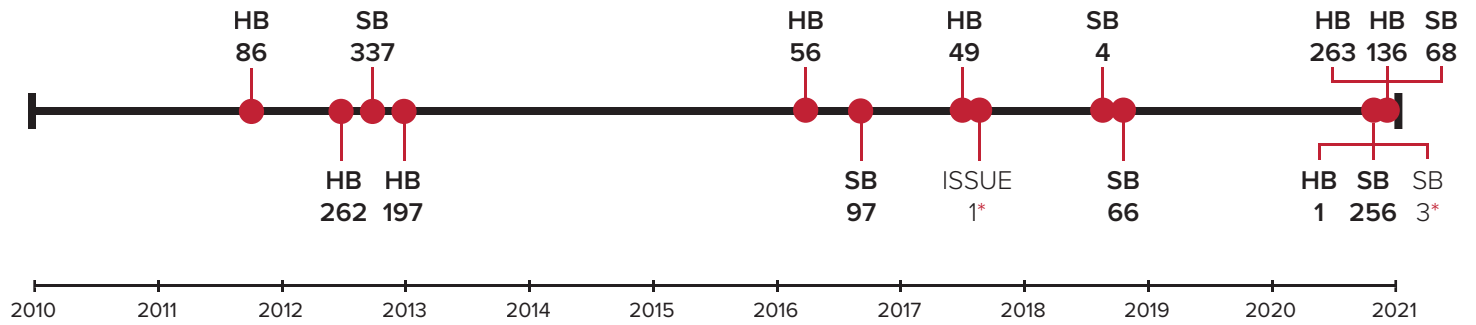


# Timeline of Major Criminal Justice and Drug Sentencing Reforms Passed in Ohio from 2010 to 2021



## 2011

### HB 86

Major criminal justice reform bill aimed to reduce the incarcerated population by utilizing community alternatives to incarceration particularly among low-level offenders, increasing the use of judicial release, and mandating risk assessments to better understand the needs of offenders and reduce recidivism.

increased the minimum age that a person may be held in adult facilities from 18 to 21. Marijuana paraphernalia possession reduced to minor misdemeanor.

### HB 197

#### Alternatives for inability to pay

This bill authorized community service as an alternative for individuals who do not have the ability to pay fines and costs on or after the time of sentencing, and permitted payment plans for individuals who will not be able to pay costs in full when they are due. Vehicle registration and vehicle registration transfers may be blocked in cases of failure to comply with agreements or non-response after warning.

from acquiring firearms. The bill required a mandatory prison term—ranging from 2-11 years—for a violent career criminal convicted of committing a violent felony offense while armed with a firearm. Crimes committed while a delinquent juvenile do not count toward a violent career criminal designation.

to intervention in lieu of conviction, and expanded judicial discretion to limit the length of probation terms where appropriate. SB 66 also increased access to record-sealing remedies and reduced the number of people entering prison due to technical parole violations.

### SB 256

#### Regards sentencing offenders under 18 when committed offense

Prohibited sentencing people under 18 to life in prison without the possibility for parole and allowed some current inmates to be eligible for parole after 18, 25 or 30 years, depending on the offense.

## 2012

### HB 262

Authorized a juvenile court to put a delinquent child complaint on hold pending the child's completion of diversion actions if the child is charged with prostitution or is a victim of trafficking in persons. Increased penalties for trafficking and obstruction of justice. Authorized a person convicted of or adjudicated for committing a prostitution-related offense to apply for expungement of the record if the person's participation in the offense was a result of being a victim of human trafficking.

## 2016

### HB 56

#### Fair hiring act

HB 56 required public employers to consider potential employees based on their qualifications first rather than on a criminal conviction. The bill prohibited inquiries into an applicant's criminal background during the general application portion of the hiring process. Only when the employer is ready to make an offer of employment, can they inquire into the employee's criminal background.

## 2017

### HB 49

#### Biennial budget

The biennial budget, HB 49, included T-CAP, which sends state dollars to counties that voluntarily rehabilitate people convicted of low-level nonviolent offenses. Associated amendments to the Community Control statute intended to cap how long people can spend in prison for technical violations of community supervision. Felony 4 violators were capped at 180 days and Felony 5 violators were capped at 90 days.

### ISSUE 1\*

#### Ohio neighborhood safety, drug treatment, and rehabilitation amendment

This ballot initiative was aimed at amending the Ohio constitution to change drug possession felonies to misdemeanors, prohibit prison sentences for technical probation violations, expand the ability to earn up to 25% off a prison sentence through rehabilitative programming, and redirect funds saved from reduced incarceration to drug treatment and victims' services.

### SB 3\*

#### Express intent to reform drug sentencing laws

This bill would have modified the controlled substance possession and trafficking prohibitions and penalties, modified the drug and alcohol abuse civil commitment mechanism, required the State Criminal Sentencing Commission to study the impact of those changes.

### SB 337

#### Collateral sanctions revision

Revised the penalties of certain 5th degree-felony drug offenses to favor prison alternatives. Broadened the ability of ex-offenders to obtain various licenses for employment and established Certificates of Qualifications for Employment; reduced driver's license suspensions in sentencing; reassessed financial barriers to re-entry, like license reinstatements, to permit installment payments; expanded protections to ensure youth are separated from adults when in custody; and

### SB 97

#### Violent career criminal bill

This bill increased the mandatory prison term by 50% for those who used a gun while committing a crime, and have previously been guilty of using a gun while committing a crime. The bill prohibited "violent career criminals"

## 2018

### SB 4

#### Expand expungement and intervention

Allowed survivors of trafficking to expunge their records of most crimes that can be linked back to trafficking. This clarified opportunities intended for survivors in 2012's HB 262, also known as the Safe Harbor Act, when it was enacted.

### SB 66

#### Modify criminal sentencing and corrections law

The law increased opportunities for pretrial diversion for people charged with low-level drug offenses, increased access

## 2020

### HB 1

#### Modify intervention in lieu of conviction/sealing requirements

HB1 broadened the use of intervention in lieu of conviction programs that allow people facing certain criminal charges to avoid conviction if they complete drug or alcohol treatment programs; provided a quicker path to sealing conviction records for thousands of Ohioans; prohibited the shackling of pregnant prisoners; and reduced incarceration as a result of technical violations of probation.

### HB 263

#### Revise occupational license restrictions for former criminals

Lessened barriers to getting occupational licenses for those with criminal records.

### HB 136

#### Prohibit death penalty if mentally ill at time of offense

Prohibited the death penalty for offenders who suffered from certain serious mental illnesses at the time of the crime.

### SB 68

#### Allow community service in lieu of driver reinstatement fee

Allowed courts to let people who can't afford to pay driver license reinstatement fees to perform community service instead.

\* Issue 1 (2018) and SB3 (2020) did not pass. They are included for reference.