

NATHANIEL RECKENBEIL

Selected for the **Ohio Legislative Fellowship Program**



From Left to Right: Susan (Aide), Nathan, Senator Hottinger, Kyle (Senior Aide), Nick (Fellow)



From a press release issued by the Fellowship Program:

"Nathaniel Reckenbeil of Canton has been selected to participate in the 2022 Ohio Legislative Service Commission (LSC) Legislative Fellowship Program. Founded in 1963, this nationally recognized and highly competitive program takes place at the Statehouse and the Vern Riffe Center for Government and the Arts in Columbus and provides participants the opportunity to gain first-hand experience in state government. In addition to working with members of the Ohio General Assembly, fellows take part in monthly educational seminars that examine different aspects of public policy. The program has a rich tradition of launching careers in public service. Among the ranks of former fellows are current State Representative Dontavius Jarrells (D – Columbus), current State Representative Bride Rose Sweeney (D – Cleveland), current State Representative Rick Carfagna (R – Genoa Township), former State Superintendent of Public Instruction Paolo DeMaria, and former Governor John Kasich (R – Westerville).



Reckenbeil, a graduate of The Ohio State University, is one of 23 fellows who were selected for the 2022 program. LSC fellowships are professional, paid, full-time positions. Reckenbeil will begin the 13-month program in December."

Nathan attended Central Catholic High School and first got a taste of government in 2016 when he volunteered on the Kasich, then Trump campaigns for the presidential elections. Later, in college, he worked in the Franklin County Auditor's Office (FCAO) under auditor, Michael Stinziano. He then was hired as a page for the Ohio Senate under Jay Hottinger, Senator of the 31st District and serving President pro tempore. He enjoyed these positions very much.

Nathan tells us, "One of my passions in life is being able to help those in need, no matter how big or little their problems are, and as a page, I found I could assist people in tremendous ways. During my time as a page, the Ohio government was rocked with many crises, including the Householder/House Bill 6 (HB6) scandal and the Covid-19 pandemic. As a page, I was able to convey the frustrations of the population over the HB6 situation to the Ohio Senate."

Nathan worked with many individuals to help them get vital unemployment benefits for their families and businesses during the Covid-19 shutdowns. He learned that, despite the perception, the government is set up as a fantastic way to give assistance and aid to people in need. He also saw that the system provides a way for the people's voices to be heard so that they do not feel as if they are just a number.



Nathan is passionate about government and says, "No matter their circumstances, it is crucial for all citizens to be able to participate in the civic government. As I continue on as an LSC Fellow, I hope to help even more people and give them the ability to air their opinions, grievances, and thoughts on issues, policies, and the status quo."

The application process for the LCS fellowship program was extensive. It required two interviews: one with the fellowship administrator and LSC official, and another that was a panel with numerous advisors from either the Republican or Democratic caucuses. Over 150 applied for the positions and only 23 were selected to participate in the program. Of those 23, one or two fellows are assigned to the nonpartisan offices to help with drafting legislation for LSC, two fellows are assigned to the media department of the Ohio Channel, which is tasked with broadcasting committee hearings and speeches given by the Governor of Ohio, and the rest are divided amongst offices in either the Ohio House of Representatives or the Ohio Senate. At the time of this writing, Nathan has not yet received his assignment.

Nathan shares, "What excites me most about the appointment is the chance to meet and work with an assortment of constituents all through the State of Ohio. Helping citizens with issues and questions they had was one of my favorite tasks to do while I was a Page, and it helped me appreciate the diversity of opinions, views, and backgrounds that can be found in Ohio. Having the ability to network and gain crucial knowledge under many veterans of local, state, and national politics is a big opportunity for me and a great start to my future career."

After the 13-month fellowship program, Nathan plans to apply to law school and get a Juris Doctor degree in hopes of becoming a lawyer sometime in the future. He currently has his sights set on international law, where he hopes to one day work in the international courts and advise on policy pertaining to foreign concerns of the state.

Nathan, Hills Living wishes you much success in this and all your future endeavors! Congratulations!



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