127th General Assembly Regular Session 2007-2008

Sub. H. B. No. 79

**Representative Batchelder** 

Cosponsors: Representatives McGregor, J., Fessler, Latta, Stebelton, Webster, Uecker, Aslanides, Bacon, Blessing, Collier, Combs, Daniels, Dolan, Evans, Flowers, Gibbs, Goodwin, Hagan, J., Huffman, Hughes, McGregor, R., Mecklenborg, Patton, Peterson, Reinhard, Schindel, Schneider, Setzer, Wachtmann, Wagner, Wagoner, White, Widowfield, Wolpert, Zehringer

# A BILL

To amend sections 109.579, 4121.12, 4121.121,	1
4123.01, 4123.34, 4123.351, 4123.412, 4123.44,	2
4123.442, 4123.444, 4123.445, 4127.05, 4131.03,	3
and 4131.13, to amend, for the purpose of adopting	4
new section numbers as indicated in parentheses,	5
sections 4123.443 (4123.448), 4123.444 (4123.445),	6
and 4123.445 (4123.446), and to enact new sections	7
4123.443 and 4123.444 and section 4123.447 of the	8
Revised Code to specify the classes of investments	9
in which the Administrator of Workers'	10
Compensation may invest the funds specified in the	11
Workers' Compensation Law and to require the	12
Administrator to have criminal records checks	13
conducted for employees of investment consultants	14
with whom the Administrator contracts to	15
facilitate the investment of those funds.	16
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## BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

section 1. That sections 109.579, 4121.12, 4121.121, 4123.01, 18 4123.34, 4123.351, 4123.412, 4123.44, 4123.442, 4123.444, 19 4123.445, 4127.05, 4131.03, and 4131.13 be amended, sections 20 4123.443 (4123.448), 4123.444 (4123.445), and 4123.445 (4123.446) 21 be amended for the purpose of adopting new section numbers as 22 indicated in parentheses, and new sections 4123.443 and 4123.444 23 and section 4123.447 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as 24 follows: 25

sec. 109.579. (A) On receipt of a request pursuant to 26 division (B) of section 4123.444 4123.445 of the Revised Code, a 27 completed form prescribed pursuant to division (C)(1) of this 28 section, and a set of fingerprint impressions obtained in the 29 manner described in division (C)(2) of this section, the 30 superintendent of the bureau of criminal identification and 31 investigation shall conduct a criminal records check in the manner 32 described in division (B) of this section to determine whether any 33 information exists that indicates that the person who is the 34 subject of the request previously has been convicted of or pleaded 35 guilty to any criminal offense involving theft, receiving stolen 36 property, embezzlement, forgery, fraud, passing bad checks, money 37 laundering, drug trafficking, or any criminal offense involving 38 money or securities, as set forth in Chapters 2909., 2911., 2913., 39 2915., 2921., 2923., and 2925. of the Revised Code or other law of 40 this state, or the laws of any other state or of the United States 41 that are substantially equivalent to those offenses. 42

(B) The superintendent shall conduct a criminal records checkpursuant to division (A) of this section as follows:44

(1) The superintendent shall review or cause to be reviewed 45

any relevant information gathered and compiled by the bureau under46division (A) of section 109.57 of the Revised Code that relates to47the person who is the subject of the request, including any48relevant information contained in records that have been sealed49under section 2953.32 of the Revised Code.50

(2) If the request received by the superintendent asks for
information from the federal bureau of investigation, the
superintendent shall request from the federal bureau of
investigation any information it has with respect to the person
who is the subject of the request. The superintendent shall review
or cause to be reviewed any information that the superintendent
for the federal bureau of investigation.

(3) The superintendent shall forward the results of a
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 criminal records check conducted pursuant to this division to the
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 administrator of workers' compensation.
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(C)(1) The superintendent shall prescribe a form to obtain
the information necessary to conduct a criminal records check from
any person for whom a criminal records check is requested pursuant
division (B) of section 4123.444 4123.445 of the Revised Code.
The form that the superintendent prescribes pursuant to this
division may be in a tangible format, in an electronic format, or
in both tangible and electronic formats.

(2) The superintendent shall prescribe standard impression 68 sheets to obtain the fingerprint impressions of any person for 69 whom a criminal records check is requested pursuant to section 70 4123.444 4123.445 of the Revised Code. Any person for whom the 71 administrator requests the superintendent to conduct a criminal 72 records check pursuant to that section shall have the person's 73 fingerprint impressions made at a county sheriff's office, a 74 municipal police department, or any other entity with the ability 75 to make fingerprint impressions on the standard impression sheets 76 77 prescribed by the superintendent. The office, department, or

entity may charge the person a reasonable fee for making the78impressions. The standard impression sheets the superintendent79prescribes pursuant to this division may be in a tangible format,80in an electronic format, or in both tangible and electronic81formats.82

(3) The superintendent may prescribe methods of forwarding fingerprint impressions and information necessary to conduct a criminal records check. The methods shall include, but are not limited to, electronic methods.

(D) A determination whether any information exists that 87 indicates that a person previously has been convicted of or 88 pleaded guilty to any offense listed or described in division (A) 89 of this section that the superintendent makes pursuant to 90 information considered in a criminal records check under this 91 section is valid for the person who is the subject of that 92 criminal records check for a period of one year after the date the 93 superintendent makes that determination. 94

(E) The superintendent shall prescribe and charge a 95 reasonable fee for providing a criminal records check requested 96 under section 4123.444 4123.445 of the Revised Code. If another 97 request for a criminal records check is made under this section 98 for a person for whom a valid determination under division (D) of 99 this section is available, the superintendent shall provide the 100 determination for a reduced fee. 101

Sec. 4121.12. (A) There is hereby created the bureau of 102 workers' compensation board of directors consisting of eleven 103 members to be appointed by the governor with the advice and 104 consent of the senate. One member shall be an individual who, on 105 account of the individual's previous vocation, employment, or 106 affiliations, can be classed as a representative of employees; two 107 members shall be individuals who, on account of their previous 108

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vocation, employment, or affiliations, can be classed as 109 representatives of employee organizations and at least one of 110 these two individuals shall be a member of the executive committee 111 of the largest statewide labor federation; three members shall be 112 individuals who, on account of their previous vocation, 113 employment, or affiliations, can be classed as representatives of 114 employers, one of whom represents self-insuring employers, one of 115 whom is a state fund employer who employs one hundred or more 116 employees, and one of whom is a state fund employer who employs 117 less than one hundred employees; two members shall be individuals 118 who, on account of their vocation, employment, or affiliations, 119 can be classed as investment and securities experts who have 120 direct experience in the management, analysis, supervision, or 121 investment of assets and are residents of this state; one member 122 who shall be a certified public accountant; one member who shall 123 be an actuary who is a member in good standing with the American 124 academy of actuaries or who is an associate or fellow with the 125 society of actuaries; and one member shall represent the public 126 and also be an individual who, on account of the individual's 127 previous vocation, employment, or affiliations, cannot be classed 128 as either predominantly representative of employees or of 129 employers. The governor shall select the chairperson of the board 130 who shall serve as chairperson at the pleasure of the governor. 131

None of the members of the board, within one year immediately 132 preceding the member's appointment, shall have been employed by 133 the bureau of workers' compensation or by any person, partnership, 134 or corporation that has provided to the bureau services of a 135 financial or investment nature, including the management, 136 analysis, supervision, or investment of assets. 137

(B) Of the initial appointments made to the board, the
governor shall appoint the member who represents employees, one
member who represents employers, and the member who represents the
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public to a term ending one year after the effective date of this 141 amendment June 11, 2007; one member who represents employers, one 142 member who represents employee organizations, one member who is an 143 investment and securities expert, and the member who is a 144 certified public accountant to a term ending two years after the 145 effective date of this amendment June 11, 2007; and one member who 146 represents employers, one member who represents employee 147 organizations, one member who is an investment and securities 148 expert, and the member who is an actuary to a term ending three 149 years after the effective date of this amendment June 11, 2007. 150 Thereafter, terms of office shall be for three years, with each 151 term ending on the same day of the same month as did the term that 152 it succeeds. Each member shall hold office from the date of the 153 member's appointment until the end of the term for which the 154 member was appointed. 155

Members may be reappointed. Any member appointed to fill a 156 vacancy occurring prior to the expiration date of the term for 157 which the member's predecessor was appointed shall hold office as 158 a member for the remainder of that term. A member shall continue 159 in office subsequent to the expiration date of the member's term 160 until a successor takes office or until a period of sixty days has 161 elapsed, whichever occurs first. 162

(C) In making appointments to the board, the governor shall 163 select the members from the list of names submitted by the 164 workers' compensation board of directors nominating committee 165 pursuant to this division. The nominating committee shall submit 166 to the governor a list containing four separate names for each of 167 the members on the board. Within fourteen days after the 168 submission of the list, the governor shall appoint individuals 169 from the list. 170

Within sixty days after a vacancy occurring as a result of171the expiration of a term and within thirty days after other172

vacancies occurring on the board, the nominating committee shall 173 submit an initial list containing four names for each vacancy. 174 Within fourteen days after the submission of the initial list, the 175 governor either shall appoint individuals from that list or 176 request the nominating committee to submit another list of four 177 names for each member the governor has not appointed from the 178 initial list, which list the nominating committee shall submit to 179 the governor within fourteen days after the governor's request. 180 The governor then shall appoint, within seven days after the 181 submission of the second list, one of the individuals from either 182 list to fill the vacancy for which the governor has not made an 183 appointment from the initial list. With respect to the filling of 184 vacancies, the nominating committee shall provide the governor 185 with a list of four individuals who are, in the judgment of the 186 nominating committee, the most fully qualified to accede to 187 membership on the board. 188

In order for the name of an individual to be submitted to the 189 governor under this division, the nominating committee shall 190 approve the individual by an affirmative vote of a majority of its 191 members. 192

(D) All members of the board shall receive their reasonable
and necessary expenses pursuant to section 126.31 of the Revised
Code while engaged in the performance of their duties as members
and also shall receive an annual salary not to exceed sixty
thousand dollars in total, payable on the following basis:

(1) Except as provided in division (D)(2) of this section, a 198
member shall receive two thousand five hundred dollars during a 199
month in which the member attends one or more meetings of the 200
board and shall receive no payment during a month in which the 201
member attends no meeting of the board. 202

(2) A member may receive no more than thirty thousand dollars203per year to compensate the member for attending meetings of the204

board, regardless of the number of meetings held by the board 205 during a year or the number of meetings in excess of twelve within 206 a year that the member attends. 207

(3) Except as provided in division (D)(4) of this section, if 208 a member serves on the workers' compensation audit committee, 209 workers' compensation actuarial committee, or the workers' 210 compensation investment committee, the member shall receive two 211 thousand five hundred dollars during a month in which the member 212 attends one or more meetings of the committee on which the member 213 serves and shall receive no payment during any month in which the 214 member attends no meeting of that committee. 215

(4) A member may receive no more than thirty thousand dollars
per year to compensate the member for attending meetings of any of
the committees specified in division (D)(3) of this section,
regardless of the number of meetings held by a committee during a
year or the number of committees on which a member serves.

The chairperson of the board shall set the meeting dates of 221 the board as necessary to perform the duties of the board under 222 this chapter and Chapters 4123., 4125., 4127., 4131., and 4167. of 223 the Revised Code. The board shall meet at least twelve times a 224 year. The administrator of workers' compensation shall provide 225 professional and clerical assistance to the board, as the board 226 considers appropriate. 227

(E) Before entering upon the duties of office, each appointed
member of the board shall take an oath of office as required by
sections 3.22 and 3.23 of the Revised Code and file in the office
of the secretary of state the bond required under section 4121.127
of the Revised Code.

