

**As Reported by the House Elections and Ethics Committee**

**126th General Assembly**

**Regular Session**

**2005-2006**

**Am. Sub. S. B. No. 115**

**Senator Jacobson**

—

**A BILL**

To amend sections 102.03, 2921.01, 2921.43, 3517.01, 1  
3517.08, 3517.09, 3517.092, 3517.10, 3517.102, 2  
3517.105, 3517.106, 3517.108, 3517.109, 3517.11, 3  
3517.13, 3517.152, 3517.155, 3517.20, 3517.23, and 4  
3517.992 of the Revised Code to establish 5  
political contributing entities for the purpose of 6  
the Campaign Finance Law and to declare an 7  
emergency. 8

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

**Section 1.** That sections 102.03, 2921.01, 2921.43, 3517.01, 9  
3517.08, 3517.09, 3517.092, 3517.10, 3517.102, 3517.105, 3517.106, 10  
3517.108, 3517.109, 3517.11, 3517.13, 3517.152, 3517.155, 3517.20, 11  
3517.23, and 3517.992 of the Revised Code be amended to read as 12  
follows: 13

**Sec. 102.03.** (A)(1) No present or former public official or 14  
employee shall, during public employment or service or for twelve 15  
months thereafter, represent a client or act in a representative 16  
capacity for any person on any matter in which the public official 17  
or employee personally participated as a public official or 18  
employee through decision, approval, disapproval, recommendation, 19  
the rendering of advice, investigation, or other substantial 20

exercise of administrative discretion. 21

(2) For twenty-four months after the conclusion of service, 22  
no former commissioner or attorney examiner of the public 23  
utilities commission shall represent a public utility, as defined 24  
in section 4905.02 of the Revised Code, or act in a representative 25  
capacity on behalf of such a utility before any state board, 26  
commission, or agency. 27

(3) For twenty-four months after the conclusion of employment 28  
or service, no former public official or employee who personally 29  
participated as a public official or employee through decision, 30  
approval, disapproval, recommendation, the rendering of advice, 31  
the development or adoption of solid waste management plans, 32  
investigation, inspection, or other substantial exercise of 33  
administrative discretion under Chapter 343. or 3734. of the 34  
Revised Code shall represent a person who is the owner or operator 35  
of a facility, as defined in section 3734.01 of the Revised Code, 36  
or who is an applicant for a permit or license for a facility 37  
under that chapter, on any matter in which the public official or 38  
employee personally participated as a public official or employee. 39

(4) For a period of one year after the conclusion of 40  
employment or service as a member or employee of the general 41  
assembly, no former member or employee of the general assembly 42  
shall represent, or act in a representative capacity for, any 43  
person on any matter before the general assembly, any committee of 44  
the general assembly, or the controlling board. Division (A)(4) of 45  
this section does not apply to or affect a person who separates 46  
from service with the general assembly on or before December 31, 47  
1995. As used in division (A)(4) of this section "person" does not 48  
include any state agency or political subdivision of the state. 49

(5) As used in divisions (A)(1), (2), and (3) of this 50  
section, "matter" includes any case, proceeding, application, 51  
determination, issue, or question, but does not include the 52

proposal, consideration, or enactment of statutes, rules, 53  
ordinances, resolutions, or charter or constitutional amendments. 54  
As used in division (A)(4) of this section, "matter" includes the 55  
proposal, consideration, or enactment of statutes, resolutions, or 56  
constitutional amendments. As used in division (A) of this 57  
section, "represent" includes any formal or informal appearance 58  
before, or any written or oral communication with, any public 59  
agency on behalf of any person. 60

(6) Nothing contained in division (A) of this section shall 61  
prohibit, during such period, a former public official or employee 62  
from being retained or employed to represent, assist, or act in a 63  
representative capacity for the public agency by which the public 64  
official or employee was employed or on which the public official 65  
or employee served. 66

(7) Division (A) of this section shall not be construed to 67  
prohibit the performance of ministerial functions, including, but 68  
not limited to, the filing or amendment of tax returns, 69  
applications for permits and licenses, incorporation papers, and 70  
other similar documents. 71

(B) No present or former public official or employee shall 72  
disclose or use, without appropriate authorization, any 73  
information acquired by the public official or employee in the 74  
course of the public official's or employee's official duties that 75  
is confidential because of statutory provisions, or that has been 76  
clearly designated to the public official or employee as 77  
confidential when that confidential designation is warranted 78  
because of the status of the proceedings or the circumstances 79  
under which the information was received and preserving its 80  
confidentiality is necessary to the proper conduct of government 81  
business. 82

(C) No public official or employee shall participate within 83

the scope of duties as a public official or employee, except 84  
through ministerial functions as defined in division (A) of this 85  
section, in any license or rate-making proceeding that directly 86  
affects the license or rates of any person, partnership, trust, 87  
business trust, corporation, or association in which the public 88  
official or employee or immediate family owns or controls more 89  
than five per cent. No public official or employee shall 90  
participate within the scope of duties as a public official or 91  
employee, except through ministerial functions as defined in 92  
division (A) of this section, in any license or rate-making 93  
proceeding that directly affects the license or rates of any 94  
person to whom the public official or employee or immediate 95  
family, or a partnership, trust, business trust, corporation, or 96  
association of which the public official or employee or the public 97  
official's or employee's immediate family owns or controls more 98  
than five per cent, has sold goods or services totaling more than 99  
one thousand dollars during the preceding year, unless the public 100  
official or employee has filed a written statement acknowledging 101  
that sale with the clerk or secretary of the public agency and the 102  
statement is entered in any public record of the agency's 103  
proceedings. This division shall not be construed to require the 104  
disclosure of clients of attorneys or persons licensed under 105  
section 4732.12 or 4732.15 of the Revised Code, or patients of 106  
persons certified under section 4731.14 of the Revised Code. 107

(D) No public official or employee shall use or authorize the 108  
use of the authority or influence of office or employment to 109  
secure anything of value or the promise or offer of anything of 110  
value that is of such a character as to manifest a substantial and 111  
improper influence upon the public official or employee with 112  
respect to that person's duties. 113

(E) No public official or employee shall solicit or accept 114  
anything of value that is of such a character as to manifest a 115

substantial and improper influence upon the public official or 116  
employee with respect to that person's duties. 117

(F) No person shall promise or give to a public official or 118  
employee anything of value that is of such a character as to 119  
manifest a substantial and improper influence upon the public 120  
official or employee with respect to that person's duties. 121

(G) In the absence of bribery or another offense under the 122  
Revised Code or a purpose to defraud, contributions made to a 123  
campaign committee, political party, legislative campaign fund, ~~or~~ 124  
political action committee, or political contributing entity on 125  
behalf of an elected public officer or other public official or 126  
employee who seeks elective office shall be considered to accrue 127  
ordinarily to the public official or employee for the purposes of 128  
divisions (D), (E), and (F) of this section. 129

As used in this division, "contributions," "campaign 130  
committee," "political party," "legislative campaign fund," ~~and~~ 131  
"political action committee," and "political contributing entity" 132  
have the same meanings as in section 3517.01 of the Revised Code. 133

(H)(1) No public official or employee, except for the 134  
president or other chief administrative officer of or a member of 135  
a board of trustees of a state institution of higher education as 136  
defined in section 3345.011 of the Revised Code, who is required 137  
to file a financial disclosure statement under section 102.02 of 138  
the Revised Code shall solicit or accept, and no person shall give 139  
to that public official or employee, an honorarium. Except as 140  
provided in division (H)(2) of this section, this division and 141  
divisions (D), (E), and (F) of this section do not prohibit a 142  
public official or employee who is required to file a financial 143  
disclosure statement under section 102.02 of the Revised Code from 144  
accepting and do not prohibit a person from giving to that public 145  
official or employee the payment of actual travel expenses, 146

including any expenses incurred in connection with the travel for  
lodging, and meals, food, and beverages provided to the public  
official or employee at a meeting at which the public official or  
employee participates in a panel, seminar, or speaking engagement  
or provided to the public official or employee at a meeting or  
convention of a national organization to which any state agency,  
including, but not limited to, any state legislative agency or  
state institution of higher education as defined in section  
3345.011 of the Revised Code, pays membership dues. Except as  
provided in division (H)(2) of this section, this division and  
divisions (D), (E), and (F) of this section do not prohibit a  
public official or employee who is not required to file a  
financial disclosure statement under section 102.02 of the Revised  
Code from accepting and do not prohibit a person from promising or  
giving to that public official or employee an honorarium or the  
payment of travel, meal, and lodging expenses if the honorarium,  
expenses, or both were paid in recognition of demonstrable  
business, professional, or esthetic interests of the public  
official or employee that exist apart from public office or  
employment, including, but not limited to, such a demonstrable  
interest in public speaking and were not paid by any person or  
other entity, or by any representative or association of those  
persons or entities, that is regulated by, doing business with, or  
seeking to do business with the department, division, institution,  
board, commission, authority, bureau, or other instrumentality of  
the governmental entity with which the public official or employee  
serves.

(2) No person who is a member of the board of a state  
retirement system, a state retirement system investment officer,  
or an employee of a state retirement system whose position  
involves substantial and material exercise of discretion in the  
investment of retirement system funds shall solicit or accept, and

no person shall give to that board member, officer, or employee, 179  
payment of actual travel expenses, including expenses incurred 180  
with the travel for lodging, meals, food, and beverages. 181

(I) A public official or employee may accept travel, meals, 182  
and lodging or expenses or reimbursement of expenses for travel, 183  
meals, and lodging in connection with conferences, seminars, and 184  
similar events related to official duties if the travel, meals, 185  
and lodging, expenses, or reimbursement is not of such a character 186  
as to manifest a substantial and improper influence upon the 187  
public official or employee with respect to that person's duties. 188  
The house of representatives and senate, in their code of ethics, 189  
and the Ohio ethics commission, under section 111.15 of the 190  
Revised Code, may adopt rules setting standards and conditions for 191  
the furnishing and acceptance of such travel, meals, and lodging, 192  
expenses, or reimbursement. 193

A person who acts in compliance with this division and any 194  
applicable rules adopted under it, or any applicable, similar 195  
rules adopted by the supreme court governing judicial officers and 196  
employees, does not violate division (D), (E), or (F) of this 197  
section. This division does not preclude any person from seeking 198  
an advisory opinion from the appropriate ethics commission under 199  
section 102.08 of the Revised Code. 200

(J) For purposes of divisions (D), (E), and (F) of this 201  
section, the membership of a public official or employee in an 202  
organization shall not be considered, in and of itself, to be of 203  
such a character as to manifest a substantial and improper 204  
influence on the public official or employee with respect to that 205  
person's duties. As used in this division, "organization" means a 206  
church or a religious, benevolent, fraternal, or professional 207  
organization that is tax exempt under subsection 501(a) and 208  
described in subsection 501(c)(3), (4), (8), (10), or (19) of the 209  
"Internal Revenue Code of 1986." This division does not apply to a 210

public official or employee who is an employee of an organization, 211  
serves as a trustee, director, or officer of an organization, or 212  
otherwise holds a fiduciary relationship with an organization. 213  
This division does not allow a public official or employee who is 214  
a member of an organization to participate, formally or 215  
informally, in deliberations, discussions, or voting on a matter 216  
or to use his official position with regard to the interests of 217  
the organization on the matter if the public official or employee 218  
has assumed a particular responsibility in the organization with 219  
respect to the matter or if the matter would affect that person's 220  
personal, pecuniary interests. 221

(K) It is not a violation of this section for a prosecuting 222  
attorney to appoint assistants and employees in accordance with 223  
division (B) of section 309.06 and section 2921.421 of the Revised 224  
Code, for a chief legal officer of a municipal corporation or an 225  
official designated as prosecutor in a municipal corporation to 226  
appoint assistants and employees in accordance with sections 227  
733.621 and 2921.421 of the Revised Code, for a township law 228  
director appointed under section 504.15 of the Revised Code to 229  
appoint assistants and employees in accordance with sections 230  
504.151 and 2921.421 of the Revised Code, or for a coroner to 231  
appoint assistants and employees in accordance with division (B) 232  
of section 313.05 of the Revised Code. 233

As used in this division, "chief legal officer" has the same 234  
meaning as in section 733.621 of the Revised Code. 235

**Sec. 2921.01.** As used in sections 2921.01 to 2921.45 of the 236  
Revised Code: 237

(A) "Public official" means any elected or appointed officer, 238  
or employee, or agent of the state or any political subdivision, 239  
whether in a temporary or permanent capacity, and includes, but is 240  
not limited to, legislators, judges, and law enforcement officers. 241



(B) "Public servant" means any of the following:	242
(1) Any public official;	243
(2) Any person performing ad hoc a governmental function, including, but not limited to, a juror, member of a temporary commission, master, arbitrator, advisor, or consultant;	244 245 246
(3) A person who is a candidate for public office, whether or not the person is elected or appointed to the office for which the person is a candidate. A person is a candidate for purposes of this division if the person has been nominated according to law for election or appointment to public office, or if the person has filed a petition or petitions as required by law to have the person's name placed on the ballot in a primary, general, or special election, or if the person campaigns as a write-in candidate in any primary, general, or special election.	247 248 249 250 251 252 253 254 255
(C) "Party official" means any person who holds an elective or appointive post in a political party in the United States or this state, by virtue of which the person directs, conducts, or participates in directing or conducting party affairs at any level of responsibility.	256 257 258 259 260
(D) "Official proceeding" means any proceeding before a legislative, judicial, administrative, or other governmental agency or official authorized to take evidence under oath, and includes any proceeding before a referee, hearing examiner, commissioner, notary, or other person taking testimony or a deposition in connection with an official proceeding.	261 262 263 264 265 266
(E) "Detention" means arrest; confinement in any vehicle subsequent to an arrest; confinement in any public or private facility for custody of persons charged with or convicted of crime in this state or another state or under the laws of the United States or alleged or found to be a delinquent child or unruly child in this state or another state or under the laws of the	267 268 269 270 271 272

United States; hospitalization, institutionalization, or 273  
confinement in any public or private facility that is ordered 274  
pursuant to or under the authority of section 2945.37, 2945.371, 275  
2945.38, 2945.39, 2945.40, 2945.401, or 2945.402 of the Revised 276  
Code; confinement in any vehicle for transportation to or from any 277  
facility of any of those natures; detention for extradition or 278  
deportation; except as provided in this division, supervision by 279  
any employee of any facility of any of those natures that is 280  
incidental to hospitalization, institutionalization, or 281  
confinement in the facility but that occurs outside the facility; 282  
supervision by an employee of the department of rehabilitation and 283  
correction of a person on any type of release from a state 284  
correctional institution; or confinement in any vehicle, airplane, 285  
or place while being returned from outside of this state into this 286  
state by a private person or entity pursuant to a contract entered 287  
into under division (E) of section 311.29 of the Revised Code or 288  
division (B) of section 5149.03 of the Revised Code. For a person 289  
confined in a county jail who participates in a county jail 290  
industry program pursuant to section 5147.30 of the Revised Code, 291  
"detention" includes time spent at an assigned work site and going 292  
to and from the work site. 293

(F) "Detention facility" means any public or private place 294  
used for the confinement of a person charged with or convicted of 295  
any crime in this state or another state or under the laws of the 296  
United States or alleged or found to be a delinquent child or 297  
unruly child in this state or another state or under the laws of 298  
the United States. 299

(G) "Valuable thing or valuable benefit" includes, but is not 300  
limited to, a contribution. This inclusion does not indicate or 301  
imply that a contribution was not included in those terms before 302  
September 17, 1986. 303

(H) "Campaign committee," "contribution," "political action 304

committee," "legislative campaign fund," ~~and~~ "political party,"  
and "political contributing entity" have the same meanings as in  
section 3517.01 of the Revised Code.

(I) "Provider agreement" and "medical assistance program"  
have the same meanings as in section 2913.40 of the Revised Code.

**Sec. 2921.43.** (A) No public servant shall knowingly solicit  
or accept, and no person shall knowingly promise or give to a  
public servant, either of the following:

(1) Any compensation, other than as allowed by divisions (G),  
(H), and (I) of section 102.03 of the Revised Code or other  
provisions of law, to perform the public servant's official  
duties, to perform any other act or service in the public  
servant's public capacity, for the general performance of the  
duties of the public servant's public office or public employment,  
or as a supplement to the public servant's public compensation;

(2) Additional or greater fees or costs than are allowed by  
law to perform the public servant's official duties.

(B) No public servant for the public servant's own personal  
or business use, and no person for the person's own personal or  
business use or for the personal or business use of a public  
servant or party official, shall solicit or accept anything of  
value in consideration of either of the following:

(1) Appointing or securing, maintaining, or renewing the  
appointment of any person to any public office, employment, or  
agency;

(2) Preferring, or maintaining the status of, any public  
employee with respect to compensation, duties, placement,  
location, promotion, or other material aspects of employment.

(C) No person for the benefit of a political party, campaign  
committee, legislative campaign fund, ~~or~~ political action

committee, or political contributing entity shall coerce any 335  
contribution in consideration of either of the following: 336

(1) Appointing or securing, maintaining, or renewing the 337  
appointment of any person to any public office, employment, or 338  
agency; 339

(2) Preferring, or maintaining the status of, any public 340  
employee with respect to compensation, duties, placement, 341  
location, promotion, or other material aspects of employment. 342

(D) Whoever violates this section is guilty of soliciting 343  
improper compensation, a misdemeanor of the first degree. 344

(E) A public servant who is convicted of a violation of this 345  
section is disqualified from holding any public office, 346  
employment, or position of trust in this state for a period of 347  
seven years from the date of conviction. 348

(F) Divisions (A), (B), and (C) of this section do not 349  
prohibit a person from making voluntary contributions to a 350  
political party, campaign committee, legislative campaign fund, ~~or~~ 351  
political action committee, or political contributing entity or 352  
prohibit a political party, campaign committee, legislative 353  
campaign fund, ~~or~~ political action committee, or political 354  
contributing entity from accepting voluntary contributions. 355

**Sec. 3517.01.** (A)(1) A political party within the meaning of 356  
Title XXXV of the Revised Code is any group of voters that, at the 357  
most recent regular state election, polled for its candidate for 358  
governor in the state or nominees for presidential electors at 359  
least five per cent of the entire vote cast for that office or 360  
that filed with the secretary of state, subsequent to any election 361  
in which it received less than five per cent of that vote, a 362  
petition signed by qualified electors equal in number to at least 363  
one per cent of the total vote for governor or nominees for 364

presidential electors at the most recent election, declaring their 365  
intention of organizing a political party, the name of which shall 366  
be stated in the declaration, and of participating in the 367  
succeeding primary election, held in even-numbered years, that 368  
occurs more than one hundred twenty days after the date of filing. 369  
No such group of electors shall assume a name or designation that 370  
is similar, in the opinion of the secretary of state, to that of 371  
an existing political party as to confuse or mislead the voters at 372  
an election. If any political party fails to cast five per cent of 373  
the total vote cast at an election for the office of governor or 374  
president, it shall cease to be a political party. 375

(2) A campaign committee shall be legally liable for any 376  
debts, contracts, or expenditures incurred or executed in its 377  
name. 378

(B) Notwithstanding the definitions found in section 3501.01 379  
of the Revised Code, as used in this section and sections 3517.08 380  
to 3517.14, 3517.99, and 3517.992 of the Revised Code: 381

(1) "Campaign committee" means an entity that is formed by a 382  
candidate or a combination of two or more persons authorized by a 383  
candidate under section 3517.081 of the Revised Code to receive 384  
contributions and make expenditures and that is legally liable for 385  
any debts, contracts, or expenditures incurred or executed in its 386  
name. 387

(2) "Campaign treasurer" means an individual appointed by a 388  
candidate under section 3517.081 of the Revised Code. 389

(3) "Candidate" has the same meaning as in division (H) of 390  
section 3501.01 of the Revised Code and also includes any person 391  
who, at any time before or after an election, receives 392  
contributions or makes expenditures or other use of contributions, 393  
has given consent for another to receive contributions or make 394  
expenditures or other use of contributions, or appoints a campaign 395

treasurer, for the purpose of bringing about the person's 396  
nomination or election to public office. When two persons jointly 397  
seek the offices of governor and lieutenant governor, "candidate" 398  
means the pair of candidates jointly. "Candidate" does not include 399  
candidates for election to the offices of member of a county or 400  
state central committee, presidential elector, and delegate to a 401  
national convention or conference of a political party. 402

(4) "Continuing association" means an association, other than 403  
a campaign committee, political party, legislative campaign fund, 404  
political contributing entity, or labor organization, that is 405  
intended to be a permanent organization that has a primary purpose 406  
other than supporting or opposing specific candidates, political 407  
parties, or ballot issues, and that functions on a regular basis 408  
throughout the year. "Continuing association" includes 409  
organizations that are determined to be not organized for profit 410  
under subsection 501 and that are described in subsection 411  
501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), or 501(c)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code. 412

(5) "Contribution" means a loan, gift, deposit, forgiveness 413  
of indebtedness, donation, advance, payment, or transfer of funds 414  
or anything of value, including a transfer of funds from an inter 415  
vivos or testamentary trust or decedent's estate, and the payment 416  
by any person other than the person to whom the services are 417  
rendered for the personal services of another person, which 418  
contribution is made, received, or used for the purpose of 419  
influencing the results of an election. Any loan, gift, deposit, 420  
forgiveness of indebtedness, donation, advance, payment, or 421  
transfer of funds or of anything of value, including a transfer of 422  
funds from an inter vivos or testamentary trust or decedent's 423  
estate, and the payment by any campaign committee, political 424  
action committee, legislative campaign fund, political party, 425  
political contributing entity, or person other than the person to 426  
whom the services are rendered for the personal services of 427

another person, that is made, received, or used by a state or 428  
county political party, other than moneys a state or county 429  
political party receives from the Ohio political party fund 430  
pursuant to section 3517.17 of the Revised Code and the moneys a 431  
state or county political party may receive under sections 432  
3517.101, 3517.1012, and 3517.1013 of the Revised Code, shall be 433  
considered to be a "contribution" for the purpose of section 434  
3517.10 of the Revised Code and shall be included on a statement 435  
of contributions filed under that section. 436

"Contribution" does not include any of the following: 437

(a) Services provided without compensation by individuals 438  
volunteering a portion or all of their time on behalf of a person; 439

(b) Ordinary home hospitality; 440

(c) The personal expenses of a volunteer paid for by that 441  
volunteer campaign worker; 442

(d) Any gift given to a state or county political party 443  
pursuant to section 3517.101 of the Revised Code. As used in 444  
division (B)(5)(d) of this section, "political party" means only a 445  
major political party; 446

(e) Any contribution as defined in section 3517.1011 of the 447  
Revised Code that is made, received, or used to pay the direct 448  
costs of producing or airing an electioneering communication; 449

(f) Any gift given to a state or county political party for 450  
the party's restricted fund under division (A)(2) of section 451  
3517.1012 of the Revised Code; 452

(g) Any gift given to a state political party for deposit in 453  
a ~~levin~~ Levin account pursuant to section 3517.1013 of the Revised 454  
Code. As used in this division, "~~levin~~ Levin account" has the same 455  
meaning as in that section. 456

(6) "Expenditure" means the disbursement or use of a 457

contribution for the purpose of influencing the results of an  
election or of making a charitable donation under division (G) of  
section 3517.08 of the Revised Code. Any disbursement or use of a  
contribution by a state or county political party is an  
expenditure and shall be considered either to be made for the  
purpose of influencing the results of an election or to be made as  
a charitable donation under division (G) of section 3517.08 of the  
Revised Code and shall be reported on a statement of expenditures  
filed under section 3517.10 of the Revised Code. During the thirty  
days preceding a primary or general election, any disbursement to  
pay the direct costs of producing or airing a broadcast, cable, or  
satellite communication that refers to a clearly identified  
candidate shall be considered to be made for the purpose of  
influencing the results of that election and shall be reported as  
an expenditure or as an independent expenditure under section  
3517.10 or 3517.105 of the Revised Code, as applicable, except  
that the information required to be reported regarding  
contributors for those expenditures or independent expenditures  
shall be the same as the information required to be reported under  
~~division~~ divisions (D)(1) and (2) of section 3517.1011 of the  
Revised Code.

As used in this division, "broadcast, cable, or satellite  
communication" and "refers to a clearly identified candidate" have  
the same meanings as in section 3517.1011 of the Revised Code.

(7) "Personal expenses" includes, but is not limited to,  
ordinary expenses for accommodations, clothing, food, personal  
motor vehicle or airplane, and home telephone.

(8) "Political action committee" means a combination of two  
or more persons, the primary or major purpose of which is to  
support or oppose any candidate, political party, or issue, or to  
influence the result of any election through express advocacy, and  
that is not a political party, a campaign committee, a political

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contributing entity, or a legislative campaign fund. "Political  
action committee" does not include a continuing association that  
makes disbursements for the direct costs of producing or airing  
electioneering communications and that does not engage in express  
advocacy.

(9) "Public office" means any state, county, municipal,  
township, or district office, except an office of a political  
party, that is filled by an election and the offices of United  
States senator and representative.

(10) "Anything of value" has the same meaning as in section  
1.03 of the Revised Code.

(11) "Beneficiary of a campaign fund" means a candidate, a  
public official or employee for whose benefit a campaign fund  
exists, and any other person who has ever been a candidate or  
public official or employee and for whose benefit a campaign fund  
exists.

(12) "Campaign fund" means money or other property, including  
contributions.

(13) "Public official or employee" has the same meaning as in  
section 102.01 of the Revised Code.

