## **As Introduced**

## 125th General Assembly Regular Session 2003-2004

H. B. No. 369

Representatives Collier, Calvert, Peterson, Cates, Clancy, T. Patton, Setzer, Hughes, Carano, Skindell, Aslanides, Ujvagi, D. Evans, Harwood, Allen, DeWine, Distel, Perry, Schaffer, Beatty, Barrett, Kearns

## ABILL

То	amend sections 323.151, 955.011, 2913.01, 2913.02,	1
	2921.321, 4503.064, and 5117.01 of the Revised	2
	Code to expand the offense of "harassing a police	3
	dog or horse"; to rename "handicapped assistance	4
	dogs" as "service dogs"; to enact the offense of	5
	"harassing a service dog"; to require an offender	6
	who commits any of the assault or harassment	7
	offenses related to police dogs or horses or	8
	service dogs to pay resulting veterinary,	٥
	replacement, and training costs; to make theft of	10
	a police dog or horse or a service dog a third	11
	degree felony; to include seizure assistance,	12
	response, and alert dogs as "service dogs" for the	13
	assault, harassment, and theft offenses related to	14
	service dogs; to exempt seizure assistance,	15
	seizure response, or seizure alert dogs from the	16
	fee for registration and provide that the	17
	registration is permanent; and to replace the	18
	phrase "unfit to work" with "unable to work" in	19
	various definitions related to persons with a	20
	disability.	21

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## BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That sections 323.151, 955.011, 2913.01, 2913.02,	22
2921.321, 4503.064, and 5117.01 of the Revised Code be amended to	23
read as follows:	24
Sec. 323.151. As used in sections 323.151 to 323.159 of the	25
Revised Code:	26
(A) "Homestead" means either of the following:	27
(1) A dwelling, including a unit in a multiple-unit dwelling	28
and a manufactured home or mobile home taxed as real property	29
pursuant to division (B) of section 4503.06 of the Revised Code,	30
owned and occupied as a home by an individual whose domicile is in	31
this state and who has not acquired ownership from a person, other	32
than the individual's spouse, related by consanguinity or affinity	33
for the purpose of qualifying for the real property tax reduction	34
provided in section 323.152 of the Revised Code.	35
(2) A unit in a housing cooperative that is occupied as a	36
home, but not owned, by an individual whose domicile is in this	37
state.	38
The homestead shall include so much of the land surrounding	39
it, not exceeding one acre, as is reasonably necessary for the use	40
of the dwelling or unit as a home. An owner includes a holder of	41
one of the several estates in fee, a vendee in possession under a	42
purchase agreement or a land contract, a mortgagor, a life tenant,	43
one or more tenants with a right of survivorship, tenants in	44
common, and a settlor of a revocable inter vivos trust holding the	45
title to a homestead occupied by the settlor as of right under the	46
trust. The tax commissioner shall adopt rules for the uniform	47

classification and valuation of real property or portions of real

age, subtract an amount equal to the disability benefits the

person received in that preceding year, to the extent included in	79
total income in the current year and not subtracted under division	80
(C)(1) of this section in the current year;	81

(b) If the person received disability benefits that were 82 included in adjusted gross income in the year preceding the first 83 year in which the person applied for the exemption on the basis of 84 age, subtract an amount equal to the amount of disability benefits 85 that were subtracted pursuant to division (C)(1) of this section 86 in that preceding year, to the extent included in total income in 87 the current year and not subtracted under division (C)(1) of this 88 section in the current year. 89

Disability benefits that are paid by the department of 90 veterans affairs or a branch of the armed forces of the United 91 States on account of an injury or disability shall not be included 92 in total income. 93

- (D) "Old age and survivors benefits received pursuant to the 'Social Security Act'" or "tier I railroad retirement benefits 95 received pursuant to the 'Railroad Retirement Act'" means: 96
- (1) For those persons receiving the homestead exemption for
  the first time for tax years 1976 and earlier, old age benefits

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  payable under the social security or railroad retirement laws in
  effect on December 31, 1975, except in those cases where a change
  in social security or railroad retirement benefits would result in
  a reduction in income.

