

Legislative Committee Report 2025

F.O.P. of Ohio Legislative Committee Chair Report

R. Michael Taylor

The 136th Ohio General Assembly is in session. President McDonald and the Ohio FOP Legislative director, Mike Weinman, will report on many issues.

As Chairman of the legislative committee, I would first like to thank the members of, the committee, Travis Parker Lodge 9, T.J. Assion Lodge 141, Brain Steel Lodge 9, Sean Woods Lodge 69, Jonathon Sopczak Lodge 44, Kyle Erdlejac Lodge 9, Gwen Callender Chief Legal Counsel for their time, dedication and willingness to serve the members in this capacity. I would also like to thank Denise Young and the staff of the Ohio FOP and the Ohio Labor Council for their advice and hard work. The success of this committee, would not be possible without them. Working in the legislative process is one of the most important services this organization provides. Almost every benefit that our active and retired member receives goes through some type of legislative process, be it local, state or federal. The day to day following issues that may impact law enforcement and interaction with elected officials, is paramount.

Ohio's current general assembly is controlled by Republicans; most are very conservative. All of Ohio state wide elected officials, except for one Supreme Court Justice are also Republicans.

The two issues I would like to highlight in this report are the ongoing issues of property taxes and the potential future changes of public safety pensions.

PROPERTY TAXES

The elimination of property taxes is currently a major discussion in Ohio. "Citizens for Property Tax Reform", is a group in Ohio that has started the process of gathering enough signatures to put a constitutional amendment on the ballot to prohibit property taxes. They have not been able to gather enough signatures to get this on the ballot this year but will continue to move forward in 2026.

In response to this initiative, Representative David Thomas (Rep) representing the 65th Ohio House District has introduced H.B. 335, The Property Tax Relief NOW Act. This act, among other things, would eliminate inside millage taxes. Inside Millage taxes move directly with property values. When the most recent property valuations were done by county auditors, most property values went up as did the property taxes.

The impact on public safety would be profound. Numerous county officials have stated the elimination of property taxes would cut at least 1/3rd of most county Sheriffs'

budgets resulting in layoff of personnel, cutbacks in services provided and possibly the closing of portions of county jails. Prosecutors would also lose budget dollars.

During a conversation with Rep. Thomas, I expressed, that this effort to address rising property taxes would pose a significant threat and risk to public safety and essential services for law enforcement. In many of our smaller agencies, inside millage supports the core functions of the police departments.

The current difficulties law enforcement in Ohio is having with both recruitment and retention would only get worse with this.

Rep. Thomas responded that this would not take the option of local levies and tax increases to fund public safety away but would give taxpayers a say.

“Our bill is a direct attempt to give voters a say over how they want to fund their local governments,” Thomas said. “I have no doubt our taxpayers are going to fund our police, our fire, and our essential services.”

With all due respect, I believe that Rep. Thomas’ confidence in the taxpayer’s willingness to fund public safety in an adequate way is misplaced. We see every election cycle that police and fire levies fail on a regular basis. I believe one of the core responsibilities of government is public safety.

The attempt to place HB 335 into the recently completed Ohio budget was unsuccessful. Future hearings and possible action on HB335 should be expected.

OHIO PUBLIC PENSION REFORMS

Ohio’s public pension funds are once again being targeted in the name of reforms. Senator Mark Romanchuck (Rep) is the lead on these reforms. He has told us that he intends to introduce a large pension reform bill in August of this year.

The language of this bill and his concepts have not been fully explained to the FOP, but he has stated he would like to lower the required actuarial funding years from 30 to 20 for all pension funds. If this were to be done in a vacuum, it would take and increase in substantial contributions rates or deep cuts in the benefits members currently receive.

During the Ohio budget a last-minute change was submitted, changing the makeup State Teachers Retirement System board. Currently, The Board is made up of 11 members; four appointed financial experts, five active teachers and two retirees. This set up is not unlike the current board of Ohio Police and Fire Pension Board.

Under the new setup, the 11-member board will consist of two teachers, one retiree, the chancellor of higher education or their designee, the director of the Department of Education and Workforce or their designee, and financial experts appointed by the governor, two appointees from the state treasurer, and three appointees by the Ohio House speaker and Senate president. Once fully phased in, teachers and retirees will

hold three board seats, down from the current seven. Eight seats will be held by people appointed by elected officials. The appointees will serve at the pleasure of those who put them on the board, not for a fixed term.

I report on this because I suspect this could happen to all the systems, giving state government and their future appointees control over our pension systems. The current appointed government designees were not on our pension boards when they were created. Only years later, in the name of reform, they were added. In the 1990's under the name of reform, was the 30-year actuarial funding requirement legislated. This action was the beginning of the elimination of health care benefits to meet that requirement. I believe the elimination of COLA's is the next goal.

Ohio's public pension systems have investments worth billions of dollars. It is the earning on these investments that in large part pay for retirement benefits. Why, one might ask, would our elected officials want control of our pension boards (system). I suspect it is the control of the billions of dollars in these systems.

All these talks and action on pension reforms are not new. Many come from the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC). What or who is ALEC:

The American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) formed in 1973, is a nonprofit organization of conservative state legislators and private sector representatives who draft and share model legislation for distribution among state governments in the United States.

What is ALEC? 'The most effective organization' for conservatives, says Newt Gingrich. ALEC drafted legislation is not new in Ohio, in December 2024, Ohio Governor Mike DeWine signed Senate Bill 6, which codified the gold standard of state fiduciary rules to protect public pension beneficiaries and taxpayers. The legislation follows the principles laid out in the ALEC model State Government Employee Retirement Protection Act, one of the ALEC Essential Policy Solutions for 2025.

ALEC's Statement of Principles on State and Local Government Pension and Other Post Employment Benefit (OPEB) Plans.
Summary

To solve the funding crises in state and local defined benefit pension and other post employment benefit (OPEB) plans for public employees the American Legislative Exchange Council recommends that **DEFINED BENEFIT PLANS BE REPLACED BY DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PLANS.** (this has been attempted in Ohio previously).

To implement this reform state and local governments should take the following actions:

1) The Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) has strong language on pension liabilities, but only requires OPEB liabilities be acknowledged in a footnote. Each jurisdiction should hold their OPEB liabilities to the same standard as their pension liabilities.

a) Each jurisdiction should report unfunded liabilities as debt in the financial statements of state and local governments.

b) Each jurisdiction should amortize unfunded liabilities in pension and OPEB plans within a thirty year time frame.

2) Each jurisdiction should require legislative approval for increased benefits.

3) Each jurisdiction should require voter approval for any debt issued to finance unfunded liabilities in pension and OPEB plans.

4) When defined benefit pension and OPEB plans fail to meet the actuarial standards outlined in section 1, each jurisdiction should:

a) Declare an actuarial emergency that sets a legal precedent for fundamental reform of these plans.

b) Require voter and legislative approval for increased benefits.

c) Freeze the defined benefit pension and OPEB plans, and replace the defined benefit plans with defined contribution plans for new employees.

d) Increase payroll contributions for existing employees until employers and employees equally share the normal cost as defined by GASB in defined benefit plans.

e) Bring the current retirement system management within the purview of the executive and legislative branches of government.

f) Strengthen the management system's fiduciary role to balance system assets and liabilities by:

i) Making the Board responsible for employee and employer contribution rates

ii) Adopting actuarial assumptions

iii) Setting benefit levels, subject to legislative approval, consistent with the standards outlined in section 1.

