As Passed by the House

125th General Assembly Regular Session 2003-2004

То

Am. Sub. H. B. No. 426

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A BILL

amend sections 125.021, 1317.06, 1317.061,	1
3313.64, 4933.12, and 4933.121 and to enact	2
sections 317.322, 1349.02, 1349.03, 1713.60,	3
1923.062, 3332.20, 3345.53, and 3915.053 of the	4
Revised Code to prohibit a retail seller in a	5
retail installment contract from charging or	6
collecting more than a six per cent annual	7
percentage rate on contracts with retail buyers	8
who are deployed on active duty; to permit a child	9
whose parent is deployed on active duty to	10
continue to attend school in the district in which	11
the child's parent lived before being called to	12
active military duty; to permit a child living	13
with an agent of the child's parent appointed	14
under a military power of attorney or a comparable	1.5

document to attend school in the school district	16
in which the agent resides; to exempt members of	17
the armed forces of the United States from any	18
recording fee associated with filing a military	19
power of attorney with the county recorder; to	20
provide under certain circumstances a tenant or	21
resident who is deployed on active duty or a	22
member of his or her immediate family with a stay	23
of proceedings or an adjustment of their rental	24
obligation in an action for possession of	25
residential premises under the Eviction Law; to	26
ensure that individual life insurance policies	27
continue in force despite nonpayment of premiums	28
during the insured's period of active duty; to	29
prohibit a gas or electric company from	30
disconnecting service to the residential premises	31
of any consumer who is deployed on active duty; to	32
allow gas and electric companies to recover	33
arrearages incurred during a period of deployment	34
in a specified time period and a specified manner	35
and certain of those companies to recover certain	36
uncollectible amounts owed by residential	37
customers deployed on active duty through a	38
recovery procedure approved by the Public	39
Utilities Commission; to require public and	40
private institutions of higher education to grant	41
a military leave of absence to students who are	42
deployed on active duty, to reinstate those	43
students to the same educational status as before	44
active duty, and to either partially refund paid	45
tuition or credit paid tuition to a future	46
academic term; to permit a person deployed on	47
active duty to terminate a motor vehicle lease or	48

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cellular phone contract under specified	49
conditions; and to require the Department of	50
Administrative Services to make available bulk	51
long distance telephone services at cost to the	52
immediate family members of persons deployed on	53
active duty.	54
BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:	
Section 1. That sections 125.021, 1317.06, 1317.061, 3313.64,	55
4933.12, and 4933.121 be amended and sections 317.322, 1349.02,	56
1349.03, 1713.60, 1923.062, 3332.20, 3345.53, and 3915.053 of the	57
Revised Code be enacted to read as follows:	58
Sec. 125.021. (A) Except as to the military department, the	59
general assembly, the bureau of workers' compensation, and	60
institutions administered by boards of trustees, the department of	61
administrative services may make contracts contract for, operate,	62
and superintend the telephone, other telecommunication, and	63
computer services for state agencies. <u>Nothing</u>	64
Nothing in this section division precludes the bureau from	65
entering into a contract contracting with the department of	66
administrative services for to authorize the department to make	67
contracts contract for, operate, or superintend such systems those	68
services for the bureau.	69
(B)(1) As used in this division:	70
(a) "Active duty" means active duty pursuant to an executive	71
order of the president of the United States, an act of the	72
congress of the United States, or section 5919.29 or 5923.21 of	73
the Revised Code.	74
(b) "Immediate family" means a person's spouse residing in	75

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one hundred dollars per year on the principal balance of the 106 retail installment contract. On retail installment contracts 107 providing for principal balances less than, nor not in multiples 108 of one hundred dollars, or for installment payments extending for 109 a period less than or greater than one year, said that finance 110 charge shall be computed proportionately. In addition to the base 111 finance charge, the retail seller may charge and contract for a 112 service charge of fifty cents per month for the first fifty dollar 113 unit or fraction thereof, of the principal balance for each month 114 of the term of the installment contract; and an additional service 115 charge of twenty-five cents per month for each of the next five 116 fifty dollar units or fraction thereof, of the principal balance 117 for each month of the term of the installment contract. This 118 paragraph applies only to retail installment contracts with a 119 principal balance of seven hundred dollars or less. 120

(2) A pre-computed base finance charge not in excess of the amount obtained by applying the rate of one and one-half per cent per month to the unpaid portion of the unpaid principal balance determined to be outstanding from time to time according to the terms and schedule of payments of the retail installment contract executed in connection with such retail installment sale.

