As Passed by the Senate

128th General Assembly Regular Session 2009-2010

S. B. No. 238

Senator Seitz

Cosponsors: Senators Grendell, Cates, Stewart, Jones, Niehaus, Schaffer, Gibbs, Schuring, Buehrer, Hughes, Harris, Patton, Widener

A BILL

То	amend sections 2743.02, 2744.02, 4123.01, and	1
	4123.511 and to enact sections 2307.82, 4123.513,	2
	4123.514, and 4123.515 of the Revised Code to	3
	prohibit illegal and unauthorized aliens from	4
	receiving compensation and benefits under Ohio's	5
	Workers' Compensation Law	6

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

Section 1. That sections 2743.02, 2744.02, 4123.01, and	./
4123.511 be amended and sections 2307.82, 4123.513, 4123.514, and	8
4123.515 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as follows:	9
Sec. 2307.82. (A) As used in this section, "employer,"	10
"illegal alien," "Immigration Reform and Control Act,"	11
"occupational disease," and "unauthorized alien" have the same	12
meanings as in section 4123.01 of the Revised Code.	13
(B) Except as provided in division (C) of this section, no	14
court in this state has jurisdiction over a claim for damages	15
suffered by an illegal alien or an unauthorized alien by reason of	16
personal injury sustained or occupational disease contracted by	17
the illegal alien or unauthorized alien in the course of	18

Control Act.

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employment caused by the wrongful act or omission or neglect of	19
the employer. Except as provided in division (C) of this section,	20
an illegal alien or unauthorized alien assumes the risk of	21
incurring such injury or contracting an occupational disease, and	22
that assumption is a complete bar to a recovery of damages for	23
such injury or occupational disease.	24
(C) A court in this state has jurisdiction over a claim	25
brought by an illegal alien or unauthorized alien against an	26
employer for damages suffered by reason of personal injury	27
sustained or occupational disease contracted in the course of	28
employment caused by the wrongful act or omission or neglect of	29
the employer if the employer employed the illegal alien or	30

Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent an

illegal alien or an unauthorized alien from bringing a claim

against an employer in a court of competent jurisdiction for an

intentional tort allegedly committed by the employer against the

illegal alien or unauthorized alien.

unauthorized alien knowing that the illegal alien or unauthorized

alien was not authorized to work under the Immigration Reform and

Sec. 2743.02. (A)(1) The state hereby waives its immunity 39 from liability, except as provided for the office of the state 40 fire marshal in division (G)(1) of section 9.60 and, division (B) 41 of section 3737.221 of the Revised Code, and division (I) of this 42 section and subject to division (H) of this section, and consents 43 to be sued, and have its liability determined, in the court of 44 claims created in this chapter in accordance with the same rules 45 of law applicable to suits between private parties, except that 46 the determination of liability is subject to the limitations set 47 forth in this chapter and, in the case of state universities or 48 colleges, in section 3345.40 of the Revised Code, and except as 49

provided in division (A)(2) or (3) of this section. To the extent that the state has previously consented to be sued, this chapter has no applicability.

Except in the case of a civil action filed by the state, filing a civil action in the court of claims results in a complete waiver of any cause of action, based on the same act or omission, which the filing party has against any officer or employee, as defined in section 109.36 of the Revised Code. The waiver shall be void if the court determines that the act or omission was manifestly outside the scope of the officer's or employee's office or employment or that the officer or employee acted with malicious purpose, in bad faith, or in a wanton or reckless manner.

- (2) If a claimant proves in the court of claims that an officer or employee, as defined in section 109.36 of the Revised Code, would have personal liability for the officer's or employee's acts or omissions but for the fact that the officer or employee has personal immunity under section 9.86 of the Revised Code, the state shall be held liable in the court of claims in any action that is timely filed pursuant to section 2743.16 of the Revised Code and that is based upon the acts or omissions.
- (3)(a) Except as provided in division (A)(3)(b) of this section, the state is immune from liability in any civil action or proceeding involving the performance or nonperformance of a public duty, including the performance or nonperformance of a public duty that is owed by the state in relation to any action of an individual who is committed to the custody of the state.
- (b) The state immunity provided in division (A)(3)(a) of this 76 section does not apply to any action of the state under 77 circumstances in which a special relationship can be established 78 between the state and an injured party. A special relationship 79 under this division is demonstrated if all of the following 80 elements exist:

(i) An assumption by the state, by means of promises or	82
actions, of an affirmative duty to act on behalf of the party who	83
was allegedly injured;	84
(ii) Knowledge on the part of the state's agents that	85
inaction of the state could lead to harm;	86
(iii) Some form of direct contact between the state's agents	87
and the injured party;	88
(iv) The injured party's justifiable reliance on the state's	89
affirmative undertaking.	90
(B) The state hereby waives the immunity from liability of	91
all hospitals owned or operated by one or more political	92
subdivisions and consents for them to be sued, and to have their	93
liability determined, in the court of common pleas, in accordance	94
with the same rules of law applicable to suits between private	95
parties, subject to the limitations set forth in this chapter.	96
This division is also applicable to hospitals owned or operated by	97
political subdivisions which have been determined by the supreme	98
court to be subject to suit prior to July 28, 1975.	99
(C) Any hospital, as defined in section 2305.113 of the	100
Revised Code, may purchase liability insurance covering its	101
operations and activities and its agents, employees, nurses,	102
interns, residents, staff, and members of the governing board and	103
committees, and, whether or not such insurance is purchased, may,	104
to such extent as its governing board considers appropriate,	105
indemnify or agree to indemnify and hold harmless any such person	106
against expense, including attorney's fees, damage, loss, or other	107
liability arising out of, or claimed to have arisen out of, the	108
death, disease, or injury of any person as a result of the	109
negligence, malpractice, or other action or inaction of the	110
indemnified person while acting within the scope of the	111

indemnified person's duties or engaged in activities at the

request or direction, or for the benefit, of the hospital. Any	113
hospital electing to indemnify such persons, or to agree to so	114
indemnify, shall reserve such funds as are necessary, in the	115
exercise of sound and prudent actuarial judgment, to cover the	116
potential expense, fees, damage, loss, or other liability. The	117
superintendent of insurance may recommend, or, if such hospital	118
requests the superintendent to do so, the superintendent shall	119
recommend, a specific amount for any period that, in the	120
superintendent's opinion, represents such a judgment. This	121
authority is in addition to any authorization otherwise provided	122
or permitted by law.	123

