



Legislative Newsletter

January 2024

ODVN Opposed to Revised Version of H.B. 14, the "Equal Parenting" Bill

Legislators have been asked to consider a revised version of H.B. 14, the equal parenting time and responsibilities bill. The bill is currently in the House Families and Aging Committee.

The sponsors hoped to address opponents' concerns with H.B. 14. However, ODVN and more than 90 organizations remain opposed. We have made it clear to the sponsors and the proponents of the bill that we will not support any proposal that creates a presumption of equal parenting and puts the rights of parents over the best interest of a child. [Click here](#) to read our letter about the latest version of the bill.

State Issues

Status on Priority Bills

The House will return to session on *January 10th*, and the Senate's first session date is on *January 24th*.

This year, [ODVN's legislative priorities](#) will be centered around two key pillars: reducing domestic violence fatalities and enhancing child safety within the family court system.

H.B. 14: Presumption of Equal Parenting Time and Responsibilities	Opposed	Hearing in the House Families and Aging Committee on 11/28 and substitute bill introduced.
H.B. 111: Felony Domestic Violence Sentencing	Support	This bill, which increases sentences for felony domestic violence crimes, passed unanimously in the House on 12/13. Introduced in the Senate on 12/19.
H.B. 161: Eliminate Spousal Rape Exceptions	Support	Passed in the House on 11/29. Referred to Senate Judiciary Committee on 12/6.
S.B. 100: Prohibit Installation of Tracking Devices	Support	1st Hearing in House Criminal Justice Committee on 10/17.

Federal Issues

Coalition For Health Funding Sign-On Letter

Over 650 organizations are asking Congress to reject a full-year continuing resolution and instead finish the FY24 appropriations process with the bipartisan Senate funding bills as a starting point for negotiations. For more information, please see this [fact sheet](#).

[Sign your organization onto the letter](#) by this **Friday, January 5**. The letter will be sent to Congress when they return on January 8, so there will not be an extension.

Averting a Government Shutdown

Congress has until Jan. 19 to keep the first handful of agencies funded under the [two-tiered stopgap measure](#) it approved in November, and until Feb. 2 to approve spending for the rest. [Read more...](#)

Missed the previous legislative updates email?
[Read last month's newsletter.](#)



Ohio Domestic Violence Network
174 E. Long Street, Suite 200
Columbus, OH 43215
United States

Received this email as a forward? [Sign up](#) and receive ODVN's legislative updates directly to your inbox.