

**Media statement on behalf of:  
Ohio Manufacturers' Association  
Ohio Chamber of Commerce  
Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America  
August 16, 2016**

Contact: Jenny Camper, 614-579-7948

***The following statement may be attributed to the organizations listed above:***

“By a six to one majority, the Ohio Supreme Court has ruled that the California-based proponents of an initiated statute focused on state drug purchasing did not follow Ohio law when the group’s paid circulators gathered signatures to place a proposal on the Ohio ballot. The Court thus disallowed thousands of signatures, making the petitions deficient.

“Most of the unlawful signatures were on part-petitions that stated an overcount of signatures. The Court said there was a ‘substantial’ problem with overcounts, and further described it not as ‘minor or merely negligent,’ but ‘systemic.’

“Proponents have until Aug. 25, 2016 to remedy the deficiency in their petition by gathering additional signatures that comply with Ohio law.

“The proposed initiated statute would trigger massive changes to existing drug purchasing processes of the state and designated state-related programs, including Medicaid, that negotiate and purchase prescription medications on behalf of Ohio residents. Some statewide organizations and healthcare experts are concerned that the proposal, if enacted, is unworkable and will force a lengthy and complex litigation and bureaucratic quagmire.”

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