

# Byers, Minton and Associates

This Week at the Statehouse

November 3, 2017

## Around the Square

### House Passages

The House on Wednesday passed several bills, among which included House Bill 214, a bill that would ban abortions sought due to a Down syndrome diagnosis. The bill was debated on for the majority of session, but ultimately passed 63-30. Additional bills include: HB 50, requiring photos on issued debit cards under the SNAP program, HB 119, another SNAP related measure, HB 292, which modifies residency for tax purposes and HB 334, related to business income.

### Reagan Tokes' Act

Lisa McCrary-Tokes spoke to the Senate Government Oversight and Reform committee on House Bills 201 and 202, named the Reagan Tokes' Act after her daughter who was killed earlier this year. She gave an emotional testimony on the bills that would increase inmate sentences if they misbehave while incarcerated, and set GPS monitoring and reentry programs for those recently released. The legislative service commission found the first bill to potentially create a slight increase in the prison population, and the second to potentially be a significant cost the state.

## Political News and Notes

### Candidates Update

Ohio Supreme Court Justice Bill O'Neill announced on Sunday his intention to file as a democratic nominee for the upcoming gubernatorial race. The deadline to file is February 7, 2018, 90 days before the primary election. According to Ohio Code of Judicial Conduct, O'Neill must step down from his position before running for office, to which O'Neill added he will do once approved for the ballot in February. House Speaker Cliff Rosenberger officially announced he will not be running for state auditor, leaving Rep Faber as the sole Republican candidate.

### DeWine Unveils Opioid Plan

Attorney General Mike DeWine announced he sent letters to five pharmaceutical companies and three drug distributors to come forward and pay for their part in supplying Ohioans with addictive painkillers. DeWine said the settlement will fund a 12-point plan to combat the epidemic, to which he named "Recovery Ohio". Read the full 12 steps on the AG's website here: <http://bit.ly/2h1IAmL>

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