



May 18, 2020

**Legislation and Policy
in the News:**

[DeWine to State
Legislature: I Will Veto
Any Bill That Prevents Me
From Protecting Ohio;
Cleveland Plain Dealer,
May 8, 2020](#)

[How Coronavirus Could
Kill the US Bail Bond
Business; cnbc.com, May
9, 2020](#)

*The Ohio Judicial
Conference is dedicated to
serving all Ohio judges. It is
the primary resource to
ensure the fair, unbiased,
open, and effective
administration of justice.*

Legislative News: Two-Week Review

- The OJC Jury Service Committee has created a [document to aid in convening a grand jury or conducting a jury trial during a pandemic](#). This is a work in progress and feedback is appreciated. It is available on the OJC website, along with other similar resources.
- The OJC jointly with the Association of Municipal and County Judges of Ohio, has developed a [guide for continuing municipal court operations safely during the pandemic](#).
- **SB 1** (Sens. McColley, Roegner) **Regulatory Changes**, passed by the House 5.6.20. The bill was introduced as an effort to reduce regulation in state agencies. The bill was amended on the floor of the House to restrict a Health Director’s authority to issue orders to a 14-day period. Any orders after the 14-day period would have to have JCARR (the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review) approval. Under the amendment, any Ohio citizen has standing to sue (presumably in any court) if the Health Director does not comply with the new requirement.
- **HB 3** (Reps. Boyd, Caruthers) **Emergency Protection Orders**, amended 5.13.20. The sub-bill no longer contains a requirement for courts to be open 24 hours a day. The bill requires that a court consider a lethality assessment and an amendment qualified that is only if an assessment is available.
- **SB 10** (Sen. Wilson) **Theft in Office**, amended 5.13.20. The bill was amended to include a solution to a conflict between county auditors and courts about what evidentiary documents are required to the auditor when a court’s special project funds are used.
- **SB 55** (Sen. Gavorone) **Increased Criminal Penalties**, passed by the House 5.6.20. The bill enhances penalties for drug trafficking committed in the vicinity of a community addiction services provider, at the same level as if the offense was committed in the vicinity of a school or a juvenile. The bill was amended on the floor to make violating an order of the Health Director or the Department of Health during a pandemic a minor misdemeanor for a subsequent offense (the statute currently prohibits violation of an order but does not specify a penalty, RC 3701.352).
- **HB 368** (Rep. Baldrige) **Computer Crimes**, passed by the House 5.13.20. The bill creates several new computer crimes and attendant civil actions.
- **HB 431** (Rep. Abrams, Carfagna) **Sexual Exploitation Database**, amended 5.13.20. The bill creates a database of people who have committed sexual exploitation offenses; it was amended to avoid an overlap with the SORN registry and to keep someone’s HIV status confidential.
- Each year the Justice Administration & Innovation (JAI) Committee of the OSBA presents the **Innovative Court Programs and Practices Award** to bring greater visibility to exemplary programs in Ohio’s courts. The JAI Committee is [now accepting applications](#) for the 2020 award.
- The **Ohio Bar Liability Insurance Company** (OBLIC) provides [supplemental disciplinary coverage](#) for Ohio Judges and Justices over and above the current self-insured program limit of \$10,000. There is no deductible and the annual cost is \$125 per insured judge/justice. If interested, [applications](#) are due to OBLIC by 6.1.20.

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



[Marta Mudri](#)

Legislative Counsel
Civil Law; Specialized
Dockets; Community
Corrections



[Shawn Welch](#)

Deputy Legislative Counsel
Probate Law; Domestic
Relations Law; Juvenile Law



[Josh Williams](#)

Deputy Legislative Counsel
Criminal Law; Traffic Law;
Appellate Law; Magistrates



[Justin Long](#)

Legislative Services
Specialist;
Publications; PCCO;
Professionalism