Such base finance charge and service charges may be computed

on a basis of a full month for any fractional period in excess of

ten days. For a fractional period of a month not in excess of ten

days, there shall be no base finance charge or service charge.

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Sections 1317.01 to 1317.11 of the Revised Code do not apply
to any sale in which the base finance and service charge does not
exceed the sum of fifteen dollars.

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(B) Every retail seller may, at the time of making any retail installment sale, contract for the payment by the retail buyer of lawful delinquent charges as follows:

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(1) No charges shall be made for delinquent payments less than ten days late. 138

(2) Five cents for each dollar for a delinquent payment that is more than ten days late may be charged, but in no event shall a delinquent charge for any one installment exceed three dollars.

142 A provision for the payment of interest on any installment not paid in full on or before its scheduled due date at a rate not 143 to exceed one and one-half per cent interest per month is not a 144 delinquent charge and is expressly authorized. 145

(C) No retail installment contract arising out of a consumer 146 transaction and requiring the payment of the charges authorized by 147 this section shall be executed unless the combined total of the 148 cash price and all finance charges and service charges is required 149 to be paid according to a schedule of substantially equal 150 consecutive installments, except where the contract contains a 151 provision allowing the buyer to refinance the contract under terms 152 no less favorable than those of the original contract after making 153 the refund credit required by section 1317.09 of the Revised Code. 154 No seller shall, pursuant to any provision in a retail installment 155 contract arising out of a consumer transaction, accelerate any 156 payments on account of a default in the making of an installment 157 payment that has not continued for at least thirty days. Division 158 (C) of this section This division does not apply to the extent 159 that the payment schedule is adjusted to the seasonal or irregular 160 income of the buyer. 161

(D) A retail seller in connection with a retail installment 162 contract entered into on and after the effective date of this 163 amendment shall not charge or collect from a retail buyer who is 164 deployed on active duty interest or finance charges exceeding an 165 annual percentage rate of six per cent during the period that the 166 retail buyer is deployed on active duty. 167

shall provide the retail seller with written notice of and a copy

of the military or qubernatorial orders calling the retail buyer

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to active duty and of any orders further extending active duty,	199
not later than one hundred eighty days after the date of the	200
retail buyer's termination of or release from active duty.	201
As used in this section, "active duty" means active duty	202
pursuant to an executive order of the president of the United	203
States, an act of the congress of the United States, or section	204
5919.29 or 5923.21 of the Revised Code.	205
Sec. 1349.02. (A) As used in this section:	206
(1) "Active duty" means active duty pursuant to an executive	207
order of the president of the United States, an act of the	208
congress of the United States, or section 5919.29 or 5923.21 of	209
the Revised Code.	210
(2) "Lending institution" has the same meaning as in section	211
175.01 of the Revised Code.	212
(3) "Motor vehicle" means any automobile, car minivan,	213
passenger van, sport utility vehicle, pickup truck, or other	214
self-propelled vehicle not operated or driven on fixed rails or	215
track.	216
(B) Any person, or spouse of a person, who is deployed on	217
active duty may terminate any motor vehicle lease that meets both	218
of the following requirements:	219
(1) It is entered into on or after the effective date of this	220
section.	221
(2) It is executed by or on behalf of the person who is	222
deployed on active duty.	223
(C) Termination of the motor vehicle lease shall not be	224
effective until:	225
(1) Fifteen days after the person who is deployed on active	226
duty or the person's spouse gives notice by certified mail, return	227