Explanatory Notes

State and local governments in recent years have encountered funding crises in their defined benefit pension and other post employment benefit (OPEB) plans for public employees. Defined benefit pension plans are considered "safe" by government standards if they have enough assets to support at least 80 percent of pension benefit obligations. In 2008 only 9 percent of a sample of state and local government pension plans met this standard, and a number of states have seen this ratio fall below 50 percent this year. State and local government OPEB plans for public employees are generally in worse shape than their pension plans; most governments continue to fund these OPEB plans on a pay as you go basis. To meet GASB standards governments must now show the unfunded pension plan liabilities as debt in their financial statements. For OPEB plans, liabilities only need to be recognized in a footnote. Governments must also meet the 30 year time frame for eliminating unfunded liabilities in pension plans, though not in OPEB plans. Few state and local jurisdictions are meeting the thirty-year amortization standard for either pension or OPEB plans. Many of these state governments would have to double their actual contribution rates to well over 20 percent of salaries to meet this standard. It is likely that unfunded liabilities in state and local government pension and OPEB plans are over two trillion dollars. Taxpayers are no longer willing to bear the increasing cost of these plans in the form of higher employer contribution rates, or decreased government services. They are demanding reforms that will bring these plans into line with pension and OPEB benefits offered in the private sector. In response to the funding crises a growing number of state and local governments have frozen their defined benefit pension plans, and replaced them with a defined contribution plan. Over time this reform achieves a number of goals. The reform has strengthened government management and fiduciary oversight of the retirement system. The reform has constrained the growth of unfunded liabilities in the system. The reform has established a portable defined contribution plan for new employees that, over time, has reduced the government's dependence on riskier and less predictable defined benefit plans.

You may have heard the saying that the best predictor of the future is to look at that past. If that is true, I think Ohio's future plans for our pension systems are clear and dangerous.

Respectfully submitted,
R. Michael Taylor

Over the last year it has been an honor to serve on The Supreme Court of Ohio Task force on Juvenile Diversion. This task force was formed as a result of the issues that were brought to the forefront with some juvenile court judges who, in my opinion, were recklessly applying juvenile diversion. The end result has made law enforcement in Ohio a more dangerous profession while juvenile crime has spun out of control in Ohio.

My objective for this task force was to bring accountability to the Juvenile Judges so voters were able to see whether their elected judge was protecting the community they serve. This task force accomplished just that. Below I will highlight the significant changes that have been recommended to the Ohio General Assembly to adopt. You can read the complete report at www.supremecourt.ohio.gov/docs/Boards/juvDiversionTF/FinalRR.pdf.

Recommendations:

1. Courts using pre-initial appearance diversion should adopt a local rule outlining their practices and procedures for using pre-initial appearance diversion.
2. Courts using pre-initial appearance diversion should develop written guidelines for eligibility and process.
3. Courts should use data maintained on pre-initial appearance diversion to develop their guidelines. This data should be regularly reviewed and shared with community partners.
4. Courts should make pre-initial appearance diversion statistics publicly available (number and types of offenses that have been diverted) in the courts annual report or any other manual as provided by the court.
5. Courts should train staff on Marsy's Law compliance, including procedures for victim notification, handling objections from victims to diversion, and restitution.
6. The Supreme Court should adopt a rule pursuant to Sup.R. 5, requiring courts that engage in pre-initial appearance diversion to adopt a local rule, develop written guidelines as recommended above, and notify the Supreme Court if their diversion program has been terminated.
7. The Supreme Court, in conjunction with the Ohio Department of Youth Services and other appropriate juvenile justice stakeholders should identify best practices regarding:
 - a. Pre-initial appearance diversion interventions.
 - b. Evidence-based diversion screening and assessment tools.
 - c. Effective use of assessment centers and other diversionary tools.
 - d. Data collection in pre-initial appearance diversion programs.
8. The Supreme Court should provide education and resources to courts on pre-initial appearance diversion best practices and Marsy's law compliance, including procedures for victim notification, handling objections from victims, and restitution.

9. The Ohio Department of Youth Services is encouraged to continue funding pre-initial appearance diversion programs and resource assessment centers in local communities and provide technical assistance on these efforts to courts.
10. The Ohio General Assembly is encouraged to continue providing funding, through the Department of Youth Services for resource and assessment centers and other pre-initial appearance diversion efforts for local communities.

Fraternally,

Ken Kober

President, Queen City lodge #69

Ohio Criminal Sentencing Commission

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I was honored to be appointed to the Ohio Criminal Sentencing Commission by Governor Mike DeWine, with the invaluable support of Michael Weinman, Director of Governmental Affairs for the Ohio FOP. Chaired by Ohio Supreme Court Chief Justice Sharon Kennedy, the Commission brings together a diverse group of criminal justice practitioners to improve criminal sentencing in Ohio. In addition to the full Commission, I serve on the Adult Criminal Justice Subcommittee, which reports to the full Commission. The Ohio legislature values the Commission's reports and recommendations when considering legislation.

Recent Commission efforts have included developing reports on the necessary elements for Pre-Sentence Investigation (PSI) reports, modernizing tools like the Uniform Sentencing Entry, and developing reference guides for judges on the legal framework for indefinite sentencing and Not Guilty by Reason of Insanity sentencing protocols. I've kept the Ohio FOP's legislative team informed on these developments, ensuring that our concerns regarding officer-safety and holding criminals accountable are addressed. As a Commission member, my top priority is making the job of a police officer in a patrol cruiser safer, easier, and more effective.

Please feel free to reach out to me directly with any questions or concerns.

2025 State Conference Legislative Report

This report picks up where we left off last June and runs through June 20, 2025. Until last fall, the General Assembly had passed only sixteen pieces of legislation. However, Lane Duck saw a flurry of activity, with dozens of bills passing or being amended into other bills that reached the Governor. Unfortunately, by putting off votes, time ran out for many bills. Going through the report, you'll see bills that didn't pass but were reintroduced in the next General Assembly. The State Lodge continues to work on various issues, including the employer contribution increase to OP&F, OPERS-LE DROP, arming state special police officers, OPERS-LE Service Credit, and funding PTS treatment. The ticket quota ban is heading to the Governor soon. It will be Senator Tom Patton's SB 114. The sponsors of the House version, Representatives Kevin Miller and Bride Rose Sweeney, agreed to this. They want a ban in place as soon as possible. The primary bill being worked on over the past several months is the state biennium operating budget, HB 96. As of this writing, on June 20, 2025, the bill is in the conference committee, where the House and Senate are working out the differences between their two versions of HB 96. Property tax relief has also become a priority for lawmakers, as several bills have been introduced, and several changes are currently being considered in HB 96.

135th General Assembly (2023-2024):

HB 29 (Enacted) Driver's Licenses (Humphrey, L., Brewer, D.)

To make changes to the laws governing driver's license suspensions and to the laws governing penalties for failure to provide proof of financial responsibility.

Signed by the Governor (1/8/2025; Signed: January 8, 2025, Effective: in 90 days)

Position:
Monitor

HB 37 (Enacted) Vehicle Offenses (Johnson, M., Miller, K.)

To modify the law related to OVI-related offenses.

Signed by the Governor (1/8/2025; Signed: January 8, 2025, Effective: in 90 days)

Position:
Monitor

HB 51 Second Amendment (Loychik, M., Schmidt, J.)

To enact the Second Amendment Preservation Act to add additional protections to the right to bear arms, to remove federal firearms law references from the state firearms control law, and to declare an emergency.

Calendar for Coming Session in House Rules & Reference (12/5/2023; REPORTED-AMENDED)

Position:
Opponent

Comment:
The confusing proposal ends participation in ATF task forces, among other things. Mike Weinman sent a letter in opposition to the bill to the Speaker. During the Lame Duck Session, Ohio Gun Owners tried but failed to amend the bill to SB 315.

HB 56 (Enacted) Hooning Prohibition (Plummer, P., White, A.)

To increase penalties for fleeing from law enforcement, to require law enforcement entities to have a policy governing the pursuit of a motor vehicle, and to prohibit hooning and being a spectator at a hooning event.