(F) The board shall:

(1) Establish the overall administrative policy for thebureau for the purposes of this chapter and Chapters 4123., 4125.,235

4127., 4131., and 4167. of the Revised Code; 236 (2) Review progress of the bureau in meeting its cost and 237 quality objectives and in complying with this chapter and Chapters 238 4123., 4125., 4127., 4131., and 4167. of the Revised Code; 239 (3) Submit an annual report to the president of the senate, 240 241 the speaker of the house of representatives, the governor, and the workers' compensation council and include all of the following in 242 that report: 243 (a) An evaluation of the cost and quality objectives of the 244 bureau; 245 (b) A statement of the net assets available for the provision 246 of compensation and benefits under this chapter and Chapters 247 4123., 4127., and 4131. of the Revised Code as of the last day of 248 the fiscal year; 249 (c) A statement of any changes that occurred in the net 250 assets available, including employer premiums and net investment 251 income, for the provision of compensation and benefits and payment 252 of administrative expenses, between the first and last day of the 253 fiscal year immediately preceding the date of the report; 254 (d) The following information for each of the six consecutive 255 fiscal years occurring previous to the report: 256 (i) A schedule of the net assets available for compensation 257 and benefits; 258 (ii) The annual cost of the payment of compensation and 259 benefits; 260 (iii) Annual administrative expenses incurred; 261 (iv) Annual employer premiums allocated for the provision of 262 compensation and benefits. 263 (e) A description of any significant changes that occurred 264 during the six years for which the board provided the information 265

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required under division (F)(3)(d) of this section that affect the	266
ability of the board to compare that information from year to	267
year.	268
(4) Review all independent financial audits of the bureau.	269
The administrator shall provide access to records of the bureau to	270
facilitate the review required under this division.	271
(5) Study issues as requested by the administrator or the	272
governor;	273
(6) Contract with all of the following:	274
(a) An independent actuarial firm to assist the board in	275
making recommendations to the administrator regarding premium	276
rates;	277
(b) An outside investment counsel to assist the workers'	278
compensation investment committee in fulfilling its duties;	279
(c) An independent fiduciary counsel to assist the board in	280
the performance of its duties.	281
(7) Approve the investment policy developed by the workers'	282
compensation investment committee pursuant to section 4121.129 of	283
the Revised Code if the policy satisfies the requirements	284
specified in section 4123.442 of the Revised Code.	285
(8) Review and publish the investment policy no less than	286
annually and make copies available to interested parties.	287
(9) Prohibit, on a prospective basis, any specific investment	288
it finds to be contrary to the investment policy approved by the	289
board.	290
(10) Vote to open each investment class and allow the	291
administrator to invest in an investment class only if the board,	292
by a majority vote, opens that class;	293
(11) After opening a class but prior to the administrator	294
investing in that class, adopt rules establishing due diligence	295

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standards for employees of the bureau to follow when investing in	296
that class and establish policies and procedures to review and	297
monitor the performance and value of each investment class;	298
(12) Submit a report annually on the performance and value of	299
each investment class to the governor, the president and minority	300
leader of the senate, and the speaker and minority leader of the	301
house of representatives.	302
(13) Advise and consent on all of the following:	303
(a) Administrative rules the administrator submits to it	304
pursuant to division (B)(5) of section 4121.121 of the Revised	305
Code for the classification of occupations or industries, for	306
premium rates and contributions, for the amount to be credited to	307
the surplus fund, for rules and systems of rating, rate revisions,	308
and merit rating;	309
(b) The duties and authority conferred upon the administrator	310
pursuant to section 4121.37 of the Revised Code;	311
(c) Rules the administrator adopts for the health partnership	312
program and the qualified health plan system, as provided in	313
sections 4121.44, 4121.441, and 4121.442 of the Revised Code;	314
(d) Rules the administrator submits to it pursuant to Chapter	315
4167. of the Revised Code regarding the public employment risk	316
reduction program and the protection of public health care workers	317
from exposure incidents.	318
As used in this division, "public health care worker" and	319
"exposure incident" have the same meanings as in section 4167.25	320
of the Revised Code.	321
(14)(11) Perform all duties required under this chapter and	322
Chapters 4123., 4125., 4127., 4131., and 4167. of the Revised	323
Code;	324
$\frac{(15)(12)}{(12)}$ Meet with the governor on an annual basis to discuss	325

the administrator's performance of the duties specified in this	326
chapter and Chapters 4123., 4125., 4127., 4131., and 4167. of the	327
Revised Code;	328
(16)(13) Develop and participate in a bureau of workers'	329
compensation board of directors education program that consists of	330
all of the following:	331
(a) An orientation component for newly appointed members;	332
(b) A continuing education component for board members who	333
have served for at least one year;	334
(c) A curriculum that includes education about each of the	335
following topics:	336
(i) Board member duties and responsibilities;	337
(ii) Compensation and benefits paid pursuant to this chapter	338
and Chapters 4123., 4127., and 4131. of the Revised Code;	339
(iii) Ethics;	340
(iv) Governance processes and procedures;	341
(v) Actuarial soundness;	342
(vi) Investments;	343
(vii) Any other subject matter the board believes is	344
reasonably related to the duties of a board member.	345
$\frac{(17)(14)}{(14)}$ Submit the program developed pursuant to division	346
(F) (13) of this section to the workers' compensation council	347
for approval;	348
$\frac{(18)(15)}{(15)}$ Hold all sessions, classes, and other events for the	349
program developed pursuant to division $(F)$ <del>(16)(13)</del> of this section	350
in this state.	351
(G) The board may <del>do both of the following:</del>	352
(1) Vote to close any investment class;	353

(2) Create create any committees in addition to the workers' 354 compensation audit committee, the workers' compensation actuarial 355 committee, and the workers' compensation investment committee that 356 the board determines are necessary to assist the board in 357 performing its duties. 358

(H) The office of a member of the board who is convicted of 359 or pleads guilty to a felony, a theft offense as defined in 360 section 2913.01 of the Revised Code, or a violation of section 361 102.02, 102.03, 102.04, 2921.02, 2921.11, 2921.13, 2921.31, 362 2921.41, 2921.42, 2921.43, or 2921.44 of the Revised Code shall be 363 deemed vacant. The vacancy shall be filled in the same manner as 364 the original appointment. A person who has pleaded guilty to or 365 been convicted of an offense of that nature is ineligible to be a 366 member of the board. A member who receives a bill of indictment 367 for any of the offenses specified in this section shall be 368 automatically suspended from the board pending resolution of the 369 criminal matter. 370

(I) For the purposes of division (G)(1) of section 121.22 of 371
the Revised Code, the meeting between the governor and the board 372
to review the administrator's performance as required under 373
division (F)(15)(12) of this section shall be considered a meeting 374
regarding the employment of the administrator. 375

Sec. 4121.121. (A) There is hereby created the bureau of 376 workers' compensation, which shall be administered by the 377 administrator of workers' compensation. A person appointed to the 378 position of administrator shall possess significant management 379 experience in effectively managing an organization or 380 organizations of substantial size and complexity. A person 381 appointed to the position of administrator also shall possess a 382 minimum of five years of experience in the field of workers' 383 compensation insurance or in another insurance industry, except as 384

otherwise provided when the conditions specified in division (C) 385 of this section are satisfied. The governor shall appoint the 386 administrator as provided in section 121.03 of the Revised Code, 387 and the administrator shall serve at the pleasure of the governor. 388 The governor shall fix the administrator's salary on the basis of 389 the administrator's experience and the administrator's 390 responsibilities and duties under this chapter and Chapters 4123., 391 4125., 4127., 4131., and 4167. of the Revised Code. The governor 392 shall not appoint to the position of administrator any person who 393 has, or whose spouse has, given a contribution to the campaign 394 committee of the governor in an amount greater than one thousand 395 dollars during the two-year period immediately preceding the date 396 of the appointment of the administrator. 397

The administrator shall hold no other public office and shall 398 devote full time to the duties of administrator. Before entering 399 upon the duties of the office, the administrator shall take an 400 oath of office as required by sections 3.22 and 3.23 of the 401 Revised Code, and shall file in the office of the secretary of 402 state, a bond signed by the administrator and by surety approved 403 by the governor, for the sum of fifty thousand dollars payable to 404 the state, conditioned upon the faithful performance of the 405 administrator's duties. 406

(B) The administrator is responsible for the management of
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the bureau and for the discharge of all administrative duties
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imposed upon the administrator in this chapter and Chapters 4123.,
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4125., 4127., 4131., and 4167. of the Revised Code, and in the
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discharge thereof shall do all of the following:
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(1) Perform all acts and exercise all authorities and powers, 412
discretionary and otherwise that are required of or vested in the 413
bureau or any of its employees in this chapter and Chapters 4123., 414
4125., 4127., 4131., and 4167. of the Revised Code, except the 415
acts and the exercise of authority and power that is required of 416

and vested in the bureau of workers' compensation board of417directors or the industrial commission pursuant to those chapters.418The treasurer of state shall honor all warrants signed by the419administrator, or by one or more of the administrator's employees,420authorized by the administrator in writing, or bearing the421facsimile signature of the administrator or such employee under422sections 4123.42 and 4123.44 of the Revised Code.423

(2) Employ, direct, and supervise all employees required in 424 connection with the performance of the duties assigned to the 425 bureau by this chapter and Chapters 4123., 4125., 4127., 4131., 426 and 4167. of the Revised Code, including an actuary, and may 427 establish job classification plans and compensation for all 428 employees of the bureau provided that this grant of authority 429 shall not be construed as affecting any employee for whom the 430 state employment relations board has established an appropriate 431 bargaining unit under section 4117.06 of the Revised Code. All 432 positions of employment in the bureau are in the classified civil 433 service except those employees the administrator may appoint to 434 serve at the administrator's pleasure in the unclassified civil 435 service pursuant to section 124.11 of the Revised Code. The 436 administrator shall fix the salaries of employees the 437 administrator appoints to serve at the administrator's pleasure, 438 including the chief operating officer, staff physicians, and other 439 senior management personnel of the bureau and shall establish the 440 compensation of staff attorneys of the bureau's legal section and 441 their immediate supervisors, and take whatever steps are necessary 442 to provide adequate compensation for other staff attorneys. 443

The administrator may appoint a person who holds a certified 444 position in the classified service within the bureau to a position 445 in the unclassified service within the bureau. A person appointed 446 pursuant to this division to a position in the unclassified 447 service shall retain the right to resume the position and status 448 held by the person in the classified service immediately prior to 449 the person's appointment in the unclassified service, regardless 450 of the number of positions the person held in the unclassified 451 service. An employee's right to resume a position in the 452 classified service may only be exercised when the administrator 453 demotes the employee to a pay range lower than the employee's 454 current pay range or revokes the employee's appointment to the 455 unclassified service. An employee forfeits the right to resume a 456 position in the classified service when the employee is removed 457 from the position in the unclassified service due to incompetence, 458 inefficiency, dishonesty, drunkenness, immoral conduct, 459 insubordination, discourteous treatment of the public, neglect of 460 duty, violation of this chapter or Chapter 124., 4123., 4125., 461 4127., 4131., or 4167. of the Revised Code, violation of the rules 462 of the director of administrative services or the administrator, 463 any other failure of good behavior, any other acts of misfeasance, 464 malfeasance, or nonfeasance in office, or conviction of a felony. 465 An employee also forfeits the right to resume a position in the 466 classified service upon transfer to a different agency. 467

Reinstatement to a position in the classified service shall 469 be to a position substantially equal to that position in the 470 classified service held previously, as certified by the department 471 of administrative services. If the position the person previously 472 held in the classified service has been placed in the unclassified 473 service or is otherwise unavailable, the person shall be appointed 474 to a position in the classified service within the bureau that the 475 director of administrative services certifies is comparable in 476 compensation to the position the person previously held in the 477 classified service. Service in the position in the unclassified 478 service shall be counted as service in the position in the 479 classified service held by the person immediately prior to the 480 person's appointment in the unclassified service. When a person is 481

reinstated to a position in the classified service as provided in 482 this division, the person is entitled to all rights, status, and 483 benefits accruing to the position during the person's time of 484 service in the position in the unclassified service. 485

(3) Reorganize the work of the bureau, its sections, 486 departments, and offices to the extent necessary to achieve the 487 most efficient performance of its functions and to that end may 488 establish, change, or abolish positions and assign and reassign 489 duties and responsibilities of every employee of the bureau. All 490 persons employed by the industrial commission in positions that, 491 after November 3, 1989, are supervised and directed by the 492 administrator under this section are transferred to the bureau in 493 their respective classifications but subject to reassignment and 494 reclassification of position and compensation as the administrator 495 determines to be in the interest of efficient administration. The 496 civil service status of any person employed by the industrial 497 commission is not affected by this section. Personnel employed by 498 the bureau or the industrial commission who are subject to Chapter 499 4117. of the Revised Code shall retain all of their rights and 500 benefits conferred pursuant to that chapter as it presently exists 501 or is hereafter amended and nothing in this chapter or Chapter 502 4123. of the Revised Code shall be construed as eliminating or 503 interfering with Chapter 4117. of the Revised Code or the rights 504 and benefits conferred under that chapter to public employees or 505 to any bargaining unit. 506

