# As Passed by the House

# 127th General Assembly Regular Session 2007-2008

Am. H. B. No. 314

# **Representative Jones**

Cosponsors: Representatives Adams, Barrett, Batchelder, Brinkman, Bubp, Coley, Collier, Distel, Dodd, Dolan, Evans, Fessler, Garrison, Goodwin, Hottinger, Huffman, Latta, Mandel, McGregor, J., Patton, Schindel, Schneider, Seitz, Setzer, Uecker, Wachtmann, Wagoner, Widener, Wolpert, Zehringer, Mecklenborg, Aslanides, Blessing, Brady, Combs, DeBose, DeGeeter, Domenick, Driehaus, Dyer, Flowers, Gibbs, Hagan, J., Hite, Lundy, Oelslager, Raussen, Reinhard, Schlichter, Wagner, White, Widowfield

A BILL

То	amend sections 2151.421 and 4731.22 and to enact	1
	section 2317.561 of the Revised Code to require	2
	that a woman who is to have an abortion be given	3
	the opportunity to view any available obstetric	4
	ultrasound image and to make corrections in the	5
	laws pertaining to child abuse and neglect	6
	reports.	7

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

Section 1. That sections 2151.421 and 4731.22 be amended and	8
section 2317.561 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as	9
follows:	10
Sec. 2151.421. (A)(1)(a) No person described in division	11
(A)(1)(b) of this section who is acting in an official or	12
professional capacity and knows, or has reasonable cause to	13

suspect based on facts that would cause a reasonable person in a 14 similar position to suspect, that a child under eighteen years of 15 age or a mentally retarded, developmentally disabled, or 16 physically impaired child under twenty-one years of age has 17 suffered or faces a threat of suffering any physical or mental 18 wound, injury, disability, or condition of a nature that 19 reasonably indicates abuse or neglect of the child shall fail to 20 immediately report that knowledge or reasonable cause to suspect 21 to the entity or persons specified in this division. Except as 2.2 provided in section 5120.173 of the Revised Code, the person 23 making the report shall make it to the public children services 24 agency or a municipal or county peace officer in the county in 25 which the child resides or in which the abuse or neglect is 26 occurring or has occurred. In the circumstances described in 27 section 5120.173 of the Revised Code, the person making the report 28 shall make it to the entity specified in that section. 29

(b) Division (A)(1)(a) of this section applies to any person 30 who is an attorney; physician, including a hospital intern or 31 resident; dentist; podiatrist; practitioner of a limited branch of 32 medicine as specified in section 4731.15 of the Revised Code; 33 registered nurse; licensed practical nurse; visiting nurse; other 34 health care professional; licensed psychologist; licensed school 35 psychologist; independent marriage and family therapist or 36 marriage and family therapist; speech pathologist or audiologist; 37 coroner; administrator or employee of a child day-care center; 38 administrator or employee of a residential camp or child day camp; 39 administrator or employee of a certified child care agency or 40 other public or private children services agency; school teacher; 41 school employee; school authority; person engaged in social work 42 or the practice of professional counseling; agent of a county 43 humane society; person, other than a cleric, rendering spiritual 44 treatment through prayer in accordance with the tenets of a 45 well-recognized religion; superintendent, board member, or 46

employee of a county board of mental retardation; investigative agent contracted with by a county board of mental retardation; employee of the department of mental retardation and developmental disabilities; employee of a facility or home that provides respite care in accordance with section 5123.171 of the Revised Code; employee of a home health agency; employee of an entity that provides homemaker services; a person performing the duties of an assessor pursuant to Chapter 3107. or 5103. of the Revised Code; or third party employed by a public children services agency to assist in providing child or family related services. 

- (2) Except as provided in division (A)(3) of this section, an attorney or a physician is not required to make a report pursuant to division (A)(1) of this section concerning any communication the attorney or physician receives from a client or patient in an attorney-client or physician-patient relationship, if, in accordance with division (A) or (B) of section 2317.02 of the Revised Code, the attorney or physician could not testify with respect to that communication in a civil or criminal proceeding.
- (3) The client or patient in an attorney-client or physician-patient relationship described in division (A)(2) of this section is deemed to have waived any testimonial privilege under division (A) or (B) of section 2317.02 of the Revised Code with respect to any communication the attorney or physician receives from the client or patient in that attorney-client or physician-patient relationship, and the attorney or physician shall make a report pursuant to division (A)(1) of this section with respect to that communication, if all of the following apply:
- (a) The client or patient, at the time of the communication,
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  is either a child under eighteen years of age or a mentally
  retarded, developmentally disabled, or physically impaired person
  under twenty-one years of age.
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  - (b) The attorney or physician knows, or has reasonable cause

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to suspect based on facts that would cause a reasonable person in similar position to suspect, as a result of the communication or any observations made during that communication, that the client or patient has suffered or faces a threat of suffering any physical or mental wound, injury, disability, or condition of a nature that reasonably indicates abuse or neglect of the client or patient.

- (c) The abuse or neglect does not arise out of the client's 86 or patient's attempt to have an abortion without the notification 87 of her parents, guardian, or custodian in accordance with section 88 2151.85 of the Revised Code.
- (4)(a) No cleric and no person, other than a volunteer, 90 designated by any church, religious society, or faith acting as a 91 leader, official, or delegate on behalf of the church, religious 92 society, or faith who is acting in an official or professional 93 capacity, who knows, or has reasonable cause to believe based on 94 facts that would cause a reasonable person in a similar position 95 to believe, that a child under eighteen years of age or a mentally 96 retarded, developmentally disabled, or physically impaired child 97 under twenty-one years of age has suffered or faces a threat of 98 suffering any physical or mental wound, injury, disability, or 99 condition of a nature that reasonably indicates abuse or neglect 100 of the child, and who knows, or has reasonable cause to believe 101 based on facts that would cause a reasonable person in a similar 102 position to believe, that another cleric or another person, other 103 than a volunteer, designated by a church, religious society, or 104 faith acting as a leader, official, or delegate on behalf of the 105 church, religious society, or faith caused, or poses the threat of 106 causing, the wound, injury, disability, or condition that 107 reasonably indicates abuse or neglect shall fail to immediately 108 report that knowledge or reasonable cause to believe to the entity 109 or persons specified in this division. Except as provided in 110

