As Passed by the House

125th General Assembly Regular Session 2003-2004

Sub. H. B. No. 383

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A BILL

To amend sections 2901.11, 2901.12, and 2923.01 and 1 to enact section 2913.421 of the Revised Code to prohibit a person from transmitting multiple 3 electronic mail advertisements, falsifying the 4 originating address or other routing information 5 in multiple electronic mail advertisements, or 6 falsifying registration information for multiple 7 electronic mail accounts, and to prohibit 8 unauthorized access to a public computer to 9 transmit multiple electronic mail advertisements. 10

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

Section 1. That sections 2901.11, 2901.12, and 2923.01 be	11
amended and section 2913.421 of the Revised Code be enacted to	12
read as follows:	13

and punishment in this state if any of the following occur:	15
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(1) The person commits an offense under the laws of this	17
state, any element of which takes place in this state.	18
(2) While in this state, the person conspires or attempts to	19
commit, or is guilty of complicity in the commission of, an	20
offense in another jurisdiction, which offense is an offense under	21
both the laws of this state and the other jurisdiction.	22
(3) While out of this state, the person conspires or attempts	23
to commit, or is guilty of complicity in the commission of, an	24
offense in this state.	25
(4) While out of this state, the person omits to perform a	26
legal duty imposed by the laws of this state, which omission	27
affects a legitimate interest of the state in protecting,	28
governing, or regulating any person, property, thing, transaction,	29
or activity in this state.	30
(5) While out of this state, the person unlawfully takes or	31
retains property and subsequently brings any of the unlawfully	32
taken or retained property into this state.	33
(6) While out of this state, the person unlawfully takes or	34
entices another and subsequently brings the other person into this	35
state.	36
(7) The person, by means of a computer, computer system,	37
computer network, protected computer, telecommunication,	38
telecommunications device, telecommunications service, or	39
information service, causes or knowingly permits any writing,	40
data, image, or other telecommunication to be disseminated or	41
transmitted into this state in violation of the law of this state.	42
(B) In homicide, the element referred to in division (A)(1)	43
of this section is either the act that causes death, or the	44

physical contact that causes death, or the death itself. If any part of the body of a homicide victim is found in this state, the death is presumed to have occurred within this state.

- (C)(1) This state includes the land and water within its

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 boundaries and the air space above that land and water, with

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 respect to which this state has either exclusive or concurrent

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 legislative jurisdiction. Where the boundary between this state

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 and another state or foreign country is disputed, the disputed

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 territory is conclusively presumed to be within this state for

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 purposes of this section.
- (2) The courts of common pleas of Adams, Athens, Belmont,
 Brown, Clermont, Columbiana, Gallia, Hamilton, Jefferson,
 Lawrence, Meigs, Monroe, Scioto, and Washington counties have
 jurisdiction beyond the north or northwest shore of the Ohio river
 extending to the opposite shore line, between the extended
 boundary lines of any adjacent counties or adjacent state. Each of
 those courts of common pleas has concurrent jurisdiction on the
 Ohio river with any adjacent court of common pleas that borders on
 that river and with any court of Kentucky or of West Virginia that
 borders on the Ohio river and that has jurisdiction on the Ohio
 river under the law of Kentucky or the law of West Virginia,
 whichever is applicable, or under federal law.
- (D) When an offense is committed under the laws of this state, and it appears beyond a reasonable doubt that the offense or any element of the offense took place either in this state or in another jurisdiction or jurisdictions, but it cannot reasonably be determined in which it took place, the offense or element is conclusively presumed to have taken place in this state for purposes of this section.
- (E) As used in this section, "computer," "computer system,"

 "computer network," "protected computer," "information service,"

 "telecommunication," "telecommunications device,"

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operandi.

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(F) When an offense is considered to have been committed in	107
this state while the offender was out of this state, and the	108
jurisdiction in this state in which the offense or any material	109
element of the offense was committed is not reasonably	110
ascertainable, the offender may be tried in any jurisdiction in	111
which the offense or element reasonably could have been committed.	112
(G) When it appears beyond a reasonable doubt that an offense	113
or any element of an offense was committed in any of two or more	114
jurisdictions, but it cannot reasonably be determined in which	115
jurisdiction the offense or element was committed, the offender	116
may be tried in any of those jurisdictions.	117
(H) When an offender, as part of a course of criminal	118
conduct, commits offenses in different jurisdictions, the offender	119
may be tried for all of those offenses in any jurisdiction in	120
which one of those offenses or any element of one of those	121
offenses occurred. Without limitation on the evidence that may be	122
used to establish the course of criminal conduct, any of the	123
following is prima-facie evidence of a course of criminal conduct:	124
(1) The offenses involved the same victim, or victims of the	125
same type or from the same group.	126
(2) The offenses were committed by the offender in the	127
offender's same employment, or capacity, or relationship to	128
another.	129
(3) The offenses were committed as part of the same	130
transaction or chain of events, or in furtherance of the same	131
purpose or objective.	132
(4) The offenses were committed in furtherance of the same	133
conspiracy.	134
(5) The offenses involved the same or a similar modus	135