(4) Provide offices, equipment, supplies, and otherfacilities for the bureau.508

(5) Prepare and submit to the board information the
administrator considers pertinent or the board requires, together
with the administrator's recommendations, in the form of
administrative rules, for the advice and consent of the board, for
classifications of occupations or industries, for premium rates
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and contributions, for the amount to be credited to the surplus 514 fund, for rules and systems of rating, rate revisions, and merit 515 rating. The administrator shall obtain, prepare, and submit any 516 other information the board requires for the prompt and efficient 517 discharge of its duties. 518

(6) Keep the accounts required by division (A) of section 519
4123.34 of the Revised Code and all other accounts and records 520
necessary to the collection, administration, and distribution of 521
the workers' compensation funds and shall obtain the statistical 522
and other information required by section 4123.19 of the Revised 523
Code. 524

(7) Exercise the investment powers vested in the 525 administrator by section 4123.44 of the Revised Code in accordance 526 with the investment policy approved by the board pursuant to 527 section 4121.12 of the Revised Code and in consultation with the 528 chief investment officer of the bureau of workers' compensation. 529 The administrator shall not engage in any prohibited investment 530 activity specified by the board pursuant to division (F)(9) of 531 section 4121.12 of the Revised Code and shall not invest in any 532 type of investment specified in divisions (B)(1) to (10) of 533 section 4123.442 of the Revised Code. All business shall be 534 transacted, all funds invested, all warrants for money drawn and 535 payments made, and all cash and securities and other property 536 held, in the name of the bureau, or in the name of its nominee, 537 provided that nominees are authorized by the administrator solely 538 for the purpose of facilitating the transfer of securities, and 539 restricted to the administrator and designated employees. 540

(8) Make contracts for and supervise the construction of any
project or improvement or the construction or repair of buildings
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under the control of the bureau.
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(9) Purchase supplies, materials, equipment, and services; 544make contracts for, operate, and superintend the telephone, other 545

telecommunication, and computer services for the use of the 546 bureau; and make contracts in connection with office reproduction, 547 forms management, printing, and other services. Notwithstanding 548 sections 125.12 to 125.14 of the Revised Code, the administrator 549 may transfer surplus computers and computer equipment directly to 550 an accredited public school within the state. The computers and 551 computer equipment may be repaired or refurbished prior to the 552 transfer. 553

(10) Prepare and submit to the board an annual budget for 554 internal operating purposes for the board's approval. The 555 administrator also shall, separately from the budget the 556 industrial commission submits, prepare and submit to the director 557 of budget and management a budget for each biennium. The budgets 558 submitted to the board and the director shall include estimates of 559 the costs and necessary expenditures of the bureau in the 560 discharge of any duty imposed by law. 561

(11) As promptly as possible in the course of efficient 562 administration, decentralize and relocate such of the personnel 563 and activities of the bureau as is appropriate to the end that the 564 receipt, investigation, determination, and payment of claims may 565 be undertaken at or near the place of injury or the residence of 566 the claimant and for that purpose establish regional offices, in 567 such places as the administrator considers proper, capable of 568 discharging as many of the functions of the bureau as is 569 practicable so as to promote prompt and efficient administration 570 in the processing of claims. All active and inactive lost-time 571 claims files shall be held at the service office responsible for 572 the claim. A claimant, at the claimant's request, shall be 573 provided with information by telephone as to the location of the 574 file pertaining to the claimant's claim. The administrator shall 575 ensure that all service office employees report directly to the 576 director for their service office. 577

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(12) Provide a written binder on new coverage where the 578 administrator considers it to be in the best interest of the risk. 579 The administrator, or any other person authorized by the 580 administrator, shall grant the binder upon submission of a request 581 for coverage by the employer. A binder is effective for a period 582 of thirty days from date of issuance and is nonrenewable. Payroll 583 reports and premium charges shall coincide with the effective date 584 of the binder. 585

(13) Set standards for the reasonable and maximum handling 586 time of claims payment functions, ensure, by rules, the impartial 587 and prompt treatment of all claims and employer risk accounts, and 588 establish a secure, accurate method of time stamping all incoming 589 mail and documents hand delivered to bureau employees. 590

(14) Ensure that all employees of the bureau follow the 591 orders and rules of the industrial commission as such orders and 592 rules relate to the industrial commission's overall adjudicatory 593 policy-making and management duties under this chapter and 594 Chapters 4123., 4127., and 4131. of the Revised Code. 595

(15) Manage and operate a data processing system with a 596 common data base for the use of both the bureau and the industrial 597 commission and, in consultation with the industrial commission, 598 using electronic data processing equipment, shall develop a claims 599 tracking system that is sufficient to monitor the status of a 600 claim at any time and that lists appeals that have been filed and 601 orders or determinations that have been issued pursuant to section 602 4123.511 or 4123.512 of the Revised Code, including the dates of 603 such filings and issuances. 604

(16) Establish and maintain a medical section within the 605 bureau. The medical section shall do all of the following: 606

(a) Assist the administrator in establishing standard medical 607 fees, approving medical procedures, and determining eligibility 608

and reasonableness of the compensation payments for medical, 609 hospital, and nursing services, and in establishing guidelines for 610 payment policies which recognize usual, customary, and reasonable 611 methods of payment for covered services; 612

(b) Provide a resource to respond to questions from claims examiners for employees of the bureau;

(c) Audit fee bill payments;

(d) Implement a program to utilize, to the maximum extent
possible, electronic data processing equipment for storage of
information to facilitate authorizations of compensation payments
for medical, hospital, drug, and nursing services;

(e) Perform other duties assigned to it by the administrator. 620

(17) Appoint, as the administrator determines necessary, 621 panels to review and advise the administrator on disputes arising 622 over a determination that a health care service or supply provided 623 to a claimant is not covered under this chapter or Chapter 4123., 624 4127., or 4131. of the Revised Code or is medically unnecessary. 625 If an individual health care provider is involved in the dispute, 626 the panel shall consist of individuals licensed pursuant to the 627 same section of the Revised Code as such health care provider. 628

(18) Pursuant to section 4123.65 of the Revised Code, approve
applications for the final settlement of claims for compensation
or benefits under this chapter and Chapters 4123., 4127., and
4131. of the Revised Code as the administrator determines
appropriate, except in regard to the applications of self-insuring
employers and their employees.

(19) Comply with section 3517.13 of the Revised Code, and
except in regard to contracts entered into pursuant to the
authority contained in section 4121.44 of the Revised Code, comply
with the competitive bidding procedures set forth in the Revised
Code for all contracts into which the administrator enters
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provided that those contracts fall within the type of contracts 640 and dollar amounts specified in the Revised Code for competitive 641 bidding and further provided that those contracts are not 642 otherwise specifically exempt from the competitive bidding 643 procedures contained in the Revised Code. 644

(20) Adopt, with the advice and consent of the board, rules 645 for the operation of the bureau. 646

(21) Prepare and submit to the board information the
administrator considers pertinent or the board requires, together
with the administrator's recommendations, in the form of
administrative rules, for the advice and consent of the board, for
the health partnership program and the qualified health plan
system, as provided in sections 4121.44, 4121.441, and 4121.442 of
the Revised Code.

(C) The administrator, with the advice and consent of the 654 senate, shall appoint a chief operating officer who has a minimum 655 of five years of experience in the field of workers' compensation 656 insurance or in another similar insurance industry if the 657 administrator does not possess such experience. The chief 658 operating officer shall not commence the chief operating officer's 659 duties until after the senate consents to the chief operating 660 officer's appointment. The chief operating officer shall serve in 661 the unclassified civil service of the state. 662

Sec. 4123.01. As used in this chapter: 663

(A)(1) "Employee" means:

(a) Every person in the service of the state, or of any
(b) Every person in the service of the state, or of any
(c) Every person in the service of the state, or of any
(c) Every person in the service of the state, or of any
(c) Every person in the state

or on temporary assignment outside thereof, and executive officers 670 of boards of education, under any appointment or contract of hire, 671 express or implied, oral or written, including any elected 672 official of the state, or of any county, municipal corporation, or 673 township, or members of boards of education. 674

As used in division (A)(1)(a) of this section, the term 675 "employee" includes the following persons when responding to an 676 inherently dangerous situation that calls for an immediate 677 response on the part of the person, regardless of whether the 678 person is within the limits of the jurisdiction of the person's 679 regular employment or voluntary service when responding, on the 680 condition that the person responds to the situation as the person 681 otherwise would if the person were on duty in the person's 682 jurisdiction: 683

(i) Off-duty peace officers. As used in division (A)(1)(a)(i)
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of this section, "peace officer" has the same meaning as in
685
section 2935.01 of the Revised Code.
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(ii) Off-duty firefighters, whether paid or volunteer, of alawfully constituted fire department.688

(iii) Off-duty first responders, emergency medical
technicians-basic, emergency medical technicians-intermediate, or
emergency medical technicians-paramedic, whether paid or
volunteer, of an ambulance service organization or emergency
medical service organization pursuant to Chapter 4765. of the
Revised Code.

(b) Every person in the service of any person, firm, or
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private corporation, including any public service corporation,
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that (i) employs one or more persons regularly in the same
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business or in or about the same establishment under any contract
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of hire, express or implied, oral or written, including aliens and
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minors, household workers who earn one hundred sixty dollars or
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more in cash in any calendar quarter from a single household and 701 casual workers who earn one hundred sixty dollars or more in cash 702 in any calendar quarter from a single employer, or (ii) is bound 703 by any such contract of hire or by any other written contract, to 704 pay into the state insurance fund the premiums provided by this 705 chapter. 706 (c) Every person who performs labor or provides services 707 pursuant to a construction contract, as defined in section 4123.79 708 of the Revised Code, if at least ten of the following criteria 709 apply: 710 (i) The person is required to comply with instructions from 711 the other contracting party regarding the manner or method of 712 713 performing services; (ii) The person is required by the other contracting party to 714 have particular training; 715 (iii) The person's services are integrated into the regular 716 functioning of the other contracting party; 717 (iv) The person is required to perform the work personally; 718 (v) The person is hired, supervised, or paid by the other 719 contracting party; 720 (vi) A continuing relationship exists between the person and 721 the other contracting party that contemplates continuing or 722 recurring work even if the work is not full time; 723 (vii) The person's hours of work are established by the other 724 contracting party; 725 (viii) The person is required to devote full time to the 726 business of the other contracting party; 727 (ix) The person is required to perform the work on the 728 premises of the other contracting party; 729

(x) The person is required to follow the order of work set by 730

the other contracting party;	731
(xi) The person is required to make oral or written reports	732
of progress to the other contracting party;	733
(xii) The person is paid for services on a regular basis such	734
as hourly, weekly, or monthly;	735
(xiii) The person's expenses are paid for by the other	736
contracting party;	737
(xiv) The person's tools and materials are furnished by the	738
other contracting party;	739
(xv) The person is provided with the facilities used to	740
perform services;	741
(xvi) The person does not realize a profit or suffer a loss	742
as a result of the services provided;	743
(xvii) The person is not performing services for a number of	744
employers at the same time;	745
(xviii) The person does not make the same services available	746
to the general public;	747
(xix) The other contracting party has a right to discharge	748
the person;	749
(xx) The person has the right to end the relationship with	750
the other contracting party without incurring liability pursuant	751
to an employment contract or agreement.	752
Every person in the service of any independent contractor or	753
subcontractor who has failed to pay into the state insurance fund	754
the amount of premium determined and fixed by the administrator of	755
workers' compensation for the person's employment or occupation or if a self-insuring employer has failed to pay compensation and	756 757
benefits directly to the employer's injured and to the dependents	758
of the employer's killed employees as required by section 4123.35	759
of the Revised Code, shall be considered as the employee of the	760

person who has entered into a contract, whether written or verbal, 761 with such independent contractor unless such employees or their 762 legal representatives or beneficiaries elect, after injury or 763 death, to regard such independent contractor as the employer. 764 (2) "Employee" does not mean: 765 (a) A duly ordained, commissioned, or licensed minister or 766 assistant or associate minister of a church in the exercise of 767 ministry; 768 (b) Any officer of a family farm corporation; 769 (c) An individual incorporated as a corporation; or 770 (d) An individual who otherwise is an employee of an employer 771 but who signs the waiver and affidavit specified in section 772 4123.15 of the Revised Code on the condition that the 773 administrator has granted a waiver and exception to the 774 individual's employer under section 4123.15 of the Revised Code. 775 Any employer may elect to include as an "employee" within 776 this chapter, any person excluded from the definition of 777 "employee" pursuant to division (A)(2) of this section. If an 778 employer is a partnership, sole proprietorship, individual 779 incorporated as a corporation, or family farm corporation, such 780 employer may elect to include as an "employee" within this 781 chapter, any member of such partnership, the owner of the sole 782 proprietorship, the individual incorporated as a corporation, or 783 the officers of the family farm corporation. In the event of an 784 election, the employer shall serve upon the bureau of workers' 785 compensation written notice naming the persons to be covered, 786 include such employee's remuneration for premium purposes in all 787 future payroll reports, and no person excluded from the definition 788 of "employee" pursuant to division (A)(2) of this section, 789 proprietor, individual incorporated as a corporation, or partner 790 shall be deemed an employee within this division until the 791 employer has served such notice.