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- (2) For those persons receiving the homestead exemption for
  the first time for tax years 1977 and thereafter, old age benefits
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  payable under the social security or railroad retirement laws in
  effect on the last day of the calendar year prior to the year for
  which the homestead exemption is first received, or, if no such
  benefits are payable that year, old age benefits payable the first
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  succeeding year in which old age benefits under the social

described in division (D)(3)(a) of this section. 130

(E) "Permanently and totally disabled" means a person who 131 has, on the first day of January of the year of application for 132 reduction in real estate taxes, some impairment in body or mind 133 that makes the person unfit unable to work at any substantially 134 remunerative employment that the person is reasonably able to 135 perform and that will, with reasonable probability, continue for 136 an indefinite period of at least twelve months without any present 137 indication of recovery therefrom or has been certified as 138 permanently and totally disabled by a state or federal agency 139 having the function of so classifying persons. 140

(F) "Housing cooperative" means a housing complex of at least 141 two hundred fifty units that is owned and operated by a nonprofit 142 corporation that issues a share of the corporation's stock to an 143 individual, entitling the individual to live in a unit of the 144 complex, and collects a monthly maintenance fee from the 145 individual to maintain, operate, and pay the taxes of the complex. 146

Sec. 955.011. (A) When an application is made for 147 registration of a dog that is in training to become or serves as a 148 guide or leader for a blind person or as a listener for a deaf 149 person or, that is in training to provide or provides support or 150 assistance for a mobility impaired person, or that is in training 151 to become or serves as a seizure assistance, seizure response, or 152 seizure alert dog for a person with a seizure disorder, and the 153 owner can show proof by certificate or other means that the dog is 154 in training or has been trained for that purpose by a nonprofit 155 special agency engaged in such work, the owner of such a guide, 156 leader, hearing, or support, seizure assistance, seizure response, 157 or seizure alert dog shall be exempt from any fee for such 158 registration. Registration for such a dog in training or serving 159 as a guide or leader for a blind person, as a listener for a deaf 160 person, or as a support dog for a mobility impaired person, or as 161 a seizure assistance, seizure response, or seizure alert dog for a 162 person with a seizure disorder shall be permanent and not subject 163 to annual renewal so long as the dog is in training or so serves. 164 Certificates and tags stamped "Ohio Handicapped Assistance Service 165 Dog-Permanent Registration, with registration number, shall be 166 issued upon registration of such a dog. Any certificate and tag 167 stamped "Ohio Guide Dog-Permanent Registration" or "Ohio Hearing 168 Dog-Permanent Registration, with registration number, that was 169 issued for a dog in accordance with this section as it existed 170 prior to July 4, 1984, and any certificate and tag stamped "Ohio 171 Handicapped Assistance Dog-Permanent Registration, " with 172

registration number, that was issued for a dog in accordance with	173
this section as it existed on and after July 5, 1984, and prior to	174
the effective date of this amendment, shall remain in effect as	175
valid proof of the registration of the dog on and after that the	176
effective date of this amendment. Duplicate certificates and tags	177
for a dog registered in accordance with this section, upon proper	178
proof of loss, shall be issued and no fee required. Each duplicate	179
certificate and tag that is issued shall be stamped "Ohio	180
Handicapped Assistance Service Dog-Permanent Registration."	181
(B) As used in this section and in sections 955.16 and 955.43	182
of the Revised Code:	183
(1) "Mobility impaired person" means any person, regardless	184
of age, who is subject to a physiological defect or deficiency	185
regardless of its cause, nature, or extent that renders the person	186
unable to move about without the aid of crutches, a wheelchair, or	187
any other form of support, or that limits the person's functional	188
ability to ambulate, climb, descend, sit, rise, or to perform any	189
related function.	190
(2) "Blind" means either of the following:	191
(a) Vision twenty/two hundred or less in the better eye with	192
proper correction.	193
(b) Field defect in the better eye with proper correction	194
which contracts the peripheral field so that the diameter of the	195
visual field subtends an angle no greater than twenty degrees.	196
Sec. 2913.01. As used in this chapter, unless the context	197
requires that a term be given a different meaning:	198
(A) "Deception" means knowingly deceiving another or causing	199
another to be deceived by any false or misleading representation,	200
by withholding information, by preventing another from acquiring	201