(6) The offenses were committed along the offender's line of	137
travel in this state, regardless of the offender's point of origin	138
or destination.	139
(I)(1) When the offense involves a computer, computer system,	140
computer network, protected computer, telecommunication,	141
telecommunications device, telecommunications service, or	142
information service, the offender may be tried in any jurisdiction	143
containing any location of the computer, computer system,	144
protected computer, or computer network of the victim of the	145
offense, in any jurisdiction from which or into which, as part of	146
the offense, any writing, data, or image is disseminated or	147
transmitted by means of a computer, computer system, computer	148
network, protected computer, telecommunication, telecommunications	149
device, telecommunications service, or information service, or in	150
any jurisdiction in which the alleged offender commits any	151
activity that is an essential part of the offense.	152
(2) As used in this section, "computer," "computer system,"	153
<pre>"protected computer," "computer network," "information service,"</pre>	154
"telecommunication," "telecommunications device,"	155
"telecommunications service," "data," and "writing" have the same	156
meanings as in section <u>sections</u> 2913.01 <u>and 2913.421</u> of the	157
Revised Code.	158
(J) When the offense involves the death of a person, and it	159
cannot reasonably be determined in which jurisdiction the offense	160
was committed, the offender may be tried in the jurisdiction in	161
which the dead person's body or any part of the dead person's body	162
was found.	163
(K) Notwithstanding any other requirement for the place of	164
trial, venue may be changed, upon motion of the prosecution, the	165
defense, or the court, to any court having jurisdiction of the	166
subject matter outside the county in which trial otherwise would	167

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other computers connected to the internet.

(13) "Materially falsify" means to alter or conceal in a

advertisement, an electronic mail service provider processing an

alleging a violation of section 2913.421 of the Revised Code, or a

law enforcement agency to identify, locate, or respond to a person

that initiated an electronic mail message or to investigate an

manner that would impair the ability of a recipient of an

electronic mail message on behalf of a recipient, a person

alleged violation of section 2913.421 of the Revised Code.

electronic mail accounts or online user accounts or two or more

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five hundred during any thirty-day period, or twenty-five thousand	290
during any one-year period.	291
(c) Regarding any violation of division (B)(1), (2), (3), or	292
(4) of this section, during any one-year period the aggregate loss	293
to the victim or victims of the violation is five hundred dollars	294
or more or during any one-year period the aggregate value of the	295
property or services obtained by any offender as a result of the	296
violation is five hundred dollars or more.	297
(d) Regarding any violation of division (B)(1), (2), (3), or	298
(4) of this section, the offender committed the violation with	299
three or more other persons with respect to whom the offender was	300
the organizer or leader of the activity that resulted in the	301
violation.	302
<u>violacion.</u>	302
(e) Regarding any violation of division (B) of this section,	303
the offender knowingly assisted in a violation of this section	304
through the provision or selection of addresses to which the	305
message was transmitted, if that person knew that the electronic	306
mail address of the recipients was obtained using an automated	307
means from an internet web site or proprietary online service	308
operated by another person, and that web site or online service	309
included, at the time the address was obtained, a notice stating	310
that the operator of that web site or online service will not	311
transfer addresses maintained by that web site or online service	312
to any other party for the purposes of initiating, or enabling	313
others to initiate, electronic mail messages.	314
(f) Regarding any violation of division (B) of this section,	315
the offender knowingly assisted in a violation of this section	316
through the provision or selection of electronic mail addresses of	317
the recipients obtained using an automated means that generates	318
possible electronic mail addresses by combining names, letters, or	319
numbers into numerous permutations.	320