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section 5120.173 of the Revised Code, the person making the report	111
shall make it to the public children services agency or a	112
municipal or county peace officer in the county in which the child	113
resides or in which the abuse or neglect is occurring or has	114
occurred. In the circumstances described in section 5120.173 of	115
the Revised Code, the person making the report shall make it to	116
the entity specified in that section.	117
(b) Except as provided in division $(A)(4)(c)$ of this section,	118
a cleric is not required to make a report pursuant to division	119
(A)(4)(a) of this section concerning any communication the cleric	120
receives from a penitent in a cleric-penitent relationship, if, in	121
accordance with division (C) of section 2317.02 of the Revised	122
Code, the cleric could not testify with respect to that	123
communication in a civil or criminal proceeding.	124
(c) The penitent in a cleric-penitent relationship described	125
in division (A)(4)(b) of this section is deemed to have waived any	126
testimonial privilege under division (C) of section 2317.02 of the	127
Revised Code with respect to any communication the cleric receives	128
from the penitent in that cleric-penitent relationship, and the	129
cleric shall make a report pursuant to division (A)(4)(a) of this	130
section with respect to that communication, if all of the	131
following apply:	132
(i) The penitent, at the time of the communication, is either	133
a child under eighteen years of age or a mentally retarded,	134
developmentally disabled, or physically impaired person under	135
twenty-one years of age.	136
(ii) The cleric knows, or has reasonable cause to believe	137
based on facts that would cause a reasonable person in a similar	138

position to believe, as a result of the communication or any

observations made during that communication, the penitent has

suffered or faces a threat of suffering any physical or mental

wound, injury, disability, or condition of a nature that

reasonably indicates	abuse c	or neglect	of the	penitent.	
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- (iii) The abuse or neglect does not arise out of the 144 penitent's attempt to have an abortion performed upon a child 145 under eighteen years of age or upon a mentally retarded, 146 developmentally disabled, or physically impaired person under 147 twenty-one years of age without the notification of her parents, 148 guardian, or custodian in accordance with section 2151.85 of the 149 Revised Code.
- (d) Divisions (A)(4)(a) and (c) of this section do not apply
  in a cleric-penitent relationship when the disclosure of any
  communication the cleric receives from the penitent is in
  violation of the sacred trust.

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- (e) As used in divisions (A)(1) and (4) of this section,"cleric" and "sacred trust" have the same meanings as in section2317.02 of the Revised Code.157
- (B) Anyone who knows, or has reasonable cause to suspect 158 based on facts that would cause a reasonable person in similar 159 circumstances to suspect, that a child under eighteen years of age 160 or a mentally retarded, developmentally disabled, or physically 161 impaired person under twenty-one years of age has suffered or 162 faces a threat of suffering any physical or mental wound, injury, 163 disability, or other condition of a nature that reasonably 164 indicates abuse or neglect of the child may report or cause 165 reports to be made of that knowledge or reasonable cause to 166 suspect to the entity or persons specified in this division. 167 Except as provided in section 5120.173 of the Revised Code, a 168 person making a report or causing a report to be made under this 169 division shall make it or cause it to be made to the public 170 children services agency or to a municipal or county peace 171 officer. In the circumstances described in section 5120.173 of the 172 Revised Code, a person making a report or causing a report to be 173 made under this division shall make it or cause it to be made to 174

report concerning the possible abuse or neglect of a child or the

possible threat of abuse or neglect of a child, upon receipt of	206
the report, the municipal or county peace officer who receives the	207
report shall refer the report to the appropriate public children	208
services agency.	209

- (2) When a public children services agency receives a report 210 pursuant to this division or division (A) or (B) of this section, 211 upon receipt of the report, the public children services agency 212 shall do both of the following: 213
  - (a) Comply with section 2151.422 of the Revised Code; 214
- (b) If the county served by the agency is also served by a 215 children's advocacy center and the report alleges sexual abuse of 216 a child or another type of abuse of a child that is specified in 217 the memorandum of understanding that creates the center as being 218 within the center's jurisdiction, comply regarding the report with 219 the protocol and procedures for referrals and investigations, with 220 the coordinating activities, and with the authority or 221 responsibility for performing or providing functions, activities, 222 and services stipulated in the interagency agreement entered into 223 under section 2151.428 of the Revised Code relative to that 224 center. 225
- (E) No township, municipal, or county peace officer shall 226 remove a child about whom a report is made pursuant to this 227 section from the child's parents, stepparents, or guardian or any 228 other persons having custody of the child without consultation 229 with the public children services agency, unless, in the judgment 230 of the officer, and, if the report was made by physician, the 231 physician, immediate removal is considered essential to protect 232 the child from further abuse or neglect. The agency that must be 233 consulted shall be the agency conducting the investigation of the 234 report as determined pursuant to section 2151.422 of the Revised 235 Code. 236

(F)(1) Except as provided in section 2151.422 of the Revised	237
Code or in an interagency agreement entered into under section	238
2151.428 of the Revised Code that applies to the particular	239
report, the public children services agency shall investigate,	240
within twenty-four hours, each report of child abuse or child	241
neglect that is known or reasonably suspected or believed to have	242
occurred and of a threat of child abuse or child neglect that is	243
known or reasonably suspected or believed to exist that is	244
referred to it under this section to determine the circumstances	245
surrounding the injuries, abuse, or neglect or the threat of	246
injury, abuse, or neglect, the cause of the injuries, abuse,	247
neglect, or threat, and the person or persons responsible. The	248
investigation shall be made in cooperation with the law	249
enforcement agency and in accordance with the memorandum of	250
understanding prepared under division (J) of this section. A	251
representative of the public children services agency shall, at	252
the time of initial contact with the person subject to the	253
investigation, inform the person of the specific complaints or	254
allegations made against the person. The information shall be	255
given in a manner that is consistent with division (H)(1) of this	256
section and protects the rights of the person making the report	257
under this section.	258

