



Ohio Prosecuting Attorneys Association

Legislative Newsletter – 134th General Assembly

February 14, 2022



IN THE NEWS

[Remaining Portions of Reagan Tokes Act Passes Ohio House](#)

[A Massive Criminal Justice Reform Bill 5 Years in the Making Is Now Up For Debate in Ohio](#)

[Senate Bill 288 Aims to Reform Ohio's Criminal Justice System](#)

[Ohio's Cash Bail System Wrongly Burdens Low-Income People Even Before Trial is Held](#)

OPAA Events

The OPAA Spring Training is Scheduled for April 28 – 29 at the Sheraton Capitol Square in Columbus. Registration will open soon.

Introduced

[Senate Bill 288 \(Criminal Justice Omnibus\)](#) sponsored by Sen. Manning is a lengthy rewrite of Title 29. The bill includes some of the changes from the 2016 Criminal Justice Recodification Committee. It also includes a variety of other measures sought by criminal justice stakeholders including, the ability to seek to expunge any record that can be sealed, expanding “good time” credit from 8% to 15%, repeal of the judicial veto of transitional control, presumptive judicial release upon recommendation of director of ODRC, a judicial release mechanism for states of emergency, and expansion of the Good Samaritan law to drug paraphernalia.

[Senate Bill 292 \(Swatting\)](#) sponsored by Sen. Brenner is a companion bill to House Bill 462. The bill creates the new offense of “swatting” that prohibits using a telecommunications device or telecommunications service to purposely trigger an emergency response when no emergency response is warranted by reporting or causing to be reported false or misleading information to a law enforcement agency, emergency service provider, or public safety answering point. Swatting is an F3, or if it results in serious physical harm to any person, an F1.

[House Bill 561 \(Human Trafficking Awareness Day\)](#) sponsored by Reps. Richardson and Jarrells designates January 11 as Human Trafficking Awareness Day.

Passed by House

[House Bill 166 \(Reagan Tokes II – GPS\)](#) sponsored by Reps. Boggs and Carfagna makes changes to the law regarding GPS monitoring of offenders released from prison and clarifies sentencing issues that arose as a result of Reagan Tokes I in 2019. A last minute amendment to the bill in the House makes changes to R.C. 2953.08 regarding Appellate Review in an attempt to address the Supreme Court decision in *State v. Gynne*, 158 Ohio St.3d 279.

[House Bill 161 \(Violent Offender Database – Child Abuse\)](#) sponsored by Rep. Lampton adds permitting child abuse and domestic violence committed when the offender was 18 years of age or older and that involved a victim who was under the age of 14 to list of offenses included in the violent offender database.