## As Reported by the House Commerce and Labor Committee

## 125th General Assembly Regular Session 2003-2004

Sub. H. B. No. 383

Representatives Walcher, D. Evans, Aslanides, Wagner, McGregor,
Reidelbach, Fessler, Price, Wolpert, Olman, Kearns, Setzer, Webster, Hagan,
Collier, Schaffer, Widener, Distel

## ABILL

Го	amend sections 2901.11, 2901.12, and 2923.01 and	1
	to enact section 2913.421 of the Revised Code to	2
	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
Sec. 2901.11. (A) A person is subject to criminal prosecution	14
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

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

part of the body of a homicide victim is found in this state, the

death is presumed to have occurred within this state.

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

respect to which this state has either exclusive or concurrent

legislative jurisdiction. Where the boundary between this state

and another state or foreign country is disputed, the disputed

territory is conclusively presumed to be within this state for

purposes of this section.

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- (2) The courts of common pleas of Adams, Athens, Belmont, 55 Brown, Clermont, Columbiana, Gallia, Hamilton, Jefferson, 56 Lawrence, Meigs, Monroe, Scioto, and Washington counties have 57 jurisdiction beyond the north or northwest shore of the Ohio river 58 extending to the opposite shore line, between the extended 59 boundary lines of any adjacent counties or adjacent state. Each of 60 those courts of common pleas has concurrent jurisdiction on the 61 Ohio river with any adjacent court of common pleas that borders on 62 that river and with any court of Kentucky or of West Virginia that 63 borders on the Ohio river and that has jurisdiction on the Ohio 64 river under the law of Kentucky or the law of West Virginia, 65 whichever is applicable, or under federal law. 66
- (D) When an offense is committed under the laws of this 67 state, and it appears beyond a reasonable doubt that the offense 68 or any element of the offense took place either in this state or 69 in another jurisdiction or jurisdictions, but it cannot reasonably 70 be determined in which it took place, the offense or element is 71 conclusively presumed to have taken place in this state for 72 purposes of this section. 73
- (E) As used in this section, "computer," "computer system," 74

  "computer network," "protected computer," "information service," 75

  "telecommunication," "telecommunications device," 76

  "telecommunications service," "data," and "writing" have the same 77

  meanings as in section sections 2913.01 and 2913.421 of the 78

  Revised Code. 79

Sec. 2901.12. (A) The trial of a criminal case in this state 80 shall be held in a court having jurisdiction of the subject 81 matter, and in the territory of which the offense or any element 82 of the offense was committed. 83 (B) When the offense or any element of the offense was 84 committed in an aircraft, motor vehicle, train, watercraft, or 85 other vehicle, in transit, and it cannot reasonably be determined 86 in which jurisdiction the offense was committed, the offender may 87 be tried in any jurisdiction through which the aircraft, motor 88 vehicle, train, watercraft, or other vehicle passed. 89 (C) When the offense involved the unlawful taking or 90 receiving of property or the unlawful taking or enticing of 91 another, the offender may be tried in any jurisdiction from which 92 or into which the property or victim was taken, received, or 93 enticed. 94 (D) When the offense is conspiracy, attempt, or complicity 95 cognizable under division (A)(2) of section 2901.11 of the Revised 96 Code, the offender may be tried in any jurisdiction in which the 97 conspiracy, attempt, complicity, or any of its elements occurred. 98 (E) When the offense is conspiracy or attempt cognizable 99 under division (A)(3) of section 2901.11 of the Revised Code, the 100 offender may be tried in any jurisdiction in which the offense 101 that was the object of the conspiracy or attempt, or any element 102 of that offense, was intended to or could have taken place. When 103 the offense is complicity cognizable under division (A)(3) of 104 section 2901.11 of the Revised Code, the offender may be tried in 105 any jurisdiction in which the principal offender may be tried. 106 (F) When an offense is considered to have been committed in 107

this state while the offender was out of this state, and the

jurisdiction in this state in which the offense or any material

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- (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,"

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

  "telecommunication," "telecommunications device,"

  "telecommunications service," "data," and "writing" have the same

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  meanings as in section sections 2913.01 and 2913.421 of the

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  Revised Code.
- (J) When the offense involves the death of a person, and it
  cannot reasonably be determined in which jurisdiction the offense
  was committed, the offender may be tried in the jurisdiction in
  which the dead person's body or any part of the dead person's body
  was found.

