

As Introduced

133rd General Assembly

Regular Session

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S. B. No. 271

Senator Antonio

**Cosponsors: Senators Craig, Fedor, Maharath, O'Brien, Sykes, Thomas, Williams,
Yuko**

A BILL

To enact section 5120.101 of the Revised Code to 1
enact Sean's Law to establish rules and 2
procedures for an inmate who is found to be at 3
risk of withdrawal from benzodiazepines, 4
alcohol, and other addictive drugs. 5

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That section 5120.101 of the Revised Code be 6
enacted to read as follows: 7

Sec. 5120.101. (A) This section applies to a jail that is 8
used primarily to confine inmates charged with or convicted of 9
any crime in this state or under the laws of the United States 10
for one hundred twenty hours or more. 11

(B) The department of rehabilitation and correction shall 12
adopt rules under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code to establish 13
protocols for inmates who are at risk of withdrawal from 14
benzodiazepines, alcohol, and other addictive drugs. The rules 15
shall include all of the following: 16

(1) Protocols to identify, monitor, and treat inmates at 17

risk of withdrawal from benzodiazepines, alcohol, and other 18
addictive drugs; 19

(2) Training requirements for health-trained personnel 20
responsible for conducting a medical, dental, or mental health 21
screening on the symptoms, consequences, and treatment options 22
for withdrawal from benzodiazepines, alcohol, and other 23
addictive drugs; 24

(3) Requirements that health-trained personnel perform a 25
medical, dental, and mental health screening on each inmate upon 26
arrival at the jail and record the findings of the screening; 27

(4) Procedures for performing a medical, dental, and 28
mental health screening that include inquiry into the inmate's 29
use of benzodiazepines, alcohol, and other addictive drugs, the 30
type of alcohol or drug used, the frequency and amount used, the 31
date or time of last use, and the history of any problems after 32
ceasing use; 33

(5) Procedures for recording the findings of a medical, 34
dental, and mental health screening; 35

(6) Procedures for making the recordings of the findings 36
of a medical, dental, and mental health screening available 37
during an inspection of the jail. 38

(C) Pursuant to the rules adopted under division (B) of 39
this section, if the health-trained personnel discover that an 40
inmate is at risk of withdrawal from xanax, ativan, valium, or 41
any other benzodiazepine, and if the jail physician or physician 42
servicing the jail determines that the benzodiazepine shall be 43
discontinued, the jail physician or physician servicing the jail 44
shall ensure that both of the following occur: 45

(1) The benzodiazepine is tapered off in a timely and 46

<u>clinically appropriate manner using appropriate, less addictive</u>	47
<u>medication.</u>	48
<u>(2) The inmate is seen by a psychiatrist within forty-</u>	49
<u>eight hours of the inmate being admitted to the jail.</u>	50
<u>(D) As used in this section, "health-trained personnel"</u>	51
<u>means any member of the jail staff who is trained in limited</u>	52
<u>aspects of health care, including any correctional officers and</u>	53
<u>other personnel approved by the jail physician or physician</u>	54
<u>servicing the jail.</u>	55
Section 2. This act shall be known as "Sean's Law."	56