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receipt requested, of the intention to terminate the lease; and	228
(2) The motor vehicle subject to the lease is returned to the	229
custody or control of the lessor.	230
Sec. 1349.03. (A) As used in this section, "active duty"	231
means active duty pursuant to an executive order of the president	232
of the United States, an act of the congress of the United States,	233
or section 5919.29 or 5923.21 of the Revised Code.	234
(B) Any person, or spouse of a person, who is deployed on	235
active duty may terminate, without penalty, a cellular phone	236
contract that meets both of the following requirements:	237
(1) It is entered into on or after the effective date of this	238
section.	239
(2) It is executed by or on behalf of the person who is	240
deployed on active duty.	241
(C) Termination of the cellular phone contract shall not be	242
effective until:	243
(1) Thirty days after the person who is deployed on active	244
duty or the person's spouse gives notice by certified mail, return	245
receipt requested, of the intention to terminate the cellular	246
phone contract; and	247
(2) Unless the person who is deployed on active duty owns the	248
cellular phone, the cellular phone is returned to the custody or	249
control of the cellular telephone company, or the person who is	250
deployed on active duty or the person's spouse agrees in writing	251
to return the cellular phone as soon as practicable after the	252
deployment is completed.	253
Sec. 1713.60. As used in this section, "active duty" means	254
full-time duty in the active military service of the United	255
States, including full-time training duty, annual training duty,	256

and active state duty for members of the national guard.	257
(A) Each institution of higher education that holds a	258
certificate of authorization issued under this chapter shall grant	259
a student a military leave of absence from the institution while	260
the student is serving on active duty, and for one year after the	261
conclusion of that service, if the student is a member of the	262
United States national guard or other reserve component of the	263
armed forces of the United States, or a member of those armed	264
forces in a retired status, and is called to active duty. The	265
student shall not suffer an academic penalty as a result of the	266
leave of absence.	267
(B) If requested by a student granted a military leave of	268
absence pursuant to division (A) of this section not later than	269
one year after the student's release from active duty, the	270
institution in which the student is enrolled shall do either of	271
the following, as elected by the student:	272
(1) Credit tuition and fee charges toward a subsequent	273
academic term in an amount that is one hundred per cent of what	274
the student paid the institution for the academic term in which	275
the student withdraws;	276
(2) Refund tuition and fees paid for the academic term,	277
provided the student withdraws before the withdraw date	278
established by the institution. The refund shall equal one hundred	279
per cent of the tuition and fee charges the student paid the	280
institution for the academic term. If the student withdraws after	281
the withdraw date established by the institution, the student is	282
ineligible for a refund of tuition and fee charges. For the	283
purposes of this section, the "withdraw date" shall be the same as	284
the date set by the institution for its general student population	285
to withdraw from the institution or a course or class without	286
academic penalty.	287

(C) If requested by a student granted a military leave of	288
absence pursuant to division (A) of this section not later than	289
one year after the student's release from active duty, the	290
institution shall restore the student to the educational status	291
the student had attained prior to being called to active duty	292
without loss of academic credits earned, scholarships or grants	293
awarded, or tuition and other fees paid prior to the commencement	294
of active duty, except as provided in division (B) of this	295
section.	296
(D) If an institution fails to comply with this section, the	297
student may bring an action against the institution to enforce its	298
provisions in the court of common pleas of the county in which the	299
student resides. If the student resides outside of this state, the	300
action shall be brought in the court of common pleas of the county	301
in which the campus of the institution previously attended by the	302
student is located. The court may award reasonable attorney's fees	303
and expenses if the student prevails in the action.	304
Sec. 1923.062. (A) In an action under this chapter for	305
possession of residential premises of a tenant or manufactured	306
home park resident who is deployed on active duty or of any member	307
of the tenant's or resident's immediate family, if the tenant or	308
resident entered into the rental agreement on or after the	309
effective date of this section, the court may, on its own motion,	310
and shall, upon motion made by or on behalf of the tenant or	311
resident, do either of the following if the tenant's or resident's	312
ability to pay the agreed rent is materially affected by the	313
deployment on active duty:	314
(1) Stay the proceedings for a period of ninety days, unless,	315
in the opinion of the court, justice and equity require a longer	316
or shorter period of time;	317
(2) Adjust the obligation under the rental agreement to	318

