

## Legislative News: Two-Week Review



September 21, 2026

### In Case You Missed It:

[University of Cincinnati Hosts 1-Day CLE Designed for Judges & Others: Modern Trends in Forensic Science, AI, and Evidence: November 6, 2026](#)

[Licking County H.O.M.E. Court Measures Success in Lives Changes; Statehouse News Bureau, September 8, 2026](#)

*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.*

- [SB 471](#) (Sens. Craig, DeMora) **Franklin County Common Pleas Court**, introduced 9.14.26. The bill adds two judges to the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas, to be elected in 2028.
- [HB 997](#) (Rep. Lorenz) **Recovery Housing**, introduced 9.2.26. The bill allows any person or government to operate a recovery housing residence for 1 – 5 unrelated persons in a residential district; the bill allows any person or government to operate a recovery housing residence for 6 or more unrelated persons in a multiple-family residential district, except for political subdivisions with zoning ordinances that preclude such use (the bill authorizes conditional permission or special exceptions in those cases, under certain conditions).
- [HB 1009](#) (Reps. Newman, Willis) **Automated License Plate Recognition Systems**, introduced 9.14.26. The bill regulates the use of automated license plate recognition systems and mass surveillance technology and is named the Stop Flock Abuse Act. It is one of several bills introduced on 9.14.26 with similar purposes: [HB 1010](#) (Rep. Dean) is named the Ohio Freedom from Mass Surveillance Act; [HB 1011](#) (Rep. Click) aims to limit the use of automated license plate recognition systems and mass surveillance technologies for a year and abolish limitations on the General Assembly from regulating such systems, and is named the 1984 No More Act; and [SB 469](#) (Sen. Cutrona) aims to regulate the use of automated license plate recognition systems, mass surveillance technology, and captured surveillance data.
- In [State v. Smith, \(Slip Opinion No. 2026-Ohio-3472\)](#), decided on 9.8.26., the Supreme Court unanimously ruled that **sex offenders must register** at the address they perform work, even if it's temporary, or if it's different from the organization's primary location.
- In [Allied Health & Chiropractic LLC v. State \(Slip Opinion No. 2026-Ohio-3308\)](#), decided on 8.27.2026, the Ohio Supreme Court unanimously ruled that laws allowing healthcare providers to contact crime and accident victims, which were passed in the state budget bill (HB 96) are not unconstitutional despite a challenge that they violate the **single-subject rule**. Because the language was subsequently amended, the amended language is now the operative law, and the constitutionality or unconstitutionality of earlier versions does not render later versions void.
- **Save the Date:** the Supreme Court's Annual [Veterans Summit](#) takes place on 11.19.26 at Villa Milano in Columbus. The conference can be attended in-person or virtually and 5.75 hours of CLE have been requested. Register through [OhioCourtEDU](#).
- The Legislature's summer recess is wrapping up. The Senate is scheduled to resume committee hearings starting on October 6, if needed. The first sessions with both chambers after summer break are scheduled for November 10.
- The OJC's Annual Meeting was a great success. You can watch the Chief Justice's [State of the Judiciary](#) speech online.

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



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