

Legislative News: Two-Week Review



March 28, 2022

In Case You Missed It:

[The U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance and Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention present Second Chance Month learning events throughout the month of April](#)

The Ohio Judicial Conference is dedicated to serving all Ohio judges. The Judicial Conference is the voice of the judiciary & a primary resource to ensure the fair, unbiased, open & effective administration of justice.

- **SB 317** (Sen. Maharath) **Housing Discrimination**, introduced 3.23.22. The bill prohibits rental housing discrimination based on legal sources of income, including benefits or subsidy programs such as housing assistance, housing vouchers, public assistance, emergency rental assistance, veterans benefits, social security, supplemental security income, and other similar programs.
- **HB 602** (Reps. Ray, Smith) **Involuntary Commitment**, introduced 3.21.22. The bill requires Ohio's public hospitals to designate at least 5% of its inpatient capacity for voluntary admission of mentally ill persons except during public health or similar emergencies.
- The Ohio Supreme Court has updated **standard probate forms** for [Guardianship](#), [Name Changes](#), and [Medicaid Recovery](#); updates went into effect on 2.1.22.
- **Ohio Legal Help**, a statewide legal help website, provides step-by-step legal information, court forms, and connections to lawyer referral, legal aid, and community resources. You can also order Ohio Legal Help posters and business cards. Go [here](#) for more information or to sign up for the newsletter.
- The Office of Criminal Justice Services has notified the Supreme Court that it will set aside \$10 million American Rescue Plan Act [ARPA] funds for grants to courts. Supreme Court staff will work with OCJS staff to review applications and make recommendations for funding. OCJS has also set aside \$150 million for law enforcement; courts will be able to submit a joint application for funding for collaborative projects with law enforcement. Application are expected to become available in April.
- **SAVE THE DATE:** April is National County Government Month and the **Ohio Council of County Officials (OCCO)** is hosting a **legislative reception** in Columbus on April 6 from 5 to 7 p.m. for county elected officials, members of the Ohio General Assembly, and statewide office holders. OCCO is an organization that unites the associations representing county auditors, commissioners, clerks of courts, coroners, engineers, prosecuting attorneys, recorders, treasurers, sheriffs and judges in order to promote sound, efficient and fiscally responsible government. Register [online](#).
- **SAVE THE DATE:** **Law Day at the Statehouse** is scheduled for 5.10.22 and is being organized by the OSBA, the OJC, and the Ohio Access to Justice Foundation. The day includes a CLE about Separation of Powers, featuring state legislators, Ohio Supreme Court Justices, and the Ohio Attorney General. The day concludes with a Bench-Bar Legislative Reception in the Statehouse Rotunda. For more information or if you would like to register to attend, email [us](#).
- **SAVE THE DATE:** the once annual **Judicial-Legislative Exchange** is back! We encourage all judges to participate on 5.18.22, but would especially like new judges to take part. To sign up, email [us](#).

For a complete list of bills & the latest issue of Billboard, please visit the [OJC website](#).



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