As Passed by the House

129th General Assembly Regular Session 2011-2012

Sub. H. B. No. 225

Representatives Peterson, Landis

Cosponsors: Representatives Pillich, Grossman, Sears, Boose, Derickson, Carey, Thompson, Adams, J., Hayes, Stinziano, Ruhl, McClain, Balderson, Maag, Weddington, Brenner, Duffey, Baker, Schuring, Blair, McKenney, Adams, R., Amstutz, Anielski, Antonio, Barnes, Beck, Blessing, Bubp, Buchy, Carney, Damschroder, DeGeeter, Dovilla, Foley, Goodwin, Hackett, Hall, Henne, Hollington, Huffman, Letson, Mallory, Milkovich, Newbold, O'Brien, Ramos, Slaby, Sprague, Stebelton, Szollosi, Uecker, Yuko Speaker Batchelder

A BILL

То	amend sections 9.37, 167.03, 305.171, 505.603,	1
	3917.04, 4931.41, 4931.43, 4931.44, 4931.45,	2
	4931.49, 4931.50, 4931.64, 4931.65, 4931.66,	3
	5703.57, 5705.13, 5713.07, 5713.08, 5713.081,	4
	5713.082, 5715.27, and 5717.02 and to enact	5
	section 148.061 of the Revised Code to vest in	6
	county auditors responsibility for reviewing and	7
	approving property tax exemption applications for	8
	some publicly owned property, to authorize	9
	legislative authorities of municipal corporations,	10
	county auditors, and boards of township trustees	11
	to adopt a direct deposit payroll policy, to	12
	clarify that a board of township trustees may	13
	offer deferred compensation plans or programs to	14
	the township's officers and employees, to	15
	authorize regional councils of government to	16

operate a 9-1-1 public safety answering point, to	17
revise the membership of the Ohio Business Gateway	18
Steering Committee, to authorize counties and	19
townships to increase the amount credited to	20
"rainy day" reserve balance accounts to one-sixth	21
of the expenditures made in the preceding fiscal	22
year from the fund in which the reserve balance	23
account is established, and to authorize a county	24
or township to offer any qualified benefit	25
available under a cafeteria plan, and to offer a	26
health and wellness benefit program, to its	27
officers and employees.	28

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

Section 1. That sections 9.37, 167.03, 305.171, 505.603,	29
3917.04, 4931.41, 4931.43, 4931.44, 4931.45, 4931.49, 4931.50,	30
4931.64, 4931.65, 4931.66, 5703.57, 5705.13, 5713.07, 5713.08,	31
5713.081, 5713.082, 5715.27, and 5717.02 be amended and section	32
148.061 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as follows:	33

- Sec. 9.37. (A) As used in this section, "public official" 34 means any elected or appointed officer, employee, or agent of the 35 state, any state institution of higher education, any political 36 subdivision, board, commission, bureau, or other public body 37 established by law. "State institution of higher education" means 38 any state university or college as defined in division (A)(1) of 39 section 3345.12 of the Revised Code, community college, state 40 community college, university branch, or technical college. 41
- (B) Except as provided in division divisions (F) and (G) of 42 this section, any public official may make by direct deposit of 43 funds by electronic transfer, if the payee provides a written 44 authorization designating a financial institution and an account 45

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number to which the payment is to be credited, any payment such	46
public official is permitted or required by law in the performance	47
of official duties to make by issuing a check or warrant.	48
(C) Such public official may contract with a financial	49
institution for the services necessary to make direct deposits and	50

- (C) Such public official may contract with a financial institution for the services necessary to make direct deposits and draw lump-sum checks or warrants payable to that institution in the amount of the payments to be transferred.
- (D) Before making any direct deposit as authorized under this 53 section, the public official shall ascertain that the account from 54 which the payment is to be made contains sufficient funds to cover 55 the amount of the payment. 56
- (E) If the issuance of checks and warrants by a public official requires authorization by a governing board, commission, bureau, or other public body having jurisdiction over the public official, the public official may only make direct deposits and contracts under this section pursuant to a resolution of authorization duly adopted by such governing board, commission, bureau, or other public body.
- (F) Pursuant to sections 307.55, 319.16, and 321.15 of the

