As Introduced

127th General Assembly Regular Session 2007-2008

H. B. No. 149

Representatives Daniels, Strahorn

Cosponsors: Representatives Stewart, J., Driehaus, Aslanides, Bolon, McGregor, J., Wolpert, Luckie, Gibbs, Hagan, R., Combs, Flowers, Healy, Setzer, Hagan, J., Lundy, Williams, S., Heard, Sykes, Widener, Hughes, Adams, Garrison, Uecker, Huffman, DeBose, Fessler, Distel, Blessing, Patton, Domenick, Fende, Bubp, Beatty, Collier, Peterson, Okey, Stewart, D., Foley, Boyd, Carmichael, Reinhard, Hite

A BILL

To amend sections 4725.01, 4725.09, 4725.16, 4725.23,
4725.26, 4725.28, and 4731.44 and to enact
sections 4725.011, 4725.012, and 4725.091 of the
Revised Code to modify the laws governing the
State Board of Optometry and the practice of
optometry, including the laws authorizing
optometrists to administer and prescribe drugs.

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

Section 1. That sections 4725.01, 4725.09, 4725.16, 4725.23,	8
4725.26, 4725.28, and 4731.44 be amended and sections 4725.011,	9
4725.012, and 4725.091 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as	10
follows:	11
Sec. 4725.01. As used in this chapter:	12
(A)(1) The "practice of optometry" means the application of	13
optical principles, through technical methods and devices, in the	14

(B) "Topical ocular pharmaceutical agents agent" means:

(1) Proparacaine hydrochloride in a potency not exceeding

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five-tenths of one per cent ophthalmic solution;	45
(2) Benoxinate hydrochloride in a potency not exceeding	46
four-tenths of one per cent ophthalmic solution;	47
(3) Phenylephrine hydrochloride in a potency not exceeding	48
two and five tenths per cent ophthalmic solution;	49
(4) Hydroxyamphetamine hydrobromide in a potency not	50
exceeding one per cent ophthalmic solution;	51
(5) Tropicamide in a potency not exceeding one per cent	52
ophthalmic solution;	53
(6) Cyclopentolate in a potency not exceeding one per cent	54
ophthalmic-solution;	55
(7) Any other topical ocular pharmaceutical agents if the	56
primary indications for their use are consistent with the purposes	57
set forth in division (A)(1) of this section, their new drug	58
application is approved by and the potency in which they may be	59
used for evaluative purposes has been established by the federal	60
food and drug administration after January 1, 1983, and their use	61
for the purposes set forth in division (A)(1) of this section has	62
been approved by rule of the state board of optometry a drug that	63
may be used in accordance with section 4725.011 of the Revised	64
Code by a licensed optometrist who holds a topical ocular	65
pharmaceutical agents certificate.	66
(C) "Therepoutic pharmacoutical acent" means a topical equipm	67
(C) "Therapeutic pharmaceutical agent" means a topical ocular	
pharmaceutical agent or any of the following drugs or dangerous	68
drugs that is used for examination, investigation, diagnosis, or	69
prevention of disease, injury, or other abnormal condition of the	70
visual system or for treatment or cure of disease, injury, or	71
other abnormal condition of the anterior segment of the human eye	72
and is an anti-microbial, anti-allergy, anti-glaucoma, topical	73
anti-inflammatory, or cycloplegic agent, or an analgegic:	74