- (D) Recoveries against the state shall be reduced by the 124 aggregate of insurance proceeds, disability award, or other 125 collateral recovery received by the claimant. This division does 126 not apply to civil actions in the court of claims against a state 127 university or college under the circumstances described in section 128 3345.40 of the Revised Code. The collateral benefits provisions of 129 division (B)(2) of that section apply under those circumstances. 130
- (E) The only defendant in original actions in the court of 131 claims is the state. The state may file a third-party complaint or 132 counterclaim in any civil action, except a civil action for two 133 thousand five hundred dollars or less, that is filed in the court 134 of claims.
- (F) A civil action against an officer or employee, as defined 136 in section 109.36 of the Revised Code, that alleges that the 137 officer's or employee's conduct was manifestly outside the scope 138 of the officer's or employee's employment or official 139 responsibilities, or that the officer or employee acted with 140 malicious purpose, in bad faith, or in a wanton or reckless manner 141 shall first be filed against the state in the court of claims, 142 which has exclusive, original jurisdiction to determine, 143 initially, whether the officer or employee is entitled to personal 144

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immunity under section 9.86 of the Revised Code and whether the	145
courts of common pleas have jurisdiction over the civil action.	146
The officer or employee may participate in the immunity	147
determination proceeding before the court of claims to determine	148
whether the officer or employee is entitled to personal immunity	149
under section 9.86 of the Revised Code.	150

The filing of a claim against an officer or employee under this division tolls the running of the applicable statute of limitations until the court of claims determines whether the officer or employee is entitled to personal immunity under section 9.86 of the Revised Code.

- (G) Whenever a claim lies against an officer or employee who 156 is a member of the Ohio national guard, and the officer or 157 employee was, at the time of the act or omission complained of, 158 subject to the "Federal Tort Claims Act," 60 Stat. 842 (1946), 28 159 U.S.C. 2671, et seq., then the Federal Tort Claims Act is the exclusive remedy of the claimant and the state has no liability 161 under this section.
- (H) If an inmate of a state correctional institution has a 163 claim against the state for the loss of or damage to property and 164 the amount claimed does not exceed three hundred dollars, before 165 commencing an action against the state in the court of claims, the 166 inmate shall file a claim for the loss or damage under the rules 167 adopted by the director of rehabilitation and correction pursuant 168 to this division. The inmate shall file the claim within the time 169 allowed for commencement of a civil action under section 2743.16 170 of the Revised Code. If the state admits or compromises the claim, 171 the director shall make payment from a fund designated by the 172 director for that purpose. If the state denies the claim or does 173 not compromise the claim at least sixty days prior to expiration 174 of the time allowed for commencement of a civil action based upon 175 the loss or damage under section 2743.16 of the Revised Code, the 176

unauthorized alien for damages suffered by reason of personal

injury sustained or occupational disease contracted in the course

of employment caused by the wrongful act or omission or neglect of

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the political subdivision acting as an employer unless the	208
political subdivision employed that illegal alien or unauthorized	209
alien knowing that the illegal alien or unauthorized alien was not	210
authorized to work under the Immigration Reform and Control Act.	211
As used in this division, "illegal alien," "Immigration	212
Reform and Control Act," "occupational disease," and "unauthorized	213
alien" have the same meanings as in section 4123.01 of the Revised	214
Code.	215
(2) The defenses and immunities conferred under this chapter	216
apply in connection with all governmental and proprietary	217
functions performed by a political subdivision and its employees,	218
whether performed on behalf of that political subdivision or on	219
behalf of another political subdivision.	220
(3) Subject to statutory limitations upon their monetary	221
jurisdiction, the courts of common pleas, the municipal courts,	222
and the county courts have jurisdiction to hear and determine	223
civil actions governed by or brought pursuant to this chapter.	224
(B) Subject to sections 2744.03 and 2744.05 of the Revised	225
Code, a political subdivision is liable in damages in a civil	226
action for injury, death, or loss to person or property allegedly	227
caused by an act or omission of the political subdivision or of	228
any of its employees in connection with a governmental or	229
proprietary function, as follows:	230
(1) Except as otherwise provided in this division, political	231
subdivisions are liable for injury, death, or loss to person or	232
property caused by the negligent operation of any motor vehicle by	233
their employees when the employees are engaged within the scope of	234
their employment and authority. The following are full defenses to	235
that liability:	236
(a) A member of a municipal corporation police department or	237

any other police agency was operating a motor vehicle while

responding to an emergency call and the operation of the vehicle 239 did not constitute willful or wanton misconduct; 240

- (b) A member of a municipal corporation fire department or 241 any other firefighting agency was operating a motor vehicle while 242 engaged in duty at a fire, proceeding toward a place where a fire 243 is in progress or is believed to be in progress, or answering any 244 other emergency alarm and the operation of the vehicle did not 245 constitute willful or wanton misconduct; 246
- (c) A member of an emergency medical service owned or 247 operated by a political subdivision was operating a motor vehicle 248 while responding to or completing a call for emergency medical 249 care or treatment, the member was holding a valid commercial 250 driver's license issued pursuant to Chapter 4506. or a driver's 251 license issued pursuant to Chapter 4507. of the Revised Code, the 252 operation of the vehicle did not constitute willful or wanton 253 misconduct, and the operation complies with the precautions of 254 section 4511.03 of the Revised Code. 255
- (2) Except as otherwise provided in sections 3314.07 and 256 3746.24 of the Revised Code, political subdivisions are liable for 257 injury, death, or loss to person or property caused by the 258 negligent performance of acts by their employees with respect to 259 proprietary functions of the political subdivisions. 260
- (3) Except as otherwise provided in section 3746.24 of the 261 Revised Code, political subdivisions are liable for injury, death, 262 or loss to person or property caused by their negligent failure to 263 keep public roads in repair and other negligent failure to remove 264 obstructions from public roads, except that it is a full defense 265 to that liability, when a bridge within a municipal corporation is 266 involved, that the municipal corporation does not have the 267 responsibility for maintaining or inspecting the bridge. 268
 - (4) Except as otherwise provided in section 3746.24 of the