A failure to make the investigation in accordance with the 259 memorandum is not grounds for, and shall not result in, the 260 dismissal of any charges or complaint arising from the report or 261 the suppression of any evidence obtained as a result of the report 262 and does not give, and shall not be construed as giving, any 263 rights or any grounds for appeal or post-conviction relief to any 264 person. The public children services agency shall report each case 265 to the uniform statewide automated child welfare information 266 system that the department of job and family services shall 267 maintain in accordance with section 5101.13 of the Revised Code. 268 The public children services agency shall submit a report of its 269

investigation, in writing, to the law enforcement agency.	270
(2) The public children services agency shall make any	271
recommendations to the county prosecuting attorney or city	272
director of law that it considers necessary to protect any	273
children that are brought to its attention.	274
(G)(1)(a) Except as provided in division (H)(3) of this	275
section, anyone or any hospital, institution, school, health	276
department, or agency participating in the making of reports under	277
division (A) of this section, anyone or any hospital, institution,	278
school, health department, or agency participating in good faith	279
in the making of reports under division (B) of this section, and	280
anyone participating in good faith in a judicial proceeding	281
resulting from the reports, shall be immune from any civil or	282
criminal liability for injury, death, or loss to person or	283
property that otherwise might be incurred or imposed as a result	284
of the making of the reports or the participation in the judicial	285
proceeding.	286
(b) Notwithstanding section 4731.22 of the Revised Code, the	287
physician-patient privilege shall not be a ground for excluding	288
evidence regarding a child's injuries, abuse, or neglect, or the	289
cause of the injuries, abuse, or neglect in any judicial	290
proceeding resulting from a report submitted pursuant to this	291
section.	292
(2) In any civil or criminal action or proceeding in which it	293
is alleged and proved that participation in the making of a report	294
under this section was not in good faith or participation in a	295
judicial proceeding resulting from a report made under this	296
section was not in good faith, the court shall award the	297
prevailing party reasonable attorney's fees and costs and, if a	298
civil action or proceeding is voluntarily dismissed, may award	299
reasonable attorney's fees and costs to the party against whom the	300

civil action or proceeding is brought.

$(\mathrm{H})(1)$ Except as provided in divisions $(\mathrm{H})(4)$ and $(\mathrm{M})$ of this	302
section, a report made under this section is confidential. The	303
information provided in a report made pursuant to this section and	304
the name of the person who made the report shall not be released	305
for use, and shall not be used, as evidence in any civil action or	306
proceeding brought against the person who made the report. In a	307
criminal proceeding, the report is admissible in evidence in	308
accordance with the Rules of Evidence and is subject to discovery	309
in accordance with the Rules of Criminal Procedure.	310

- (2) No person shall permit or encourage the unauthorized 311 dissemination of the contents of any report made under this 312 section. 313
- (3) A person who knowingly makes or causes another person to

  make a false report under division (B) of this section that

  alleges that any person has committed an act or omission that

  resulted in a child being an abused child or a neglected child is

  guilty of a violation of section 2921.14 of the Revised Code.

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- (4) If a report is made pursuant to division (A) or (B) of 319 this section and the child who is the subject of the report dies 320 for any reason at any time after the report is made, but before 321 the child attains eighteen years of age, the public children 322 services agency or municipal or county peace officer to which the 323 report was made or referred, on the request of the child fatality 324 review board, shall submit a summary sheet of information 325 providing a summary of the report to the review board of the 326 county in which the deceased child resided at the time of death. 327 On the request of the review board, the agency or peace officer 328 may, at its discretion, make the report available to the review 329 board. If the county served by the public children services agency 330 is also served by a children's advocacy center and the report of 331 alleged sexual abuse of a child or another type of abuse of a 332 child is specified in the memorandum of understanding that creates 333

following:

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the center as being within the center's jurisdiction, the agency	334
or center shall perform the duties and functions specified in this	335
division in accordance with the interagency agreement entered into	336
under section 2151.428 of the Revised Code relative to that	337
advocacy center.	338
(5) A public children services agency shall advise a person	339
alleged to have inflicted abuse or neglect on a child who is the	340
subject of a report made pursuant to this section, including a	341
report alleging sexual abuse of a child or another type of abuse	342
of a child referred to a children's advocacy center pursuant to an	343
interagency agreement entered into under section 2151.428 of the	344
Revised Code, in writing of the disposition of the investigation.	345
The agency shall not provide to the person any information that	346
identifies the person who made the report, statements of	347
witnesses, or police or other investigative reports.	348
(I) Any report that is required by this section, other than a	349
report that is made to the state highway patrol as described in	350
section 5120.173 of the Revised Code, shall result in protective	351
services and emergency supportive services being made available by	352
the public children services agency on behalf of the children	353
about whom the report is made, in an effort to prevent further	354
neglect or abuse, to enhance their welfare, and, whenever	355
possible, to preserve the family unit intact. The agency required	356
to provide the services shall be the agency conducting the	357
investigation of the report pursuant to section 2151.422 of the	358
Revised Code.	359
(J)(1) Each public children services agency shall prepare a	360

(a) If there is only one juvenile judge in the county, thejuvenile judge of the county or the juvenile judge's364representative;365

memorandum of understanding that is signed by all of the

(b) If there is more than one juvenile judge in the county, a	366
juvenile judge or the juvenile judges' representative selected by	367
the juvenile judges or, if they are unable to do so for any	368
reason, the juvenile judge who is senior in point of service or	369
the senior juvenile judge's representative;	370
(c) The county peace officer;	371
(d) All chief municipal peace officers within the county;	372
(e) Other law enforcement officers handling child abuse and	373
neglect cases in the county;	374
(f) The prosecuting attorney of the county;	375
(g) If the public children services agency is not the county	376
department of job and family services, the county department of	377
job and family services;	378
(h) The county humane society;	379
(i) If the public children services agency participated in	380
the execution of a memorandum of understanding under section	381
2151.426 of the Revised Code establishing a children's advocacy	382
center, each participating member of the children's advocacy	383
center established by the memorandum.	384
(2) A memorandum of understanding shall set forth the normal	385
operating procedure to be employed by all concerned officials in	386
the execution of their respective responsibilities under this	387
section and division (C) of section 2919.21, division (B)(1) of	388
section 2919.22, division (B) of section 2919.23, and section	389
2919.24 of the Revised Code and shall have as two of its primary	390
goals the elimination of all unnecessary interviews of children	391
who are the subject of reports made pursuant to division (A) or	392
(B) of this section and, when feasible, providing for only one	393
interview of a child who is the subject of any report made	394
pursuant to division (A) or (B) of this section. A failure to	395