(14) "Caucus" means all of the members of the house of  
representatives or all of the members of the senate of the general  
assembly who are members of the same political party.

(15) "Legislative campaign fund" means a fund that is  
established as an auxiliary of a state political party and  
associated with one of the houses of the general assembly.

(16) "In-kind contribution" means anything of value other  
than money that is used to influence the results of an election or  
is transferred to or used in support of or in opposition to a  
candidate, campaign committee, legislative campaign fund,

political party, ~~or~~ political action committee, or political 520  
contributing entity and that is made with the consent of, in 521  
coordination, cooperation, or consultation with, or at the request 522  
or suggestion of the benefited candidate, committee, fund, ~~or~~ 523  
party, or entity. The financing of the dissemination, 524  
distribution, or republication, in whole or part, of any broadcast 525  
or of any written, graphic, or other form of campaign materials 526  
prepared by the candidate, the candidate's campaign committee, or 527  
their authorized agents is an in-kind contribution to the 528  
candidate and an expenditure by the candidate. 529

(17) "Independent expenditure" means an expenditure by a 530  
person advocating the election or defeat of an identified 531  
candidate or candidates, that is not made with the consent of, in 532  
coordination, cooperation, or consultation with, or at the request 533  
or suggestion of any candidate or candidates or of the campaign 534  
committee or agent of the candidate or candidates. As used in 535  
division (B)(17) of this section: 536

(a) "Person" means an individual, partnership, unincorporated 537  
business organization or association, political action committee, 538  
political contributing entity, separate segregated fund, 539  
association, or other organization or group of persons, but not a 540  
labor organization or a corporation unless the labor organization 541  
or corporation is a political contributing entity. 542

(b) "Advocating" means any communication containing a message 543  
advocating election or defeat. 544

(c) "Identified candidate" means that the name of the 545  
candidate appears, a photograph or drawing of the candidate 546  
appears, or the identity of the candidate is otherwise apparent by 547  
unambiguous reference. 548

(d) "Made in coordination, cooperation, or consultation with, 549  
or at the request or suggestion of, any candidate or the campaign 550

committee or agent of the candidate" means made pursuant to any 551  
arrangement, coordination, or direction by the candidate, the 552  
candidate's campaign committee, or the candidate's agent prior to 553  
the publication, distribution, display, or broadcast of the 554  
communication. An expenditure is presumed to be so made when it is 555  
any of the following: 556

(i) Based on information about the candidate's plans, 557  
projects, or needs provided to the person making the expenditure 558  
by the candidate, or by the candidate's campaign committee or 559  
agent, with a view toward having an expenditure made; 560

(ii) Made by or through any person who is, or has been, 561  
authorized to raise or expend funds, who is, or has been, an 562  
officer of the candidate's campaign committee, or who is, or has 563  
been, receiving any form of compensation or reimbursement from the 564  
candidate or the candidate's campaign committee or agent; 565

(iii) Except as otherwise provided in division (D) of section 566  
3517.105 of the Revised Code, made by a political party in support 567  
of a candidate, unless the expenditure is made by a political 568  
party to conduct voter registration or voter education efforts. 569

(e) "Agent" means any person who has actual oral or written 570  
authority, either express or implied, to make or to authorize the 571  
making of expenditures on behalf of a candidate, or means any 572  
person who has been placed in a position with the candidate's 573  
campaign committee or organization such that it would reasonably 574  
appear that in the ordinary course of campaign-related activities 575  
the person may authorize expenditures. 576

(18) "Labor organization" means a labor union; an employee 577  
organization; a federation of labor unions, groups, locals, or 578  
other employee organizations; an auxiliary of a labor union, 579  
employee organization, or federation of labor unions, groups, 580  
locals, or other employee organizations; or any other bona fide 581

organization in which employees participate and that exists for 582  
the purpose, in whole or in part, of dealing with employers 583  
concerning grievances, labor disputes, wages, hours, and other 584  
terms and conditions of employment. 585

(19) "Separate segregated fund" means a separate segregated 586  
fund established pursuant to the Federal Election Campaign Act. 587

(20) "Federal Election Campaign Act" means the "Federal 588  
Election Campaign Act of 1971," 86 Stat. 11, 2 U.S.C.A. 431, et 589  
seq., as amended. 590

(21) "Restricted fund" means the fund a state or county 591  
political party must establish under division (A)(1) of section 592  
3517.1012 of the Revised Code. 593

(22) "Electioneering communication" has the same meaning as 594  
in section 3517.1011 of the Revised Code. 595

(23) "Express advocacy" means a communication that contains 596  
express words advocating the nomination, election, or defeat of a 597  
candidate or that contains express words advocating the adoption 598  
or defeat of a question or issue, as determined by a final 599  
judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction. 600

(24) "Political committee" has the same meaning as in section 601  
3517.1011 of the Revised Code. 602

(25) "Political contributing entity" means any entity, 603  
including a corporation or labor organization, that may lawfully 604  
make contributions and expenditures and that is not an individual 605  
or a political action committee, continuing association, campaign 606  
committee, political party, legislative campaign fund, designated 607  
state campaign committee, or state candidate fund. For purposes of 608  
this division, "lawfully" means not prohibited by any section of 609  
the Revised Code, or authorized by a final judgment of a court of 610  
competent jurisdiction. 611

Sec. 3517.08. (A) The personal expenses of a candidate paid 612  
for by the candidate, from the candidate's personal funds, shall 613  
not be considered as a contribution by or an expenditure by the 614  
candidate and shall not be reported under section 3517.10 of the 615  
Revised Code. 616

(B)(1) An expenditure by a political action committee or a 617  
political contributing entity shall not be considered a 618  
contribution by the political action committee or the political 619  
contributing entity or an expenditure by or on behalf of the 620  
candidate if the purpose of the expenditure is to inform only its 621  
members by means of mailed publications of its activities or 622  
endorsements. 623

(2) An expenditure by a political party shall not be 624  
considered a contribution by the political party or an expenditure 625  
by or on behalf of the candidate if the purpose of the expenditure 626  
is to inform predominantly the party's members by means of mailed 627  
publications or other direct communication of its activities or 628  
endorsements, or for voter contact such as sample ballots, absent 629  
voter's ballots application mailings, voter registration, or 630  
get-out-the-vote activities. 631

(C) An expenditure by a continuing association, political 632  
contributing entity, or political party shall not be considered a 633  
contribution to any campaign committee or an expenditure by or on 634  
behalf of any campaign committee if the purpose of the expenditure 635  
is for the staff and maintenance of the continuing association's, 636  
political contributing entity's, or political party's 637  
headquarters, or for a political poll, survey, index, or other 638  
type of measurement not on behalf of a specific candidate. 639

(D) The expenses of maintaining a constituent office paid 640  
for, from the candidate's personal funds, by a candidate who is a 641  
member of the general assembly at the time of the election shall 642

not be considered a contribution by or an expenditure by or on 643  
behalf of the candidate, and shall not be reported, if the 644  
constituent office is not used for any candidate's campaign 645  
activities. 646

(E) The net contribution of each social or fund-raising 647  
activity shall be calculated by totaling all contributions to the 648  
activity minus the expenditures made for the activity. 649

(F) An expenditure that purchases goods or services shall be 650  
attributed to an election when the disbursement of funds is made, 651  
rather than at the time the goods or services are used. The 652  
secretary of state, under the procedures of Chapter 119. of the 653  
Revised Code, shall establish rules for the attribution of 654  
expenditures to a candidate when the candidate is a candidate for 655  
more than one office during a reporting period and for 656  
expenditures made in a year in which no election is held. The 657  
secretary of state shall further define by rule those expenditures 658  
that are or are not by or on behalf of a candidate. 659

(G) An expenditure for the purpose of a charitable donation 660  
may be made if it is made to an organization that is exempt from 661  
federal income taxation under subsection 501(a) and described in 662  
subsection 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), 501(c)(8), 501(c)(10), or 663  
501(c)(19) of the Internal Revenue Code or is approved by advisory 664  
opinion of the Ohio elections commission as a legitimate 665  
charitable organization. Each expenditure under this division 666  
shall be separately itemized on statements made pursuant to 667  
section 3517.10 of the Revised Code. 668

**Sec. 3517.09.** (A) No person or committee shall solicit, ask, 669  
invite, or demand, directly or indirectly, orally or in writing, a 670  
contribution, subscription, or payment from a candidate for 671  
nomination or election or from the campaign committee of that 672  
candidate, and no person shall solicit, ask, invite, or demand 673

that a candidate for nomination or election or the campaign 674  
committee of that candidate subscribe to the support of a club or 675  
organization, buy tickets to an entertainment, ball, supper, or 676  
other meeting, or pay for space in a book, program, or 677  
publication. This division does not apply to any of the following: 678

(1) Regular advertisements in periodicals having an 679  
established circulation; 680

(2) Regular payments to civic, political, fraternal, social, 681  
charitable, or religious organizations of which the candidate was 682  
a member or contributor six months before the candidate's 683  
candidacy; 684

(3) Regular party assessments made by a party against its own 685  
candidates. 686

(B) No person shall coerce, intimidate, or cause harm to 687  
another person by an act or failure to act, or shall threaten to 688  
coerce, intimidate, or cause harm to another person, because that 689  
other person makes or does not make a contribution to a candidate, 690  
campaign committee, political party, legislative campaign fund, 691  
political action committee, political contributing entity, or 692  
person making disbursements to pay the direct costs of producing 693  
or airing electioneering communications. 694

(C) An employer or labor organization, directly or through 695  
another person, may obtain contributions for a candidate, campaign 696  
committee, political action committee, legislative campaign fund, 697  
political party, or person making disbursements to pay the direct 698  
costs of producing or airing electioneering communications from an 699  
employee or member from whom the employer or labor organization 700  
was not obtaining contributions for that candidate, campaign 701  
committee, political action committee, legislative campaign fund, 702  
political party, or person making disbursements to pay the direct 703  
costs of producing or airing electioneering communications before 704

~~the effective date of this amendment~~ March 31, 2005, on an 705  
automatic basis pursuant to a payroll deduction plan only if the 706  
employee or member who is contributing to that candidate, campaign 707  
committee, political action committee, legislative campaign fund, 708  
political party, or person making disbursements to pay the direct 709  
costs of producing or airing electioneering communications 710  
affirmatively consents to the contribution in writing. 711

(D) In addition to the laws listed in division (A) of section 713  
4117.10 of the Revised Code that prevail over conflicting 714  
agreements between employee organizations and public employers, 715  
this section prevails over any conflicting provisions of 716  
agreements between labor organizations and public employers that 717  
are entered into on or after ~~the effective date of this amendment~~ 718  
March 31, 2005, pursuant to Chapter 4117. of the Revised Code. 719

**Sec. 3517.092.** (A) As used in this section: 720

(1) "Appointing authority" has the same meaning as in section 721  
124.01 of the Revised Code. 722

(2) "State elected officer" means any person appointed or 723  
elected to a state elective office. 724

(3) "State elective office" means any of the offices of 725  
governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, auditor of 726  
state, treasurer of state, attorney general, member of the state 727  
board of education, member of the general assembly, and justice 728  
and chief justice of the supreme court. 729

(4) "County elected officer" means any person appointed or 730  
elected to a county elective office. 731

(5) "County elective office" means any of the offices of 732  
county auditor, county treasurer, clerk of the court of common 733  
pleas, sheriff, county recorder, county engineer, county 734



commissioner, prosecuting attorney, and coroner. 735

(6) "Contribution" includes a contribution to any political 736  
party, campaign committee, political action committee, political 737  
contributing entity, or legislative campaign fund. 738

(B) No state elected officer, no campaign committee of such 739  
an officer, and no other person or entity shall knowingly solicit 740  
or accept a contribution on behalf of that officer or that 741  
officer's campaign committee from any of the following: 742

(1) A state employee whose appointing authority is the state 743  
elected officer; 744

(2) A state employee whose appointing authority is authorized 745  
or required by law to be appointed by the state elected officer; 746

(3) A state employee who functions in or is employed in or by 747  
the same public agency, department, division, or office as the 748  
state elected officer. 749

(C) No candidate for a state elective office, no campaign 750  
committee of such a candidate, and no other person or entity shall 751  
knowingly solicit or accept a contribution on behalf of that 752  
candidate or that candidate's campaign committee from any of the 753  
following: 754

(1) A state employee at the time of the solicitation, whose 755  
appointing authority will be the candidate, if elected; 756

(2) A state employee at the time of the solicitation, whose 757  
appointing authority will be appointed by the candidate, if 758  
elected, as authorized or required by law; 759

(3) A state employee at the time of the solicitation, who 760  
will function in or be employed in or by the same public agency, 761  
department, division, or office as the candidate, if elected. 762

(D) No county elected officer, no campaign committee of such 763  
an officer, and no other person or entity shall knowingly solicit 764

a contribution on behalf of that officer or that officer's  
campaign committee from any of the following:

(1) A county employee whose appointing authority is the  
county elected officer;

(2) A county employee whose appointing authority is  
authorized or required by law to be appointed by the county  
elected officer;

(3) A county employee who functions in or is employed in or  
by the same public agency, department, division, or office as the  
county elected officer.

(E) No candidate for a county elective office, no campaign  
committee of such a candidate, and no other person or entity shall  
knowingly solicit a contribution on behalf of that candidate or  
that candidate's campaign committee from any of the following:

(1) A county employee at the time of the solicitation, whose  
appointing authority will be the candidate, if elected;

(2) A county employee at the time of the solicitation, whose  
appointing authority will be appointed by the candidate, if  
elected, as authorized or required by law;

(3) A county employee at the time of the solicitation, who  
will function in or be employed in or by the same public agency,  
department, division, or office as the candidate, if elected.

(F)(1) No public employee shall solicit a contribution from  
any person while the public employee is performing the public  
employee's official duties or in those areas of a public building  
where official business is transacted or conducted.

(2) No person shall solicit a contribution from any public  
employee while the public employee is performing the public  
employee's official duties or is in those areas of a public  
building where official business is transacted or conducted.

(3) As used in division (F) of this section, "public 795  
employee" does not include any person holding an elective office. 796

(G) The prohibitions in divisions (B), (C), (D), (E), and (F) 797  
of this section are in addition to the prohibitions in sections 798  
124.57, 3304.22, and 4503.032 of the Revised Code. 799

**Sec. 3517.10.** (A) Except as otherwise provided in this 800  
division, every campaign committee, political action committee, 801  
legislative campaign fund, ~~and~~ political party, and political 802  
contributing entity that made or received a contribution or made 803  
an expenditure in connection with the nomination or election of 804  
any candidate or in connection with any ballot issue or question 805  
at any election held or to be held in this state shall file, on a 806  
form prescribed under this section or by electronic means of 807  
transmission as provided in this section and section 3517.106 of 808  
the Revised Code, a full, true, and itemized statement, made under 809  
penalty of election falsification, setting forth in detail the 810  
contributions and expenditures, not later than four p.m. of the 811  
following dates: 812

(1) The twelfth day before the election to reflect 813  
contributions received and expenditures made from the close of 814  
business on the last day reflected in the last previously filed 815  
statement, if any, to the close of business on the twentieth day 816  
before the election; 817

(2) The thirty-eighth day after the election to reflect the 818  
contributions received and expenditures made from the close of 819  
business on the last day reflected in the last previously filed 820  
statement, if any, to the close of business on the seventh day 821  
before the filing of the statement; 822

(3) The last business day of January of every year to reflect 823  
the contributions received and expenditures made from the close of 824

business on the last day reflected in the last previously filed 825  
statement, if any, to the close of business on the last day of 826  
December of the previous year; 827

(4) The last business day of July of every year to reflect 828  
the contributions received and expenditures made from the close of 829  
business on the last day reflected in the last previously filed 830  
statement, if any, to the close of business on the last day of 831  
June of that year. 832

A campaign committee shall only be required to file the 833  
statements prescribed under divisions (A)(1) and (2) of this 834  
section in connection with the nomination or election of the 835  
committee's candidate. 836

The statement required under division (A)(1) of this section 837  
shall not be required of any campaign committee, political action 838  
committee, legislative campaign fund, ~~or~~ political party, or 839  
political contributing entity that has received contributions of 840  
less than one thousand dollars and has made expenditures of less 841  
than one thousand dollars at the close of business on the 842  
twentieth day before the election. Those contributions and 843  
expenditures shall be reported in the statement required under 844  
division (A)(2) of this section. 845

If an election to select candidates to appear on the general 846  
election ballot is held within sixty days before a general 847  
election, the campaign committee of a successful candidate in the 848  
earlier election may file the statement required by division 849  
(A)(1) of this section for the general election instead of the 850  
statement required by division (A)(2) of this section for the 851  
earlier election if the pregeneral election statement reflects the 852  
status of contributions and expenditures for the period twenty 853  
days before the earlier election to twenty days before the general 854  
election. 855

If a person becomes a candidate less than twenty days before 856  
an election, the candidate's campaign committee is not required to 857  
file the statement required by division (A)(1) of this section. 858

No statement under division (A)(3) or (4) of this section 859  
shall be required for any year in which a campaign committee, 860  
political action committee, legislative campaign fund, ~~or~~ 861  
political party, or political contributing entity is required to 862  
file a postgeneral election statement under division (A)(2) of 863  
this section. However, such a statement may be filed, at the 864  
option of the campaign committee, political action committee, 865  
legislative campaign fund, ~~or~~ political party, or political 866  
contributing entity. 867

No statement under division (A)(3) or (4) of this section 868  
shall be required if the campaign committee, political action 869  
committee, legislative campaign fund, ~~or~~ political party, or 870  
political contributing entity has no contributions that it has 871  
received and no expenditures that it has made since the last date 872  
reflected in its last previously filed statement. However, the 873  
campaign committee, political action committee, legislative 874  
campaign fund, ~~or~~ political party, or political contributing 875  
entity shall file a statement to that effect, on a form prescribed 876  
under this section and made under penalty of election 877  
falsification, on the date required in division (A)(3) or (4) of 878  
this section, as applicable. 879

The campaign committee of a statewide candidate shall file a 880  
monthly statement of contributions received during each of the 881  
months of July, August, and September in the year of the general 882  
election in which the candidate seeks office. The campaign 883  
committee of a statewide candidate shall file the monthly 884  
statement not later than three business days after the last day of 885  
the month covered by the statement. During the period beginning on 886  
the nineteenth day before the general election in which a 887

statewide candidate seeks election to office and extending through 888  
the day of that general election, each time the campaign committee 889  
of the joint candidates for the offices of governor and lieutenant 890  
governor or of a candidate for the office of secretary of state, 891  
auditor of state, treasurer of state, or attorney general receives 892  
a contribution from a contributor that causes the aggregate amount 893  
of contributions received from that contributor during that period 894  
to equal or exceed ten thousand dollars and each time the campaign 895  
committee of a candidate for the office of chief justice or 896  
justice of the supreme court receives a contribution from a 897  
contributor that causes the aggregate amount of contributions 898  
received from that contributor during that period to exceed ten 899  
thousand dollars, the campaign committee shall file a 900  
two-business-day statement reflecting that contribution. During 901  
the period beginning on the nineteenth day before a primary 902  
election in which a candidate for statewide office seeks 903  
nomination to office and extending through the day of that primary 904  
election, each time either the campaign committee of a statewide 905  
candidate in that primary election that files a notice under 906  
division (C)(1) of section 3517.103 of the Revised Code or the 907  
campaign committee of a statewide candidate in that primary 908  
election to which, in accordance with division (D) of section 909  
3517.103 of the Revised Code, the contribution limitations 910  
prescribed in section 3517.102 of the Revised Code no longer apply 911  
receives a contribution from a contributor that causes the 912  
aggregate amount of contributions received from that contributor 913  
during that period to exceed ten thousand dollars, the campaign 914  
committee shall file a two-business-day statement reflecting that 915  
contribution. Contributions reported on a two-business-day 916  
statement required to be filed by a campaign committee of a 917  
statewide candidate in a primary election shall also be included 918  
in the postprimary election statement required to be filed by that 919  
campaign committee under division (A)(2) of this section. A 920

two-business-day statement required by this paragraph shall be 921  
filed not later than two business days after receipt of the 922  
contribution. The statements required by this paragraph shall be 923  
filed in addition to any other statements required by this 924  
section. 925

Subject to the secretary of state having implemented, tested, 926  
and verified the successful operation of any system the secretary 927  
of state prescribes pursuant to divisions (C)(6)(b) and (D)(6) of 928  
this section and division (H)(1) of section 3517.106 of the 929  
Revised Code for the filing of campaign finance statements by 930  
electronic means of transmission, a campaign committee of a 931  
statewide candidate shall file a two-business-day statement under 932  
the preceding paragraph by electronic means of transmission if the 933  
campaign committee is required to file a pre-election, 934  
postelection, or monthly statement of contributions and 935  
expenditures by electronic means of transmission under this 936  
section or section 3517.106 of the Revised Code. 937

If a campaign committee or political action committee has no 938  
balance on hand and no outstanding obligations and desires to 939  
terminate itself, it shall file a statement to that effect, on a 940  
form prescribed under this section and made under penalty of 941  
election falsification, with the official with whom it files a 942  
statement under division (A) of this section after filing a final 943  
statement of contributions and a final statement of expenditures, 944  
if contributions have been received or expenditures made since the 945  
period reflected in its last previously filed statement. 946

(B) Except as otherwise provided in division (C)(7) of this 947  
section, each statement required by division (A) of this section 948  
shall contain the following information: 949

(1) The full name and address of each campaign committee, 950  
political action committee, legislative campaign fund, ~~or~~ 951

political party, or political contributing entity, including any 952  
treasurer of the committee, fund, ~~or~~ party, or entity, filing a 953  
contribution and expenditure statement; 954

(2)(a) In the case of a campaign committee, the candidate's 955  
full name and address; 956

(b) In the case of a political action committee, the 957  
registration number assigned to the committee under division 958  
(D)(1) of this section. 959

(3) The date of the election and whether it was or will be a 960  
general, primary, or special election; 961

(4) A statement of contributions received, which shall 962  
include the following information: 963

(a) The month, day, and year of the contribution; 964

(b)(i) The full name and address of each person, political 965  
party, campaign committee, legislative campaign fund, ~~or~~ political 966  
action committee, or political contributing entity from whom 967  
contributions are received and the registration number assigned to 968  
the political action committee under division (D)(1) of this 969  
section. The requirement of filing the full address does not apply 970  
to any statement filed by a state or local committee of a 971  
political party, to a finance committee of such committee, or to a 972  
committee recognized by a state or local committee as its 973  
fund-raising auxiliary. Notwithstanding division (F) of this 974  
section, the requirement of filing the full address shall be 975  
considered as being met if the address filed is the same address 976  
the contributor provided under division (E)(1) of this section. 977

(ii) If a political action committee, political contributing 978  
entity, legislative campaign fund, or political party that is 979  
required to file campaign finance statements by electronic means 980  
of transmission under section 3517.106 of the Revised Code or a 981  
campaign committee of a statewide candidate or candidate for the 982



office of member of the general assembly receives a contribution 983  
from an individual that exceeds one hundred dollars, the name of 984  
the individual's current employer, if any, or, if the individual 985  
is self-employed, the individual's occupation and the name of the 986  
individual's business, if any; 987

(iii) If a campaign committee of a statewide candidate or 988  
candidate for the office of member of the general assembly 989  
receives a contribution transmitted pursuant to section 3599.031 990  
of the Revised Code from amounts deducted from the wages and 991  
salaries of two or more employees that exceeds in the aggregate 992  
one hundred dollars during any one filing period under division 993  
(A)(1), (2), (3), or (4) of this section, the full name of the 994  
employees' employer and the full name of the labor organization of 995  
which the employees are members, if any. 996

(c) A description of the contribution received, if other than 997  
money; 998

(d) The value in dollars and cents of the contribution; 999

(e) A separately itemized account of all contributions and 1000  
expenditures regardless of the amount, except a receipt of a 1001  
contribution from a person in the sum of twenty-five dollars or 1002  
less at one social or fund-raising activity and a receipt of a 1003  
contribution transmitted pursuant to section 3599.031 of the 1004  
Revised Code from amounts deducted from the wages and salaries of 1005  
employees if the contribution from the amount deducted from the 1006  
wages and salary of any one employee is twenty-five dollars or 1007  
less aggregated in a calendar year. An account of the total 1008  
contributions from each social or fund-raising activity shall 1009  
include a description of and the value of each in-kind 1010  
contribution received at that activity from any person who made 1011  
one or more such contributions whose aggregate value exceeded two 1012  
hundred fifty dollars and shall be listed separately, together 1013  
with the expenses incurred and paid in connection with that 1014

activity. A campaign committee, political action committee, 1015  
legislative campaign fund, ~~or~~ political party, or political 1016  
contributing entity shall keep records of contributions from each 1017  
person in the amount of twenty-five dollars or less at one social 1018  
or fund-raising activity and contributions from amounts deducted 1019  
under section 3599.031 of the Revised Code from the wages and 1020  
salary of each employee in the amount of twenty-five dollars or 1021  
less aggregated in a calendar year. No continuing association that 1022  
is recognized by a state or local committee of a political party 1023  
as an auxiliary of the party and that makes a contribution from 1024  
funds derived solely from regular dues paid by members of the 1025  
auxiliary shall be required to list the name or address of any 1026  
members who paid those dues. 1027

Contributions that are other income shall be itemized 1028  
separately from all other contributions. The information required 1029  
under division (B)(4) of this section shall be provided for all 1030  
other income itemized. As used in this paragraph, "other income" 1031  
means a loan, investment income, or interest income. 1032

(f) In the case of a campaign committee of a state elected 1033  
officer, if a person doing business with the state elected officer 1034  
in the officer's official capacity makes a contribution to the 1035  
campaign committee of that officer, the information required under 1036  
division (B)(4) of this section in regard to that contribution, 1037  
which shall be filed together with and considered a part of the 1038  
committee's statement of contributions as required under division 1039  
(A) of this section but shall be filed on a separate form provided 1040  
by the secretary of state. As used in this division: 1041

(i) "State elected officer" has the same meaning as in 1042  
section 3517.092 of the Revised Code. 1043

(ii) "Person doing business" means a person or an officer of 1044  
an entity who enters into one or more contracts with a state 1045

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elected officer or anyone authorized to enter into contracts on  
behalf of that officer to receive payments for goods or services,  
if the payments total, in the aggregate, more than five thousand  
dollars during a calendar year.