Revised Code, political subdivisions are liable for injury, death,	270
or loss to person or property that is caused by the negligence of	271
their employees and that occurs within or on the grounds of, and	272
is due to physical defects within or on the grounds of, buildings	273
that are used in connection with the performance of a governmental	274
function, including, but not limited to, office buildings and	275
courthouses, but not including jails, places of juvenile	276
detention, workhouses, or any other detention facility, as defined	277
in section 2921.01 of the Revised Code.	278
(5) In addition to the circumstances described in divisions	279
(B)(1) to (4) of this section, a political subdivision is liable	280
for injury, death, or loss to person or property when civil	281
liability is expressly imposed upon the political subdivision by a	282
section of the Revised Code, including, but not limited to,	283
sections 2743.02 and 5591.37 of the Revised Code. Civil liability	284
shall not be construed to exist under another section of the	285
Revised Code merely because that section imposes a responsibility	286
or mandatory duty upon a political subdivision, because that	287
section provides for a criminal penalty, because of a general	288
authorization in that section that a political subdivision may sue	289
and be sued, or because that section uses the term "shall" in a	290
provision pertaining to a political subdivision.	291
(C) An order that denies a political subdivision or an	292
employee of a political subdivision the benefit of an alleged	293
immunity from liability as provided in this chapter or any other	294
provision of the law is a final order.	295
Sec. 4123.01. As used in this chapter:	296
and the contract of the contra	•

(a) Every person in the service of the state, or of anycounty, municipal corporation, township, or school districttherein, including regular members of lawfully constituted police300

(A)(1) "Employee" means:

and fire departments of municipal corporations and townships,	301
whether paid or volunteer, and wherever serving within the state	302
or on temporary assignment outside thereof, and executive officers	303
of boards of education, under any appointment or contract of hire,	304
express or implied, oral or written, including any elected	305
official of the state, or of any county, municipal corporation, or	306
township, or members of boards of education.	307
As used in division $(A)(1)(a)$ of this section, the term	308

"employee" includes the following persons when responding to an 309 inherently dangerous situation that calls for an immediate 310 response on the part of the person, regardless of whether the 311 person is within the limits of the jurisdiction of the person's 312 regular employment or voluntary service when responding, on the 313 condition that the person responds to the situation as the person 314 otherwise would if the person were on duty in the person's 315 jurisdiction: 316

- (i) Off-duty peace officers. As used in division (A)(1)(a)(i)317of this section, "peace officer" has the same meaning as in318section 2935.01 of the Revised Code.
- (ii) Off-duty firefighters, whether paid or volunteer, of alawfully constituted fire department.320
- (iii) Off-duty first responders, emergency medical 322 technicians-basic, emergency medical technicians-intermediate, or 323 emergency medical technicians-paramedic, whether paid or 324 volunteer, of an ambulance service organization or emergency 325 medical service organization pursuant to Chapter 4765. of the 326 Revised Code.
- (b) Every person in the service of any person, firm, or 328 private corporation, including any public service corporation, 329 that (i) employs one or more persons regularly in the same 330 business or in or about the same establishment under any contract 331

of hire, express or implied, oral or written, including aliens and	332
authorized to work by the United States department of homeland	333
security or its successor; minors; household workers who earn one	334
hundred sixty dollars or more in cash in any calendar quarter from	335
a single household: and casual workers who earn one hundred sixty	336
dollars or more in cash in any calendar quarter from a single	337
employer τ_i or (ii) is bound by any such contract of hire or by any	338
other written contract, to pay into the state insurance fund the	339
premiums provided by this chapter.	340
(c) Every person who performs labor or provides services	341
pursuant to a construction contract, as defined in section 4123.79	342
of the Revised Code, if at least ten of the following criteria	343
apply:	344
(i) The person is required to comply with instructions from	345
the other contracting party regarding the manner or method of	346
performing services;	347
(ii) The person is required by the other contracting party to	348
have particular training;	349
(iii) The person's services are integrated into the regular	350
functioning of the other contracting party;	351
(iv) The person is required to perform the work personally;	352
(v) The person is hired, supervised, or paid by the other	353
contracting party;	354
(vi) A continuing relationship exists between the person and	355
the other contracting party that contemplates continuing or	356
recurring work even if the work is not full time;	357
(vii) The person's hours of work are established by the other	358
contracting party;	359
(viii) The person is required to devote full time to the	360
business of the other contracting party;	361

(ix) The person is required to perform the work on the	362
premises of the other contracting party;	363
(x) The person is required to follow the order of work set by the other contracting party;	364 365
(xi) The person is required to make oral or written reports of progress to the other contracting party;	366 367
(xii) The person is paid for services on a regular basis such as hourly, weekly, or monthly;	368 369
(xiii) The person's expenses are paid for by the other contracting party;	370 371
(xiv) The person's tools and materials are furnished by the other contracting party;	372 373
<pre>(xv) The person is provided with the facilities used to perform services;</pre>	374 375
(xvi) The person does not realize a profit or suffer a loss as a result of the services provided;	376 377
(xvii) The person is not performing services for a number of employers at the same time;	378 379
(xviii) The person does not make the same services available to the general public;	380 381
(xix) The other contracting party has a right to discharge the person;	382 383
(xx) The person has the right to end the relationship with the other contracting party without incurring liability pursuant to an employment contract or agreement.	384 385 386
Every person in the service of any independent contractor or subcontractor who has failed to pay into the state insurance fund the amount of premium determined and fixed by the administrator of	387 388 389
workers' compensation for the person's employment or occupation or	390

