



Ohio Prosecuting Attorneys Association

Legislative Newsletter – 134th General Assembly

March 15, 2021



IN THE NEWS

[Bills Seek to Help Trafficking Victims Erase Records](#)

[Majority on Akron Council Say Voters Should Decide Whether to Abolish Death Penalty](#)

[Butler County Lawmaker Pushes for Stronger Domestic Violence Laws](#)

[Death Penalty Opponents Point Their Compassion in the Wrong Direction](#)

[Stand Your Ground Laws Tied to Increase in Violent Crime](#)

OPAA NEWS

OPAA Spring Training is scheduled for April 15 – 16 in Columbus. We have applied for 9 hours of CLE. Attendance will be limited to allow for social distancing.

Introduced

[House Bill 183/Senate Bill 103](#) (Death Penalty Repeal) sponsored by Reps. Schmidt and A. Miller and Sens. Antonio and S. Huffman respectively would abolish the death penalty and modify the number of jurors that may be challenged in cases where a defendant may be sentenced to life imprisonment.

[House Bill 166](#) (Criminal Sentencing – Reagan Tokes) sponsored by Reps. Boggs and Carfagna addresses sentencing issues that resulted from the enactment of the Reagan Tokes Act in 2018, establishes workload and caseload standards for the adult parole authority, and requires improved GPS monitoring of offenders released from prison.

[House Bill 205/Senate Bill 126](#) (Hazing – Collin’s Law) sponsored by Reps. Ghanbari and Sheehy and Sens. Kunze and Gavarone respectively expand the definition of hazing, increase the penalties for hazing depending on the seriousness of the harm, and provides criminal penalties for failure to report hazing. House Bill 205 also addresses bullying behavior in primary education.

[House Bill 161](#) (Violent Offender Database – Child Abuse) sponsored by Rep. Lampton adds permitting child abuse and domestic violence, where the offender is 18 or older and the victim is 14 or under at the time of the offense, to the list of offenses that are included in the violent offender database.

[House Bill 206](#) (Township Police – Offenses on Interstate) sponsored by Reps. Ghanbari and O’Brien permits a township police officer who serves a population between 5,000 and 50,000 to enforce specified traffic offenses on interstate highways within the township if authorized by that township’s board of trustees.

[House Bill 199](#) (Rape Victims – Cap on Noneconomic Loss) sponsored by Reps. Boggs and Russo removes the cap on damages for noneconomic loss when a victim of rape of assault brings a tort action.

Passed by Senate

[Senate Bill 36](#) (Crime Victim Reparations) sponsored by Sens. Manning and S. Huffman passed the Senate on March 3 by a vote of 32 – 0. The legislation expands the types of victims who may receive an award of reparations, modifies the disqualifying conditions for an award of reparations, and modifies the definitions of “allowable expense” and “contributory misconduct.”