

## Legislative News: Two-Week Review



April 14, 2025

### In Case You Missed It:

[Organize a Settlement Week at Your Court with Supreme Court Resources](#)

[The Attorney General Published its Annual Report of Capital Crimes \(2024\)](#)

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 Operating Budget**, voted out of the House, 4.9.25. Testimony on the bill is ongoing; the House has completed its work for the time-being and has sent the bill to the Senate. The version of the budget that was sent to the Senate includes a pay increase for all county and township elected officials, including judges.
- **SB 174** (Sens. Gavarone, Hicks-Hudson) **Family Law Reform**, introduced 4.8.25. The bill significantly rewrites the allocation of parental rights and responsibilities language in Chapter 3109 with an emphasis on (and expansion of) the statutory “best interest of the child” factors and elimination of “custodial parent” and “residential parent” terminology. The bill’s reforms are based on recommendations from a subcommittee of the Supreme Court’s Advisory Committee on Children & Families that included members of the OJC’s Domestic Relations and Juvenile Law & Procedure Committees.
- **HB 208** (Rep. Lorenz) **Increased Penalties**, introduced 3.31.25. The bill increases the penalty for assault when the victim is a judge, magistrate, prosecutor, or court official or employee, from an M1 to an F4 with a maximum fine of \$7,500.
- **HB 211** (Reps. Humphrey, Williams) **Sentencing Consideration**, introduced 3.31.25. The bill requires a court to consider an offender’s status as a primary caretaker of a child in determining whether the offender is amenable to a community control sanction or to intervention in lieu of conviction.
- Judge Weiler’s **OVI Chart** has been updated; **HB 37** from the 135<sup>th</sup> General Assembly resulted in significant changes to OVI law, and became effective 4.9.25.
- On 3.20.25, the Ohio Public Defender published a [memo](#) updating the **reimbursement rate** for the remainder of FY25. Once the FY26-27 budget is finalized and signed into law by Governor DeWine in July, the OPD will issue a memo advising on the estimated reimbursement rate for FY26 (July 2026 – June 2027) and FY27 (July 2027 – June 2028).
- The OSBA is seeking nominations for the 2025 [Thomas J. Moyer Award for Judicial Excellence](#) and the [Innovative Court Program and Practices Award](#). The deadline to nominate is 5.2.25, and awards will be presented at the OJC Annual Meeting in September. Contact [mostrowski@ohioabar.org](mailto:mostrowski@ohioabar.org).
- **Save the Date: OJC’s Court Technology Conference**, scheduled for 4.22.25, focuses on both court technology and policy, and technology leadership and implementation issues. Attendees can choose from several concurrent breakout sessions, in areas such as probation supervision & reporting, instant transcription court reporting, case management systems, court security, judicial bench tools, electronic search and arrest warrants, and more, including the latest product innovations from over 30 exhibitors. [Register](#) now.

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



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