(q) Tetracycline in a two hundred fifty milligram or five

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authorizing the holder to practice optometry as provided in	132
division (A)(3) of this section.	133
Sec. 4725.011. (A) Subject to division (B) of this section, a	134
licensed optometrist who holds a topical ocular pharmaceutical	135
agents certificate is practicing within the optometrist's scope of	136
practice when the optometrist administers a drug topically for	137
evaluative purposes in the practice of optometry as specified in	138
division (A)(1) of section 4725.01 of the Revised Code.	139
(B) A licensed optometrist who holds a topical ocular	140
pharmaceutical agents certificate is not authorized to do any of	141
the following:	142
(1) Administer a drug by any method other than topical	143
administration;	144
(2) Administer a schedule II controlled substance;	145
(3) Administer a schedule III controlled substance or its	146
equivalent unless the drug is authorized by the state board of	147
optometry in rules adopted under section 4725.091 of the Revised	148
Code.	149
Sec. 4725.012. (A) Subject to division (B) of this section, a	150
licensed optometrist who holds a therapeutic pharmaceutical agents	151
certificate is practicing within the optometrist's scope of	152
practice when the optometrist administers or prescribes a drug for	153
purposes of diagnosis, treatment or prevention of injury, or	154
treatment or management of disease or any other abnormal condition	155
within or originating from the visual system. The optometrist's	156
scope of practice includes the topical administration of drugs	157
that may be administered by a licensed optometrist who holds a	158
topical ocular pharmaceutical agents certificate.	159
(B) A licensed optometrist who holds a therapeutic	160
pharmaceutical agents certificate is not authorized to do any of	161

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the following:	162
(1) Administer a drug by injection except as provided in	163
division (C) of this section;	164
(2) Administer or prescribe a schedule II controlled	165
substance;	166
(3) Administer or prescribe a schedule III controlled	167
substance or its equivalent unless the drug is authorized by the	168
board in rules adopted under section 4729.091 of the Revised Code.	169
(C) A licensed optometrist who holds a therapeutic	170
pharmaceutical agents certificate is authorized to perform the	171
following invasive procedures:	172
(1) Administration of a drug by injection for purposes of	173
counteracting anaphylaxis or an anaphylactic reaction;	174
(2) Use of a device that infiltrates human tissue for	175
purposes of testing the level of glucose in an individual's blood.	176
Sec. 4725.09. (A) The state board of optometry shall adopt	177
rules as it considers necessary to govern the practice of	178
optometry and to administer and enforce sections 4725.01 to	179
4725.34 of the Revised Code. All rules adopted under sections	180
4725.01 to 4725.34 of the Revised Code shall be adopted in	181
accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code.	182
(B) The board, in consultation with the state board of	183
pharmacy, shall adopt rules specifying oral dosages of drugs or	184
dangerous drugs that are therapeutic pharmaceutical agents under	185
division (C)(3) of section 4725.01 of the Revised Code.	186
(C) The board shall adopt rules that establish standards to	187
be met and procedures to be followed with respect to the	188
delegation by an optometrist of the performance of an optometric	189
task to a person who is not licensed or otherwise specifically	190
authorized by the Revised Code to perform the task. The rules	191

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shall permit an optometrist who holds a topical ocular	192
pharmaceutical agents certificate or therapeutic pharmaceutical	193
agents certificate to delegate the administration of drugs	194
included in the optometrist's scope of practice.	195
The rules adopted under this division shall provide for all	196
of the following:	197
(1) On-site supervision when the delegation occurs in an	198
institution or other facility that is used primarily for the	199
purpose of providing health care, unless the board established a	200
specific exception to the on-site supervision requirement with	201
respect to routine administration of a topical drug;	202
(2) Evaluation of whether delegation is appropriate according	203
to the acuity of the patient involved;	204
(3) Training and competency requirements that must be met by	205
the person administering the drugs;	206
(4) Other standards and procedures the board considers	207
relevant.	208
Sec. 4725.091. (A) The state board of optometry shall adopt	209
rules governing the authority of licensed optometrists to	210
administer schedule III controlled substances under a topical	211
ocular pharmaceutical agents certificate and to administer and	212
prescribe schedule III controlled substances under a therapeutic	213
pharmaceutical agents certificate. The rules shall be adopted in	214
accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code and in	215
consultation with the state board of pharmacy.	216
(B) All of the following apply to the state board of	217
optometry in the adoption of rules under this section:	218
(1) The board shall not permit an optometrist to administer	219
or prescribe a schedule III controlled substance other than a drug	220
included in section 3719.41 of the Revised Code within the	221

pharmaceutical agents certificate issued by the state board of	252
optometry shall expire annually on the last day of December, and	253
may be renewed in accordance with this section and the standard	254
renewal procedure established under Chapter 4745. of the Revised	255
Code.	256

An optometrist seeking to continue to practice optometry

shall file with the board an application for license renewal. The

application shall be in such form and require such pertinent

professional biographical data as the board may require.

