



Legislative Update

Below is a list of legislation the Ohio Latino Affairs Commission is tracking. We encourage you to become familiar with these proposals, as they could impact Ohio's Latino community. To read a complete list of tracked legislation, [click here](#).

News Impacting the Community

10TV

[10 investigates how deportation plans affect local immigrants](#)

WOSU

[New American Voices: Bertha Santos](#)

Plain Dealer

[Aborted fetuses to be buried or cremated under proposed Ohio House legislation](#)

Cincinnati Enquirer

[Kasich signs 'ban the box' into law](#)

Columbus Dispatch

[Other viewpoint: Data on police shooting overdue](#)

La Prensa

[Hispanic profiles: Dr. Lonny](#)

HB 189 - Voter Photo ID Law

[House Bill 189](#) - Introduced by Rep. Andy Brenner of Delaware County, HB 189 would require voters to provide government photo identification in order to vote in Ohio. Currently, acceptable non-photo identification includes a utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck or other current government documents that contain the voter's present residence address. Bill sponsors say the measure is necessary to prevent voter fraud in Ohio, while opponents claim voter fraud rarely occurs and the requirement levies an "unconstitutional poll tax" for those who do not often have photo IDs. The legislation has been referred to the Government Accountability and Oversight Committee where it awaits a hearing.

Related Articles:

Canton Repository - [What's it take to vote? A guide to Ohio's voter requirements](#)

Plain Dealer - [Ohio voter photo ID bill aims at suppressing votes and should be rejected: editorial](#)

HB 270 - Death From Overdose - Dealer Charged

[Rivera, becomes Ohio's first Latino State Schools Supt.](#)

La Prensa
[Equipo del Servicio Exterior en el Consulado de Mexico en Detroit](#)

La Prensa
[Cleveland Foundation announces \\$12.7 million in December grants](#)

Vocero Latino
[Westfield Insurance Foundation Donates \\$45,000 to The Spanish American Committee](#)

Mujer Latina Today
[2015: Entrevistas a escritores, periodistas y poetas](#)



Upcoming Events:

Citizenship Clinic,
Dayton - January 9

OSHA 10 Construction in
Spanish, Cleveland -
January 11

What the Healthcare Law
Means for Your Small

[House Bill 270](#) - Introduced by Representatives Jonathan Dever and Dorothy Pelanda, HB 270 would allow drug dealers to be charged with involuntary manslaughter if their clients overdose. The initiative was brought to Rep. Dever's attention by a Hamilton County prosecutor who says the proposal would make it easier for prosecutors to hold drug dealers responsible for overdose deaths in Ohio. There have been two hearings on HB 270. Questions were raised about the interpretation of the word overdose, as well as the unintended consequences the legislation could have compared to initiatives implemented during the 1980's crack epidemic.

Related Articles:

Examiner- [State Rep Talks Drug Policy with Local Leaders](#)

HB 298 - Drug Testing for Welfare Recipients

[House Bill 298](#) - Introduced by Representatives Tim Schaffer and Ron Maag, HB 298 would establish a drug testing pilot program for Ohio Works First (OWF). Adults would be required to undergo a drug test if there is reasonable cause to suspect that the adult has a chemical dependency. Applicants who test positive would not be able to receive public benefits for six months, and their benefits would be given to a protective payee, such as a spouse or other third party. As of this year, 85% of the 110,343 individuals receiving Ohio Works First benefits are children. Thirteen states have laws that require drug testing for public assistance applicants or recipients. The Community and Family Advancement Committee has held two hearings on the legislation.

Related Articles:

Plain Dealer - [Ohio lawmakers propose drug testing some welfare recipients](#)

Fox News - [Ohio welfare applicants would be drug tested under new bill](#)

SB 154 - Abolish Death Penalty

Business, Cleveland -
January 12

Personas Viviendo con
la Esclerosis Múltiple,
(Un grupo telefónico) -
January 12

Ohio Human Trafficking
Awareness Day,
Columbus - January 14

Trauma and
Dissociation:
Fundamentals of
Assessment and
Treatment, Columbus -
January 15

31st Annual MLK Jr.
Birthday Breakfast,
Columbus - January 18

Workshop: Students with
Undocumented
Immigration Status,
Columbus - January 18

[Click here to view a
complete list of events.](#)

Let us know about your
upcoming events, so we may
feature it on our calendar!

Did you miss a Legislative
Update?

[Click here to access a list of all
our updates.](#)

[Senate Bill 154](#) -- Re-introduced this year by Senator Edna Brown of Toledo, SB 154 would abolish the death penalty in Ohio. Senator Brown has pushed to end the death penalty for years, "It is my long-held belief that the possibility of putting an innocent person to death is one that a moral society should avoid." This bill has been referred to the Criminal Justice Committee where it awaits a hearing. Similar legislation is under consideration in the House.

CBS News - [Legislative Democrats push anti-death penalty bills following controversial execution \(2014\)](#)

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