

Legislative News: Two-Week Review



March 6, 2023

In Case You Missed It:

[*The Ohio Association of Civil Trial Attorneys Published their Quarterly Review; Winter, 2023*](#)

[*Sign up for updates from OneOhio Foundation, the state agency tasked with distributing opiate lawsuit settlement funds.*](#)

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

- [HB 33](#) (Rep. Edwards) **State Operating Budget**, introduced 2.15.23. The budget bill contains some policy items, including: a change to the Good Samaritan law, a new offense of disability intimidation and an F3 penalty for sexual activity for hire if it involves someone with a developmental disability, expanded use of IDAT funds and new IDAT reporting requirements for the court to the local ADAMH board, a change to how APA officers can label a PRC supervision termination.
- [HB 50](#) (Reps. Humphrey, Seitz) **Certificates for Qualification for Housing**, introduced 2.15.23. The bill creates a mechanism by which an individual may obtain from a court a certificate of qualification for housing, similar to the CQE (certification of qualification for employment).
- [HB 56](#) (Rep. Plummer) **Penalties for Police Pursuit**, introduced 2.16.23. The bill increases from a F4 to an F3 the offense of willfully eluding or fleeing a police officer in a motor vehicle after receiving a signal from the police officer to stop. The bill also requires each law enforcement agency to adopt a written policy that governs the pursuit of a motor vehicle, and enumerates factors that should be considered in such a policy.
- [HB 67](#) (Reps. Seitz, Williams) **Future Penalty Reductions**, introduced 2.27.23. If a penalty for an offense has been imposed on an offender and if the penalty for that offense is subsequently reduced by a change to the Code or Constitution, the bill creates a procedure by which the penalty previously imposed on the offender may be reduced.
- [HB 69](#) (Reps. Stewart, Willis) **County Veterans Service Commissions**, introduced 2.27.23. The bill changes the way members of a county veterans service commissions are selected and reduces the role of the common pleas judge in that selection.
- [HB 83](#) (Rep. Humphrey) **Decriminalize Drug Paraphernalia Possession**, introduced 2.27.23. The bill removes criminal penalties for the use and possession of drug paraphernalia and drug abuse instruments.
- [HB 85](#) (Rep. Patton) **Foreclosures and Land Banks**, introduced 2.27.23. The bill expands the methods by which land banks can acquire delinquent property.
- The Ohio Board of Professional Conduct released [Advisory Opinion 2023-01](#), stating that a judge may not solicit local businesses, or direct a court employee to solicit local businesses, to donate items for use as program rewards and incentives for participants in a specialized docket.
- **Save the Date:** OJC's Annual **Judicial-Legislative Exchange** is planned for 5.9.23, in conjunction with **Law Day** and a bench-bar reception hosted by the OJC, the OSBA, and the Access to Justice Foundation. If you are interested in participating, please email justin.long@sc.ohio.gov.
- **Did you know?** The [Supreme Court of Ohio Law Library](#) can assist you and your staff with legal research needs like obtaining LSC analyses back to the early 1960s or determining when a certain word or phrase was added to an existing statute. Email libref@sc.ohio.gov.

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



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