



# Ohio Prosecuting Attorneys Association

Legislative Newsletter – 133<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly

December 23, 2019



## IN THE NEWS

[Ohio House GOP Discussing Repeal of Death Penalty](#)

[Ohio Lawmakers Struggle Over Bill to Reduce Drug Penalties](#)

[Ohio Bill Could Benefit Drug Traffickers](#)

[DeWine Wants Gun Violence Bill Passed Before Considering Pro-Gun Legislation](#)

[Ohio Needs Parole Reform](#)

[Ohio No Longer Considering Opioid Lawsuit Protection Fund](#)

## OPAA NEWS

Happy Holidays from your OPAA Staff! We look forward to seeing you in 2020!

## Enacted

[Senate Bill 5](#) (Promoting Prostitution Penalties) sponsored by Sens. Kunze and Dolan increases the penalties for promoting prostitution. The bill was signed by the Governor on December 12, 2019 and will be *Effective on March 12, 2020*.

## Amended in Committee

[Senate Bill 3](#) (Drug Law Reform) sponsored by Sens. Eklund and O'Brien was amended on December 12, 2019. Among the eight amendments accepted were amendments to (1) allow the prosecutor, defense counsel, or municipal judge to move to transfer an unclassified misdemeanor drug possession case to the court of common pleas, (2) provide for a weapons disability for UM drug possession, (3) provide for felony speedy trial times for UM drug possession, and (4) provide for felony statute of limitations for UM drug possession.

[House Bill 136](#) (Death Penalty – Serious Mental Illness) sponsored by Rep. Hillyer was amended by the Senate Judiciary Committee on December 12, 2019. The amendments (1) removed consideration of SMI from the required content of the jury instructions and verdict, (2) changed “solely” to “primarily” with regard to whether substance use can result in an SMI exclusion, and (3) requires a movant for SMI to waive resentencing to anything other than life without parole.

## Introduced

[House Bill 444](#) (Township Law) sponsored by Reps. Baldrige and Abrams makes various changes to township law.

[House Bill 446](#) (Elder Abuse License Plate) sponsored by Rep. Powell creates the “Stop Elder Abuse” license plate.

[House Bill 456](#) (Electronic Monitoring – Residential Facility) sponsored by Rep. Brent authorizes a resident of facility licensed by the Department of Developmental Disabilities, or a resident’s guardian, to install and use an electronic monitoring device in the resident’s room subject to certain conditions.

For a complete list of bills that the OPAA is tracking and OPAA positions on legislation, please visit [www.ohiopa.org](http://www.ohiopa.org).