NEW YEAR, NEW ADMINISTRATION: 2018 ELECTION RECAP

On Nov. 6, 2018, a pivotal mid-term election viewed as a referendum on President Donald Trump was waged in congressional and state-level races throughout the country.

In the United States House of Representatives, control has shifted from Republican to a Democrat majority, meaning Trump will have to work with a divided government in the lead-up to the 2020 presidential election. In the United States Senate, Republicans will expand their majority. The margin of expansion is still to be determined following a recount in Florida and run-off election in Mississippi. The results in Ohio mirrored historical trends that shows our state’s demographics are becoming a more Republican-leaning state, bucking the national view that we are a “purple” state.

In January 2019, Ohio will have a new governor and lieutenant governor, attorney general, secretary of state, auditor of state and treasurer of state. In Congress, Republicans Anthony Gonzalez and Troy Balderson won full terms to join the Ohio delegation in 2019. Additionally, the Ohio General Assembly will welcome 29 (pending recounts) new members to Columbus.

Mike DeWine will become the 70th governor of Ohio. DeWine defeated Richard Cordray in a rematch of their 2010 contest for attorney general by a majority. The margin of expansion will play out over the next two, four and six years as the victorious candidates serve out their respective terms.

The story of the night was the margin of victory by Sen. Sherrod Brown. Many considered Brown to be the top of the ticket, and polling showed him up by double digits. The fact that he only won by five points (53-47 percent) against Congressman Jim Renacci didn’t create the political headwinds for the rest of the Democrat ticket that many were predicting.

In the congressional races, there were no surprises in the 1st and 12th Congressional districts. Balderson and Rep. Steve Chabot won their races by five and six points, respectively. Additionally, former Ohio State football standout Anthony Gonzales won his race to replace Renacci against Democrat Susan Palmer, 57-43 percent.

Polling was once again off in the races for statewide executive offices. OCCPAC-endorsed candidate Dave Yost carried the race for attorney general 52-48 percent. OCCPAC-endorsed candidate for secretary of state Frank LaRose defeated Kathleen Clyde 51-47 percent. In the race for state auditor, Rep. Keith Faber defeated Zack Space 50-46 percent.

Unfortunately, the two OCCPAC-endorsed candidates for Ohio Supreme Court fell short on election night. Judge Melody Stewart defeated Justice Mary DeGenaro 52-48 percent, and Judge Michael Donnelly beat Judge Craig Baldwin 60-40 percent. The partisan makeup of the court come January will stand at 5-2 in favor of Republicans. The Ohio Supreme Court is critically important to the business climate in Ohio, so these losses should be particularly concerning to Ohio Chamber members. It will also mean that in 2020, when two incumbent justices previously endorsed by OCCPAC seek re-election, the business community will need to make these races top priority.

The impact of November’s election will play out over the next two, four and six years as the victorious candidates serve out their respective terms. Issue 1, the flawed proposal to amend Ohio’s Constitution to reduce penalties for crimes of obtaining, possessing and using illegal drugs, financed mostly by national groups, fell 63-37 percent. The Ohio Chamber board voted to oppose this measure in the early fall.

OCCPAC-endorsed candidates for the General Assembly did well, going 71-5. Ohio House Democrats picked up five seats, taking all three House seats in northern Franklin County and two additional seats in Northeast Ohio. No incumbent members from either party lost their bids for re-election. In the Ohio Senate, the Republican majority gained another seat. It now controls 25 of the state’s 33 senate districts. Mahoning Valley businessman Michael Buiui knocked off Rep. John Boccieri to replace outgoing Sen. Joe Schiavoni in Mahoning and Trumbull counties. There are three races that are currently not certified. Rep. Jonathon Dever and Rep. Anne Gonzales hold narrow margins in their races for the House and Senate respectively. Additionally, the results in the Republican pick-up by Don Manning in the Mahoning Valley have not been certified.

The impact of November’s election will play out over the next two, four and six years as the victorious candidates serve out their respective terms. We congratulate all elected officials on their victories and look forward to working with them to promote pro-jobs, pro-growth policies for the benefit of all Ohioans.
On Thursday, Nov. 8, 300 Ohio Chamber members and legislators attended the Ohio Chamber’s first-ever member gala, which celebrated the history of the Ohio Chamber of Commerce and the people who have contributed to its success. President and CEO Andy Doehrel began the evening by thanking everyone in attendance and sharing a few short remarks.