if a self-insuring employer has failed to pay compensation and	391
benefits directly to the employer's injured and to the dependents	392
of the employer's killed employees as required by section 4123.35	393
of the Revised Code, shall be considered as the employee of the	394
person who has entered into a contract, whether written or verbal,	395
with such independent contractor unless such employees or their	396
legal representatives or beneficiaries elect, after injury or	397
death, to regard such independent contractor as the employer.	398
(d) Every person to whom all of the following apply:	399
(i) The person is a resident of a state other than this state	400
and is covered by that other state's workers' compensation law;	401
(ii) The person performs labor or provides services for that	402
person's employer while temporarily within this state;	403
(iii) The laws of that other state do not include the	404
provisions described in division (H)(4) of section 4123.54 of the	405
Revised Code.	406
(2) "Employee" does not mean any of the following:	407
(a) A duly ordained, commissioned, or licensed minister or	408
assistant or associate minister of a church in the exercise of	409
ministry;	410
(b) Any officer of a family farm corporation;	411
(c) An individual incorporated as a corporation; ox	412
(d) An individual who otherwise is an employee of an employer	413
but who signs the waiver and affidavit specified in section	414
4123.15 of the Revised Code on the condition that the	415
administrator has granted a waiver and exception to the	416
individual's employer under section 4123.15 of the Revised Code $\underline{:}$	417
(e) An illegal alien or an unauthorized alien.	418
Any employer may elect to include as an "employee" within	419
this chapter, any person excluded from the definition of	420

"employee" pursuant to division <u>divisions</u> (A)(2)(a) to (d) of this	421
section. If an employer is a partnership, sole proprietorship,	422
individual incorporated as a corporation, or family farm	423
corporation, such employer may elect to include as an "employee"	424
within this chapter, any member of such partnership, the owner of	425
the sole proprietorship, the individual incorporated as a	426
corporation, or the officers of the family farm corporation. In	427
the event of an election, the employer shall serve upon the bureau	428
of workers' compensation written notice naming the persons to be	429
covered, include such employee's remuneration for premium purposes	430
in all future payroll reports, and no person excluded from the	431
definition of "employee" pursuant to $\frac{\text{division}}{\text{divisions}}$ (A)(2)(a)	432
to (d) of this section, proprietor, individual incorporated as a	433
corporation, or partner shall be deemed an employee within this	434
division until the employer has served such notice.	435

For informational purposes only, the bureau shall prescribe 436 such language as it considers appropriate, on such of its forms as 437 it considers appropriate, to advise employers of their right to 438 elect to include as an "employee" within this chapter a sole 439 proprietor, any member of a partnership, an individual 440 incorporated as a corporation, the officers of a family farm 441 corporation, or a person excluded from the definition of 442 "employee" under division divisions (A)(2)(a) to (d) of this 443 section, that they should check any health and disability 444 insurance policy, or other form of health and disability plan or 445 contract, presently covering them, or the purchase of which they 446 may be considering, to determine whether such policy, plan, or 447 contract excludes benefits for illness or injury that they might 448 have elected to have covered by workers' compensation. 449

(B) "Employer" means:

(1) The state, including state hospitals, each county, 451 municipal corporation, township, school district, and hospital 452

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owned	by	a	political	subdivision	or	subdivisions	other	than	the	453
state	;									454

(2) Every person, firm, professional employer organization as 455 defined in section 4125.01 of the Revised Code, and private 456 corporation, including any public service corporation, that (a) 457 has in service one or more employees or shared employees regularly 458 in the same business or in or about the same establishment under 459 any contract of hire, express or implied, oral or written, or (b) 460 is bound by any such contract of hire or by any other written 461 contract, to pay into the insurance fund the premiums provided by 462 this chapter. 463

All such employers are subject to this chapter. Any member of 464 a firm or association, who regularly performs manual labor in or 465 about a mine, factory, or other establishment, including a 466 household establishment, shall be considered an employee in 467 determining whether such person, firm, or private corporation, or 468 public service corporation, has in its service, one or more 469 employees and the employer shall report the income derived from 470 such labor to the bureau as part of the payroll of such employer, 471 and such member shall thereupon be entitled to all the benefits of 472 an employee. 473

- (C) "Injury" includes any injury, whether caused by external 474 accidental means or accidental in character and result, received 475 in the course of, and arising out of, the injured employee's 476 employment. "Injury" does not include: 477
- (1) Psychiatric conditions except where the claimant's 478
 psychiatric conditions have arisen from an injury or occupational 479
 disease sustained by that claimant or where the claimant's 480
 psychiatric conditions have arisen from sexual conduct in which 481
 the claimant was forced by threat of physical harm to engage or 482
 participate; 483

- (2) Injury or disability caused primarily by the natural 484 deterioration of tissue, an organ, or part of the body; 485
- (3) Injury or disability incurred in voluntary participation 486 in an employer-sponsored recreation or fitness activity if the 487 employee signs a waiver of the employee's right to compensation or 488 benefits under this chapter prior to engaging in the recreation or 489 fitness activity;
- (4) A condition that pre-existed an injury unless that 491 pre-existing condition is substantially aggravated by the injury. 492 Such a substantial aggravation must be documented by objective 493 diagnostic findings, objective clinical findings, or objective 494 test results. Subjective complaints may be evidence of such a 495 substantial aggravation. However, subjective complaints without 496 objective diagnostic findings, objective clinical findings, or 497 objective test results are insufficient to substantiate a 498 substantial aggravation. 499
- (D) "Child" includes a posthumous child and a child legally 500 adopted prior to the injury. 501
- (E) "Family farm corporation" means a corporation founded for 502 the purpose of farming agricultural land in which the majority of 503 the voting stock is held by and the majority of the stockholders 504 are persons or the spouse of persons related to each other within 505 the fourth degree of kinship, according to the rules of the civil 506 law, and at least one of the related persons is residing on or 507 actively operating the farm, and none of whose stockholders are a 508 corporation. A family farm corporation does not cease to qualify 509 under this division where, by reason of any devise, bequest, or 510 the operation of the laws of descent or distribution, the 511 ownership of shares of voting stock is transferred to another 512 person, as long as that person is within the degree of kinship 513 stipulated in this division. 514

