



Ohio Prosecuting Attorneys Association

Legislative Newsletter

January 2, 2019



IN THE NEWS

[Pike County Murder Cases Underscore Why Fewer Prosecutors Pursue Death Penalty](#)

[Lawmakers Clear Up When Police Camera Videos are Public Records](#)

[New Ohio Law Targets Elder Fraud](#)

[In Cincinnati, A Winning Opioid Strategy](#)

[With Medical Marijuana Imminent Attorneys Say Driving Limit Too Low](#)

[Domestic Violence Victims Wait for Justice as Attackers Remain Free](#)

Veto Overrides

[House Bill 228](#) (Burden of Proof – Self Defense) sponsored by Reps. Johnson and LaTourette, shifts the burden of proof to the prosecution to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that person did not act in self-defense if there is evidence introduced that “tends to support” that the person acted in self-defense. The bill also modifies the law on state preemption of local firearm regulations, authorizes peace officers, under certain circumstances, to carry concealed weapons while off-duty, and prohibits “straw man” purchases of firearms.

[Senate Bill 296](#) (Officer Death Benefits) sponsored by Sen. Hottinger revises benefits that surviving family members receive from the Public Safety Officers Death Benefit Fund. Provides for salary adjustments for elected officials, including a 1.75% COLA for sheriffs, prosecutors, and judges beginning in 2020 and running through 2028.

Sent to Governor for Signature

[House Bill 425](#) (Police Body/Dash Cameras – Public Records) sponsored by Reps. Antani and Craig provides that specified portions of body-worn camera recordings and cruiser camera recordings are not public records for the purposes of public records law.

[Senate Bill 214](#) (Female Genital Mutilation) sponsored by Sens. Lehner and Terhar specifically prohibits female genital mutilation and the knowing transport of a minor to a facility or location for the purpose of facilitating female genital mutilation. Excludes from the definition of public record any depiction of victims of crime under specified circumstances dealing with the victims’ bodily privacy.

[House Bill 595](#) (Wills and Trusts Law) sponsored by Rep. Cupp makes revisions to Ohio law regarding wills and trusts. The bill includes a provision that excludes an individual from inheriting from a decedent if they are convicted of or plead guilty to involuntary manslaughter other than a felony vehicular homicide offense.

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