“We truly have a unique organization here that has made our state a great place to live and work,” he said.

It was very fitting that Jo Ann Davidson, a former Ohio Chamber employee, Ohio legislator and the first and only female speaker of the Ohio House, was the emcee for the evening. In addition to serving as emcee, Davidson shared her memories with the Ohio Chamber. She then recognized local chambers, committee members, members of the Ohio General Assembly, former employees, past chairmen and the current chairman. She also recognized the sponsors, CareWorks, United Healthcare, The 316 Group, Delta Dental of Ohio, Charter Communications and The Boeing Co. for making the event possible.

Davidson then directed attention to a video that showcased important milestones in the Ohio Chamber’s history, including interviews with former employees, board members, legislators and partners of the Ohio Chamber.

“We are here tonight to celebrate the history of this fine organization. A history that goes back to 1893, when the country and state were in the midst of an economic depression. ... In response to this crisis, several leaders from all over Ohio came together in Cleveland to form what was then called the Ohio State Board of Commerce. And the rest, as they say, is history.” The video shared warm sentiments and funny memories, in addition to providing a historical timeline before the keynote speaker.

Just two days after the election, the Ohio Chamber was honored to have Ohio governor-elect Mike DeWine as the keynote speaker. DeWine congratulated the chamber and spoke encouraging words about the future of Ohio for businesses. Afterward, the founding members who have continued in their membership for 125 years were recognized and given awards by Doehrel and DeWine. Then Senate President Pro Tempore Bob Peterson and Speaker of the House Ryan Smith presented special proclamations honoring the Ohio Chamber. The final recognition went to Davidson, who was presented a pewter plate by Doehrel for her meritorious service and dedication to the Ohio Chamber of Commerce and the state of Ohio.

To wrap up this special night of celebration, a final video of congratulatory messages played while commemorative champagne glasses were filled. Chairman Larry Kidd shared closing remarks and ended with a toast to the future and the next 125 years.

“This has been a very special night for all of us,” he said. “In honor of this once-in-a-lifetime celebration, I invite you all to stand and raise a glass in honor of the Ohio Chamber of Commerce. Thank you all for your continued support, and we look forward to the next 125 years!”

The Ohio Chamber of Commerce was established on Nov. 5, 1893, and at that time was called the State Board of Commerce. Almost exactly 125 years later, we celebrated this important milestone.
Ohio Chamber of Commerce Open House
WILL THE END OF NOVEMBER LEAD U.S. TO A NEW NORMAL IN TRADE AND TARIFFS?

Ohio businesses concerned with trade and tariffs should target their attention to The Group of 20 (G20) Summit that will be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Nov. 30 and Dec. 1, 2018. There, President Donald Trump likely will join Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Mexican President Enrique Peña Nieto (whose term expires Dec. 1) to sign the new NAFTA, now known as the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA).

There will also be vigorous discussions in the lead-up to the summit regarding the Section 232 steel and aluminum tariffs imposed by the U.S. on Canada and Mexico, as well as those countries’ countermeasures/retaliation imposed on U.S. products. The potential resolution of these tariffs will be a beacon for the manner in which the U.S. will resolve similar issues with other allies, such as the European Union and Japan, over the coming months.

All eyes, meanwhile, will focus on the planned meeting between Trump and the People’s Republic of China President Xi Jinping at the summit that will seek a path forward regarding ongoing trade disputes. At home, these developments will set the stage for a potential showdown over trade in 2019 between the president and the new Democrat-controlled House of Representatives. As always, Ohio will be at the heart of these policy and political battles.

USMCA

The USMCA is more than a rebranding exercise, but less than a tearing up of the original NAFTA, and all Ohio companies engaged in North American trade will be impacted by the potential new deal. Indeed, as Trump predicted in February 2017, the three countries renovated the NAFTA in three key areas.

First, the parties brushed a fresh coat of paint on to more than half of the original NAFTA in areas such as anti-corruption, technical barriers to trade, and other framework provisions. Rather than shredding the original agreement, the three countries maintained much of what worked and freshened it up to 21st century standards. The parties also upgraded the fixtures and appliances with new chapters in areas such as digital trade, customs and trade facilitation (border issues), energy, environment, chemicals and polymers, and sanitary-phytosanitary (food safety/ agriculture).

These measures removed much of the red tape that served as a drag on North American competitiveness. However, the parties did not stop with paint and fixtures. Rather, the Trump administration knocked down walls in areas such as automotive, labor, disputes resolution, investment and non-market economies. There are significant changes in the USMCA — some for the better, and some likely for the worse. Consequently, Ohio companies must review the agreement to determine the potential impact on their operations.