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- (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 be held, when it appears that a fair and impartial trial cannot be 168 held in the jurisdiction in which trial otherwise would be held, 169 or when it appears that trial should be held in another 170 jurisdiction for the convenience of the parties and in the 171

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interests of justice.	172
Sec. 2913.421. (A) As used in this section:	173
(1) "Advertisement" has the same meaning as in section	174
4931.55 of the Revised Code.	175
(2) "Computer," "computer network," and "computer system"	176
have the same meanings as in section 2913.01 of the Revised Code.	177
(3) "Commercial electronic mail message" means any electronic	178
mail message the primary purpose of which is the commercial	179
advertisement or promotion of a commercial product, including	180
content on an internet web site operated for a commercial purpose,	181
but does not include a transactional or relationship message. The	182
inclusion of a reference to a commercial entity or a link to the	183
web site of a commercial entity does not, by itself, cause that	184
message to be treated as a commercial mail message for the purpose	185
of this section, if the contents or circumstances of the message	186
indicate a primary purpose other than commercial advertisement or	187
of a commercial product or service.	188
(4) "Domain name" means any alphanumeric designation that is	189
registered with or assigned by any domain name registrar, domain	190
name registry, or other domain name registration authority, and	191
that is included in an electronic mail message.	192
(5) "Electronic mail," "electronic mail advertisement,"	193
"originating address," and "recipient" have the same meanings as	194
in section 2307.64 of the Revised Code.	195
(6) "Electronic mail message" means each electronic mail	196
addressed to a discrete addressee.	197
(7) "Electronic mail service provider" means any person,	198
including an internet service provider, that is an intermediary in	199
sending and receiving electronic mail and that provides to the	200
public electronic mail accounts or online user accounts from which	201

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electronic mail may be sent.	202
(8) "Financial institution" has the same meaning as in	203
section 122.39 of the Revised Code.	204
(9) "Header information" means the source, destination, and	205
routing information attached to an electronic mail message,	206
including the originating domain name, the originating electronic	207
mail address, and technical information that authenticates the	208
sender of an electronic mail message for network security or	209
network management purposes.	210
(10) "Initiate the transmission," when used with respect to a	211
commercial electronic mail message, means to originate or transmit	212
that message or to procure the origination or transmission of that	213
message, regardless of whether the electronic mail message reaches	214
its intended recipients.	215
(11) "Internet" has the same meaning as in section 341.42 of	216
the Revised Code.	217
(12) "Internet protocol address" means the string of numbers	218
by which locations on the internet are identified by routers or	219
other computers connected to the internet.	220
(13) "Materially falsify" means to alter or conceal in a	221
manner that would impair the ability of a recipient of an	222
advertisement, an electronic mail service provider processing an	223
electronic mail message on behalf of a recipient, a person	224
alleging a violation of section 2913.421 of the Revised Code, or a	225
law enforcement agency to identify, locate, or respond to a person	226
that initiated an electronic mail message or to investigate an	227
alleged violation of section 2913.421 of the Revised Code.	228
(14) "Multiple" means more than ten electronic mail messages	229
during a twenty-four-hour period, more than one hundred electronic	230
mail messages during a thirty-day period, or more than one	231

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thousand messages during a one-year period.	232
(15) "Protected computer" means any of the following:	233
(a) A computer exclusively for the use of state government or	234
a financial institution;	235
(b) A computer used by or for state government or a financial	236
institution when the conduct constituting the violation of	237
division (B) of this section affects that use by or for the state	238
government or financial institution;	239
(c) A computer that is used in intrastate or interstate	240
communication.	241
(16) "Routine conveyance" means the transmission, routing,	242
relaying, handling, or storing, through an automated technical	243
process, of an electronic mail message for which another person	244
has identified the recipients or provided the recipient addresses.	245
(B) No person, with regard to electronic mail advertisements	246
sent from or to a protected computer in this state, shall do any	247
of the following:	248
(1) Knowingly use a protected computer to relay or retransmit	249
multiple electronic mail advertisements, with the intent to	250
deceive or mislead recipients or any electronic mail service	251
provider, as to the origin of those advertisements;	252
(2) Knowingly and materially falsify header information in	253
multiple electronic mail advertisements and purposely initiate the	254
transmission of those advertisements;	255
(3) Knowingly register, using information that materially	256
falsifies the identity of the actual registrant, for five or more	257
electronic mail accounts or online user accounts or two or more	258
domain names and purposely initiate the transmission of multiple	259
electronic mail advertisements from one, or any combination, of	260
those accounts or domain names;	261