 Revised Code, a county auditor may issue, and a county treasurer

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 may redeem, electronic warrants authorizing direct deposit for

 payment of county obligations in accordance with rules adopted by

 the director of budget and management pursuant to Chapter 119. of

 the Revised Code.
- (G) The legislative authority of a municipal corporation, for employees of the municipal corporation, a county auditor, for 71 county employees, or a board of township trustees, for township 72 employees, may adopt a direct deposit payroll policy under which 73 all employees of the municipal corporation, all county employees, 74 or all township employees, as the case may be, provide a written 75 authorization designating a financial institution and an account 76

(1) Study such area governmental problems common to two or

more members of the council as it deems appropriate, including but

not limited to matters affecting health, safety, welfare,

education, economic conditions, and regional development;

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provided through a jointly administered health and welfare trust

bargaining representative of the county employees or contracting

fund in which the county or contracting authority and a collective

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authority agree to participate.

- (D) The board of trustees of a jointly administered trust 199 fund that receives contributions pursuant to collective bargaining 200 agreements entered into between the board of county commissioners 201 of any county and a collective bargaining representative of the 202 employees of the county may provide for self-insurance of all risk 203 in the provision of fringe benefits, and may provide through the 204 self-insurance method specific fringe benefits as authorized by 205 the rules of the board of trustees of the jointly administered 206 trust fund. The fringe benefits may include, but are not limited 207 to, hospitalization, surgical care, major medical care, 208 disability, dental care, vision care, medical care, hearing aids, 209 prescription drugs, group life insurance, sickness and accident 210 insurance, group legal services, or a combination of any of the 211 foregoing types of insurance or coverage, for county employees and 212 their dependents. 213
- (E) The board of county commissioners may provide the 214 benefits described in divisions (A) to (D) of this section through 215 an individual self-insurance program or a joint self-insurance 216 program as provided in section 9.833 of the Revised Code. 217
- (F) When a board of county commissioners offers health 218 benefits authorized under this section to a county officer or 219 employee, the board may offer the benefits through a cafeteria 220 plan meeting the requirements of section 125 of the "Internal 221 Revenue Code of 1986," 100 Stat. 2085, 26 U.S.C.A. 125, as 222 amended, and, as part of that plan, may offer the county officer 223 or employee the option of receiving a cash payment in any form 224 permissible under such cafeteria plans. A cash payment made to a 225 county officer or employee under this division shall not exceed 226 twenty-five per cent of the cost of premiums or payments that 227 otherwise would be paid by the board for benefits for the county 228 officer or employee under a policy or plan. 229

- (G) The board of county commissioners may establish a policy 230 authorizing any county appointing authority to make a cash payment 231 to any county officer or employee in lieu of providing a benefit 232 authorized under this section if the county officer or employee 233 elects to take the cash payment instead of the offered benefit. A 234 cash payment made to a county officer or employee under this 235 division shall not exceed twenty-five per cent of the cost of 236 premiums or payments that otherwise would be paid by the board for 237 benefits for the county officer or employee under an offered 238 policy or plan. 239 (H) No cash payment in lieu of a health benefit shall be made 240 to a county officer or employee under division (F) or (G) of this 241 section unless the county officer or employee signs a statement 242 affirming that the county officer or employee is covered under 243 another health insurance or health care policy, contract, or plan, 244 and setting forth the name of the employer, if any, that sponsors 245 the coverage, the name of the carrier that provides the coverage, 246 and the identifying number of the policy, contract, or plan. 247 (I) The legislative authority of a county-operated municipal 248 court, after consultation with the judges, or the clerk and deputy 249 clerks, of the municipal court, shall negotiate and contract for, 250 purchase, or otherwise procure, and pay the costs, premiums, or 251 charges for, group health care coverage for the judges, and group 252 health care coverage for the clerk and deputy clerks, in 253 accordance with section 1901.111 or 1901.312 of the Revised Code. 254 (J) As used in this section: 255 (1) "County officer or employee" includes, but is not limited 256
- (2) "County-operated municipal court" and "legislative 258 authority" have the same meanings as in section 1901.03 of the 259 Revised Code.

to, a member or employee of the county board of elections.