Signed by the Governor (7/24/2024; Signed: July 24, 2024, Effective: October 21, 2024)

Position:
Proponent

HB 77 (Enacted) Drone Regulation (Willis, B.)

To establish requirements and prohibitions governing the operation of unmanned aerial vehicles in Ohio and to establish a process by which an abandoned or derelict aircraft may be sold.

Signed by the Governor (1/8/2025; Signed: January 8, 2025, Effective: in 90 days)

Position:
Monitor

HB 81 (Enacted) Memorial Designations (Robb Blasdel, M., Jones, D.)

To make multiple memorial designations.

Signed by the Governor (12/19/2024; Signed: December 19, 2024, Effective: March 18, 2025)

Position:
Monitor

HB 84 Minimum Police Age (Demetriou, S., Williams, J.)

To lower the minimum age for an original appointment as a police officer from twenty-one to eighteen years of age.

Committee Hearing in House Homeland Security (3/29/2023; CONTINUED)

Position:
Opponent

Comment:

Mike Weinman testified in opposition and attended several meetings with the sponsors.

HB 111 (Enacted) Domestic Violence (LaRe, J., Miller, K.)

To increase the sentencing range for third-degree felony domestic violence and to create a presumption in favor of a prison term for the offense.

Signed by the Governor (12/19/2024; Signed: December 19, 2024, Effective: March 18, 2025)

Position:

Monitor

HB 148 Child Enticement (Dell'Aquila, R.)

To require that a person act with a sexual motivation to commit the offense of criminal child enticement.

Committee Hearing in House Criminal Justice (11/19/2024; CONTINUED (No testimony))

Position:

Monitor

HB 161 (Enacted) Spousal Criminal Exceptions (Miranda, J., Hillyer, B.)

To eliminate the spousal exceptions for the offenses of rape, sexual battery, unlawful sexual conduct with a minor, gross sexual imPosition:, sexual imPosition:, and importuning and to permit a person to testify against the person's spouse in a prosecution for any of those offenses.

Signed by the Governor (5/10/2024)

Position:

Monitor

HB 230 Drug And Human Trafficking (Abrams, C., Swearingen, D.)

To increase penalties for drug trafficking above certain amounts and to prohibit organized trafficking of persons.

Committee Hearing in Senate Judiciary (6/12/2024; CONTINUED)

Position:

Proponent

Comment:

Jay McDonald testified in support of the bill.

HB 234 (Enacted) Alford Plea And Expungements (Williams, J., Rogers, E.)

To revise the law relating to the suspension of a local official charged with a felony, to prohibit a court imposing a sentence on an offender for a felony or misdemeanor from considering whether the offender who entered an Alford plea shows genuine remorse for the offense, and to make changes to sealing and expungement eligibility.

Signed by the Governor (12/19/2024; Signed: December 19, 2024, Effective: March 18, 2025)

Position:
Monitor

HB 241 Police Positions (Miller, J., Miller, K.)

Regarding filling a vacant police department Position: without a competitive examination. Committee Hearing in Senate Veterans & Public Safety (11/20/2024; CONTINUED (No testimony))

Position:
Interested Party

Comment:

Changes were made to the bill at the request of the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP). Gwen Callender and Mike Weinman met with the sponsors.

HB 251 (Enacted) State Route Designation (Pavliga, G.)

To designate a portion of State Route 88 in Portage County as the "Deputy Sheriff James "Jim" Wert Memorial Highway."

Signed by the Governor (7/24/2024; Signed: July 24, 2024, Effective: October 21, 2024)

Position:
Monitor

HB 265 (Enacted) Public Records (Wiggam, S., Hall, T.)

To revise the Public Records Law.

Signed by the Governor (1/8/2025; Signed: January 8, 2025, Effective: in 90 days)

Position:
Monitor

HB 270 OVI (Young, T., Mathews, A.)

To require a felony offender of an OVI-caused aggravated vehicular homicide to pay child maintenance when the victim is a parent, legal guardian, or custodian of a minor child, to allow child maintenance to be awarded in a wrongful death action when the offender is deceased, and to name this act the Sam Knisley Family Support Act.

Committee Hearing in House Criminal Justice (5/14/2024; CONTINUED-AMENDED)

Position:
Proponent

HB 289 (Enacted) Sex Offenses (Robb Blasdel, M., Swearingen, D.)

To provide that if a Tier I or Tier II sex offender/child-victim offender fails to comply with duties under the SORN law, the period of time that the offender has a duty to comply is tolled during the time of the failure, to require a sex offender/child-victim offender to register a fixed residence address or provide a detailed description of the places at which the offender or delinquent child intends to stay under the SORN Law, to require the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction, under specified circumstances, to notify the sheriff of a receiving county when an offender who is required to register as a sex offender will be transported to that county upon release, and to repeal procedures relating to a subpoena of victims' records.

Signed by the Governor (12/19/2024; Signed: December 19, 2024, Effective: March 18, 2025)

Position:
Monitor

HB 296 Police, Fire Pensions (Abrams, C., Hall, T.)

To increase contribution amounts that employers of full-time municipal police officers must make to the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund.

Referred in Senate (12/11/2024; Insurance)

Position:
Proponent

Comment:

President Wolske testified in support of the bill. There has been a series of meetings and phone calls concerning the bill. During the Lamé Duck session, the bill passed the House but ran out of time in the Senate.

HB 313 Firearms Training (Callender, J., Mathews, A.)

To provide firearms training for fire investigators; to permit such an investigator who has received that training and has been specifically authorized to carry firearms while on duty; to grant such an investigator the same right to carry a concealed handgun in this state as a concealed handgun licensee; and to amend the version of section 109.73 of the Revised Code that is scheduled to take effect on December 29, 2023, to continue the change on and after that date.

Committee Hearing in House Government Oversight (2/6/2024; REPORTED)

Position:
Interested Party

Comment::

Mike Weinman met with the sponsor's aide and requested that other state officers be added to the bill. They never got back to Mike. The bill was amended into HB 93 without our requested changes.

HB 322 (Enacted) Sex Offenses (Seitz, B., Abrams, C.)

To impose a civil penalty, rather than a criminal penalty, on a person who fails to register with the childhood sexual abuse civil registry, to eliminate the residence restriction on such person, to create the offense of grooming, and to extend the limitation period for prosecuting a violation of the law requiring certain persons to report child abuse or neglect under certain circumstances.

Signed by the Governor (1/8/2025; Signed: January 8, 2025, Effective: in 90 days)

Position:

Monitor

HB 333 Police Quotas (Sweeney, B., Miller, K.)

To prohibit law enforcement agencies from using quotas for arrests and citations.

Committee Hearing in House Homeland Security (12/11/2024; REPORTED-SUBSTITUTE)

Position:

Proponent

Comment:

Gwen Callender and Mike Weinman met with the bill sponsor. Mike Weinman testified in support of the bill, and Brian Steel spoke to the media.

HB 366 (Enacted) Retail Theft (Ghanbari, H.)

To enact the Fight Organized Retail Crime and Empower Law Enforcement (FORCE) Act to create the Organized Retail Theft Advisory Council and an investigative task force, to create the crime of theft of mail, and to modify theft offenses and penalties related to retail property.

Signed by the Governor (1/8/2025; Signed: January 8, 2025, Effective: in 90 days)

Position:

Monitor

HB 403 (Enacted) Towed Vehicles (Cutrona, A.)

To create new causes of action in relation to commercial motor vehicles towed after an accident, to exempt motor vehicle dealers from the prohibition against selling vehicles that have been tampered with under certain circumstances, to expand an exception to existing window tinting prohibitions, and to require transportation network companies to conduct an annual background check on their authorized drivers.

