



ICYMI: Michigan once again on the national radar as a 'Judicial Hellhole'

Cases before the state Supreme Court could raise costs on families, job providers

Lansing, MICH (Dec. 15, 2025) - For the third year in a row, Michigan is once again on the national radar as a 'judicial hellhole'.

The American Tort Reform Association recently released its [2025-2026 Judicial Hellhole Report](#), highlighting courts across the nation that "apply law and court procedures in an unfair and unbalanced manner."

The Michigan Supreme Court landed on the report's watchlist, citing recent and pending decisions as well as cases working their way up to the high court. These cases and decisions have and could expand liability, weaken longstanding legal standards, and drive up costs across the economy – costs that ultimately land on families, employers and consumers:

- **Raise costs on employers:** (Janetsky v. County of Saginaw, Rayford v. American House Roseville I, LLC).
- **Raise costs on property owners and housing providers:** (Molitoris v. Saint Mary Magdalen Catholic Church, Radke v. Swenson)
- **Raise costs on regulated job providers and manufacturers:** (Nessel v. Eli Lilly & Co.)
- **Raise the cost of health care and insurance premiums:** (Chatman v. Owens)

Michigan's legal climate is already costly on multiple fronts, costing the average Michigan family [over \\$3,000 annually](#) in a trickle-down tort tax and costing our state nearly [100,000 job opportunities](#) every single year.

"Affordability doesn't stop at the checkout counter – day-to-day costs are shaped by our courts and our litigation climate every single day," said **Zach Rudat, director of the Michigan Alliance for Legal Reform**. "When courts abandon common-sense legal standards, the result is higher costs for everything – from healthcare to housing. Now is the time for proactive, balanced legislative solutions in Lansing."

The Michigan Alliance for Legal Reform is fighting for common-sense legal reforms that would lower costs for everyone. Learn more by visiting miallianceforlegalreform.com.

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