	(3)	"Health	n care	coverage"	has	the	same	meaning	as	in	section	
1901	.111	of the	Revise	ed Code.								

Sec. 505.603. (A) In addition to or in lieu of providing 263 benefits to township officers and employees under section 505.60, 264 505.601, or 505.602 of the Revised Code, a board of township 265 trustees may offer benefits to officers and employees through a 266 cafeteria plan that meets the requirements of section 125 of the 267 "Internal Revenue Code of 1986," 100 Stat. 2085, 26 U.S.C.A. 125, 268 as amended, after first adopting a policy authorizing an officer 269 or employee to receive a cash payment in lieu of a benefit 270 otherwise offered to township officers or employees under any of 271 those sections, but only if the cash payment does not exceed 272 twenty-five per cent of the cost of premiums or payments that 273 otherwise would be paid by the board for benefits for the officer 274 or employee under an offered policy, contract, or plan. No cash 275 payment in lieu of a benefit shall be made pursuant to this 276 section unless the officer or employee signs a statement affirming 277 that the officer or employee is covered under another health 278 insurance or health care policy, contract, or plan in the case of 279 a health benefit, or a life insurance policy in the case of a life 280 insurance benefit, and setting forth the name of the employer, if 281 any, that sponsors the coverage, the name of the carrier that 282 provides the coverage, and an identifying number of the applicable 283 284 policy, contract, or plan.

(B) In addition to providing the benefits to township 285 officers and employees under section 505.60, 505.601, or 505.602 286 of the Revised Code, a board of township trustees may offer a 287 health and wellness benefit program through which the township 288 provides a benefit or incentive to township officers, employees, 289 and their immediate dependents to maintain a healthy lifestyle, 290 including, but not limited to, programs to encourage healthy 291 eating and nutrition, exercise and physical activity, weight 292

control or the elimination of obesity, and cessation of smoking or	293
alcohol use.	294
(C) The township fiscal officer may deduct from a township	295
employee's salary or wages the amount authorized to be paid by the	296
employee for one or more qualified benefits available under	297
section 125 of the "Internal Revenue Code of 1986," 26 U.S.C. 125,	298
and under the sections listed in division (B) of this section, if	299
the employee authorizes in writing that the township fiscal	300
officer may deduct that amount from the employee's salary or	301
wages, and the benefit is offered to the employee on a group basis	302
and at least ten per cent of the township employees voluntarily	303
elect to participate in the receipt of that benefit. The township	304
fiscal officer may issue warrants for amounts deducted under this	305
division to pay program administrators or other insurers for	306
benefits authorized under this section or those sections listed in	307
division (B) of this section.	308

Sec. 3917.04. (A)(1) If any employee of a political 309 subdivision or district of this state, or of an institution 310 supported in whole or in part by public funds, authorizes in 311 writing the proper officer of the political subdivision, district, 312 or institution, of which the individual is an employee to deduct 313 from the employee's salary or wages the premium or portion of the 314 premium agreed to be paid by the employee to an insurer authorized 315 to do business in the state for life, endowment, accident, health, 316 or health and accident insurance, annuities, or hospitalization 317 insurance, or salary savings plan, the political subdivision, 318 district, or institution of which the individual is an employee 319 may deduct from the employee's salary or wages the premium or 320 portion of the premium agreed to be paid by that employee and pay 321 it to the insurer, provided that life, endowment, accident, 322 health, health and accident, and hospitalization insurance is 323 offered to the employee on a group basis and also that at least 324