information, or by any other conduct, act, or omission that

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creates, confirms, or perpetuates a false impression in another,	203
including a false impression as to law, value, state of mind, or	204
other objective or subjective fact.	205
(B) "Defraud" means to knowingly obtain, by deception, some	206
benefit for oneself or another, or to knowingly cause, by	207
deception, some detriment to another.	208
(C) "Deprive" means to do any of the following:	209
(1) Withhold property of another permanently, or for a period	210
that appropriates a substantial portion of its value or use, or	211
with purpose to restore it only upon payment of a reward or other	212
consideration;	213
(2) Dispose of property so as to make it unlikely that the	214
owner will recover it;	215
(3) Accept, use, or appropriate money, property, or services,	216
with purpose not to give proper consideration in return for the	217
money, property, or services, and without reasonable justification	218
or excuse for not giving proper consideration.	219
(D) "Owner" means, unless the context requires a different	220
meaning, any person, other than the actor, who is the owner of,	221
who has possession or control of, or who has any license or	222
interest in property or services, even though the ownership,	223
possession, control, license, or interest is unlawful.	224
(E) "Services" include labor, personal services, professional	225
services, public utility services, common carrier services, and	226
food, drink, transportation, entertainment, and cable television	227
services and, for purposes of section 2913.04 of the Revised Code,	228
include cable services as defined in that section.	229
(F) "Writing" means any computer software, document, letter,	230
memorandum, note, paper, plate, data, film, or other thing having	231
in or upon it any written, typewritten, or printed matter, and any	232

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representing coded instructions or statements that, when executed	294
by a computer, cause the computer to process data.	295
(Q) "Computer software" means computer programs, procedures,	296
and other documentation associated with the operation of a	297
computer system.	298
(R) "Data" means a representation of information, knowledge,	299
facts, concepts, or instructions that are being or have been	300
prepared in a formalized manner and that are intended for use in a	301
computer, computer system, or computer network. For purposes of	302
section 2913.47 of the Revised Code, "data" has the additional	303
meaning set forth in division (A) of that section.	304
(S) "Cable television service" means any services provided by	305
or through the facilities of any cable television system or other	306
similar closed circuit coaxial cable communications system, or any	307
microwave or similar transmission service used in connection with	308
any cable television system or other similar closed circuit	309
coaxial cable communications system.	310
(T) "Gain access" means to approach, instruct, communicate	311
with, store data in, retrieve data from, or otherwise make use of	312
any resources of a computer, computer system, or computer network,	313
or any cable service or cable system both as defined in section	314
2913.04 of the Revised Code.	315
(U) "Credit card" includes, but is not limited to, a card,	316
code, device, or other means of access to a customer's account for	317
the purpose of obtaining money, property, labor, or services on	318
credit, or for initiating an electronic fund transfer at a	319
point-of-sale terminal, an automated teller machine, or a cash	320
dispensing machine. It also includes a county procurement card	321
issued under section 301.29 of the Revised Code.	322

(V) "Electronic fund transfer" has the same meaning as in 92

Stat. 3728, 15 U.S.C.A. 1693a, as amended.