SECTION 232 STEEL AND ALUMINUM TARIFFS

The hope was that a 70 percent North American steel and aluminum requirement for autos in the USMCA would resolve the metals tariffs with Canada and Mexico. However, the Trump administration wants more. It is likely that the U.S. and Mexico will reach a deal prior to signing the USMCA (or shortly thereafter) in which the parties agree to remove the tariffs and countermeasures and cap Mexico’s steel and aluminum exports to the U.S. at slightly above (130 to 150 percent) current levels. This will come as welcome news to Ohio’s farmers and companies that have suffered from Mexico’s retaliatory tariffs.

Canada has philosophical, policy and political challenges with a quota-based cap, given that it buys more steel and aluminum from the U.S. than it sells, and the Great Lakes region’s binational metals industry is one of the most integrated in the world. The industry writ large, and the Ohio companies subject to the $2.1 billion in Canada’s retaliation, must engage on this issue and seek resolution. Regardless of the outcome between Canada and the U.S., it is likely that a quota will be the price of admission for Japan and the European Union to resolve the issue during their planned trade negotiations with the U.S. in early 2019.

CHINA TARIFFS

The Trump-Xi meeting will have three broad possible outcomes (and potentially a mixture of all three).

1. Status quo. Maintaining three tranches of U.S. tariffs (25 percent, 15 percent, 10 percent), the ramping up of the 10 percent tariffs to 25 percent as scheduled on Jan. 1, 2019, and China’s retaliation.

2. Positive. De-escalating the tariffs, with the U.S. deciding not to impose the ramp-up to 25 percent on Jan. 1, 2019 (the existing tariffs will remain in place), China making concessions in certain sectors and the parties announcing a framework for moving forward.

3. Negative. Status quo, as well as the U.S. proceeding with additional 25 percent tariffs on approximately $287 billion of China-sourced goods, followed by China’s response.

CONGRESS

The G-20 Summit will set the stage for Trump’s trade agenda to confront the Democrat-controlled U.S. House of Representatives. The USMCA will require implementing legislation to be passed by Congress in order for the agreement to take effect. (The same holds true in Mexico and Canada).

The earliest procedural date for USMCA to clear these legislative hurdles is spring 2019. However, expect approval to go deep into the 2019 calendar, if not beyond. Congress also will have to weigh whether to step in if Trump is viewed as softening on China, or wielding new tariffs with too broad a stroke.

Congress will undoubtedly exercise more oversight over trade deals with the European Union and Japan by using the consultative mechanisms provided for in Trade Promotion Authority. The result of these procedural and political recipes is a large order of trade chaos.

CONCLUSION

Uncertainty will remain the order of the day for Ohio companies engaged in global trade through the close of 2018 and through early Q1 2019. Companies cannot stand by and hope for the best. Mitigation and sourcing strategies can — and should — be deployed to advance key objectives.

This is the new normal in U.S. trade policy, and adaptability will be the key to growth in 2019.

Dan Ujczo is an international trade and customs attorney at Dickinson Wright PLLC. He is president of the Ohio-Canada Business Association (Ohio-Can) and a board member of the American Chamber of Commerce in Canada (AM-CHAM Canada,) as well as the North American Strategy for Competitiveness (NASCO). Reach him at dujczo@kickinson-wright.com.
NEWLY LAUNCHED WEB PORTAL CONNECTS OHIO’S RESEARCH UNIVERSITIES WITH INDUSTRY PARTNERS

Cutting-edge university research and expertise are often silenced and hard to discover outside of the academic community. As a result, it’s typically difficult for leading industry minds with new ideas to find experts and technology at individual academic institutions for support.

In September, the Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE), along with universities and support from the Ohio Manufacturing Institute, launched a new online research portal to change that dynamic.

The Ohio Innovation Exchange (OIEX), at www.ohioinnovationexchange.org, delivers research and innovation opportunities, and connects industry with Ohio’s academic institutions. Industry can quickly find the faculty, research, equipment and facilities available at Ohio’s research universities. By consolidating academic resources from multiple universities into a single, searchable web portal, industry will find the expertise to advance products, services and research. The goal of OIEX is to help workforce and funding opportunities while fostering economic development throughout the region.