Signed by the Governor (1/8/2025; Signed: January 8, 2025, Effective: in 90 days)

Position:
Monitor

HB 441 Public Employees (Edwards, J., Miller, A.)

To set parole officer caseloads, to make changes to the Public Employees Retirement System law enforcement division for parole officers, and to make an appropriation.
Committee Hearing in House Criminal Justice (12/10/2024; CONTINUED)

Position:
Proponent

HB 452 (Enacted) Hospital Safety And Civil Immunity (White, A., Baker, R.)

Regards hospital violence prevention and related training, security plans, and incident reporting and to generally grant civil immunity for specific injuries to a person who acts in self-defense or defense of another during the commission, or imminent commission, of an offense of violence to protect the members or guests of a nonprofit corporation under certain circumstances.

Signed by the Governor (1/8/2025; Signed: January 8, 2025, Effective: in 90 days)

Position:
Monitor

HB 492 PERS (Miller, K.)

To establish a deferred retirement option plan for law enforcement officers in the Public Employees Retirement System.

Committee Hearing in House Pensions (11/19/2024; CONTINUED)

Position:
Proponent

Comment::

The bill originated from a meeting between Past President Wolske and the sponsor during Lobby Day.

HB 531 (Enacted) Crime Victims (Lear, B., Lorenz, B.)

To enact Braden's Law to prohibit sexual extortion and to require service providers to comply with search warrants and interception warrants for electronic information.

Signed by the Governor (1/8/2025; Signed: January 8, 2025, Effective: in 90 days)

Position:
Monitor

HB 532 Peace Officers (Lorenz, B.)

To expand the definition of "peace officer" to include bailiffs of a municipal court and probation officers and to increase the penalty for assault when the victim is a bailiff, probation officer, or another court official or employee.

Committee Hearing in House Government Oversight (6/25/2024; CONTINUED)

Position:

Monitor

HB 559 Workers' Compensation (Abdullahi, M.)

Concerns workers' compensation coverage for peace officers, firefighters, and emergency medical workers diagnosed with psychiatric conditions arising from employment without an accompanying physical injury.

Committee Hearing in House Insurance (11/20/2024; CONTINUED)

Position:

Interested Party

SJR 2 Constitutional Amendment (McColley, R., Gavarone, T.)

To require a vote of at least 60% of the electors to approve any constitutional amendment.

Adopted in House (5/10/2023; 62-37)

Senate Concurs in House Amendments (5/10/2023; 26-7)

Position:

Opponent

Comment::

Mike Weinman testified in opposition in the House.

HJR 1 Constitutional Amendments (Stewart, B.)

Proposing to amend Sections 1b, 1e, and 1g of Article II and Sections 1 and 3 of Article XVI of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to require a vote of at least 60% of the electors to approve any constitutional amendment and to modify the procedures for an initiative petition proposing a constitutional amendment.

Committee Hearing in House Constitutional Resolutions (4/19/2023; REPORTED)

Position:

Opponent

Comment:

Mike Weinman testified in opposition to the Senate companion bill, SJR2.

SB 6 (Enacted) Governance Policies (Schuring, K.)

Regards environmental, social, and corporate governance policies with respect to the state retirement systems, Bureau of Workers' Compensation, and state institutions of higher education.

Signed by the Governor (12/19/2024; Signed: December 19, 2024, Effective: March 18, 2025)

Position:
Monitor

SB 47 Paid Leave (Huffman, S.)

To prohibit a public employer from providing paid leave or compensation for a public employee to engage in certain union activities.

Committee Hearing in Senate Judiciary (11/13/2024; CONTINUED)

Position:
Opponent

Comment:
The bill attacks release time.

SB 53 Law Enforcement (Reynolds, M., Roegner, K.)

To lower the minimum age for an original appointment as a police officer from twenty-one to eighteen.

Committee Hearing in House Homeland Security (6/21/2023; CONTINUED)

Position:
Opponent

Comment:
Mike Weinman testified in opposition.

SB 58 (Enacted) Weapons (Johnson, T., Gavarone, T.)

To prohibit requiring fees or firearms liability insurance for the possession of firearms, or fees for the possession of knives, and to enact the Second Amendment Financial Privacy Act.

Signed by the Governor (1/8/2025; Signed: January 8, 2025, Effective: in 90 days)

Position:
Monitor

SB 100 (Enacted) Tracking Devices, OVI, And Tobacco (Manning, N., Antonio, N.)

To generally prohibit a person from knowingly installing a tracking device or application on another person's property without the other person's consent or failing to remove or ensure removal of such a device or application from another person's property if the other person

gave consent and subsequently revokes it, to authorize collecting oral fluid as evidence in suspected OVI cases, and to increase fines for repeatedly selling tobacco products to minors and to apply the public nuisance law to places where such sales occur.
Signed by the Governor (12/19/2024; Signed: December 19, 2024, Effective: March 18, 2025)

Position:
Monitor

SB 112 (Enacted) School Safety (Rulli, M.)

To require school buildings to comply with national life safety standards and to name this act the Ohio Childhood Safety Act.
Signed by the Governor (7/24/2024; Signed: July 24, 2024, Effective: October 21, 2024)

Position:
Proponent

Comment:
Jason Pappas testified in favor of the bill.

SB 208 (Enacted) Education And Child Care (Roegner, K.)

Regards open enrollment policy exceptions for military children, school district and educational service center purchases of technological equipment, virtual services provided under special needs scholarship programs, public school employee in-service training in child sexual abuse, pre-service teacher permits, and student and driver training instruction in peace officer interactions, to establish the Regional Partnerships Program, and to exempt home education groups from child care regulations and county and township zoning regulations.
Signed by the Governor (1/8/2025; Signed: January 8, 2025, Effective: in 90 days)

Position:
Monitor

SB 214 (Enacted) Human Trafficking Victims (Kunze, S.)

To allow a victim of human trafficking to expunge certain criminal records.
Signed by the Governor (7/24/2024; Signed: July 24, 2024, Effective: October 21, 2024)

Position:
Monitor

SB 234 (Enacted) Month Designation, Law Enforcement, And Education (Gavarone, T.)

To designate May as "Food Allergy Awareness Month" and as "Lupus Awareness Month"; to authorize certain peace officers to use epinephrine autoinjectors acquired by their law enforcement agencies; and to require schools and higher education institutions to

advertise the national suicide and crisis lifeline telephone number to students, and to require higher education institutions to provide information about declarations for mental health treatment.

Signed by the Governor (1/8/2025; Signed: January 8, 2025, Effective: in 90 days)

Position:
Proponent

Comment:
Kyle Erdeljac submitted written testimony in support of the provision for EpiPens.

SB 237 (Enacted) Protected Speech, Courts, And Juvenile Justice (Gavarone, T., Manning, N.)

To enact the Uniform Public Expression Protection Act relating to legal actions concerning protected speech, to clarify small claims court jurisdiction, and to prohibit landlords from listing a minor as a defendant in a forcible entry and detainer action.

Signed by the Governor (1/8/2025; Signed: January 8, 2025, Effective: in 90 days)

Position:
Monitor

136 General Assembly (2025-2026):

HB 3 School Bus Safety (Willis, B., Thomas, C.)

To address school bus safety, to designate this act as the School Bus Safety Act, and to make an appropriation.

Passed in House (6/11/2025; 88-0)

Position:
Monitor

HB 5 Firearms (Williams, J., Willis, B.)

To enact the Repeat Offender Act to create a repeat offender classification, to create and modify certain firearm specifications, to increase the penalties for certain firearm offenses and specifications, to broaden the scope of relief from firearms disability, and to modify the sealing procedure for misdemeanors and fourth and fifth-degree felonies.

Referred in Senate (5/28/2025; Judiciary Committee)

Position:
Opponent

Comment:
Mike Weinman testified against the bill.