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follow the procedure set forth in the memorandum by the concerned	396
officials is not grounds for, and shall not result in, the	397
dismissal of any charges or complaint arising from any reported	398
case of abuse or neglect or the suppression of any evidence	399
obtained as a result of any reported child abuse or child neglect	400
and does not give, and shall not be construed as giving, any	401
rights or any grounds for appeal or post-conviction relief to any	402
person.	403

- (3) A memorandum of understanding shall include all of the 404 following:
- (a) The roles and responsibilities for handling emergency and 406 nonemergency cases of abuse and neglect; 407
- (b) Standards and procedures to be used in handling and coordinating investigations of reported cases of child abuse and reported cases of child neglect, methods to be used in interviewing the child who is the subject of the report and who allegedly was abused or neglected, and standards and procedures addressing the categories of persons who may interview the child who is the subject of the report and who allegedly was abused or neglected.
- (4) If a public children services agency participated in the
  execution of a memorandum of understanding under section 2151.426 417
  of the Revised Code establishing a children's advocacy center, the
  agency shall incorporate the contents of that memorandum in the
  memorandum prepared pursuant to this section.
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- (K)(1) Except as provided in division (K)(4) of this section, 421 a person who is required to make a report pursuant to division (A) 422 of this section may make a reasonable number of requests of the 423 public children services agency that receives or is referred the 424 report, or of the children's advocacy center that is referred the 425 report if the report is referred to a children's advocacy center 426

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described in division (K)(1) of this section a reasonable number	457
of times, except that the agency shall not disclose any	458
confidential information regarding the child who is the subject of	459
the report other than the information described in those	460
divisions.	461
(3) A request made pursuant to division (K)(1) of this	462
section is not a substitute for any report required to be made	463
pursuant to division (A) of this section.	464
(4) If an agency other than the agency that received or was	465
referred the report is conducting the investigation of the report	466
pursuant to section 2151.422 of the Revised Code, the agency	467
conducting the investigation shall comply with the requirements of	468
division (K) of this section.	469
(L) The director of job and family services shall adopt rules	470
in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code to implement	471
this section. The department of job and family services may enter	472
into a plan of cooperation with any other governmental entity to	473
aid in ensuring that children are protected from abuse and	474
neglect. The department shall make recommendations to the attorney	475
general that the department determines are necessary to protect	476
children from child abuse and child neglect.	477
(M)(1) As used in this division:	478
(a) "Out-of-home care" includes a nonchartered nonpublic	479
school if the alleged child abuse or child neglect, or alleged	480
threat of child abuse or child neglect, described in a report	481
received by a public children services agency allegedly occurred	482
in or involved the nonchartered nonpublic school and the alleged	483
perpetrator named in the report holds a certificate, permit, or	484
license issued by the state board of education under section	485

(b) "Administrator, director, or other chief administrative

3301.071 or Chapter 3319. of the Revised Code.

officer" means the superintendent of the school district if the
out-of-home care entity subject to a report made pursuant to this
section is a school operated by the district.

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- (2) No later than the end of the day following the day on 491 which a public children services agency receives a report of 492 alleged child abuse or child neglect, or a report of an alleged 493 threat of child abuse or child neglect, that allegedly occurred in 494 or involved an out-of-home care entity, the agency shall provide 495 written notice of the allegations contained in and the person 496 named as the alleged perpetrator in the report to the 497 administrator, director, or other chief administrative officer of 498 the out-of-home care entity that is the subject of the report 499 unless the administrator, director, or other chief administrative 500 officer is named as an alleged perpetrator in the report. If the 501 administrator, director, or other chief administrative officer of 502 an out-of-home care entity is named as an alleged perpetrator in a 503 report of alleged child abuse or child neglect, or a report of an 504 alleged threat of child abuse or child neglect, that allegedly 505 occurred in or involved the out-of-home care entity, the agency 506 shall provide the written notice to the owner or governing board 507 of the out-of-home care entity that is the subject of the report. 508 The agency shall not provide witness statements or police or other 509 investigative reports. 510
- (3) No later than three days after the day on which a public 511 children services agency that conducted the investigation as 512 determined pursuant to section 2151.422 of the Revised Code makes 513 a disposition of an investigation involving a report of alleged 514 child abuse or child neglect, or a report of an alleged threat of 515 child abuse or child neglect, that allegedly occurred in or 516 involved an out-of-home care entity, the agency shall send written 517 notice of the disposition of the investigation to the 518 administrator, director, or other chief administrative officer and 519

reprimand or place on probation the holder of a certificate for	550
one or more of the following reasons:	551
(1) Permitting one's name or one's certificate to practice or	552
certificate of registration to be used by a person, group, or	553

- corporation when the individual concerned is not actually 554 directing the treatment given; 555
- (2) Failure to maintain minimal standards applicable to the 556
  selection or administration of drugs, or failure to employ 557
  acceptable scientific methods in the selection of drugs or other 558
  modalities for treatment of disease; 559
- (3) Selling, giving away, personally furnishing, prescribing,
  or administering drugs for other than legal and legitimate
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  therapeutic purposes or a plea of guilty to, a judicial finding of
  guilt of, or a judicial finding of eligibility for intervention in
  lieu of conviction of, a violation of any federal or state law
  regulating the possession, distribution, or use of any drug;
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  - (4) Willfully betraying a professional confidence.

For purposes of this division, "willfully betraying a 567 professional confidence" does not include providing any 568 information, documents, or reports to a child fatality review 569 board under sections 307.621 to 307.629 of the Revised Code and 570 does not include the making of a report of an employee's use of a 571 drug of abuse, or a report of a condition of an employee other 572 than one involving the use of a drug of abuse, to the employer of 573 the employee as described in division (B) of section 2305.33 of 574 the Revised Code. Nothing in this division affects the immunity 575 from civil liability conferred by that section upon a physician 576 who makes either type of report in accordance with division (B) of 577 that section. As used in this division, "employee," "employer," 578 and "physician" have the same meanings as in section 2305.33 of 579 the Revised Code. 580