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(W) "Rented property" means personal property in which the	325
right of possession and use of the property is for a short and	326
possibly indeterminate term in return for consideration; the	327
rentee generally controls the duration of possession of the	328
property, within any applicable minimum or maximum term; and the	329
amount of consideration generally is determined by the duration of	330
possession of the property.	331
(X) "Telecommunication" means the origination, emission,	332
dissemination, transmission, or reception of data, images,	333
signals, sounds, or other intelligence or equivalence of	334
intelligence of any nature over any communications system by any	335
method, including, but not limited to, a fiber optic, electronic,	336
magnetic, optical, digital, or analog method.	337
(Y) "Telecommunications device" means any instrument,	338
equipment, machine, or other device that facilitates	339
telecommunication, including, but not limited to, a computer,	340
computer network, computer chip, computer circuit, scanner,	341
telephone, cellular telephone, pager, personal communications	342
device, transponder, receiver, radio, modem, or device that	343
enables the use of a modem.	344
(Z) "Telecommunications service" means the providing,	345
allowing, facilitating, or generating of any form of	346
telecommunication through the use of a telecommunications device	347
over a telecommunications system.	348

(AA) "Counterfeit telecommunications device" means a

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telecommunications device that, alone or with another
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telecommunications device, has been altered, constructed,
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manufactured, or programmed to acquire, intercept, receive, or
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otherwise facilitate the use of a telecommunications service or
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information service without the authority or consent of the
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provider of the telecommunications service or information service.

"Counterfeit telecommunications device" includes, but is not	356
limited to, a clone telephone, clone microchip, tumbler telephone,	357
or tumbler microchip; a wireless scanning device capable of	358
acquiring, intercepting, receiving, or otherwise facilitating the	359
use of telecommunications service or information service without	360
immediate detection; or a device, equipment, hardware, or software	361
designed for, or capable of, altering or changing the electronic	362
serial number in a wireless telephone.	363
(BB)(1) "Information service" means, subject to division	364
(BB)(2) of this section, the offering of a capability for	365
generating, acquiring, storing, transforming, processing,	366
retrieving, utilizing, or making available information via	367
telecommunications, including, but not limited to, electronic	368
publishing.	369
(2) "Information service" does not include any use of a	370
capability of a type described in division (BB)(1) of this section	371
for the management, control, or operation of a telecommunications	372
system or the management of a telecommunications service.	373
(CC) "Elderly person" means a person who is sixty-five years	374
of age or older.	375
(DD) "Disabled adult" means a person who is eighteen years of	376
age or older and has some impairment of body or mind that makes	377
the person unfit unable to work at any substantially remunerative	378
employment that the person otherwise would be able to perform and	379
that will, with reasonable probability, continue for a period of	380
at least twelve months without any present indication of recovery	381
from the impairment, or who is eighteen years of age or older and	382
has been certified as permanently and totally disabled by an	383
agency of this state or the United States that has the function of	384
so classifying persons.	385

(EE) "Firearm" and "dangerous ordnance" have the same

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meanings as in section 2923.11 of the Revised Code.	387
(FF) "Motor vehicle" has the same meaning as in section	388
4501.01 of the Revised Code.	389
(GG) "Dangerous drug" has the same meaning as in section	390
4729.01 of the Revised Code.	391
(HH) "Drug abuse offense" has the same meaning as in section	392
2925.01 of the Revised Code.	393
(II) "Police dog or horse" and "service dog" have the same	394
meanings as in section 2921.321 of the Revised Code.	395
Sec. 2913.02. (A) No person, with purpose to deprive the	396
owner of property or services, shall knowingly obtain or exert	397
control over either the property or services in any of the	398
following ways:	399
(1) Without the consent of the owner or person authorized to	400
give consent;	401
(2) Beyond the scope of the express or implied consent of the	402
owner or person authorized to give consent;	403
(3) By deception;	404
(4) By threat;	405
(5) By intimidation.	406
(B)(1) Whoever violates this section is guilty of theft.	407
(2) Except as otherwise provided in this division or division	408
(B)(3), (4), (5), $\frac{1}{2}$ (6), or (7) of this section, a violation of	409
this section is petty theft, a misdemeanor of the first degree. If	410
the value of the property or services stolen is five hundred	411
dollars or more and is less than five thousand dollars or if the	412
property stolen is any of the property listed in section 2913.71	413
of the Revised Code, a violation of this section is theft, a	414
felony of the fifth degree. If the value of the property or	415