(3) Except as otherwise provided in division (C)(4) of this	321
section, whoever violates division (B)(5) of this section is	322
quilty of unauthorized access of a protected computer, a felony of	323
the fourth degree.	324
(4) Illegally transmitting multiple electronic mail	325
advertisements and unauthorized access of a protected computer in	326
violation of this section are felonies of the third degree if the	327
offender previously has been convicted of a violation of this	328
section or a violation of a law of another state or the United	329
States regarding the transmission of multiple electronic mail	330
advertisements or unauthorized access to a computer system, or if	331
the offender committed the violation of this section in the	332
furtherance of a felony.	333
(D)(1) When the attorney general, or any person engaged in	334
the business of an electronic mail service provider that is	335
injured by handling or receiving electronic mail sent in violation	336
of this section or by the use of electronic mail addresses	337
obtained from that electronic mail service provider in a manner	338
described in division (C)(2)(e) and (f) of this section, is	339
seeking relief from any person whose conduct violated this section	340
or the CAN-SPAM Act of 2003, Pub. L. No. 108-187, the attorney	341
general, or any person engaged in the business of an electronic	342
mail service provider that is injured by a violation of this	343
section, may bring a civil action in an appropriate common pleas	344
court in this state or the appropriate district court of the	345
United States that has jurisdiction for a violation of section	346
2913.421 of the Revised Code or a violation of Pub. L. No.	347
108-187, but not in both courts. The civil action brought pursuant	348
to a violation of section 2913.421 of the Revised Code may be	349
commenced at any time within one year of the date after the act	350
that is the basis of the civil action.	351
(2) In a civil action brought by the attorney general	352

procedures established.

(E) Any equipment, software, or other technology of a person	384
who violates this section that is used or intended to be used in	385
the commission of a violation of this section, and any real or	386
personal property that constitutes or is traceable to the gross	387
proceeds obtained from the commission of a violation of this	388
section, is contraband and is subject to seizure and forfeiture	389
pursuant to sections 2933.42 and 2933.43 of the Revised Code.	390
(F) The attorney general may bring a civil action, pursuant	391
to the CAN-SPAM Act of 2003, Pub. L. No. 108-187, on behalf of the	392
residents of the state in a district court of the United States	393
that has jurisdiction for a violation of this section or a	394
violation of Pub. L. No. 108-187.	395
(G) Nothing in this section shall be construed:	396
(1) To require an electronic mail service provider to block,	397
transmit, route, relay, handle, or store certain types of	398
electronic mail messages;	399
(2) To prevent or limit, in any way, an electronic mail	400
service provider from adopting a policy regarding commercial or	401
other electronic mail, including a policy of declining to transmit	402
certain types of electronic mail messages, or from enforcing such	403
policy through technical means, through contract, or pursuant to	404
any remedy available under any other provision of federal, state,	405
or local criminal or civil law.	406
(3) To render lawful any policy that is unlawful under any	407
other provision of law.	408
Sec. 2923.01. (A) No person, with purpose to commit or to	409
promote or facilitate the commission of aggravated murder, murder,	410
kidnapping, compelling prostitution, promoting prostitution,	411
aggravated arson, arson, aggravated robbery, robbery, aggravated	412
burglary, burglary, engaging in a pattern of corrupt activity,	413

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corrupting another with drugs, a felony drug trafficking,	414
manufacturing, processing, or possession offense, theft of drugs,	415
or illegal processing of drug documents, the commission of a	416
felony offense of unauthorized use of a vehicle, illegally	417
transmitting multiple electronic mail advertisements in violation	418
of section 2923.421 of the Revised Code, or the commission of a	419
violation of any provision of Chapter 3734. of the Revised Code,	420
other than section 3734.18 of the Revised Code, that relates to	421
hazardous wastes, shall do either of the following:	422

- (1) With another person or persons, plan or aid in planning 423 the commission of any of the specified offenses; 424
- (2) Agree with another person or persons that one or more of them will engage in conduct that facilitates the commission of any of the specified offenses.
- (B) No person shall be convicted of conspiracy unless a 428 substantial overt act in furtherance of the conspiracy is alleged 429 and proved to have been done by the accused or a person with whom 430 the accused conspired, subsequent to the accused's entrance into 431 the conspiracy. For purposes of this section, an overt act is 432 substantial when it is of a character that manifests a purpose on 433 the part of the actor that the object of the conspiracy should be 434 completed. 435
- (C) When the offender knows or has reasonable cause to 436 believe that a person with whom the offender conspires also has 437 conspired or is conspiring with another to commit the same 438 offense, the offender is guilty of conspiring with that other 439 person, even though the other person's identity may be unknown to 440 the offender.
- (D) It is no defense to a charge under this section that, in retrospect, commission of the offense that was the object of the conspiracy was impossible under the circumstances.