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(5) A statement of expenditures which shall include the  
following information:

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(a) The month, day, and year of the expenditure;

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(b) The full name and address of each person, political  
party, campaign committee, legislative campaign fund, ~~or~~ political  
action committee, or political contributing entity to whom the  
expenditure was made and the registration number assigned to the  
political action committee under division (D)(1) of this section;

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(c) The object or purpose for which the expenditure was made;

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(d) The amount of each expenditure.

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(C)(1) The statement of contributions and expenditures shall  
be signed by the person completing the form. If a statement of  
contributions and expenditures is filed by electronic means of  
transmission pursuant to this section or section 3517.106 of the  
Revised Code, the electronic signature of the person who executes  
the statement and transmits the statement by electronic means of  
transmission, as provided in division (H) of section 3517.106 of  
the Revised Code, shall be attached to or associated with the  
statement and shall be binding on all persons and for all purposes  
under the campaign finance reporting law as if the signature had  
been handwritten in ink on a printed form.

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(2) The person filing the statement, under penalty of  
election falsification, shall include with it a list of each  
anonymous contribution, the circumstances under which it was  
received, and the reason it cannot be attributed to a specific  
donor.

(3) Each statement of a campaign committee of a candidate who holds public office shall contain a designation of each contributor who is an employee in any unit or department under the candidate's direct supervision and control. In a space provided in the statement, the person filing the statement shall affirm that each such contribution was voluntarily made.

(4) A campaign committee that did not receive contributions or make expenditures in connection with the nomination or election of its candidate shall file a statement to that effect, on a form prescribed under this section and made under penalty of election falsification, on the date required in division (A)(2) of this section.

(5) The campaign committee of any person who attempts to become a candidate and who, for any reason, does not become certified in accordance with Title XXXV of the Revised Code for placement on the official ballot of a primary, general, or special election to be held in this state, and who, at any time prior to or after an election, receives contributions or makes expenditures, or has given consent for another to receive contributions or make expenditures, for the purpose of bringing about the person's nomination or election to public office, shall file the statement or statements prescribed by this section and a termination statement, if applicable. Division (C)(5) of this section does not apply to any person with respect to an election to the offices of member of a county or state central committee, presidential elector, or delegate to a national convention or conference of a political party.

(6)(a) The statements required to be filed under this section shall specify the balance in the hands of the campaign committee, political action committee, legislative campaign fund, ~~or~~ political party, or political contributing entity and the disposition intended to be made of that balance.

(b) The secretary of state shall prescribe the form for all 1108  
statements required to be filed under this section and shall 1109  
furnish the forms to the boards of elections in the several 1110  
counties. The boards of elections shall supply printed copies of 1111  
those forms without charge. The secretary of state shall prescribe 1112  
the appropriate methodology, protocol, and data file structure for 1113  
statements required or permitted to be filed by electronic means 1114  
of transmission under division (A) of this section, divisions (E), 1115  
(F), and (G) of section 3517.106, division (D) of section 1116  
3517.1011, division (B) of section 3517.1012, and division (C) of 1117  
section 3517.1013 of the Revised Code. Subject to division (A) of 1118  
this section, divisions (E), (F), and (G) of section 3517.106, 1119  
division (D) of section 3517.1011, division (B) of section 1120  
3517.1012, and division (C) of section 3517.1013 of the Revised 1121  
Code, the statements required to be stored on computer by the 1122  
secretary of state under division (B) of section 3517.106 of the 1123  
Revised Code shall be filed in whatever format the secretary of 1124  
state considers necessary to enable the secretary of state to 1125  
store the information contained in the statements on computer. Any 1126  
such format shall be of a type and nature that is readily 1127  
available to whoever is required to file the statements in that 1128  
format. 1129

(c) The secretary of state shall assess the need for training 1130  
regarding the filing of campaign finance statements by electronic 1131  
means of transmission and regarding associated technologies for 1132  
candidates, campaign committees, political action committees, 1133  
legislative campaign funds, ~~or~~ political parties, or political 1134  
contributing entities, for individuals, partnerships, or other 1135  
entities, or for persons making disbursements to pay the direct 1136  
costs of producing or airing electioneering communications, 1137  
required or permitted to file statements by electronic means of 1138  
transmission under this section or section 3517.105, 3517.106, 1139

3517.1011, 3517.1012, or 3517.1013 of the Revised Code. If, in the  
opinion of the secretary of state, training in these areas is  
necessary, the secretary of state shall arrange for the provision  
of voluntary training programs for candidates, campaign  
committees, political action committees, legislative campaign  
funds, ~~or~~ political parties, or political contributing entities,  
for individuals, partnerships, and other entities, or for persons  
making disbursements to pay the direct costs of producing or  
airing electioneering communications, as appropriate.

(7) Each monthly statement and each two-business-day  
statement required by division (A) of this section shall contain  
the information required by divisions (B)(1) to (4), (C)(2), and,  
if appropriate, (C)(3) of this section. Each statement shall be  
signed as required by division (C)(1) of this section.

(D)(1) Prior to receiving a contribution or making an  
expenditure, every campaign committee, political action committee,  
legislative campaign fund, ~~or~~ political party, or political  
contributing entity shall appoint a treasurer and shall file, on a  
form prescribed by the secretary of state, a designation of that  
appointment, including the full name and address of the treasurer  
and of the campaign committee, political action committee,  
legislative campaign fund, ~~or~~ political party, or political  
contributing entity. That designation shall be filed with the  
official with whom the campaign committee, political action  
committee, legislative campaign fund, ~~or~~ political party, or  
political contributing entity is required to file statements under  
section 3517.11 of the Revised Code. The name of a campaign  
committee shall include at least the last name of the campaign  
committee's candidate. The secretary of state shall assign a  
registration number to each political action committee that files  
a designation of the appointment of a treasurer under this  
division if the political action committee is required by division

(A)(1) of section 3517.11 of the Revised Code to file the 1172  
statements prescribed by this section with the secretary of state. 1173

(2) The treasurer appointed under division (D)(1) of this 1174  
section shall keep a strict account of all contributions, from 1175  
whom received and the purpose for which they were disbursed. 1176

(3)(a) Except as otherwise provided in section 3517.108 of 1177  
the Revised Code, a campaign committee shall deposit all monetary 1178  
contributions received by the committee into an account separate 1179  
from a personal or business account of the candidate or campaign 1180  
committee. 1181

(b) A political action committee shall deposit all monetary 1182  
contributions received by the committee into an account separate 1183  
from all other funds. 1184

(c) A state or county political party may establish a state 1185  
candidate fund that is separate from an account that contains the 1186  
public moneys received from the Ohio political party fund under 1187  
section 3517.17 of the Revised Code and from all other funds. A 1188  
state or county political party may deposit into its state 1189  
candidate fund any amounts of monetary contributions that are made 1190  
to or accepted by the political party subject to the applicable 1191  
limitations, if any, prescribed in section 3517.102 of the Revised 1192  
Code. A state or county political party shall deposit all other 1193  
monetary contributions received by the party into one or more 1194  
accounts that are separate from its state candidate fund and from 1195  
its account that contains the public moneys received from the Ohio 1196  
political party fund under section 3517.17 of the Revised Code. 1197

(d) Each state political party shall have only one 1198  
legislative campaign fund for each house of the general assembly. 1199  
Each such fund shall be separate from any other funds or accounts 1200  
of that state party. A legislative campaign fund is authorized to 1201  
receive contributions and make expenditures for the primary 1202

purpose of furthering the election of candidates who are members  
of that political party to the house of the general assembly with  
which that legislative campaign fund is associated. Each  
legislative campaign fund shall be administered and controlled in  
a manner designated by the caucus. As used in this division,  
"caucus" has the same meaning as in section 3517.01 of the Revised  
Code and includes, as an ex officio member, the chairperson of the  
state political party with which the caucus is associated or that  
chairperson's designee.

(4) Every expenditure in excess of twenty-five dollars shall  
be vouched for by a receipted bill, stating the purpose of the  
expenditure, that shall be filed with the statement of  
expenditures. A canceled check with a notation of the purpose of  
the expenditure is a receipted bill for purposes of division  
(D)(4) of this section.

(5) The secretary of state or the board of elections, as the  
case may be, shall issue a receipt for each statement filed under  
this section and shall preserve a copy of the receipt for a period  
of at least six years. All statements filed under this section  
shall be open to public inspection in the office where they are  
filed and shall be carefully preserved for a period of at least  
six years after the year in which they are filed.

(6) The secretary of state, by rule adopted pursuant to  
section 3517.23 of the Revised Code, shall prescribe both of the  
following:

(a) The manner of immediately acknowledging, with date and  
time received, and preserving the receipt of statements that are  
transmitted by electronic means of transmission to the secretary  
of state pursuant to this section or section 3517.106, 3517.1011,  
3517.1012, or 3517.1013 of the Revised Code;

(b) The manner of preserving the contribution and



expenditure, contribution and disbursement, deposit and 1234  
disbursement, or gift and disbursement information in the 1235  
statements described in division (D)(6)(a) of this section. The 1236  
secretary of state shall preserve the contribution and 1237  
expenditure, contribution and disbursement, deposit and 1238  
disbursement, or gift and disbursement information in those 1239  
statements for at least ten years after the year in which they are 1240  
filed by electronic means of transmission. 1241

(7) The secretary of state, pursuant to division (I) of 1242  
section 3517.106 of the Revised Code, shall make available online 1243  
to the public through the internet the contribution and 1244  
expenditure, contribution and disbursement, deposit and 1245  
disbursement, or gift and disbursement information in all 1246  
statements, all addenda, amendments, or other corrections to 1247  
statements, and all amended statements filed with the secretary of 1248  
state by electronic or other means of transmission under this 1249  
section, division (B)(2)(b) or (C)(2)(b) of section 3517.105, or 1250  
section 3517.106, 3517.1011, 3517.1012, 3517.1013, or 3517.11 of 1251  
the Revised Code. The secretary of state may remove the 1252  
information from the internet after a reasonable period of time. 1253

(E)(1) Any person, political party, campaign committee, 1254  
legislative campaign fund, ~~or~~ political action committee, or 1255  
political contributing entity that makes a contribution in 1256  
connection with the nomination or election of any candidate or in 1257  
connection with any ballot issue or question at any election held 1258  
or to be held in this state shall provide its full name and 1259  
address to the recipient of the contribution at the time the 1260  
contribution is made. The political action committee also shall 1261  
provide the registration number assigned to the committee under 1262  
division (D)(1) of this section to the recipient of the 1263  
contribution at the time the contribution is made. 1264

(2) Any individual who makes a contribution that exceeds one 1265

hundred dollars to a political action committee, political 1266  
contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or political party 1267  
or to a campaign committee of a statewide candidate or candidate 1268  
for the office of member of the general assembly shall provide the 1269  
name of the individual's current employer, if any, or, if the 1270  
individual is self-employed, the individual's occupation and the 1271  
name of the individual's business, if any, to the recipient of the 1272  
contribution at the time the contribution is made. Sections 1273  
3599.39 and 3599.40 of the Revised Code do not apply to division 1274  
(E)(2) of this section. 1275

(3) If a campaign committee shows that it has exercised its 1276  
best efforts to obtain, maintain, and submit the information 1277  
required under divisions (B)(4)(b)(ii) and (iii) of this section, 1278  
that committee is considered to have met the requirements of those 1279  
divisions. A campaign committee shall not be considered to have 1280  
exercised its best efforts unless, in connection with written 1281  
solicitations, it regularly includes a written request for the 1282  
information required under division (B)(4)(b)(ii) of this section 1283  
from the contributor or the information required under division 1284  
(B)(4)(b)(iii) of this section from whoever transmits the 1285  
contribution. 1286

(4) Any check that a political action committee uses to make 1287  
a contribution or an expenditure shall contain the full name and 1288  
address of the committee and the registration number assigned to 1289  
the committee under division (D)(1) of this section. 1290

(F) As used in this section: 1291

(1)(a) Except as otherwise provided in division (F)(1) of 1292  
this section, "address" means all of the following if they exist: 1293  
apartment number, street, road, or highway name and number, rural 1294  
delivery route number, city or village, state, and zip code as 1295  
used in a person's post-office address, but not post-office box. 1296

(b) Except as otherwise provided in division (F)(1) of this section, if an address is required in this section, a post-office box and office, room, or suite number may be included in addition to, but not in lieu of, an apartment, street, road, or highway name and number.

(c) If an address is required in this section, a campaign committee, political action committee, legislative campaign fund, ~~or~~ political party, or political contributing entity may use the business or residence address of its treasurer or deputy treasurer. The post-office box number of the campaign committee, political action committee, legislative campaign fund, ~~or~~ political party, or political contributing entity may be used in addition to that address.

(d) For the sole purpose of a campaign committee's reporting of contributions on a statement of contributions received under division (B)(4) of this section, "address" has one of the following meanings at the option of the campaign committee:

(i) The same meaning as in division (F)(1)(a) of this section;

(ii) All of the following, if they exist: the contributor's post-office box number and city or village, state, and zip code as used in the contributor's post-office address.

(e) As used with regard to the reporting under this section of any expenditure, "address" means all of the following if they exist: apartment number, street, road, or highway name and number, rural delivery route number, city or village, state, and zip code as used in a person's post-office address, or post-office box. If an address concerning any expenditure is required in this section, a campaign committee, political action committee, legislative campaign fund, ~~or~~ political party, or political contributing entity may use the business or residence address of its treasurer

or deputy treasurer or its post-office box number. 1328

(2) "Statewide candidate" means the joint candidates for the 1329  
offices of governor and lieutenant governor or a candidate for the 1330  
office of secretary of state, auditor of state, treasurer of 1331  
state, attorney general, member of the state board of education, 1332  
chief justice of the supreme court, or justice of the supreme 1333  
court. 1334

(G) An independent expenditure shall be reported whenever and 1335  
in the same manner that an expenditure is required to be reported 1336  
under this section and shall be reported pursuant to division 1337  
(B)(2)(a) or (C)(2)(a) of section 3517.105 of the Revised Code. 1338

(H)(1) Except as otherwise provided in division (H)(2) of 1339  
this section, if, during the combined pre-election and 1340  
postelection reporting periods for an election, a campaign 1341  
committee has received contributions of five hundred dollars or 1342  
less and has made expenditures in the total amount of five hundred 1343  
dollars or less, it may file a statement to that effect, under 1344  
penalty of election falsification, in lieu of the statement 1345  
required by division (A)(2) of this section. The statement shall 1346  
indicate the total amount of contributions received and the total 1347  
amount of expenditures made during those combined reporting 1348  
periods. 1349

(2) In the case of a successful candidate at a primary 1350  
election, if either the total contributions received by or the 1351  
total expenditures made by the candidate's campaign committee 1352  
during the preprimary, postprimary, pregeneral, and postgeneral 1353  
election periods combined equal more than five hundred dollars, 1354  
the campaign committee may file the statement under division 1355  
(H)(1) of this section only for the primary election. The first 1356  
statement that the campaign committee files in regard to the 1357  
general election shall reflect all contributions received and all 1358  
expenditures made during the preprimary and postprimary election 1359

periods. 1360

(3) Divisions (H)(1) and (2) of this section do not apply if 1361  
a campaign committee receives contributions or makes expenditures 1362  
prior to the first day of January of the year of the election at 1363  
which the candidate seeks nomination or election to office or if 1364  
the campaign committee does not file a termination statement with 1365  
its postprimary election statement in the case of an unsuccessful 1366  
primary election candidate or with its postgeneral election 1367  
statement in the case of other candidates. 1368

(I) In the case of a contribution made by a partner of a 1369  
partnership or an owner or a member of another unincorporated 1370  
business from any funds of the partnership or other unincorporated 1371  
business, all of the following apply: 1372

(1) The recipient of the contribution shall report the 1373  
contribution by listing both the partnership or other 1374  
unincorporated business and the name of the partner, owner, or 1375  
member making the contribution. 1376

(2) For purposes of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code, the 1377  
contribution shall be considered to have been made by the partner, 1378  
owner, or member reported under division (I)(1) of this section. 1379

(3) No contribution from a partner of a partnership or an 1380  
owner or a member of another unincorporated business shall be 1381  
accepted from any funds of the partnership or other unincorporated 1382  
business unless the recipient reports the contribution under 1383  
division (I)(1) of this section. 1384

(4) No partnership or other unincorporated business shall 1385  
make a contribution or contributions solely in the name of the 1386  
partnership or other unincorporated business. 1387

(5) As used in division (I) of this section, "partnership or 1388  
other unincorporated business" includes, but is not limited to, a 1389

cooperative, a sole proprietorship, a general partnership, a 1390  
limited partnership, a limited partnership association, a limited 1391  
liability partnership, and a limited liability company. 1392

(J) A candidate shall have only one campaign committee at any 1393  
given time for all of the offices for which the person is a 1394  
candidate or holds office. 1395

(K)(1) In addition to filing a designation of appointment of 1396  
a treasurer under division (D)(1) of this section, the campaign 1397  
committee of any candidate for an elected municipal office that 1398  
pays an annual amount of compensation of five thousand dollars or 1399  
less, the campaign committee of any candidate for member of a 1400  
board of education except member of the state board of education, 1401  
or the campaign committee of any candidate for township trustee or 1402  
township clerk may sign, under penalty of election falsification, 1403  
a certificate attesting that the committee will not accept 1404  
contributions during an election period that exceed in the 1405  
aggregate two thousand dollars from all contributors and one 1406  
hundred dollars from any one individual, and that the campaign 1407  
committee will not make expenditures during an election period 1408  
that exceed in the aggregate two thousand dollars. 1409

The certificate shall be on a form prescribed by the 1410  
secretary of state and shall be filed not later than ten days 1411  
after the candidate files a declaration of candidacy and petition, 1412  
a nominating petition, or a declaration of intent to be a write-in 1413  
candidate. 1414

(2) Except as otherwise provided in division (K)(3) of this 1415  
section, a campaign committee that files a certificate under 1416  
division (K)(1) of this section is not required to file the 1417  
statements required by division (A) of this section. 1418

(3) If, after filing a certificate under division (K)(1) of 1419  
this section, a campaign committee exceeds any of the limitations 1420

described in that division during an election period, the  
certificate is void and thereafter the campaign committee shall  
file the statements required by division (A) of this section. If  
the campaign committee has not previously filed a statement, then  
on the first statement the campaign committee is required to file  
under division (A) of this section after the committee's  
certificate is void, the committee shall report all contributions  
received and expenditures made from the time the candidate filed  
the candidate's declaration of candidacy and petition, nominating  
petition, or declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate.

(4) As used in division (K) of this section, "election  
period" means the period of time beginning on the day a person  
files a declaration of candidacy and petition, nominating  
petition, or declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate  
through the day of the election at which the person seeks  
nomination to office if the person is not elected to office, or,  
if the candidate was nominated in a primary election, the day of  
the election at which the candidate seeks office.

(L) A political contributing entity that receives  
contributions from the dues, membership fees, or other assessments  
of its members or from its officers, shareholders, and employees  
may report the aggregate amount of contributions received from  
those contributors and the number of individuals making those  
contributions, for each filing period under divisions (A)(1), (2),  
(3), and (4) of this section, rather than reporting information as  
required under division (B)(4) of this section, including, when  
applicable, the name of the current employer, if any, of a  
contributor whose contribution exceeds one hundred dollars or, if  
such a contributor is self-employed, the contributor's occupation  
and the name of the contributor's business, if any. Division  
(B)(4) of this section applies to a political contributing entity  
with regard to contributions it receives from all other

<u>contributors.</u>	1453
<b>Sec. 3517.102.</b> (A) Except as otherwise provided in section	1454
3517.103 of the Revised Code, as used in this section and sections	1455
3517.103 and 3517.104 of the Revised Code:	1456
(1) "Candidate" has the same meaning as in section 3517.01 of	1457
the Revised Code but includes only candidates for the offices of	1458
governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, auditor of	1459
state, treasurer of state, attorney general, member of the state	1460
board of education, member of the general assembly, chief justice	1461
of the supreme court, and justice of the supreme court.	1462
(2) "Statewide candidate" or "any one statewide candidate"	1463
means the joint candidates for the offices of governor and	1464
lieutenant governor or a candidate for the office of secretary of	1465
state, auditor of state, treasurer of state, attorney general,	1466
member of the state board of education, chief justice of the	1467
supreme court, or justice of the supreme court.	1468
(3) "Senate candidate" means a candidate for the office of	1469
state senator.	1470
(4) "House candidate" means a candidate for the office of	1471
state representative.	1472
(5)(a) "Primary election period" for a candidate begins on	1473
the beginning date of the candidate's pre-filing period specified	1474
in division (A)(9) of section 3517.109 of the Revised Code and	1475
ends on the day of the primary election.	1476
(b) In regard to any candidate, the "general election period"	1477
begins on the day after the primary election immediately preceding	1478
the general election at which the candidate seeks an office	1479
specified in division (A)(1) of this section and ends on the	1480
thirty-first day of December following that general election.	1481
(6) "State candidate fund" means the state candidate fund	1482



established by a state or county political party under division 1483  
(D)(3)(c) of section 3517.10 of the Revised Code. 1484

(7) "Postgeneral election statement" means the statement 1485  
filed under division (A)(2) of section 3517.10 of the Revised Code 1486  
by the campaign committee of a candidate after the general 1487  
election in which the candidate ran for office or filed by 1488  
legislative campaign fund after the general election in an 1489  
even-numbered year. 1490

(8) "Contribution" means any contribution that is required to 1491  
be reported in the statement of contributions under section 1492  
3517.10 of the Revised Code. 1493

(9)(a) Except as otherwise provided in division (A)(9)(b) of 1494  
this section and in division (F) of section 3517.103 and division 1495  
(B)(3)(b) of section 3517.1010 of the Revised Code, "designated 1496  
state campaign committee" means: 1497

(i) In the case of contributions to or from a state political 1498  
party, a campaign committee of a statewide candidate, statewide 1499  
officeholder, senate candidate, house candidate, or member of the 1500  
general assembly. 1501

(ii) In the case of contributions to or from a county 1502  
political party, a campaign committee of a senate candidate or 1503  
house candidate whose candidacy is to be submitted to some or all 1504  
of the electors in that county, or member of the general assembly 1505  
whose district contains all or part of that county. 1506

(iii) In the case of contributions to or from a legislative 1507  
campaign fund, a campaign committee of any of the following: 1508

(I) A senate or house candidate who, if elected, will be a 1509  
member of the same party that established the legislative campaign 1510  
fund and the same house with which the legislative campaign fund 1511  
is associated; 1512

(II) A state senator or state representative who is a member 1513  
of the same party that established the legislative campaign fund 1514  
and the same house with which the legislative campaign fund is 1515  
associated. 1516

(b) A campaign committee is no longer a "designated state 1517  
campaign committee" after the campaign committee's candidate 1518  
changes the designation of treasurer required to be filed under 1519  
division (D)(1) of section 3517.10 of the Revised Code to indicate 1520  
that the person intends to be a candidate for, or becomes a 1521  
candidate for nomination or election to, any office that, if 1522  
elected, would not qualify that candidate's campaign committee as 1523  
a "designated state campaign committee" under division (A)(9)(a) 1524  
of this section. 1525

(B)(1)(a) No individual who is seven years of age or older 1526  
shall make a contribution or contributions aggregating more than: 1527

(i) Ten thousand dollars to the campaign committee of any one 1528  
statewide candidate in a primary election period or in a general 1529  
election period; 1530

(ii) Ten thousand dollars to the campaign committee of any 1531  
one senate candidate in a primary election period or in a general 1532  
election period; 1533

(iii) Ten thousand dollars to the campaign committee of any 1534  
one house candidate in a primary election period or in a general 1535  
election period; 1536

(iv) Ten thousand dollars to a county political party of the 1537  
county in which the individual's designated Ohio residence is 1538  
located for the party's state candidate fund in a calendar year; 1539

(v) Fifteen thousand dollars to any one legislative campaign 1540  
fund in a calendar year; 1541