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(F) "Occupational disease" means a disease contracted in the 515 course of employment, which by its causes and the characteristics 516 of its manifestation or the condition of the employment results in 517 a hazard which distinguishes the employment in character from 518 employment generally, and the employment creates a risk of 519 contracting the disease in greater degree and in a different 520 manner from the public in general. 521 (G) "Self-insuring employer" means an employer who is granted 522 the privilege of paying compensation and benefits directly under 523 section 4123.35 of the Revised Code, including a board of county 524 commissioners for the sole purpose of constructing a sports 525 facility as defined in section 307.696 of the Revised Code, 526 provided that the electors of the county in which the sports 527 facility is to be built have approved construction of a sports 528 facility by ballot election no later than November 6, 1997. 529 (H) "Public employer" means an employer as defined in 530 division (B)(1) of this section. 531 (I) "Sexual conduct" means vaginal intercourse between a male 532 and female; anal intercourse, fellatio, and cunnilingus between 533 persons regardless of gender; and, without privilege to do so, the 534 insertion, however slight, of any part of the body or any 535 instrument, apparatus, or other object into the vaginal or anal 536 cavity of another. Penetration, however slight, is sufficient to 537 complete vaginal or anal intercourse. 538 (J) "Other-states' insurer" means an insurance company that 539 is authorized to provide workers' compensation insurance coverage 540 in any of the states that permit employers to obtain insurance for 541 workers' compensation claims through insurance companies. 542

(K) "Other-states' coverage" means insurance coverage

purchased by an employer for workers' compensation claims that

arise in a state or states other than this state and that are

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shall provide written verification of the information to the	576
bureau according to division (E) of section 4123.84 of the Revised	577
Code. The receipt of the information in writing or facsimile, or	578
if initially by telephone, the subsequent written verification,	579
and the notice by the bureau shall be considered an application	580
for compensation under section 4123.84 or 4123.85 of the Revised	581
Code, provided that the conditions of division (E) of section	582
4123.84 of the Revised Code apply to information provided verbally	583
over the telephone. Upon receipt of a claim, the bureau shall	584
advise the claimant of the claim number assigned and the	585
claimant's right to representation in the processing of a claim or	586
to elect no representation. Within twenty-eight days after the	587
employee or claimant receives the notification of a claim from the	588
bureau, the employee or claimant shall submit a copy of the	589
documentation described in section 4123.513 of the Revised Code to	590
the administrator of workers' compensation. If the bureau	591
determines that a claim is determined to be a compensable	592
lost-time claim, the bureau shall notify the claimant and the	593
employer of the availability of rehabilitation services. No bureau	594
or industrial commission employee shall directly or indirectly	595
convey any information in derogation of this right. This section	596
shall in no way abrogate the bureau's responsibility to aid and	597
assist a claimant in the filing of a claim and to advise the	598
claimant of the claimant's rights under the law.	599

The administrator of workers' compensation shall assign all 600 claims and investigations to the bureau service office from which 601 investigation and determination may be made most expeditiously. 602

The bureau shall investigate the facts concerning an injury or occupational disease and ascertain such facts in whatever manner is most appropriate and may obtain statements of the employee, employer, attending physician, and witnesses in whatever manner is most appropriate.

The administrator, with the advice and consent of the bureau 608 of workers' compensation board of directors, may adopt rules that 609 identify specified medical conditions that have a historical 610 record of being allowed whenever included in a claim. The 611 administrator may grant immediate allowance of any medical 612 condition identified in those rules upon the filing of a claim 613 involving that medical condition and may make immediate payment of 614 medical bills for any medical condition identified in those rules 615 that is included in a claim. If an employer contests the allowance 616 of a claim involving any medical condition identified in those 617 rules, and the claim is disallowed, payment for the medical 618 condition included in that claim shall be charged to and paid from 619 the surplus fund created under section 4123.34 of the Revised 620 Code. 621

(B)(1) Except as provided in division (B)(2) of this section 622 and in section 4123.513 of the Revised Code, in claims other than 623 those in which the employer is a self-insuring employer, if the 624 administrator determines under division (A) of this section that a 625 claimant is or is not entitled to an award of compensation or 626 benefits, the administrator shall issue an order no later than 627 twenty-eight days after the sending of the notice under division 628 (A) of this section, granting or denying the payment of the 629 compensation or benefits, or both as is appropriate to the 630 claimant. Notwithstanding the time limitation specified in this 631 division for the issuance of an order, if a medical examination of 632 the claimant is required by statute, the administrator promptly 633 shall schedule the claimant for that examination and shall issue 634 an order no later than twenty-eight days after receipt of the 635 report of the examination. The administrator shall notify the 636 claimant and the employer of the claimant and their respective 637 representatives in writing of the nature of the order and the 638 amounts of compensation and benefit payments involved. The 639 employer or claimant may appeal the order pursuant to division (C) 640

of this section within fourteen days after the date of the receipt
of the order. The employer and claimant may waive, in writing,
their rights to an appeal under this division.
642

- (2) Notwithstanding the time limitation specified in division 644 (B)(1) of this section for the issuance of an order, if the 645 employer certifies a claim for payment of compensation or 646 benefits, or both, to a claimant, and the administrator has 647 completed the investigation of the claim, the payment of benefits 648 or compensation, or both, as is appropriate, shall commence upon 649 the later of the date of the certification or completion of the 650 investigation and issuance of the order by the administrator, 651 provided that the administrator shall issue the order no later 652 than the time limitation specified in division (B)(1) of this 653 section. 654
- (3) If an appeal is made under division (B)(1) or (2) of this 655 section, the administrator shall forward the claim file to the 656 appropriate district hearing officer within seven days of the 657 appeal. In contested claims other than state fund claims, the 658 administrator shall forward the claim within seven days of the 659 administrator's receipt of the claim to the industrial commission, 660 which shall refer the claim to an appropriate district hearing 661 officer for a hearing in accordance with division (C) of this 662 section. 663
- (C) If an employer or claimant timely appeals the order of 664 the administrator issued under division (B) of this section or in 665 the case of other contested claims other than state fund claims, 666 the commission shall refer the claim to an appropriate district 667 hearing officer according to rules the commission adopts under 668 section 4121.36 of the Revised Code. The district hearing officer 669 shall notify the parties and their respective representatives of 670 the time and place of the hearing. 671

The district hearing officer shall hold a hearing on a

disputed issue or claim within forty-five days after the filing of
the appeal under this division and issue a decision within seven
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days after holding the hearing. The district hearing officer shall
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notify the parties and their respective representatives in writing
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of the order. Any party may appeal an order issued under this
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division pursuant to division (D) of this section within fourteen
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days after receipt of the order under this division.

