

## Stacey Abrams speaks in Cleveland at Rep Fudge's forum, and at the SEIU, ODP event, both events focus

Written by Kathy

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Pictured are voting rights activist Stacey Abrams, who lost a close race for Georgia governor in 2018, and Ohio 11th Congressional District Congresswoman Marcia Fudge, a Warrensville Heights Democrat and chair of the House subcommittee on voting rights

**By Kathy Wray Coleman, associate publisher, editor-in-chief**

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## CLEVELANDURBANNNEWS.COM-CLEVELAND, Ohio - Stacey Abrams, Ohio's first Black woman to run for governor of Georgia

At both events Abrams talked about being an ambitious Black woman, breaking political barriers in the past and tripling the Latino vote.

The core of her speeches was her close race for governor and how her campaign and her supporters raised

At the union gathering, which was political and also a state Senate race, she talked about her experience as a

Before rallying the crowd Pepper told the crowd that he and Abrams, 45, went to law school together, both

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Speaking relative to the Fairfight 2020, which she chairs and launched in August to help Democrats fina

"We can win," said Abrams to the motivated union hall crowd. "We're sending a lot of money here to ma

Abrams' visit comes not just as it is a week before the 2020 Democratic Primary Debate held Oct. 15 in subur

Cleveland is a Democratic stronghold, as is Cuyahoga County where Cleveland sits, the second largest

Both events on Saturday were high spirited and indicative of the Dems gearing up their base to take on

Fudge is chair of the subcommittee on voting rights, and the House, which has passed several state legis

The congresswoman told the participants at the Saturday sponsored gathering and the other day, str

"Stacey is a member of the Dora Milaje," said the congresswoman.

Also a voting rights activist, Abrams is the first Black female major party gubernatorial nominee in U.S. h

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She lost to Georgia's 2018 gubernatorial election to Brian Kemp, then the Republican gubernatorial nom

Abrams said Fudge, one of two Black in Congress from Ohio and a former chair of the Congressional Bl

"She reached out and said what can I do"? said Abrams of Fudge. "All I did was say help and she was th

She said that the congresswoman and Nancy Pelosi stepped up as a House speaker a powerful role,

She called her former gubernatorial opponent, Gov Kemp, a "voter rights abuser" in a Georgia

She also talked about racism and sexism, and said Blacks and women have been s

And she spoke on what she says is the arbitrary purging of voter rolls by Republicans, Ohio Secretary of

The Black vote fell seven percentage points from 2012 to 2016, and some 4 million Black voters who ch

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