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(B) All licensed optometrists shall annually complete 261 continuing education in subjects relating to the practice of 262 optometry, to the end that the utilization and application of new 263 techniques, scientific and clinical advances, and the achievements 264 of research will assure comprehensive care to the public. The 265 board shall prescribe by rule the continuing optometric education 266 that licensed optometrists must complete. The length of study 267 shall be determined by the board but shall be not less than six 268 nor more than twenty-five clock hours each year, except that the 269 board shall prescribe an additional five including ten clock hours 270 of instruction in pharmacology to be completed by all licensed 271 optometrists who hold topical ocular pharmaceutical agents 272 certificates or therapeutic pharmaceutical agents certificates. 273

Unless the continuing education required under this division 274 is waived or deferred under division (D) of this section, the 275 continuing education must be completed during the twelve-month 276 period beginning on the first day of October and ending on the 277 last day of September. If the board receives notice from a 278 continuing education program indicating that an optometrist 279 completed the program after the last day of September, and the 280 optometrist wants to use the continuing education completed after 281 that day to renew the license that expires on the last day of 282 December of that year, the optometrist shall pay the penalty 283

specified under section 4725.34 of the Revised Code for late	284
completion of continuing education.	285
At least once annually, the board shall mail to each licensed	286
optometrist a list of courses approved in accordance with	287
standards prescribed by board rule. Upon the request of a licensed	288
optometrist, the executive director of the board shall supply a	289
list of additional courses that the board has approved subsequent	290
to the most recent mailing of the list of approved courses.	291
(C) $\underline{(1)}$ Annually, \underline{by} not later than the first day of November,	292
the board shall mail to each licensed optometrist a notice	293
regarding license renewal and to each licensed optometrist who may	294
be eligible for renewal. The notice shall be sent to the	295
optometrist's last address shown in the board's records. If the	296
board knows that the optometrist has completed the required	297
continuing optometric education for the year, the board may	298
include with the notice an application for license renewal. $\overline{\mbox{The}}$	299
application shall be in such form and require such pertinent	300
professional biographical data as the board may require. An	301
optometrist seeking to continue to practice optometry shall file	302
the renewal application with the board. Filing the	303
(2) Filing a license renewal application with the board shall	304
serve as notice by the optometrist that the continuing optometric	305
education requirement has been successfully completed. <u>If</u>	306
If the board finds that an optometrist has not completed the	307
required continuing optometric education, the board shall	308
disapprove the optometrist's application. The board's disapproval	309
of renewal is effective without a hearing, unless a hearing is	310
requested pursuant to Chapter 119. of the Revised Code. The	311
(3) The board shall refuse to accept an application for	312
renewal from any applicant whose license is not in good standing	313
or who is under disciplinary review pursuant to section 4725.19 of	314

the	Revised (Code	Notice	3	15	
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(4) Notice of an applicant's failure to qualify for renewal

shall be served upon the applicant by mail, which. The notice

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shall be sent on or before not later than the fifteenth day of

November to the applicant's last address shown in the board's

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- (D) In cases of certified illness or undue hardship, the board may waive or defer for up to twelve months the requirement of continuing optometric education, except that in such cases the board may not waive or defer the continuing education in pharmacology required to be completed by optometrists who hold topical ocular pharmaceutical agents certificates or therapeutic pharmaceutical agents certificates. The board shall waive the requirement of continuing optometric education for any optometrist who is serving in the armed forces of the United States or who has received an initial certificate of licensure during the nine-month period which ended on the last day of September.
- (E) The board shall approve all applications for renewal that 332 are not disapproved or refused under division (C) of this section. 333 An optometrist whose renewal application has been approved may 334 renew each certificate held by paying to the treasurer of state 335 the fees for renewal specified under section 4725.34 of the 336 Revised Code. On payment of all applicable fees, the board shall 337 issue a renewal of the optometrist's certificate of licensure, 338 topical ocular pharmaceutical agents certificate, and therapeutic 339 pharmaceutical agents certificate, as appropriate. 340
- (F) A notice shall be sent to every licensed optometrist who

 fails to file the renewal application provided under division (C)