services stolen is five thousand dollars or more and is less than 416 one hundred thousand dollars, a violation of this section is grand 417 theft, a felony of the fourth degree. If the value of the property 418 or services stolen is one hundred thousand dollars or more and is 419 less than five hundred thousand dollars, a violation of this 420 section is aggravated theft, a felony of the third degree. If the 421 value of the property or services is five hundred thousand dollars 422 or more and is less than one million dollars, a violation of this 423 section is aggravated theft, a felony of the second degree. If the 424 value of the property or services stolen is one million dollars or 425 more, a violation of this section is aggravated theft of one 426 million dollars or more, a felony of the first degree. 427

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- (3) Except as otherwise provided in division (B)(4), (5),  $\Theta$ (6), or (7) 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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the following:	477
(a) Inhibits or restricts the law enforcement officer's	478
control of the police dog or horse;	479
(b) Deprives the law enforcement officer of control of the	480
police dog or horse;	481
(c) Releases the police dog or horse from its area of	482
control;	483
(d) Enters the area of control of the police dog or horse	484
without the consent of the law enforcement officer, including	485
placing food or any other object or substance into that area $\dot{\tau}$ .	486
(4) Engage in any conduct that is likely to cause serious	487
physical injury or death to a police dog or horse:	488
(5) If the person is the owner, keeper, or harborer of a dog,	489
fail to reasonably restrain the dog from taunting, tormenting,	490
chasing, approaching in a menacing fashion or apparent attitude of	491
attack, or attempting to bite or otherwise endanger a police dog	492
or horse that at the time of the conduct is assisting a law	493
enforcement officer in the performance of the officer's duties or	494
that the person knows is a police dog or horse;	495
(6) After being warned verbally or in any other manner by a	496
law enforcement officer who is being assisted by a police dog or	497
horse that conduct in which the person is engaging is interfering	498
with or obstructing the police dog or horse or is interfering with	499
or obstructing a law enforcement officer who is being assisted by	500
the police dog or horse, persisting in or continuing the conduct	501
to which the warning pertained.	502
(C) No person shall knowingly cause, or attempt to cause,	503
physical harm to a handicapped assistance service dog in either of	504
the following circumstances:	505
(1) The <del>handicapped assistance</del> <u>service</u> dog is assisting <u>or</u>	506

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serving a blind, deaf, or mobility impaired person or person with	507
a seizure disorder at the time the physical harm is caused or	508
attempted.	509
(2) The handicapped assistance service dog is not assisting	510
or serving a blind, deaf, or mobility impaired person or person	511
with a seizure disorder at the time the physical harm is caused or	512
attempted, but the offender has actual knowledge that the dog is a	513
handicapped assistance service dog.	514
(D) No person shall recklessly do any of the following:	515
(1) Taunt, torment, or strike a service dog;	516
(2) Throw an object or substance at a service dog;	517
(3) Interfere with or obstruct a service dog, or interfere	518
with or obstruct a blind, deaf, or mobility impaired person or	519
person with a seizure disorder who is being assisted or served by	520
a service dog, in a manner that does any of the following:	521
(a) Inhibits or restricts the assisted or served person's	522
control of the service dog;	523
(b) Deprives the assisted or served person of control of the	524
service dog;	525
(c) Releases the service dog from its area of control;	526
(d) Enters the area of control of the service dog without the	527
consent of the assisted or served person, including placing food	528
or any other object or substance into that area.	529
(4) Engage in any conduct that is likely to cause serious	530
physical injury or death to a service dog;	531
(5) If the person is the owner, keeper, or harborer of a dog,	532
fail to reasonably restrain the dog from taunting, tormenting,	533
chasing, approaching in a menacing fashion or apparent attitude of	534
attack, or attempting to bite or otherwise endanger a service dog	535
that at the time of the conduct is assisting or serving a blind.	536