- (D) Upon the timely filing of an appeal of the order of the 680 district hearing officer issued under division (C) of this 681 section, the commission shall refer the claim file to an 682 appropriate staff hearing officer according to its rules adopted 683 under section 4121.36 of the Revised Code. The staff hearing 684 officer shall hold a hearing within forty-five days after the 685 filing of an appeal under this division and issue a decision 686 within seven days after holding the hearing under this division. 687 The staff hearing officer shall notify the parties and their 688 respective representatives in writing of the staff hearing 689 officer's order. Any party may appeal an order issued under this 690 division pursuant to division (E) of this section within fourteen 691 days after receipt of the order under this division. 692
- (E) Upon the filing of a timely appeal of the order of the 693 staff hearing officer issued under division (D) of this section, 694 the commission or a designated staff hearing officer, on behalf of 695 the commission, shall determine whether the commission will hear 696 the appeal. If the commission or the designated staff hearing 697 officer decides to hear the appeal, the commission or the 698 designated staff hearing officer shall notify the parties and 699 their respective representatives in writing of the time and place 700 of the hearing. The commission shall hold the hearing within 701 forty-five days after the filing of the notice of appeal and, 702 within seven days after the conclusion of the hearing, the 703 commission shall issue its order affirming, modifying, or 704

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reversing the order issued under division (D) of this section. The	705
commission shall notify the parties and their respective	706
representatives in writing of the order. If the commission or the	707
designated staff hearing officer determines not to hear the	708
appeal, within fourteen days after the expiration of the period in	709
which an appeal of the order of the staff hearing officer may be	710
filed as provided in division (D) of this section, the commission	711
or the designated staff hearing officer shall issue an order to	712
that effect and notify the parties and their respective	713
representatives in writing of that order.	714

Except as otherwise provided in this chapter and Chapters 715
4121., 4127., and 4131. of the Revised Code, any party may appeal 716
an order issued under this division to the court pursuant to 717
section 4123.512 of the Revised Code within sixty days after 718
receipt of the order, subject to the limitations contained in that 719
section. 720

- (F) Every notice of an appeal from an order issued under 721 divisions (B), (C), (D), and (E) of this section shall state the 722 names of the claimant and employer, the number of the claim, the 723 date of the decision appealed from, and the fact that the 724 appellant appeals therefrom. 725
- (G) All of the following apply to the proceedings under 726 divisions (C), (D), and (E) of this section: 727
- (1) The parties shall proceed promptly and without 728 continuances except for good cause; 729
- (2) The parties, in good faith, shall engage in the free 730 exchange of information relevant to the claim prior to the conduct 731 of a hearing according to the rules the commission adopts under 732 section 4121.36 of the Revised Code; 733
- (3) The administrator is a party and may appear and 734 participate at all administrative proceedings on behalf of the 735

state insurance fund. However, in cases in which the employer is	736
represented, the administrator shall neither present arguments nor	737
introduce testimony that is cumulative to that presented or	738
introduced by the employer or the employer's representative. The	739
administrator may file an appeal under this section on behalf of	740
the state insurance fund; however, except in cases arising under	741
section 4123.343 of the Revised Code, the administrator only may	742
appeal questions of law or issues of fraud when the employer	743
appears in person or by representative.	744
(H) Except as provided in section 4121.63 of the Revised Code	745
and division (K) of this section, payments of compensation to a	746
claimant or on behalf of a claimant as a result of any order	747
issued under this chapter shall commence upon the earlier of the	748
following:	749
(1) Fourteen days after the date the administrator issues an	750
order under division (B) of this section, unless that order is	751
appealed;	752
(2) The date when the employer has waived the right to appeal	753
a decision issued under division (B) of this section;	754
(3) If no appeal of an order has been filed under this	755
section or to a court under section 4123.512 of the Revised Code,	756
the expiration of the time limitations for the filing of an appeal	757
of an order;	758
(4) The date of receipt by the employer of an order of a	759
district hearing officer, a staff hearing officer, or the	760
industrial commission issued under division (C), (D), or (E) of	761
this section.	762
(I) Payments of medical benefits payable under this chapter	763
or Chapter 4121., 4127., or 4131. of the Revised Code shall	764
commence upon the earlier of the following:	765

(1) The date of the issuance of the staff hearing officer's

order under division (D) of this section;	767
(2) The date of the final administrative or judicial	768
determination.	769
(J) The administrator shall charge the compensation payments	770
made in accordance with division (H) of this section or medical	771
benefits payments made in accordance with division (I) of this	772
section to an employer's experience immediately after the employer	773
has exhausted the employer's administrative appeals as provided in	774
this section or has waived the employer's right to an	775
administrative appeal under division (B) of this section, subject	776
to the adjustment specified in division (H) of section 4123.512 of	777
the Revised Code.	778
(K) Upon the final administrative or judicial determination	779
under this section or section 4123.512 of the Revised Code of an	780
appeal of an order to pay compensation, if a claimant is found to	781
have received compensation pursuant to a prior order which is	782
reversed upon subsequent appeal, the claimant's employer, if a	783
self-insuring employer, or the bureau, shall withhold from any	784
amount to which the claimant becomes entitled pursuant to any	785
claim, past, present, or future, under Chapter 4121., 4123.,	786
4127., or 4131. of the Revised Code, the amount of previously paid	787
compensation to the claimant which, due to reversal upon appeal,	788
the claimant is not entitled, pursuant to the following criteria:	789
(1) No withholding for the first twelve weeks of temporary	790
total disability compensation pursuant to section 4123.56 of the	791
Revised Code shall be made;	792
(2) Forty per cent of all awards of compensation paid	793
pursuant to sections 4123.56 and 4123.57 of the Revised Code,	794
until the amount overpaid is refunded;	795
(3) Twenty-five per cent of any compensation paid pursuant to	796