ten per cent of the employees at any institution, or of any	325
political subdivision, or in any department, agency, bureau,	326
district, commission, or board voluntarily elect to participate in	327
that group insurance.	328
Division (A)(1) of this section does not apply to employees	329
paid by warrant of the director of budget and management.	330
(2) The proper officer of a political subdivision, district,	331
or institution of which an individual is an employee may issue	332
warrants covering salary or wage deductions that have been	333
authorized by the employee in favor of the insurer and in the	334
amount so authorized by the employee.	335
(B)(1) The department of administrative services shall only	336
offer employees paid by warrant of the director of budget and	337
management voluntary supplemental benefit plans that are selected	338
through a state-administered request for proposals process. If an	339
employee authorizes the director of administrative services, in	340
writing, to deduct the premium or a portion of the premium agreed	341
to be paid by the employee to a voluntary supplemental benefit	342
plan provider from the employee's salary or wages, the director	343
may deduct this amount from the employee's salary or wages and pay	344
it to the provider. Only those employees enrolled in a voluntary	345
supplemental benefit plan on or before the effective date of this	346
amendment June 30, 2006, may continue to participate in a plan	347
that was not selected through a state-administered request for	348
proposals process.	349
(2) The director of budget and management may issue warrants	350
covering salary or wage deductions that have been authorized by	351
employees paid by warrant of the director in favor of the	352
voluntary supplemental benefit plan provider in the amount	353
authorized by those employees.	354

(C) A county auditor may deduct from a county employee's

for one or more qualified benefits available under section 125 of the "Internal Revenue Code of 1986," 26 U.S.C. 125, and other benefits authorized under section 305.171 of the Revised Code, if the employee authorizes in writing that the county auditor may deduct that amount from the employee's salary or wages, and the benefit is offered to the employee on a group basis and at least ten per cent of the county employees voluntarily elect to participate in the receipt of that benefit. 357	salary or wages the amount authorized to be paid by the employee	356
benefits authorized under section 305.171 of the Revised Code, if the employee authorizes in writing that the county auditor may deduct that amount from the employee's salary or wages, and the benefit is offered to the employee on a group basis and at least ten per cent of the county employees voluntarily elect to 369	for one or more qualified benefits available under section 125 of	357
the employee authorizes in writing that the county auditor may deduct that amount from the employee's salary or wages, and the benefit is offered to the employee on a group basis and at least ten per cent of the county employees voluntarily elect to 363	the "Internal Revenue Code of 1986," 26 U.S.C. 125, and other	358
deduct that amount from the employee's salary or wages, and the benefit is offered to the employee on a group basis and at least ten per cent of the county employees voluntarily elect to 363	benefits authorized under section 305.171 of the Revised Code, if	359
benefit is offered to the employee on a group basis and at least ten per cent of the county employees voluntarily elect to 363	the employee authorizes in writing that the county auditor may	360
ten per cent of the county employees voluntarily elect to 363	deduct that amount from the employee's salary or wages, and the	361
	benefit is offered to the employee on a group basis and at least	362
participate in the receipt of that benefit.	ten per cent of the county employees voluntarily elect to	363
	participate in the receipt of that benefit.	364

The county auditor may issue warrants for amounts deducted

under this division to pay program administrators or other

insurers for benefits authorized under this section.

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sec. 4931.41. (A)(1) A countywide 9-1-1 system shall include
all of the territory of the townships and municipal corporations
in the county and any portion of such a municipal corporation that
extends into an adjacent county.
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(2) The system shall exclude any territory served by a 372 wireline service provider that is not capable of reasonably 373 meeting the technical and economic requirements of providing the 374 wireline telephone network portion of the countywide system for 375 that territory. The system shall exclude from enhanced 9-1-1 any 376 territory served by a wireline service provider that is not 377 capable of reasonably meeting the technical and economic 378 requirements of providing the wireline telephone network portion 379 of enhanced 9-1-1 for that territory. If a 9-1-1 planning 380 committee and a wireline service provider do not agree on whether 381 the provider is so capable, the committee shall notify the public 382 utilities commission, and the commission shall determine whether 383 the wireline service provider is so capable. The committee shall 384 ascertain whether such disagreement exists before making its 385 implementation proposal under division (A) of section 4931.43 of 386

the Revised Code. The commission's determination shall be in the	387
form of an order. No final plan shall require a wireline service	388
provider to provide the wireline telephone network portion of a	389
9-1-1 system that the commission has determined the provider is	390
not reasonably capable of providing.	391