For informational purposes only, the bureau shall prescribe 793 such language as it considers appropriate, on such of its forms as 794 it considers appropriate, to advise employers of their right to 795 elect to include as an "employee" within this chapter a sole 796 proprietor, any member of a partnership, an individual 797 incorporated as a corporation, the officers of a family farm 798 corporation, or a person excluded from the definition of 799 "employee" under division (A)(2) of this section, that they should 800 check any health and disability insurance policy, or other form of 801 health and disability plan or contract, presently covering them, 802 or the purchase of which they may be considering, to determine 803 whether such policy, plan, or contract excludes benefits for 804 illness or injury that they might have elected to have covered by 805 workers' compensation. 806

(B) "Employer" means:

(1) The state, including state hospitals, each county,
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municipal corporation, township, school district, and hospital
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owned by a political subdivision or subdivisions other than the
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state;

(2) Every person, firm, professional employer organization as 812 defined in section 4125.01 of the Revised Code, and private 813 corporation, including any public service corporation, that (a) 814 has in service one or more employees or shared employees regularly 815 in the same business or in or about the same establishment under 816 any contract of hire, express or implied, oral or written, or (b) 817 is bound by any such contract of hire or by any other written 818 contract, to pay into the insurance fund the premiums provided by 819 this chapter. 820

All such employers are subject to this chapter. Any member of 821 a firm or association, who regularly performs manual labor in or 822

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about a mine, factory, or other establishment, including a 823 household establishment, shall be considered an employee in 824 determining whether such person, firm, or private corporation, or 825 public service corporation, has in its service, one or more 826 employees and the employer shall report the income derived from 827 such labor to the bureau as part of the payroll of such employer, 828 and such member shall thereupon be entitled to all the benefits of 829 an employee. 830

(C) "Injury" includes any injury, whether caused by external 831 accidental means or accidental in character and result, received 832 in the course of, and arising out of, the injured employee's 833 employment. "Injury" does not include: 834

(1) Psychiatric conditions except where the claimant's 835 psychiatric conditions have arisen from an injury or occupational 836 disease sustained by that claimant or where the claimant's 837 psychiatric conditions have arisen from sexual conduct in which 838 the claimant was forced by threat of physical harm to engage or 839 participate; 840

(2) Injury or disability caused primarily by the natural 841 deterioration of tissue, an organ, or part of the body; 842

(3) Injury or disability incurred in voluntary participation 843 in an employer-sponsored recreation or fitness activity if the 844 employee signs a waiver of the employee's right to compensation or 845 benefits under this chapter prior to engaging in the recreation or 846 fitness activity; 847

(4) A condition that pre-existed an injury unless that 848 pre-existing condition is substantially aggravated by the injury. 849 Such a substantial aggravation must be documented by objective 850 diagnostic findings, objective clinical findings, or objective 851 test results. Subjective complaints may be evidence of such a 852 substantial aggravation. However, subjective complaints without 853

objective diagnostic findings, objective clinical findings, or854objective test results are insufficient to substantiate a855substantial aggravation.856

(D) "Child" includes a posthumous child and a child legally 857 adopted prior to the injury. 858

(E) "Family farm corporation" means a corporation founded for 859 the purpose of farming agricultural land in which the majority of 860 the voting stock is held by and the majority of the stockholders 861 are persons or the spouse of persons related to each other within 862 the fourth degree of kinship, according to the rules of the civil 863 law, and at least one of the related persons is residing on or 864 actively operating the farm, and none of whose stockholders are a 865 corporation. A family farm corporation does not cease to qualify 866 under this division where, by reason of any devise, bequest, or 867 the operation of the laws of descent or distribution, the 868 ownership of shares of voting stock is transferred to another 869 person, as long as that person is within the degree of kinship 870 stipulated in this division. 871

(F) "Occupational disease" means a disease contracted in the 872 course of employment, which by its causes and the characteristics 873 of its manifestation or the condition of the employment results in 874 a hazard which distinguishes the employment in character from 875 employment generally, and the employment creates a risk of 876 contracting the disease in greater degree and in a different 877 manner from the public in general.

(G) "Self-insuring employer" means an employer who is granted 879 the privilege of paying compensation and benefits directly under 880 section 4123.35 of the Revised Code, including a board of county 881 commissioners for the sole purpose of constructing a sports 882 facility as defined in section 307.696 of the Revised Code, 883 provided that the electors of the county in which the sports 884 facility is to be built have approved construction of a sports 885 facility by ballot election no later than November 6, 1997. 886

(H) "Public employer" means an employer as defined in887division (B)(1) of this section.888

(I) "Sexual conduct" means vaginal intercourse between a male
 and female; anal intercourse, fellatio, and cunnilingus between
 persons regardless of gender; and, without privilege to do so, the
 insertion, however slight, of any part of the body or any
 instrument, apparatus, or other object into the vaginal or anal
 cavity of another. Penetration, however slight, is sufficient to
 complete vaginal or anal intercourse.

(J) "Bureau of workers' compensation custodial funds" means 896 the state insurance fund created in section 4123.30 of the Revised 897 Code, the premium payment security fund created in section 4123.34 898 of the Revised Code, the self-insuring employer quaranty fund 899 created in section 4123.351 of the Revised Code, the disabled 900 worker relief fund created in section 4123.412 of the Revised 901 Code, the public work-relief employees' compensation fund created 902 in section 4127.05 of the Revised Code, the coal-workers 903 pneumoconiosis fund created in section 4131.03 of the Revised 904 Code, and the marine industry fund created in section 4131.13 of 905 the Revised Code. 906

Sec. 4123.34. It shall be the duty of the bureau of workers' 907 compensation board of directors and the administrator of workers' 908 compensation to safeguard and maintain the solvency of the state 909 insurance fund and all other funds specified in this chapter and 910 Chapters 4121., 4127., and 4131. of the Revised Code. The 911 administrator, in the exercise of the powers and discretion 912 conferred upon the administrator in section 4123.29 of the Revised 913 Code, shall fix and maintain, with the advice and consent of the 914 board, for each class of occupation or industry, the lowest 915 possible rates of premium consistent with the maintenance of a 916 solvent state insurance fund and the creation and maintenance of a 917 reasonable surplus, after the payment of legitimate claims for 918 injury, occupational disease, and death that the administrator 919 authorizes to be paid from the state insurance fund for the 920 benefit of injured, diseased, and the dependents of killed 921 employees. In establishing rates, the administrator shall take 922 into account the necessity of ensuring sufficient money is set 923 aside in the premium payment security fund to cover any defaults 924 in premium obligations. The administrator shall observe all of the 925 following requirements in fixing the rates of premium for the 926 risks of occupations or industries: 927

(A) The administrator shall keep an accurate account of the 928 money paid in premiums by each of the several classes of 929 occupations or industries, and the losses on account of injuries, 930 occupational disease, and death of employees thereof, and also 931 keep an account of the money received from each individual 932 employer and the amount of losses incurred against the state 933 insurance fund on account of injuries, occupational disease, and 934 death of the employees of the employer. 935

(B) Ten per cent of the money paid into the state insurance 936 fund shall be set aside for the creation of a surplus until the 937 surplus amounts to the sum of one hundred thousand dollars, after 938 which time, whenever necessary in the judgment of the 939 administrator to guarantee a solvent state insurance fund, a sum 940 not exceeding five per cent of all the money paid into the state 941 insurance fund shall be credited to the surplus fund. A revision 942 of basic rates shall be made annually on the first day of July. 943

Notwithstanding any provision of the law to the contrary, one944hundred eighty days after the effective date on which945self-insuring employers first may elect under division (D) of946section 4121.66 of the Revised Code to directly pay for947rehabilitation expenses, the administrator shall calculate the948

deficit, if any, in the portion of surplus fund that is used for 949 reimbursement to self-insuring employers for all expenses other 950 than handicapped reimbursement under section 4123.343 of the 951 Revised Code. The administrator, from time to time, may determine 952 whether the surplus fund has such a deficit and may assess all 953 self-insuring employers who participated in the portion of the 954 surplus fund during the accrual of the deficit and who during that 955 time period have not made the election under division (D) of 956 section 4121.66 of the Revised Code the amount the administrator 957 determines necessary to reduce the deficit. 958

Revisions of basic rates shall be in accordance with the 959 oldest four of the last five calendar years of the combined 960 accident and occupational disease experience of the administrator 961 in the administration of this chapter, as shown by the accounts 962 kept as provided in this section, excluding the experience of 963 employers that are no longer active if the administrator 964 determines that the inclusion of those employers would have a 965 significant negative impact on the remainder of the employers in a 966 particular manual classification; and the administrator shall 967 adopt rules, with the advice and consent of the board, governing 968 rate revisions, the object of which shall be to make an equitable 969 distribution of losses among the several classes of occupation or 970 industry, which rules shall be general in their application. 971

(C) The administrator may apply that form of rating system 972 that the administrator finds is best calculated to merit rate or 973 individually rate the risk more equitably, predicated upon the 974 basis of its individual industrial accident and occupational 975 disease experience, and may encourage and stimulate accident 976 prevention. The administrator shall develop fixed and equitable 977 rules controlling the rating system, which rules shall conserve to 978 each risk the basic principles of workers' compensation insurance. 979

(D) The administrator, from the money paid into the state 980

insurance fund, shall set aside into an account of the state 981 insurance fund titled a premium payment security fund sufficient 982 money to pay for any premiums due from an employer and uncollected 983 that are in excess of the employer's premium security deposit. 984

The fund shall be in the custody of the treasurer of state. 985 The administrator may invest the surplus and reserve belonging to 986 the fund in accordance with section 4123.44 of the Revised Code. 987 All investment earnings of the fund shall be deposited in the 988 fund. Disbursements from the fund shall be made by the bureau of 989 workers' compensation upon order of the administrator to the state 990 insurance fund. The use of the moneys held by the premium payment 991 security fund is restricted to reimbursement to the state 992 insurance fund of premiums due and uncollected in excess of an 993 employer's premium security deposit. The moneys constituting the 994 premium payment security fund shall be maintained without regard 995 to or reliance upon any other fund. This section does not prevent 996 the deposit or investment of the premium payment security fund 997 with any other fund created by this chapter, but the premium 998 payment security fund is separate and distinct for every other 999 purpose and a strict accounting thereof shall be maintained. 1000

(E) The administrator may grant discounts on premium ratesfor employers who meet either of the following requirements:1002

(1) Have not incurred a compensable injury for one year or
 more and who maintain an employee safety committee or similar
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 organization or make periodic safety inspections of the workplace.
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(2) Successfully complete a loss prevention program
prescribed by the superintendent of the division of safety and
hygiene and conducted by the division or by any other person
approved by the superintendent.