deaf, or mobility impaired person or person with a seizure	37
disorder or that the person knows is a service dog;	8
(6) After being warned verbally or in any other manner by a 53	39
blind, deaf, or mobility impaired person or person with a seizure 54	ł 0
disorder who is being assisted or served by a service dog that 54	<u>1</u>
conduct in which the person is engaging is interfering with or 54	12
obstructing the service dog or is interfering with or obstructing 54	13
a blind, deaf, or mobility impaired person or person with a 54	14
seizure disorder who is being assisted or served by the service 54	ł5
dog, persisting in or continuing the conduct to which the warning 54	16
pertained. 54	ŀ7
(E)(1) Whoever violates division (A) of this section is 54	18
guilty of assaulting a police dog or horse. Except as otherwise 54	19
provided in this division, assaulting a police dog or horse is a 55	0
misdemeanor of the second degree. If the violation results in the 55	51
death of the <u>police</u> dog or horse, assaulting a police dog or horse 55	52
is a felony of the fourth degree. If the violation results in 55	3
serious physical harm to the police dog or horse other than its 55	54
death, assaulting a police dog or horse is a felony of the fifth 55	55
degree. If the violation results in physical harm to the police 55	6
dog or horse other than death or serious physical harm, assaulting 55	57
a police dog or horse is a misdemeanor of the first degree. 55	8
(2) Whoever violates division (B) of this section is guilty 55	59
of harassing a police dog or horse. Except as otherwise provided 56	50
in this division, harassing a police dog or horse is a misdemeanor 56	51
of the second degree. If the violation results in the death of the 56	52
police dog or horse, harassing a police dog or horse is a felony 56	3
of the fourth degree. If the violation results in serious physical 56	54
harm to the police dog or horse but does not result in its death, 56	55
harassing a police dog or horse is a felony of the fifth degree. 56	56
If the violation results in physical harm to the police dog or 56	57

horse but does not result in its death or in serious physical harm

of the fifth degree. If the violation results in physical harm to	600
the service dog but does not result in its death or in serious	601
physical harm to it, harassing a service dog is a misdemeanor of	602
the first degree.	603
(5) In addition to any other sanction or penalty imposed for	604
the offense under this section, Chapter 2929., or any other	605
provision of the Revised Code, whoever violates division (A), (B),	606
(C), or (D) of this section is responsible for the payment of all	607
of the following:	608
(a) Any veterinary bill or bill for medication incurred as a	609
result of the violation by the police department regarding a	610
violation of division (A) or (B) of this section or by the blind,	611
deaf, or mobility impaired person or person with a seizure	612
disorder assisted or served by the service dog regarding a	613
violation of division (C) or (D) of this section;	614
(b) The cost of any damaged equipment that results from the	615
violation;	616
(c) If the violation did not result in the death of the	617
police dog or horse or the service dog that was the subject of the	618
violation and if, as a result of that dog or horse being the	619
subject of the violation, the dog or horse needs further training	620
or retraining to be able to continue in the capacity of a police	621
dog or horse or a service dog, the cost of any further training or	622
retraining of that dog or horse by a law enforcement officer or by	623
the blind, deaf, or mobility impaired person or person with a	624
seizure disorder assisted or served by the service dog;	625
(d) If the violation resulted in the death of the police dog	626
or horse or the service dog that was the subject of the violation	627
or resulted in serious physical harm to that dog or horse to the	628
extent that the dog or horse needs to be replaced on either a	629
temporary or a permanent basis, the cost of replacing that dog or	630

(5) "Blind" and "mobility impaired person" have the same

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seizure disorder.

