

As Introduced

**128th General Assembly
Regular Session
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H. B. No. 84

Representative Boyd

**Cosponsors: Representatives Williams, S., Williams, B., Skindell, Domenick,
Mallory**

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A BILL

To enact section 5120.101 of the Revised Code to 1
require health-trained personnel to perform a 2
medical, dental, and mental health screening on 3
each inmate upon arrival at a jail, to establish 4
procedures that health-trained personnel must 5
follow if an inmate is taking xanax, ativan, 6
valium, or any other benzodiazepine, and to 7
provide that the sheriff ensure that 8
health-trained personnel responsible for medical, 9
dental, and mental health screening be trained as 10
to symptoms and consequences of withdrawal from 11
addictive drugs. 12

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

Section 1. That section 5120.101 of the Revised Code be 13
enacted to read as follows: 14

Sec. 5120.101. (A) This section applies to a jail that is 15
used primarily to confine inmates charged with or convicted of any 16
crime in this state or under the laws of the United States for one 17
hundred twenty hours or more. 18

(B) The sheriff who oversees a jail shall ensure that each health-trained personnel responsible for conducting medical, dental, or mental health screening under division (C) of this section is trained as to the symptoms, consequences, and treatment options of withdrawal from benzodiazepines, alcohol, and other addictive drugs prior to that health-trained personnel conducting a medical, dental, or mental health screening. The jail physician or physician servicing the jail shall ensure that adequate measures are in place to identify and treat inmates at risk of withdrawal from addictive drugs.

(C)(1) Health-trained personnel shall perform a medical, dental, and mental health screening on each inmate upon arrival at the jail and shall record the findings of the screening. The screening shall include inquiry into the inmate's use of alcohol and drugs, including the type of alcohol or drug used, the frequency and amount used, the date or time of last use, and the history of any problems after ceasing use.

(2) If the health-trained personnel discover that an inmate is taking xanax, ativan, valium, or any other benzodiazepine, the health-trained personnel shall attempt to verify the prescription with the prescribing physician within twenty-four hours of the inmate being admitted to the jail. If the health-trained personnel are unable to verify the prescription in that time period, the health-trained personnel shall arrange for the inmate to meet with a psychiatrist within seventy-two hours of the inmate being admitted to the jail to ensure that, if the psychiatrist considers it necessary, the benzodiazepine is tapered off in a timely and clinically appropriate manner using appropriate, less addictive medication. If the health-trained personnel verify the prescription within twenty-four hours of the inmate being admitted to the jail, the jail physician or physician servicing the jail shall ensure that the benzodiazepine is tapered off in a timely

and clinically appropriate manner using appropriate, less 51
addictive medication. 52

(D) This section shall be commonly known as "Sean's Law." 53

(E) As used in this section, "health-trained personnel" means 54
any member of the jail staff who is trained in limited aspects of 55
health care, including any correctional officers and other 56
personnel approved by the jail physician or physician servicing 57
the jail. 58