



# RON O'BRIEN

## FRANKLIN COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

---

March 13, 2017

Honorable James Hughes  
Representative – District 24  
77 S. High Street  
Columbus, OH 43215

Re: HB 63

Dear Representative Hughes:

Please accept this letter in support of House Bill 63 that you have introduced and I understand is scheduled for a hearing on March 14, 2017 at 1:30 p.m. before the House Criminal Justice Committee. I hope to testify in support of your Bill.

I fully support your Bill and both as Franklin County Prosecutor and within the Ohio Prosecuting Attorneys Association have advocated enhanced penalties or a specification to add mandatory time for offenses of violence that cause such serious harm and injuries to crime victims that the penalties provided under current law are inadequate to penalize and provide justice. The recent case in Franklin County where Michael Slager doused Judy Malinowski in gasoline and set her on fire caused me to renew the effort to increase penalties in these type of cases. Bonnie Bowes who is Judy's mother, will also testify.

I look forward to working with you and Chairman Manning as the Bill moves through the House.

Very truly yours,

Ron O'Brien  
Prosecuting Attorney

RJO:jml