



ENACTMENT NEWS

House Bill 300

Termination of lifetime or 15-year license suspensions; granting of limited driving privileges expanded

Effective March, 2017

Governor Kasich signed House Bill 300 into law on December 13, 2016. The bill goes into effect in March, 2017.

Timing for seeking termination or modification of lifetime or 15-year license suspension

A person whose driver's license has been suspended either for life under a class one suspension or for a period of at least 15 years under a class two suspension may, under current law, petition a court to modify or terminate the suspension if fifteen years have elapsed since the suspension began and during that period the person has no other moving violations or felony convictions, or if five years have elapsed since the suspension began and during that time the person has had no other moving violations or convictions of vehicular homicide or aggravated vehicular manslaughter. R.C. 4510.54.

H.B. 300 clarifies that the fifteen-year "waiting" period applies if the suspension was a result of a felony conviction, and the five-year period applies if the underlying offense was a misdemeanor. Additionally, the bill provides that if the suspension was the result of an OVI-related aggravated vehicular homicide conviction, the fifteen-year period begins not when the license suspension begins, but upon the offender's release from prison.

Limited driving privileges – purposes expanded

H.B. 300 adds two additional reasons for which a court may grant limited driving privileges: to attend any court proceeding related to the offense that resulted in the suspension, and to transport a minor child to school, day care, or any other location for the purpose of receiving child care.