



October 16, 2017

Legislation and Policy in the News:

[Columbus Judge Could Decide Painkiller Cases Nationwide; Columbus Dispatch, October 6, 2017](#)

[Free Speech Lawsuit Legislation; LA Times, October 4, 2017](#)

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

- [HB 31](#) (Rep. Cupp) **Abolition of Boards**, passed by the Senate, 10.11.17. The bill abolished several defunct boards and revived the RECLAIM Advisory Committee.
- [SB 206](#) (Sen. Huffman) **Citizen Participation Lawsuits**, introduced 10.3.17. The bill aims to prevent litigation that stifles citizen participation by creating an expedited process when someone is sued for expressing an opinion about a matter of public interest.
- [SB 207](#) (Sen. Kunze) **Felonious Assault Offense Expansion**, introduced 10.3.17. The bill expands the offense of felonious assault to include knowingly causing or attempting to cause physical harm to another person by means of strangulation or suffocation.
- [SB 214](#) (Sens. Lehner, Terhar) **Female Genital Mutilation**, introduced 10.5.17. The bill makes female genital mutilation an F5; the offense is defined as the act of mutilation or the act of intentionally transporting a minor to the place where the mutilation takes place.
- [HB 360](#) (Rep. Greenspan) **Hazing and Bullying**, introduced 9.26.17. The bill increases the penalty for hazing from M4 to M2 (F3 if there is a “substantial risk” of causing death). If a school suspends or expels a pupil for bullying, a notice is filed with the local municipal court, where a community service plan is developed for the juvenile.
- [HB 365](#) (Reps. Boggs, Hughes) **Indefinite Sentencing and Re-Entry Monitoring**, introduced 10.2.17. The bill is a companion to [SB 201](#) and [SB 202](#). It makes F1, F2, and some F3 prison terms indefinite with presumptive release at the minimum term; it allows DRC to reduce the minimum term or apply the maximum term; it requires DRC to establish a reentry program for all released offenders who need to live in a facility but have not been accepted into one; it requires GPS monitoring and a statewide database for certain released offenders.
- [HB 366](#) (Rep. Gavarone) **Child Support Law**, introduced 10.2.17. The bill is a companion to [SB 125](#) (Sen. Beagle) and updates the child support schedules.
- [HB 373](#) (Rep. Vitale) **Concealed Handguns in Courtrooms**, introduced 10.10.17. The bill permits any person who holds a concealed handgun license to carry a concealed handgun in a courthouse, a courtroom, or a government facility if there is no ordinance, policy, or court rule that prohibits a licensee from carrying a deadly weapon or dangerous ordnance.
- [HB 374](#) (Reps. Cupp, Duffey) **Child Enticement**, introduced 10.10.17. In response to *State v. Romage*, which struck down a portion of the child enticement statute as overbroad, the bill expands the activities which violate the child enticement law.
- The OJC Civil Law and Procedure Committee has created a [benchcard](#) on the topic of **cognovit notes** (also referred to as confessions of judgment).
- Judges can now [sign up for Ohio Supreme Court grant announcements](#) and indicate preferred method of receiving the information.

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



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