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(5) Making a false, fraudulent, deceptive, or misleading	581
statement in the solicitation of or advertising for patients; in	582
relation to the practice of medicine and surgery, osteopathic	583
medicine and surgery, podiatric medicine and surgery, or a limited	584
branch of medicine; or in securing or attempting to secure any	585
certificate to practice or certificate of registration issued by	586
the board.	587
As used in this division, "false, fraudulent, deceptive, or	588
misleading statement" means a statement that includes a	589
misrepresentation of fact, is likely to mislead or deceive because	590
of a failure to disclose material facts, is intended or is likely	591
to create false or unjustified expectations of favorable results,	592
or includes representations or implications that in reasonable	593
probability will cause an ordinarily prudent person to	594
misunderstand or be deceived.	595
(6) A departure from, or the failure to conform to, minimal	596
standards of care of similar practitioners under the same or	597
similar circumstances, whether or not actual injury to a patient	598
is established;	599
(7) Representing, with the purpose of obtaining compensation	600
or other advantage as personal gain or for any other person, that	601
an incurable disease or injury, or other incurable condition, can	602
be permanently cured;	603
(8) The obtaining of, or attempting to obtain, money or	604
anything of value by fraudulent misrepresentations in the course	605
of practice;	606
(9) A plea of guilty to, a judicial finding of guilt of, or a	607
judicial finding of eligibility for intervention in lieu of	608
conviction for, a felony;	609

(10) Commission of an act that constitutes a felony in this

state, regardless of the jurisdiction in which the act was

committed;	612
(11) A plea of guilty to, a judicial finding of guilt of, or	613
a judicial finding of eligibility for intervention in lieu of	614
conviction for, a misdemeanor committed in the course of practice;	615
(12) Commission of an act in the course of practice that	616
constitutes a misdemeanor in this state, regardless of the	617
jurisdiction in which the act was committed;	618
(13) A plea of guilty to, a judicial finding of guilt of, or	619
a judicial finding of eligibility for intervention in lieu of	620
conviction for, a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude;	621
(14) Commission of an act involving moral turpitude that	622
constitutes a misdemeanor in this state, regardless of the	623
jurisdiction in which the act was committed;	624
(15) Violation of the conditions of limitation placed by the	625
board upon a certificate to practice;	626
(16) Failure to pay license renewal fees specified in this	627
chapter;	628
(17) Except as authorized in section 4731.31 of the Revised	629
Code, engaging in the division of fees for referral of patients,	630
or the receiving of a thing of value in return for a specific	631
referral of a patient to utilize a particular service or business;	632
(18) Subject to section 4731.226 of the Revised Code,	633
violation of any provision of a code of ethics of the American	634
medical association, the American osteopathic association, the	635
American podiatric medical association, or any other national	636
professional organizations that the board specifies by rule. The	637
state medical board shall obtain and keep on file current copies	638
of the codes of ethics of the various national professional	639
organizations. The individual whose certificate is being suspended	640
or revoked shall not be found to have violated any provision of a	641

code of ethics of an organization not appropriate to the 642 individual's profession. 643

For purposes of this division, a "provision of a code of 644 ethics of a national professional organization" does not include 645 any provision that would preclude the making of a report by a 646 physician of an employee's use of a drug of abuse, or of a 647 condition of an employee other than one involving the use of a 648 drug of abuse, to the employer of the employee as described in 649 division (B) of section 2305.33 of the Revised Code. Nothing in 650 this division affects the immunity from civil liability conferred 651 by that section upon a physician who makes either type of report 652 in accordance with division (B) of that section. As used in this 653 division, "employee," "employer," and "physician" have the same 654 meanings as in section 2305.33 of the Revised Code. 655

(19) Inability to practice according to acceptable and
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prevailing standards of care by reason of mental illness or
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physical illness, including, but not limited to, physical
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deterioration that adversely affects cognitive, motor, or
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perceptive skills.

In enforcing this division, the board, upon a showing of a 661 possible violation, may compel any individual authorized to 662 practice by this chapter or who has submitted an application 663 pursuant to this chapter to submit to a mental examination, 664 physical examination, including an HIV test, or both a mental and 665 a physical examination. The expense of the examination is the 666 responsibility of the individual compelled to be examined. Failure 667 to submit to a mental or physical examination or consent to an HIV 668 test ordered by the board constitutes an admission of the 669 allegations against the individual unless the failure is due to 670 circumstances beyond the individual's control, and a default and 671 final order may be entered without the taking of testimony or 672 presentation of evidence. If the board finds an individual unable 673

to practice because of the reasons set forth in this division, the	674
board shall require the individual to submit to care, counseling,	675
or treatment by physicians approved or designated by the board, as	676
a condition for initial, continued, reinstated, or renewed	677
authority to practice. An individual affected under this division	678
shall be afforded an opportunity to demonstrate to the board the	679
ability to resume practice in compliance with acceptable and	680
prevailing standards under the provisions of the individual's	681
certificate. For the purpose of this division, any individual who	682
applies for or receives a certificate to practice under this	683
chapter accepts the privilege of practicing in this state and, by	684
so doing, shall be deemed to have given consent to submit to a	685
mental or physical examination when directed to do so in writing	686
by the board, and to have waived all objections to the	687
admissibility of testimony or examination reports that constitute	688
a privileged communication.	689

(20) Except when civil penalties are imposed under section 690 4731.225 or 4731.281 of the Revised Code, and subject to section 691 4731.226 of the Revised Code, violating or attempting to violate, 692 directly or indirectly, or assisting in or abetting the violation 693 of, or conspiring to violate, any provisions of this chapter or 694 any rule promulgated by the board.

This division does not apply to a violation or attempted 696 violation of, assisting in or abetting the violation of, or a 697 conspiracy to violate, any provision of this chapter or any rule 698 adopted by the board that would preclude the making of a report by 699 a physician of an employee's use of a drug of abuse, or of a 700 condition of an employee other than one involving the use of a 701 drug of abuse, to the employer of the employee as described in 702 division (B) of section 2305.33 of the Revised Code. Nothing in 703 this division affects the immunity from civil liability conferred 704 by that section upon a physician who makes either type of report 705