(F)(1) In determining the premium rates for the construction 1010 industry the administrator shall calculate the employers' premiums 1011 based upon the actual remuneration construction industry employees 1012 receive from construction industry employers, provided that the 1013 amount of remuneration the administrator uses in calculating the 1014 premiums shall not exceed an average weekly wage equal to one 1015 hundred fifty per cent of the statewide average weekly wage as 1016 defined in division (C) of section 4123.62 of the Revised Code. 1017

(2) Division (F)(1) of this section shall not be construed as 1018affecting the manner in which benefits to a claimant are awarded 1019under this chapter. 1020

(3) As used in division (F) of this section, "construction 1021
industry" includes any activity performed in connection with the 1022
erection, alteration, repair, replacement, renovation, 1023
installation, or demolition of any building, structure, highway, 1024
or bridge. 1025

Sec. 4123.351. (A) The administrator of workers' compensation 1026 shall require every self-insuring employer to pay a contribution, 1027 calculated under this section, to the self-insuring employers' 1028 guaranty fund established pursuant to this section. The fund shall 1029 provide for payment of compensation and benefits to employees of 1030 the self-insuring employer in order to cover any default in 1031 payment by that employer. 1032

(B) The bureau of workers' compensation shall operate the 1033 self-insuring employers' guaranty fund for self-insuring 1034 employers. The administrator annually shall establish the 1035 contributions due from self-insuring employers for the fund at 1036 rates as low as possible but such as will assure sufficient moneys 1037 to guarantee the payment of any claims against the fund. The 1038 bureau's operation of the fund is not subject to sections 3929.10 1039 to 3929.18 of the Revised Code or to regulation by the 1040 superintendent of insurance. 1041

(C) If a self-insuring employer defaults, the bureau shall 1042

recover the amounts paid as a result of the default from the 1043 self-insuring employers' guaranty fund. If a self-insuring 1044 employer defaults and is in compliance with this section for the 1045 payment of contributions to the fund, such self-insuring employer 1046 is entitled to the immunity conferred by section 4123.74 of the 1047 Revised Code for any claim arising during any period the employer 1048 is in compliance with this section. 1049

(D)(1) There is hereby established a self-insuring employers' 1050 guaranty fund, which shall be in the custody of the treasurer of 1051 state and which shall be separate from the other funds established 1052 and administered pursuant to this chapter. The fund shall consist 1053 of contributions and other payments made by self-insuring 1054 employers under this section. All investment earnings of the fund 1055 shall be credited to the fund. The bureau shall make disbursements 1056 from the fund pursuant to this section. 1057

(2) The administrator has the same powers to may invest any 1058 <del>of</del> the surplus <del>or</del> <u>and</u> reserve belonging to the fund <del>as are</del> 1059 delegated to the administrator under in accordance with section 1060 4123.44 of the Revised Code with respect to the state insurance 1061 fund. The administrator shall apply interest earned solely to the 1062 reduction of assessments for contributions from self-insuring 1063 employers and to the payments required due to defaults. 1064

(3) If the bureau of workers' compensation board of directors 1065 determines that reinsurance of the risks of the fund is necessary 1066 to assure solvency of the fund, the board may: 1067

(a) Enter into contracts for the purchase of reinsurance 1068 coverage of the risks of the fund with any company or agency 1069 authorized by law to issue contracts of reinsurance; 1070

(b) Require the administrator to pay the cost of reinsurance 1071 from the fund; 1072

(c) Include the costs of reinsurance as a liability and 1073

estimated liability of the fund.

(E) The administrator, with the advice and consent of the 1075 board, may adopt rules pursuant to Chapter 119. of the Revised 1076 Code for the implementation of this section, including a rule, 1077 notwithstanding division (C) of this section, requiring 1078 self-insuring employers to provide security in addition to the 1079 contribution to the self-insuring employers' guaranty fund 1080 required by this section. The additional security required by the 1081 rule, as the administrator determines appropriate, shall be 1082 sufficient and adequate to provide for financial assurance to meet 1083 the obligations of self-insuring employers under this chapter and 1084 Chapter 4121. of the Revised Code. 1085

(F) The purchase of coverage under this section by 1086
self-insuring employers is valid notwithstanding the prohibitions 1087
contained in division (A) of section 4123.82 of the Revised Code 1088
and is in addition to the indemnity contracts that self-insuring 1089
employers may purchase pursuant to division (B) of section 4123.82 1090
of the Revised Code. 1091

(G) The administrator, on behalf of the self-insuring
employers' guaranty fund, has the rights of reimbursement and
subrogation and shall collect from a defaulting self-insuring
employer or other liable person all amounts the administrator has
paid or reasonably expects to pay from the fund on account of the
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defaulting self-insuring employer.

(H) The assessments for contributions, the administration of 1098
the self-insuring employers' guaranty fund, the investment of the 1099
money in the fund, and the payment of liabilities incurred by the 1100
fund do not create any liability upon the state. 1101

Except for a gross abuse of discretion, neither the board, 1102 nor the individual members thereof, nor the administrator shall 1103 incur any obligation or liability respecting the assessments for 1104

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contributions, the administration of the self-insuring employers' 1105 guaranty fund, the investment of the fund, or the payment of 1106 liabilities therefrom. 1107

Sec. 4123.412. For the relief of persons who are permanently 1108 and totally disabled as the result of injury or disease sustained 1109 in the course of their employment and who are receiving workers' 1110 compensation which is payable to them by virtue of and under the 1111 laws of this state in amounts, the total of which, when combined 1112 with disability benefits received pursuant to the Social Security 1113 Act is less than three hundred forty-two dollars per month 1114 adjusted annually as provided in division (B) of section 4123.62 1115 of the Revised Code, there is hereby created a separate fund to be 1116 known as the disabled workers' relief fund, which fund shall 1117 consist of the sums that are from time to time appropriated by the 1118 general assembly and made available to the order of the bureau of 1119 workers' compensation to carry out the objects and purposes of 1120 sections 4123.412 to 4123.418 of the Revised Code. The fund shall 1121 be in the custody of the treasurer of the state. The administrator 1122 may invest the surplus and reserve belonging to the fund in 1123 accordance with section 4123.44 of the Revised Code. Disbursements 1124 from the fund shall be made by the bureau to those persons 1125 entitled to participate therein and in amounts to each participant 1126 as is provided in section 4123.414 of the Revised Code. All 1127 investment earnings of the fund shall be credited to the fund. 1128

Sec. 4123.44. The members of the bureau of workers' 1130 compensation board of directors, the administrator of workers' 1131 compensation, and the bureau of workers' compensation chief 1132 investment officer are the trustees of the state insurance fund 1133 bureau of workers' compensation custodial funds. The 1134 administrator, in accordance with sections 4121.126 and 4121.127 1135

of the Revised Code and the investment policy approved by the	1136
board pursuant to section 4121.12 of the Revised Code, and in	1137
consultation with the bureau of workers' compensation chief	1138
investment officer, may invest any of the surplus or reserve	1139
belonging to <u>each of</u> the <del>state insurance fund</del> <u>bureau of workers'</u>	1140
compensation custodial funds in the classes of investments	1141
specified in section 4123.443 of the Revised Code. The	1142
administrator and the bureau of workers' compensation chief	1143
investment officer shall not deviate from the investment policy	1144
approved by the board without the approval of the workers'	1145
compensation investment committee and the board.	1146
The administrator shall not invest in any type of investment	1147
specified in divisions (B)(1) to (10) of section 4123.442 of the	1148
Revised Code.	1149
The administrator and other fiduciaries shall discharge their	1150
duties with respect to the funds with the care, skill, prudence,	1151
and diligence under the circumstances then prevailing that a	1152
prudent person acting in a like capacity and familiar with such	1152
matters would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like	1154
_	1155
character and with like aims, and by diversifying the investments	
	1156
losses, unless under the circumstances it is clearly prudent not	1157
<del>to do so.</del>	1158
To facilitate investment of the funds, the administrator may	1159
establish a partnership, trust, limited liability company,	1160
corporation, including a corporation exempt from taxation under	1161
the Internal Revenue Code, 100 Stat. 2085, 26 U.S.C. 1, as	1162
amended, or any other legal entity authorized to transact business	1163
in this state.	1164
When reporting on the performance of investments, the	1165

When reporting on the performance of investments, the1165administrator shall comply with the performance presentation1166standards established by the association for investment management1167

and research.

All investments shall be purchased at current market prices 1169 and the evidences of title to the investments shall be placed in 1170 the custody of the treasurer of state, who is hereby designated as 1171 custodian, or in the custody of the treasurer of state's 1172 authorized agent. Evidences of title of the investments so 1173 purchased may be deposited by the treasurer of state for 1174 safekeeping with an authorized agent selected by the treasurer of 1175 state who is a qualified trustee under section 135.18 of the 1176 Revised Code. The treasurer of state or the agent shall collect 1177 the principal, dividends, distributions, and interest as they 1178 become due and payable and place them when collected into the 1179 state insurance appropriate bureau of workers' compensation 1180 custodial fund. 1181

The treasurer of state shall pay for investments purchased by 1182 the administrator on receipt of written or electronic instructions 1183 from the administrator or the administrator's designated agent 1184 authorizing the purchase, and pending receipt of the evidence of 1185 title of the investment by the treasurer of state or the treasurer 1186 of state's authorized agent. The administrator may sell 1187 investments held by the administrator, and the treasurer of state 1188 or the treasurer of state's authorized agent shall accept payment 1189 from the purchaser and deliver evidence of title of the investment 1190 to the purchaser, on receipt of written or electronic instructions 1191 from the administrator or the administrator's designated agent 1192 authorizing the sale, and pending receipt of the moneys for the 1193 investments. The amount received shall be placed in the state 1194 insurance appropriate bureau of workers' compensation custodial 1195 fund. The administrator and the treasurer of state may enter into 1196 agreements to establish procedures for the purchase and sale of 1197 investments under this division and the custody of the 1198 investments. 1199

No purchase or sale of any investment shall be made under 1200 this section, except as authorized by the administrator. 1201

Any statement of financial position distributed by the 1202 administrator shall include the fair value, as of the statement 1203 date, of all investments held by the administrator under this 1204 section. 1205

When in the judgment of the administrator it is necessary to 1206 provide available funds for the payment of compensation or 1207 benefits under this chapter, the administrator may borrow money 1208 from any available source and pledge as security a sufficient 1209 amount of bonds or other securities in which the state insurance 1210 fund is invested. The aggregate unpaid amount of loans existing at 1211 any one time for money so borrowed shall not exceed ten million 1212 dollars. The bonds or other securities so pledged as security for 1213 such loans to the administrator shall be the sole security for the 1214 payment of the principal and interest of any such loan. The 1215 administrator shall not be personally liable for the payment of 1216 the principal or the interest of any such loan. No such loan shall 1217 be made for a longer period of time than one year. Such loans may 1218 be renewed but no one renewal shall be for a period in excess of 1219 one year. Such loans shall bear such rate of interest as the 1220 administrator determines and in negotiating the loans, the 1221 administrator shall endeavor to secure as favorable interest rates 1222 and terms as circumstances will permit. 1223

1224 The treasurer of state may deliver to the person or governmental agency making such loan, the bonds or other 1225 securities which are to be pledged by the administrator as 1226 security for such loan, upon receipt by the treasurer of state of 1227 an order of the administrator authorizing such loan. Upon payment 1228 of any such loan by the administrator, the bonds or other 1229 securities pledged as security therefor shall be returned to the 1230 treasurer of state as custodian of such bonds. 1231

The administrator may pledge with the treasurer of state such	1232
amount of bonds or other securities in which the state insurance	1233
fund is invested as is reasonably necessary as security for any	1234
certificates issued, or paid out, by the treasurer of state upon	1235
any warrants drawn by the administrator.	1236
The administrator, subject to the approval of the board, may	1237
secure investment information services, consulting services, and	1238
or other like services to facilitate investment of the surplus and	1239
reserve belonging to <u>each of</u> the <del>state insurance fund</del> <u>bureau of</u>	1240
workers' compensation custodial funds and, subject to the approval	1241
of the board, may enter into a contract with an investment manager	1242
to have that manager invest the assets of those funds. The	1243
administrator shall pay the expense of securing such services from	1244
the state insurance fund.	1245
Sec. 4123.442. When developing the investment policy for the	1246
investment of the assets of the <u>bureau of workers' compensation</u>	1247
custodial funds specified in this chapter and Chapters 4121.,	1248
4127., and 4131. of the Revised Code, the workers' compensation	1249
investment committee shall do all of the following:	1250
(A) Use only the classes of investments specified in section	1251

4123.443 of the Revised Code;

(B) Specify the asset allocation targets and ranges, risk
 factors, asset class benchmarks, time horizons, total return
 objectives, and performance evaluation guidelines;
 1255

(B) Prohibit investing the assets of those funds, directly or 1256 indirectly, in vehicles that target any of the following: 1257

- <del>(1) Coins;</del> 1258
- <del>(2) Artwork;</del>
- <del>(3) Horses;</del>
  - (4) Jewelry or gems;