(a) If the person received disability benefits that were not	690
included in adjusted gross income in the year preceding the first	691
year in which the person applied for the exemption on the basis of	692
age, subtract an amount equal to the disability benefits the	693
person received in that preceding year, to the extent included in	694
total income in the current year and not subtracted under division	695
(B)(1) of this section in the current year;	696

(b) If the person received disability benefits that were 697 included in adjusted gross income in the year preceding the first 698 year in which the person applied for the exemption on the basis of 699 age, subtract an amount equal to the amount of disability benefits 700 that were subtracted pursuant to division (B)(1) of this section 701 in that preceding year, to the extent included in total income in 702 the current year and not subtracted under division (B)(1) of this 703 section in the current year. 704

Disability benefits that are paid by the department of 705 veterans affairs or a branch of the armed forces of the United 706 States on account of an injury or disability shall not be included 707 in total income.

- (C) "Old age and survivors benefits received pursuant to the 709'Social Security Act'" or "tier I railroad retirement benefits 710received pursuant to the 'Railroad Retirement Act'" means: 711
- (1) The old age benefits payable under the social security or 712 railroad retirement laws in effect on the last day of the calendar 713 year preceding the year in which the applicant's application for 714 reduction is first successfully made, or, if no such benefits are 715 payable that year, old age benefits payable the first succeeding 716 year in which old age benefits under the social security or 717 railroad retirement laws are payable, except in those cases where 718 a change in social security or railroad retirement benefits 719 results in a reduction in income. 720

(2) The lesser of:	721
(a) Survivors benefits payable under the social security or	722
railroad retirement laws in effect on the last day of the calendar	723
year preceding the year in which the applicant's application for	724
reduction is first successfully made, or, if no such benefits are	725
payable that year, survivors benefits payable the first succeeding	726
year in which survivors benefits are payable; or	727
(b) Old age benefits of the deceased spouse, as determined	728
under division (C)(1) of this section, upon which the surviving	729
spouse's survivors benefits are based under the social security or	730
railroad retirement laws, except in those cases where a change in	731
benefits would cause a reduction in income.	732
Survivors benefits are those described in division (C)(2)(b)	733
of this section only if the deceased spouse received old age	734
benefits in the year in which the deceased died. If the deceased	735
spouse did not receive old age benefits in the year in which the	736
deceased died, then survivors benefits are those described in	737
division (C)(2)(a) of this section.	738
(D) "Permanently and totally disabled" means a person who, on	739
the first day of January of the year of application, including	740
late application, for reduction in the assessable value of a	741
manufactured or mobile home, has some impairment in body or mind	742
that makes the person <u>unfit</u> <u>unable</u> to work at any substantially	743
remunerative employment which the person is reasonably able to	744
perform and which will, with reasonable probability, continue for	745
an indefinite period of at least twelve months without any present	746
indication of recovery therefrom or has been certified as	747
permanently and totally disabled by a state or federal agency	748
having the function of so classifying persons.	749

(E) "Homestead exemption" means the reduction in taxes

allowed under division (A) of section 323.152 of the Revised Code

750

year in which the applicant applies for the credit or payment on	812
the basis of attaining sixty-five years of age or older, subtract	813
an amount equal to the amount of disability benefits that were	814
subtracted pursuant to division (C)(1) of this section in that	815
preceding year, to the extent included in current total income, as	816
defined in this section, and not subtracted under division (C)(1)	817
of this section in the current year.	818

Disability benefits paid by the department of veterans' 819 affairs or a branch of the armed forces of the United States on 820 account of an injury or disability are not included in current 821 total income.