(vi) Thirty thousand dollars to any one state political party 1542

for the party's state candidate fund in a calendar year;	1543
(vii) Ten thousand dollars to any one political action committee in a calendar year;	1544
<u>(viii) Ten thousand dollars to any one political contributing entity in a calendar year.</u>	1545
	1546
<u>entity in a calendar year.</u>	1547
(b) No individual shall make a contribution or contributions to the state candidate fund of a county political party of any county other than the county in which the individual's designated Ohio residence is located.	1548
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	1551
(c) No individual who is under seven years of age shall make any contribution.	1552
	1553
(2)(a) Subject to division (D)(1) of this section, no political action committee shall make a contribution or contributions aggregating more than:	1554
	1555
	1556
(i) Ten thousand dollars to the campaign committee of any one statewide candidate in a primary election period or in a general election period;	1557
	1558
	1559
(ii) Ten thousand dollars to the campaign committee of any one senate candidate in a primary election period or in a general election period;	1560
	1561
	1562
(iii) Ten thousand dollars to the campaign committee of any one house candidate in a primary election period or in a general election period;	1563
	1564
	1565
(iv) Fifteen thousand dollars to any one legislative campaign fund in a calendar year;	1566
	1567
(v) Thirty thousand dollars to any one state political party for the party's state candidate fund in a calendar year;	1568
	1569
(vi) Ten thousand dollars to another political action committee <u>or to a political contributing entity</u> in a calendar	1570
	1571

year. This division does not apply to a political action committee 1572  
that makes a contribution to a political action committee or a 1573  
political contributing entity affiliated with it. For purposes of 1574  
this division, a political action committee is affiliated with 1575  
another political action committee or with a political 1576  
contributing entity if they are both established, financed, 1577  
maintained, or controlled by, or if they are, the same 1578  
corporation, organization, labor organization, continuing 1579  
association, or other person, including any parent, subsidiary, 1580  
division, or department of that corporation, organization, labor 1581  
organization, continuing association, or other person. 1582

(b) No political action committee shall make a contribution 1583  
or contributions to a county political party for the party's state 1584  
candidate fund. 1585

(3) No campaign committee shall make a contribution or 1586  
contributions aggregating more than: 1587

(a) Ten thousand dollars to the campaign committee of any one 1588  
statewide candidate in a primary election period or in a general 1589  
election period; 1590

(b) Ten thousand dollars to the campaign committee of any one 1591  
senate candidate in a primary election period or in a general 1592  
election period; 1593

(c) Ten thousand dollars to the campaign committee of any one 1594  
house candidate in a primary election period or in a general 1595  
election period; 1596

(d) Ten thousand dollars to any one political action 1597  
committee in a calendar year; 1598

(e) Ten thousand dollars to any one political contributing 1599  
entity in a calendar year. 1600

(4)(a) Subject to division (D)(3) of this section, no 1601

political party shall make a contribution or contributions 1602  
aggregating more than ten thousand dollars to any one political 1603  
action committee or to any one political contributing entity in a 1604  
calendar year. 1605

(b) No county political party shall make a contribution or 1606  
contributions to another county political party. 1607

(5)(a) Subject to division (B)(5)(b) of this section, no 1608  
campaign committee, other than a designated state campaign 1609  
committee, shall make a contribution or contributions aggregating 1610  
in a calendar year more than: 1611

(i) Thirty thousand dollars to any one state political party 1612  
for the party's state candidate fund; 1613

(ii) Fifteen thousand dollars to any one legislative campaign 1614  
fund; 1615

(iii) Ten thousand dollars to any one county political party 1616  
for the party's state candidate fund. 1617

(b) No campaign committee shall make a contribution or 1618  
contributions to a county political party for the party's state 1619  
candidate fund unless one of the following applies: 1620

(i) The campaign committee's candidate will appear on a 1621  
ballot in that county. 1622

(ii) The campaign committee's candidate is the holder of an 1623  
elected public office that represents all or part of the 1624  
population of that county at the time the contribution is made. 1625

(6)(a) No state candidate fund of a county political party 1626  
shall make a contribution or contributions, except a contribution 1627  
or contributions to a designated state campaign committee, in a 1628  
primary election period or a general election period, aggregating 1629  
more than: 1630

(i) Two hundred fifty thousand dollars to the campaign 1631

committee of any one statewide candidate; 1632

(ii) Ten thousand dollars to the campaign committee of any 1633  
one senate candidate; 1634

(iii) Ten thousand dollars to the campaign committee of any 1635  
one house candidate. 1636

(b)(i) No state candidate fund of a state or county political 1637  
party shall make a transfer or a contribution or transfers or 1638  
contributions of cash or cash equivalents to a designated state 1639  
campaign committee in a primary election period or in a general 1640  
election period aggregating more than: 1641

(I) Five hundred thousand dollars to the campaign committee 1642  
of any one statewide candidate; 1643

(II) One hundred thousand dollars to the campaign committee 1644  
of any one senate candidate; 1645

(III) Fifty thousand dollars to the campaign committee of any 1646  
one house candidate. 1647

(ii) No legislative campaign fund shall make a transfer or a 1648  
contribution or transfers or contributions of cash or cash 1649  
equivalents to a designated state campaign committee aggregating 1650  
more than: 1651

(I) Fifty thousand dollars in a primary election period or 1652  
one hundred thousand dollars in a general election period to the 1653  
campaign committee of any one senate candidate; 1654

(II) Twenty-five thousand dollars in a primary election 1655  
period or fifty thousand dollars in a general election period to 1656  
the campaign committee of any one house candidate. 1657

(iii) As used in divisions (B)(6)(b) and (C)(6) of this 1658  
section, "transfer or contribution of cash or cash equivalents" 1659  
does not include any in-kind contributions. 1660

(c) A county political party that has no state candidate fund 1661  
and that is located in a county having a population of less than 1662  
one hundred fifty thousand may make one or more contributions from 1663  
other accounts to any one statewide candidate or to any one 1664  
designated state campaign committee that do not exceed, in the 1665  
aggregate, two thousand five hundred dollars in any primary 1666  
election period or general election period. As used in this 1667  
division, "other accounts" does not include an account that 1668  
contains the public moneys received from the Ohio political party 1669  
fund under section 3517.17 of the Revised Code. 1670

(d) No legislative campaign fund shall make a contribution, 1671  
other than to a designated state campaign committee or to the 1672  
state candidate fund of a political party. 1673

(7)(a) Subject to division (D)(1) of this section, no 1674  
political contributing entity shall make a contribution or 1675  
contributions aggregating more than: 1676

(i) Ten thousand dollars to the campaign committee of any one 1677  
statewide candidate in a primary election period or in a general 1678  
election period; 1679

(ii) Ten thousand dollars to the campaign committee of any 1680  
one senate candidate in a primary election period or in a general 1681  
election period; 1682

(iii) Ten thousand dollars to the campaign committee of any 1683  
one house candidate in a primary election period or in a general 1684  
election period; 1685

(iv) Fifteen thousand dollars to any one legislative campaign 1686  
fund in a calendar year; 1687

(v) Thirty thousand dollars to any one state political party 1688  
for the party's state candidate fund in a calendar year; 1689

(vi) Ten thousand dollars to another political contributing 1690

entity or to a political action committee in a calendar year. This 1691  
division does not apply to a political contributing entity that 1692  
makes a contribution to a political contributing entity or a 1693  
political action committee affiliated with it. For purposes of 1694  
this division, a political contributing entity is affiliated with 1695  
another political contributing entity or with a political action 1696  
committee if they are both established, financed, maintained, or 1697  
controlled by, or if they are, the same corporation, organization, 1698  
labor organization, continuing association, or other person, 1699  
including any parent, subsidiary, division, or department of that 1700  
corporation, organization, labor organization, continuing 1701  
association, or other person. 1702

(b) No political contributing entity shall make a 1703  
contribution or contributions to a county political party for the 1704  
party's state candidate fund. 1705

(C)(1)(a) Subject to division (D)(1) of this section, no 1706  
campaign committee of a statewide candidate shall do any of the 1707  
following: 1708

(i) Knowingly accept a contribution or contributions from any 1709  
individual who is under seven years of age; 1710

(ii) Accept a contribution or contributions aggregating more 1711  
than ten thousand dollars from any one individual who is seven 1712  
years of age or older, from any one political action committee, 1713  
from any one political contributing entity, or from any one other 1714  
campaign committee in a primary election period or in a general 1715  
election period; 1716

(iii) Accept a contribution or contributions aggregating more 1717  
than two hundred fifty thousand dollars from any one or 1718  
combination of state candidate funds of county political parties 1719  
in a primary election period or in a general election period. 1720

(b) No campaign committee of a statewide candidate shall 1721



accept a contribution or contributions aggregating more than two 1722  
thousand five hundred dollars in a primary election period or in a 1723  
general election period from a county political party that has no 1724  
state candidate fund and that is located in a county having a 1725  
population of less than one hundred fifty thousand. 1726

(2)(a) Subject to division (D)(1) of this section and except 1727  
for a designated state campaign committee, no campaign committee 1728  
of a senate candidate shall do either of the following: 1729

(i) Knowingly accept a contribution or contributions from any 1730  
individual who is under seven years of age; 1731

(ii) Accept a contribution or contributions aggregating more 1732  
than ten thousand dollars from any one individual who is seven 1733  
years of age or older, from any one political action committee, 1734  
from any one political contributing entity, from any one state 1735  
candidate fund of a county political party, or from any one other 1736  
campaign committee in a primary election period or in a general 1737  
election period. 1738

(b) No campaign committee of a senate candidate shall accept 1739  
a contribution or contributions aggregating more than two thousand 1740  
five hundred dollars in a primary election period or in a general 1741  
election period from a county political party that has no state 1742  
candidate fund and that is located in a county having a population 1743  
of less than one hundred fifty thousand. 1744

(3)(a) Subject to division (D)(1) of this section and except 1745  
for a designated state campaign committee, no campaign committee 1746  
of a house candidate shall do either of the following: 1747

(i) Knowingly accept a contribution or contributions from any 1748  
individual who is under seven years of age; 1749

(ii) Accept a contribution or contributions aggregating more 1750  
than ten thousand dollars from any one individual who is seven 1751

years of age or older, from any one political action committee, 1752  
from any one political contributing entity, from any one state 1753  
candidate fund of a county political party, or from any one other 1754  
campaign committee in a primary election period or in a general 1755  
election period. 1756

(b) No campaign committee of a house candidate shall accept a 1757  
contribution or contributions aggregating more than two thousand 1758  
five hundred dollars in a primary election period or in a general 1759  
election period from a county political party that has no state 1760  
candidate fund and that is located in a county having a population 1761  
of less than one hundred fifty thousand. 1762

(4)(a)(i) Subject to division (C)(4)(a)(ii) of this section 1763  
and except for a designated state campaign committee, no county 1764  
political party shall knowingly accept a contribution or 1765  
contributions from any individual who is under seven years of age, 1766  
or accept a contribution or contributions for the party's state 1767  
candidate fund aggregating more than ten thousand dollars from any 1768  
one individual whose designated Ohio residence is located within 1769  
that county and who is seven years of age or older or from any one 1770  
campaign committee in a calendar year. 1771

(ii) Subject to division (D)(1) of this section, no county 1772  
political party shall accept a contribution or contributions for 1773  
the party's state candidate fund from any individual whose 1774  
designated Ohio residence is located outside of that county and 1775  
who is seven years of age or older, from any campaign committee 1776  
unless the campaign committee's candidate will appear on a ballot 1777  
in that county or unless the campaign committee's candidate is the 1778  
holder of an elected public office that represents all or part of 1779  
the population of that county at the time the contribution is 1780  
accepted, or from any political action committee or any political 1781  
contributing entity. 1782

(iii) No county political party shall accept a contribution	1783
or contributions from any other county political party.	1784
(b) Subject to division (D)(1) of this section, no state	1785
political party shall do either of the following:	1786
(i) Knowingly accept a contribution or contributions from any	1787
individual who is under seven years of age;	1788
(ii) Accept a contribution or contributions for the party's	1789
state candidate fund aggregating more than thirty thousand dollars	1790
from any one individual who is seven years of age or older, from	1791
any one political action committee, <u>from any one political</u>	1792
<u>contributing entity</u> , or from any one campaign committee, other	1793
than a designated state campaign committee, in a calendar year.	1794
(5) Subject to division (D)(1) of this section, no	1795
legislative campaign fund shall do either of the following:	1796
(a) Knowingly accept a contribution or contributions from any	1797
individual who is under seven years of age;	1798
(b) Accept a contribution or contributions aggregating more	1799
than fifteen thousand dollars from any one individual who is seven	1800
years of age or older, from any one political action committee,	1801
<u>from any one political contributing entity</u> , or from any one	1802
campaign committee, other than a designated state campaign	1803
committee, in a calendar year.	1804
(6)(a) No designated state campaign committee shall accept a	1805
transfer or contribution of cash or cash equivalents from a state	1806
candidate fund of a state political party aggregating in a primary	1807
election period or a general election period more than:	1808
(i) Five hundred thousand dollars, in the case of a campaign	1809
committee of a statewide candidate;	1810
(ii) One hundred thousand dollars, in the case of a campaign	1811
committee of a senate candidate;	1812

(iii) Fifty thousand dollars, in the case of a campaign committee of a house candidate.	1813 1814
(b) No designated state campaign committee shall accept a transfer or contribution of cash or cash equivalents from a legislative campaign fund aggregating more than:	1815 1816 1817
(i) Fifty thousand dollars in a primary election period or one hundred thousand dollars in a general election period, in the case of a campaign committee of a senate candidate;	1818 1819 1820
(ii) Twenty-five thousand dollars in a primary election period or fifty thousand dollars in a general election period, in the case of a campaign committee of a house candidate.	1821 1822 1823
(c) No campaign committee of a candidate for the office of member of the general assembly, including a designated state campaign committee, shall accept a transfer or contribution of cash or cash equivalents from any one or combination of state candidate funds of county political parties aggregating in a primary election period or a general election period more than:	1824 1825 1826 1827 1828 1829
(i) One hundred thousand dollars, in the case of a campaign committee of a senate candidate;	1830 1831
(ii) Fifty thousand dollars, in the case of a campaign committee of a house candidate.	1832 1833
(7)(a) Subject to division (D)(3) of this section, no political action committee <u>and no political contributing entity</u> shall do either of the following:	1834 1835 1836
(i) Knowingly accept a contribution or contributions from any individual who is under seven years of age;	1837 1838
(ii) Accept a contribution or contributions aggregating more than ten thousand dollars from any one individual who is seven years of age or older, from any one campaign committee, or from any one political party in a calendar year.	1839 1840 1841 1842

(b) Subject to division (D)(1) of this section, no political action committee shall accept a contribution or contributions aggregating more than ten thousand dollars from another political action committee or from a political contributing entity in a calendar year. Subject to division (D)(1) of this section, no political contributing entity shall accept a contribution or contributions aggregating more than ten thousand dollars from another political contributing entity or from a political action committee in a calendar year. This division does not apply to a political action committee or political contributing entity that accepts a contribution from a political action committee or political contributing entity affiliated with it. For purposes of this division, a political action committee is affiliated with another political action committee or with a political contributing entity if they are both established, financed, maintained, or controlled by the same corporation, organization, labor organization, continuing association, or other person, including any parent, subsidiary, division, or department of that corporation, organization, labor organization, continuing association, or other person.

(D)(1)(a) For purposes of the limitations prescribed in division (B)(2) of this section and the limitations prescribed in divisions (C)(1), (2), (3), (4), (5), and (7)(b) of this section, whichever is applicable, all contributions made by and all contributions accepted from political action committees that are established, financed, maintained, or controlled by, or that are, the same corporation, organization, labor organization, continuing association, or other person, including any parent, subsidiary, division, or department of that corporation, organization, labor organization, continuing association, or other person, are considered to have been made by or accepted from a single political action committee.

(b) For purposes of the limitations prescribed in division (B)(7) of this section and the limitations prescribed in divisions (C)(1), (2), (3), (4), (5), and (7)(b) of this section, whichever is applicable, all contributions made by and all contributions accepted from political contributing entities that are established, financed, maintained, or controlled by, or that are, the same corporation, organization, labor organization, continuing association, or other person, including any parent, subsidiary, division, or department of that corporation, organization, labor organization, continuing association, or other person, are considered to have been made by or accepted from a single political contributing entity.

(2) As used in divisions (B)(1)(a)(vii), (B)(3)(d), (B)(4)(a), and (C)(7) of this section, "political action committee" does not include a political action committee that is organized to support or oppose a ballot issue or question and that makes no contributions to or expenditures on behalf of a political party, campaign committee, legislative campaign fund, ~~or~~ political action committee, or political contributing entity. As used in divisions (B)(1)(a)(viii), (B)(3)(e), (B)(4)(a), and (C)(7) of this section, "political contributing entity" does not include a political contributing entity that is organized to support or oppose a ballot issue or question and that makes no contributions to or expenditures on behalf of a political party, campaign committee, legislative campaign fund, political action committee, or political contributing entity.

(3) For purposes of the limitations prescribed in divisions (B)(4) and (C)(7)(a) of this section, all contributions made by and all contributions accepted from a national political party, a state political party, and a county political party are considered to have been made by or accepted from a single political party and shall be combined with each other to determine whether the

limitations have been exceeded.

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(E)(1) If a legislative campaign fund has kept a total amount of contributions exceeding one hundred fifty thousand dollars at the close of business on the seventh day before the postgeneral election statement is required to be filed under section 3517.10 of the Revised Code, the legislative campaign fund shall comply with division (E)(2) of this section.

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(2)(a) Any legislative campaign fund that has kept a total amount of contributions in excess of the amount specified in division (E)(1) of this section at the close of business on the seventh day before the postgeneral election statement is required to be filed under section 3517.10 of the Revised Code shall dispose of the excess amount in the manner prescribed in division (E)(2)(b)(i), (ii), or (iii) of this section not later than ninety days after the day the postgeneral election statement is required to be filed under section 3517.10 of the Revised Code. Any legislative campaign fund that is required to dispose of an excess amount of contributions under this division shall file a statement on the ninetieth day after the postgeneral election statement is required to be filed under section 3517.10 of the Revised Code indicating the total amount of contributions the fund has at the close of business on the seventh day before the postgeneral election statement is required to be filed under section 3517.10 of the Revised Code and that the excess contributions were disposed of pursuant to this division and division (E)(2)(b) of this section. The statement shall be on a form prescribed by the secretary of state and shall contain any additional information the secretary of state considers necessary.

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(b) Any legislative campaign fund that is required to dispose of an excess amount of contributions under division (E)(2) of this section shall dispose of that excess amount by doing any of the following:

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(i) Giving the amount to the treasurer of state for deposit 1939  
into the state treasury to the credit of the Ohio elections 1940  
commission fund created by division (I) of section 3517.152 of the 1941  
Revised Code; 1942

(ii) Giving the amount to individuals who made contributions 1943  
to that legislative campaign fund as a refund of all or part of 1944  
their contributions; 1945

(iii) Giving the amount to a corporation that is exempt from 1946  
federal income taxation under subsection 501(a) and described in 1947  
subsection 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code. 1948

(F)(1) No legislative campaign fund shall fail to file a 1949  
statement required by division (E) of this section. 1950

(2) No legislative campaign fund shall fail to dispose of 1951  
excess contributions as required by division (E) of this section. 1952

(G) Nothing in this section shall affect, be used in 1953  
determining, or supersede a limitation on campaign contributions 1954  
as provided for in the Federal Election Campaign Act. 1955

**Sec. 3517.105.** (A)(1) As used in this section, "public 1956  
political advertising" means advertising to the general public 1957  
through a broadcasting station, newspaper, magazine, poster, yard 1958  
sign, or outdoor advertising facility, by direct mail, or by any 1959  
other means of advertising to the general public. 1960

(2) For purposes of this section and section 3517.20 of the 1961  
Revised Code, a person is a member of a political action committee 1962  
if the person makes one or more contributions to that political 1963  
action committee, and a person is a member of a political 1964  
contributing entity if the person makes one or more contributions 1965  
to, or pays dues, membership fees, or other assessments to, that 1966  
political contributing entity. 1967

(B)(1) Whenever a candidate, a campaign committee, a 1968



political action committee or political contributing entity with 1969  
ten or more members, or a legislative campaign fund makes an 1970  
independent expenditure, or whenever a political action committee 1971  
or political contributing entity with fewer than ten members makes 1972  
an independent expenditure in excess of one hundred dollars for a 1973  
local candidate, in excess of two hundred fifty dollars for a 1974  
candidate for the office of member of the general assembly, or in 1975  
excess of five hundred dollars for a statewide candidate, for the 1976  
purpose of financing communications advocating the election or 1977  
defeat of an identified candidate or solicits without the 1978  
candidate's express consent a contribution for or against an 1979  
identified candidate through public political advertising, a 1980  
statement shall appear or be presented in a clear and conspicuous 1981  
manner in the advertising that does both of the following: 1982

(a) Clearly indicates that the communication or public 1983  
political advertising is not authorized by the candidate or the 1984  
candidate's campaign committee; 1985

(b) Clearly identifies the candidate, campaign committee, 1986  
political action committee, political contributing entity, or 1987  
legislative campaign fund that has paid for the communication or 1988  
public political advertising in accordance with section 3517.20 of 1989  
the Revised Code. 1990

(2)(a) Whenever any campaign committee, legislative campaign 1991  
fund, political action committee, political contributing entity, 1992  
or political party makes an independent expenditure in support of 1993  
or opposition to any candidate, the committee, entity, fund, or 1994  
party shall report the independent expenditure and identify the 1995  
candidate on a statement prescribed by the secretary of state and 1996  
filed by the committee, entity, fund, or party as part of its 1997  
statement of contributions and expenditures pursuant to division 1998  
(A) of section 3517.10 and division (A) of section 3517.11 of the 1999  
Revised Code. 2000

(b) Whenever any individual, partnership, or other entity, 2001  
except a corporation, labor organization, campaign committee, 2002  
legislative campaign fund, political action committee, political 2003  
contributing entity, or political party, makes one or more 2004  
independent expenditures in support of or opposition to any 2005  
candidate, the individual, partnership, or other entity shall file 2006  
with the secretary of state in the case of a statewide candidate, 2007  
or with the board of elections in the county in which the 2008  
candidate files the candidate's petitions for nomination or 2009  
election for district or local office, not later than the dates 2010  
specified in divisions (A)(1), (2), (3), and (4) of section 2011  
3517.10 of the Revised Code, and, except as otherwise provided in 2012  
that section, a statement itemizing all independent expenditures 2013  
made during the period since the close of business on the last day 2014  
reflected in the last previously filed such statement, if any. The 2015  
statement shall be made on a form prescribed by the secretary of 2016  
state or shall be filed by electronic means of transmission 2017  
pursuant to division (G) of section 3517.106 of the Revised Code 2018  
as authorized or required by that division. The statement shall 2019  
indicate the date and the amount of each independent expenditure 2020  
and the candidate on whose behalf it was made and shall be made 2021  
under penalty of election falsification. 2022

(C)(1) Whenever a corporation, labor organization, campaign 2023  
committee, political action committee with ten or more members, or 2024  
legislative campaign fund makes an independent expenditure, or 2025  
whenever a political action committee with fewer than ten members 2026  
makes an independent expenditure in excess of one hundred dollars 2027  
for a local ballot issue or question, or in excess of five hundred 2028  
dollars for a statewide ballot issue or question, for the purpose 2029  
of financing communications advocating support of or opposition to 2030  
an identified ballot issue or question or solicits without the 2031  
express consent of the ballot issue committee a contribution for 2032

or against an identified ballot issue or question through public  
political advertising, a statement shall appear or be presented in  
a clear and conspicuous manner in the advertising that does both  
of the following:

(a) Clearly indicates that the communication or public  
political advertising is not authorized by the identified ballot  
issue committee;

(b) Clearly identifies the corporation, labor organization,  
campaign committee, legislative campaign fund, or political action  
committee that has paid for the communication or public political  
advertising in accordance with section 3517.20 of the Revised  
Code.

(2)(a) Whenever any corporation, labor organization, campaign  
committee, legislative campaign fund, political party, or  
political action committee makes an independent expenditure in  
support of or opposition to any ballot issue or question, the  
corporation or labor organization shall report the independent  
expenditure in accordance with division (C) of section 3599.03 of  
the Revised Code, and the campaign committee, legislative campaign  
fund, political party, or political action committee shall report  
the independent expenditure and identify the ballot issue or  
question on a statement prescribed by the secretary of state and  
filed by the ~~campaign~~ committee, fund, or party, ~~or political~~  
~~action committee~~ as part of its statement of contributions and  
expenditures pursuant to division (A) of section 3517.10 and  
division (A) of section 3517.11 of the Revised Code.

(b) Whenever any individual, partnership, or other entity,  
except a corporation, labor organization, campaign committee,  
legislative campaign fund, political action committee, or  
political party, makes one or more independent expenditures in  
excess of one hundred dollars in support of or opposition to any

ballot issue or question, the individual, partnership, or other  
entity shall file with the secretary of state in the case of a  
statewide ballot issue or question, or with the board of elections  
in the county that certifies the issue or question for placement  
on the ballot in the case of a district or local issue or  
question, not later than the dates specified in divisions (A)(1),  
(2), (3), and (4) of section 3517.10 of the Revised Code, and,  
except as otherwise provided in that section, a statement  
itemizing all independent expenditures made during the period  
since the close of business on the last day reflected in the last  
previously filed such statement, if any. The statement shall be  
made on a form prescribed by the secretary of state or shall be  
filed by electronic means of transmission pursuant to division (G)  
of section 3517.106 of the Revised Code as authorized or required  
by that division. The statement shall indicate the date and the  
amount of each independent expenditure and the ballot issue or  
question in support of or opposition to which it was made and  
shall be made under penalty of election falsification.

