



December 15, 2025

In Case You Missed It:

[ReLink.Org Helps
Individuals Re-Entering
Their Communities Access
Vital Community
Resources](#)

*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

- **[SB 56](#)** (Sen. Huffman) **Recreational Marijuana**, Senate Accepts Conference Committee Report and Sends Bill to Governor, 12.9.25. 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 100g of marijuana, a MM).
- **[HB 626](#)** (Rep. Williams) **Text Reminders for Court Appearances**, introduced 12.8.25. The bill requires the Supreme Court to develop, make available, and require each clerk of courts for every municipal, county, and common pleas court to employ a court reminder program that allows the court to send a text or electronic mail message to notify all criminal and traffic defendants of scheduled court appearances. The bill appropriates funds but mandates that the program shall be made available to every court at no cost to the court. Some data collection is also required.
- A party does not have 3 additional days to object to a magistrate's decision when the clerk of court sends the decision by U.S. mail or through a commercial carrier, the Supreme Court of Ohio ruled in [Eggleston v. Wood, Slip Opinion No. 2025-Ohio-5292](#) on 11.26.25.
- [Proposed changes to Sup.R.9](#) (court security) published for public comment; public comment period ends 12.22.25.
- [Proposed changes to Sup.R. 3 through 4.04](#) have been published for public comment. These proposed changes impact designation and election of a presiding judge, **particularly in counties with a 2-judge bench**. Comments should be submitted in writing to Keely McWhorter, Supreme Court of Ohio, 65 South Front Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215, or RuleAmendments@sc.ohio.gov not later than 1.5.26.
- Applications are still available from for BCI Grants for [electronic reporting](#), [disposition recovery](#), and [LiveScan fingerprint devices](#). Submit fully completed applications and any other supporting information to the relevant email address at the Attorney General's Office. Applications will be reviewed as they are received, and funding awards will be determined every 90 days, until the grant funds are exhausted.
- This is the last OJC Legislative Newsletter for 2025. We wish everyone happy holidays and look forward to continuing our good work in 2026!

For a complete list of bills & the latest Enactment News, please visit the [OJC website](#).



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