



September 5, 2017

Legislation and Policy in the News:

[Sen. Portman Takes Aim at Sex Trafficking Portal; Cincinnati Vindicator, August 29, 2017](#)

[Ohio Supreme Court Chief Justice O'Connor: Guns, Courthouse Security Need to be Studied After Shooting; cleveland.com, August 31, 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 310** (Rep. Vitale) **Elected Officials and Guns**, introduced 7.24.17. The bill permits any elected officeholder who holds a valid concealed handgun license to carry a concealed handgun into any government facility. Current law excludes courthouses from the definition of a government facility and this bill does not change that.
- **HB 327** (Reps. Schaffer, Smith) **Penalty for Importuning**, introduced 8.24.17. The bill mandates an F3 sentence (under Sec. 2929.14) for a violation of current Sec. 2907.07 (A) or (C). Sec. 2907.07(A) prohibits soliciting another younger than the age of 13, regardless whether the age is known to the offender. Sec. 2907.07(C) prohibits using a tele-communications device to solicit another if the offender is older than 18 and the other person is either younger than 13 or a law enforcement officer posing as someone younger than 13.
- **HB 331** (Rep. Ingram) **Accident Reports**, introduced 8.30.17. The bill prohibits the use of information obtained from an accident report by any person for commercial solicitation purposes. The Attorney General is required to establish a hotline telephone number for people to report violations and to establish a process by which to adjudicate violations of the new law.
- **SB 183** (Sen. LaRose) **Business Courts Study Committee**, introduced 8.29.17. The bill creates the Joint Committee to Study Ohio Business Courts, consisting of 19 members: including 6 legislators, 3 sitting judges, 3 business executives, and 3 business or law professors from an Ohio university. The Committee will study the potential effect of a business court system on Ohio's business climate, whether or not a business court system would effectively encourage a company to want to register in Ohio, how many business courts would be necessary in Ohio, whether there are potential judges who are available who would have the necessary business expertise to properly operate a business court system, what the effects of a business court system would be on courts of common pleas, and whether a business court system could be funded solely on court filing fees.
- Secretary of State Jon Husted released the official title, arguments for and against, and an explanation of [State Issue 1 \("Rights for Crime Victims"\)](#) or **Marsy's Law** on the ballot this November. The constitutional expansion of rights of anyone negatively impacted by a crime to participate in all proceedings is expected to have a significant impact on the administration of justice.
- The **Ohio Judicial Conference's Annual Meeting** took place 8.30 – 9.1.17 and was a great success with over 300 judges in attendance. Looking forward to next year!

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



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