- (D) "Energy company" means every retail propane dealer that 823 distributes propane by pipeline, and every electric light, rural 824 electric, gas, or natural gas company. 825
- (E) "Energy dealer" means every retail dealer of fuel oil, 826 propane, coal, wood, and kerosene. 827
- (F) "Head of household" means a person who occupies a 828 household as the person's homestead and who is financially 829 responsible for its other occupants, if any, or the spouse of such 830 a person if both occupy the same household. No person is a head of 831 household if the person occupies a household for the taxable year 832 prior to the year in which an application is filed and was claimed 833 as a dependent on the federal income tax return of another 834 occupant of the same household and was not the taxpayer's spouse 835 or if the person could have been claimed if such a return had been 836 filed for such year and was not the other occupant's spouse. 837
- (G) "Household" means any dwelling unit, including a unit in 838 a multiple unit dwelling, a manufactured home, or a mobile home, 839 to which utility heating services or energy commodities are 840 provided.

842

(H) "Payment" means the one hundred twenty-five-dollar

- (I) "Permanently and totally disabled" refers to a person who 845 has, on the first day of July of the year an application is made, 846 some impairment in body or mind that makes the person unfit unable 847 to work at any substantially remunerative employment that the 848 person would otherwise be reasonably able to perform and that 849 will, with reasonable probability, continue for an indefinite 850 period of at least twelve months without any present indication of 851 recovery therefrom, or who has been certified as permanently and 852 totally disabled by a state or federal agency having the function 853 of so classifying persons. 854
- (J) "Sixty-five years of age or older" refers to a person who 855 has attained age sixty-four prior to the first day of January of 856 the year an application is made. 857
- (K) "Total income" means the adjusted gross income of the 858 head of household and the person's spouse for the year preceding 859 the year in which an application is made, as determined under the "Internal Revenue Code of 1954," 68A Stat. 3, 26 U.S.C. 1, as 861 amended, adjusted as follows:
- (1) Subtract the amount of disability benefits included in 863 adjusted gross income but not to exceed fifty-two hundred dollars; 864
- (2) Add old age and survivors benefits received pursuant to 865 the "Social Security Act" that are not included in federal 866 adjusted gross income; 867
- (3) Add retirement, pension, annuity, or other retirement 868 payments or benefits not included in federal adjusted gross 869 income; 870
- (4) Add payments received pursuant to the "Railroad 871 Retirement Act," 50 Stat. 307, 45 U.S.C. 228; 872

(5) Add interest on federal, state, and local government	873
obligations;	874
(6) For an applicant who received a credit or payment for the	875
preceding heating season on the basis of being permanently and	876
totally disabled and whose application renewal form for the	877
upcoming heating season is made on the basis of attaining	878
sixty-five years of age or older, subtract the following amount:	879
(a) If the applicant received disability benefits that were	880
not included in federal adjusted gross income in the year	881
preceding a year in which the applicant applies for the credit or	882
payment on the basis of attaining sixty-five years of age or	883
older, subtract an amount equal to the disability benefits the	884
applicant received in that preceding year, to the extent included	885
in total income, as defined in this section, and not subtracted	886
under division (K)(1) of this section in the current year;	887
(b) If the applicant received disability benefits that were	888
included in federal adjusted gross income in the year preceding a	889
year in which the applicant applies for the credit or payment on	890
the basis of attaining sixty-five years of age or older, subtract	891
an amount equal to the amount of disability benefits that were	892
subtracted pursuant to division (K)(1) of this section in that	893
preceding year, to the extent included in total income, as defined	894
in this section, and not subtracted under division $(K)(1)$ of this	895
section in the current year.	896
Disability benefits paid by the department of veterans'	897
affairs or a branch of the armed forces of the United States on	898
account of an injury or disability shall not be included in total	899
income.	900
(L) "Purchased power costs" means charges for the costs of	901

power purchased by an electric light company under Chapters 4905.

and 4909. of the Revised Code and includes charges resulting from

902

H. B. No. 369 As Introduced	Page 31
the exchange of electric power.	904
Section 2. That existing sections 323.151, 955.011, 2913.01,	905
2913.02, 2921.321, 4503.064, and 5117.01 of the Revised Code are	906
hereby repealed.	907