



Ohio Prosecuting Attorneys Association

Legislative Newsletter – 134th General Assembly

May 17, 2021



IN THE NEWS

[Ohio's New Sports Gaming Bill Already Undergoing Changes](#)

[Opinion: Ohioans in Favor of Bail Reform, So Let's Get on With It](#)

[Ohio Law to Protect Pets Has Been Largely Unenforced Since Passage in 2014](#)

[Ohio Democrats Plan Bill to Allow Police Officers to Be Sued](#)

[Rep. Dave Joyce, Former Prosecutor, Introduces Bill to Take Marijuana Off Federal Controlled Substance List](#)

OPAA NEWS

Join OPAA for a webinar on the Stand Your Ground Law hosted by Steve Taylor. Thursday, May 20 at Noon.

Passed By Senate

[House Bill 8](#) (Recording Custodial Interrogations) sponsored by Reps. Plummer and West requires the recording of certain custodial interrogations. Failure to record requires a cautionary instruction to the jury unless the prosecution proves by a preponderance that one of the exceptions is met. The bill also address issues with the law regarding the restraint and shackling of pregnant women and restores qualified immunity in these circumstances. The portion of the bill addressing the restraint issues includes an emergency clause and will go into effect immediately upon the Governor's signature.

Passed by House

[House Bill 206](#) (Twp. Police – Offenses on Interstate) sponsored by Reps. Ghanbari and O'Brien permits township police in townships with a population between 5,000 and 50,000 to enforce specified traffic offenses on interstate highways if authorized by the trustees.

Introduced

[House Bill 283](#) (Distracted Driving) sponsored by Reps. Abrams and Lampton expands the definition of distracted driving, makes distracted driving a primary offense, and requires data collection regarding distracted driving.

[House Bill 294](#) (Election Security and Modernization) sponsored by Reps. Seitz and Ray makes changes to election law including automated voter registration and verification, voter roll maintenance procedures, voter ID, curbside voting, absentee voting, and election administration.

[Senate Bill 176](#) (Sports Betting) sponsored by Sens. Antani and Manning legalizes sports gaming in Ohio and makes changes to charitable bingo law. The bill includes a variety of criminal prohibitions related to sports betting.

[House Bill 285](#) (Actions Challenging Statutes) sponsored by Rep. Seitz gives the General Assembly the right to intervene in an action challenging a statute by action of the Speaker of the House, Senate President, or both, authorizes the House, Senate, or both to obtain legal counsel other than the Attorney General for such actions, and requires the Attorney General to obtain legislative approval before settling an action brought against the state.

[House Bill 286](#) (Agency Order Appeal) sponsored by Rep. Seitz changes the venue from which an appeal from an agency order is proper to the local court of common pleas.