section 4123.58 of the Revised Code until the amount overpaid is

refunded;	798
(4) If, pursuant to an appeal under section 4123.512 of the	799
Revised Code, the court of appeals or the supreme court reverses	800
the allowance of the claim, then no amount of any compensation	801
will be withheld.	802
The administrator and self-insuring employers, as	803
appropriate, are subject to the repayment schedule of this	804
division only with respect to an order to pay compensation that	805
was properly paid under a previous order, but which is	806
subsequently reversed upon an administrative or judicial appeal.	807
The administrator and self-insuring employers are not subject to,	808
but may utilize, the repayment schedule of this division, or any	809
other lawful means, to collect payment of compensation made to a	810
person who was not entitled to the compensation due to fraud as	811
determined by the administrator or the industrial commission.	812
(L) If a staff hearing officer or the commission fails to	813
issue a decision or the commission fails to refuse to hear an	814
appeal within the time periods required by this section, payments	815
to a claimant shall cease until the staff hearing officer or	816
commission issues a decision or hears the appeal, unless the	817
failure was due to the fault or neglect of the employer or the	818
employer agrees that the payments should continue for a longer	819
period of time.	820
(M) Except as otherwise provided in this section or section	821
4123.522 of the Revised Code, no appeal is timely filed under this	822
section unless the appeal is filed with the time limits set forth	823
in this section.	824
(N) No person who is not an employee of the bureau or	825
commission or who is not by law given access to the contents of a	826
claims file shall have a file in the person's possession.	827

(0) Upon application of a party who resides in an area in

(2) "Status verification system" means any electronic system

(a) The electronic verification of work authorization program

the federal government operates to enable a person to verify or

"Status verification system" includes all of the following:

ascertain the citizenship or immigration status of any individual.

known as the "e-verify program," 8 U.S.C. 1324a, operated by the

United States department of homeland security, and any equivalent

federal program that the United States department of homeland

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security or other federal agency designates to verify the work	859
eligibility status of newly hired employees, pursuant to the	860
Immigration Reform and Control Act;	861
(b) Any independent, third-party system with an equal or	862
higher degree of reliability as the programs, systems, or	863
processes described in division (A)(2)(a) of this section;	864
(c) The social security number verification service, or any	865
similar online verification process the United States social	866
security administration operates.	867
(B) Within twenty-eight days after a claimant receives	868
notification from the bureau of workers' compensation or, if the	869
employee's employer is a self-insuring employer, from the	870
self-insuring employer, of the receipt of a claim for compensation	871
or benefits under this chapter or Chapter 4121., 4127., or 4131.	872
of the Revised Code, the claimant shall submit to the	873
administrator of workers' compensation or the self-insured	874
employer, as applicable, documentation demonstrating that the	875
claimant, or, if the claimant is a dependent of an employee who	876
died as a result of suffering an injury or contracting an	877
occupational disease, the deceased employee, was authorized to	878
work in accordance with the Immigration Reform and Control Act on	879
the date the claimant or deceased employee suffered the injury or	880
contracted the occupational disease. The documentation the	881
claimant submits shall establish an individual's identity and	882
authority to work in accordance with the Immigration Reform and	883
Control Act.	884
(C) The administrator or the self-insuring employer, as	885
applicable, may determine, in accordance with section 4123.511 of	886
the Revised Code, whether the claim is a compensable claim under	887
this chapter or Chapter 4121., 4127., or 4131. of the Revised Code	888
during the twenty-eight-day period described in division (B) of	889
this section.	890

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(1) If the administrator or self-insuring employer, as	891
applicable, determines that the claim is compensable, prior to	892
awarding the claimant compensation or benefits for that claim, the	893
administrator or self-insuring employer shall use a status	894
verification system to conduct a preliminary verification that the	895
claimant or deceased employee, as applicable, was authorized to	896
work in accordance with the Immigration Reform and Control Act on	897
the date the claimant or deceased employee suffered the injury or	898
contracted the occupational disease. If the administrator or	899
self-insuring employer determines that the claimant or deceased	900
employee was authorized to work, the administrator or	901
self-insuring employer may award the compensation or benefits. The	902
award of compensation or benefits under division (C)(1) of this	903
section does not relieve the duty of the claimant to submit the	904
information required under division (B) of this section. If the	905
administrator or self-insuring employer determines that the	906
claimant or deceased employee was not authorized to work, the	907
administrator or self-insuring employer shall stay awarding the	908
compensation or benefits until after the administrator or	909
self-insuring employer conducts the verification required under	910
division (E) of this section.	911
(2) If the administrator or self-insuring employer, as	912
applicable, determines during that twenty-eight-day period that	913
the claim is not compensable, and if the claimant wishes to appeal	914
that determination in accordance with section 4123.511 or 4123.512	915
of the Revised Code, the claimant shall submit to the	916
administrator or self-insuring employer the information required	917
under division (B) of this section.	918
(D) If the administrator or self-insuring employer does not	919
receive the required documentation at the end of the	920
twenty-eight-day period described in division (B) of this section,	921
regardless of whether the claim is compensable, the administrator	922

