



Ohio Prosecuting Attorneys Association

Legislative Newsletter – 133rd General Assembly

April 1, 2019



IN THE NEWS

[Ohio Prison Population Grows Despite Justice Reform, Critics Find](#)

[Bill to Enhance Punishment for Trafficking Near Drug Rehab Centers](#)

[Child Support Laws Change for First Time in More Than 25 Years](#)

[Counties Want to Pay Legal Defense Costs for Those in Ohio Who Cannot Afford It](#)

[Crime Survivors Lobby Lawmakers for Reform, More Assistance](#)

OPAA NEWS

Registration is open for OPAA's Spring Training, April 25 – 26 in Columbus.

Introduced

[House Bill 166 \(Biennial Budget\)](#) sponsored by Rep. Oelslager makes appropriations for the biennium. See attached document for relevant changes. [House Bill 178 \(Concealed Weapons Reform\)](#) sponsored by Reps. Hood and Brinkman among other things authorizes a person 21 or older and who is not prohibited by federal law from firearm possession to carry a concealed deadly weapon without needing a license.

[House Bill 136 \(Death Penalty – SMI\)](#) sponsored by Rep. Hillyer prohibits imposing the death penalty for aggravated murder when the offender had one of five specified serious mental illnesses at the time of the offense. Creates a process for post-conviction relief for those currently on death row.

[House Bill 161 \(Abuse of Corpse\)](#) sponsored by Rep. Ryan Smith expands the penalties for abuse of a corpse to provide that abuse of a corpse is a felony of the first or second degree subject to a mandatory prison term under certain circumstances.

[Senate Bill 118 \(Assault – Sports Officials\)](#) sponsored by Sen. Roegner increases the penalty 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.

[House Bill 153 \(Vacant Office – Failure to Perform\)](#) sponsored by Rep. Becker modifies the law regarding declaring a county office vacant for failure to perform duties, including failure to appear at the officer's principle office location.

[House Bill 158 \(Filing Fee – Limited Driving Privileges\)](#) sponsored by Rep. Blessing to waive the fee for filing a petition for limited driving privileges for an individual who qualifies as indigent and whose license is suspended as a result of failure to maintain proof of financial responsibility, and to authorize a court to grant such limited driving privileges on a first offense.

Passed by Senate

[Senate Bill 57 \(Decriminalize Hemp\)](#) sponsored by Sens. Hill and Steve Huffman was passed by the Senate 30 – 0 on March 28.

For a complete list of bills that the OPAA is tracking and OPAA positions on legislation, please visit www.ohiopa.org.