



Ohio Prosecuting Attorneys Association

Legislative Newsletter

April 24, 2023



IN THE NEWS

[Dayton Man is First Indicted in Montgomery County on New Strangulation Charge](#)

[Could Ohio Get Recreational Marijuana? One Expert Says Its Inevitable.](#)

[Medical Marijuana: Ohio Lawmakers Eye Changes to Regulation of Dispensaries](#)

[New Bill Would Turn Much-Stolen Catalytic Converters Into Special Purchase Items](#)

OPAA NEWS

The OPAA Summer Workshop at Cedar Point is June 23 – 24. Registration Will Open Soon.

Substitute Biennial Budget Bill

[House Bill 33 \(Biennial Budget\)](#) sponsored by Rep. Edwards (R – Nelsonville) was amended by the House on April 18. The House version of the bill made the following changes that should be of note to prosecutors:

- Appropriates \$8 million in each year of the biennium for prosecutor victim programs that provide assistance to victims and promote victim rights implementation.
- Creates an exception from the public records law for ‘attorney work product records.’ This is in addition to defining ‘specific investigatory work product’ for the purposes of the confidential law enforcement investigatory records exception.
- Retains changes in the As Introduced version of the bill relative to the good Samaritan law. These changes repeal the cap on the number of times a person can assert immunity and repeal the requirement that a person obtain a treatment assessment and referral.
- Retains changes in the As Introduced version of the bill relative to the state public defender providing representation at parole board hearings and parole eligibility hearings but makes the representation permissive rather than mandatory. Changes to OPD budget also cap reimbursement of county costs at \$75 per hour and reduce OPD’s budget request for county reimbursement to 78%.
- Permits a person from whom a sexual assault examination kit was collected to request information regarding the kit and requires the official with custody of the kit to inform the victim when there is any change in the status of the case.

Bill Amended

[House Bill 44 \(Record Parole Board Hearings\)](#) sponsored by Reps. Humphrey (D – Columbus) and Stewart (R – Ashville) was amended to require the recording of only full parole hearings and to allow the offender, the offender’s attorney, the prosecutor, and the victim to receive recordings, if any, of other parole proceedings such as institutional hearings, parole revocation hearings, and post-release control revocation hearings.

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