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(5) Stamps;	1262
(6) Antiques;	1263
(7) Artifacts;	1264
(8) Collectibles;	1265
<del>(9) Memorabilia;</del>	1266
(10) Similar unregulated investments that are not commonly	1267
part of an institutional portfolio, that lack liquidity, and that	1268
lack readily determinable valuation.	1269
(C) <del>Specify that the administrator of workers' compensation</del>	1270
may invest in an investment class only if the bureau of workers'	1271
compensation board of directors, by a majority vote, opens that	1272
<del>class;</del>	1273
(D) Prohibit investing the assets of those funds in <del>any class</del>	1274
of investments the board, by majority vote, closed, or any	1275
specific investment in which the board prohibits the administrator	1276
<pre>from investing;</pre>	1277
(E)(D) Not specify in the investment policy that the	1278
administrator or employees of the bureau of workers' compensation	1279
are prohibited from conducting business with an investment	1280
management or consulting firm, any investment management or	1281
consulting professional associated with that firm, any third party	1282
solicitor associated with that firm, or any political action	1283
committee controlled by that firm or controlled by an investment	1284
management or consulting professional of that firm based on	1285
criteria that are more restrictive than the restrictions described	1286
in divisions (Y) and (Z) of section 3517.13 of the Revised Code.	1287
	1288

Sec. 4123.443. (A) The administrator of workers'	1289
compensation, in accordance with section 4123.44 of the Revised	1290
<u>Code, may invest the surplus and reserve of each of the bureau of</u>	1291

workers' compensation custodial funds in any of the following	1292
<u>classes of investments:</u>	1293
(1) Bonds and mortgages on unencumbered real estate within	1294
this or any other state worth twenty-five per cent more than the	1295
sum loaned thereon, exclusive of buildings, unless such buildings	1296
are insured by some company authorized to do business in this	1297
<u>state;</u>	1298
(2) Bonds, notes, debentures, and other such obligations	1299
secured by mortgages insured by the federal housing administrator	1300
<u>or the secretary of agriculture of the United States under Title I</u>	1301
of "The Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act" as amended;	1302
(3) Loans to veterans guaranteed in whole or in part by the	1303
<u>United States pursuant to Title III of the "Servicemen's</u>	1304
<u>Readjustment Act of 1944," 58 Stat. 284, 38 U.S.C. 693, as</u>	1305
amended, provided such guaranteed loans are liens upon real	1306
<u>estate;</u>	1307
(4) Legally authorized and executed bonds, notes, warrants,	1308
and securities that are the direct obligation of or are guaranteed	1309
as to both principal and interest by Canada, that are the direct	1310
obligation of or are guaranteed as to both principal and interest	1311
by any province of Canada, that are the direct obligation of or	1312
are guaranteed as to both principal and interest by any municipal	1313
corporation of Canada having a population of one hundred thousand	1314
or more by the latest official census, and that are not in default	1315
<u>as to principal or interest;</u>	1316
(5) Obligations issued, assumed, or guaranteed by the	1317
international finance corporation or by the international bank for	1318
reconstruction and development, the Asian development bank, the	1319
inter-American development bank, the African development bank, or	1320
similar development bank in which the president, as authorized by	1321
<u>congress and on behalf of the United States, has accepted</u>	1322

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(6) Bonds or other evidences of indebtedness, not in default	1324
as to principal or interest, that are valid obligations issued,	1325
assumed, or guaranteed by the United States or for which the faith	1326
of the United States is pledged to provide payment of the interest	1327
and principal, by any state thereof, by the Commonwealth of Puerto	1328
Rico, by any territory or insular possession of the United States,	1329
or by the District of Columbia, or for which the faith of the	1330
state or the District of Columbia is pledged to provide payment of	1331
the interest and principal;	1332
	1000

(7) Bonds or other evidences of indebtedness, not in default 1333 as to principal or interest, that are valid obligations issued, 1334 assumed, or guaranteed by any county, municipal corporation, 1335 district, or political subdivision, or by any civil division or 1336 public instrumentality of such governmental units, if by statutory 1337 or other legal requirements such obligations are payable, as to 1338 both principal and interest, from taxes levied upon all taxable 1339 property within the jurisdiction of such governmental unit and if 1340 they are direct obligations of such a governmental unit, that unit 1341 has not defaulted for a period of more than one hundred twenty 1342 days in the payment of interest upon, or for a period of more than 1343 one year in the payment of principal of, any of its bonds, notes, 1344 warrants, securities, or other interest-bearing obligations, 1345 during the ten years immediately preceding the acquisition of such 1346 bonds, notes, warrants, securities, or other interest-bearing 1347 <u>obligations;</u> 1348

(8) Bonds or other obligations issued by or for account of1349any governmental unit specified in division (A)(7) of this section1350having a population of five thousand or more by the latest1351official federal or state census that are payable as to both1352principal and interest from revenues or earnings from the whole or1353any part of a publicly owned utility, provided that by statute or1354

other applicable legal requirements, rates from the service or	1355
operation of such utility must be fixed, maintained, and collected	1356
at all times so as to produce sufficient revenues or earnings to	1357
pay both principal and interest of such bonds or obligations as	1358
they become due;	1359
(9) Any bonds or obligations issued or guaranteed by the	1360
United States, any state, the District of Columbia, the	1361
Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, any county, municipal corporation,	1362
district, political subdivision, civil division, commission,	1363
board, authority, agency, or other instrumentality of one or more	1364
of them, if all of the following apply:	1365
(a) There is a specific pledge of revenues, earnings, or	1366
other adequate security;	1367
(b) No prior or parity obligation of the same issuer, payable	1368
from revenues or earnings from the same source, has been in	1369
default as to principal or interest during the five years next	1370
preceding the date of such investment, but such issuer need not	1371
have been in existence for that period, and obligations acquired	1372
under this division may be newly issued;	1373
(c) There is adequate provision for payment of expenses of	1374
operation and maintenance and the principal and interest on all	1375
obligations when due.	1376
(10) Any bonds issued by or for federal land banks and any	1377
debentures issued by or for federal intermediate credit banks	1378
under the act of congress known as the "Federal Farm Loan Act of	1379
1916," 39 Stat. 360, 12 U.S.C.A. 641 and amendment thereto;	1380
(11) Any debentures issued by or for banks for cooperatives	1381
under the act of congress known as the "Farm Credit Act of 1933,"	1382
48 Stat. 257, 12 U.S.C.A. 131 and amendments thereto;	1383
(12) Bonds issued under the "Home Owners' Loan Act of 1933,"	1384
	1205

<u>48 Stat. 128, 12 U.S.C.A. 1461;</u>

(13) The stock of a national bank located in this state,	1386
organized under an act of congress entitled "An act to provide a	1387
national currency, secured by the pledge of United States stocks,	1388
and to provide for the circulation and redemption thereof,"	1389
approved February 25, 1863, and acts amendatory thereof and	1390
supplementary thereto;	1391
(14) First mortgage bonds of railroads upon which default in	1392
the payment of the interest coupons has not been made within three	1393
years prior to the purchase thereof by the administrator;	1394
(15) Legally authorized and executed bonds, notes, warrants,	1395
and other interest-bearing securities of any school district,	1396
water district, road district; or any special district of any	1397
state or of the District of Columbia, if both of the following	1398
apply:	1399
(a) Such school district, water district, road district, or	1400
special district has been created by legislative action and is	1401
empowered to levy taxes on all taxable property in such district	1402
for the payment of such bonds, notes, warrants, and other	1403
interest-bearing securities.	1404
(b) Such school district, water district, road district, or	1405
special district has not defaulted for a period of more than one	1406
hundred twenty days in the payment of interest upon, or for a	1407
period of more than one year in the payment of principal of, its	1408
bonds, notes, warrants, and other interest-bearing securities,	1409
during the ten years immediately preceding the acquisition of such	1410
bonds, notes, warrants, and other interest-bearing securities.	1411
(16) Any securities described in section 77r-1 of the	1412
"Secondary Mortgage Market Enhancement Act of 1984," 98 Stat.	1413
1689, 15 U.S.C.A. 77r-1, subject to all of the limitations	1414
prescribed in divisions (B)(6) to (9) of this section for	1415
investments not guaranteed by the full faith and credit of the	1416

United States.	1417
(17) Notwithstanding division (A)(16) of this section, any of	1418
the following securities:	1419
(a) Securities offered and sold pursuant to 15 U.S.C.A.	1420
<pre>section 77d(5);</pre>	1421
(b) Mortgage related securities described in 15 U.S.C.A.	1422
<u>section 78c(a)(41);</u>	1423
(c) Securities issued or guaranteed by the federal home loan	1424
mortgage corporation or the federal national mortgage association.	1425
(18) Bonds or other evidences of indebtedness, bearing or	1426
accruing interest, issued, assumed, or guaranteed by any solvent	1427
corporation, trust, partnership, or similar business entity	1428
organized and existing under the laws of this or any other state,	1429
or of the United States, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or of	1430
<u>the District of Columbia, or of Canada or any province of Canada,</u>	1431
upon which there is no existing interest or principal default,	1432
provided that the bonds or other evidences of indebtedness are	1433
rated by at least one of the following:	1434
(a) Moody's service;	1435
(b) Standard and Poor's;	1436
(c) Fitch ratings.	1437
(19) Stocks or limited liability company membership interests	1438
of any insurance, financial, investment, or investment management	1439
companies if the investment management companies are registered	1440
with the securities and exchange commission under the "Investment	1441
<u>Company Act of 1940, "54 Stat. 789, 15 U.S.C. 80a-1, as amended;</u>	1442
(20) Other stocks of any solvent corporation organized under	1443
the laws of this or any other state, or of the United States, the	1444
District of Columbia, Canada, or any province of Canada;	1445
(21) Tangible personal property or interests in that property	1446

for the production of income, provided that the amount of assets	1447
of the bureau of workers' compensation custodial fund that is	1448
invested in such property or interests does not exceed two per	1449
cent of the admitted assets of that fund;	1450
(22) In equipment trust obligations or certificates, security	1451
agreements, or other evidences of indebtedness entered into or	1452
guaranteed by any company operating wholly or partly within the	1453
United States or Canada, if that debt obligation is secured by a	1454
first lien on tangible personal property that is purchased or	1455
secured for payment thereof and that debt obligation is repayable	1456
within twenty years from the date of issue in annual, semiannual,	1457
or more frequent installments beginning not later than the first	1458
year after that date;	1459
(23) Government money market funds and money market funds	1460
that have received the highest credit ratings for money market	1461
funds offered by either Standard and Poor's or Moody's service;	1462
(24) Negotiable promissory notes maturing in not more than	1463
six months from the date the note is issued, secured by collateral	1464
security through the transfer of any of the classes of securities	1465
described in this section, with absolute power of sale within	1466
twenty days after default in payment at maturity;	1467
(25) Repurchase agreements with and interest-bearing	1468
obligations of, including savings accounts and time certificates	1469
of deposit of a national bank of the United States, a commonwealth	1470
<u>bank of Puerto Rico, a chartered bank of Canada, or a state bank,</u>	1471
provided such bank is either a member of the federal deposit	1472
insurance corporation created pursuant to the "Banking Act of	1473
1933," as amended, or the Canada deposit insurance corporation	1474
created pursuant to the act of parliament known as the "Canada	1475
Deposit Insurance Corporation Act, " as amended;	1476
(26) Certificates of deposit, savings share accounts,	1477

investment share accounts, stock deposits, stock certificates, or	1478
other evidences of indebtedness of a savings and loan association,	1479
provided all such evidences of indebtedness are insured pursuant	1480
to the "Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement	1481
<u>Act of 1989," 103 Stat. 183, 12 U.S.C.A. 1811, as amended;</u>	1482
(27) Bankers' acceptances and bills of exchange of the kinds	1483
and maturities made eligible by law for rediscount with the	1484
federal reserve banks, provided that the same are accepted by a	1485
bank or trust company incorporated under the laws of the United	1486
States or of this state or any other bank or trust company which	1487
is a member of the federal reserve system;	1488
(28) Except as provided in division (A) of section 4123.444	1489
of the Revised Code, any of the following:	1490
(a) Bonds, notes, debentures, or other evidences of	1491
indebtedness issued, assumed, or guaranteed by a solvent	1492
corporation, trust, or partnership formed or existing under the	1493
laws of a foreign jurisdiction, provided each such foreign	1494
investment is of the same kind and quality as United States	1495
investments authorized under this section;	1496
(b) Common or preferred stock or shares of any solvent	1497
corporation formed or existing under the laws of a foreign	1498
jurisdiction, provided each such foreign investment is of the same	1499
kind and quality as United States investments authorized under	1500
this section;	1501
(c) Bonds or other evidences of indebtedness issued, assumed,	1502
or guaranteed by a foreign jurisdiction.	1503
(29) Except as provided in division (B) of section 4123.444	1504
of the Revised Code, investments denominated in foreign currency	1505
regardless of whether they are foreign investments;	1506
(30) Any securities or other property not otherwise permitted	1507
under this section, provided that the total amount of the assets	1508

