

Former GOP chair Jane Timken to become Ohio state Senator

By Anna Staver
Cleveland.com

COLUMBUS, Ohio -- Former [Ohio Republican Party Chair](#) Jane Timken is headed to the Statehouse.

Timken, who unsuccessfully ran to be a U.S. Senator, will instead replace state Sen. Kirk Schuring in the Ohio Senate.

"I'm incredibly honored to represent Stark County and the 29th District, and to follow in the footsteps and legacy of accomplishments left by my good friend Kirk Schuring," Timken said in a statement.

Schuring was a [longtime and well-respected lawmaker from Canton](#) who passed away late last year.

"Jane has big shoes to fill replacing the legendary Kirk Schuring, but I have no doubt that she will be a fantastic senator for the 29th District," Senate President Rob McColley said in a statement. "Jane Timken is a proven conservative who brings a unique skillset of economic development, public policy and politics to the Senate."

Timken took the reins at Ohio GOP in 2017 following Republican following President Donald Trump's big win in the Buckeye State.

She stepped down from that job in 2021 to run for U.S. Senate when Republican Rob Portman retired.

Timken was [the early favorite](#) in that primary race, earning Portman's endorsement and support from party insiders.

But that all changed when President Donald Trump endorsed JD Vance.

Two years later, Timken was rumored to be on Gov. Mike DeWine's [shortlist to replace](#) now Vice President Vance. That appointment went to DeWine's running mate, Sen. Jon Husted.

Timken will officially join Ohio's state Senate during its next session on Wednesday, Jan. 29th.