



January 22, 2018

**Legislation and Policy in
the News:**

[Ohio Prison Population
Continues Slow Decline:
Associated Press, January 10,
2018](#)

[Fund Awards Nearly \\$90,000
in Grants to Stop Human
Trafficking in Ohio:
Associated Press, January 11,
2018](#)

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

Legislative News: Two Week Review

- **HCR 17** (Rep. Antani) **William O'Neill – Removal From Office**, introduced 1.16.18. The resolution summons Justice William M. O'Neill to appear before the General Assembly and show cause why he should not be removed from office under Article IV, Section 17 of the Ohio Constitution, which states that: *Judges may be removed from office, by concurrent resolution of both houses of the General Assembly, if two-thirds of the members, elected to each house, concur therein; but, no such removal shall be made, except upon complaint, the substance of which shall be entered on the journal, nor, until the party charged shall have had notice thereof, and an opportunity to be heard.*
- **SCR 20** (Sen. Obhof) **William O'Neill – Removal From Office**, introduced and passed by the Senate, 1.17.18. This resolution is identical to HCR 17.
- **SB 248** (Sens. Eklund, Sykes) **Wrongful Imprisonment**, introduced 1.16.18. The bill is a companion to HB 411, which expands eligibility for a wrongful imprisonment claim to people imprisoned for misdemeanors (currently, it only applies to imprisonment for felonies). The bill requires a Brady violation (*Brady v. Maryland*, 373 U.S. 83 (1963)) to be eligible for a wrongful imprisonment claim based on error in procedure.
- **HB 461** (Reps. Fedor, Galonski) **Delinquency Abeyance – Child Trafficking**, introduced 1.9.18. The bill requires a juvenile court to hold a delinquency complaint in abeyance if the court has reason to believe that the act charged might be prostitution-related or that the child might be a victim of human trafficking. The bill makes the elements for the offense of trafficking in persons that apply to a victim younger than sixteen also apply to a victim who is age sixteen or seventeen.
- As of 1.1.18, a change to Sup.R. 19 requires that magistrates take an **oath of office** administered by the administrative judge, after which, the magistrate must file (within 30 days of appointment) a certificate of oath, signed by the administrative judge with the clerk of court. The text of the oath can be found in [amended Sup.R. 19](#).
- **Save the Date:** the OJC's annual **Judicial-Legislative Exchange** is scheduled for Tuesday, **April 24, 2018**. The Judicial-Legislative Exchange seeks to improve the working relationship between the judicial and legislative branches by allowing members of each to better appreciate the day-to-day work of the other. The Judicial Conference coordinates a Statehouse visit every spring and encourages judges to reciprocally invite their legislators to observe them at work in their courts at any point. If you are interested in participating this year, please contact Justin.Long@sc.ohio.gov.

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



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