

## Legislative News: Two-Week Review



January 21, 2025

### In Case You Missed It:

[Summary of Petition to End Qualified Immunity Approved by Attorney General Yost](#)

[Governor Announces Missing Persons Work Group, January 13, 2025](#)

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.

- The OJC has prepared [Enactment Summaries](#) of bills that passed during lame duck; please visit our website to see summaries of [HB 111](#) (domestic violence penalties); [SB 100](#) (tracking device prohibitions and oral fluid collection); [HB 37](#) (OVI penalties); [HB 234](#) (Alford pleas and criminal record sealing/expungement); [HB 29](#) (driver's license suspensions); [HB 265](#) (public records law changes and privacy protections for public officials); [HB 531](#) (sexual extortion prohibitions); [HB 322](#) (new offense of grooming); [HB 366](#) (organized retail crime act); [HB 289](#) (SORN non-compliance); [HB 77](#) (unmanned aerial vehicle prohibitions); [HB 315](#) (group homes); [HB 5](#) (adoption modernization); [HB 338](#) (support orders for children with disabilities); [SB 63](#) (asbestos litigation); and [SB 237](#) (uniform public expression protection).
- **Civil stalking victims** don't enjoy the same pre-charge protections of crime victims, according to [Attorney General Opinion 2024-007](#), issued 12.23.25. The protection afforded a crime victim by R.C. 2930.07 against disclosure of identifying information applies to case documents associated with criminal or delinquent cases, but in civil matters that is only true in limited circumstances. A clerk of court's duty to redact a victim's information from all records relating to a civil protection order is triggered only when the order is violated, but the redaction requirement for a violation of a protection order, an offense of violence, or a sexually oriented offense applies automatically when the matter is filed with the clerk of courts and without any request by the victim.
- The [Social Security Fairness Act \(H.R. 82\)](#) repeals Social Security's **windfall elimination provision** and **government pension offset**. The windfall elimination provision reduces the Social Security benefits of retired federal workers and other public servants who spent a portion of their careers in the private sector. The government pension offset reduces spousal and survivor Social Security benefits in families with retired government workers. [H.R.82 passed on 12.20.24](#). The bill became effective on 1.5.25 (immediately upon signing by President Biden). The benefits hike under the new law would be retroactive to December 2023. Beneficiaries don't need to take any action to receive the enhanced payments other than verifying that the agency has their current mailing address and direct deposit information.
- The Judicial College is offering a webinar, "**How to Interact with the Legislature and Why It Matters to Us**," on 1.24.25, starting at 12:15. Register through [OhioCourtEDU](#). Any questions can be directed to [OhioCourtEDU@sc.ohio.gov](mailto:OhioCourtEDU@sc.ohio.gov).
- The Supreme Court of Ohio Law Library offers free legal research services to judges and court staff. Librarians are available to send cases, articles, legislative histories, sections from legal treaties, and run advanced searches for research questions. Email your requests to [libref@sc.ohio.gov](mailto:libref@sc.ohio.gov) or call us at (614) 387-9680.

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



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