“It is critical to our state’s economy that we utilize every aspect of our knowledge and innovation talent across the public and private sector,” says ODHE Chancellor John Carey. “We’re incredibly proud of what we’ve created with OIEX — better connecting the experts and resources at our state research universities to the industries that can utilize them to push their breakthrough ideas to fruition.”

Initially developed by four Ohio universities. OIEX today provides industry in search of expertise with access to more than 8,250 faculty and 900 resources from Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland State University, The Ohio State University, Ohio University, the University of Akron and the University of Cincinnati. From research partnerships, intellectual property and laboratory and testing access, to business development and even student internships, OIEX jump-starts the partnership process to deliver new innovations.

OIEX also offers the OIEX Rapid Response Team (at https://www. ohioinnovationexchange.org/ response) of active university liaisons to ensure that industry experts are aligned with the resources they need. The OIEX Rapid Response Team makes it much easier to quickly develop working partnerships, while creating opportunities for collaboration.

“Ohio’s industry leaders are looking for ways to advance their ideas, products and solutions, but haven’t always been able to utilize university partnerships to assist them,” says Kathryn Kelley, director of the Ohio Manufacturing Institute. “Working with our university partners, we’re excited to introduce OIEX to provide that bridge and connection, giving industry quick access to the resources available at Ohio’s research universities.”

To learn more, visit www.ohioinnovationexchange.org.
Our modern world and its endless conveniences share one common ingredient — energy. Beyond heating and cooling our homes, energy in all its forms powers manufacturers and businesses of all sizes and fuels transportation. No matter how you slice it, energy touches every facet of our daily lives.

Yet the simple conveniences that energy provides are too often taken for granted. Most of us believe if we can turn on the lights, charge our phones and fill our tanks affordably that energy is doing its job. Outside of these everyday uses, energy rarely — if ever — crosses our minds. More often than not, energy remains an infrequent thought without truly understanding where it comes from, how it is made, the numerous ways it’s transported and the impact it has on the communities where we work and live.

But it should, especially here in Ohio.

Much of the energy used by our families, farmers and factories is increasingly produced within our state borders. The shale energy revolution occurring in the southeastern part of our state is leading to record increases in economic investment and job creation, while lowering energy costs for businesses of all sizes.

To give consumers a better understanding of the impact of Ohio energy production, Consumer Energy Alliance (CEA) ran the numbers to see just how much Ohioans have benefitted. The results were staggering. By using the most recent Energy Information Administration data, CEA — with support from Ohio Strategies — determined that Ohio’s households and businesses saved more than $40 billion in natural gas costs between 2006 and 2016. Of that $40 billion, families saved $15 billion, while commercial and industrial users saved $25.3 billion.

If you think about the time just prior to our state’s energy resurgence, natural gas prices peaked at $10.66 per gallon, they’re less than $4. Gasoline prices have also dropped, from $4.15 per gallon in 2011 to less than $3 today.

Even more, our region now has some of the lowest natural gas prices in the world, and energy consumers are taking note. Ohio is one of the top 10 natural gas-consuming states, with nearly two-thirds of residential consumers using natural gas for home heating. Just over the past decade, 19 new gas-fired power plants have been constructed, from Lordstown to Toledo, and 6 trillion cubic feet of natural gas were produced — enough for all Ohioans, not just immigrants, to ease their transition into their new communities. Get Ohio to be a great place to find work and raise a family. That clearinghouse is on our website at NewAmericans.Ohio.gov.

One consequence of Ohio’s energy resurgence has been the opening of more than 700 new businesses statewide since 2011, bringing in more than $63.9 billion in new investment. These businesses invested in all aspects of energy, including production, transmission, end-use power generation, petrochemical plants and plastic manufacturing.

What’s more, shale-related industry employment has increased 78 percent over the last seven years, employing more than 389,000 Ohioans with an average wage of about $98,000 — over $40,000 more than the average salary of all other industries in the state.

Many of these careers are coming back to parts of Ohio that were hit hardest by manufacturing job losses. The Vallourec Steel plant in Youngstown represented over $1 billion in new investment and brought hundreds of new steel jobs back to the Mahoning Valley, due to energy production in our region. In Toledo, Cliffs Natural Resources is constructing its first hot briquetted iron facility in the Great Lakes Region — an investment of over $700 million. These are just two of the many examples of investments being made in Ohio as a result of energy development. As long as infrastructure — from pipelines to transmission lines — is able to serve businesses, Ohio-produced energy can revitalize any area of the state.