or the self-insuring employer shall deny the claim. If the	923
administrator or self-insuring employer awarded compensation or	924
benefits under division (C)(1) of this section, the administrator	925
or self-insuring employer may, but is not required to, recover the	926
compensation or benefits awarded under that division. A claimant	927
may resubmit the claim denied under this division to the	928
administrator or a self-insuring employer if the time period	929
specified in section 4123.84 or 4123.85 of the Revised Code has	930
not lapsed.	931
(E) If the administrator or self-insuring employer, as	932
applicable, receives the required documentation within the	933
twenty-eight-day period described in division (B) of this section,	934
the administrator or self-insuring employer shall verify that the	935
claimant or deceased employee, as applicable, was authorized to	936
work in accordance with the Immigration Reform and Control Act on	937
the date the claimant or deceased employee suffered the injury or	938
contracted the occupational disease. The administrator or	939
self-insuring employer may use a status verification system to	940
verify the employee's authorization to work. If the administrator	941
or self-insuring employer determines that the claimant or deceased	942
employee was authorized to work, and if the administrator or	943
self-insuring employer has not previously issued a determination	944
as to whether the claim is compensable under division (C) of this	945
section, the administrator or self-insuring employer shall issue	946
the determination.	947
If the administrator or self-insuring employer determines	948
that the claimant or deceased employee was not authorized to work,	949
the administrator or self-insuring employer shall deny the claim.	950
If a self-insuring employer denies a claim under this division,	951
the self-insuring employer shall send written notice of that	952
denial to the administrator. If the administrator or self-insuring	953

employer denies a claim under this division and the administrator

or self-insuring employer previously awarded the claimant	955
compensation or benefits under division (C)(1) of this section,	956
the administrator or self-insuring employer may, but is not	957
required to, recover the compensation or benefits awarded under	958
that division.	959
(F) Except as otherwise provided in division (C)(2) of this	960
section, the denial of a claim under division (D) or (E) of this	961
section is appealable under sections 4123.511 and 4123.512 of the	962
Revised Code.	963
Sec. 4123.514. (A) If a claimant's claim is denied under	964
division (E) of section 4123.513 of the Revised Code, if the	965
employer of the claimant or the deceased employee who is the	966
subject of the claim is a state fund employer, and if the employer	967
submits proof of using a status verification system to determine	968
whether the employer's employees are authorized to work in	969
accordance with the Immigration Reform and Control Act, the	970
administrator shall reduce the next premium due to be paid by the	971
employer by the amount equal to the increase in premium resulting	972
from payments made to that claimant on or after the end of the	973
twenty-eight-day period described in division (B) of section	974
4123.513 of the Revised Code. If the administrator awarded	975
compensation or benefits under division (C) of section 4123.513 of	976
the Revised Code but subsequently denied the claim under division	977
(E) of that section, and if the administrator recovered the	978
payment made to the claimant, the administrator also shall credit	979
the employer's premium with those payments.	980
(B) If a claimant's claim is denied under division (E) of	981
section 4123.513 of the Revised Code, if the employer of the	982
claimant or the deceased employee who is the subject of the claim	983
is a self-insuring employer, and if the self-insuring employer	984
submits proof of using a status verification system to determine	985

whether the employer's employees are authorized to work in	986
accordance with the Immigration Reform and Control Act, the	987
administrator shall reduce the self-insuring employer's next	988
assessment due by the amount of assessments paid by the	989
self-insuring employer that reflected the paid compensation on	990
account of the claimant or deceased employee paid on or after the	991
end of the twenty-eight-day period described in division (B) of	992
section 4123.513 of the Revised Code. If the self-insuring	993
employer awarded compensation or benefits under division (C) of	994
section 4123.513 of the Revised Code but subsequently denied the	995
claim under division (E) of that section, and if the self-insuring	996
employer recovered the payment made to the claimant, the	997
administrator also shall reduce the assessment by the amount	998
reflected in the assessment for that paid compensation.	999
(C) An employer shall not include a claimant whose claim is	1000
denied under division (E) of section 4123.513 of the Revised Code	1001
in any subsequent report of payroll of the employer under section	1002
4123.26 of the Revised Code.	1003
Sec. 4123.515. (A) Except as otherwise provided in divisions	1004
(B) and (C) of this section, if a claim is denied under division	1005
(D) or (E) of section 4123.513 of the Revised Code, the claimant's	1006
employer, or, if the claimant is a dependent of an employee who	1007
died as a result of suffering an injury or contracting an	1008
occupational disease, the deceased employee's employer, is not	1009
liable to that claimant for damages suffered by reason of personal	1010
injury sustained or occupational disease contracted in the course	1011
of employment caused by the wrongful act or omission or neglect of	1012
the employer. For such a claimant, filing a claim under Chapter	1013
4121., 4123., 4127., or 4131. of the Revised Code is the exclusive	1014
remedy against the employer on account of injury, disease, or	1015
death in the course of and arising out of the claimant's or	1016
deceased employee's employment. Notwithstanding section 4123.77 of	1017

the Revised Code and except as provided in division (B) of this	1018
section, an irrebuttable presumption exists that the individual	1019
assumed the risk of incurring an injury or contracting an	1020
occupational disease at the workplace, or dying as a result of	1021
such an injury or occupational disease, when performing services	1022
or providing labor for that employer.	1023
(B) An employer is liable to a claimant whose claim is denied	1024
under division (D), or (E) of section 4123.513 of the Revised Code	1025
for damages suffered by reason of personal injury sustained or	1026
occupational disease contracted in the course of employment caused	1027
by the wrongful act or omission or neglect of the employer if the	1028
employer employed the claimant or the deceased employee who is the	1029
subject of the claim knowing that the claimant or deceased	1030
employee was not authorized to work under the Immigration Reform	1031
and Control Act on the date the claimant or deceased employee	1032
suffered the injury or contracted the occupational disease.	1033
(C) Nothing in this section or section 4123.513 of the	1034
Revised Code shall be construed to prevent a claimant whose claim	1035
is denied under division (D) or (E) of section 4123.513 of the	1036
Revised Code from bringing a claim against an employer in a court	1037
of competent jurisdiction for an intentional tort allegedly	1038
committed by the employer against the claimant or deceased	1039
employee who was the subject of the claim.	1040
Section 2 That existing goations 2742 02 2744 02 4122 01	1041
Section 2. That existing sections 2743.02, 2744.02, 4123.01,	
and 4123.511 of the Revised Code are hereby repealed.	1042
Section 3. This act applies to claims arising on or after the	1043
effective date of this act.	1044