

## Legislative News: Two-Week Review



July 10, 2023

### ***In Case You Missed It:***

[\*Stand Your Ground Laws Associated with Additional 30 to 50 Homicides Every Month; Southern Poverty Law Center, July 28 2020\*](#)

[\*Keeping Secrets: Ohio Moves to Block More Court Records from View; Cincinnati Enquirer, June 28, 2023\*](#)

*The Ohio Judicial Conference is dedicated to serving all Ohio judges. The Judicial Conference is the voice of the judiciary & a primary resource to ensure the fair, unbiased, open & effective administration of justice.*

- [\*\*SB 16\*\*](#) (Sen. Wilson) **Marsy's Law Revisions**, voted out of the Legislature, 6.28.23. The as-introduced purpose of this bill was to limit liability surrounding donations of perishable food, but it was amended to include some Marsy's Law revisions. It was also amended to include an emergency clause, so it will go into effect as soon as it is signed by the Governor.
- [\*\*HB 33\*\*](#) (Rep. Edwards) **State Operating Budget**, signed by the Governor, 7.3.23. The budget bill contained a reduction to non-compliance license reinstatement fees (but only for the first reinstatement, per Governor's veto); a clarification about when a person can take a distracted driving course to avoid penalty; and a \$50 court cost on applications to seal or expunge records and applications for CQEs (the \$50 is to be retained by the court).
- [\*\*SB 21\*\*](#) (Sens. McColley, Reynolds) **Court Jurisdiction Changes and Agency Order Appeal**, voted out of the legislature, 6.15.23. The bill allows a person to appeal certain state agencies' orders in the common pleas court in the county of residence of the appellant (not in Franklin County, as currently required). The bill also revises eligibility criteria for the Hamilton County Drug Court; transfers Perry Township in Wood County and Washington Township in Hancock County from the territorial jurisdiction of the Tiffin Fostoria Municipal Court to the territorial jurisdiction of, respectively, the Bowling Green Municipal Court and the Findlay Municipal Court on January 2, 2024; and replaces 2 part-time county court judgeships in Sandusky County with 1 full-time judge.
- [\*\*HB 191\*\*](#) (Reps. Seitz, Swearingen) **Bail Considerations**, signed by the Governor, 6.30.23. The bill is a companion version to SB 122, which inserts CrimR46 into the Revised Code. The bill was amended to include an emergency clause, which means it will go into effect as soon as it is signed by the Governor, without the normal 90-day delay.
- [\*\*HB 230\*\*](#) (Reps. Abrams, Swearingen) **Increased Penalties**, introduced 6.27.23. The bill increases penalties for drug trafficking, making almost any trafficking of fentanyl an F1. The bill also creates a specification for Involuntary Manslaughter; if there is a fentanyl-related compound in the decedent, a 5-year specification is mandatory. The bill prohibits the organized trafficking of persons.
- [\*\*HB 233\*\*](#) (Reps. Hillyer, Williams) **Self-Defense**, introduced 6.29.23. The bill creates a pre-trial procedure for a person asserting self-defense, defense of another, or defense of property.
- [\*\*HB 234\*\*](#) (Reps. Rogers, Williams) **Genuine Remorse**, introduced 6.30.23. The bill prohibits a court from considering whether an offender who entered an Alford plea shows genuine remorse for the offense.
- On 6.23.23, the Ohio Public Defender issued an [update](#) on the **FY23 reimbursement rate** for indigent defense. On 6.28.23, the OPD issued a [memo](#) about a change in the **capital fee rate**; the Capital Case Attorney Fee Council has changed the rate for capital representation to \$140 per hour effective July 17, 2023.

**For a complete list of bills & the latest Enactment Summaries, please visit the [OJC website](#).**



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