This is why it’s imperative that our elected officials and policymakers continue to work together to support common-sense energy solutions. And their bipartisan approach to implementing common-sense regulations that balances energy production with environmental sustainability has been evident. You don’t have to be a Republican or a Democrat to know that environmental stewardship is a priority, but we should all agree that uncessarily high energy prices, while bothersome for most, make our manufacturers less competitive and all too often serve as a regressive tax on small businesses and working families.

With additional investments in newer and safer environmental technologies, continued refinement of the production process, increased energy efficiency and the expansion of much-needed infrastructure — including transmission lines and pipelines, the latter of which is the safest way to move energy — we can continue to keep Ohio moving forward.

Chris Ventura is executive director for Consumer Energy Alliance - Midwest. Prior to joining CEA, Ventura served as senior project manager for the Ohio House of Representatives under Speaker William Batchelder. CEA is the leading U.S. consumer advocate in support of affordable, reliable energy for working families, seniors and businesses across the country. To learn more, visit www.ConsumerEnergyAlliance.org.

Ohio’s economy is strong. Since 2011, there are 557,000 new private-sector jobs in Ohio, and since the start of this year, the state’s private-sector jobs are growing 39 percent faster than those elsewhere in the nation. To maintain its momentum, however, Ohio’s economy requires a workforce of hard-working, highly skilled individuals.

Ohio’s Office of Opportunities for New Americans, created earlier this year by Gov. John R. Kasich, is working to make Ohio a more welcoming state in order to attract the workers — and better prepare the existing ones — who will fuel Ohio’s economic engine for years to come. The focus of the office is on the pillars — using, training and, entrepreneurship — all of which are important to business and industry.

The office’s mission is to create a clearinghouse of state resources and programs that are available to all Ohioans, not just immigrants, to ease their transition into their new communities. By using, training and, entrepreneurship — all of which are important to business and industry.

The Office of Opportunities for New Americans wants to get them ready to meet your business needs.

Resources on the website point to the many programs that can help immigrants find jobs, learn English, get advanced training and start their own businesses. We will continue to add to and improve the information on the website, including stories about businesses that have successfully attracted and retained immigrant workers. We hope we can help you with your workforce issues.

Please visit NewAmericans.Ohio.gov to learn more about the office. If you have questions or a story about how your business is reaching out to and working with immigrants, email us at NewAmericans@development.Ohio.gov to share your story.
LARGEST BUSINESS TAX CONFERENCE IN THE NATION HAPPENING IN JANUARY

The conference was established in the early 1960’s by the Ohio Chamber of Commerce along with the Ohio State Bar Association Taxation and Business section and led by the Ohio Tax Commissioner & former Franklin County Auditor, Roger Tracy. The idea of the conference was to serve as one of the top business tax educational conferences, bringing leading experts on tax issues from across the nation to participate. The annual Ohio Tax Conference has since served as the model for public/private partnership for tax education, inspiring many states to establish their own state tax conference in similar fashion.

A volunteer, blue-ribbon tax conference planning committee, made up of many Ohio Chamber members, meets twice a year to take on the task of selecting topics, keynote speakers and workshop sessions for the annual Ohio Tax Conference. Representing some of the most prestigious national law firms and accounting organizations and Ohio’s leaders in corporate taxation, members of this committee attend planning sessions from all over the country to help put together this event. With hundreds of tax abstracts coming to the table, the planning committee must vote to select the handful of sessions for the speaking opportunities they see fit.

This upcoming tax conference attracts the ‘best & brightest’ in taxation in the nation to come and lead hundreds of tax abstracts coming to the table, the planning committee must vote to select the handful of sessions for the speaking opportunities they see fit.

For more information and to register for this influential conference, go to www.ohiochamber.com and click on the Taxation & Business tab at the top of the page.

PROVIDING AFFORDABLE HEALTH INSURANCE FOR YOU AND YOUR EMPLOYEES

The Ohio Chamber of Commerce is pleased to introduce Lifestyle Health Plans, a unique health benefits program designed to address the underlying cause of the rise in health care costs – employee health behaviors.

Lifestyle Health Plans are essentially prepackaged plans, with low attachment stop-loss coverage. For the right groups, level-funded plans do not have the volatility in monthly cash flows associated with funded plans. Companies will never pay more than the monthly cost quoted. The rates are fixed cost. Regardless of a company’s size or the size of the group, companies can mix and match plans to design a turnkey solution of MEC, Minimum Value and “buy up” plan options to ensure ACA compliance.