HB 18 Cryptocurrency (Demetriou, S.)

To address investments in exchange-traded products by the state retirement systems, to permit the Treasurer of State to invest certain interim funds in digital assets, and to name this act the Ohio Strategic Cryptocurrency Reserve Act.

Committee Hearing in House Technology & Innovation Committee (6/17/2025;
CONTINUED)

Position:
Monitor

HB 19 Alcohol Consumption (Bird, A., Williams, J.)

To reduce the mental state, from knowingly to recklessly, that applies to the prohibition against allowing an underage person to possess or consume alcohol in a private or public place.

Committee Hearing in House Judiciary Committee (2/12/2025; CONTINUED)

Position:
Monitor

HB 20 Emergency Responders (Hall, T., Plummer, P.)

To prohibit a person from knowingly harassing or impeding an emergency service responder who is engaged in the lawful performance of a legal duty and to clarify that heightened penalties apply for menacing a probation officer.

Passed in House (6/18/2025; 79-18)

Position:
Proponent

Comment:
Mike Weinman testified in support of the bill.

HB 23 Escaped Convict Alerts (Roemer, B., Williams, J.)

To create the escaped convict alert program.

Passed in House (6/18/2025; 96-0)

Position:
Monitor

HB 26 Immigration (Williams, J., Fischer, T.)

To require state and local authorities to cooperate with the federal government in the enforcement of immigration laws, to prescribe funding reductions for noncompliance, to name this act the Protecting Ohio Communities Act, and to declare an emergency.

Committee Hearing in House Public Safety Committee (4/29/2025; CONTINUED)

Position:
Monitor

HB 30 Income Tax (Mathews, A., Lampton, B.)

To phase-down the state income tax to a flat rate of 2.75% over two years.
Committee Hearing in House Ways & Means Committee (3/26/2025; CONTINUED)

Position:
Monitor

HB 31 Parole (Humphrey, L., Stewart, B.)

To require electronic recordings to be made of all parole board hearings and to make electronic recordings of full parole board hearings public records.
Referred in Senate (6/18/2025; Judiciary Committee)

Position:
Monitor

HB 37 Highway Designation (Stewart, B.)

To designate a portion of State Route 56 in Pickaway County as the "Detective Rex Emrick Memorial Highway."
Committee Hearing in House Transportation Committee (3/11/2025; SCHEDULED BUT NOT HEARD)

Position:
Proponent

HB 39 Income Tax (Fischer, T., Santucci, N.)

To allow a state income tax deduction for overtime wages.
Committee Hearing in House Ways & Means Committee (4/2/2025; CONTINUED)

Position:
Monitor

HB 44 Law Enforcement Officers (Miller, J., Miller, K.)

Regards training schools for prospective law enforcement officers and filling a vacant police department Position: without a competitive examination.
Committee Hearing in Senate Armed Services, Veterans Affairs and Public Safety Committee (6/25/2025)

Position:
Proponent

HB 47 Human Trafficking (Williams, J., Santucci, N.)

To enact the Human Trafficking Prevention Act to increase the penalty for human trafficking of a minor or person with a developmental disability, kidnapping, and abduction.
Referred in Senate (6/11/2025; Judiciary Committee)

Position:
Monitor

HB 68 Firearms (Mathews, A., Pizzulli, J.)

To allow a concealed handgun licensee to carry a handgun in a building or structure that is not a courthouse but in which a courtroom is located in specified circumstances and to permit a nonresident of Ohio to obtain statutory relief from firearms disability based on an Ohio conviction, guilty plea, or delinquent child adjudication.
Committee Hearing in House Public Safety Committee (6/17/2025; CONTINUED)

Position:
Opponent

HB 72 Abortion/Death Penalty (Schmidt, J., Mathews, A.)

To prohibit public funding for and insurance coverage of the use of lethal injection drugs in nontherapeutic abortions and assisting suicide, to abolish the death penalty, and to modify the number of jurors that may be challenged in cases where a defendant may be sentenced to life imprisonment.
Committee Hearing in House Judiciary Committee (3/5/2025; CONTINUED)

Position:
Opponent

HB 73 PERS Plans (Miller, K., Hall, T.)

To establish a deferred retirement option plan for law enforcement officers in the Public Employees Retirement System.
Committee Hearing in House Public Insurance & Pensions Committee (5/14/2025; CONTINUED)

Position:
Proponent

HB 75 Flag Restrictions (Miller, K., Brennan, S.)

To prohibit manufactured home park operators, condominium associations, neighborhood associations, and landlords from restricting the display of the thin blue line flag and to name this act the Chief Steven DiSario Act.
Committee Hearing in House Government Oversight Committee (5/13/2025; CONTINUED)

Position:
Proponent

Comment:

Mike Weinman sent a letter of support to the committee.

HB 78 Digital IDs (Miller, J., Hall, T.)

To authorize the use of a digital driver's license or state identification card.

Committee Hearing in House Technology & Innovation Committee (3/11/2025;
CONTINUED)

Position:

Monitor

HB 80 Industrial Commission Budget (Stewart, B.)

To make appropriations for the Industrial Commission for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027, and to provide authorization and conditions for the operation of Commission programs.

Committee Hearing in Senate Financial Institutions, Insurance and Technology Committee (6/17/2025; REPORTED (No testimony))

Position:

Monitor

HB 81 Workers Compensation Budget (Stewart, B.)

To make appropriations for the Bureau of Workers' Compensation for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027, to provide authorization and conditions for the operation of the Bureau's programs, and to make changes to the Workers' Compensation Law.

House Concurs in Senate Amendments (6/18/2025; 95-0)

Passed in Senate (6/18/2025; 32-0)

Position:

Interested Party

Comment:

While the bill was being heard in the House Pension Committee, Rep. Sean Brenner (D, Parma) attempted to amend the bill to make PTSD a workplace injury covered by the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation (OBWC). This was at the request of the FOP. The amendment failed along party lines.

HB 88 Drugs (Abrams, C., Plummer, P.)

To increase penalties for drug trafficking above certain amounts, to prohibit organized trafficking of persons, to require schools and institutions of higher education to incorporate instruction and policies on fentanyl awareness and abuse prevention, and to designate the month of August as "Fentanyl Poisoning Awareness Month."

Committee Hearing in House Judiciary Committee (3/26/2025; CONTINUED)

Position:
Proponent

Comment:
Jon Sopczak gave proponent testimony before the House Judiciary Committee.

HB 96 State Operating Budget (Stewart, B.)

To make operating appropriations for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027, to levy taxes, and to provide authorization and conditions for the operation of state programs.

Committee Hearing in Conference Committee on HB 96 (6/17/2025; CONTINUED)

Position:
Monitor

Comment:
Brian Steel testified before the House Finance Committee on a budget provision requiring parental approval of applications, and Mike Weinman testified before the House Public Safety Committee on various issues. While the bill was in the Senate, the FOP lobbied for the inclusion of the employer contribution increase to OP&F, the arming of state special police officers, PTS funding, and OPERS-LE DROP. The Senate passed the bill without our requests. As of this writing (June 20, 2025), the bill is in conference committee.

HB 102 Sex Offenders (Klopfenstein, R., Williams, J.)

To prohibit 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.

Committee Hearing in House Public Safety Committee (6/11/2025; CONTINUED)

Position:
Monitor

HB 108 Self-Defense (Williams, J.)

To enact the Self-Defense Protection Act to create a pretrial procedure for a person asserting self-defense, defense of another, or defense of that person's property.

Committee Hearing in House Judiciary Committee (6/11/2025; CONTINUED)

Position:
Monitor

HB 110 Voyeurism (Thomas, C., Williams, J.)

To increase the penalty for repeat voyeurism.