 of this section, at the optometrist's last address, at least one

 month in advance of the last day of December, which is the date of

 expiration. A second notice shall be sent Not later than the

 fifteenth day of December, the board shall mail a second notice

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regarding license renewal to each licensed optometrist who may be	347
eligible for renewal but did not respond to the notice sent under	348
division (C)(1) of this section. The notice shall be sent to the	349
optometrist's last address shown in the board's records. If an	350
optometrist fails to file a renewal application after the second	351
notice is sent, the board shall send a third notice regarding	352
<u>license renewal</u> prior to any action under division (I) of this	353
section to classify the optometrist's certificates as delinquent,	354
to every optometrist failing to respond to the preceding notice.	355
(G) The failure of an optometrist to apply for license	356
renewal or the failure to pay the applicable annual renewal fees	357
on or before the date of expiration, shall automatically work a	358
forfeiture of the optometrist's authority to practice optometry in	359
this state.	360
(H) The board shall accept renewal applications and renewal	361
fees that are submitted from the first day of January to the last	362
day of April of the year next succeeding the date of expiration.	363
An individual who submits such a late renewal application or fee	364
shall pay the late renewal fee specified in section 4725.34 of the	365
Revised Code.	366
(I)(1) If the certificates issued by the board to an	367
individual have expired and the individual has not filed a	368
complete application during the late renewal period, the	369
individual's certificates shall be classified in the board's	370
records as delinquent.	371
(2) Any optometrist subject to delinquent classification may	372
submit a written application to the board for reinstatement. For	373
reinstatement to occur, the applicant must meet all of the	374
following conditions:	375

(a) Submit to the board evidence of compliance with board

rules requiring continuing optometric education in a sufficient

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number of hours to make up for any delinquent compliance;	378
(b) Pay the renewal fees for the year in which application	379
for reinstatement is made and the reinstatement fee specified	380
under division (A)(8) of section 4725.34 of the Revised Code;	381
(c) Pass all or part of the licensing examination accepted by	382
the board under section 4725.11 of the Revised Code as the board	383
considers appropriate to determine whether the application for	384
reinstatement should be approved;	385
(d) If the applicant has been practicing optometry in another	386
state or country, submit evidence that the applicant's license to	387
practice optometry in the other state or country is in good	388
standing.	389
(3) The board shall approve an application for reinstatement	390
if the conditions specified in division (I)(2) of this section are	391
met. An optometrist who receives reinstatement is subject to the	392
continuing education requirements specified under division (B) of	393
this section for the year in which reinstatement occurs.	394
Sec. 4725.23. (A) The state board of optometry shall	395
investigate evidence that appears to show that a person has	396
violated any provision of sections 4725.01 to 4725.34 of the	397
Revised Code or any rule adopted under those sections.	398
Investigations of alleged violations shall be supervised by the	399
member of the board appointed by the board to act as the	400
supervising member of investigations. The supervising member shall	401
not participate in the final vote that occurs in an adjudication	402
of the case.	403
(B) In investigating a possible violation, the board may	404
administer oaths, order the taking of depositions, issue	405
subpoenas, and compel the attendance of witnesses and production	406
of books, accounts, papers, records, documents, and testimony. A	407

subpoena for patient record information shall not be issued	408
without consultation with the attorney general's office and	409
approval of the secretary of the board and the board's supervising	410
member of investigations. Before issuance of a subpoena for	411
patient record information, the secretary and supervising member	412
shall determine whether there is probable cause to believe that	413
the complaint filed alleges a violation of sections 4725.01 to	414
4725.34 of the Revised Code or any rule adopted under those	415
sections and that the records sought are relevant to the alleged	416
violation and material to the investigation. The subpoena may	417
apply only to records that cover a reasonable period of time	418
surrounding the alleged violation.	419

On failure to comply with any subpoena issued by the board 420 and after reasonable notice to the person being subpoenaed, the 421 board may move for an order compelling the production of persons 422 or records pursuant to the Rules of Civil Procedure. 423