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in accordance with division (B) of that section. As used in this	706
division, "employee," "employer," and "physician" have the same	707
meanings as in section 2305.33 of the Revised Code.	708
(21) The violation of section 3701.79 of the Revised Code or	709
of any abortion rule adopted by the public health council pursuant	710
to section 3701.341 of the Revised Code;	711
(22) Any of the following actions taken by the agency	712
responsible for regulating the practice of medicine and surgery,	713
osteopathic medicine and surgery, podiatric medicine and surgery,	714
or the limited branches of medicine in another jurisdiction, for	715
any reason other than the nonpayment of fees: the limitation,	716
revocation, or suspension of an individual's license to practice;	717
acceptance of an individual's license surrender; denial of a	718
license; refusal to renew or reinstate a license; imposition of	719
probation; or issuance of an order of censure or other reprimand;	720
(23) The violation of section 2919.12 of the Revised Code or	721
the performance or inducement of an abortion upon a pregnant woman	722
with actual knowledge that the conditions specified in division	723
(B) of section 2317.56 of the Revised Code have not been satisfied	724
or with a heedless indifference as to whether those conditions	725
have been satisfied, unless an affirmative defense as specified in	726
division (H)(2) of that section would apply in a civil action	727
authorized by division (H)(1) of that section;	728
(24) The revocation, suspension, restriction, reduction, or	729
termination of clinical privileges by the United States department	730
of defense or department of veterans affairs or the termination or	731
suspension of a certificate of registration to prescribe drugs by	732
the drug enforcement administration of the United States	733
department of justice;	734

(25) Termination or suspension from participation in the

medicare or medicaid programs by the department of health and

human	services or other responsible agency for any act or acts	737
that a	also would constitute a violation of division (B)(2), (3),	738
(6),	(8), or (19) of this section;	739

(26) Impairment of ability to practice according to 740 acceptable and prevailing standards of care because of habitual or 741 excessive use or abuse of drugs, alcohol, or other substances that 742 impair ability to practice. 743

For the purposes of this division, any individual authorized 744 to practice by this chapter accepts the privilege of practicing in 745 this state subject to supervision by the board. By filing an 746 application for or holding a certificate to practice under this 747 chapter, an individual shall be deemed to have given consent to 748 submit to a mental or physical examination when ordered to do so 749 by the board in writing, and to have waived all objections to the 750 admissibility of testimony or examination reports that constitute 751 privileged communications. 752

If it has reason to believe that any individual authorized to 753 practice by this chapter or any applicant for certification to 754 practice suffers such impairment, the board may compel the 755 individual to submit to a mental or physical examination, or both. 756 The expense of the examination is the responsibility of the 757 individual compelled to be examined. Any mental or physical 758 examination required under this division shall be undertaken by a 759 treatment provider or physician who is qualified to conduct the 760 examination and who is chosen by the board. 761

Failure to submit to a mental or physical examination ordered

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by the board constitutes an admission of the allegations against

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the individual unless the failure is due to circumstances beyond

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the individual's control, and a default and final order may be

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entered without the taking of testimony or presentation of

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evidence. If the board determines that the individual's ability to

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practice is impaired, the board shall suspend the individual's

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certificate or deny the individual's application and shall require	
the individual, as a condition for initial, continued, reinstated,	
or renewed certification to practice, to submit to treatment.	

Before being eligible to apply for reinstatement of a certificate suspended under this division, the impaired practitioner shall demonstrate to the board the ability to resume practice in compliance with acceptable and prevailing standards of care under the provisions of the practitioner's certificate. The demonstration shall include, but shall not be limited to, the following:

- (a) Certification from a treatment provider approved under
   section 4731.25 of the Revised Code that the individual has
   successfully completed any required inpatient treatment;
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- (b) Evidence of continuing full compliance with an aftercare 782contract or consent agreement; 783
- (c) Two written reports indicating that the individual's 784 ability to practice has been assessed and that the individual has 785 been found capable of practicing according to acceptable and 786 prevailing standards of care. The reports shall be made by 787 individuals or providers approved by the board for making the 788 assessments and shall describe the basis for their determination. 789

The board may reinstate a certificate suspended under this 790 division after that demonstration and after the individual has 791 entered into a written consent agreement. 792

When the impaired practitioner resumes practice, the board 793 shall require continued monitoring of the individual. The 794 monitoring shall include, but not be limited to, compliance with 795 the written consent agreement entered into before reinstatement or 796 with conditions imposed by board order after a hearing, and, upon 797 termination of the consent agreement, submission to the board for 798 at least two years of annual written progress reports made under 799

standard care arrangement with a clinical nurse specialist,

certified nurse-midwife, or certified nurse practitioner with whom	830
the physician or podiatrist is in collaboration pursuant to	831
section 4731.27 of the Revised Code or failure to fulfill the	832
responsibilities of collaboration after entering into a standard	833
care arrangement;	834
(33) Failure to comply with the terms of a consult agreement	835
entered into with a pharmacist pursuant to section 4729.39 of the	836
Revised Code;	837
(34) Failure to cooperate in an investigation conducted by	838
the board under division (F) of this section, including failure to	839
comply with a subpoena or order issued by the board or failure to	840
answer truthfully a question presented by the board at a	841
deposition or in written interrogatories, except that failure to	842
cooperate with an investigation shall not constitute grounds for	843
discipline under this section if a court of competent jurisdiction	844
has issued an order that either quashes a subpoena or permits the	845
individual to withhold the testimony or evidence in issue;	846
(35) Failure to supervise an acupuncturist in accordance with	847
Chapter 4762. of the Revised Code and the board's rules for	848
supervision of an acupuncturist;	849
(36) Failure to supervise an anesthesiologist assistant in	850
accordance with Chapter 4760. of the Revised Code and the board's	851
rules for supervision of an anesthesiologist assistant;	852
(37) Assisting suicide as defined in section 3795.01 of the	853
Revised Code <u>;</u>	854
(38) Failure to comply with the requirements of section	855
2317.561 of the Revised Code.	856
(C) Disciplinary actions taken by the board under divisions	857
(A) and (B) of this section shall be taken pursuant to an	858
adjudication under Chapter 119, of the Revised Code, except that	859

in lieu of an adjudication, the board may enter into a consent

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agreement with an individual to resolve an allegation of a 861 violation of this chapter or any rule adopted under it. A consent 862 agreement, when ratified by an affirmative vote of not fewer than 863 six members of the board, shall constitute the findings and order 864 of the board with respect to the matter addressed in the 865 agreement. If the board refuses to ratify a consent agreement, the 866 admissions and findings contained in the consent agreement shall 867 be of no force or effect. 868

