Legislative News: Two-Week Review

• **SB 56** (Sen. Manning) **Marijuana**, passed by the Senate, 2.26.25. The bill changes recreational marijuana laws codified through Issue 2 in 2024 and creates an expungement program.

• **HB 102** (Reps. Klopfenstein, Williams) **Sex Offender Residence Limits**, introduced 2.18.25. The bill prohibits a sex offender or a child-victim offender from residing within 2,000 feet of the residence of the victim and from loitering within 1,000 feet of the residence of the victim.

• **HB 108** (Rep. Williams) **Self-Defense Pre-Trial**, introduced 2.18.25. The bill creates a pretrial procedure for a person asserting self-defense, defense of another, or defense of property.

• **HB 110** (Reps. Thomas, C., Williams) **Increased Penalties**, introduced 2.18.25. The bill increases the existing penalties for repeat voyeurism (from a range or M3 – M1 to F3s).

• **HB 111** (Reps. Creech, Miller) **Additional Speeding Fines**, introduced 2.18.25. If a driver exceeds the speed limit by 30 mph, the bill requires an additional $200 fine, unless the driver is indigent.

• **SB 124** (Sens. Craig, Patton) **Increased Penalties**, introduced 2.25.25. The bill increases the penalty for assault when the victim is an operator of an Ohio transit system bus or rail car and increases the penalty for evading payment of the known fares of a public transportation system.

• **HB 126** (Reps. Craig, Mathews) **Nuisance Cases**, introduced 2.24.25. The bill codifies the holding in *In re National Prescription Opiate Litigation; Trumbull County, Ohio et al. v. Purdue Pharma, L.P., et al.* (Slip Opinion 2024-Ohio-5744) that all common-law public-nuisance claims arising from the sale of a product have been abrogated by Ohio Product Liability Act; the bill prohibits a public nuisance claim based on the design, manufacture, supply, marketing, distribution, promotion, advertising, labeling, or sale of a product.

• **HB 132** (Reps. Craig, Miller) **Increased Penalties**, introduced 2.24.25. The bill increases penalties for failing to slow down or change lanes when approaching specified stationary vehicles and for vehicular homicide and vehicular assault resulting from that offense.

• The OSBA is seeking nominations for the 2025 Thomas J. Moyer Award for Judicial Excellence and the Innovative Court Program and Practices Award. The deadline to nominate is 5.2.25, and awards will be presented at the OJC Annual Meeting in September. Contact mostrowski@ohiobar.org.

• **Save the Date: OJC's Court Technology Conference**, scheduled for 4.22.25, focuses on both court technology and policy, and technology leadership and implementation issues. Attendees can choose from several concurrent breakout sessions, in areas such as probation supervision & reporting, instant transcription court reporting, case management systems, court security, judicial bench tools, electronic search and arrest warrants, and more, including the latest product innovations from over 30 exhibitors. Registration opens soon.

• *Save the Date: The OJC's Annual Judicial-Legislative Exchange will take place on 5.13.25. If you are interested in participating, please contact Justin.Long@sc.ohio.gov.*

For a complete list of bills & the latest Enactment News, please visit the OJC website.

March 3, 2025

In Case You Missed It:

The Ohio Criminal Sentencing Commission recently updated the Felony Sentencing Bench Card

Ohio Association of Civil Trial Attorneys Published the Quarterly Review

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.

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