



December 5, 2016

### Legislation and Policy in the News:

[High Court Fees Can Hurt Low Income Offenders; Cleveland Plain Dealer, November 29, 2016](#)

[Judges Consider Factors When Deciding Bail; Columbus Dispatch, December 5, 2016](#)



*The Ohio Judicial Conference is dedicated to serving all Ohio judges. It is the voice of the judiciary and the primary resource to ensure the fair, unbiased, open, and effective administration of justice.*

## Legislative News: Two Week Review

- [SB 232](#) (Sen. Bacon) **Death Designation Deeds**, voted out of the House and sent to the Governor, 11.29.16. Among other things, the bill terminates a transfer on death designation made to an owner's spouse on certain affidavits and deeds if the owner and the spouse later obtain a divorce, dissolution, or annulment.
- [HB 325](#) (Rep. Green) **Pregnant Drug Use**, voted out of the Senate and sent to the House for concurrence, 11.30.16. The bill was amended in committee to clearly define "treatment" for purposes of eligibility to avoid charges or have a charge held in abeyance; another amendment aimed to clarify the court procedure once the charge is filed. The bill was amended on the floor to include an appropriation of \$2 million for Ohio Mental Health and Addiction Services.
- [SB 365](#) (Sen. Eklund) **LEADS Information Disclosure**, introduced 11.15.16. The bill allows disclosure of information from the law enforcement automated data system (LEADS) to a defendant in a traffic or criminal case.
- [SB 371](#) (Sen. Thomas) **Prosecuting Attorneys and Private Practice**, introduced 11.22.16. The bill prohibits prosecuting attorneys of counties with a population of 400,001 or more from engaging in the private practice of law.
- [HB 621](#) (Rep. Antani) **Heroin Addiction Program**, introduced 11.29.16. The bill makes an appropriation to establish a program to reduce heroin addiction and death rates in Ohio.
- The Senate and House expect to adjourn sine die on 12.8.16. Bills that are expected to pass this week include: [HB 347](#) (restricts civil forfeiture); [HB 410](#) (addresses truancy and school expulsions); [HB 388](#) (encourages use of ignition interlock devices for OVI offenders); [HB 432](#) (omnibus probate bill); [HB 436](#) (clarifies inconsistencies in OVI law); SB 139 (process for post-conviction relief in death penalty cases) and [SB 319](#) (creates immunity for court personnel and probation officers for administering naloxone). Check the OJC website for enactment news.
- The Ohio Criminal Sentencing Commission published a [report](#) of recommendations to improve record sealing and rights restoration (a [chart](#) summarizes R.C. 2953).
- The PUCO is recommending changes to [OAC 4901:1-6-22](#) relative to telephone services in jails, including a cap on charges (21¢/minute for prepaid calls and 25¢/minute for collect calls) and a requirement that the inmate operator service disclose how calls will be billed and charges collected.
- The Ohio Criminal Recodification Committee is expected to continue its work into the next General Assembly.

For a complete list of bills that affect the judiciary, please visit the [OJC website](#).



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