

As Introduced

**136th General Assembly
Regular Session
2025-2026**

S. B. No. 321

Senator Schaffer

To enact sections 5119.081 and 5123.131 of the
Revised Code regarding the carrying of firearms
by certain special police officers.

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

Section 1. That sections 5119.081 and 5123.131 of the
Revised Code be enacted to read as follows:

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Sec. 5119.081. (A) As used in this section:

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(1) "Deadly weapon" and "firearm" have the same meanings
as in section 2923.11 of the Revised Code.

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(2) "Special police officer" means a special police
officer designated under section 5119.08 of the Revised Code.

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(B) The director of behavioral health shall not prohibit a
special police officer, while on duty on the premises of an
institution under the jurisdiction of the department of
behavioral health, from carrying or possessing a deadly weapon,
including a firearm, in any of the following circumstances:

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(1) When escorting a patient outside of the institution;

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(2) When operating one or more of the institution's metal
detectors;

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<u>(3) When patrolling the institution's grounds.</u>	19
<u>Sec. 5123.131. (A) As used in this section:</u>	20
<u>(1) "Deadly weapon" and "firearm" have the same meanings</u>	21
<u>as in section 2923.11 of the Revised Code.</u>	22
<u>(2) "Special police officer" means a special police</u>	23
<u>officer designated under section 5123.13 of the Revised Code.</u>	24
<u>(B) The director of developmental disabilities shall not</u>	25
<u>prohibit a special police officer, while on duty on the premises</u>	26
<u>of an institution under the jurisdiction of the department of</u>	27
<u>developmental disabilities, from carrying or possessing a deadly</u>	28
<u>weapon, including a firearm, in any of the following</u>	29
<u>circumstances:</u>	30
<u>(1) When escorting a resident outside of the institution;</u>	31
<u>(2) When operating one or more of the institution's metal</u>	32
<u>detectors;</u>	33
<u>(3) When patrolling the institution's grounds.</u>	34