If the board takes disciplinary action against an individual 869 under division (B) of this section for a second or subsequent plea 870 of guilty to, or judicial finding of guilt of, a violation of 871 section 2919.123 of the Revised Code, the disciplinary action 872 shall consist of a suspension of the individual's certificate to 873 practice for a period of at least one year or, if determined 874 appropriate by the board, a more serious sanction involving the 875 individual's certificate to practice. Any consent agreement 876 entered into under this division with an individual that pertains 877 to a second or subsequent plea of guilty to, or judicial finding 878 of guilt of, a violation of that section shall provide for a 879 suspension of the individual's certificate to practice for a 880 period of at least one year or, if determined appropriate by the 881 board, a more serious sanction involving the individual's 882 certificate to practice. 883

(D) For purposes of divisions (B)(10), (12), and (14) of this 884 section, the commission of the act may be established by a finding 885 by the board, pursuant to an adjudication under Chapter 119. of 886 the Revised Code, that the individual committed the act. The board 887 does not have jurisdiction under those divisions if the trial 888 court renders a final judgment in the individual's favor and that 889 judgment is based upon an adjudication on the merits. The board 890 has jurisdiction under those divisions if the trial court issues 891 an order of dismissal upon technical or procedural grounds. 892

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- (E) The sealing of conviction records by any court shall have 893 no effect upon a prior board order entered under this section or 894 upon the board's jurisdiction to take action under this section 895 if, based upon a plea of guilty, a judicial finding of guilt, or a 896 judicial finding of eligibility for intervention in lieu of 897 conviction, the board issued a notice of opportunity for a hearing 898 prior to the court's order to seal the records. The board shall 899 not be required to seal, destroy, redact, or otherwise modify its 900 records to reflect the court's sealing of conviction records. 901
- (F)(1) The board shall investigate evidence that appears to 902 show that a person has violated any provision of this chapter or 903 any rule adopted under it. Any person may report to the board in a 904 signed writing any information that the person may have that 905 appears to show a violation of any provision of this chapter or 906 any rule adopted under it. In the absence of bad faith, any person 907 who reports information of that nature or who testifies before the 908 board in any adjudication conducted under Chapter 119. of the 909 Revised Code shall not be liable in damages in a civil action as a 910 result of the report or testimony. Each complaint or allegation of 911 a violation received by the board shall be assigned a case number 912 and shall be recorded by the board. 913
- (2) Investigations of alleged violations of this chapter or 914 any rule adopted under it shall be supervised by the supervising 915 member elected by the board in accordance with section 4731.02 of 916 the Revised Code and by the secretary as provided in section 917 4731.39 of the Revised Code. The president may designate another 918 member of the board to supervise the investigation in place of the 919 supervising member. No member of the board who supervises the 920 investigation of a case shall participate in further adjudication 921 of the case. 922
- (3) In investigating a possible violation of this chapter or any rule adopted under this chapter, the board may administer

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oaths, order the taking of depositions, issue subpoenas, and	925
compel the attendance of witnesses and production of books,	926
accounts, papers, records, documents, and testimony, except that a	927
subpoena for patient record information shall not be issued	928
without consultation with the attorney general's office and	929
approval of the secretary and supervising member of the board.	930
Before issuance of a subpoena for patient record information, the	931
secretary and supervising member shall determine whether there is	932
probable cause to believe that the complaint filed alleges a	933
violation of this chapter or any rule adopted under it and that	934
the records sought are relevant to the alleged violation and	935
material to the investigation. The subpoena may apply only to	936
records that cover a reasonable period of time surrounding the	937
alleged violation.	938

On failure to comply with any subpoena issued by the board 939 and after reasonable notice to the person being subpoenaed, the 940 board may move for an order compelling the production of persons 941 or records pursuant to the Rules of Civil Procedure. 942

A subpoena issued by the board may be served by a sheriff, 943 the sheriff's deputy, or a board employee designated by the board. 944 Service of a subpoena issued by the board may be made by 945 delivering a copy of the subpoena to the person named therein, 946 reading it to the person, or leaving it at the person's usual 947 place of residence. When the person being served is a person whose 948 practice is authorized by this chapter, service of the subpoena 949 may be made by certified mail, restricted delivery, return receipt 950 requested, and the subpoena shall be deemed served on the date 951 delivery is made or the date the person refuses to accept 952 delivery. 953

A sheriff's deputy who serves a subpoena shall receive the same fees as a sheriff. Each witness who appears before the board in obedience to a subpoena shall receive the fees and mileage

provided	for	witnesses	in	civil	cases	in	the	courts	of	common	957
pleas.											958

- (4) All hearings and investigations of the board shall be
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  considered civil actions for the purposes of section 2305.252 of
  the Revised Code.
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- (5) Information received by the board pursuant to an 962 investigation is confidential and not subject to discovery in any 963 civil action.

The board shall conduct all investigations and proceedings in 965 a manner that protects the confidentiality of patients and persons 966 who file complaints with the board. The board shall not make 967 public the names or any other identifying information about 968 patients or complainants unless proper consent is given or, in the 969 case of a patient, a waiver of the patient privilege exists under 970 division (B) of section 2317.02 of the Revised Code, except that 971 consent or a waiver of that nature is not required if the board 972 possesses reliable and substantial evidence that no bona fide 973 physician-patient relationship exists. 974

The board may share any information it receives pursuant to 975 an investigation, including patient records and patient record 976 information, with law enforcement agencies, other licensing 977 boards, and other governmental agencies that are prosecuting, 978 adjudicating, or investigating alleged violations of statutes or 979 administrative rules. An agency or board that receives the 980 information shall comply with the same requirements regarding 981 confidentiality as those with which the state medical board must 982 comply, notwithstanding any conflicting provision of the Revised 983 Code or procedure of the agency or board that applies when it is 984 dealing with other information in its possession. In a judicial 985 proceeding, the information may be admitted into evidence only in 986 accordance with the Rules of Evidence, but the court shall require 987 that appropriate measures are taken to ensure that confidentiality 988

board.