(E) A conspiracy terminates when the offense or offenses that	445
are its objects are committed or when it is abandoned by all	446
conspirators. In the absence of abandonment, it is no defense to a	447
charge under this section that no offense that was the object of	448
the conspiracy was committed.	449
(F) A person who conspires to commit more than one offense is	450
guilty of only one conspiracy, when the offenses are the object of	451
the same agreement or continuous conspiratorial relationship.	452
(G) When a person is convicted of committing or attempting to	453
commit a specific offense or of complicity in the commission of or	454
attempt to commit the specific offense, the person shall not be	455
convicted of conspiracy involving the same offense.	456
(H)(1) No person shall be convicted of conspiracy upon the	457
testimony of a person with whom the defendant conspired,	458
unsupported by other evidence.	459
(2) If a person with whom the defendant allegedly has	460
conspired testifies against the defendant in a case in which the	461
defendant is charged with conspiracy and if the testimony is	462
supported by other evidence, the court, when it charges the jury,	463
shall state substantially the following:	464
"The testimony of an accomplice that is supported by other	465
evidence does not become inadmissible because of the accomplice's	466
complicity, moral turpitude, or self-interest, but the admitted or	467
claimed complicity of a witness may affect the witness'	468
credibility and make the witness' testimony subject to grave	469

It is for you, as jurors, in the light of all the facts 471 presented to you from the witness stand, to evaluate such 472 testimony and to determine its quality and worth or its lack of 473 quality and worth."

suspicion, and require that it be weighed with great caution.

(3) "Conspiracy," as used in division (H)(1) of this section,	475
does not include any conspiracy that results in an attempt to	476
commit an offense or in the commission of an offense.	477
(I) The following are affirmative defenses to a charge of	478
conspiracy:	479
(1) After conspiring to commit an offense, the actor thwarted	480
the success of the conspiracy under circumstances manifesting a	481
complete and voluntary renunciation of the actor's criminal	482
purpose.	483
(2) After conspiring to commit an offense, the actor	484
abandoned the conspiracy prior to the commission of or attempt to	485
commit any offense that was the object of the conspiracy, either	486
by advising all other conspirators of the actor's abandonment, or	487
by informing any law enforcement authority of the existence of the	488
conspiracy and of the actor's participation in the conspiracy.	489
(J) Whoever violates this section is guilty of conspiracy,	490
which is one of the following:	491
(1) A felony of the first degree, when one of the objects of	492
the conspiracy is aggravated murder, murder, or an offense for	493
which the maximum penalty is imprisonment for life;	494
(2) A felony of the next lesser degree than the most serious	495
offense that is the object of the conspiracy, when the most	496
serious offense that is the object of the conspiracy is a felony	497
of the first, second, third, or fourth degree;	498
(3) A felony punishable by a fine of not more than	499
twenty-five thousand dollars or imprisonment for not more than	500
eighteen months, or both, when the offense that is the object of	501
the conspiracy is a violation of any provision of Chapter 3734. of	502
the Revised Code, other than section 3734.18 of the Revised Code,	503
that relates to hazardous wastes;	504

(4) A misdemeanor of the first degree, when the most serious	505
offense that is the object of the conspiracy is a felony of the	506
fifth degree.	507
(K) This section does not define a separate conspiracy	508
offense or penalty where conspiracy is defined as an offense by	509
one or more sections of the Revised Code, other than this section.	510
In such a case, however:	511
(1) With respect to the offense specified as the object of	512
the conspiracy in the other section or sections, division (A) of	513
this section defines the voluntary act or acts and culpable mental	514
state necessary to constitute the conspiracy;	515
(2) Divisions (B) to (I) of this section are incorporated by	516
reference in the conspiracy offense defined by the other section	517
or sections of the Revised Code.	518
(L)(1) In addition to the penalties that otherwise are	519
imposed for conspiracy, a person who is found guilty of conspiracy	520
to engage in a pattern of corrupt activity is subject to divisions	521
(B)(2), (3), (4), and (5) of section 2923.32 of the Revised Code.	522
(2) If a person is convicted of or pleads guilty to	523
conspiracy and if the most serious offense that is the object of	524
the conspiracy is a felony drug trafficking, manufacturing,	525
processing, or possession offense, in addition to the penalties or	526
sanctions that may be imposed for the conspiracy under division	527
(J)(2) or (4) of this section and Chapter 2929. of the Revised	528
Code, both of the following apply:	529
(a) The provisions of divisions (D), (F), and (G) of section	530
2925.03, division (D) of section 2925.04, division (D) of section	531
2925.05, division (D) of section 2925.06, and division (E) of	532
section 2925.11 of the Revised Code that pertain to mandatory and	533
additional fines, driver's or commercial driver's license or	534

permit suspensions, and professionally licensed persons and that

2923.01 of the Revised Code are hereby repealed.

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