

November 17, 2025

In Case You Missed It:

NCSC Creates AI Literacy
Curriculum for Judges

Join the 2025 Statewide Settlement Week Sweep

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

Legislative News: Two-Week Review

- <u>SB 56</u> (Sen. Huffman) **Marijuana and Hemp**, sent to Conference Committee, 10.22.25. The bill generally makes regulatory changes to the Marijuana Control Law. It prohibits the unlicensed sale of intoxicating hemp products (M1 at first offense and F5 for each subsequent offense). DCPs (drinkable cannabinoid products) are regulated in the bill, with a penalty for selling a DCP to someone under 21 (F5) and a penalty for having an open container in public (MM). The bill authorizes law enforcement to arrest an individual who operates a vehicle under the influence of intoxicating hemp or a DCP. The bill allows an application for expungement of prior convictions of drug possession (no more than 2.5 oz. of marijuana & no more than 15 q of hashish).
- HB 195 (Reps. Isaacsohn, Mathews) Uniform Commercial Code, passed by the House, 11.5.25. The bill reflects the 2022 amendments to the UCC, which add a new Article 12 addressing digital assets (e.g., cryptocurrency and nonfungible tokens). Under the new Article 12, these intangible assets are called controllable electronic records (CERs). The bill also addresses the concept of "controlling" a CER, which is roughly analogous to possession of a tangible asset. A person with control can "spend" the CER and transfer it to another person in exchange for goods or services. The bill also updates Article 9 of the UCC to address security interests in CERs and to facilitate the use of a CER as the collateral for a loan.
- <u>HB 565</u> (Reps. Jarrells, Odioso) **Grand Jury Records**, introduced 11.4.25. The bill makes the names and addresses of grand jurors and the signature of the jury foreperson exempt from disclosure under Public Records law.
- <u>HB 570</u> (Rep. Williams) **Court Costs**, introduced 11.4.25. The bill authorizes garnishment of income tax refunds to pay certain delinquent court costs and fees. The tax commissioner will publish a form that clerks of court can complete and send back to the tax commissioner; any state tax refund can be garnished to cover unpaid court costs that are more than a year past due.
- <u>HB 571</u> (Reps. Bird, Williams) **Juvenile Transfers**, introduced 11.4.25. The bill eliminates a court's ability to transfer a proceeding against a juvenile to the county where the juvenile resides.
- Attorney General Opinion 2025-022, published 10.21.25, states that Domestic Relations and Juvenile Divisions qualify as courts of competent jurisdiction to issue search warrants for stored electronic communications under federal law, but Probate Divisions do not as they lack criminal jurisdiction. Sup.R. 3.01(B) allows a general division presiding judge to temporarily assign a probate judge to the general division to issue a search warrant.
- A provision in the state budget, <u>HB 96</u>, effective 9.30.25, **requires a defendant to be committed to ODRC custody if PRC is to be imposed**. If a defendant is released from the county without being committed (physically or electronically) to ODRC, that defendant will *not* be placed on PRC supervision by the APA. (<u>R.C. 2967.28</u>, <u>5120.16</u>)

For a complete list of bills & the latest Enactment News, please visit the OJC website.



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