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(4) Knowingly falsely represent the right to use five or more	262
internet protocol addresses, and purposely initiate the	263
transmission of multiple electronic mail advertisements from those	264
addresses.	265
(5) Knowingly access a protected computer without	266
authorization and purposely initiate the transmission of multiple	267
electronic mail advertisements from or through the protected	268
computer.	269
(C)(1) Whoever violates division (B)(1), (2), (3), or (4) of	270
this section is guilty of illegally transmitting multiple	271
electronic mail advertisements. Except as otherwise provided in	272
division (C)(2) or (4) of this section, illegally transmitting	273
multiple electronic mail advertisements is a felony of the fifth	274
degree.	275
(2) Illegally transmitting multiple electronic mail	276
advertisements is a felony of the fourth degree if any of the	277
following apply:	278
(a) Regarding a violation of division (B)(3) of this section,	279
the offender, using information that materially falsifies the	280
identity of the actual registrant, knowingly registers for twenty	281
or more electronic mail accounts or online user accounts or ten or	282
more domain names, and purposely initiates, or conspires to	283
initiate, the transmission of multiple electronic mail	284
advertisements from the accounts or domain names.	285
(b) Regarding any violation of division (B)(1), (2), (3), or	286
(4) of this section, the volume of electronic mail advertisements	287
the offender transmitted in committing the violation exceeds two	288
hundred and fifty during any twenty-four-hour period, two thousand	289
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
to the victim or victims of the violation is five hundred dollars
or more or during any one-year period the aggregate value of the
property or services obtained by any offender as a result of the
violation is five hundred dollars or more.
(d) Regarding any violation of division (B)(1), (2), (3), or
(4) of this section, the offender committed the violation with
three or more other persons with respect to whom the offender was
the organizer or leader of the activity that resulted in the
violation.
(e) Regarding any violation of division (B) of this section,
the offender knowingly assisted in a violation of this section
through the provision or selection of addresses to which the
message was transmitted, if that person knew that the electronic
mail address of the recipients was obtained using an automated
means from an internet web site or proprietary online service
operated by another person, and that web site or online service
included, at the time the address was obtained, a notice stating
that the operator of that web site or online service will not
transfer addresses maintained by that web site or online service
to any other party for the purposes of initiating, or enabling
others to initiate, electronic mail messages.
(f) Regarding any violation of division (B) of this section,
the offender knowingly assisted in a violation of this section
through the provision or selection of electronic mail addresses of
the recipients obtained using an automated means that generates
possible electronic mail addresses by combining names, letters, or
numbers into numerous permutations.
(3) Except as otherwise provided in division (C)(4) of this
section, whoever violates division (B)(5) of this section is

guilty of unauthorized access of a protected computer, a felony of

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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
<u>furtherance of a felony.</u>	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
pursuant to division (D)(1) of this section for a violation of	353
this section, the court may award temporary, preliminary, or	354

permanent injunctive relief. The court may also impose a civil

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penalty against the offender in an amount not to exceed	356
twenty-five thousand dollars for each day a violation occurs, or	357
not less than two dollars but not more than eight dollars for each	358
electronic mail advertisement that is initiated in violation of	359
this section, as the court considers just.	360
(3) In any civil action brought by a person engaged in the	361
business of an electronic mail service provider pursuant to	362
division (D)(1) of this section for a violation of this section,	363
the court may award temporary, preliminary, or permanent	364
injunctive relief, and also may award damages in an amount equal	365
to the greater of the following:	366
(a) The sum of the actual damages incurred by the person	367
engaged in the business of an electronic mail service provider as	368
a result of the violation of this section, plus any receipts of	369
the offender that are attributable to the violation of this	370
section and that were not taken into account in computing actual	371
damages;	372
(b) Statutory damages in an amount not exceeding twenty-five	373
thousand dollars for each day a violation occurs, or not less than	374
two dollars but not more than eight dollars for each electronic	375
mail advertisement initiated in violation of this section;	376
(4) In assessing damages awarded under division (D)(3) of	377
this section, the court may consider whether the offender has	378
established and implemented, with due care, commercially	379
reasonable practices and procedures designed to effectively	380
prevent the violations or the violation occurred despite	381
commercially reasonable efforts to maintain the practices and	382
procedures established.	383
(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

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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	425
them will engage in conduct that facilitates the commission of any	426
of the specified offenses.	427
(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.	441
(D) It is no defense to a charge under this section that, in	442
retrospect, commission of the offense that was the object of the	443
conspiracy was impossible under the circumstances.	444

(E) A conspiracy terminates when the offense or offenses that

are its objects are committed or when it is abandoned by all

conspirators. In the absence of abandonment,	, it is no defense to a	447
charge under this section that no offense th	hat was the object of	448
the conspiracy was committed.		449

- (F) A person who conspires to commit more than one offense isguilty of only one conspiracy, when the offenses are the object ofthe same agreement or continuous conspiratorial relationship.
- (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
   testimony of a person with whom the defendant conspired,
   unsupported by other evidence.
- (2) If a person with whom the defendant allegedly has

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  conspired testifies against the defendant in a case in which the

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  defendant is charged with conspiracy and if the testimony is

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  supported by other evidence, the court, when it charges the jury,

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  shall state substantially the following:

"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 suspicion, and require that it be weighed with great caution. 470

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."

(3) "Conspiracy," as used in division (H)(1) of this section,
does not include any conspiracy that results in an attempt to
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commit an offense or in the commission of an offense.
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(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 quilty 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 535 would apply under the appropriate provisions of those divisions to 536 a person who is convicted of or pleads guilty to the felony drug 537

trafficking, manufacturing, processing, or possession offense that

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