

Legislative News: Two-Week Review



April 3, 2023

In Case You Missed It:

[Ohio Ethics Commission Releases Advisory Opinion on Donations to Government Entities; March 9, 2023](#)

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.

- [SJR 2](#) (Sens. Gavarone, McColley) **Constitutional Amendment Threshold**, introduced 3.22.23. The resolution proposes to amend Sections 1b, 1e, and 1g of Article II and Sections 1 and 3 of Article XVI of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to require a vote of at least 60% of the electors to approve any constitutional amendment.
- [HB 101](#) (Reps. Bird, Schmidt) **Village Dissolution**, introduced 3.9.23. The bill changes and clarifies the process for village dissolution, some of which involves the courts.
- [SB 101](#) (Sens. Antonio, Huffman) **Death Penalty**, introduced 3.29.23. The bill abolishes the death penalty and modifies the number of jurors that may be challenged in cases where a defendant may be sentenced to life imprisonment.
- [HB 122](#) (Reps. Miller, Pavliga) **Intimidation Offenses**, introduced 3.21.23. The bill expands intimidation offenses under Sec. 2921.03 to include guardians ad litem and court-appointed special advocates as possible victims of intimidation.
- [HB 124](#) (Reps. Galonski, Miranda) **Statute of Limitations for Rape**, introduced 3.21.23. The bill would eliminate the statutes of limitations for criminal cases of rape or civil cases concerning conduct that would constitute rape.
- [HB 139](#) (Reps. Miller, Roemer) **Increased Penalties**, introduced 3.28.23. The bill increases penalties for assault if the victim is acting as a sports official or the assault is committed in retaliation for the victim's actions as a sports official (if the offense is an M1, the bills requires 40 hours of community service and a \$1,500 fine if the victim is a sports official; an M1 can be enhanced to an F5).
- [HB 143](#) (Rep. Grim) **Rental Agreements**, introduced 3.29.23. The bill allows victims of crime to terminate rental agreements and creates an income tax credit for landlords that have rented to someone who becomes a crime victim and therefore terminates the lease. The definition of "nuisance" is altered to clarify that calls to law enforcement relating to rape, attempted rape, domestic violence, dating violence, abuse, or sexually oriented offenses are not "nuisances" for purposes of Sec. 3767.01.
- **Save the Date:** The **Ohio Council of County Officials (OCCO)** is hosting a legislative reception on 4.19.23 in the Ohio Statehouse Atrium, from 5 to 7. All county elected officials are represented by OCCO, so consider attending. Email rgarrett@ccao.org with questions or to register attendance.
- **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](#).



[Marta Mudri](#)

Legislative Counsel
Civil Law; Specialty Courts; 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