(3) No person, campaign committee, legislative campaign fund,  
political action committee, corporation, labor organization, or  
other organization or association shall use or cause to be used a  
false or fictitious name in making an independent expenditure in  
support of or opposition to any candidate or any ballot issue or  
question. A name is false or fictitious if the person, campaign  
committee, legislative campaign fund, political action committee,  
corporation, labor organization, or other organization or  
association does not actually exist or operate, if the  
corporation, labor organization, or other organization or  
association has failed to file a fictitious name or other  
registration with the secretary of state, if it is required to do  
so, or if the person, campaign committee, legislative campaign  
fund, or political action committee has failed to file a

designation of the appointment of a treasurer, if it is required	2096
to do so by division (D)(1) of section 3517.10 of the Revised	2097
Code.	2098
(D) Any expenditure by a political party for the purpose of	2099
financing communications advocating the election or defeat of a	2100
candidate for judicial office shall be deemed to be an independent	2101
expenditure subject to the provisions of this section.	2102
<b>Sec. 3517.106.</b> (A) As used in this section:	2103
(1) "Statewide office" means any of the offices of governor,	2104
lieutenant governor, secretary of state, auditor of state,	2105
treasurer of state, attorney general, chief justice of the supreme	2106
court, and justice of the supreme court.	2107
(2) "Addendum to a statement" includes an amendment or other	2108
correction to that statement.	2109
(B)(1) The secretary of state shall store on computer the	2110
information contained in statements of contributions and	2111
expenditures and monthly statements required to be filed under	2112
section 3517.10 of the Revised Code and in statements of	2113
independent expenditures required to be filed under section	2114
3517.105 of the Revised Code by any of the following:	2115
(a) The campaign committees of candidates for statewide	2116
office;	2117
(b) The political action committees <u>and political</u>	2118
<u>contributing entities</u> described in division (A)(1) of section	2119
3517.11 of the Revised Code;	2120
(c) Legislative campaign funds;	2121
(d) State political parties;	2122
(e) Individuals, partnerships, corporations, labor	2123
organizations, or other entities that make independent	2124

expenditures in support of or opposition to a statewide candidate	2125
or a statewide ballot issue or question;	2126
(f) The campaign committees of candidates for the office of	2127
member of the general assembly;	2128
(g) County political parties, with respect to their state	2129
candidate funds.	2130
(2) The secretary of state shall store on computer the	2131
information contained in disclosure of electioneering	2132
communications statements required to be filed under section	2133
3517.1011 of the Revised Code.	2134
(3) The secretary of state shall store on computer the	2135
information contained in deposit and disbursement statements	2136
required to be filed with the office of the secretary of state	2137
under section 3517.1012 of the Revised Code.	2138
(4) The secretary of state shall store on computer the gift	2139
and disbursement information contained in statements required to	2140
be filed with the office of the secretary of state under section	2141
3517.1013 of the Revised Code.	2142
(C)(1) The secretary of state shall make available to the	2143
campaign committees, political action committees, <u>political</u>	2144
<u>contributing entities</u> , legislative campaign funds, political	2145
parties, individuals, partnerships, corporations, labor	2146
organizations, and other entities described in division (B) of	2147
this section, and to members of the news media and other	2148
interested persons, for a reasonable fee, computer programs that	2149
are compatible with the secretary of state's method of storing the	2150
information contained in the statements.	2151
(2) The secretary of state shall make the information	2152
required to be stored under division (B) of this section available	2153
on computer at the secretary of state's office so that, to the	2154

maximum extent feasible, individuals may obtain at the secretary  
of state's office any part or all of that information for any  
given year, subject to the limitation expressed in division (D) of  
this section.

(D) The secretary of state shall keep the information stored  
on computer under division (B) of this section for at least six  
years.

(E)(1) Subject to division (L) of this section and subject to  
the secretary of state having implemented, tested, and verified  
the successful operation of any system the secretary of state  
prescribes pursuant to division (H)(1) of this section and  
divisions (C)(6)(b) and (D)(6) of section 3517.10 of the Revised  
Code for the filing of campaign finance statements by electronic  
means of transmission, the campaign committee of each candidate  
for statewide office may file the statements prescribed by section  
3517.10 of the Revised Code by electronic means of transmission  
or, if the total amount of the contributions received or the total  
amount of the expenditures made by the campaign committee for the  
applicable reporting period as specified in division (A) of  
section 3517.10 of the Revised Code exceeds ten thousand dollars,  
shall file those statements by electronic means of transmission.

Except as otherwise provided in this division, within five  
business days after a statement filed by a campaign committee of a  
candidate for statewide office is received by the secretary of  
state by electronic or other means of transmission, the secretary  
of state shall make available online to the public through the  
internet, as provided in division (I) of this section, the  
contribution and expenditure information in that statement. The  
secretary of state shall not make available online to the public  
through the internet any contribution or expenditure information  
contained in a statement for any candidate until the secretary of  
state is able to make available online to the public through the

internet the contribution and expenditure information for all 2187  
candidates for a particular office, or until the applicable filing 2188  
deadline for that statement has passed, whichever is sooner. As 2189  
soon as the secretary of state has available all of the 2190  
contribution and expenditure information for all candidates for a 2191  
particular office, or as soon as the applicable filing deadline 2192  
for a statement has passed, whichever is sooner, the secretary of 2193  
state shall simultaneously make available online to the public 2194  
through the internet the information for all candidates for that 2195  
office. 2196

If a statement filed by electronic means of transmission is 2197  
found to be incomplete or inaccurate after the examination of the 2198  
statement for completeness and accuracy pursuant to division 2199  
(B)(3)(a) of section 3517.11 of the Revised Code, the campaign 2200  
committee shall file by electronic means of transmission any 2201  
addendum to the statement that provides the information necessary 2202  
to complete or correct the statement or, if required by the 2203  
secretary of state under that division, an amended statement. 2204

Within five business days after the secretary of state 2205  
receives from a campaign committee of a candidate for statewide 2206  
office an addendum to the statement or an amended statement by 2207  
electronic or other means of transmission under this division or 2208  
division (B)(3)(a) of section 3517.11 of the Revised Code, the 2209  
secretary of state shall make the contribution and expenditure 2210  
information in the addendum or amended statement available online 2211  
to the public through the internet as provided in division (I) of 2212  
this section. 2213

(2) Subject to the secretary of state having implemented, 2214  
tested, and verified the successful operation of any system the 2215  
secretary of state prescribes pursuant to division (H)(1) of this 2216  
section and divisions (C)(6)(b) and (D)(6) of section 3517.10 of 2217  
the Revised Code for the filing of campaign finance statements by 2218



electronic means of transmission, a political action committee and 2219  
a political contributing entity described in division (B)(1)(b) of 2220  
this section, a legislative campaign fund, and a state political 2221  
party may file the statements prescribed by section 3517.10 of the 2222  
Revised Code by electronic means of transmission or, if the total 2223  
amount of the contributions received or the total amount of the 2224  
expenditures made by the political action committee, political 2225  
contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or state political 2226  
party for the applicable reporting period as specified in division 2227  
(A) of section 3517.10 of the Revised Code exceeds ten thousand 2228  
dollars, shall file those statements by electronic means of 2229  
transmission. 2230

Within five business days after a statement filed by a 2231  
political action committee or a political contributing entity 2232  
described in division (B)(1)(b) of this section, a legislative 2233  
campaign fund, or a state political party is received by the 2234  
secretary of state by electronic or other means of transmission, 2235  
the secretary of state shall make available online to the public 2236  
through the internet, as provided in division (I) of this section, 2237  
the contribution and expenditure information in that statement. 2238

If a statement filed by electronic means of transmission is 2239  
found to be incomplete or inaccurate after the examination of the 2240  
statement for completeness and accuracy pursuant to division 2241  
(B)(3)(a) of section 3517.11 of the Revised Code, the political 2242  
action committee, political contributing entity, legislative 2243  
campaign fund, or state political party shall file by electronic 2244  
means of transmission any addendum to the statement that provides 2245  
the information necessary to complete or correct the statement or, 2246  
if required by the secretary of state under that division, an 2247  
amended statement. 2248

Within five business days after the secretary of state 2249  
receives from a political action committee or a political 2250

contributing entity described in division (B)(1)(b) of this 2251  
section, a legislative campaign fund, or a state political party 2252  
an addendum to the statement or an amended statement by electronic 2253  
or other means of transmission under this division or division 2254  
(B)(3)(a) of section 3517.11 of the Revised Code, the secretary of 2255  
state shall make the contribution and expenditure information in 2256  
the addendum or amended statement available online to the public 2257  
through the internet as provided in division (I) of this section. 2258

(3) Subject to the secretary of state having implemented, 2259  
tested, and verified the successful operation of any system the 2260  
secretary of state prescribes pursuant to division (H)(1) of this 2261  
section and divisions (C)(6)(b) and (D)(6) of section 3517.10 of 2262  
the Revised Code for the filing of campaign finance statements by 2263  
electronic means of transmission, a county political party shall 2264  
file the statements prescribed by section 3517.10 of the Revised 2265  
Code with respect to its state candidate fund by electronic means 2266  
of transmission to the office of the secretary of state. 2267

Within five business days after a statement filed by a county 2268  
political party with respect to its state candidate fund is 2269  
received by the secretary of state by electronic means of 2270  
transmission, the secretary of state shall make available online 2271  
to the public through the internet, as provided in division (I) of 2272  
this section, the contribution and expenditure information in that 2273  
statement. 2274

If a statement is found to be incomplete or inaccurate after 2275  
the examination of the statement for completeness and accuracy 2276  
pursuant to division (B)(3)(a) of section 3517.11 of the Revised 2277  
Code, a county political party shall file by electronic means of 2278  
transmission any addendum to the statement that provides the 2279  
information necessary to complete or correct the statement or, if 2280  
required by the secretary of state under that division, an amended 2281  
statement. 2282

Within five business days after the secretary of state 2283  
receives from a county political party an addendum to the 2284  
statement or an amended statement by electronic means of 2285  
transmission under this division or division (B)(3)(a) of section 2286  
3517.11 of the Revised Code, the secretary of state shall make the 2287  
contribution and expenditure information in the addendum or 2288  
amended statement available online to the public through the 2289  
internet as provided in division (I) of this section. 2290

(F)(1) Subject to division (L) of this section and subject to 2291  
the secretary of state having implemented, tested, and verified 2292  
the successful operation of any system the secretary of state 2293  
prescribes pursuant to division (H)(1) of this section and 2294  
divisions (C)(6)(b) and (D)(6) of section 3517.10 of the Revised 2295  
Code for the filing of campaign finance statements by electronic 2296  
means of transmission, a campaign committee of a candidate for the 2297  
office of member of the general assembly or a campaign committee 2298  
of a candidate for the office of judge of a court of appeals may 2299  
file the statements prescribed by section 3517.10 of the Revised 2300  
Code in accordance with division (A)(2) of section 3517.11 of the 2301  
Revised Code or by electronic means of transmission to the office 2302  
of the secretary of state or, if the total amount of the 2303  
contributions received by the campaign committee for the 2304  
applicable reporting period as specified in division (A) of 2305  
section 3517.10 of the Revised Code exceeds ten thousand dollars, 2306  
shall file those statements by electronic means of transmission to 2307  
the office of the secretary of state. 2308

Except as otherwise provided in this division, within five 2309  
business days after a statement filed by a campaign committee of a 2310  
candidate for the office of member of the general assembly or a 2311  
campaign committee of a candidate for the office of judge of a 2312  
court of appeals is received by the secretary of state by 2313  
electronic or other means of transmission, the secretary of state 2314

shall make available online to the public through the internet, as 2315  
provided in division (I) of this section, the contribution and 2316  
expenditure information in that statement. The secretary of state 2317  
shall not make available online to the public through the internet 2318  
any contribution or expenditure information contained in a 2319  
statement for any candidate until the secretary of state is able 2320  
to make available online to the public through the internet the 2321  
contribution and expenditure information for all candidates for a 2322  
particular office, or until the applicable filing deadline for 2323  
that statement has passed, whichever is sooner. As soon as the 2324  
secretary of state has available all of the contribution and 2325  
expenditure information for all candidates for a particular 2326  
office, or as soon as the applicable filing deadline for a 2327  
statement has passed, whichever is sooner, the secretary of state 2328  
shall simultaneously make available online to the public through 2329  
the internet the information for all candidates for that office. 2330

If a statement filed by electronic means of transmission is 2331  
found to be incomplete or inaccurate after the examination of the 2332  
statement for completeness and accuracy pursuant to division 2333  
(B)(3)(a) of section 3517.11 of the Revised Code, the campaign 2334  
committee shall file by electronic means of transmission to the 2335  
office of the secretary of state any addendum to the statement 2336  
that provides the information necessary to complete or correct the 2337  
statement or, if required by the secretary of state under that 2338  
division, an amended statement. 2339

Within five business days after the secretary of state 2340  
receives from a campaign committee of a candidate for the office 2341  
of member of the general assembly or a campaign committee of a 2342  
candidate for the office of judge of a court of appeals an 2343  
addendum to the statement or an amended statement by electronic or 2344  
other means of transmission under this division or division 2345  
(B)(3)(a) of section 3517.11 of the Revised Code, the secretary of 2346

state shall make the contribution and expenditure information in 2347  
the addendum or amended statement available online to the public 2348  
through the internet as provided in division (I) of this section. 2349

(2) If a statement, addendum, or amended statement is not 2350  
filed by electronic means of transmission to the office of the 2351  
secretary of state but is filed by printed version only under 2352  
division (A)(2) of section 3517.11 of the Revised Code with the 2353  
appropriate board of elections, the campaign committee of a 2354  
candidate for the office of member of the general assembly or a 2355  
campaign committee of a candidate for the office of judge of a 2356  
court of appeals shall file two copies of the printed version of 2357  
the statement, addendum, or amended statement with the board of 2358  
elections. The board of elections shall send one of those copies 2359  
by overnight delivery service to the secretary of state before the 2360  
close of business on the day the board of elections receives the 2361  
statement, addendum, or amended statement. 2362

(G) Subject to the secretary of state having implemented, 2363  
tested, and verified the successful operation of any system the 2364  
secretary of state prescribes pursuant to division (H)(1) of this 2365  
section and divisions (C)(6)(b) and (D)(6) of section 3517.10 of 2366  
the Revised Code for the filing of campaign finance statements by 2367  
electronic means of transmission, any individual, partnership, or 2368  
other entity that makes independent expenditures in support of or 2369  
opposition to a statewide candidate or a statewide ballot issue or 2370  
question as provided in division (B)(2)(b) or (C)(2)(b) of section 2371  
3517.105 of the Revised Code may file the statement specified in 2372  
that division by electronic means of transmission or, if the total 2373  
amount of independent expenditures made during the reporting 2374  
period under that division exceeds ten thousand dollars, shall 2375  
file the statement specified in that division by electronic means 2376  
of transmission. 2377

Within five business days after a statement filed by an 2378

individual, partnership, or other entity is received by the 2379  
secretary of state by electronic or other means of transmission, 2380  
the secretary of state shall make available online to the public 2381  
through the internet, as provided in division (I) of this section, 2382  
the expenditure information in that statement. 2383

If a statement filed by electronic means of transmission is 2384  
found to be incomplete or inaccurate after the examination of the 2385  
statement for completeness and accuracy pursuant to division 2386  
(B)(3)(a) of section 3517.11 of the Revised Code, the individual, 2387  
partnership, or other entity shall file by electronic means of 2388  
transmission any addendum to the statement that provides the 2389  
information necessary to complete or correct the statement or, if 2390  
required by the secretary of state under that division, an amended 2391  
statement. 2392

Within five business days after the secretary of state 2393  
receives from an individual, partnership, or other entity 2394  
described in division (B)(2)(b) or (C)(2)(b) of section 3517.105 2395  
of the Revised Code an addendum to the statement or an amended 2396  
statement by electronic or other means of transmission under this 2397  
division or division (B)(3)(a) of section 3517.11 of the Revised 2398  
Code, the secretary of state shall make the expenditure 2399  
information in the addendum or amended statement available online 2400  
to the public through the internet as provided in division (I) of 2401  
this section. 2402

(H)(1) The secretary of state, by rule adopted pursuant to 2403  
section 3517.23 of the Revised Code, shall prescribe one or more 2404  
techniques by which a person who executes and transmits by 2405  
electronic means a statement of contributions and expenditures, a 2406  
statement of independent expenditures, a disclosure of 2407  
electioneering communications statement, a deposit and 2408  
disbursement statement, or a gift and disbursement statement, an 2409  
addendum to any of those statements, an amended statement of 2410

contributions and expenditures, an amended statement of 2411  
independent expenditures, an amended disclosure of electioneering 2412  
communications statement, an amended deposit and disbursement 2413  
statement, or an amended gift and disbursement statement, under 2414  
this section or section 3517.10, 3517.105, 3517.1011, 3517.1012, 2415  
or 3517.1013 of the Revised Code shall electronically sign the 2416  
statement, addendum, or amended statement. Any technique 2417  
prescribed by the secretary of state pursuant to this division 2418  
shall create an electronic signature that satisfies all of the 2419  
following: 2420

(a) It is unique to the signer. 2421

(b) It objectively identifies the signer. 2422

(c) It involves the use of a signature device or other means 2423  
or method that is under the sole control of the signer and that 2424  
cannot be readily duplicated or compromised. 2425

(d) It is created and linked to the electronic record to 2426  
which it relates in a manner that, if the record or signature is 2427  
intentionally or unintentionally changed after signing, the 2428  
electronic signature is invalidated. 2429

(2) An electronic signature prescribed by the secretary of 2430  
state under division (H)(1) of this section shall be attached to 2431  
or associated with the statement of contributions and 2432  
expenditures, the statement of independent expenditures, the 2433  
disclosure of electioneering communications statement, the deposit 2434  
and disbursement statement, or the gift and disbursement 2435  
statement, the addendum to any of those statements, the amended 2436  
statement of contributions and expenditures, the amended statement 2437  
of independent expenditures, the amended disclosure of 2438  
electioneering communications statement, the amended deposit and 2439  
disbursement statement, or the amended gift and disbursement 2440  
statement that is executed and transmitted by electronic means by 2441

the person to whom the electronic signature is attributed. The 2442  
electronic signature that is attached to or associated with the 2443  
statement, addendum, or amended statement under this division 2444  
shall be binding on all persons and for all purposes under the 2445  
campaign finance reporting law as if the signature had been 2446  
handwritten in ink on a printed form. 2447

(I) The secretary of state shall make the contribution and 2448  
expenditure, the contribution and disbursement, the deposit and 2449  
disbursement, or the gift and disbursement information in all 2450  
statements, all addenda to the statements, and all amended 2451  
statements that are filed with the secretary of state by 2452  
electronic or other means of transmission under this section or 2453  
section 3517.10, 3517.105, 3517.1011, 3517.1012, 3517.1013, or 2454  
3517.11 of the Revised Code available online to the public by any 2455  
means that are searchable, viewable, and accessible through the 2456  
internet. 2457

(J)(1) As used in this division, "library" means a library 2458  
that is open to the public and that is one of the following: 2459

(a) A library that is maintained and regulated under section 2460  
715.13 of the Revised Code; 2461

(b) A library that is created, maintained, and regulated 2462  
under Chapter 3375. of the Revised Code. 2463

(2) The secretary of state shall notify all libraries of the 2464  
location on the internet at which the contribution and 2465  
expenditure, contribution and disbursement, deposit and 2466  
disbursement, or gift and disbursement information in campaign 2467  
finance statements required to be made available online to the 2468  
public through the internet pursuant to division (I) of this 2469  
section may be accessed. 2470

If that location is part of the world wide web and if the 2471  
secretary of state has notified a library of that world wide web 2472



location as required by this division, the library shall include a 2473  
link to that world wide web location on each internet-connected 2474  
computer it maintains that is accessible to the public. 2475

(3) If the system the secretary of state prescribes for the 2476  
filing of campaign finance statements by electronic means of 2477  
transmission pursuant to division (H)(1) of this section and 2478  
divisions (C)(6)(b) and (D)(6) of section 3517.10 of the Revised 2479  
Code includes filing those statements through the internet via the 2480  
world wide web, the secretary of state shall notify all libraries 2481  
of the world wide web location at which those statements may be 2482  
filed. 2483

If those statements may be filed through the internet via the 2484  
world wide web and if the secretary of state has notified a 2485  
library of that world wide web location as required by this 2486  
division, the library shall include a link to that world wide web 2487  
location on each internet-connected computer it maintains that is 2488  
accessible to the public. 2489

(K) It is an affirmative defense to a complaint or charge 2490  
brought against any campaign committee, political action 2491  
committee, political contributing entity, legislative campaign 2492  
fund, or political party, any individual, partnership, or other 2493  
entity, or any person making disbursements to pay the direct costs 2494  
of producing or airing electioneering communications, for the 2495  
failure to file by electronic means of transmission a campaign 2496  
finance statement as required by this section or section 3517.10, 2497  
3517.105, 3517.1011, 3517.1012, or 3517.1013 of the Revised Code 2498  
that all of the following apply to the campaign committee, 2499  
political action committee, political contributing entity, 2500  
legislative campaign fund, or political party, the individual, 2501  
partnership, or other entity, or the person making disbursements 2502  
to pay the direct costs of producing or airing electioneering 2503  
communications, that failed to so file: 2504

(1) The campaign committee, political action committee, 2505  
political contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or 2506  
political party, the individual, partnership, or other entity, or 2507  
the person making disbursements to pay the direct costs of 2508  
producing or airing electioneering communications attempted to 2509  
file by electronic means of transmission the required statement 2510  
prior to the deadline set forth in the applicable section. 2511

(2) The campaign committee, political action committee, 2512  
political contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or 2513  
political party, the individual, partnership, or other entity, or 2514  
the person making disbursements to pay the direct costs of 2515  
producing or airing electioneering communications was unable to 2516  
file by electronic means of transmission due to an expected or 2517  
unexpected shutdown of the whole or part of the electronic 2518  
campaign finance statement-filing system, such as for maintenance 2519  
or because of hardware, software, or network connection failure. 2520

(3) The campaign committee, political action committee, 2521  
political contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or 2522  
political party, the individual, partnership, or other entity, or 2523  
the person making disbursements to pay the direct costs of 2524  
producing or airing electioneering communications filed by 2525  
electronic means of transmission the required statement within a 2526  
reasonable period of time after being unable to so file it under 2527  
the circumstance described in division (K)(2) of this section. 2528

(L)(1) The secretary of state shall adopt rules pursuant to 2529  
Chapter 119. of the Revised Code to permit a campaign committee of 2530  
a candidate for statewide office that makes expenditures of less 2531  
than twenty-five thousand dollars during the filing period or a 2532  
campaign committee for the office of member of the general 2533  
assembly or the office of judge of a court of appeals that would 2534  
otherwise be required to file campaign finance statements by 2535  
electronic means of transmission under division (E) or (F) of this 2536

section to file those statements by paper with the office of the 2537  
secretary of state. Those rules shall provide for all of the 2538  
following: 2539

(a) An eligible campaign committee that wishes to file a 2540  
campaign finance statement by paper instead of by electronic means 2541  
of transmission shall file the statement on paper with the office 2542  
of the secretary of state not sooner than twenty-four hours after 2543  
the end of the filing period set forth in section 3517.10 of the 2544  
Revised Code that is covered by the applicable statement. 2545

(b) The statement shall be accompanied by a fee, the amount 2546  
of which the secretary of state shall determine by rule. The 2547  
amount of the fee established under this division shall not exceed 2548  
the data entry and data verification costs the secretary of state 2549  
will incur to convert the information on the statement to an 2550  
electronic format as required under division (I) of this section. 2551

(c) The secretary of state shall arrange for the information 2552  
in campaign finance statements filed pursuant to division (L) of 2553  
this section to be made available online to the public through the 2554  
internet in the same manner, and at the same times, as information 2555  
is made available under divisions (E), (F), and (I) of this 2556  
section for candidates whose campaign committees file those 2557  
statements by electronic means of transmission. 2558

(d) The candidate of an eligible campaign committee that 2559  
intends to file a campaign finance statement pursuant to division 2560  
(L) of this section shall file an affidavit indicating that the 2561  
candidate's campaign committee intends to so file and stating that 2562  
filing the statement by electronic means of transmission would 2563  
constitute a hardship for the candidate or for the eligible 2564  
campaign committee. 2565

(e) An eligible campaign committee that files a campaign 2566  
finance statement on paper pursuant to division (L) of this 2567

section shall review the contribution and information made 2568  
available online by the secretary of state with respect to that 2569  
paper filing and shall notify the secretary of state of any errors 2570  
with respect to that filing that appear in the data made available 2571  
on that web site. 2572

(f) If an eligible campaign committee whose candidate has 2573  
filed an affidavit in accordance with rules adopted under division 2574  
(L)(1)(d) of this section subsequently fails to file that 2575  
statement on paper by the applicable deadline established in rules 2576  
adopted under division (L)(1)(a) of this section, penalties for 2577  
the late filing of the campaign finance statement shall apply to 2578  
that campaign committee for each day after that paper filing 2579  
deadline, as if the campaign committee had filed the statement 2580  
after the applicable deadline set forth in division (A) of section 2581  
3517.10 of the Revised Code. 2582

(2) The process for permitting campaign committees that would 2583  
otherwise be required to file campaign finance statements by 2584  
electronic means of transmission to file those statements on paper 2585  
with the office of the secretary of state that is required to be 2586  
developed under division (L)(1) of this section shall be in effect 2587  
and available for use by eligible campaign committees for all 2588  
campaign finance statements that are required to be filed on or 2589  
after June 30, 2005. Notwithstanding any provision of the Revised 2590  
Code to the contrary, if the process the secretary of state is 2591  
required to develop under division (L)(1) of this section is not 2592  
in effect and available for use on and after June 30, 2005, all 2593  
penalties for the failure of campaign committees to file campaign 2594  
finance statements by electronic means of transmission shall be 2595  
suspended until such time as that process is in effect and 2596  
available for use. 2597

