



Ohio Prosecuting Attorneys Association

Legislative Newsletter

May 28, 2024



IN THE NEWS

[Ohio Lawmakers Vote to Increase Penalties for Fatal DUI Offenses](#)

[Ohio Senate GOP Approves Bill Making it Harder for Local Judges to Block State Laws](#)

[Ohio Senate Republicans Resume Push to Ban Foreign Contributions for Ballot Issues](#)

[Got a Suspended Drivers License? Ohio Senate Moves to Make it Easier to Get Back](#)

OPAA NEWS

The OPAA Summer Workshop at Cedar Point is Coming Up – June 21 – 22.

Passed by the Senate

[Senate Bill 37 \(Drivers License Suspension\)](#) sponsored by Sens. Blessing (R – Cincinnati) and Ingram (D – Cincinnati) removes the possible driver's license suspension for certain drug offenses unless the offender used a vehicle to further the offense. The bill also eliminates the driver's license suspensions for failure to pay a court fine or fee and for truancy, and makes changes to license suspensions for failure to pay child support and to penalties for failure to provide proof of financial responsibility. The bill now moves to the House.

[House Bill 305 \(Campaign Finance and Courts\)](#) sponsored by Reps. Stewart (R – Ashville) and Brown (D – Columbus) was initially a bill about e-filing for courts and court computerization. The bill was amended extensively by the Senate Judiciary Committee to make a variety of changes to campaign finance and courts. Most notably, the amendments prohibit campaign spending by foreign nationals, classify an order that restrains or restricts enforcement of a state statute or regulation as a final appealable order, and allows the Ohio Elections Commission to refer cases to the Attorney General in addition to the county prosecutor. The House must confirm or reject the amendments.

Introduced

[House Bill 594 \(New Trial Motions\)](#) sponsored by Reps. Williams (R – Toledo) and Jarrells (D – Columbus) authorizes a person to file a motion for a new trial or a petition for postconviction relief if the person produces new evidence that would establish a strong probability of a difference result at trial. Authorizes the motion to be filed at any time.

[House Bill 556 \(Obscenity – Teachers/Librarians\)](#) sponsored by Rep. Mathews (R – Lebanon) makes changes to pandering obscenity that would subject some teachers and school librarians to criminal charges.

[House Bill 593 \(Criminal Child Enticement\)](#) sponsored by Reps. Dell'Aquila (D – Seven Hills) and Williams (R – Toledo) amends the criminal child enticement statute in response to the Supreme Court of Ohio decision in *State v. Ramage*, 138 Ohio St. 3d 390, to require that a person act with a sexual motivation or an unlawful purpose in order to criminally entice a child.

[House Bill 536 \(Seat Belt Laws\)](#) sponsored by Reps. Cross (R – Findlay) and K. Miller (R – Newark) makes failure to wear a seat belt and failure to properly secure a child a primary offense.

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