

Legislative News: Two-Week Review



July 14, 2025

In Case You Missed It:

[The Ohio Attorney General Provides a Human Trafficking Service Directory](#)

[SupR5, Effective September 1, Requires Local Rule on Reporting to Law Enforcement](#)

The Ohio Judicial Conference is dedicated to serving all Ohio judges. The Judicial Conference is the voice of the judiciary & a primary resource to ensure the fair, unbiased, open & effective administration of justice.

- **HB 96** (Rep. Stewart) **Biennial State Budget**, signed by the Governor, 6.30.25. The budget contained provisions significant to the judiciary, including the following:
 - **Judicial compensation** increased by a total of 5% annually beginning in 2026 and continuing through 2029.
 - The Supreme Court will no longer provide **Court Tech Grants**; that line item was removed from the Supreme Court budget.
 - The Attorney General can provide grants to courts for the purpose of “facilitating the exchange of information and warehousing of data by and between courts and other justice system partners.”
 - Courts are prohibited from using **special projects funds** for training or education that takes place outside of the state.
 - The **Northwest Regional Hub** of the State Public Defender was created and fully and independently funded. The NWRH is expected to be operational this Fall.
 - The budget removed the \$75 hourly **rate cap for reimbursement** on non-capital cases for appointed counsel and the \$140 hourly rate cap for reimbursement on capital cases for appointed counsel.
 - The bill specifies that the **clerk of a common pleas court** is responsible for determining and implementing the best means and methods for storing, maintaining, and retrieving all papers delivered to the clerk, whether in writing or electronic form.
 - Municipal and county courts no longer have to submit quarterly requests to the Supreme Court for reimbursements of per diem compensation paid to **acting judges**.
 - The general docket of the probate court must be **posted online** no later than 18 months after the bill’s effective date.
 - A balancing test is required when **sealing juvenile records** after a complaint has been dismissed as required by *State ex rel. Cincinnati Enquirer v. Bloom*, 2024-Ohio-5029.
 - The bill requires school districts to create a policy to address student absences by consulting with the juvenile court and local agencies.
- On 7.2.25, the Ohio Supreme Court ruled that an individual voluntarily submitting information to a marketplace phone app has no reasonable expectation of privacy, so law enforcement **does not need a search warrant** to get such information. [State v. Diaw](#), Slip Opinion No. 2025-Ohio-2323.
- Attorney General Dave Yost Thursday approved petition summary language for a proposed anti-discrimination constitutional amendment that would also **repeal the ban on same-sex marriages** passed by voters in 2004. The Ballot Board split the amendment into 2 issues.

For a complete list of bills & the latest Enactment News, please visit the [OJC website](http://www.ohiojudges.org).



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