A subpoena issued by the board may be served by a sheriff, 424 the sheriff's deputy, or a board employee designated by the board. 425 Service of a subpoena issued by the board may be made by 426 delivering a copy of the subpoena to the person named therein, 427 reading it to the person, or leaving it at the person's usual 428 place of residence. When the person being served is an optometrist 429 licensed under by this chapter, service of the subpoena may be 430 made by certified mail, restricted delivery, return receipt 431 requested, and the subpoena shall be deemed served on the date 432 delivery is made or the date the optometrist refuses to accept 433 delivery. 434

Each witness who appears before the board in obedience to a 435 subpoena shall receive the fees and mileage provided for witnesses 436 in civil cases in the courts of common pleas. 437

(C) Information received by the board pursuant to an 438 investigation is confidential and not subject to discovery in any 439

civil action.	440
The board shall conduct all investigations and proceedings in	441
a manner that protects the confidentiality of patients and persons	442
who file complaints with the board. The board shall not make	443
public the names or any other identifying information about	444
patients or complainants unless proper consent is given.	445
The board may share any information it receives pursuant to	446
an investigation, including patient records and patient record	447
information, with other licensing boards and governmental agencies	448
that are investigating alleged professional misconduct and with	449
law enforcement agencies and other governmental agencies that are	450
investigating or prosecuting alleged criminal offenses. A board or	451
agency that receives the information shall comply with the same	452
requirements regarding confidentiality as those with which the	453
state board of optometry must comply, notwithstanding any	454
conflicting provision of the Revised Code or procedure of the	455
board or agency that applies when the board or agency is dealing	456
with other information in its possession. The information may be	457
admitted into evidence in a criminal trial in accordance with the	458
Rules of Evidence, but the court shall require that appropriate	459
measures are taken to ensure that confidentiality is maintained	460
with respect to any part of the information that contains names or	461
other identifying information about persons whose confidentiality	462
was protected by the state board of optometry when the information	463
was in the board's possession. Measures to ensure confidentiality	464
that may be taken by the court include sealing its records or	465
deleting specific information from its records.	466
Sec. 4725.26. Division (A) of section 4725.02 of the Revised	467
Code does not apply to the following:	468
(A) Physicians authorized to practice medicine and surgery or	469
osteopathic medicine and surgery under Chapter 4731. of the	470

Revised Code;	471
(B) Persons who sell optical accessories but do not assume to	472
adapt them to the eye, and neither practice nor profess to	473
<pre>practice optometry;</pre>	474
(C) An instructor in a school of optometry that is located in	475
this state and approved by the state board of optometry under	476
section 4725.10 of the Revised Code who holds a valid current	477
license to practice optometry from a licensing body in another	478
jurisdiction and limits the practice of optometry to the	479
instruction of students enrolled in the school.	480
(D) A student at enrolled in a school of optometry, located	481
in this <u>or another</u> state and approved by the board under section	482
4725.10 of the Revised Code, while enrolled the student is	483
participating in this state in an optometry training program and	484
acting provided or sponsored by the school, if the student acts	485
under the direct, personal supervision and control of an	486
optometrist licensed by the board or authorized to practice	487
pursuant to division (C) of this section.	488
(E) An individual who is licensed or otherwise specifically	489
authorized by the Revised Code to engage in an activity that is	490
included in the practice of optometry.	491
(F) An individual who is not licensed or otherwise	492
specifically authorized by the Revised Code to engage in an	493
activity that is included in the practice of optometry, but is	494
acting pursuant to the rules for delegation of optometric tasks	495
adopted under section 4725.09 of the Revised Code.	496
Sec. 4725.28. (A) As used in this section, "supplier" means	497
any person who prepares or sells optical accessories or other	498
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vision correcting items, devices, or procedures.	433
(B) A licensed optometrist, on completion of a vision	500