Referred in House (2/26/2025; Judiciary Committee)

Position:
Monitor

HB 111 Traffic Offenses (Miller, K., Creech, R.)

To impose an additional fine on drivers who exceed the speed limit by 30 miles per hour.
Committee Hearing in House Public Safety Committee (4/8/2025; CONTINUED)

Position:
Monitor

HB 116 Digital Assets (Demetriou, S.)

To enact the Ohio Blockchain Basics Act to address mining, taxation, and regulation of digital assets and digital asset investments by the state retirement systems.
Passed in House (6/18/2025; 68-26)

Position:
Monitor

HB 131 Arrest Quotas (Miller, K., Sweeney, B.)

To prohibit law enforcement agencies from using quotas for arrests and citations
Referred in Senate (6/4/2025; Judiciary Committee)

Position:
Proponent

Comment:
SB 114 is the Senate companion.

HB 132 Traffic Offenses (Craig, M., Miller, M.)

To increase penalties for failing to slow down or change lanes when approaching specified stationary vehicles, to increase penalties for vehicular homicide and vehicular assault resulting from that offense, and to name this act Philip Wigal's Law.
Committee Hearing in House Judiciary Committee (6/18/2025; CONTINUED (No testimony))

Position:
Monitor

HB 144 Communication Disability Database (Click, G., Lorenz, B.)

To expand the communication disability database to include any person with a disability, to expand access to that database through countywide 9-1-1 systems, and to name this act "Keith's Law."
Committee Hearing in Senate Armed Services, Veterans Affairs and Public Safety Committee (6/25/2025)

Position:
Monitor

HB 160 Liquor And Cannabis (Stewart, B.)

To revise specified provisions of the liquor control, hemp, and adult-use marijuana laws and to levy taxes on marijuana.

Committee Hearing in House Judiciary Committee (5/7/2025; CONTINUED)

Position:
Monitor

HB 168 Criminal Child Enticement (Williams, J., Brennan, S.)

To require that a person act with a sexual motivation or an unlawful purpose to commit the offense of criminal child enticement.

Passed in House Judiciary Committee (6/18/2025; 97-0 - EARLIER: REPORTED (No testimony) *Pending Report)

Position:
Monitor

HB 177 Postconviction Relief (Williams, J., Tims, D.)

To allow 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 different result at trial.

Referred in House (3/19/2025; Judiciary Committee)

Position:
Monitor

HB 198 Hemp (Fischer, T., Mathews, T.)

To regulate the manufacture, distribution, and sale of inhalable and ingestible hemp products.

Committee Hearing in House Judiciary Committee (5/7/2025; CONTINUED)

Position:
Monitor

HB 199 Vehicles (Miller, K., Plummer, P.)

To make changes to the laws governing all-purpose vehicles, off-highway motorcycles, snowmobiles, utility vehicles, and mini-trucks.

Committee Hearing in House Transportation Committee (5/20/2025; CONTINUED)

Position:

Monitor

HB 200 Immigration (Click, G., Santucci, N.)

To enact the America First Act to prohibit a person who is unlawfully present in the United States from entering or being present in Ohio, to require law enforcement agencies and detention facilities to cooperate in the enforcement of federal immigration laws, and to withhold state local government funds from a subdivision that does not abide by the act.
Committee Hearing in House Public Safety Committee (6/11/2025; CONTINUED)

Position:

Monitor

HB 203 School Zones (Hall, T., Williams, J.)

To increase penalties for vehicular assault and vehicular homicide that occur in an active school zone, to require doubled fines for specified traffic violations in an active school zone, and to name this act Aspen Runnels' Law.

Committee Hearing in House Judiciary Committee (6/4/2025; CONTINUED (No testimony))

Position:

Monitor

HB 208 Court Officials (Lorenz, B.)

To enact the Courtroom Employee Protection Act to increase the penalty for assault when the victim is a judge, magistrate, prosecutor, or court official or employee.

Referred in House (4/2/2025; Judiciary Committee)

Position:

Monitor

HB 210 Catalytic Converters (Roemer, B., Plummer, P.)

Regards the sale of used catalytic converters.

Referred in Senate (6/11/2025; Judiciary Committee)

Position:

Monitor

HB 211 Offenders (Humphrey, L., Williams, J.)

To require a court to consider an offender's status as a primary caretaker of a child in determining whether the offender is amenable to a community control sanction or to intervention in lieu of conviction.

Referred in House (4/2/2025; Judiciary Committee)

Position:

Monitor

HB 217 Missing Persons (Cockley, C., Ritter, K.)

To enact the Finding and Identifying with NamUs Data (FIND) Act to require law enforcement agencies to enter information relating to a report of a missing person in the national missing and unidentified person system (NamUs).

Committee Hearing in House Public Safety Committee (6/17/2025; CONTINUED-SUBSTITUTE)

Position:

Monitor

HB 226 Parental Control (Miller, M.)

To require application stores to offer parental control options and to obtain parental consent before permitting individuals under 16 years of age to download certain applications.

Committee Hearing in House Judiciary Committee (5/28/2025; CONTINUED)

Position:

Proponent

Comment:

Brian Steel testified in support of the bill.

HB 235 Firearm Tax Credit (Lawson-Rowe, M., Brewer, D.)

To authorize a nonrefundable income tax credit for the cost of handgun training and firearms storage and locking devices.

Referred in House (4/30/2025; Ways & Means Committee)

Position:

Monitor

HB 236 Masked Harassment (Williams, J.)

To prohibit masked harassment and masked trespassing, to modify the offense of aggravated riot when the offender is wearing a mask or disguise or is otherwise concealing or attempting to conceal the offender's face, and to require an additional prison term of one year for an offender who is convicted of or pleads guilty to a felony if the offender is convicted of or pleads guilty to a specification that the offender wore a mask or disguise or otherwise concealed or attempted to conceal the offender's face in commission of the offense.

Referred in House (4/30/2025; Judiciary Committee)

Position:

Monitor

HB 238 Parking Requirements (Rogers, E., Lorenz, B.)

To establish specified parking requirements.

Committee Hearing in House Government Oversight Committee (5/20/2025; CONTINUED)

Position:

Monitor

HB 240 Animals (Lawson-Rowe, M., Thomas, C.)

To make changes to the laws governing dogs and other companion animals and to name this act Avery's Law.

Committee Hearing in House Public Safety Committee (5/13/2025; CONTINUED)

Position:

Monitor

HB 241 Dogs (Thomas, C., Lawson-Rowe, M.)

To require a 10-day quarantine period for a dog following an attack and to require a court, under certain circumstances, to hold a hearing to determine the dog's disposition.

Committee Hearing in House Public Safety Committee (5/13/2025; CONTINUED)

Position:

Monitor

HB 247 Dogs (Miller, K.)

To make changes to the laws governing dogs, including dangerous and vicious dogs.

Passed in House (6/18/2025; 97-0)

Position:

Monitor

HB 249 Public Exposure (King, A., Williams, J.)

To enact the Indecent Exposure Modernization Act.

Committee Hearing in House Judiciary Committee (5/28/2025; CONTINUED)

Position:

Monitor

HB 251 Aeronautic Laws (Willis, B.)

To establish requirements related to the use of an unmanned aerial vehicle by law enforcement and to expressly incorporate additional aviation facilities into the Aeronautics Law.

Committee Hearing in House Transportation Committee (6/17/2025; CONTINUED (No testimony))

Position:

Monitor

HB 252 Burglary (Click, G., Bird, A.)

To modify the offenses of burglary, aggravated burglary, breaking and entering, and trespass in a habitation when a person is present or likely to be present.

Committee Hearing in House Judiciary Committee (6/11/2025; CONTINUED)

Position:

Monitor

HB 260 Courts (Odioso, M., Mathews, A.)

Relates to courts and court procedures.

