## As Passed by the Senate

## 125th General Assembly Regular Session 2003-2004

То

Sub. H. B. No. 179

Representatives Wolpert, McGregor, DeWine, C. Evans, Carano, Schmidt, Flowers, Aslanides, D. Evans, Gibbs, Allen, Seitz, Beatty, Harwood, Book, Schlichter, Willamowski, Grendell, Latta, Barrett, Boccieri, Buehrer, Carmichael, Cates, Chandler, Cirelli, Clancy, Collier, Daniels, DeBose, Domenick, Gilb, Hagan, Hoops, Hughes, Jerse, Jolivette, Kearns, Key, Koziura, Niehaus, Olman, Price, Reidelbach, Schaffer, Schneider, Seaver, G. Smith, S. Smith, D. Stewart, J. Stewart, Taylor, Ujvagi, Wagner, Walcher, Widener, Williams, Wilson, Woodard, Young
Senators Austria, Amstutz, Carey, Randy Gardner, Robert Gardner, Harris, Schuring, Mumper, Spada

## A BILL

| amend sections 2913.02, 2935.041, 3745.71, and    | 1  |
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| 3745.72 and to enact section 2913.07 of the       | 2  |
| Revised Code to permit a suspension of the        | 3  |
| driver's licenses of offenders convicted of theft | 4  |
| by reason of causing a motor vehicle to leave the | 5  |
| premises of a retail gasoline establishment       | 6  |
| without full payment for gasoline dispensed into  | 7  |
| the motor vehicle's fuel tank or another          | 8  |
| container; to declare that those sections in the  | 9  |
| Revised Code that regulate theft of gasoline in   | 10 |
| certain circumstances are general laws; to        | 11 |
| prohibit motion picture piracy; to authorize the  | 12 |
| detention of individuals suspected of motion      | 13 |
| picture piracy; and to extend from January 1,     | 14 |
| 2004, to January 1, 2009, the time by which       | 15 |

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| environmental audits must be completed in order to                    | 16     |
| be within the scope of certain privileges and                         | 17     |
| immunities that apply to such audits.                                 | 18     |
| BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:           |        |
| Section 1. That sections 2913.02, 2935.041, 3745.71, and              | 19     |
| 3745.72 be amended and section 2913.07 of the Revised Code be         | 20     |
| enacted to read as follows:   | 21     |
| Sec. 2913.02. (A) No person, with purpose to deprive the              | 22     |
| owner of property or services, shall knowingly obtain or exert        | 23     |
| control over either the property or services in any of the            | 24     |
| following ways:   | 25     |
| (1) Without the consent of the owner or person authorized to          | 26     |
| give consent;   | 27     |
| (2) Beyond the scope of the express or implied consent of the         | 28     |
| owner or person authorized to give consent;                           | 29     |
| (3) By deception;   | 30     |
| (4) By threat;  | 31     |
| (5) By intimidation.  | 32     |
| (B)(1) Whoever violates this section is guilty of theft.              | 33     |
| (2) Except as otherwise provided in this division or division         | 34     |
| (B)(3), $(4)$ , $(5)$ , or $(6)$ of this section, a violation of this | 35     |
| section is petty theft, a misdemeanor of the first degree. If the     | 36     |
| value of the property or services stolen is five hundred dollars      | 37     |
| or more and is less than five thousand dollars or if the property     | 38     |
| stolen is any of the property listed in section 2913.71 of the        | 39     |
| Revised Code, a violation of this section is theft, a felony of       | 40     |
| the fifth degree. If the value of the property or services stolen     | 41     |

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is five thousand dollars or more and is less than one hundred thousand dollars, a violation of this section is grand theft, a felony of the fourth degree. If the value of the property or services stolen is one hundred thousand dollars or more and is less than five hundred thousand dollars, a violation of this section is aggravated theft, a felony of the third degree. If the value of the property or services is five hundred thousand dollars or more and is less than one million dollars, a violation of this section is aggravated theft, a felony of the second degree. If the value of the property or services stolen is one million dollars or more, a violation of this section is aggravated theft of one million dollars or more, a felony of the first degree.

- (3) Except as otherwise provided in division (B)(4), (5), or (6) of this section, if the victim of the offense is an elderly person or disabled adult, a violation of this section is theft from an elderly person or disabled adult, and division (B)(3) of this section applies. Except as otherwise provided in this division, theft from an elderly person or disabled adult is a felony of the fifth degree. If the value of the property or services stolen is five hundred dollars or more and is less than five thousand dollars, theft from an elderly person or disabled adult is a felony of the fourth degree. If the value of the property or services stolen is five thousand dollars or more and is less than twenty-five thousand dollars, theft from an elderly person or disabled adult is a felony of the third degree. If the value of the property or services stolen is twenty-five thousand dollars or more and is less than one hundred thousand dollars, theft from an elderly person or disabled adult is a felony of the second degree. If the value of the property or services stolen is one hundred thousand dollars or more, theft from an elderly person or disabled adult is a felony of the first degree.
  - (4) If the property stolen is a firearm or dangerous

