



June 15, 2020

**Legislation and Policy  
in the News:**

[Ohio Among State  
Legislatures Slow to Pass  
Laws Limiting Use of  
Force; Associated Press,  
June 4, 2020](#)

[Kasich-Era Advisory  
Board Could Set  
Parameters for Police in  
Dealing with Protests;  
Columbus Dispatch, June  
8, 2020](#)

[Ohio Public Health Orders](#)

*The Ohio Judicial  
Conference is dedicated to  
serving all Ohio judges. It is  
the primary resource to  
ensure the fair, unbiased,  
open, and effective  
administration of justice.*

## Legislative News: Two-Week Review

- The OJC Jury Service Committee has created a [document to aid in convening a grand jury or conducting a jury trial during a pandemic](#). This is a work in progress and feedback is appreciated. It is available on the OJC website, along with other similar resources. A webinar on this topic took place 5.28.20; it was recorded and is available to those who could not attend. There will be a follow-up webinar on 6.22.20.
- The OJC jointly with the Association of Municipal and County Judges of Ohio, has developed a [guide for continuing municipal court operations safely during the pandemic](#).
- The **Ohio Public Defender** has released a [memo](#) outlining options it has developed for counties in an effort to provide support and assistance during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **SB 10** (Sen. Wilson) **Theft in Office**, voted out of the House, 6.9.20. The bill, as-introduced, expanded the penalties for theft in office based on the amount stolen and includes as restitution audit costs of the entity that suffered the loss. [HB 272](#) (which extends Ohio's long-arm statute) was amended into SB10 on the House floor. The bill also contains an amendment that clarifies that the time period of 3.9.20 until 7.30.20 shall not be computed as part of the time limitations in the emergency tolling of [HB 197](#).
- **HB 136** (Rep. Hillyer) **Execution of Mentally Ill**, passed out of Senate Judiciary Committee, 6.3.20. The bill prohibits application of the death penalty for a defendant who was mentally ill with one of a list of specified serious mental illnesses at the time of the crime.
- **SB 308** (Sen. M. Huffman) **Civil Liability for Emergency Services**, voted out of the Senate, 6.3.20. The bill revises the law governing immunity from civil liability and professional discipline for health care providers during disasters or emergencies, provides qualified civil immunity to service providers providing services during and after a government-declared disaster, and declares an emergency (which would make the bill effective as soon as it is signed).
- **SB 322** (Sen. Wilson) **Non-Recourse Civil Litigation Advances**, introduced 6.8.20. The bill addresses civil litigation funding agreements and is an effort to restrict this type of funding for plaintiffs. The bill is written for "consumer" cases, but the term is broadly defined so the bill could apply to any civil action. Businesses making such funding arrangements will need to be registered with the state, and their contractual arrangements would be regulated in detail.
- **HB 690** (Reps. Crossman, Howse) **LSC Statement on Criminal Justice Legislation**, introduced 6.3.20. The bill requires the Legislative Service Commission to prepare a human impact statement concerning a bill or resolution that proposes to amend criminal justice law.
- **HB 692** (Rep. Swearingen) **Wills**, introduced 6.8.20. The bill would permanently allow for the remote, electronic execution of estate planning documents such as wills.

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



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