of an individual bureau of workers' compensation custodial fund	1509
that is invested in those investments does not exceed, in the	1510
aggregate, six per cent of the total admitted assets of that fund	1511
and provided that those investments are made within the	1512
limitations prescribed in division (C) of section 4123.444 of the	1513
Revised Code;	1514
(31) Within the limitations prescribed in division (C) of	1515
section 4123.444 of the Revised Code, loans or investments in	1516
small businesses having more than half of their assets or	1517
employees in this state and venture capital firms having an office	1518
within this state, provided that, as a condition of the	1519
administrator making an investment in a venture capital firm, the	1520
firm must agree to use its best efforts to make investments, in an	1521
aggregate amount at least equal to the investment to be made by	1522
the administrator in that venture capital firm, in small	1523
businesses having their principal offices within this state and	1524
having either more than one-half of their assets within this state	1525
or more than one-half of their employees employed within this	1526
state, and provided that the amount of assets of a bureau of	1527
workers' compensation custodial fund that is invested in such	1528
investments does not exceed five per cent of the total admitted	1529
assets of that fund.	1530
(B) For purposes of this section and section 4123.444 of the	1531
<u>Revised Code, the admitted assets of an individual bureau of</u>	1532
workers' compensation custodial fund shall be calculated as of the	1533
thirty-first day of December immediately preceding the date the	1534
value of the applicable fund is determined.	1535
(C) As used in this section and section 4123.444 of the	1536
Revised Code:	1537
(1) "Foreign currency" means a currency other than that of	1538
the United States.	1539

(2) "Foreign jurisdiction" means a jurisdiction outside the	1540
<u>United States, Puerto Rico, or Canada whose bonds are rated 1 by</u>	1541
the securities valuation office of the national association of	1542
insurance commissioners.	1543
(3) "Government money market fund" means a fund that at all	1544
times invests in obligations issued, guaranteed, or insured by the	1545
federal government of the United States or collateralized	1546
repurchase agreements comprised of such obligations, and that	1547
qualifies for investment without a reserve pursuant to the	1548
purposes and procedures of the securities valuation office of the	1549
national association of insurance commissioners.	1550
(4) "Small businesses" means any corporation, partnership,	1551
proprietorship, or other entity that either does not have more	1552
than four hundred employees, or would qualify as a small business	1553
for the purpose of receiving financial assistance from small	1554
business investment companies licensed under the "Small Business	1555
Investment Act of 1958, 72 Stat. 689, 15 U.S.C.A. 661, as	1556
amended, and rules of the small business administration.	1557
(5) "Venture capital firm" means any corporation,	1558
partnership, proprietorship, or other entity, the principal	1559
business of which is or will be the making of investments in small	1560
businesses.	1561
(D) As used in division (A)(31) of this section,	1562
"investments" means any equity investment, including limited	1563
partnership interests and other equity interests in which	1564
liability is limited to the amount of the investment, but does not	1565
include general partnership interests or other interests involving	1566
general liability.	1567

Sec. 4123.444. (A) The administrator shall not invest the	1568
assets of an individual bureau of workers' compensation custodial	1569
fund in foreign investments under division (A)(28) of section	1570

4123.443 of the Revised Code, including investments denominated in	1571
foreign currency, in a sum exceeding in the aggregate fifteen per	1572
cent of the admitted assets of that fund. The aggregate amount of	1573
the assets of a bureau of workers' compensation custodial fund	1574
that is invested in a single foreign jurisdiction shall not exceed	1575
three per cent of the admitted assets of the surplus and reserve	1576
of that fund.	1577
(B) The administrator shall not invest the assets of an	1578
individual bureau of workers' compensation custodial fund in	1579
investments denominated in foreign currency in a sum exceeding in	1580
the aggregate ten per cent of the admitted assets of that fund.	1581
The aggregate amount of the assets of a bureau of workers'	1582
compensation custodial fund that is invested in investments	1583
denominated in a single foreign currency shall not exceed three	1584
per cent of the admitted assets of that fund.	1585
(C) The administrator shall not, at any time, invest the	1586
assets of an individual bureau of workers' compensation custodial	1587
fund in a sum exceeding five per cent of the admitted assets of	1588
that fund in the bonds, notes, debentures, other evidences of	1589
indebtedness, and stocks of a particular corporation, trust,	1590
partnership, or similar business entity and shall not, at any	1591
time, own directly or indirectly more than twenty-five per cent of	1592
the outstanding bonds, notes, debentures, other evidences of	1593
indebtedness, and stocks of any corporation.	1594
(D) In the event that, subsequent to being made under	1595
division (A)(31) of section 4123.443 of the Revised Code, a loan	1596
or investment is determined to have become qualified as a loan or	1597
investment under any of the divisions (A)(1) to (A)(25) of that	1598
section, the administrator may consider such loan or investment as	1599
held under those divisions and such loan or investment shall no	1600
longer be considered as having been made under division (A)(31) of	1601

## that section.

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(E) The administrator shall not own more than one-fourth of	1603
the capital stock of a national bank, shall not invest the assets	1604
of an individual bureau of workers' compensation custodial fund in	1605
the stocks and bonds of any railroad company or loan on any such	1606
stocks and bonds held in that fund in an amount that exceeds	1607
one-fifth of the surplus and reserve of that fund, and shall not	1608
invest the assets of an individual bureau of workers' compensation	1609
custodial fund in railroad property or loan on such property held	1610
in that fund in an amount that exceeds, in the aggregate,	1611
one-fourth of the surplus and reserve of that fund.	1612

The amount of assets of a bureau of workers' compensation 1613 custodial fund invested in real estate in accordance with section 1614 4123.443 of the Revised Code shall not exceed at any one time, ten 1615 per cent of the assets of the surplus and reserve of that fund. 1616 The amount of assets of a bureau of workers' compensation 1617 custodial fund invested in any one real estate investment shall 1618 not exceed at any one time, two per cent of the assets of the 1619 surplus and reserve of that fund. Nothing in this division 1620 authorizes the administrator to use an investment in real estate 1621 primarily for recreational, agricultural, or mining purposes. 1622

 Sec. 4123.444
 4123.445
 (A) As used in this section and
 1623

 section 4123.445
 4123.446
 of the Revised Code:
 1624

(1) "Bureau of workers' compensation funds" means any fund 1625
specified in Chapter 4121., 4123., 4127., or 4131. of the Revised 1626
Code that the administrator of workers' compensation has the 1627
authority to invest, in accordance with the administrator's 1628
investment authority under section 4123.44 of the Revised Code. 1629

(2) "Investment manager" means any person with whom the 1630
administrator of workers' compensation contracts pursuant to 1631
section 4123.44 of the Revised Code to facilitate the investment 1632

of assets of bureau of workers' compensation <u>custodial</u> funds. 1633

(3)(2)"Business entity" means any person with whom an1634investment manager contracts for the investment of assets of1635bureau of workers' compensation custodial funds.1636

(4)(3) "Financial or investment crime" means any criminal 1637 offense involving theft, receiving stolen property, embezzlement, 1638 forgery, fraud, passing bad checks, money laundering, drug 1639 trafficking, or any criminal offense involving money or 1640 securities, as set forth in Chapters 2909., 2911., 2913., 2915., 1641 2921., 2923., and 2925. of the Revised Code or other law of this 1642 state, or the laws of any other state or the United States that 1643 are substantially equivalent to those offenses. 1644

(4) "Investment consultant" means any person with whom the1645administrator contracts pursuant to section 4123.44 of the Revised1646Code to obtain the person's advice and opinions in order to1647facilitate the investment of assets of bureau of workers'1648compensation custodial funds.1649

(B)(1) Before entering into a contract with an investment
 manager to invest bureau of workers' compensation <u>custodial</u> funds,
 the administrator shall do both of the following:
 1652

(a) Request from any investment manager with whom the
administrator wishes to contract for those investments a list of
all employees who will be investing assets of bureau of workers'
1655
compensation <u>custodial</u> funds. The list shall specify each
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employee's state of residence for the five years prior to the date
1657
of the administrator's request.

(b) Request that the superintendent of the bureau of criminal
investigation and identification conduct a criminal records check
in accordance with this section and section 109.579 of the Revised
Code with respect to every employee the investment manager names
in that list.

(2) After an investment manager enters into a contract with 1664 the administrator to invest bureau of workers' compensation 1665 custodial funds and before an investment manager enters into a 1666 contract with a business entity to facilitate those investments, 1667 the investment manager shall request from any business entity with 1668 whom the investment manager wishes to contract to make those 1669 investments a list of all employees who will be investing assets 1670 of the bureau of workers' compensation <u>custodial</u> funds. The list 1671 shall specify each employee's state of residence for the five 1672 years prior to the investment manager's request. The investment 1673 manager shall forward to the administrator the list received from 1674 the business entity. The administrator shall request the 1675 superintendent to conduct a criminal records check in accordance 1676 with this section and section 109.579 of the Revised Code with 1677 respect to every employee the business entity names in that list. 1678

Upon receipt of the results of the criminal records check, the 1679 administrator shall advise the investment manager whether the 1680 results were favorable or unfavorable. 1681

(3) If, after a contract has been entered into between the 1682 administrator and an investment manager or between an investment 1683 manager and a business entity for the investment of assets of 1684 bureau of workers' compensation <u>custodial</u> funds, the investment 1685 manager or business entity wishes to have an employee who was not 1686 the subject of a criminal records check under division (B)(1) or 1687 (B)(2) of this section invest assets of the bureau of workers' 1688 compensation <u>custodial</u> funds, that employee shall be the subject 1689 of a criminal records check pursuant to this section and section 1690 109.579 of the Revised Code prior to handling the investment of 1691 assets of those funds. The investment manager shall submit to the 1692 administrator the name of that employee along with the employee's 1693 state of residence for the five years prior to the date in which 1694 the administrator requests the criminal records check. The 1695 administrator shall request that the superintendent conduct a 1696

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criminal records check on that employee pursuant to this section 1697 and section 109.579 of the Revised Code. 1698 (4) Before entering into a contract with an investment 1699 consultant regarding the investment of bureau of workers' 1700 compensation custodial funds, the administrator shall do both of 1701 the following: 1702 (a) Request from any investment consultant with whom the 1703 administrator wishes to contract a list of all employees who will 1704 be providing advice and opinions regarding the investment of the 1705 assets of bureau of workers' compensation custodial funds. The 1706 list shall specify each employee's state of residence for the five 1707 years prior to the date of the administrator's request. 1708 (b) Request that the superintendent of the bureau of criminal 1709 investigation and identification conduct a criminal records check 1710 in accordance with this section and section 109.579 of the Revised 1711 Code with respect to every employee the investment consultant 1712 names in that list. 1713 1714 (5) If, after a contract has been entered into between the administrator and an investment consultant, the investment 1715 consultant wishes to have an employee who was not the subject of a 1716 criminal records check under division (B)(4) of this section 1717 provide advice and opinions regarding the investment of the assets 1718 of the bureau of workers' compensation custodial funds, that 1719 employee shall be the subject of a criminal records check pursuant 1720 to this section and section 109.579 of the Revised Code prior to 1721 providing advice and opinions regarding the investment of assets 1722 of those funds. The investment consultant shall submit to the 1723 administrator the name of that employee along with the employee's 1724 state of residence for the five years prior to the date in which 1725 the administrator requests the criminal records check. The 1726 administrator shall request that the superintendent conduct a 1727 criminal records check on that employee pursuant to this section 1728

(C)(1) If an employee who is the subject of a criminal 1730 records check pursuant to division (B) of this section has not 1731 been a resident of this state for the five-year period immediately 1732 prior to the time the criminal records check is requested or does 1733 not provide evidence that within that five-year period the 1734 superintendent has requested information about the employee from 1735 the federal bureau of investigation in a criminal records check, 1736 the administrator shall request that the superintendent obtain 1737 information from the federal bureau of investigation as a part of 1738 the criminal records check for the employee. If the employee has 1739 been a resident of this state for at least that five-year period, 1740 the administrator may, but is not required to, request that the 1741 superintendent request and include in the criminal records check 1742 information about that employee from the federal bureau of 1743 investigation. 1744

