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Dayton Daily News

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Legislative (Lame Duck) Update

The 131st General Assembly has nearly concluded, as members of the legislature passed their last bill for the year at 3:15 a.m. on December 9. Lame duck is traditionally the busiest time of year for legislators and this year was no exception. Below are some of the most high-profile bills that were passed during lame duck (the final period of office, after the election of a successor). Bills that were not passed by both Chambers of the legislature this year will need to be reintroduced next year during the 132nd General Assembly.

Legislature Moves to Restrict Abortions in Ohio

Last week the legislature passed two pieces of legislation aimed at curbing abortions in Ohio. HB 493, often referred to as the "heartbeat bill", passed largely along party lines and would ban abortions after a fetal heartbeat is detected -- often as early as six weeks into a woman's pregnancy. The bill makes no exceptions for victims of rape or incest. Yesterday, Governor Kasich vetoed the legislation on the premise that ["similar legislation enacted in two states has twice been declared unconstitutional by federal judges..."](#) The Governor's veto could be overridden by a three-fifths majority vote of the legislature.

[Senate Bill 127](#) also passed both chambers last week and would ban abortions after 20 weeks gestation -- generally a month earlier than the age of viability for a fetus to survive outside of the womb. The Governor signed SB 127 into law yesterday, which will likely be challenged in court. Similar legislation in Arizona and Idaho has already been struck down by federal courts.

Concealed Carry Expansion to Include Daycares,



Upcoming Events:

Federal Student Aid
Webinar - December 15

Auto Zone Job Expo,
Columbus - December
15

Webinar for Interpreter
Trainers - December 15

ODOT Waiver Request
Informational Meeting,
Columbus - December
16

Toy Give Away,
Columbus - December
17

La Conexión's Holidays
Across the Americas,
Bowling Green -
December 17

Doing Business with the
Defense Finance and
Accounting Service,
Webinar - December 20

Construction Trades
Career Fair, Columbus -
January 26

Universities

Gaining legislative momentum in recent weeks, legislators passed a bill that expands the places where CCW holders may carry their weapons. Provisions of [SB 199](#) would allow permit holders to carry concealed firearms at airport terminals, college campuses and daycare centers with permission from a school's board of trustees or daycare operator. Those in the armed forces would be permitted to carry concealed firearms without a permit.

"Christmas Tree" Bill Addresses Autism Insurance Coverage and Housing Discrimination Laws

In a move largely protested by Democrats, several bills were combined into [HB 463](#) addressing a number of topics. Most notably, the bill mandates that health insurers provide coverage for children with autism, while weakening Ohio's housing discrimination laws. Both Republicans and Democrats overwhelmingly supported the autism insurance provision, however, many Democrats were concerned with the housing discrimination provisions that would make the collection of damages and attorney fees discretionary, and would forbid administrative-proceeding punitive damages. The bill also bans the use of plywood to secure abandoned properties, which have been known to attract crime.

Latino Education
Summit, Cincinnati -
March 1

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