



August 20, 2018

Legislation and Policy in the News:

[Ohio Patients May Have to Wait a Little Longer for Legal Marijuana; Toledo Blade, August 9, 2018](#)

[Some States Sitting on Piles of Cash, and Cities Want a Cut; New York Times, August 17, 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

- **SB 321** (Sen. LaRose) **Fines and Penalties**, introduced 8.9.18. The bill requires state agencies to deposit all fines, penalties, and late fees into the state treasury to the credit of the General Revenue Fund unless other law specifically provides otherwise.
- **SB 322** (Sens. Lehner, Schiavoni) **Crime Victim Reparations**, introduced 8.9.18. The bill revises eligibility standards and procedure for awarding reparations to crime victims. It expands state crime victim fund payments to family members facing “severe trauma” from the victim’s injury or death, awarding up to \$15,000 for wages lost to psychiatric treatment or counseling. It also would make it easier for convicted felons to get money from the Ohio Attorney General Crime Victims Compensation Fund.
- **SB 323** (Sen. Kunze) **Sexual Assault Kits**, introduced 8.9.18. The bill creates a statewide tracking system for the processing of sexual assault examination kits. The “SAK Tracking System” will allow rape survivors who have undergone forensic examination to track the status of their rape kit evidence online. All agencies involved in the chain-of-custody of SAK kits are required to participate in the tracking program. **HB 719** (Rep. Pelanda) is a companion, introduced 8.14.18.
- On 6.1.18, the Governor signed an Executive Order amending [O.A.C. Rule 5160-1-17.8](#) to address recent Medicaid decisions prohibiting medical practitioners with past felonies from getting Medicaid reimbursement for medical services. The amended rule will now require that a medical practitioner complete probation and get a CQE to be eligible for Medicaid reimbursement. [Information about CQEs](#) is available on the OJC website.
- The Ohio Supreme Court clarified that the state’s 2012 Safe Harbor law is not confined to non-violent crimes, 8.14.18. In [State v. Martin](#), Slip Opinion No. 2018-Ohio-3226, the Court reviewed a “safe harbor” provision created in [129 HB 262](#) that provides that juvenile victims of human trafficking can have charges held in abeyance, and possibly dismissed, while they get treatment. The court upheld the conviction in the case but explicitly rejected the state’s argument that Ohio’s safe-harbor provisions apply only to nonviolent offenses.
- Mark your calendars! The **2018 OJC Annual Meeting**, “Today’s Trends, Tomorrow’s Rulings,” takes place on 9.13 – 9.14 in Columbus, and features *Dreamland* author Sam Quinones and Dean of U.C. Berkeley School of Law and constitutional law expert Prof. Erwin Chemerinsky.

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



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