- (B) A countywide 9-1-1 system may be a basic or enhanced 392 9-1-1 system, or a combination of the two, and shall be for the 393 purpose of providing both wireline 9-1-1 and wireless 9-1-1. 394
- (C) Every emergency service provider that provides emergency 395 service within the territory of a countywide 9-1-1 system shall 396 participate in the countywide system. 397
- (D)(1) Each public safety answering point shall be operated 398 by a subdivision or a regional council of governments and shall be operated constantly. 400
- (2) A subdivision or a regional council of governments that 401 operates a public safety answering point shall pay all of the 402 costs associated with establishing, equipping, furnishing, 403 operating, and maintaining that facility and shall allocate those 404 costs among itself and the subdivisions served by the answering 405 point based on the allocation formula in a final plan. The 406 wireline service provider or other entity that provides or 407 maintains the customer premises equipment shall bill the operating 408 subdivision or the operating regional council of governments for 409 the cost of providing such equipment, or its maintenance. A 410 wireless service provider and a subdivision or regional council of 411 governments operating a public safety answering point may enter 412 into a service agreement for providing wireless enhanced 9-1-1 413 pursuant to a final plan adopted under sections 4931.40 to 4931.70 414 of the Revised Code. 415
- (E) Except to the extent provided in a final plan that 416 provides for funding of a 9-1-1 system in part through charges 417

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imposed under section 4931.51 of the Revised Code, each	418
subdivision served by a public safety answering point shall pay	419
the subdivision or regional council of governments that operates	420
the answering point the amount computed in accordance with the	421
allocation formula set forth in the final plan.	422
(F) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the purchase	423
or other acquisition, installation, and maintenance of the	424
telephone network for a 9-1-1 system and the purchase or other	425
acquisition, installation, and maintenance of customer premises	426
equipment at a public safety answering point made in compliance	427
with a final plan or an agreement under section 4931.48 of the	428
Revised Code, including customer premises equipment used to	429
provide wireless enhanced 9-1-1, are not subject to any	430
requirement of competitive bidding.	431
(G) Each emergency service provider participating in a	432
countywide 9-1-1 system shall maintain a telephone number in	433
addition to 9-1-1.	434
(H) Whenever a final plan provides for the implementation of	435
basic 9-1-1, the planning committee shall so notify the public	436
utilities commission, which shall determine whether the wireline	437
service providers serving the territory covered by the plan are	438
capable of reasonably meeting the technical and economic	439
requirements of providing the wireline telephone network portion	440
of an enhanced 9-1-1 system. The determination shall be made	441
solely for purposes of division (C)(2) of section 4931.47 of the	442
Revised Code.	443
(I) If the public safety answering point personnel reasonably	444
determine that a 9-1-1 call is not an emergency, the personnel	445
shall provide the caller with the telephone number of an	446

(J) A final plan adopted under sections 4931.40 to 4931.70 of

appropriate subdivision agency as applicable.

the Revised Code, or an agreement under section 4931.48 of the	449
Revised Code, may provide that, by further agreement included in	450
the plan or agreement, the state highway patrol or one or more	451
public safety answering points of another 9-1-1 system is the	452
public safety answering point or points for the provision of	453
wireline or wireless 9-1-1 for all or part of the territory of the	454
9-1-1 system established under the plan or agreement. In that	455
event, the subdivision for which the wireline or wireless 9-1-1 is	456
provided as named in the agreement shall be deemed the subdivision	457
operating the public safety answering point or points for purposes	458
of sections 4931.40 to 4931.70 of the Revised Code, except that,	459
for the purpose of division (D)(2) of this section, that	460
subdivision shall pay only so much of the costs of establishing,	461
equipping, furnishing, operating, or maintaining any such public	462
safety answering point as are specified in the agreement with the	463
patrol or other system.	464