(2) The administrator shall provide to an investment manager 1745 or consultant a copy of the form prescribed pursuant to division 1746 (C)(1) of section 109.579 of the Revised Code and a standard 1747 impression sheet for each employee for whom a criminal records 1748 check must be performed, to obtain fingerprint impressions as 1749 prescribed pursuant to division (C)(2) of section 109.579 of the 1750 Revised Code. The An investment manager shall obtain the completed 1751 form and impression sheet either directly from each employee or 1752 from a business entity and shall forward the completed form and 1753 sheet to the administrator, who shall forward these forms and 1754 sheets to the superintendent. An investment consultant shall 1755 obtain the completed form and impression sheet directly from each 1756 employee and shall forward the completed form and sheet to the 1757 administrator, who shall forward these forms and sheets to the 1758 superintendent. 1759

(3) Any employee who receives a copy of the form and the 1760

impression sheet pursuant to division (C)(2) of this section and 1761
who is requested to complete the form and provide a set of 1762
fingerprint impressions shall complete the form or provide all the 1763
information necessary to complete the form and shall complete the 1764
impression sheets in the manner prescribed in division (C)(2) of 1765
section 109.579 of the Revised Code. 1766

(D) For each criminal records check the administrator
requests under this section, at the time the administrator makes a
request the administrator shall pay to the superintendent the fee
the superintendent prescribes pursuant to division (E) of section
109.579 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 4123.445 <u>4123.446</u>. (A) The administrator of workers' 1772 compensation shall not enter into a contract with an investment 1773 manager for the investment of assets of the bureau of workers' 1774 compensation <u>custodial</u> funds if any employee of that investment 1775 manager who will be investing assets of bureau of workers' 1776 compensation <u>custodial</u> funds has been convicted of or pleaded 1777 guilty to a financial or investment crime. 1778

(B) An investment manager who has entered into a contract 1779 with the bureau of workers' compensation for the investment of 1780 assets of bureau of workers' compensation <u>custodial</u> funds shall 1781 not contract with a business entity for the investment of those 1782 assets if any employee of that business manager who will be 1783 1784 investing assets of bureau of workers' compensation custodial funds has been convicted of or pleaded quilty to a financial or 1785 investment crime. 1786

(C) <u>The administrator shall not enter into a contract with an</u>
 <u>investment consultant if any employee of that investment</u>
 <u>consultant who will be providing advice and opinions regarding the</u>
 <u>investment of the assets of bureau of workers' compensation</u>
 <u>custodial funds has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to a</u>

## financial or investment crime.

(D) The administrator shall not enter into a contract with an 1793 investment manager or consultant who refuses to submit the list of 1794 the investment manager's or consultant's employees required under 1795 division (B) of section 4123.444 4123.445 of the Revised Code. An 1796 investment manager shall not enter into a contract with a business 1797 entity who refuses to submit the list of the business entity's 1798 employees required under division (B) of section 4123.444 4123.445 1799 of the Revised Code. 1800

(D)(E) If, after a contract has been awarded to an investment 1801 manager  $\Theta r_{\perp}$  business entity for the investment of assets of bureau 1802 of workers' compensation funds, or an investment consultant, the 1803 investment manager or, business entity, or investment consultant 1804 discovers that an employee who is handling the investment of those 1805 assets, or an employee who is providing advice and opinions 1806 regarding the investment of those assets, as applicable, has been 1807 convicted of or pleaded guilty to a financial or investment crime, 1808 the investment manager or, business entity, or investment 1809 consultant immediately shall notify the administrator. 1810

sec. 4123.447. When in the judgment of the administrator of 1811 workers' compensation it is necessary to provide available funds 1812 for the payment of compensation or benefits under this chapter or 1813 Chapter 4121., 4127., or 4131. of the Revised Code, the 1814 administrator may borrow money from any available source, deposit 1815 the money received in the bureau of workers' compensation 1816 custodial fund from which such compensation and benefits are paid, 1817 and pledge as security a sufficient amount of bonds or other 1818 securities in which the assets of that fund are invested. The 1819 aggregate unpaid amount of loans existing at any one time for 1820 money so borrowed shall not exceed ten million dollars. The bonds 1821 or other securities so pledged as security for such loans to the 1822

administrator shall be the sole security for the payment of the	1823
principal and interest of any such loan. The administrator shall	1824
not be personally liable for the payment of the principal or the	1825
<u>interest of any such loan. No such loan shall be made for a longer</u>	1826
period of time than one year. Such loans may be renewed but no one	1827
renewal shall be for a period in excess of one year. Such loans	1828
shall bear such rate of interest as the administrator determines	1829
and in negotiating the loans, the administrator shall endeavor to	1830
secure as favorable interest rates and terms as circumstances will	1831
permit.	1832
The treasurer of state may deliver to the person or	1833
governmental agency making such loan, the bonds or other	1834
securities which are to be pledged by the administrator as	1835
security for such loan, upon receipt by the treasurer of state of	1836
an order of the administrator authorizing such loan. Upon payment	1837
of any such loan by the administrator, the bonds or other	1838
securities pledged as security therefor shall be returned to the	1839
treasurer of state as custodian of such bonds.	1840
The administrator may pledge with the treasurer of state such	1841
amount of bonds or other securities in which the assets of the	1842
particular bureau of workers' compensation custodial fund are	1843
invested as is reasonably necessary as security for any	1844
certificates issued, or paid out, by the treasurer of state upon	1845
any warrants drawn by the administrator.	1846

Sec. 4123.443 4123.448. Rental payments by the bureau of 1847 workers' compensation or the industrial commission to or for the 1848 benefit of the state insurance fund for each building owned by the 1849 bureau that was constructed or acquired as an investment in 1850 productive real estate, shall be made pursuant to a lease 1851 agreement for a term that shall not exceed two years. Beginning 1852 July 1, 1991, the rental payments to be made under each such lease 1853

agreement shall include the amount needed to amortize the 1854 construction or acquisition costs for the building over a period 1855 not to exceed twenty-five years, and, until such costs are 1856 amortized, an amount representing return on investment to the 1857 state insurance fund determined by multiplying the unamortized 1858 acquisition or construction costs of the building by a rate that 1859 is not more than three per cent below the rate determined by the 1860 tax commissioner under division (B) of section 5703.47 of the 1861 Revised Code. 1862

Sec. 4127.05. The premiums, collected under this chapter 1863 shall be paid into a separate fund to be known as the "public 1864 work-relief employees' compensation fund," and all compensation, 1865 death benefits, and expenses for medical, nurse, and hospital 1866 services, medicine, and funerals, shall be paid out of the fund. 1867

Such premiums shall be collected, the moneys of the fund 1868 disbursed and the fund maintained, without regard to or reliance 1869 upon any other fund mentioned in Chapter 4123. of the Revised 1870 Code. 1871

This section shall not prevent the deposit or investment of 1872 the moneys of the public work-relief employees' compensation fund 1873 with the moneys of the state insurance fund provided for in 1874 Chapter 4123. of the Revised Code, but such funds shall be 1875 separate for all other purposes. 1876

The administrator of workers' compensation may invest the 1877 surplus and reserve belonging to the fund in accordance with 1878 section 4123.44 of the Revised Code. 1879

Sec. 4131.03. (A) For the relief of persons who are entitled 1880 to receive benefits by virtue of the federal act, there is hereby 1881 established a coal-workers pneumoconiosis fund, which shall be 1882 separate from the funds established and administered pursuant to 1883

Chapter 4123. of the Revised Code. The fund shall consist of 1884 premiums and other payments thereto by subscribers who elect to 1885 subscribe to the fund to insure the payment of benefits required 1886 by the federal act. 1887

(B) The coal-workers pneumoconiosis fund shall be in the 1888 custody of the treasurer of state. The bureau of workers' 1889 compensation shall make disbursements from the fund to those 1890 persons entitled to payment therefrom and in the amounts required 1891 pursuant to sections 4131.01 to 4131.06 of the Revised Code. All 1892 investment earnings of the fund shall be credited to the fund. 1893

(C) The administrator of workers' compensation shall have the 1894 same powers to may invest any of the surplus or and reserve 1895 belonging to the coal-workers pneumoconiosis fund as are delegated 1896 to him under in accordance with section 4123.44 of the Revised 1897 Code with respect to the state insurance fund. 1898

(D) If the administrator determines that reinsurance of the 1899 risks of the coal-workers pneumoconiosis fund is necessary to 1900 assure solvency of the fund, he the administrator may: 1901

(1) Enter into contracts for the purchase of reinsurance 1902 coverage of the risks of the fund with any company or agency 1903 authorized by law to issue contracts of reinsurance; 1904

(2) Pay the cost of reinsurance from the fund;

(3) Include the costs of reinsurance as a liability and 1906 estimated liability of the fund. 1907

Sec. 4131.13. (A) For the relief of persons who are entitled 1908 to receive benefits by virtue of the federal act, there is hereby 1909 established a marine industry fund, which shall be separate from 1910 the funds established and administered pursuant to Chapter 4123. 1911 of the Revised Code. The marine industry fund shall consist of 1912 premiums and other payments thereto by marine industry employers 1913

who apply to the bureau of workers' compensation for permission to 1914 subscribe to the fund to insure the payment of benefits required 1915 by the federal act. 1916

By rule, the administrator of workers' compensation shall 1917 establish criteria for the acceptance or rejection of applications 1918 by marine industry employers who apply to subscribe to the fund. 1919

(B) The marine industry fund shall be in the custody of the 1920 treasurer of state. The bureau shall make disbursements from the 1921 fund to those persons entitled to payment therefrom and in the 1922 amounts required pursuant to the federal act. The auditor of state 1923 annually shall complete a fiscal audit of the fund. All investment 1924 earnings of the fund shall be credited to the fund. 1925

(C) The administrator shall have the same powers to may
1926
invest any of the surplus or and reserve belonging to the marine
industry fund as are delegated to him under in accordance with
section 4123.44 of the Revised Code with respect to the state
insurance fund.

(D) If the bureau of workers' compensation board of directors 1931
 determines that reinsurance of the risks of the marine industry 1932
 fund is necessary to assure solvency of the fund, the board may: 1933

(1) Enter into contracts for the purchase of reinsurance
coverage of the risks of the fund with any company or agency
authorized by law to issue contracts of reinsurance;
1936

(2) Require the administrator to pay the cost of reinsurance 1937from the fund; 1938

(3) Include the costs of reinsurance as a liability andestimated liability of the fund.1940

(E) For the purpose of maintaining the solvency of the marine
 industry fund, the administrator may borrow money from the state
 insurance fund as is necessary. Money borrowed from the state
 1943

insurance fund shall be repaid from the marine industry fund 1944 together with an appropriate interest rate not to exceed the 1945 average yield of fixed income investments of the state insurance 1946 fund for the six-month period ended on the last day of the month 1947 preceding the month in which the money is borrowed. Loans made 1948 pursuant to this division are a proper investment of the surplus 1949 or reserve of the state insurance fund. 1950

(F) In no event shall any of the assets of any of the funds
1951
created and administered pursuant to Chapter 4123. of the Revised
1952
Code be disbursed in payment of any cost or obligation of or
1953
insured by the marine industry fund. This division shall not be
1954
construed to prohibit as a proper investment loans made from the
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state insurance fund to the marine industry fund pursuant to
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division (E) of this section.

Section 2. That existing sections 109.579, 4121.12, 4121.121,19584123.01, 4123.34, 4123.351, 4123.412, 4123.44, 4123.442, 4123.443,19594123.444, 4123.445, 4127.05, 4131.03, and 4131.13 of the Revised1960Code are hereby repealed.1961

Section 3. The Bureau of Workers' Compensation Board of 1962 Directors shall approve an investment policy that meets the 1963 requirements of sections 4121.12 and 4123.442 of the Revised Code, 1964 as amended by this act, no later than ninety days after the 1965 effective date of this act. The investment policy in existence on 1966 the effective date of this act shall remain in effect until the 1967 Board approves the new investment policy. 1968

Section 4. This act applies to investments made on or after 1969 the effective date of the investment policy approved by the Bureau 1970 of Workers' Compensation Board of Directors pursuant to Section 3 1971 of this act. 1972