President Donald Trump endorses U.S. Sen. Jon Husted

By Anna Staver Cleveland.com

COLUMBUS, Ohio -- President Donald Trump has endorsed newly minted U.S. Sen. Jon Husted, giving the Columbus-area Republican a major boost as he prepares for two consecutive election cycles.

"Jon is a wonderful man, has ALWAYS delivered for Ohio, and will continue doing so in the U.S. Senate. He is working hard to Create Jobs, Lower Costs, Promote Products and Services MADE IN AMERICA by our incredible Ohio Workers...," Trump wrote in a post on Truth Social. "We are delivering BIG WINS for America. One of the leaders I know I can count on is Ohio's Senator Jon Husted."

Husted, who had been Ohio's lieutenant governor, was appointed to the U.S. Senate in January after Sen. JD Vance <u>vacated the seat</u> to become vice president.

Trump's endorsement, while not unexpected, is significant for Husted as he looks ahead to elections in 2026 and again in 2028 to secure a full term.

Trump's support could clear the primary field for Husted, allowing him to avoid a potentially costly intraparty battle and focus his on the general election.

No Democrat has declared for the seat yet.

The endorsement also signals Trump's intent to continue to influence Ohio politics, where his support remains critical for Republican candidates. Trump won Ohio by 8 percentage points in 2024.

With the state still solidly red, Husted is likely the favorite to retain the seat in 2026.