(3) Notwithstanding any provision of the Revised Code to the 2598  
contrary, any eligible campaign committee that files campaign 2599

finance statements on paper with the office of the secretary of 2600  
state pursuant to division (L)(1) of this section shall be deemed 2601  
to have filed those campaign finance statements by electronic 2602  
means of transmission to the office of the secretary of state. 2603

**Sec. 3517.108.** (A) As used in divisions (A) and (B) of this 2604  
section: 2605

(1) "Candidate" has the same meaning as in section 3517.01 of 2606  
the Revised Code but includes only candidates for the offices of 2607  
governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, auditor of 2608  
state, treasurer of state, attorney general, member of the state 2609  
board of education, member of the general assembly, chief justice 2610  
of the supreme court, and justice of the supreme court. 2611

(2) A "general election period" begins on the day after the 2612  
primary election immediately preceding the general election at 2613  
which a candidate seeks an office specified in division (A)(1) of 2614  
this section and ends on the thirty-first day of December 2615  
following that general election. 2616

(3) A "primary election period" begins on the first day of 2617  
January of the year following the year in which the general 2618  
election was held for the office that the candidate seeks, 2619  
including any mid-term election, and ends on the day of the 2620  
primary election. 2621

(B) Whenever the campaign committee of a candidate has unpaid 2622  
debt at the end of a primary election period or at the end of a 2623  
general election period, the committee may accept additional 2624  
contributions during the immediately following election period up 2625  
to the applicable limitation prescribed under section 3517.102 of 2626  
the Revised Code from any individual, political action committee, 2627  
political contributing entity, or other campaign committee who, 2628  
during the primary or general election period for which debt 2629

remains unpaid, has contributed less than the contribution 2630  
limitations prescribed under section 3517.102 of the Revised Code 2631  
applicable to that individual, political action committee, 2632  
political contributing entity, or other campaign committee. Any 2633  
additional contribution that a campaign committee accepts under 2634  
this division shall count toward the applicable limitations 2635  
prescribed under section 3517.102 of the Revised Code for that 2636  
primary or general election period at the end of which the debt 2637  
remains unpaid, and shall not count toward the applicable 2638  
limitations for any other primary or general election period if 2639  
all of the following conditions apply: 2640

(1) The campaign committee reports, on the statement required 2641  
to be filed under division (A)(2) of section 3517.10 of the 2642  
Revised Code, all debt remaining unpaid at the end of the election 2643  
period. The committee shall also file a separate statement, on a 2644  
form prescribed by the secretary of state, at the same time that 2645  
the committee is required to file a statement of contributions and 2646  
expenditures under section 3517.10 of the Revised Code. The 2647  
separate statement shall include the name and address of each 2648  
contributor who makes an additional contribution under division 2649  
(B) of this section, how the contribution was applied to pay the 2650  
unpaid debt as required by division (B)(3) of this section, and 2651  
the balance of the unpaid debt after each contribution was applied 2652  
to it. 2653

(2) The additional contributions are accepted only during the 2654  
primary or general election period, whichever is applicable, 2655  
immediately following the election period covered in the statement 2656  
filed under division (B)(1) of this section. 2657

(3) All additional contributions made under division (B) of 2658  
this section are used by the campaign committee that receives them 2659  
only to pay the debt of the committee reported under division 2660  
(B)(1) of this section. 2661

(4) The campaign committee maintains a separate account for 2662  
all additional contributions made under division (B) of this 2663  
section and uses moneys in that account only to pay the unpaid 2664  
debt reported under division (B)(1) of this section and to 2665  
administer the account. 2666

(5) The campaign committee stops accepting additional 2667  
contributions after funds sufficient to repay the unpaid debt 2668  
reported under division (B)(1) of this section have been raised 2669  
and promptly disposes of any contributions received that exceed 2670  
the amount of the unpaid debt by returning the excess 2671  
contributions to the contributors or by giving the excess 2672  
contributions to an organization that is exempt from federal 2673  
income taxation under subsection 501(a) and described in 2674  
subsection 501(c)(3), (4), (8), (10), or (19) of the Internal 2675  
Revenue Code. 2676

**Sec. 3517.109.** (A) As used in this section: 2677

(1) "Candidate" has the same meaning as in section 3517.01 of 2678  
the Revised Code but includes only candidates for the offices of 2679  
governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, auditor of 2680  
state, treasurer of state, attorney general, member of the state 2681  
board of education, and member of the general assembly. 2682

(2) "Statewide candidate" means the joint candidates for the 2683  
offices of governor and lieutenant governor or a candidate for the 2684  
office of secretary of state, auditor of state, treasurer of 2685  
state, attorney general, and member of the state board of 2686  
education. 2687

(3) "Senate candidate" means a candidate for the office of 2688  
state senator. 2689

(4) "House candidate" means a candidate for the office of 2690  
state representative. 2691

(5) "State office" means the offices of governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, auditor of state, treasurer of state, attorney general, member of the state board of education, and member of the general assembly.

(6) "Aggregate contribution" means the total of all contributions from a contributor during the pre-filing period.

(7) "Allowable aggregate contribution" means all of the following:

(a) In the case of a contribution from a contributor whose contributions are subject to the contribution limits described in division (B)(1), (2), (3), ~~or (6)(a)~~, or (7) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code, that portion of the amount of the contributor's aggregate contribution that does not exceed the preprimary contribution limit applicable to that contributor.

(b) In the case of a contribution or contributions from a contributor whose contributions are not subject to the contribution limits described in divisions (B)(1), (2), (3), ~~or (6)(a)~~, or (7) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code, the total of the following:

(i) That portion of the aggregate contribution that was received as in-kind services;

(ii) That portion of the aggregate contribution that was received as cash and does not exceed the applicable preprimary cash transfer or contribution limits described in division (B)(6)(b) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code.

(8) "Excess aggregate contribution" means, for each contributor, the amount by which that contributor's aggregate contribution exceeds that contributor's allowable aggregate contribution.

(9) "Pre-filing period" means the period of time ending on



the day that the candidacy petitions are due for the state office	2722
for which the candidate has filed and beginning on the latest date	2723
of the following:	2724
(a) The first day of January of the year following the	2725
general election in which that state office was last on the	2726
ballot;	2727
(b) The first day of January of the year following the	2728
general election in which the candidate was last a candidate for	2729
any office;	2730
(c) The first day of the month following the primary election	2731
in which the candidate was last a candidate for any office.	2732
(10) "Filing date" means the last date on which a candidacy	2733
petition may be filed for an office.	2734
(11) "Applicable carry-in limit" means thirty-five thousand	2735
dollars if the candidate is a house candidate or a candidate for	2736
the state board of education, one hundred thousand dollars if the	2737
candidate is a senate candidate, and two hundred thousand dollars	2738
if the candidate is a statewide candidate other than a candidate	2739
for the state board of education.	2740
(12) "Campaign asset" means prepaid, purchased, or donated	2741
assets available to the candidate on the date of the filing	2742
deadline for the office the candidate is seeking that will be	2743
consumed or depleted in the course of the candidate's election	2744
campaign, including, but not limited to, postage, prepaid rent for	2745
campaign headquarters, prepaid radio, television, and newspaper	2746
advertising, and other prepaid consulting and personal services.	2747
(13) "Permitted funds" means the sum of the following:	2748
(a) The total of the allowable aggregate contribution of each	2749
contributor;	2750
(b) The applicable carry-in limit.	2751

(14) "Excess funds" means the amount by which the sum of the 2752  
total cash on hand and total reported campaign assets exceeds 2753  
permitted funds. 2754

(15) "Covered candidate" means both of the following: 2755

(a) A candidate who, during the pre-filing period, accepts or 2756  
has a campaign committee that accepts contributions on the 2757  
candidate's behalf for the purpose of nominating or electing the 2758  
candidate to any office not subject to the contribution limits 2759  
prescribed in section 3517.102 of the Revised Code; 2760

(b) A person who, during the pre-filing period, accepts or 2761  
has a campaign committee that accepts contributions on the 2762  
person's behalf prior to the person deciding upon or announcing 2763  
the office for which the person will become a candidate for 2764  
nomination or election. 2765

(B) Each candidate who files for state office, not later than 2766  
the filing date for that office, shall dispose of any excess 2767  
funds. Each covered candidate who files for state office, not 2768  
later than the filing date for that office, shall dispose of any 2769  
excess aggregate contributions. 2770

(C) Any campaign committee that is required to dispose of 2771  
excess funds or excess aggregate contributions under division (B) 2772  
of this section shall dispose of that excess amount or amounts by 2773  
doing any of the following: 2774

(1) Giving the amount to the treasurer of state for deposit 2775  
into the state treasury to the credit of the Ohio elections 2776  
commission fund created by division (I) of section 3517.152 of the 2777  
Revised Code; 2778

(2) Giving the amount to individuals who made contributions 2779  
to that campaign committee as a refund of all or part of their 2780  
contributions; 2781

(3) Giving the amount to a corporation that is exempt from federal income taxation under subsection 501(a) and described in subsection 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code.

(D)(1) Subject to division (D)(2) of this section, no candidate or covered candidate shall appear on the ballot, even if certified to appear on the ballot, unless the candidate's or covered candidate's campaign committee has disposed of excess funds, excess aggregate contributions, or both as required by divisions (B) and (C) of this section.

(2) If the excess aggregate contributions accepted by a covered candidate or a covered candidate's campaign committee aggregate a total of less than five thousand dollars from all contributors, that candidate shall not be prohibited from appearing on the ballot under division (D)(1) of this section.

(E)(1) The campaign committee of each candidate required to dispose of excess funds under this section shall file a report, on a form prescribed by the secretary of state, with the official or board with which the candidate is required to file statements under section 3517.11 of the Revised Code. The report shall be filed by the seventh day following the filing deadline for the office the candidate is seeking, shall indicate the amount of excess funds disposed of, and shall describe the manner in which the campaign committee disposed of the excess amount.

(2) In addition to the information required to be included in a report filed under division (E)(1) of this section, the campaign committee of each covered candidate required to dispose of excess aggregate contributions under this section shall include in that report the source and amount of each excess aggregate contribution disposed of and shall describe the manner in which the campaign committee disposed of the excess amount.

(F)(1) Each campaign committee of a candidate who has filed a

declaration of candidacy or a nominating petition for a state office, not later than seven days after the filing date for the office the candidate is seeking, shall file a declaration of filing-day finances, on a form prescribed by the secretary of state, with the official or board with which the candidate is required to file statements under section 3517.11 of the Revised Code. 2813  
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(2) A declaration of filing-day finances shall list all of the following: 2820  
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(a) The amount of cash on hand in the candidate's campaign fund on the filing date for the office the candidate is seeking. 2822  
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(b) The value and description of all campaign assets worth five hundred dollars or more available to the candidate on the filing date. Assets purchased by the campaign shall be valued at actual cost, and in-kind contributions shall be valued at market value. 2824  
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(c) The total of all aggregate contributions; 2829

(d) The total of all allowable aggregate contributions; 2830

(e) The applicable carry-in limit, if any. 2831

(3) In addition to the information required to be included in a report of filing-day finances filed under division (F)(1) of this section, the campaign committee of each covered candidate shall include both of the following in that report: 2832  
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(a) The total of all excess aggregate contributions; 2836

(b) For each contributor, if any, for whom there is an excess aggregate contribution, the name, address, aggregate contribution, and excess aggregate contribution. 2837  
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(G) A campaign committee of a candidate is not required to file a declaration of filing-day finances under division (F) of this section if all of the following apply: 2840  
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(1) The campaign committee has not accepted, during the pre-filing period, any aggregate contribution greater than the applicable amount.

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(2) The campaign committee had less than the carry-in amount in cash on hand at the beginning of the pre-filing period.

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(3) The candidate files a declaration, on a form prescribed by the secretary of state, with the official or board with which the candidate is required to file statements under section 3517.11 of the Revised Code not later than seven days after the filing date for the office that candidate is seeking, stating that the candidate's campaign committee has not accepted aggregate contributions as described in division (G)(1) of this section and has less than the carry-in amount in cash on hand as described in division (G)(2) of this section.

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**Sec. 3517.11.** (A)(1) Campaign committees of candidates for statewide office or the state board of education, political action committees or political contributing entities that make contributions to campaign committees of candidates that are required to file the statements prescribed by section 3517.10 of the Revised Code with the secretary of state, political action committees or political contributing entities that make contributions to campaign committees of candidates for member of the general assembly, political action committees or political contributing entities that make contributions to state and national political parties and to legislative campaign funds, political action committees or political contributing entities that receive contributions or make expenditures in connection with a statewide ballot issue, political action committees or political contributing entities that make contributions to other political action committees or political contributing entities, political parties, and campaign committees, except as set forth in division

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(A)(3) of this section, legislative campaign funds, and state and 2874  
national political parties shall file the statements prescribed by 2875  
section 3517.10 of the Revised Code with the secretary of state. 2876

(2)(a) Except as otherwise provided in division (F) of 2877  
section 3517.106 of the Revised Code, campaign committees of 2878  
candidates for all other offices shall file the statements 2879  
prescribed by section 3517.10 of the Revised Code with the board 2880  
of elections where their candidates are required to file their 2881  
petitions or other papers for nomination or election. 2882

(b) A campaign committee of a candidate for office of member 2883  
of the general assembly or a campaign committee of a candidate for 2884  
the office of judge of a court of appeals shall file two copies of 2885  
the printed version of any statement, addendum, or amended 2886  
statement if the committee does not file pursuant to division 2887  
(F)(1) or (L) of section 3517.106 of the Revised Code but files by 2888  
printed version only with the appropriate board of elections. The 2889  
board of elections shall send one of those copies by overnight 2890  
delivery service to the secretary of state before the close of 2891  
business on the day the board of elections receives the statement, 2892  
addendum, or amended statement. 2893

(3) Political action committees or political contributing 2894  
entities that only contribute to a county political party, 2895  
contribute to campaign committees of candidates whose nomination 2896  
or election is to be submitted only to electors within a county, 2897  
subdivision, or district, excluding candidates for member of the 2898  
general assembly, and receive contributions or make expenditures 2899  
in connection with ballot questions or issues to be submitted only 2900  
to electors within a county, subdivision, or district shall file 2901  
the statements prescribed by section 3517.10 of the Revised Code 2902  
with the board of elections in that county or in the county 2903  
contained in whole or part within the subdivision or district 2904  
having a population greater than that of any other county 2905

contained in whole or part within that subdivision or district, as 2906  
the case may be. 2907

(4) Except as otherwise provided in division (E)(3) of 2908  
section 3517.106 of the Revised Code with respect to state 2909  
candidate funds, county political parties shall file the 2910  
statements prescribed by section 3517.10 of the Revised Code with 2911  
the board of elections of their respective counties. 2912

(B)(1) The official with whom petitions and other papers for 2913  
nomination or election to public office are filed shall furnish 2914  
each candidate at the time of that filing a copy of sections 2915  
3517.01, 3517.08 to 3517.11, 3517.13 to 3517.993, 3599.03, and 2916  
3599.031 of the Revised Code and any other materials that the 2917  
secretary of state may require. Each candidate receiving the 2918  
materials shall acknowledge their receipt in writing. 2919

(2) On or before the tenth day before the dates on which 2920  
statements are required to be filed by section 3517.10 of the 2921  
Revised Code, every candidate subject to the provisions of this 2922  
section and sections 3517.10 and 3517.106 of the Revised Code 2923  
shall be notified of the requirements and applicable penalties of 2924  
those sections. The secretary of state, by certified mail, return 2925  
receipt requested, shall notify all candidates required to file 2926  
those statements with the secretary of state's office. The board 2927  
of elections of every county shall notify by first class mail any 2928  
candidate who has personally appeared at the office of the board 2929  
on or before the tenth day before the statements are required to 2930  
be filed and signed a form, to be provided by the secretary of 2931  
state, attesting that the candidate has been notified of the 2932  
candidate's obligations under the campaign finance law. The board 2933  
shall forward the completed form to the secretary of state. The 2934  
board shall use certified mail, return receipt requested, to 2935  
notify all other candidates required to file those statements with 2936  
it. 2937

(3)(a) Any statement required to be filed under sections 2938  
3517.081 to 3517.17 of the Revised Code that is found to be 2939  
incomplete or inaccurate by the officer to whom it is submitted 2940  
shall be accepted on a conditional basis, and the person who filed 2941  
it shall be notified by certified mail as to the incomplete or 2942  
inaccurate nature of the statement. The secretary of state may 2943  
examine statements filed for candidates for the office of member 2944  
of the general assembly and candidates for the office of judge of 2945  
a court of appeals for completeness and accuracy. The secretary of 2946  
state shall examine for completeness and accuracy statements that 2947  
campaign committees of candidates for the office of member of the 2948  
general assembly and campaign committees of candidates for the 2949  
office of judge of a court of appeals file pursuant to division 2950  
(F) or (L) of section 3517.106 of the Revised Code. If an officer 2951  
at the board of elections where a statement filed for a candidate 2952  
for the office of member of the general assembly or for a 2953  
candidate for the office of judge of a court of appeals was 2954  
submitted finds the statement to be incomplete or inaccurate, the 2955  
officer shall immediately notify the secretary of state of its 2956  
incomplete or inaccurate nature. If either an officer at the board 2957  
of elections or the secretary of state finds a statement filed for 2958  
a candidate for the office of member of the general assembly or 2959  
for a candidate for the office of judge of a court of appeals to 2960  
be incomplete or inaccurate, only the secretary of state shall 2961  
send the notification as to the incomplete or inaccurate nature of 2962  
the statement. 2963

Within twenty-one days after receipt of the notice, in the 2964  
case of a pre-election statement, a postelection statement, a 2965  
monthly statement, an annual statement, or a semiannual statement 2966  
prescribed by section 3517.10, an annual statement prescribed by 2967  
section 3517.101, or a statement prescribed by division (B)(2)(b) 2968  
or (C)(2)(b) of section 3517.105 or section 3517.107 of the 2969



Revised Code, the recipient shall file an addendum, amendment, or  
other correction to the statement providing the information  
necessary to complete or correct the statement. The secretary of  
state may require that, in lieu of filing an addendum, amendment,  
or other correction to a statement that is filed by electronic  
means of transmission to the office of the secretary of state  
pursuant to section 3517.106 of the Revised Code, the recipient of  
the notice described in this division file by electronic means of  
transmission an amended statement that incorporates the  
information necessary to complete or correct the statement.

The secretary of state shall determine by rule when an  
addendum, amendment, or other correction to any of the following  
or when an amended statement of any of the following shall be  
filed:

(i) A two-business-day statement prescribed by section  
3517.10 of the Revised Code;

(ii) A disclosure of electioneering communications statement  
prescribed by division (D) of section 3517.1011 of the Revised  
Code;

(iii) A deposit and disbursement statement prescribed under  
division (B) of section 3517.1012 of the Revised Code;

(iv) A gift and disbursement statement prescribed under  
section 3517.1013 of the Revised Code.

An addendum, amendment, or other correction to a statement  
that is filed by electronic means of transmission pursuant to  
section 3517.106 of the Revised Code shall be filed in the same  
manner as the statement.

The provisions of sections 3517.10, 3517.106, 3517.1011,  
3517.1012, and 3517.1013 of the Revised Code pertaining to the  
filing of statements of contributions and expenditures, statements

of independent expenditures, disclosure of electioneering 3000  
communications statements, deposit and disbursement statements, 3001  
and gift and disbursement statements by electronic means of 3002  
transmission apply to the filing of addenda, amendments, or other 3003  
corrections to those statements by electronic means of 3004  
transmission and the filing of amended statements by electronic 3005  
means of transmission. 3006

(b) Within five business days after the secretary of state 3007  
receives, by electronic or other means of transmission, an 3008  
addendum, amendment, or other correction to a statement or an 3009  
amended statement under division (B)(3)(a) of this section, the 3010  
secretary of state, pursuant to divisions (E), (F), (G), and (I) 3011  
of section 3517.106 or division (D) of section 3517.1011 of the 3012  
Revised Code, shall make the contribution and expenditure, 3013  
contribution and disbursement, deposit and disbursement, or gift 3014  
and disbursement information in that addendum, amendment, 3015  
correction, or amended statement available online to the public 3016  
through the internet. 3017

(4)(a) The secretary of state or the board of elections shall 3018  
examine all statements for compliance with sections 3517.08 to 3019  
3517.17 of the Revised Code. 3020

(b) The secretary of state may contract with an individual or 3021  
entity not associated with the secretary of state and experienced 3022  
in interpreting the campaign finance law of this state to conduct 3023  
examinations of statements filed by any statewide candidate, as 3024  
defined in section 3517.103 of the Revised Code. 3025

(c) The examination shall be conducted by a person or entity 3026  
qualified to conduct it. The results of the examination shall be 3027  
available to the public, and, when the examination is conducted by 3028  
an individual or entity not associated with the secretary of 3029  
state, the results of the examination shall be reported to the 3030

secretary of state. 3031

(C)(1) In the event of a failure to file or a late filing of 3032  
a statement required to be filed under sections 3517.081 to 3033  
3517.17 of the Revised Code, or if a filed statement or any 3034  
addendum, amendment, or other correction to a statement or any 3035  
amended statement, if an addendum, amendment, or other correction 3036  
or an amended statement is required to be filed, is incomplete or 3037  
inaccurate or appears to disclose a failure to comply with or a 3038  
violation of law, the official whose duty it is to examine the 3039  
statement shall promptly file a complaint with the Ohio elections 3040  
commission under section 3517.153 of the Revised Code if the law 3041  
is one over which the commission has jurisdiction to hear 3042  
complaints, or the official shall promptly report the failure or 3043  
violation to the board of elections and the board shall promptly 3044  
report it to the prosecuting attorney in accordance with division 3045  
(J) of section 3501.11 of the Revised Code. If the official files 3046  
a complaint with the commission, the commission shall proceed in 3047  
accordance with sections 3517.154 to 3517.157 of the Revised Code. 3048

(2) For purposes of division (C)(1) of this section, a 3049  
statement or an addendum, amendment, or other correction to a 3050  
statement or an amended statement required to be filed under 3051  
sections 3517.081 to 3517.17 of the Revised Code is incomplete or 3052  
inaccurate under this section if the statement, addendum, 3053  
amendment, other correction, or amended statement fails to 3054  
disclose substantially all contributions or gifts that are 3055  
received or deposits that are made that are required to be 3056  
reported under sections 3517.10, 3517.107, 3517.108, 3517.1011, 3057  
3517.1012, and 3517.1013 of the Revised Code or if the statement, 3058  
addendum, amendment, other correction, or amended statement fails 3059  
to disclose at least ninety per cent of the total contributions or 3060  
gifts received or deposits made or of the total expenditures or 3061  
disbursements made during the reporting period. 3062

(D) No certificate of nomination or election shall be issued 3063  
to a person, and no person elected to an office shall enter upon 3064  
the performance of the duties of that office, until that person or 3065  
that person's campaign committee, as appropriate, has fully 3066  
complied with this section and sections 3517.08, 3517.081, 3067  
3517.10, and 3517.13 of the Revised Code. 3068

**Sec. 3517.13.** (A)(1) No campaign committee of a statewide 3069  
candidate shall fail to file a complete and accurate statement 3070  
required under division (A)(1) of section 3517.10 of the Revised 3071  
Code. 3072

(2) No campaign committee of a statewide candidate shall fail 3073  
to file a complete and accurate monthly statement, and no campaign 3074  
committee of a statewide candidate or a candidate for the office 3075  
of chief justice or justice of the supreme court shall fail to 3076  
file a complete and accurate two-business-day statement, as 3077  
required under section 3517.10 of the Revised Code. 3078

As used in this division, "statewide candidate" has the same 3079  
meaning as in division (F)(2) of section 3517.10 of the Revised 3080  
Code. 3081

(B) No campaign committee shall fail to file a complete and 3082  
accurate statement required under division (A)(1) of section 3083  
3517.10 of the Revised Code. 3084

(C) No campaign committee shall fail to file a complete and 3085  
accurate statement required under division (A)(2) of section 3086  
3517.10 of the Revised Code. 3087

(D) No campaign committee shall fail to file a complete and 3088  
accurate statement required under division (A)(3) or (4) of 3089  
section 3517.10 of the Revised Code. 3090

(E) No person other than a campaign committee shall knowingly 3091  
fail to file a statement required under section 3517.10 or 3092

3517.107 of the Revised Code.	3093
(F) No person shall make cash contributions to any person	3094
totaling more than one hundred dollars in each primary, special,	3095
or general election.	3096
(G)(1) No person shall knowingly conceal or misrepresent	3097
contributions given or received, expenditures made, or any other	3098
information required to be reported by a provision in sections	3099
3517.08 to 3517.13 and 3517.17 of the Revised Code.	3100
(2)(a) No person shall make a contribution to a campaign	3101
committee, political action committee, <u>political contributing</u>	3102
<u>entity</u> , legislative campaign fund, political party, or person	3103
making disbursements to pay the direct costs of producing or	3104
airing electioneering communications in the name of another	3105
person.	3106
(b) A person does not make a contribution in the name of	3107
another when either of the following applies:	3108
(i) An individual makes a contribution from a partnership or	3109
other unincorporated business account, if the contribution is	3110
reported by listing both the name of the partnership or other	3111
unincorporated business and the name of the partner or owner	3112
making the contribution as required under division (I) of section	3113
3517.10 of the Revised Code.	3114
(ii) A person makes a contribution in that person's spouse's	3115
name or in both of their names.	3116
(H) No person within this state, publishing a newspaper or	3117
other periodical, shall charge a campaign committee for political	3118
advertising a rate in excess of the rate such person would charge	3119
if the campaign committee were a general rate advertiser whose	3120
advertising was directed to promoting its business within the same	3121
area as that encompassed by the particular office that the	3122

candidate of the campaign committee is seeking. The rate shall  
take into account the amount of space used, as well as the type of  
advertising copy submitted by or on behalf of the campaign  
committee. All discount privileges otherwise offered by a  
newspaper or periodical to general rate advertisers shall be  
available upon equal terms to all campaign committees.