(1) If the child receives special education in accordance	439
with Chapter 3323. of the Revised Code, tuition shall be paid in	440
accordance with section 3323.091, 3323.13, 3323.14, or 3323.141 of	441
the Revised Code regardless of who has custody of the child or	442
whether the child resides in a home.	443
(2) Except as otherwise provided in division (C)(2)(d) of	444
this section, if the child is in the permanent or legal custody of	445
a government agency or person other than the child's parent,	446
tuition shall be paid by:	447
(a) The district in which the child's parent resided at the	448
time the court removed the child from home or at the time the	449
court vested legal or permanent custody of the child in the person	450
or government agency, whichever occurred first;	451
(b) If the parent's residence at the time the court removed	452
the child from home or placed the child in the legal or permanent	453
custody of the person or government agency is unknown, tuition	454
shall be paid by the district in which the child resided at the	455
time the child was removed from home or placed in legal or	456
permanent custody, whichever occurred first;	457
(c) If a school district cannot be established under division	458
(C)(2)(a) or (b) of this section, tuition shall be paid by the	459
district determined as required by section 2151.357 of the Revised	460
Code by the court at the time it vests custody of the child in the	461
person or government agency;	462
(d) If at the time the court removed the child from home or	463
vested legal or permanent custody of the child in the person or	464
government agency, whichever occurred first, one parent was in a	465
residential or correctional facility or a juvenile residential	466
placement and the other parent, if living and not in such a	467
facility or placement, was not known to reside in this state,	468

tuition shall be paid by the district determined under division

under this division, no tuition shall be charged by the school

(c) The name and address of the person with whom the child is	532
living while the parent is outside the state.	533
(5) Any child under the age of twenty-two years who, after	534
the death of a parent, resides in a school district other than the	535
district in which the child attended school at the time of the	536
parent's death is entitled to continue to attend school in the	537
district in which the child attended school at the time of the	538
parent's death for the remainder of the school year, subject to	539
approval of that district board.	540
(6) A child under the age of twenty-two years who resides	541
with a parent who is having a new house built in a school district	542
outside the district where the parent is residing is entitled to	543
attend school for a period of time in the district where the new	544
house is being built. In order to be entitled to such attendance,	545
the parent shall provide the district superintendent with the	546
following:	547
(a) A sworn statement explaining the situation, revealing the	548
location of the house being built, and stating the parent's	549
intention to reside there upon its completion;	550
(b) A statement from the builder confirming that a new house	551
is being built for the parent and that the house is at the	552
location indicated in the parent's statement.	553
(7) A child under the age of twenty-two years residing with a	554
parent who has a contract to purchase a house in a school district	555
outside the district where the parent is residing and who is	556
waiting upon the date of closing of the mortgage loan for the	557
purchase of such house is entitled to attend school for a period	558
of time in the district where the house is being purchased. In	559
order to be entitled to such attendance, the parent shall provide	560
the district superintendent with the following:	561

(a) A sworn statement explaining the situation, revealing the

location of the house being purchased, and stating the parent's intent to reside there;

(b) A statement from a real estate broker or bank officer confirming that the parent has a contract to purchase the house, that the parent is waiting upon the date of closing of the mortgage loan, and that the house is at the location indicated in the parent's statement.

The district superintendent shall establish a period of time not to exceed ninety days during which the child entitled to attend school under division (F)(6) or (7) of this section may attend without tuition obligation. A student attending a school under division (F)(6) or (7) of this section shall be eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics under the auspices of that school, provided the board of education of the school district where the student's parent resides, by a formal action, releases the student to participate in interscholastic athletics at the school where the student is attending, and provided the student receives any authorization required by a public agency or private organization of which the school district is a member exercising authority over interscholastic sports.