is maintained with respect to any part of the information that	989
contains names or other identifying information about patients or	990
complainants whose confidentiality was protected by the state	991
medical board when the information was in the board's possession.	992
Measures to ensure confidentiality that may be taken by the court	993
include sealing its records or deleting specific information from	994
its records.	995
(6) On a quarterly basis, the board shall prepare a report	996
that documents the disposition of all cases during the preceding	997
three months. The report shall contain the following information	998
for each case with which the board has completed its activities:	999
(a) The case number assigned to the complaint or alleged	1000
violation;	1001
(b) The type of certificate to practice, if any, held by the	1002
individual against whom the complaint is directed;	1003
(c) A description of the allegations contained in the	1004
complaint;	1005
(d) The disposition of the case.	1006
The report shall state how many cases are still pending and	1007
shall be prepared in a manner that protects the identity of each	1008
person involved in each case. The report shall be a public record	1009
under section 149.43 of the Revised Code.	1010
(G) If the secretary and supervising member determine that	1011
there is clear and convincing evidence that an individual has	1012
violated division (B) of this section and that the individual's	1013
continued practice presents a danger of immediate and serious harm	1014
to the public, they may recommend that the board suspend the	1015
individual's certificate to practice without a prior hearing.	1016
Written allegations shall be prepared for consideration by the	1017

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The board, upon review of those allegations and by an	1019
affirmative vote of not fewer than six of its members, excluding	1020
the secretary and supervising member, may suspend a certificate	1021
without a prior hearing. A telephone conference call may be	1022
utilized for reviewing the allegations and taking the vote on the	1023
summary suspension.	1024

The board shall issue a written order of suspension by 1025 certified mail or in person in accordance with section 119.07 of 1026 the Revised Code. The order shall not be subject to suspension by 1027 the court during pendency of any appeal filed under section 119.12 1028 of the Revised Code. If the individual subject to the summary 1029 suspension requests an adjudicatory hearing by the board, the date 1030 set for the hearing shall be within fifteen days, but not earlier 1031 than seven days, after the individual requests the hearing, unless 1032 otherwise agreed to by both the board and the individual. 1033

Any summary suspension imposed under this division shall 1034 remain in effect, unless reversed on appeal, until a final 1035 adjudicative order issued by the board pursuant to this section 1036 and Chapter 119. of the Revised Code becomes effective. The board 1037 shall issue its final adjudicative order within seventy-five days 1038 after completion of its hearing. A failure to issue the order 1039 within seventy-five days shall result in dissolution of the 1040 summary suspension order but shall not invalidate any subsequent, 1041 final adjudicative order. 1042

(H) If the board takes action under division (B)(9), (11), or 1043 (13) of this section and the judicial finding of guilt, guilty 1044 plea, or judicial finding of eligibility for intervention in lieu 1045 of conviction is overturned on appeal, upon exhaustion of the 1046 criminal appeal, a petition for reconsideration of the order may 1047 be filed with the board along with appropriate court documents. 1048 Upon receipt of a petition of that nature and supporting court 1049 documents, the board shall reinstate the individual's certificate 1050

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to practice. The board may then hold an adjudication under Chapter 1051 119. of the Revised Code to determine whether the individual 1052 committed the act in question. Notice of an opportunity for a 1053 hearing shall be given in accordance with Chapter 119. of the 1054 Revised Code. If the board finds, pursuant to an adjudication held 1055 under this division, that the individual committed the act or if 1056 no hearing is requested, the board may order any of the sanctions 1057 identified under division (B) of this section. 1058

(I) The certificate to practice issued to an individual under 1059 this chapter and the individual's practice in this state are 1060 automatically suspended as of the date of the individual's second 1061 or subsequent plea of guilty to, or judicial finding of guilt of, 1062 a violation of section 2919.123 of the Revised Code, or the date 1063 the individual pleads guilty to, is found by a judge or jury to be 1064 guilty of, or is subject to a judicial finding of eligibility for 1065 intervention in lieu of conviction in this state or treatment or 1066 intervention in lieu of conviction in another jurisdiction for any 1067 of the following criminal offenses in this state or a 1068 substantially equivalent criminal offense in another jurisdiction: 1069 aggravated murder, murder, voluntary manslaughter, felonious 1070 assault, kidnapping, rape, sexual battery, gross sexual 1071 imposition, aggravated arson, aggravated robbery, or aggravated 1072 burglary. Continued practice after suspension shall be considered 1073 practicing without a certificate. 1074

The board shall notify the individual subject to the

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suspension by certified mail or in person in accordance with

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section 119.07 of the Revised Code. If an individual whose

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certificate is automatically suspended under this division fails

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to make a timely request for an adjudication under Chapter 119. of

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the Revised Code, the board shall do whichever of the following is

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applicable:

(1) If the automatic suspension under this division is for a 1082

second or subsequent plea of guilty to, or judicial finding of	1083
guilt of, a violation of section 2919.123 of the Revised Code, the	1084
board shall enter an order suspending the individual's certificate	1085
to practice for a period of at least one year or, if determined	1086
appropriate by the board, imposing a more serious sanction	1087
involving the individual's certificate to practice.	1088

- (2) In all circumstances in which division (I)(1) of this 1089 section does not apply, enter a final order permanently revoking 1090 the individual's certificate to practice.
- (J) If the board is required by Chapter 119. of the Revised 1092 Code to give notice of an opportunity for a hearing and if the 1093 individual subject to the notice does not timely request a hearing 1094 in accordance with section 119.07 of the Revised Code, the board 1095 is not required to hold a hearing, but may adopt, by an 1096 affirmative vote of not fewer than six of its members, a final 1097 order that contains the board's findings. In that final order, the 1098 board may order any of the sanctions identified under division (A) 1099 or (B) of this section. 1100
- (K) Any action taken by the board under division (B) of this 1101 section resulting in a suspension from practice shall be 1102 accompanied by a written statement of the conditions under which 1103 the individual's certificate to practice may be reinstated. The 1104 board shall adopt rules governing conditions to be imposed for 1105 reinstatement. Reinstatement of a certificate suspended pursuant 1106 to division (B) of this section requires an affirmative vote of 1107 not fewer than six members of the board. 1108
- (L) When the board refuses to grant a certificate to an 1109 applicant, revokes an individual's certificate to practice, 1110 refuses to register an applicant, or refuses to reinstate an 1111 individual's certificate to practice, the board may specify that 1112 its action is permanent. An individual subject to a permanent 1113 action taken by the board is forever thereafter ineligible to hold 1114

(0) Under the board's investigative duties described in this

section and subject to division (F) of this section, the board

shall develop and implement a quality intervention program

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Revised Code are hereby repealed.