reduction. Our nation's seniors are not responsible for the fiscal challenges we face, and they should not be responsible for shouldering the burden of reducing our deficits.

My Office is Here to Serve You

Sen. Brown is committed to assisting Ohioans who have encountered difficulties with federal matters. Ohioans can call Sen. Brown's state offices and work directly with a constituent services representative to obtain information or resolve an issue they are having with a federal agency. Common areas of inquiry include: Social Security and Medicare benefits, veterans' benefits, military service issues, passport or visa problems, housing matters, IRS issues, and more.



Sen. Brown presents overdue and replacement medals to a World War II veteran in Cincinnati.

For example, a Southwest Ohio constituent contacted Sen. Brown's office to request assistance with his Social Security disability claim. The constituent had attended an administrative law judge hearing but had not received a decision. After an inquiry from Sen. Brown's office, the constituent was notified that the decision would be released.

Another constituent traveling with her family applied in March for passport renewal and had difficulty receiving a status update. Sen. Brown's office contacted the Passport Agency on her behalf. The passport was printed and mailed to the constituent the following day.

In May 2011, Sen. Brown presented overdue and replacement military medals to a Hamilton County veteran in a ceremony at the Cincinnati VA Medical Center. Brown presented Samuel Reeves, 89, with seven overdue medals and four replacement medals which he received while he was discharged. Brown's office is continuing to work with Army Human Resources Command to verify eligibility and secure a Purple Heart for Reeves.



 [Click here to forward this email to a friend](#) 

:: Please do not reply to this email. Visit my website to contact me ::

Senator Brown's Offices

Cleveland

1301 East Ninth Street
Suite 1710
Cleveland, Ohio 44114
p (216) 522-7272
f (216) 522-2239
Toll Free
1-888-896-OHIO (6446)

Columbus

200 N High St.
Room 614
Columbus, OH 43215
p (614) 469-2083
f (614) 469-2171
Toll Free
1-888-896-OHIO (6446)

Washington, D.C.

713 Hart Senate Building
Washington, DC 20510
p (202) 224-2315
f (202) 228-6321

Cincinnati

425 Walnut Street
Suite 2310
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202
p (513) 684-1021
f (513) 684-1029
Toll Free
1-888-896-OHIO (6446)

Lorain

205 West 20th St.
Suite M280
Lorain, OH 44052
p (440) 242-4100
f (440) 242-4108
Toll Free
1-888-896-OHIO (6446)

[Open the email in a browser](#)