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merchant or his employee or agent of a merchant pursuant to

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- (B) Except as otherwise provided in or ordered pursuant to 226 this section, information that is privileged under this section is 227 not admissible as evidence or subject to discovery in any civil or 228 administrative proceeding and a person who possesses such 229 information as a result of conducting or participating in an 230 environmental audit shall not be compelled to testify in any civil 231 or administrative proceeding concerning the privileged portions of 232 the environmental audit. 233
- (C) The privilege provided in this section does not apply to 234 criminal investigations or proceedings. Where an audit report is 235 obtained, reviewed, or used in a criminal proceeding, the 236 privilege provided in this section applicable to civil or 237 administrative proceedings is not waived or eliminated. 238 Furthermore, the privilege provided in this section does not apply 239 to particular information under any of the following 240 circumstances: 241
- (1) The privilege is not asserted with respect to that
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  information by the owner or operator to whom the privilege
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  belongs.
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- (2) The owner or operator to whom the privilege belongs 245 voluntarily testifies, or has provided written authorization to an 246 employee, contractor, or agent to testify on behalf of the owner 247 or operator, as to that information. 248
- (3) A court of record in a civil proceeding or the tribunal
  or presiding officer in an administrative proceeding finds,
  pursuant to this section, that the privilege does not apply to
  that information.
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- (4) The information is required by law to be collected,developed, maintained, reported, disclosed publicly, or otherwisemade available to a government agency.253
  - (5) The information is obtained from a source other than an

agency federally authorized, approved, or delegated to enforce

prevent imminent and substantial endangerment or harm to human

environmental laws has reasonable cause to believe is necessary to

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owner or operator who is not an individual, the privilege may be

asserted or waived, in whole or in part, on behalf of the owner or
operator only by an officer, manager, partner, or other comparable
person who has a fiduciary relationship with the owner or operator
and is authorized generally to act on behalf of the owner or
operator or is a person who is authorized specifically to assert
or waive the privilege.

- (E) A person asserting the privilege provided in this section 324 has the burden of proving the applicability of the privilege by a 325 preponderance of the evidence. If a person seeking disclosure of 326 information with respect to which a privilege is asserted under 327 this section shows evidence of noncompliance with environmental 328 laws pursuant to division (C)(8) of this section, the person 329 asserting the privilege also has the burden of proving by a 330 preponderance of the evidence that reasonable efforts to achieve 331 compliance with those laws were initiated promptly and that 332 compliance was pursued with reasonable diligence and achieved 333 within a reasonable time. 334
- (F) When determining whether the privilege provided by this
  section applies to particular information, a court of record that
  is not acting pursuant to division (G) of this section, or the
  tribunal or presiding officer in an administrative proceeding,
  shall conduct an in camera review of the information in a manner
  consistent with applicable rules of procedure.

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- (G)(1) The prosecuting attorney of a county or the attorney 341 general, having probable cause to believe, based on information 342 obtained from a source other than an environmental audit report, 343 that a violation has been committed under environmental laws for 344 which a civil or administrative action may be initiated, may 345 obtain information with respect to which a privilege is asserted 346 under this section pursuant to a search warrant, subpoena, or 347 discovery under the Rules of Civil Procedure. The prosecuting 348

attorney or the attorney general immediately shall place the 349 information under seal and shall not review or disclose its 350 contents.

- (2) Not later than sixty days after receiving an 352 environmental audit report under division (G)(1) of this section, 353 the prosecuting attorney or the attorney general may file with the 354 court of common pleas of a county in which there is proper venue 355 to bring a civil or administrative action pertaining to the 356 alleged violation a petition requesting an in camera hearing to 357 determine if the information described in division (G)(1) of this 358 section is subject to disclosure under this section. Failure to 359 file such a petition shall cause the information to be released to 360 the owner or operator to whom it belongs. 361
- (3) Upon the filing of a petition under division (G)(2) of 362 this section, the court shall issue an order scheduling an in 363 camera hearing, not later than forty-five days after the filing of 364 the petition, to determine if any or all of the information 365 described in division (G)(1) of this section is subject to 366 disclosure under this section. The order shall allow the 367 prosecuting attorney or the attorney general to remove the seal 368 from the report in order to review it and shall place appropriate 369 limitations on distribution and review of the report to protect 370 against unnecessary disclosure. 371
- (4) The prosecuting attorney or the attorney general may 372 consult with government agencies regarding the contents of the 373 report to prepare for the in camera hearing. Information described 374 in division (G)(1) of this section that is used by the prosecuting 375 376 attorney or the attorney general to prepare for the in camera hearing shall not be used by the prosecuting attorney, the 377 attorney general, an employee or agent of either of them, or an 378 agency described in division (G)(4) of this section in any 379 investigation or proceeding against the respondent, and otherwise 380

