



Ohio Prosecuting Attorneys Association

Legislative Newsletter – 133rd General Assembly

July 22, 2019



IN THE NEWS

[Governor Signs \\$69 Billion Dollar State Budget](#)

[A Push to Reduce Prison Time, Even for Murder](#)

[Rape Victim Asks Ohio Lawmakers to Protect Sexual Assault Victims' Information](#)

[Chief Justice Looks to Make Major Changes to Criminal Justice System in Final Years](#)

[Rehab, Not Jail, Under Proposed Cuyahoga County Domestic Violence Docket](#)

OPAA NEWS

The OPAA Fall Training will be held in Cleveland September 26 – 27. Registration will open soon.

Enacted

[House Bill 166](#) (Biennial Budget) sponsored by Rep. Oelslager was enacted on July 17, seventeen days after the June 30 constitutional deadline. The OPAA worked on several pieces of the bill, only one of which remains in the bill. The final bill requires the APA to continue to provide probation services unless the county agrees to accept grant funding to provide their own.

[Senate Bill 57](#) (Hemp Decriminalization) sponsored by Sen. Stephen Huffman decriminalizes hemp and allows for cultivation. The bill was passed by the House on July 17. The bill now goes to the Governor for his signature.

Bills on the Move

[Senate Bill 13](#) (Human Trafficking) sponsored by Sen. Fedor passed the Senate on July 17. The bill eliminates the statutory distinction between 16 and 17 year old minor victims and other minor victims for the purposes of human trafficking prosecutions. It also makes changes to the juvenile safe harbor law for juvenile victims of human trafficking.

[Senate Bill 28](#) (Protection Order Violations) sponsored by Sen. Hottinger was amended and reported out of the Senate Judiciary committee on July 17. The amended bill enhances penalties for aggravated menacing and menacing when the victim of the violation had a protection order against the offender.

[Senate Bill 54](#) (Death Penalty – Serious Mental Illness) sponsored by Sens. Eklund and Williams was amended to mirror its companion legislation, House Bill 136, that passed the House on June 5. OPAA President Vic Viguicci testified in opposition. The legislation suffers from a variety of flaws.

Introduced

[House Bill 310](#) (School Bullying and Hazing) sponsored by Rep. Greenspan expands the definition of hazing and prohibits the knowing participation in the hazing of another when the hazing causes serious physical harm.

[House Bill 311](#) (County Inspector General) sponsored by Rep. Greenspan authorizes counties to request and obtain a county inspector general to investigate wrongful acts or omissions in county and other local government.

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