

Ohio votes November 7th to amend the Ohio Constitution with a Victims Bill of Rights

Vote “YES” on Issue 1

- Victim Rights are not “strong” or as enforceable unless they are in the constitution. Now, we could lose any victim right in a majority vote of the legislature, for example, in a “must pass” budget bill
- Strong language has been tested in 14 states (in Arizona for 30 years)
- Victims being informed, present, and heard does not take away defendants rights
- This provides meaningful rights for victims, but does not make them a party to the case



2017 Victims Bill of Rights

"Marsy's Law of Ohio"

The proposed constitutional amendment assures rights to:

- Be treated with respect for their safety, dignity, and privacy
- Be informed, present, and heard at public proceedings
- Confer with the prosecutor before decisions are made
- Notice of release or escape of the accused
- An order of full and timely restitution from the offender
- Be told of their rights and to be heard if their rights are violated

MARSY'S LAW

HISTORY



MARSY NICHOLAS

Murdered November 30, 1983.

The Inspiration for Marsy's Law

Dr. Henry T. Nicholas, co-founder of Broadcom Corp., is the key backer of Marsy's Law.

Marsy's Law was named after Dr. Nicholas' sister, Marsy Nicholas, a vibrant University of California Santa Barbara student, who was stalked and killed by her ex-boyfriend in 1983. Only a week after Marsy was murdered, Dr. Nicholas and Marsy's mother went grocery shopping after visiting her grave and were confronted by the accused murderer. They did not know he had been released on bail.

This is typical of the pain and suffering the family members of murder victims have endured. The courts and law enforcement, though well meaning, had no obligation to keep victims informed.

Constitutional Victims Bill of Rights

California passed Marsy's Law by 54% in 2008

Illinois by 78% in 2014

South Dakota by 60% in 2016

North Dakota by 62% in 2016

Montana by 66% in 2016

**Marsy's Law
underway in:**

Georgia

North Carolina

Oklahoma

Florida

Maine

Idaho

Nevada

Kentucky

Ohio



**Strong victim
rights already:**

Arizona (30 years)

Colorado

Maryland

Alaska

New Jersey

New Mexico

Utah

South Carolina

Wisconsin