| administrative and civil penalties for that violation. An owner or | 412 |
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| operator asserting entitlement to such immunity has the burden of  | 413 |
| proving that entitlement by a preponderance of the evidence.       | 414 |
| (B) For the purposes of this section, a disclosure of              | 415 |
| information is voluntary with respect to an alleged violation of   | 416 |
| environmental laws only if all of the following apply:             | 417 |
| (1) The disclosure is made promptly after the information is       | 418 |
| obtained through the environmental audit by the owner or operator  | 419 |
| who conducts the environmental audit;                              | 420 |
| (2) A reasonable, good faith effort is made to achieve             | 421 |
| compliance as quickly as practicable with environmental laws       | 422 |
| applicable to the information disclosed;                           | 423 |
| (3) Compliance with environmental laws applicable to the           | 424 |
| information disclosed is achieved as quickly as practicable or     | 425 |
| within such period as is reasonably ordered by the director of the | 426 |
| state agency that has jurisdiction over the alleged violation;     | 427 |
| (4) The owner or operator cooperates with the director of the      | 428 |
| state agency that has jurisdiction over the alleged violation in   | 429 |
| investigating the cause, nature, extent, and effects of the        | 430 |
| noncompliance;   | 431 |
| (5) The disclosure is not required by law, prior litigation,       | 432 |
| or an order by a court or a government agency;                     | 433 |
| (6) The owner or operator who makes the disclosure does not        | 434 |
| know or have reason to know that a government agency charged with  | 435 |
| enforcing environmental laws has commenced an investigation or     | 436 |
| enforcement action that concerns a violation of such laws          | 437 |
| involving the activity.  | 438 |
| (C) For the purposes of this section, a disclosure shall be        | 439 |
| in writing, dated, and hand delivered or sent by certified mail to | 440 |
| the director of the state agency that has jurisdiction over the    | 441 |

| significant violations that occurred within the three-year period  | 473 |
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| immediately prior to the voluntary disclosure. Determination of    | 474 |
| whether a person has a pattern of continuous or repeated           | 475 |
| violations under division (E)(1) of this section shall be based on | 476 |
| the compliance history of the property or specific facility at     | 477 |
| issue.   | 478 |

- (2) With respect to a specific violation, the violation
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  resulted in serious harm or in imminent and substantial
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  endangerment to human health or the environment.
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- (3) With respect to a specific violation, the violation is of 482 a specific requirement of an administrative or judicial order. 483
- (F) The immunity provided by this section applies only to 484 disclosures made concerning environmental audits initiated after 485 March 13, 1997, and completed before January 1, 2004 2009, in 486 accordance with the time frames specified in division (A) of 487 section 3745.70 of the Revised Code.
- (G) The immunity provided by this section applies to a person 489 who makes a good faith disclosure to a state agency under this 490 section even though another state agency is determined to have 491 jurisdiction over an alleged violation of environmental laws 492 indicated in the disclosure.
- (H) Each state agency that receives a disclosure under this 494 section promptly shall record receipt of the disclosure, determine 495 whether it has jurisdiction over the alleged violation of 496 environmental laws indicated in the disclosure, and, if it does 497 not have such jurisdiction, deliver the disclosure documents to 498 the director of a state agency that has jurisdiction over the 499 alleged violation. If a disclosure indicates alleged violations of 500 environmental laws that are under the jurisdiction of more than 501 one state agency, the state agency that first receives the 502 disclosure and has jurisdiction over any of the alleged violations 503

| promptly shall notify the director of each state agency that has   | 504 |
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| jurisdiction over any of such alleged violations. The director of  | 505 |
| each state agency that receives a disclosure under this section,   | 506 |
| or is notified by another state agency that the director's agency  | 507 |
| has jurisdiction over an alleged violation of environmental laws   | 508 |
| indicated in the disclosure, promptly shall deliver written notice | 509 |
| of that fact by certified mail to the owner or operator who made   | 510 |
| the disclosure. The notice shall identify the state agency that    | 511 |
| sends the notice; state the name, title, address, and telephone    | 512 |
| number of a person in the agency whom the owner or operator may    | 513 |
| contact regarding the disclosure; and state the name, address, and | 514 |
| telephone number of the director of any other state agency         | 515 |
| notified about the disclosure because that agency has jurisdiction | 516 |
| over an alleged violation of environmental laws indicated in the   | 517 |
| disclosure.  | 518 |

**Section 2.** That existing sections 2913.02, 2935.041, 3745.71, 519 and 3745.72 of the Revised Code are hereby repealed. 520

Section 3. The General Assembly declares that the sections of 521 the Revised Code that regulate persons who leave the premises of 522 establishments at which gasoline is offered for retail sale 523 without the person making full payment for gasoline that was 524 dispensed at that establishment, including section 2913.02 of the 525 Revised Code, are general laws that completely fill the field of 526 regulation of that nature. Any municipal ordinance that prohibits 527 establishments at which gasoline is offered for retail sale from 528 requiring the prepayment of gasoline is in conflict with those 529 general laws. 530