The program also offers dental and vision programs that are available at preferred (Lifestyle Participation) pricing for the Ohio Chamber. Companies will receive a complimentary quote for these products along with the Lifestyle Health Plans proposal. Options for workforce benefits, as well as life insurance, are also available.

Strategically managing health care costs is a key focus of Lifestyle Health Plans and a major strength of this program. The Lifestyle Health Plan has integrated a number of cost management programs and benefit coverage solutions into the plan design.

For questions regarding the Lifestyle Health Plans, contact Scott Colby at the Ohio Chamber of Commerce at scolby@ohiochamber.com or (614) 328-4033.

Stay Connected.

Andy Piccolantonio, also known around here as Andy P, was promoted to vice president, Membership, in November. He has been with the Ohio Chamber of Commerce since 2008. He began as an account executive and has held several positions over the years. Most recently, Piccolantonio was assistant vice president, Membership. Prior to working at the Ohio Chamber, he owned his own business for six years, giving him a unique perspective that allows him to empathize with members regarding challenges they face day to day. He enjoys the conversations and relationships he has built with members over the years.

“I have the pleasure of talking with businesses from every industry, hearing their concerns and goals, and discussing how the Ohio Chamber can work with them to make Ohio more business friendly,” he says. “I learn something new every day, and I am thankful for that opportunity.”

One of the hallmarks of the Ohio Chamber is its staff. Piccolantonio enjoys the collective energy and knowledge everyone brings to the table.

“I have learned a lot from the dedicated, talented and hardworking individuals I have had the pleasure to work with over the years, and I am proud to be counted as one of the many who have strived to aggressively champion free enterprise, economic competitiveness and growth for the benefit of all Ohioans,” he says.

Piccolantonio’s wife, Beryl, is the chairman of the Ohio Workers’ Compensation System and serves as president of the Gahanna-Jefferson School Board. Together they have three boys, Vincent, 14, Max, 12, and Alex. 8. Piccolantonio, being a red-head himself, never had a red-headed child, so he got a red-headed dog, a cavapoo named Ginger.

“She is the first (sometimes only) one to greet me at the door when I come home,” he says.

In his free time, he attends his children’s activities or spends time with them in a heated game of Monopoly or ping-pong. He serves on the Gahanna Parks and Recreation Board and the St. Charles Preparatory School Alumni Board, and is a member of the Association of State Chamber Professionals (ASCP).

Looking forward, Piccolantonio is optimistic:

“We’ve got a good team, and we are looking forward to 2019. I am excited to be celebrating the 125th anniversary this year with special member benefits, including a great health insurance offering, as well as new ways to work more closely with our local chambers.”
What a year! We have spent the year celebrating 125 years of our existence and reached some major milestones to add to our history.

In January, we announced our headquarters would be moving from 230 E. Town St., where we had been since 1996, to the historic Columbus Dispatch building. For five years we had been looking for prime real estate on “the square” to be within view of the Statehouse. Well, not only is our new headquarters at 34 S. Third St. within view, it is just a few steps away. We moved into the redesigned space in mid-July and held an open house in November.

In March we launched our Opioid Toolkit. This online free resource provides Ohio employers with the information they and their employees need to battle the opioid crisis. Our partners in this project are BlueCross/BlueShield and Working Ohio Chamber members Anthem BlueCross/BlueShield and Working Ohio.

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This year, Ohio businesses were doing things to improve lives and strengthen communities. For five months, we told 16 stories from businesses large and small from across the state. These stories were told in the form of television commercials, social media posts, billboards, and internet advertising, and still reside on the website: www.ohiogoodforlife.com.

If that weren’t enough, 2018 was a big election year in our state. The first event we hosted in our new headquarters was the endorsement announcement of Mike DeWine for governor. We also endorsed in the secretary of state and attorney general races supporting the winners Frank LaRose and David Yost.

In the General Assembly, we endorsed in 76 races and two Ohio Supreme Court candidates. As of this writing, 71 of the endorsed General Assembly candidates won their races; however the Supreme Court candidates were not successful.

What if we had the solution to your healthcare challenges?

The plans utilize local medical networks providing you innovative coverage and allowing you to keep your doctor.

You benefit from exclusive pricing, and a fully integrated wellness program with cash incentives and deductible credits.

Contact the Ohio Chamber to learn more!

Scott Colby
614.629.0913 | scolby@ohiochamber.com