(8) A child whose parent is a full-time employee of a city, local, or exempted village school district, or of an educational service center, may be admitted to the schools of the district where the child's parent is employed, or in the case of a child whose parent is employed by an educational service center, in the district that serves the location where the parent's job is primarily located, provided the district board of education establishes such an admission policy by resolution adopted by a majority of its members. Any such policy shall take effect on the first day of the school year and the effective date of any amendment or repeal may not be prior to the first day of the subsequent school year. The policy shall be uniformly applied to

all such children and shall provide for the admission of any such

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child upon request of the parent. No child may be admitted under

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this policy after the first day of classes of any school year.

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(9) A child who is with the child's parent under the care of 598 a shelter for victims of domestic violence, as defined in section 599 3113.33 of the Revised Code, is entitled to attend school free in 600 the district in which the child is with the child's parent, and no 601 other school district shall be required to pay tuition for the 602 child's attendance in that school district.

The enrollment of a child in a school district under this 604 division shall not be denied due to a delay in the school 605 district's receipt of any records required under section 3313.672 606 of the Revised Code or any other records required for enrollment. 607 Any days of attendance and any credits earned by a child while 608 enrolled in a school district under this division shall be 609 transferred to and accepted by any school district in which the 610 child subsequently enrolls. The state board of education shall 611 adopt rules to ensure compliance with this division. 612

- (10) Any child under the age of twenty-two years whose parent 613 has moved out of the school district after the commencement of 614 classes in the child's senior year of high school is entitled, 615 subject to the approval of that district board, to attend school 616 in the district in which the child attended school at the time of 617 the parental move for the remainder of the school year and for one 618 additional semester or equivalent term. A district board may also 619 adopt a policy specifying extenuating circumstances under which a 620 student may continue to attend school under division (F)(10) of 621 this section for an additional period of time in order to 622 successfully complete the high school curriculum for the 623 individualized education program developed for the student by the 624 high school pursuant to section 3323.08 of the Revised Code. 625
 - (11) As used in this division, "grandparent" means a parent

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of a parent of a child. A child under the age of twenty-two years	627
who is in the custody of the child's parent, resides with a	628
grandparent, and does not require special education is entitled to	629
attend the schools of the district in which the child's	630
grandparent resides, provided that, prior to such attendance in	631
any school year, the board of education of the school district in	632
which the child's grandparent resides and the board of education	633
of the school district in which the child's parent resides enter	634
into a written agreement specifying that good cause exists for	635
such attendance, describing the nature of this good cause, and	636
consenting to such attendance.	637

In lieu of a consent form signed by a parent, a board of education may request the grandparent of a child attending school in the district in which the grandparent resides pursuant to division (F)(11) of this section to complete any consent form required by the district, including any authorization required by sections 3313.712, 3313.713, and 3313.716 of the Revised Code.

Upon request, the grandparent shall complete any consent form required by the district. A school district shall not incur any liability solely because of its receipt of a consent form from a grandparent in lieu of a parent.

Division (F)(11) of this section does not create, and shall 648 not be construed as creating, a new cause of action or substantive 649 legal right against a school district, a member of a board of 650 education, or an employee of a school district. This section does 651 not affect, and shall not be construed as affecting, any 652 immunities from defenses to tort liability created or recognized 653 by Chapter 2744. of the Revised Code for a school district, 654 member, or employee. 655

(12) A child under the age of twenty-two years is entitled to 656 attend school in a school district other than the district in 657 which the child is entitled to attend school under division (B), 658

waive tuition for students who will temporarily reside in the

full week in October and of the district to which the child or

child's parent has relocated each has adopted a policy to enroll

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education.