Committee Hearing in House Judiciary Committee (6/18/2025; CONTINUED)

Position:

Monitor

HB 275 Highway Designation (McClain, R.)

To designate a portion of State Route 53 in Wyandot County as the "Deputy Sheriff Daniel Kin Memorial Highway."

Committee Hearing in House Transportation Committee (6/10/2025; REPORTED)

Position:

Proponent

HB 280 Pension Funds (Abrams, C., Hall, T.)

Regards contributions to the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund.

Committee Hearing in House Public Insurance & Pensions Committee (6/4/2025; CONTINUED)

Position:

Proponent

HB 281 Immigration Laws (Williams, J.)

Regards hospitals and the enforcement of federal immigration law.

Committee Hearing in House Public Safety Committee (6/11/2025; CONTINUED)

Position:

Monitor

HB 286 Internet Gaming (Sweeney, B., Isaacsohn, D.)

To restrict the purposes for which the tax revenue from any legal internet gaming in this state may be used.

Referred in House (5/21/2025; Finance Committee)

Position:
Monitor

HB 298 Internet Gaming (Stewart, B., John, M.)

To legalize and regulate internet gambling in this state, to levy a tax on businesses that provide internet gambling, and to prohibit online sweepstakes games.
Committee Hearing in House Finance Committee (6/3/2025; CONTINUED)

Position:
Monitor

HB 302 Age Verification (Workman, H., Plummer, P.)

To establish age verification and parental consent requirements for certain developers and application stores.
Committee Hearing in House Judiciary Committee (6/4/2025; CONTINUED)

Position:
Monitor

HB 305 Fentanyl (Deeter, K., Williams, J.)

To establish penalties for trafficking in pressed pill fentanyl, to require a death certificate to indicate if a death is caused by fentanyl poisoning, and to name this act Logan's Law.
Referred in House (5/28/2025; Judiciary Committee)

Position:
Monitor

HB 306 Hate Crimes (Jarrells, D., Williams, J.)

To enact the Hate Crime Act to prohibit hate crimes and to create a civil remedy for a person who is terrorized by another because of specific characteristics or beliefs.
Referred in House (5/28/2025; Judiciary Committee)

Position:
Monitor

HB 309 County Budget Commissions (Thomas, D.)

To modify the law governing county budget commissions, property taxation, and alternative apportionment formulas for local government and public library funds.
Committee Hearing in House Ways & Means Committee (6/11/2025; CONTINUED)

Position:
Monitor

HB 314 Public Record Requests (Isaacsohn, D., Ray, S.)

To restrict harassing or disruptive public records requests and permit private contractors to respond to voluminous public records requests.

Referred in House (6/4/2025; Judiciary Committee)

Position:

Monitor

HB 321 Unemployment Compensation (Peterson, B.)

To increase the taxable wage base under the Unemployment Compensation Law and require a contributory employer's employees to pay a contribution when the employer has a negative account balance in the Unemployment Compensation Fund.

Committee Hearing in House Public Insurance & Pensions Committee (6/18/2025; CONTINUED)

Position:

Monitor

HB 323 Sexual Assault (Lorenz, B., Brennan, S.)

To require employers report suspected sexual assault involving minor employees.

Committee Hearing in House Judiciary Committee (6/18/2025; CONTINUED)

Position:

Monitor

HB 325 Road Naming (Holmes, A., Ritter, K.)

To designate a portion of State Route 13 in Athens County as the "Marshal Teddy Ray Holcomb Memorial Highway."

Committee Hearing in House Transportation Committee (6/17/2025; REPORTED)

Position:

Monitor

HB 331 Firearm Suppressors (Deeter, K., Fischer, T.)

To remove firearm mufflers and suppressors from the classification of dangerous ordnance.

Referred in House (6/11/2025; Public Safety Committee)

Position:

Monitor

HB 335 Property Tax Overhaul (Thomas, D.)

To modify the law governing county budget commissions, property taxation, county sales taxation, and alternative apportionment formulas for local government and public library funds.

Committee Hearing in House Ways & Means Committee (6/18/2025; CONTINUED-SUBSTITUTE)

Position:
Opponent

Comment:
The FOP is proactively opposing the bill.

HB 336 Aggravated Vehicular Homicide (Young, T.)

To require a felony offender of an OVI-caused aggravated vehicular homicide to pay child maintenance when the victim is a parent, legal guardian, or custodian of a minor child, to allow child maintenance to be awarded in a wrongful death action when the offender is deceased, and to name this act the Sam Knisley Family Support Act.

Referred in House (6/11/2025; Judiciary Committee)

Position:
Monitor

HB 338 Correctional Institutions (Johnson, M., Plummer, P.)

To enact Andy's Law to increase the penalty for assaulting or causing the death of specified victims at state or local correctional institutions and to make changes to department of rehabilitation and correction policies and procedures.

Referred in House (6/11/2025; Judiciary Committee)

Position:
Monitor

HB 343 Juvenile Justice (Lorenz, B.)

To require mandatory disposition:s for youths adjudicated delinquent for committing acts that would be felony theft or vandalism if committed by an adult.

Referred in House (6/11/2025; Judiciary Committee)

Position:
Monitor

HB 344 Gaming (Dovilla, M., Manning, G.)

To expand the locations and manner in which electronic instant bingo may be conducted, to authorize and establish regulations for retailer video lottery terminals, and to levy a tax on electronic instant bingo.

Committee Hearing in House Finance Committee (6/17/2025; CONTINUED)

Position:
Monitor

HB 346 Child Safety (Kishman, M., Williams, J.)

To enact V.J.'s Law to require mandatory reporters of child abuse or neglect to report to both a peace officer and the public children services agency.
Referred in House (6/11/2025; Public Safety Committee)

Position:
Monitor

HB 348 Concealed Handguns (Isaacsohn, D., Lawson-Rowe, M.)

Regards a concealed handgun licensee's duty to carry the license and notify law enforcement if the licensee is carrying a concealed handgun and to rename concealed handgun licenses as basic competency licenses.
Referred in House (6/18/2025; Public Safety Committee)

Position:
Monitor

HB 350 Firearms (Thomas, C., Grim, M.)

To prohibit certain conduct regarding trigger cranks, bumpfire devices, and other items that accelerate a semi-automatic firearm's rate of fire but do not convert it into an automatic firearm.
Referred in House (6/18/2025; Public Safety Committee)

Position:
Monitor

HB 351 Firearms (Brewer, D., Brownlee, K.)

To establish the Ohio Task Force on Gun Violence.
Referred in House (6/18/2025; Public Safety Committee)

Position:
Monitor

HB 352 Domestic Violence (Brewer, D.)

To expand the offense of domestic violence to include a person with whom the offender is in a dating relationship and to expand the offense of weapons under disability to include a person subject to a domestic violence protection order and a person convicted of misdemeanor domestic violence.
Referred in House (6/18/2025; Judiciary Committee)

Position:
Monitor

HB 354 Domestic Violence (Grim, M., Abdullahi, M.)

To enact the Keeping Our Survivors Safe Act to prohibit a person who has been convicted of first-degree misdemeanor domestic violence from possessing a firearm or dangerous ordnance.

Referred in House (6/18/2025; Public Safety Committee)

Position:
Monitor

HB 357 Vehicular Offenses (Lorenz, B.)

To alter the law governing vehicular manslaughter and vehicular assault.

Referred in House (6/18/2025; Judiciary Committee)

Position:
Monitor

HB 359 Emergency Alert System (Thomas, C., Gross, J.)

To clarify the statewide emergency alert system in cases of missing autistic or developmentally disabled children and to name the alert the Joshua Alert.

Referred in House (6/18/2025; Children & Human Services Committee)

Position:
Monitor

SB 1 (Enacted) Higher Education (Cirino, J.)

