



Ohio Prosecuting Attorneys Association

Legislative Newsletter – 133rd General Assembly

March 30, 2020



IN THE NEWS

[Ohio's Delayed Election: Here's How it Will Unfold](#)

[Ohio Lawmakers, Under Pandemic Pressure, Come Together](#)

[Ohio Prisons Publishing Daily Coronavirus Statistics](#)

[Grand Jury Gets More Time to Issue Indictments](#)

[From Jury Duty to Trials, Coronavirus is Wreaking Havoc on Courts](#)

[Better Bail Reform](#)

[The Sentence of Life Without Parole Spikes in Ohio as Death-Penalty Cases Drop](#)

Enacted

[House Bill 197](#) (Omnibus Measures on Coronavirus) sponsored by Reps. Powell and Merrin was signed by the Governor on Friday, March 27 and became effective immediately. The bill addresses a variety of issues related to Executive Order 2020-01D declaring a state of emergency. Among other things, the bill provides temporary relief from the “in-person” requirement in the OMA, tolls certain statutory time limitations applicable to the courts until July 30 if the time limitation is set to expire prior to July 30, and extends state issued licenses, including CCW permits, that expire during the emergency.

Supreme Court of Ohio Order

In addition to House Bill 197, the Supreme Court of Ohio issued an [order](#) on Friday, March 27 that is retroactive to March 9, 2020 tolling time requirements imposed by the rules of the Court.

Introduced

[Senate Bill 296](#) (Abolish Death Penalty) sponsored by Sens. Antonio and Lehner would abolish the death penalty in Ohio.

[Senate Bill 293](#) (Open Meeting Law Complaints) sponsored by Sens. Manning and Blessing would create a procedure to enable the Court of Claims to hear complaints alleging a violation of the open meetings act. Under the bill, an aggrieved person could seek relief in either the court of common pleas or the Court of Claims.

[House Bill 555](#) (Child Support) sponsored by Reps. Russo and Manchester makes changes to child support laws with regard to caretakers.

[House Bill 552](#) (Juvenile Life Sentences/Parole Eligibility) sponsored by Rep. Galonski is companion legislation to Senate Bill 278 that was introduced in February. The bill prohibits juvenile life without parole and creates special parole eligibility dates for juveniles sentenced to extended sentences.

[House Bill 556](#) (Emergency Workers – PTSD Compensation) sponsored by Reps. Antani and Lang would provide compensation, medical benefits, and disability retirement benefits to emergency workers diagnosed with PTSD.

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