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children described in division (I)(1) of this section.	752
(b) The child's parent provides written notification of the	753
relocation outside of the school district to the superintendent of	754
each of the two school districts.	755
(2) At the beginning of the school year following the school	756
year in which the child or the child's parent relocated outside of	757
the school district as described in division (I)(1) of this	758
section, the child is not entitled to attend school in the school	759
district under that division.	760
(3) Any person or entity owing tuition to the school district	761
on behalf of the child at the end of the first full week in	762
October, as provided in division (C) of this section, shall	763
continue to owe such tuition to the district for the child's	764
attendance under division (I)(1) of this section for the lesser of	765
the balance of the school year or the balance of the time that the	766
child attends school in the district under division (I)(1) of this	767
section.	768
(4) A pupil who may attend school in the district under	769
division (I)(1) of this section shall be entitled to	770
transportation services pursuant to an agreement between the	771
district and the district in which the child or child's parent has	772
relocated unless the districts have not entered into such	773
agreement, in which case the child shall be entitled to	774
transportation services in the same manner as a pupil attending	775
school in the district under interdistrict open enrollment as	776
described in division (H) of section 3313.981 of the Revised Code,	777
regardless of whether the district has adopted an open enrollment	778
policy as described in division (B)(1)(b) or (c) of section	779
3313.98 of the Revised Code.	780

(J) This division does not apply to a child receiving special

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A school district required to pay tuition pursuant to	783
division (C)(2) or (3) of this section or section 3313.65 of the	784
Revised Code shall have an amount deducted under division (F) of	785
section 3317.023 of the Revised Code equal to its own tuition rate	786
for the same period of attendance. A school district entitled to	787
receive tuition pursuant to division (C)(2) or (3) of this section	788
or section 3313.65 of the Revised Code shall have an amount	789
credited under division (F) of section 3317.023 of the Revised	790
Code equal to its own tuition rate for the same period of	791
attendance. If the tuition rate credited to the district of	792
attendance exceeds the rate deducted from the district required to	793
pay tuition, the department of education shall pay the district of	794
attendance the difference from amounts deducted from all	795
districts' payments under division (F) of section 3317.023 of the	796
Revised Code but not credited to other school districts under such	797
division and from appropriations made for such purpose. The	798
treasurer of each school district shall, by the fifteenth day of	799
January and July, furnish the superintendent of public instruction	800
a report of the names of each child who attended the district's	801
schools under divisions (C)(2) and (3) of this section or section	802
3313.65 of the Revised Code during the preceding six calendar	803
months, the duration of the attendance of those children, the	804
school district responsible for tuition on behalf of the child,	805
and any other information that the superintendent requires.	806

Upon receipt of the report the superintendent, pursuant to 807 division (F) of section 3317.023 of the Revised Code, shall deduct 808 each district's tuition obligations under divisions (C)(2) and (3) 809 of this section or section 3313.65 of the Revised Code and pay to 810 the district of attendance that amount plus any amount required to 811 be paid by the state.

(K) In the event of a disagreement, the superintendent of public instruction shall determine the school district in which

member of the United States national quard or other reserve	846
component of the armed forces of the United States, or a member of	847
those armed forces in a retired status, and is called to active	848
duty. The student shall not suffer an academic penalty as a result	849
of the leave of absence.	850
(B) If requested by a student granted a military leave of	851
absence pursuant to division (A) of this section not later than	852
one year after the student's release from active duty, the	853
institution in which the student is enrolled shall do either of	854
the following, as elected by the student:	855
(1) Credit tuition and fee charges toward a subsequent	856
academic term in an amount that is one hundred per cent of what	857
the student paid the institution for the academic term in which	858
the student withdraws;	859
(2) Refund tuition and fees paid for the academic term,	860
provided the student withdraws before the withdraw date	861
established by the institution. The refund shall equal one hundred	862
per cent of the tuition and fee charges the student paid the	863
institution for the academic term. If the student withdraws after	864
the withdraw date established by the institution, the student is	865
ineligible for a refund of tuition and fee charges. For the	866
purposes of this section, the "withdraw date" shall be the same as	867
the date set by the institution for its general student population	868
to withdraw from the institution or a course or class without	869
academic penalty.	870
(C) If requested by a student granted a military leave of	871
absence pursuant to division (A) of this section not later than	872
one year after the student's release from active duty, the	873
institution shall restore the student to the educational status	874
the student had attained prior to being called to active duty	875
without loss of academic credits earned, scholarships or grants	876

institution of higher education in which the student is enrolled

(1) Credit tuition and fee charges toward a subsequent

shall do either of the following, as elected by the student:

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section 3923.381 of the Revised Code, who is on active duty	938
pursuant to an executive order of the president of the United	939
States, an act of the congress of the United States, or section	940
5919.29 or 5923.21 of the Revised Code, if the life insurance	941
policy meets both of the following conditions:	942
(a) The policy has been in force for at least one hundred	943
eighty days.	944
(b) The policy has been brought within the "Servicemembers	945
Civil Relief Act, 117 Stat. 2835 (2003), 50 U.S.C. App. 541, et	946
seq.	947
(2) This section does not apply to any policy that was	948
cancelled or that had lapsed for the nonpayment of premiums prior	949
to the commencement of the insured's period of military service.	950
(B) An individual life insurance policy described in division	951
(A) of this section shall not lapse or be forfeited for the	952
nonpayment of premiums during a reservist's period of military	953
service or during the two-year period subsequent to the end of the	954
reservist's period of military service.	955
(C) This section does not limit a life insurance company's	956
enforcement of provisions in the insured's policy relating to	957
naval or military service in time of war.	958
Sec. 4933.12. (A) Except as provided in division (C) of this	959
section and division (E) of section 5117.11 of the Revised Code,	960
if any person supplied with gas neglects or refuses to pay the	961
amount due for such <u>the</u> gas or for rent of articles hired by him	962
the person from a natural gas company or a gas company, the	963
company may stop the gas from entering the premises of such the	964
person. In such cases, after twenty-four hours' notice, the	965
officers, servants, or workers of the company may enter the	966
premises of such persons between eight a m and four n m take	967

away such property of the company, and disconnect any meter from	968
the mains or pipes of the company.	969
(B) The company shall not refuse to furnish gas on account of	970
arrearages due it for gas furnished to persons formerly receiving	971
services at the premises as customers of the company, provided the	972
former customers are not continuing to reside at such the	973
premises.	974
(C) The company shall not, for any reason, unless required by	975
the consumer, for safety reasons, or unless tampering with utility	976
company equipment or theft of gas or utility company equipment has	977
occurred, stop gas from entering the premises of any residential	978
consumer for the period beginning on the fifteenth day of November	979
and ending on the fifteenth day of the following April, unless	980
both of the following apply:	981
(1) The account of the consumer is in arrears thirty days or	982
more÷.	983
(2) Where If the occupant of residential premises is a tenant	984
whose landlord is responsible for payment for the service provided	985
by the company, the company has, five days previously, notified	986
the occupant of its intent to discontinue service to $\frac{1}{100}$	987
occupant.	988
(D) No company shall stop the gas from entering any	989
residential premises between the fifteenth day of November and the	990
fifteenth day of April because of a failure to pay the amount due	991
for such the gas unless the company, at the time it sends or	992
delivers to the premises notices of termination, informs the	993
occupant of the premises where to obtain state and federal aid for	994
payment of utility bills and for home weatherization and	995
information on local government aid for payment of utility bills	996
and for home weatherization.	997

(E) On or before the first day of November, a county human	998
services department may request a company to give prior	999
notification of any residential service terminations to occur	1000
during the period beginning on the fifteenth day of November	1001
immediately following the department's request and ending on the	1002
fifteenth day of the following April. If a department makes such a	1003
written request, at least twenty-four hours before the company	1004
terminates services to a residential customer in the county during	1005
that period for failure to pay the amount due for service, the	1006
company shall provide written notice to the department of the	1007
residential customer whose service the company so intends to	1008
terminate. No company that has received such a request shall	1009
terminate such service during that period unless it has provided	1010
the notice required under this division.	1011
(F) No company shall stop gas from entering the residential	1012
premises of any residential consumer who is deployed on active	1013
duty for nonpayment for gas supplied to the residential premises.	1014
Upon return of a residential consumer from active duty, the	1015
company shall offer the residential consumer a period equal to at	1016
least the period of deployment on active duty to pay any	1017
arrearages incurred during the period of deployment. The company	1018
shall inform the residential consumer that, if the period the	1019
company offers presents a hardship to the consumer, the consumer	1020
may request a longer period to pay the arrearages and, in the case	1021
of a company that is a public utility as defined in section	1022
4905.02 of the Revised Code, may request the assistance of the	1023
public utilities commission to obtain a longer period. No late	1024
payment fees or interest shall be charged to the residential	1025
consumer during the period of deployment or the repayment period.	1026
If a company that is a public utility determines that amounts	1027
owed by a residential consumer who is deployed on active duty are	1028