examination and diagnosis, shall give each patient for whom the	501
optometrist prescribes any vision correcting item, device, or	502
procedure, one copy of the prescription, without additional charge	503
to the patient. The prescription shall include the following:	504
(1) The date of its issuance;	505
(2) Sufficient information to enable the patient to obtain	506
from the supplier of the patient's choice, the optical accessory	507
or other vision correcting item, device, or procedure that has	508
been prescribed <u>:</u>	509
(3) In the case of contact lenses, all information specified	510
as part of a contact lens prescription, as defined in the	511
"Fairness to Contact Lens Consumers Act," 117 Stat. 2004 (2003),	512
<u>U.S.C. 7610</u> .	513
(C) Any supplier who fills a prescription for contact lenses	514
furnished by an optometrist shall furnish the patient with written	515
recommendations to return to the prescribing optometrist for	516
evaluation of the contact lens fitting.	517
(D) Any supplier, including an optometrist who is a supplier,	518
may advertise to inform the general public of the price that the	519
supplier charges for any vision correcting item, device, or	520
procedure. Any such advertisement shall specify the following:	521
(1) Whether the advertised item includes an eye examination;	522
(2) In the case of lenses, whether the price applies to	523
single-vision or multifocal lenses;	524
(3) In the case of contact lenses, whether the price applies	525
to rigid or soft lenses and whether there is an additional charge	526
related to the fitting and determination of the type of contact	527
lenses to be worn that is not included in the price of the eye	528
examination.	529
(E) The state board of optometry shall not adopt any rule	530

that restricts the right to advertise as permitted by division (D)	531
of this section.	532
(F) Any municipal corporation code, ordinance, or regulation	533
or any township resolution that conflicts with a supplier's right	534
to advertise as permitted by division (D) of this section is	535
superseded by division (D) of this section and is invalid. A	536
municipal corporation code, ordinance, or regulation or a township	537
resolution conflicts with division (D) of this section if it	538
restricts a supplier's right to advertise as permitted by division	539
(D) of this section.	540
Sec. 4731.44. (A) As used in this section, "supplier" has the	541
same meaning as in section 4725.28 of the Revised Code.	542
(B) An individual authorized under this chapter to practice	543
medicine and surgery or osteopathic medicine and surgery, on	544
completion of a vision examination and diagnosis, shall give each	545
patient for whom the individual prescribes any vision correcting	546
item, device, or procedure, one copy of the prescription, without	547
additional charge to the patient. The prescription shall include	548
the following:	549
(1) The date of its issuance;	550
(2) Sufficient information to enable the patient to obtain	551
from the supplier of the patient's choice, the vision correcting	552
item, device, or procedure that has been prescribed;	553
(3) In the case of contact lenses, all information specified	554
as part of a contact lens prescription, as defined in the	555
"Fairness to Contact Lens Consumers Act," 117 Stat. 2004 (2003),	556
<u>U.S.C. 7610</u> .	557
(C) Any supplier who fills a prescription for contact lenses	558
furnished by an individual authorized under this chapter to	559
practice medicine and surgery or osteopathic medicine and surgery	560

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shall furnish the patient with written recommendations to return	561
to the prescribing doctor for evaluation of the contact lens	562
fitting.	563
(D) Any supplier, including an individual authorized under	564
this chapter to practice medicine and surgery or osteopathic	565
medicine and surgery who is a supplier, may advertise to inform	566
the general public of the price that the supplier charges for any	567
vision correcting item, device, or procedure. An advertisement of	568
that nature shall specify the following:	569
(1) Whether the price includes an eye examination;	570
(2) In the case of lenses, whether the price applies to	571
single-vision or multifocal lenses;	572
(3) In the case of contact lenses, whether the price applies	573
to rigid or soft lenses and whether there is an additional charge	574
related to the fitting and determination of the type of contact	575
lenses to be worn that is not included in the price of the eye	576
examination.	577
(E) The state medical board shall not adopt any rule that	578
restricts the right to advertise as permitted by division (D) of	579
this section.	580
(F) Any municipal corporation code, ordinance, or regulation	581
or any township resolution that conflicts with a supplier's right	582
to advertise as permitted by division (D) of this section is	583
superseded by division (D) of this section and is invalid. A	584
municipal corporation code, ordinance, or regulation or a township	585
resolution conflicts with division (D) of this section if it	586
restricts a supplier's right to advertise as permitted by division	587
(D) of this section.	588
Section 2. That existing sections 4725.01, 4725.09, 4725.16,	589
4725.23, 4725.26, 4725.28, and 4731.44 of the Revised Code are	590

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hereby repealed.