No person within this state, operating a radio or television  
station or network of stations in this state, shall charge a  
campaign committee for political broadcasts a rate that exceeds:

(1) During the forty-five days preceding the date of a  
primary election and during the sixty days preceding the date of a  
general or special election in which the candidate of the campaign  
committee is seeking office, the lowest unit charge of the station  
for the same class and amount of time for the same period;

(2) At any other time, the charges made for comparable use of  
that station by its other users.

(I) Subject to divisions (K), (L), (M), and (N) of this  
section, no agency or department of this state or any political  
subdivision shall award any contract, other than one let by  
competitive bidding or a contract incidental to such contract or  
which is by force account, for the purchase of goods costing more  
than five hundred dollars or services costing more than five  
hundred dollars to any individual, partnership, association,  
including, without limitation, a professional association  
organized under Chapter 1785. of the Revised Code, estate, or  
trust if the individual has made or the individual's spouse has  
made, or any partner, shareholder, administrator, executor, or  
trustee or the spouse of any of them has made, as an individual,  
within the two previous calendar years, one or more contributions  
totaling in excess of one thousand dollars to the holder of the  
public office having ultimate responsibility for the award of the

contract or to the public officer's campaign committee. 3154

(J) Subject to divisions (K), (L), (M), and (N) of this 3155  
section, no agency or department of this state or any political 3156  
subdivision shall award any contract, other than one let by 3157  
competitive bidding or a contract incidental to such contract or 3158  
which is by force account, for the purchase of goods costing more 3159  
than five hundred dollars or services costing more than five 3160  
hundred dollars to a corporation or business trust, except a 3161  
professional association organized under Chapter 1785. of the 3162  
Revised Code, if an owner of more than twenty per cent of the 3163  
corporation or business trust or the spouse of that person has 3164  
made, as an individual, within the two previous calendar years, 3165  
taking into consideration only owners for all of that period, one 3166  
or more contributions totaling in excess of one thousand dollars 3167  
to the holder of a public office having ultimate responsibility 3168  
for the award of the contract or to the public officer's campaign 3169  
committee. 3170

(K) For purposes of divisions (I) and (J) of this section, if 3171  
a public officer who is responsible for the award of a contract is 3172  
appointed by the governor, whether or not the appointment is 3173  
subject to the advice and consent of the senate, excluding members 3174  
of boards, commissions, committees, authorities, councils, boards 3175  
of trustees, task forces, and other such entities appointed by the 3176  
governor, the office of the governor is considered to have 3177  
ultimate responsibility for the award of the contract. 3178

(L) For purposes of divisions (I) and (J) of this section, if 3179  
a public officer who is responsible for the award of a contract is 3180  
appointed by the elected chief executive officer of a municipal 3181  
corporation, or appointed by the elected chief executive officer 3182  
of a county operating under an alternative form of county 3183  
government or county charter, excluding members of boards, 3184  
commissions, committees, authorities, councils, boards of 3185

trustees, task forces, and other such entities appointed by the  
chief executive officer, the office of the chief executive officer  
is considered to have ultimate responsibility for the award of the  
contract.

(M)(1) Divisions (I) and (J) of this section do not apply to  
contracts awarded by the board of commissioners of the sinking  
fund, municipal legislative authorities, boards of education,  
boards of county commissioners, boards of township trustees, or  
other boards, commissions, committees, authorities, councils,  
boards of trustees, task forces, and other such entities created  
by law, by the supreme court or courts of appeals, by county  
courts consisting of more than one judge, courts of common pleas  
consisting of more than one judge, or municipal courts consisting  
of more than one judge, or by a division of any court if the  
division consists of more than one judge. This division shall  
apply to the specified entity only if the members of the entity  
act collectively in the award of a contract for goods or services.

(2) Divisions (I) and (J) of this section do not apply to  
actions of the controlling board.

(N)(1) Divisions (I) and (J) of this section apply to  
contributions made to the holder of a public office having  
ultimate responsibility for the award of a contract, or to the  
public officer's campaign committee, during the time the person  
holds the office and during any time such person was a candidate  
for the office. Those divisions do not apply to contributions made  
to, or to the campaign committee of, a candidate for or holder of  
the office other than the holder of the office at the time of the  
award of the contract.

(2) Divisions (I) and (J) of this section do not apply to  
contributions of a partner, shareholder, administrator, executor,  
trustee, or owner of more than twenty per cent of a corporation or



business trust made before the person held any of those positions 3217  
or after the person ceased to hold any of those positions in the 3218  
partnership, association, estate, trust, corporation, or business 3219  
trust whose eligibility to be awarded a contract is being 3220  
determined, nor to contributions of the person's spouse made 3221  
before the person held any of those positions, after the person 3222  
ceased to hold any of those positions, before the two were 3223  
married, after the granting of a decree of divorce, dissolution of 3224  
marriage, or annulment, or after the granting of an order in an 3225  
action brought solely for legal separation. Those divisions do not 3226  
apply to contributions of the spouse of an individual whose 3227  
eligibility to be awarded a contract is being determined made 3228  
before the two were married, after the granting of a decree of 3229  
divorce, dissolution of marriage, or annulment, or after the 3230  
granting of an order in an action brought solely for legal 3231  
separation. 3232

(O) No beneficiary of a campaign fund or other person shall 3233  
convert for personal use, and no person shall knowingly give to a 3234  
beneficiary of a campaign fund or any other person, for the 3235  
beneficiary's or any other person's personal use, anything of 3236  
value from the beneficiary's campaign fund, including, without 3237  
limitation, payments to a beneficiary for services the beneficiary 3238  
personally performs, except as reimbursement for any of the 3239  
following: 3240

(1) Legitimate and verifiable prior campaign expenses 3241  
incurred by the beneficiary; 3242

(2) Legitimate and verifiable ordinary and necessary prior 3243  
expenses incurred by the beneficiary in connection with duties as 3244  
the holder of a public office, including, without limitation, 3245  
expenses incurred through participation in nonpartisan or 3246  
bipartisan events if the participation of the holder of a public 3247  
office would normally be expected; 3248

(3) Legitimate and verifiable ordinary and necessary prior	3249
expenses incurred by the beneficiary while doing any of the	3250
following:	3251
(a) Engaging in activities in support of or opposition to a	3252
candidate other than the beneficiary, political party, or ballot	3253
issue;	3254
(b) Raising funds for a political party, political action	3255
committee, <u>political contributing entity</u> , legislative campaign	3256
fund, campaign committee, or other candidate;	3257
(c) Participating in the activities of a political party,	3258
political action committee, <u>political contributing entity</u> ,	3259
legislative campaign fund, or campaign committee;	3260
(d) Attending a political party convention or other political	3261
meeting.	3262
For purposes of this division, an expense is incurred	3263
whenever a beneficiary has either made payment or is obligated to	3264
make payment, as by the use of a credit card or other credit	3265
procedure or by the use of goods or services received on account.	3266
(P) No beneficiary of a campaign fund shall knowingly accept,	3267
and no person shall knowingly give to the beneficiary of a	3268
campaign fund, reimbursement for an expense under division (O) of	3269
this section to the extent that the expense previously was	3270
reimbursed or paid from another source of funds. If an expense is	3271
reimbursed under division (O) of this section and is later paid or	3272
reimbursed, wholly or in part, from another source of funds, the	3273
beneficiary shall repay the reimbursement received under division	3274
(O) of this section to the extent of the payment made or	3275
reimbursement received from the other source.	3276
(Q) No candidate or public official or employee shall accept	3277
for personal or business use anything of value from a political	3278

party, political action committee, political contributing entity, 3279  
legislative campaign fund, or campaign committee other than the 3280  
candidate's or public official's or employee's own campaign 3281  
committee, and no person shall knowingly give to a candidate or 3282  
public official or employee anything of value from a political 3283  
party, political action committee, political contributing entity, 3284  
legislative campaign fund, or such a campaign committee, except 3285  
for the following: 3286

(1) Reimbursement for legitimate and verifiable ordinary and 3287  
necessary prior expenses not otherwise prohibited by law incurred 3288  
by the candidate or public official or employee while engaged in 3289  
any legitimate activity of the political party, political action 3290  
committee, political contributing entity, legislative campaign 3291  
fund, or such campaign committee. Without limitation, reimbursable 3292  
expenses under this division include those incurred while doing 3293  
any of the following: 3294

(a) Engaging in activities in support of or opposition to 3295  
another candidate, political party, or ballot issue; 3296

(b) Raising funds for a political party, legislative campaign 3297  
fund, campaign committee, or another candidate; 3298

(c) Attending a political party convention or other political 3299  
meeting. 3300

(2) Compensation not otherwise prohibited by law for actual 3301  
and valuable personal services rendered under a written contract 3302  
to the political party, political action committee, political 3303  
contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or such campaign 3304  
committee for any legitimate activity of the political party, 3305  
political action committee, political contributing entity, 3306  
legislative campaign fund, or such campaign committee. 3307

Reimbursable expenses under this division do not include, and 3308  
it is a violation of this division for a candidate or public 3309

official or employee to accept, or for any person to knowingly  
give to a candidate or public official or employee from a  
political party, political action committee, political  
contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or campaign  
committee other than the candidate's or public official's or  
employee's own campaign committee, anything of value for  
activities primarily related to the candidate's or public  
official's or employee's own campaign for election, except for  
contributions to the candidate's or public official's or  
employee's campaign committee.

For purposes of this division, an expense is incurred  
whenever a candidate or public official or employee has either  
made payment or is obligated to make payment, as by the use of a  
credit card or other credit procedure, or by the use of goods or  
services on account.

(R)(1) Division (O) or (P) of this section does not prohibit  
a campaign committee from making direct advance or post payment  
from contributions to vendors for goods and services for which  
reimbursement is permitted under division (O) of this section,  
except that no campaign committee shall pay its candidate or other  
beneficiary for services personally performed by the candidate or  
other beneficiary.

(2) If any expense that may be reimbursed under division (O),  
(P), or (Q) of this section is part of other expenses that may not  
be paid or reimbursed, the separation of the two types of expenses  
for the purpose of allocating for payment or reimbursement those  
expenses that may be paid or reimbursed may be by any reasonable  
accounting method, considering all of the surrounding  
circumstances.

(3) For purposes of divisions (O), (P), and (Q) of this  
section, mileage allowance at a rate not greater than that allowed

by the internal revenue service at the time the travel occurs may 3341  
be paid instead of reimbursement for actual travel expenses 3342  
allowable. 3343

(S)(1) As used in division (S) of this section: 3344

(a) "State elective office" has the same meaning as in 3345  
section 3517.092 of the Revised Code. 3346

(b) "Federal office" means a federal office as defined in the 3347  
Federal Election Campaign Act. 3348

(c) "Federal campaign committee" means a principal campaign 3349  
committee or authorized committee as defined in the Federal 3350  
Election Campaign Act. 3351

(2) No person who is a candidate for state elective office 3352  
and who previously sought nomination or election to a federal 3353  
office shall transfer any funds or assets from that person's 3354  
federal campaign committee for nomination or election to the 3355  
federal office to that person's campaign committee as a candidate 3356  
for state elective office. 3357

(3) No campaign committee of a person who is a candidate for 3358  
state elective office and who previously sought nomination or 3359  
election to a federal office shall accept any funds or assets from 3360  
that person's federal campaign committee for that person's 3361  
nomination or election to the federal office. 3362

(T)(1) Except as otherwise provided in division (B)(6)(c) of 3363  
section 3517.102 of the Revised Code, a state or county political 3364  
party shall not disburse moneys from any account other than a 3365  
state candidate fund to make contributions to any of the 3366  
following: 3367

(a) A state candidate fund; 3368

(b) A legislative campaign fund; 3369

(c) A campaign committee of a candidate for the office of 3370

governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, auditor of 3371  
state, treasurer of state, attorney general, member of the state 3372  
board of education, or member of the general assembly. 3373

(2) No state candidate fund, legislative campaign fund, or 3374  
campaign committee of a candidate for any office described in 3375  
division (T)(1)(c) of this section shall knowingly accept a 3376  
contribution in violation of division (T)(1) of this section. 3377

(U) No person shall fail to file the statement required under 3378  
section 3517.12 of the Revised Code. 3379

(V) No campaign committee shall fail to file a statement 3380  
required under division (K)(3) of section 3517.10 of the Revised 3381  
Code. 3382

(W)(1) No foreign national shall, directly or indirectly 3383  
through any other person or entity, make a contribution, 3384  
expenditure, or independent expenditure or promise, either 3385  
expressly or implicitly, to make a contribution, expenditure, or 3386  
independent expenditure in support of or opposition to a candidate 3387  
for any elective office in this state, including an office of a 3388  
political party. 3389

(2) No candidate, campaign committee, political action 3390  
committee, political contributing entity, legislative campaign 3391  
fund, state candidate fund, political party, or separate 3392  
segregated fund shall solicit or accept a contribution, 3393  
expenditure, or independent expenditure from a foreign national. 3394  
The secretary of state may direct any candidate, committee, 3395  
entity, fund, or party that accepts a contribution, expenditure, 3396  
or independent expenditure in violation of this division to return 3397  
the contribution, expenditure, or independent expenditure or, if 3398  
it is not possible to return the contribution, expenditure, or 3399  
independent expenditure, then to return instead the value of it, 3400  
to the contributor. 3401

(3) As used in division (W) of this section, "foreign national" has the same meaning as in section 441e(b) of the Federal Election Campaign Act.

(X)(1) No state or county political party shall transfer any moneys from its restricted fund to any account of the political party into which contributions may be made or from which contributions or expenditures may be made.

(2)(a) No state or county political party shall deposit a contribution or contributions that it receives into its restricted fund.

(b) No state or county political party shall make a contribution or an expenditure from its restricted fund.

(3)(a) No corporation or labor organization shall make a gift or gifts from the corporation's or labor organization's money or property aggregating more than ten thousand dollars to any one state or county political party for the party's restricted fund in a calendar year.

(b) No state or county political party shall accept a gift or gifts for the party's restricted fund aggregating more than ten thousand dollars from any one corporation or labor organization in a calendar year.

(4) No state or county political party shall transfer any moneys in the party's restricted fund to any other state or county political party.

(5) No state or county political party shall knowingly fail to file a statement required under section 3517.1012 of the Revised Code.

**Sec. 3517.152.** (A)(1) There is hereby created the Ohio elections commission consisting of seven members.

Not later than forty-five days after August 24, 1995, the speaker of the house of representatives and the leader in the senate of the political party of which the speaker is a member shall jointly submit to the governor a list of five persons who are affiliated with that political party. Not later than forty-five days after August 24, 1995, the two legislative leaders in the two houses of the general assembly of the major political party of which the speaker is not a member shall jointly submit to the governor a list of five persons who are affiliated with the major political party of which the speaker is not a member. Not later than fifteen days after receiving each list, the governor shall appoint three persons from each list to the commission. The governor shall appoint one person from each list to a term that ends on December 31, 1996, one person from each list to a term that ends on December 31, 1997, and one person from each list to a term that ends on December 31, 1998.

Not later than thirty days after the governor appoints these six members, they shall, by a majority vote, appoint to the commission a seventh member, who shall not be affiliated with a political party. If the six members fail to appoint the seventh member within this thirty-day period, the chief justice of the supreme court, not later than thirty days after the end of the period during which the six members were required to appoint a member, shall appoint the seventh member, who shall not be affiliated with a political party. The seventh member shall be appointed to a term that ends on December 31, 2001. Terms of the initial members appointed under this division begin on January 1, 1996.

(2) If a vacancy occurs in the position of the seventh member, who is not affiliated with a political party, the six remaining members by a majority vote shall appoint, not later than forty-five days after the date of the vacancy, the seventh member



of the commission, who shall not be affiliated with a political party. If these members fail to appoint the seventh member within this forty-five-day period, the chief justice of the supreme court, within fifteen days after the end of this period, shall appoint the seventh member, who shall not be affiliated with a political party. If a vacancy occurs in any of the other six positions on the commission, the legislative leaders of the political party from whose list of persons the member being replaced was appointed shall submit to the governor, not later than thirty days after the date of the vacancy, a list of three persons who are affiliated with that political party. Not later than fifteen days after receiving the list, the governor, with the advice and consent of the senate, shall appoint one person from the list to the commission.

(3) At no time shall more than six members of the commission be affiliated with a political party, and, of these six members, not more than three shall be affiliated with the same political party.

(4) In making appointments to the commission, the governor shall take into consideration the various geographic areas of this state and shall appoint members so that those areas are represented on the commission in a balanced manner, to the extent feasible.

(5) Members of the commission shall be registered electors and shall be of good moral character.

(B) Each member of the Ohio elections commission shall hold office from the date of the member's appointment until the end of the term for which the member was appointed. A member appointed to fill a vacancy occurring prior to the expiration of the term for which the member's predecessor was appointed shall hold office for the remainder of that term. A member shall continue in office

subsequent to the expiration date of the member's term until the  
member's successor takes office or until a period of sixty days  
has elapsed, whichever occurs first. After the initial terms of  
office provided for in division (A)(1) of this section, terms of  
office shall be for five years.

(C) A vacancy in the Ohio elections commission may be caused  
by death, resignation, or three absences from commission meetings  
in a calendar year if those absences are caused by reasons  
declared invalid by a vote of five members of the remaining  
members of the commission.

(D) Each member of the Ohio elections commission while in the  
performance of the business of the commission shall be entitled to  
receive compensation at the rate of twenty-five thousand dollars  
per year. Members shall be reimbursed for expenses actually and  
necessarily incurred in the performance of their duties.

(E) No member of the Ohio elections commission shall serve  
more than one full term unless the terms served are served  
nonconsecutively.

(F)(1) No member of the Ohio elections commission shall do or  
be any of the following:

(a) Hold, or be a candidate for, a public office;

(b) Serve on a committee supporting or opposing a candidate  
or ballot question or issue;

(c) Be an officer of the state central committee, a county  
central committee, or a district, city, township, or other  
committee of a political party or an officer of the executive  
committee of the state central committee, a county central  
committee, or a district, city, township, or other committee of a  
political party;

(d) Be a legislative agent as defined in section 101.70 of

the Revised Code or an executive agency lobbyist as defined in 3524  
section 121.60 of the Revised Code; 3525

(e) Solicit or be involved in soliciting contributions on 3526  
behalf of a candidate, campaign committee, political party, ~~or~~ 3527  
political action committee, or political contributing entity; 3528

(f) Be in the unclassified service under section 124.11 of 3529  
the Revised Code; 3530

(g) Be a person or employee described in divisions (C)(1) to 3531  
(15) of section 4117.01 of the Revised Code. 3532

(2) No member or employee of the commission shall make a 3533  
contribution to, or for the benefit of, a campaign committee or 3534  
committee in support of or opposition to a ballot question or 3535  
issue, a political party, a legislative campaign fund, ~~or~~ a 3536  
political action committee, or a political contributing entity. 3537

(G)(1) The members of the Ohio elections commission shall 3538  
elect a chairperson and a vice-chairperson. At no time shall the 3539  
chairperson and vice-chairperson be affiliated with the same 3540  
political party. The chairperson shall serve in that capacity for 3541  
one year and shall not serve as chairperson more than twice during 3542  
a term as a member of the commission. No two successive 3543  
chairpersons shall be affiliated with the same political party. 3544

(2) The commission shall meet at the call of the chairperson 3545  
or upon the written request of a majority of the members. The 3546  
meetings and hearings of the commission or a panel of the 3547  
commission under sections 3517.153 to 3517.157 of the Revised Code 3548  
are subject to section 121.22 of the Revised Code. 3549

(3) The commission shall adopt rules for its procedures in 3550  
accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code. Five of the 3551  
seven members constitute a quorum. Except as otherwise provided in 3552  
this section and in sections 3517.154 to 3517.157 of the Revised 3553

Code, no action shall be taken without the concurrence of a 3554  
majority of the members. 3555

(H)(1) The Ohio elections commission shall employ the 3556  
technical, professional, and clerical employees that are necessary 3557  
for it to carry out its duties. 3558

(2)(a) Notwithstanding section 109.02 of the Revised Code, 3559  
the commission shall employ a full-time attorney, and, as needed, 3560  
one or more investigatory attorneys to conduct investigations for 3561  
the commission or a panel of the commission. The commission may 3562  
employ or contract for the services of additional attorneys, as 3563  
needed. The full-time attorney shall do all of the following: 3564

(i) Serve as the commission's attorney in regard to all legal 3565  
matters, including representing the commission at appeals from a 3566  
final determination of the commission, except that the full-time 3567  
attorney shall not perform the duties that an investigatory 3568  
attorney is required or requested to perform or that another 3569  
attorney the commission employs or contracts with for services is 3570  
required or requested to perform, and shall not represent the 3571  
commission in any legal proceeding in which the commission is a 3572  
named party; 3573

(ii) At the request of the commission or a panel of the 3574  
commission, be present at a hearing held under sections 3517.154 3575  
to 3517.156 of the Revised Code to rule on the admissibility of 3576  
evidence and to advise on the conduct of procedure; 3577

(iii) Perform other duties as required by rule of the 3578  
commission. 3579

(b) An attorney employed by or under contract with the 3580  
commission shall be licensed to practice law in this state. 3581

(3)(a) Except as otherwise provided in division (H)(3)(b) of 3582  
this section, at least five members of the commission shall agree 3583

on the employment of a person, a majority of the members shall 3584  
agree on the discharge of an employee, and a person employed by 3585  
the commission shall serve at the pleasure of the commission. 3586

(b) At least five of the seven members shall agree on the 3587  
discharge of an investigatory attorney. 3588

(I) There is hereby created in the state treasury the Ohio 3589  
elections commission fund. All moneys credited to the fund shall 3590  
be used solely for the purpose of paying expenses related to the 3591  
operation of the Ohio elections commission. 3592

**Sec. 3517.155.** (A)(1) Except as otherwise provided in 3593  
division (B) of this section, the Ohio elections commission shall 3594  
hold its first hearing on a complaint filed with it, other than a 3595  
complaint that receives an expedited hearing under section 3596  
3517.156 of the Revised Code, not later than ninety business days 3597  
after the complaint is filed unless the commission has good cause 3598  
to hold the hearing after that time, in which case it shall hold 3599  
the hearing not later than one hundred eighty business days after 3600  
the complaint is filed. At the hearing, the commission shall 3601  
determine whether or not the failure to act or the violation 3602  
alleged in the complaint has occurred and shall do only one of the 3603  
following, except as otherwise provided in division (B) of this 3604  
section or in division (B) of section 3517.151 of the Revised 3605  
Code: 3606

(a) Enter a finding that good cause has been shown not to 3607  
impose a fine or not to refer the matter to the appropriate 3608  
prosecutor; 3609

(b) Impose a fine under section 3517.993 of the Revised Code; 3610

(c) Refer the matter to the appropriate prosecutor; 3611

(d) Direct the secretary of state or appropriate board of 3612  
elections with the authority to certify a candidate to the ballot 3613

to remove a candidate's name from the ballot if the candidate is  
barred from the ballot under division (D) of section 3517.1010 of  
the Revised Code.

(2) As used in division (A) of this section, "appropriate  
prosecutor" means a prosecutor as defined in section 2935.01 of  
the Revised Code and either of the following:

(a) In the case of a failure to comply with or a violation of  
law involving a campaign committee or the committee's candidate, a  
political party, a legislative campaign fund, ~~or~~ a political  
action committee, or a political contributing entity, that is  
required to file a statement of contributions and expenditures  
with the secretary of state under division (A) of section 3517.11  
of the Revised Code, the prosecutor of Franklin county;

(b) In the case of a failure to comply with or a violation of  
law involving any other campaign committee or committee's  
candidate, or any other political party ~~or~~, political action  
committee, or political contributing entity either of the  
following as determined by the commission:

(i) The prosecutor of Franklin county;

(ii) The prosecutor of the county in which the candidacy or  
ballot question or issue is submitted to the electors or, if it is  
submitted in more than one county, the most populous of those  
counties.

(B) If the commission decides that the evidence is  
insufficient for it to determine whether or not the failure to act  
or the violation alleged in the complaint has occurred, the  
commission, by the affirmative vote of five members, may request  
that an investigatory attorney investigate the complaint. Upon  
that request, an investigatory attorney shall make an  
investigation in order to produce sufficient evidence for the  
commission to decide the matter. If the commission requests an

investigation under this division, for good cause shown by the  
investigatory attorney, the commission may extend by sixty days  
the deadline for holding its first hearing on the complaint as  
required in division (A) of this section.

(C) The commission shall take one of the actions required  
under division (A) of this section not later than thirty days  
after the close of all the evidence presented.

(D)(1) The commission shall make any finding of a failure to  
comply with or a violation of law in regard to a complaint that  
alleges a violation of division (D) of section 3517.1010, division  
(A) or (B) of section 3517.21, or division (A) or (B) of section  
3517.22 of the Revised Code by clear and convincing evidence. The  
commission shall make any finding of a failure to comply with or a  
violation of law in regard to any other complaint by a  
preponderance of the evidence.