uncollectible, the company may file an application with the public

(1) The account of the consumer is in arrears thirty days or $more \div$.

following apply:

(2) Where If the occupant of residential premises is a tenant 1051 whose landlord is responsible for payment for the service provided 1052 by the company, the company has, five days previously, notified 1053 the occupant of its intent to discontinue service to him the 1054 occupant.

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(B) The company shall not refuse to furnish electricity on 1056 account of arrearages due it for electricity furnished to persons 1057 formerly receiving services at the premises as customers of the 1058 company, provided the former customers are not continuing to 1059

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reside at such <u>the</u> premises.

(C) No company shall cease to provide electricity to any 1061 residential premises between the fifteenth day of November and the 1062 fifteenth day of April because of a failure to pay the amount due 1063 for such the electricity unless the company, at the time it sends 1064 or delivers to the premises notices of termination, informs the 1065 occupant of the premises where to obtain state and federal aid for 1066 payment of utility bills and for home weatherization and 1067 information on local government aid for payment of utility bills 1068 and for home weatherization. 1069

- (D) On or before the first day of November, a county human 1070 services department may request a company to give prior 1071 notification of any residential service terminations to occur 1072 during the period beginning on the fifteenth day of November 1073 immediately following the department's request and ending on the 1074 fifteenth day of the following April. If a department makes such a 1075 written request, at least twenty-four hours before the company 1076 terminates services to a residential customer in the county during 1077 that period for failure to pay the amount due for service, the 1078 company shall provide written notice to the department of the 1079 residential customer whose service the company so intends to 1080 terminate. No company that has received such a request shall 1081 terminate such service during that period unless it has provided 1082 the notice required under this division. 1083
- (E) No company shall cease to provide electricity to the residential premises of any residential consumer who is deployed 1085 on active duty for nonpayment for electricity provided to the residential premises. 1087

Upon return of a residential consumer from active duty, the company shall offer the residential consumer a period equal to at least the period of deployment on active duty to pay any arrearages incurred during the period of deployment. The company

shall inform the residential consumer that, if the period the	1092
company offers presents a hardship to the consumer, the consumer	1093
may request a longer period to pay the arrearages and, in the case	1094
of a company that is a public utility as defined in section	1095
4905.02 of the Revised Code, may request the assistance of the	1096
public utilities commission to obtain a longer period. No late	1097
payment fees or interest shall be charged to the residential	1098
consumer during the period of deployment or the repayment period.	1099
If a company that is a public utility determines that amounts	1100
owed by a residential consumer who is deployed on active duty are	1101
uncollectible, the company may file an application with the public	1102
utilities commission for approval of authority to recover the	1103
amounts. The recovery shall be through a rider on the base rates	1104
of customers of the company or through other means as may be	1105
approved by the commission, provided that any amount approved to	1106
be recovered through a rider or other means shall not be	1107
considered by the commission in any subsequent rate determination.	1108
As used in this division, "active duty" means active duty	1109
pursuant to an executive order of the president of the United	1110
States, an act of the congress of the United States, or section	1111
5919.29 or 5923.21 of the Revised Code.	1112
Section 2. That existing sections 125.021, 1317.06, 1317.061,	1113
3313.64, 4933.12, and 4933.121 of the Revised Code are hereby	1114
repealed.	1115