

Legislative News: Two Week Review

The following bills were enacted the week of May 24, 2016 and await action by the Governor:

- **HB 50** (Reps. Grossman, Pelanda) **Title IV-E Funds** The bill extends the eligibility age for federal Title IV-E foster care and adoption assistance payments to 21 and it requires courts to distribute the Ohio Guardianship Guide.
- **SB 97** (Sens. Hughes, LaRose) **Firearms/Prison Terms** The bill creates a new category of offender, the Violent Career Criminal, and changes firearm spec penalties.
- **HB 110** (Rep. Hill) **Hit & Run and Good Samaritan Provisions** The bill makes it an F2 (now an F3) to leave the scene of a car crash resulting in death or serious physical harm. An amendment added **HB 249** (limited criminal immunity for minor drug possession if seeking medical help for an overdose).
- **HB 123** (Reps. Cupp, Johnson) **Pre-Sentence Investigations** The bill allows the PSI requirement to be waived, if all parties (including the judge) agree.
- **HB 164** (Rep. Pelanda) **Sealing Records** The bill allows sealing a criminal record that had previously been unsealable. An amendment clarifies that documents of the Inspector General are not sealed with criminal records, unless the person is found not guilty or the conviction is reversed.
- **HB 171** (Reps. Blessing, Dever) **Heroin Felony** The bill decreases the minimum amount to make trafficking in or possession of heroin an F1 and to classify an offender as a major drug offender.
- **SB 171** (Sen. Seitz) **Depositions and Discovery** The bill adopts the Uniform Interstate Depositions and Discovery Act.
- **SB 204** (Sen. Seitz) **Discretionary Driving Suspensions** The bill allows currently mandatory license suspensions for drug offenses to be discretionary.
- **SB 296** (Sen. Seitz) **Process for Ordering Polls to Remain Open** The bill requires a bond and a 3-judge panel.
- **SB 321** (Sen. Faber) **Public Records** The bill authorizes the Court of Claims to hear complaints concerning access to public records.
- **HB 359** (Reps. Duffey, Gonzales) **Address Confidentiality** The bill authorizes the Secretary of State to maintain a confidential address database for victims of certain crimes, like domestic violence.
- **HB 387** (Rep. Terhar) **Small Claims Court** The bill increases the small claims court cap to \$6,000.
- **HB 390** (Reps. Retherford, Schaffer) **Natural Gas Sales Tax Exemption; OJC; Foreclosure** The bill was amended to reauthorize and restore funding to the OJC. It was also amended to include **HB 463**, which creates an expedited foreclosure process for abandoned property, a private selling officer option for foreclosures, and an online selling method.
- **HB 523** (Rep. Huffman) **Medical Marijuana** The bill authorizes doctors to prescribe marijuana, regulates users through the Pharmacy Board, and regulates growers through the Department of Commerce.

For a complete list of bills that affect the judiciary, please visit the [OJC website](http://www.ohiojudges.org).



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June 6, 2016



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