(2) If the commission finds a violation of division (B) of  
section 3517.21 or division (B) of section 3517.22 of the Revised  
Code, it shall refer the matter to the appropriate prosecutor  
under division (A)(1)(c) of this section and shall not impose a  
fine under division (A)(1)(b) of this section or section 3517.993  
of the Revised Code.

(E) In an action before the commission or a panel of the  
commission, if the allegations of the complainant are not proved,  
and the commission takes the action described in division  
(A)(1)(a) of this section or a panel of the commission takes the  
action described in division (C)(1) of section 3517.156 of the  
Revised Code, the commission or a panel of the commission may find  
that the complaint is frivolous, and, if the commission or panel  
so finds, the commission shall order the complainant to pay  
reasonable attorney's fees and to pay the costs of the commission  
or panel as determined by a majority of the members of the

commission. The costs paid to the commission or panel under this 3676  
division shall be deposited into the Ohio elections commission 3677  
fund. 3678

**Sec. 3517.20.** (A)(1) As used in this section: 3679

(a) "Political publication for or against a candidate" means 3680  
a notice, placard, advertisement, sample ballot, brochure, flyer, 3681  
direct mailer, or other form of general publication that is 3682  
designed to promote the nomination, election, or defeat of a 3683  
candidate. 3684

(b) "Political publication for or against an issue" means a 3685  
notice, placard, advertisement, sample ballot, brochure, flyer, 3686  
direct mailer, or other form of general publication that is 3687  
designed to promote the adoption or defeat of a ballot issue or 3688  
question or to influence the voters in an election. 3689

(c) "Public political advertising" means newspapers, 3690  
magazines, outdoor advertising facilities, direct mailings, or 3691  
other similar types of general public political advertising, or 3692  
flyers, handbills, or other nonperiodical printed matter. 3693

(d) "Statewide candidate" has the same meaning as in section 3694  
3517.102 of the Revised Code. 3695

(e) "Legislative candidate" means a candidate for the office 3696  
of member of the general assembly. 3697

(f) "Local candidate" means a candidate for an elective 3698  
office of a political subdivision of this state. 3699

(g) "Legislative campaign fund" has the same meaning as in 3700  
section 3517.01 of the Revised Code. 3701

(h) "Limited political action committee" means a political 3702  
action committee of fewer than ten members. 3703

(i) "Limited political contributing entity" means a political 3704



contributing entity of fewer than ten members. 3705

(j) "Designated amount" means one hundred dollars in the case 3706  
of a local candidate or a local ballot issue, two hundred fifty 3707  
dollars in the case of a legislative candidate, or five hundred 3708  
dollars in the case of a statewide candidate or a statewide ballot 3709  
issue. 3710

~~(j)~~(k) "To issue" includes to print, post, distribute, 3711  
reproduce for distribution, or cause to be issued, printed, 3712  
posted, distributed, or reproduced for distribution. 3713

~~(k)~~(l) "Telephone bank" means more than five hundred 3714  
telephone calls of an identical or substantially similar nature 3715  
within any thirty-day period, whether those telephone calls are 3716  
made by individual callers or by recording. 3717

(2) No candidate, campaign committee, legislative campaign 3718  
fund, political party, or other entity, except a political action 3719  
committee or political contributing entity, shall issue a form of 3720  
political publication for or against a candidate, or shall make an 3721  
expenditure for the purpose of financing political communications 3722  
in support of or opposition to a candidate through public 3723  
political advertising, unless the name and residence or business 3724  
address of the candidate or the chairperson, treasurer, or 3725  
secretary of the campaign committee, legislative campaign fund, 3726  
political party, or other entity that issues or otherwise is 3727  
responsible for that political publication or that makes an 3728  
expenditure for that political communication appears in a 3729  
conspicuous place on that political publication or is contained 3730  
within that political communication. 3731

(3) No limited political action committee or limited 3732  
political contributing entity shall do either of the following 3733  
unless the name and residence or business address of the 3734  
chairperson, treasurer, or secretary of the limited political 3735

action committee or limited political contributing entity involved 3736  
appears in a conspicuous place in the political publication for or 3737  
against a candidate described in division (A)(3)(a) of this 3738  
section or is contained within the political communication 3739  
described in division (A)(3)(b) of this section: 3740

(a) Issue a form of political publication for or against a 3741  
candidate that costs in excess of the designated amount or that is 3742  
issued in cooperation, consultation, or concert with, or at the 3743  
request or suggestion of, a candidate, a campaign committee, a 3744  
legislative campaign fund, a political party, a political action 3745  
committee with ten or more members, a political contributing 3746  
entity with ten or more members, or a limited political action 3747  
committee or limited political contributing entity that spends in 3748  
excess of the designated amount on a related or the same or 3749  
similar political publication for or against a candidate; 3750

(b) Make an expenditure in excess of the designated amount in 3751  
support of or opposition to a candidate or make an expenditure in 3752  
cooperation, consultation, or concert with, or at the request or 3753  
suggestion of, a candidate, a campaign committee, a legislative 3754  
campaign fund, a political party, a political action committee 3755  
with ten or more members, a political contributing entity with ten 3756  
or more members, or a limited political action committee or 3757  
limited political contributing entity that spends in excess of the 3758  
designated amount in support of or opposition to the same 3759  
candidate, for the purpose of financing political communications 3760  
in support of or opposition to that candidate through public 3761  
political advertising. 3762

(4) No political action committee with ten or more members 3763  
and no political contributing entity with ten or more members 3764  
shall issue a form of political publication for or against a 3765  
candidate, or shall make an expenditure for the purpose of 3766  
financing political communications in support of or opposition to 3767

a candidate through public political advertising, unless the name 3768  
and residence or business address of the chairperson, treasurer, 3769  
or secretary of the political action committee or political 3770  
contributing entity that issues or otherwise is responsible for 3771  
that political publication or that makes an expenditure for that 3772  
political communication through public political advertising 3773  
appears in a conspicuous place in that political publication or is 3774  
contained within that political communication. 3775

(5) No corporation, labor organization, campaign committee, 3776  
legislative campaign fund, political party, or other entity, 3777  
except a political action committee, shall issue a form of 3778  
political publication for or against an issue, or shall make an 3779  
expenditure for the purpose of financing political communications 3780  
in support of or opposition to a ballot issue or question through 3781  
public political advertising, unless the name and residence or 3782  
business address of the chairperson, treasurer, or secretary of 3783  
the corporation, labor organization, campaign committee, 3784  
legislative campaign fund, political party, or other entity that 3785  
issues or otherwise is responsible for that political publication 3786  
or that makes an expenditure for that political communication 3787  
through public political advertising appears in a conspicuous 3788  
place in that political publication or is contained within that 3789  
political communication. 3790

(6) No limited political action committee shall do either of 3791  
the following unless the name and residence or business address of 3792  
the chairperson, treasurer, or secretary of the limited political 3793  
action committee involved appears in a conspicuous place in the 3794  
political publication for or against a ballot issue described in 3795  
division (A)(6)(a) of this section or is contained within the 3796  
political communication described in division (A)(6)(b) of this 3797  
section: 3798

(a) Issue a form of political publication for or against a 3799

ballot issue that costs in excess of the designated amount or that  
is issued in cooperation, consultation, or concert with, or at the  
request or suggestion of, a candidate, a campaign committee, a  
legislative campaign fund, a political party, a political action  
committee with ten or more members, or a limited political action  
committee that spends in excess of the designated amount for a  
related or the same or similar political publication for or  
against an issue;

(b) Make an expenditure in excess of the designated amount in  
support of or opposition to a ballot issue or make an expenditure  
in cooperation, consultation, or concert with, or at the request  
or suggestion of, a candidate, a campaign committee, a legislative  
campaign fund, a political party, a political action committee  
with ten or more members, or a limited political action committee  
that spends in excess of the designated amount in support of or  
opposition to the same ballot issue, for the purpose of financing  
political communications in support of or opposition to that  
ballot issue through public political advertising.

(7) No political action committee with ten or more members  
shall issue a form of political publication for or against an  
issue, or shall make an expenditure for the purpose of financing  
political communications in support of or opposition to a ballot  
issue or question through public political advertising, unless the  
name and residence or business address of the chairperson,  
treasurer, or secretary of the political action committee that  
issues or otherwise is responsible for that political publication  
or that makes an expenditure for that political communication  
appears in a conspicuous place in that political publication or is  
contained within that political communication.

(8) The disclaimer "paid political advertisement" is not  
sufficient to meet the requirements of this section.

(9) If the political publication described in division (A) of this section is issued by the regularly constituted central or executive committee of a political party that is organized as provided in this chapter, it shall be sufficiently identified if it bears the name of the committee and its chairperson or treasurer.

(10) If more than one piece of printed matter or printed political communications are mailed as a single packet, the requirements of division (A) of this section are met if one of the pieces of printed matter or printed political communications in the packet contains the name and residence or business address of the chairperson, treasurer, or secretary of the organization or entity that issues or is responsible for the printed matter or other printed political communications.

(11) This section does not apply to the transmittal of personal correspondence that is not reproduced by machine for general distribution.

(12) The secretary of state, by rule, may exempt from the requirements of this section, printed matter and certain other kinds of printed communications such as campaign buttons, balloons, pencils, or similar items, the size or nature of which makes it unreasonable to add an identification or disclaimer.

(13) The disclaimer or identification described in division (A) of this section, when paid for by a campaign committee, shall be identified by the words "paid for by" followed by the name and address of the campaign committee and the appropriate officer of the committee, identified by name and title. The identification or disclaimer may use reasonable abbreviations for common terms such as "treasurer" or "committee".

(B)(1) No candidate, campaign committee, legislative campaign fund, ~~political contributing entity~~, political party, political

action committee, limited political action committee, political 3862  
contributing entity, limited political contributing entity, or 3863  
other entity shall utter or cause to be uttered, over the 3864  
broadcasting facilities of any radio or television station within 3865  
this state, any communication that is designed to promote the 3866  
nomination, election, or defeat of a candidate, or the adoption or 3867  
defeat of an issue or to influence the voters in an election, 3868  
unless the speaker identifies the speaker with the speaker's name 3869  
and residence address or unless the communication identifies the 3870  
chairperson, treasurer, or secretary of the organization 3871  
responsible for the communication with the name and residence or 3872  
business address of that officer, except that communications by 3873  
radio need not broadcast the residence or business address of the 3874  
officer. However, a radio station, for a period of at least six 3875  
months, shall keep the residence or business address on file and 3876  
divulge it to any person upon request. 3877

No person operating a broadcast station or an organ of 3878  
printed media shall broadcast or print a paid political 3879  
communication that does not contain the identification required by 3880  
this section. 3881

(2) Division (B) of this section does not apply to any 3882  
communications made on behalf of a radio or television station or 3883  
network by any employee of such radio or television station or 3884  
network while acting in the course of the employee's employment. 3885

(3) No candidate or entity described in division (B)(1) of 3886  
this section shall use or cause to be used a false, fictitious, or 3887  
fraudulent name or address in the making or issuing of a 3888  
publication or communication included within the provisions of 3889  
this section. 3890

(C) No candidate, campaign committee, legislative campaign 3891  
fund, political party, political action committee, limited 3892  
political action committee, political contributing entity, limited 3893

political contributing entity, or other person or entity shall 3894  
conduct a telephone bank for the purpose of promoting the 3895  
nomination, election, or defeat of a candidate or the adoption or 3896  
defeat of an issue or to influence the voters in an election, 3897  
unless the call includes a disclaimer that identifies the name of 3898  
the candidate, campaign committee, legislative campaign fund, 3899  
political party, political action committee, limited political 3900  
action committee, political contributing entity, limited political 3901  
contributing entity, or other person or entity paying for the 3902  
telephone bank. 3903

(D) Before a prosecution may commence under this section, a 3904  
complaint shall be filed with the Ohio elections commission under 3905  
section 3517.153 of the Revised Code. After the complaint is 3906  
filed, the commission shall proceed in accordance with sections 3907  
3517.154 to 3517.157 of the Revised Code. 3908

**Sec. 3517.23.** The secretary of state shall adopt rules in 3909  
accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code that are 3910  
necessary for the administration and enforcement of sections 3911  
3517.08 to 3517.13, 3517.18, 3517.20 to 3517.22, 3599.03, and 3912  
3599.031 of the Revised Code and shall provide each candidate, 3913  
political action committee, political contributing entity, 3914  
legislative campaign fund, political party, and person making 3915  
disbursements to pay the direct costs of producing or airing 3916  
electioneering communications with written instructions and 3917  
explanations in order to ensure compliance with sections 3517.08 3918  
to 3517.13, 3517.17, 3517.18, 3517.20 to 3517.22, 3599.03, and 3919  
3599.031 of the Revised Code. 3920

**Sec. 3517.992.** This section establishes penalties only with 3921  
respect to acts or failures to act that occur on and after August 3922  
24, 1995. 3923

(A)(1) A candidate whose campaign committee violates division 3924  
(A), (B), (C), (D), or (V) of section 3517.13 of the Revised Code, 3925  
or a treasurer of a campaign committee who violates any of those 3926  
divisions, shall be fined not more than one hundred dollars for 3927  
each day of violation. 3928

(2) Whoever violates division (E) or (X)(5) of section 3929  
3517.13 of the Revised Code shall be fined not more than one 3930  
hundred dollars for each day of violation. 3931

(B) A political party that violates division (F)(1) of 3932  
section 3517.101 of the Revised Code shall be fined not more than 3933  
one hundred dollars for each day of violation. 3934

(C) Whoever violates division (F)(2) of section 3517.101 or 3935  
division (G) of section 3517.13 of the Revised Code shall be fined 3936  
not more than ten thousand dollars or, if the offender is a person 3937  
who was nominated or elected to public office, shall forfeit the 3938  
nomination or the office to which the offender was elected, or 3939  
both. 3940

(D) Whoever violates division (F) of section 3517.13 of the 3941  
Revised Code shall be fined not more than three times the amount 3942  
contributed. 3943

(E) Whoever violates division (H) of section 3517.13 of the 3944  
Revised Code shall be fined not more than one hundred dollars. 3945

(F) Whoever violates division (O), (P), or (Q) of section 3946  
3517.13 of the Revised Code is guilty of a misdemeanor of the 3947  
first degree. 3948

(G) A state or county committee of a political party that 3949  
violates division (B)(1) of section 3517.18 of the Revised Code 3950  
shall be fined not more than twice the amount of the improper 3951  
expenditure. 3952

(H) A state or county political party that violates division 3953



(G) of section 3517.101 of the Revised Code shall be fined not  
more than twice the amount of the improper expenditure or use. 3954  
3955

(I)(1) Any individual who violates division (B)(1) of section 3956  
3517.102 of the Revised Code and knows that the contribution the 3957  
individual makes violates that division shall be fined an amount 3958  
equal to three times the amount contributed in excess of the 3959  
amount permitted by that division. 3960

(2) Any political action committee that violates division 3961  
(B)(2) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code shall be fined an 3962  
amount equal to three times the amount contributed in excess of 3963  
the amount permitted by that division. 3964

(3) Any campaign committee that violates division (B)(3) or 3965  
(5) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code shall be fined an 3966  
amount equal to three times the amount contributed in excess of 3967  
the amount permitted by that division. 3968

(4)(a) Any legislative campaign fund that violates division 3969  
(B)(6) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code shall be fined an 3970  
amount equal to three times the amount transferred or contributed 3971  
in excess of the amount permitted by that division, as applicable. 3972

(b) Any state political party, county political party, or 3973  
state candidate fund of a state political party or county 3974  
political party that violates division (B)(6) of section 3517.102 3975  
of the Revised Code shall be fined an amount equal to three times 3976  
the amount transferred or contributed in excess of the amount 3977  
permitted by that division, as applicable. 3978

(c) Any political contributing entity that violates division 3979  
(B)(7) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code shall be fined an 3980  
amount equal to three times the amount contributed in excess of 3981  
the amount permitted by that division. 3982

(5) Any political party that violates division (B)(4) of 3983

section 3517.102 of the Revised Code shall be fined an amount 3984  
equal to three times the amount contributed in excess of the 3985  
amount permitted by that division. 3986

(6) Notwithstanding divisions (I)(1), (2), (3), (4), and (5) 3987  
of this section, no violation of division (B) of section 3517.102 3988  
of the Revised Code occurs, and the secretary of state shall not 3989  
refer parties to the Ohio elections commission, if the amount 3990  
transferred or contributed in excess of the amount permitted by 3991  
that division meets either of the following conditions: 3992

(a) It is completely refunded within five business days after 3993  
it is accepted. 3994

(b) It is completely refunded on or before the tenth business 3995  
day after notification to the recipient of the excess transfer or 3996  
contribution by the board of elections or the secretary of state 3997  
that a transfer or contribution in excess of the permitted amount 3998  
has been received. 3999

(J)(1) Any campaign committee that violates division (C)(1), 4000  
(2), (3), or (6) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code shall be 4001  
fined an amount equal to three times the amount accepted in excess 4002  
of the amount permitted by that division. 4003

(2)(a) Any county political party that violates division 4004  
(C)(4)(a)(ii) or (iii) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code 4005  
shall be fined an amount equal to three times the amount accepted. 4006

(b) Any county political party that violates division 4007  
(C)(4)(a)(i) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code shall be 4008  
fined an amount from its state candidate fund equal to three times 4009  
the amount accepted in excess of the amount permitted by that 4010  
division. 4011

(c) Any state political party that violates division 4012  
(C)(4)(b) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code shall be fined 4013

an amount from its state candidate fund equal to three times the  
amount accepted in excess of the amount permitted by that  
division.

(3) Any legislative campaign fund that violates division  
(C)(5) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code shall be fined an  
amount equal to three times the amount accepted in excess of the  
amount permitted by that division.

(4) Any political action committee or political contributing  
entity that violates division (C)(7) of section 3517.102 of the  
Revised Code shall be fined an amount equal to three times the  
amount accepted in excess of the amount permitted by that  
division.

(5) Notwithstanding divisions (J)(1), (2), (3), and (4) of  
this section, no violation of division (C) of section 3517.102 of  
the Revised Code occurs, and the secretary of state shall not  
refer parties to the Ohio elections commission, if the amount  
transferred or contributed in excess of the amount permitted to be  
accepted by that division meets either of the following  
conditions:

(a) It is completely refunded within five business days after  
its acceptance.

(b) It is completely refunded on or before the tenth business  
day after notification to the recipient of the excess transfer or  
contribution by the board of elections or the secretary of state  
that a transfer or contribution in excess of the permitted amount  
has been received.

(K)(1) Any legislative campaign fund that violates division  
(F)(1) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code shall be fined  
twenty-five dollars for each day of violation.

(2) Any legislative campaign fund that violates division

(F)(2) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code shall give to the treasurer of state for deposit into the state treasury to the credit of the Ohio elections commission fund all excess contributions not disposed of as required by division (E) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code.

(L) Whoever violates section 3517.105 of the Revised Code shall be fined one thousand dollars.

(M)(1) Whoever solicits a contribution in violation of section 3517.092 or violates division (B) of section 3517.09 of the Revised Code is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree.

(2) Whoever knowingly accepts a contribution in violation of division (B) or (C) of section 3517.092 of the Revised Code shall be fined an amount equal to three times the amount accepted in violation of either of those divisions and shall return to the contributor any amount so accepted. Whoever unknowingly accepts a contribution in violation of division (B) or (C) of section 3517.092 of the Revised Code shall return to the contributor any amount so accepted.

(N) Whoever violates division (S) of section 3517.13 of the Revised Code shall be fined an amount equal to three times the amount of funds transferred or three times the value of the assets transferred in violation of that division.

(O) Any campaign committee that accepts a contribution or contributions in violation of section 3517.108 of the Revised Code, uses a contribution in violation of that section, or fails to dispose of excess contributions in violation of that section shall be fined an amount equal to three times the amount accepted, used, or kept in violation of that section.

(P) Any political party, state candidate fund, legislative candidate fund, or campaign committee that violates division (T) of section 3517.13 of the Revised Code shall be fined an amount

equal to three times the amount contributed or accepted in 4075  
violation of that section. 4076

(Q) A treasurer of a committee or another person who violates 4077  
division (U) of section 3517.13 of the Revised Code shall be fined 4078  
not more than two hundred fifty dollars. 4079

(R) Whoever violates division (I) or (J) of section 3517.13 4080  
of the Revised Code shall be fined not more than one thousand 4081  
dollars. Whenever a person is found guilty of violating division 4082  
(I) or (J) of section 3517.13 of the Revised Code, the contract 4083  
awarded in violation of either of those divisions shall be 4084  
rescinded if its terms have not yet been performed. 4085

(S) A candidate whose campaign committee violates or a 4086  
treasurer of a campaign committee who violates section 3517.081 of 4087  
the Revised Code, and a candidate whose campaign committee 4088  
violates or a treasurer of a campaign committee or another person 4089  
who violates division (C) of section 3517.10 of the Revised Code, 4090  
shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars. 4091

(T) A candidate whose campaign committee violates or a 4092  
treasurer of a committee who violates division (B) of section 4093  
3517.09 of the Revised Code, or a candidate whose campaign 4094  
committee violates or a treasurer of a campaign committee or 4095  
another person who violates division (C) of section 3517.09 of the 4096  
Revised Code shall be fined not more than one thousand dollars. 4097

(U) Whoever violates section 3517.20 of the Revised Code 4098  
shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars. 4099

(V) Whoever violates section 3517.21 or 3517.22 of the 4100  
Revised Code shall be imprisoned for not more than six months or 4101  
fined not more than five thousand dollars, or both. 4102

(W) A campaign committee that is required to file a 4103  
declaration of no limits under division (D)(2) of section 3517.103 4104

of the Revised Code that, before filing that declaration, accepts  
a contribution or contributions that exceed the limitations  
prescribed in section 3517.102 of the Revised Code, shall return  
that contribution or those contributions to the contributor.

(X) Any campaign committee that fails to file the declaration  
of filing-day finances required by division (F) of section  
3517.109 or the declaration of primary-day finances or declaration  
of year-end finances required by division (E) of section 3517.1010  
of the Revised Code shall be fined twenty-five dollars for each  
day of violation.

(Y) Any campaign committee that fails to dispose of excess  
funds or excess aggregate contributions under division (B) of  
section 3517.109 of the Revised Code in the manner required by  
division (C) of that section or under division (B) of section  
3517.1010 of the Revised Code in the manner required by division  
(C) of that section shall give to the treasurer of state for  
deposit into the Ohio elections commission fund created under  
division (I) of section 3517.152 of the Revised Code all funds not  
disposed of pursuant to those divisions.

(Z) Any individual, campaign committee, political action  
committee, political contributing entity, legislative campaign  
fund, political party, or other entity that violates any provision  
of sections 3517.09 to 3517.12 of the Revised Code for which no  
penalty is provided for under any other division of this section  
shall be fined not more than one thousand dollars.

(AA)(1) Whoever knowingly violates division (W)(1) of section  
3517.13 of the Revised Code shall be fined an amount equal to  
three times the amount contributed, expended, or promised in  
violation of that division or ten thousand dollars, whichever  
amount is greater.

(2) Whoever knowingly violates division (W)(2) of section

3517.13 of the Revised Code shall be fined an amount equal to 4136  
three times the amount solicited or accepted in violation of that 4137  
division or ten thousand dollars, whichever amount is greater. 4138

(BB) Whoever knowingly violates division (C) or (D) of 4139  
section 3517.1011 of the Revised Code shall be fined not more than 4140  
ten thousand dollars plus not more than one thousand dollars for 4141  
each day of violation. 4142

(CC)(1) Subject to division (CC)(2) of this section, whoever 4143  
violates division (H) of section 3517.1011 of the Revised Code 4144  
shall be fined an amount up to three times the amount disbursed 4145  
for the direct costs of airing the communication made in violation 4146  
of that division. 4147

(2) Whoever has been ordered by the Ohio elections commission 4148  
or by a court of competent jurisdiction to cease making 4149  
communications in violation of division (H) of section 3517.1011 4150  
of the Revised Code who again violates that division shall be 4151  
fined an amount equal to three times the amount disbursed for the 4152  
direct costs of airing the communication made in violation of that 4153  
division. 4154

(DD)(1) Any corporation or labor organization that violates 4155  
division (X)(3)(a) of section 3517.13 of the Revised Code shall be 4156  
fined an amount equal to three times the amount given in excess of 4157  
the amount permitted by that division. 4158

(2) Any state or county political party that violates 4159  
division (X)(3)(b) of section 3517.13 of the Revised Code shall be 4160  
fined an amount equal to three times the amount accepted in excess 4161  
of the amount permitted by that division. 4162

**Section 2.** That existing sections 102.03, 2921.01, 2921.43, 4163  
3517.01, 3517.08, 3517.09, 3517.092, 3517.10, 3517.102, 3517.105, 4164  
3517.106, 3517.108, 3517.109, 3517.11, 3517.13, 3517.152, 4165

3517.155, 3517.20, 3517.23, and 3517.992 of the Revised Code are 4166  
hereby repealed. 4167

**Section 3.** This act is hereby declared to be an emergency 4168  
measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public 4169  
peace, health, and safety. The reason for the necessity is that 4170  
the Court of Common Pleas of Franklin County has issued a 4171  
preliminary injunction prohibiting the enforcement of section 4172  
3599.03 of the Revised Code, as enacted by Am. Sub. H.B. 1 of the 4173  
125th General Assembly, Special Session, in *United Auto Workers* 4174  
*Local Union 1112 v. Blackwell* (March 30, 2005), Case No. 4175  
O5CVH-03-2553. Therefore, this act shall go into immediate effect. 4176