To enact the Advance Ohio Higher Education Act regarding the operation of state institutions of higher education.

Signed by the Governor (3/28/2025; Signed: March 28, 2025, Effective: June 25, 2025)

Position:
Opponent

Comment:

The FOP signed on to a letter opposing the collective bargaining provisions of the bill.

SB 26 Joint Committee (Johnson, T.)

To create the Joint Law Enforcement Oversight Committee and to make an appropriation.

Committee Hearing in Senate Armed Services, Veterans Affairs and Public Safety Committee (2/26/2025; CONTINUED (No testimony))

Position:

Opponent

SB 53 Civil Action (Schaffer, T.)

Regards civil actions by persons who suffer injury or loss due to vandalism or riot activity.
Committee Hearing in Senate Judiciary Committee (2/19/2025; CONTINUED)

Position:
Proponent

SB 55 OVI (Manning, N.)

To change the laws pertaining to operating a vehicle or watercraft while under the influence of marihuana and the admissibility of evidence for purposes of OVI statutes.
Committee Hearing in Senate Judiciary Committee (6/18/2025; CONTINUED-AMENDED)

Position:
Monitor

SB 56 Marijuana (Huffman, S.)

To consolidate the administration of the marijuana control program, revise the medical and adult-use marijuana laws, and to levy taxes on marijuana.
Committee Hearing in House Judiciary Committee (6/18/2025)

Position:
Monitor

SB 59 Firearms And Ammunition (Cutrona, A., Schaffer, T.)

To exempt from the sales and use tax the sale of certain firearms and ammunition and to authorize refundable tax credits for small arms and ammunition manufacturing projects.
Committee Hearing in Senate Ways & Means (2/11/2025; CONTINUED)

Position:
Monitor

SB 69 State Retirement System (Romanchuk, M.)

To declare the General Assembly's intent to enact legislation to reform the law governing the state's public retirement systems.
Referred in Senate (2/12/2025; Financial Institutions, Insurance and Technology Committee)

Position:
Monitor

SB 86 Intoxicating Hemp (Wilkin, S., Huffman, S.)

To generally prohibit the sale of intoxicating hemp products, except for sales at licensed dispensaries; to regulate drinkable cannabinoid products, and to levy taxes on drinkable cannabinoid products and other intoxicating hemp products that may be sold.

Referred in House (5/7/2025; General Government Committee)

Position:

Monitor

SB 87 Antisemitism (Johnson, T.)

To define antisemitism for the purpose of investigations and proceedings by state agencies and to expand the offense of ethnic intimidation to include the offenses of riot and aggravated riot committed by reason of the race, color, religion, or national origin of another person or group of persons.

Committee Hearing in Senate Judiciary Committee (3/5/2025; CONTINUED)

Position:

Monitor

SB 95 Highway Designation (Reynolds, M., Craig, H.)

To designate a portion of I-71 in Columbus as the "Chief of Police James G. Jackson Memorial Highway."

Committee Hearing in House Transportation Committee (6/17/2025; REPORTED)

Position:

Proponent

SB 98 Domestic Violence (Craig, H., Weinstein, C.)

To prohibit a person who is charged with or has been convicted of first-degree misdemeanor domestic violence from possessing a firearm or dangerous ordnance.

Referred in Senate (2/12/2025; Judiciary Committee)

Position:

Monitor

SB 114 Arrest Quotas (Patton, T.)

To prohibit law enforcement agencies from using quotas for arrests and citations.

Passed in House (6/18/2025; 91-0)

Position:

Proponent

Comment:

Travis Parker testified in favor of the bill in the Senate. Brian Steel testified in the House in support of the bill.

SB 123 Public Record Fees (Hicks-Hudson, P.)

To prohibit a law enforcement agency for charging a fee for preparing or producing a video public record for a person known or presumed to be depicted in the video.

Committee Hearing in Senate Judiciary Committee (3/26/2025; CONTINUED)

Position:

Monitor

SB 124 Transit System Assaults (Craig, H., Patton, T.)

To increase the penalty for assault when the victim is an operator of an Ohio transit system bus or rail car; to authorize Ohio transit systems to post a sign regarding abuse or assault of staff; and to increase the penalty for evading payment of the known fares of a public transportation system.

Referred in Senate (2/26/2025; Judiciary Committee)

Position:

Monitor

SB 133 Prison Sentences (Antonio, N., Huffman, S.)

To abolish the death penalty and to modify the number of jurors that may be challenged in cases where a defendant may be sentenced to life imprisonment.

Referred in Senate (3/19/2025; Judiciary Committee)

Position:

Opponent

SB 134 Prison Sentences (Antonio, N., Huffman, S.)

To abolish the death penalty, to modify the number of jurors that may be challenged in cases where a defendant may be sentenced to life imprisonment, and to prohibit public funding for the use of lethal injection drugs in nontherapeutic abortions, assisting suicide, and executing a death sentence.

Referred in Senate (3/19/2025; Judiciary Committee)

Position:

Opponent

SB 163 AI-Products And Pornography (Blessing, L., Johnson, T.)

To require AI-generated products have a watermark, to prohibit simulated child pornography, and to prohibit identity fraud using a replica of a person.

Committee Hearing in Senate Judiciary Committee (6/18/2025; CONTINUED-AMENDED)

Position:

Monitor

SB 169 Peace Officers (Ingram, C.)

To require training on emotional intelligence for peace officers.

Committee Hearing in Senate Armed Services, Veterans Affairs and Public Safety
Committee (5/28/2025; CONTINUED)

Position:

Monitor

SB 172 Privilege From Arrest (Roegner, K.)

To specify that persons who are unlawfully present in the United States are not privileged from arrest.

Passed in Senate (6/18/2025; 23-8)

Position:

Monitor

SB 175 Age Verification (Patton, T.)

To establish age verification and parental consent requirements for certain developers and application stores.

Referred in Senate (4/30/2025; Financial Institutions, Insurance and Technology
Committee)

Position:

Proponent

SB 185 Dangerous Dogs (Blessing, L.)

To make changes to the laws governing dogs, including dangerous and vicious dogs.

Committee Hearing in Senate Judiciary Committee (5/7/2025; CONTINUED)

Position:

Monitor

SB 188 Law Enforcement Orders (Patton, T.)

To expand the offense of failure to comply with an order or signal of a law enforcement officer.

Referred in Senate (4/30/2025; Judiciary Committee)

Position:

Proponent

SB 197 Gaming (Manning, N.)

To legalize internet gambling and levy a tax on businesses that provide internet gambling, to permit internet lottery gaming and online wagering on horse racing, to make other changes to the Gambling Law, and to make an appropriation.

Committee Hearing in Senate Select Committee on Gaming (5/28/2025; CONTINUED)

Position:
Monitor

SB 202 Flags (Schaffer, T.)

To prohibit manufactured home park operators, condominium associations, neighborhood associations, and landlords from restricting the display of the thin blue line flag and to name this act the Chief Steven DiSario Act.

Referred in Senate (5/28/2025; Government Oversight and Reform Committee)

Position:
Proponent

SB 213 Municipal Contracts (Patton, T.)

To license companies that sell, provide, install, or otherwise manage traffic law photo-monitoring devices in Ohio and to levy a tax on such companies' gross receipts from municipal contracts.

Referred in Senate (6/4/2025; General Government Committee)

Position:
Interested Party

SB 214 Dangerous Ordinance (Koehler, K.)

To remove firearm mufflers and suppressors from the classification of dangerous ordinance.

Committee Hearing in Senate Armed Services, Veterans Affairs and Public Safety Committee (6/25/2025)

Position:
Opponent

SB 225 Address Confidentiality Program (Manchester, S.)

To expand the Address Confidentiality Program.

Introduced in Senate (6/18/2025)

Position:
Monitor