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OCSEA praises Neuhardt pick for diversity, middle class values

In December, the union representing the majority of state workers in Ohio, the Ohio Civil Service Employees Association, endorsed Ed FitzGerald for Governor after a careful screening process. Now the union is throwing its enthusiastic support behind FitzGerald's pick for running mate, Sharen Neuhardt.

Sharen Neuhardt is a familiar face to OCSEA, having been endorsed by the organization in her Congressional bid during the 2012 election season against incumbent Mike Turner for the 10th District.

"We are pleased that the pick was someone our organization has come to know and respect. The selection also highlights the importance of a diverse ticket and one that represents the majority of Ohioans, not just the one percent," said OCSEA President Christopher Mabe.

Neuhardt comes from a solidly middle-class family. Her father was a Dayton police officer and head of the local Fraternal Order of Police and her mother was a sales clerk at Elder Beerman.

"This state has been going in the wrong direction: not only has the economy not recovered under current leadership, but government services have been decimated," said Mabe. "We believe this is the right ticket to get Ohio back on track and to put fighting for Ohio's middle class first."

OCSEA represents approximately 30,000 public employees who work in a wide range of security, regulatory, administrative, direct care, maintenance, customer service and other positions. For more information, contact Sally Meckling, 614-865-2602 or 614-404-3881 (cell).