

Legislative News: Two-Week Review



February 28, 2022

In Case You Missed It:

[Latest Inmate Removed from Death Row via Mental Illness Law; Associated Press, February 15, 2022](#)

[Ohio Risks Returning Emergency Rental Assistance Money; Columbus Dispatch, February 24, 2022](#)

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.

- **SB 300** (Sen. Wilson) **Notaries Public**, introduced 2.22.22. The bill makes a variety of changes to the notarization process, including electronic notarization; it requires that clerks of courts of record accept digital documents produced through electronic notarization.
- **SB 301** (Sen. Blessing) **License Suspensions**, introduced 2.24.22. The bill: eliminates license suspensions as a sanction for several drug offenses, and for others, suspension is possible only for certain levels of the offense; allows a person to have a child-support suspension lifted by providing CSEA with evidence that the suspension prohibits payment of support and allowing a court to grant limited driving privileges upon petition from the person, rather than through a contempt hearing; changes the lookback for operating a vehicle without proof of financial responsibility from 5 years to 1 year; and removes the impoundment of plates and registration as a sanction.
- **HB 343** (Rep. White) **Victims' Rights**, substitute bill accepted 2.15.22. The substitute bill somewhat narrows the extremely broad scope of restitution in the as-introduced version of the bill and also develops a process by which a victim, though not a party to the case, can appeal an alleged violation of the rights enumerated in the Ohio Constitution.
- **HB 567** (Reps. Brown, Stewart) **Court Documents**, introduced 2.9.22. The bill requires every court of common pleas to make the civil documents available online, so that documents can be accessed and printed by anyone. The bill provides that domestic relations and probate dockets may, but do not have to, make documents available online and allows 18 months after the effective date to comply.
- In *Jezerinac et al. v. Dioun et al.* ([Slip Opinion No. 2022-Ohio-509](#)), decided 2.24.22, the Ohio Supreme Court clarified that when a member of an original appellate panel leaves the bench before a decision on a motion for reconsideration, the departing judge may be replaced by a new judge on the panel that is reconsidering the matter.
- In *In re Adoption of A.K.*, ([Slip Opinion No. 2022-Ohio-350](#)), decided 2.10.22, the Ohio Supreme Court affirmed that a parent's **right to consent to the adoption** of his children are not extinguished under R.C. 3107.07(A) when the parent is in compliance of a non-contact order.
- The Ohio Supreme Court has updated **standard probate forms** for [Guardianship](#), [Name Changes](#), and [Medicaid Recovery](#); updates went into effect on 2.1.22.
- Save the date: The OCCO legislative reception is scheduled for 4.6.22, from 5:00 to 7:00 in the Statehouse Atrium. The **Ohio Council of County Officials** is an organization that includes representatives from each of the county elected officials' associations and the Ohio Judicial Conference. It serves as a forum to provide information about issues of importance to county elected official and work on legislative issues of mutual concern.

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



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