(K) A final plan for the provision of wireless enhanced 9-1-1 465 shall provide that any wireless 9-1-1 calls routed to a state 466 highway patrol-operated public safety answering point by default, 467 due to a wireless service provider so routing all such calls of 468 its subscribers without prior permission, are instead to be routed 469 as provided under the plan. Upon the implementation of countywide 470 wireless enhanced 9-1-1 pursuant to a final plan, the state 471 highway patrol shall cease any functioning as a public safety 472 answering point providing wireless 9-1-1 within the territory 473 covered by the countywide 9-1-1 system so established, unless the 474 patrol functions as a public safety answering point providing 475 wireless enhanced 9-1-1 pursuant to an agreement included in the 476 plan as authorized under division (J) of this section. 477

sec. 4931.43. (A) The 9-1-1 planning committee shall prepare 478 a proposal on the implementation of a countywide 9-1-1 system and 479 shall hold a public meeting on the proposal to explain the system 480

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to and receive comments from public officials. At least thirty but	481
not more than sixty days before the meeting, the committee shall	482
send a copy of the implementation proposal and written notice of	483
the meeting:	484
(1) By certified mail, to the board of county commissioners,	485
the legislative authority of each municipal corporation in the	486
county, and to the board of trustees of each township in the	487
county; and	488
(2) To the board of trustees, directors, or park	489
commissioners of each subdivision that will be served by a public	490
safety answering point under the plan.	491
(B) The proposal and the final plan adopted by the committee	492
shall specify:	493
(1) Which telephone companies serving customers in the county	494
and, as authorized in division (A)(1) of section 4931.41 of the	495
Revised Code, in an adjacent county will participate in the 9-1-1	496
system;	497
(2) The location and number of public safety answering	498
points; how they will be connected to a company's telephone	499
network; from what geographic territory each will receive 9-1-1	500
calls; whether basic or enhanced 9-1-1 service will be provided	501
within such territory; what subdivisions will be served by the	502
answering point; and whether an answering point will respond to	503
calls by directly dispatching an emergency service provider, by	504
relaying a message to the appropriate provider, or by transferring	505
the call to the appropriate provider;	506
(3) Which subdivision or regional council of governments will	507
establish, equip, furnish, operate, and maintain a particular	508
public safety answering point;	509
(4) A projection of the initial cost of establishing,	510

equipping, and furnishing and of the annual cost of the first five	511
years of operating and maintaining each public safety answering	512
point;	513
(5) Whether the cost of establishing, equipping, furnishing,	514
operating, or maintaining each public safety answering point	515
should be funded through charges imposed under section 4931.51 of	516
the Revised Code or will be allocated among the subdivisions	517
served by the answering point and, if any such cost is to be	518
allocated, the formula for so allocating it;	519
(6) How each emergency service provider will respond to a	520
misdirected call.	521
(C) Following the meeting required by this section, the $9-1-1$	522
planning committee may modify the implementation proposal and, no	523
later than nine months after the resolution authorized by section	524
4931.42 of the Revised Code is adopted, may adopt, by majority	525
vote, a final plan for implementing a countywide 9-1-1 system. If	526
a planning committee and wireline service provider do not agree on	527
whether the wireline service provider is capable of providing the	528
wireline telephone network as described under division (A) of	529
section 4931.41 of the Revised Code and the planning committee	530
refers that question to the public utilities commission, the	531
commission may extend the nine-month deadline established by this	532
division to twelve months. Immediately on completion of the plan,	533
the committee shall send a copy of the final plan:	534
(1) By certified mail to the board of county commissioners of	535
the county, to the legislative authority of each municipal	536
corporation in the county, and to the board of township trustees	537
of each township in the county; and	538
(2) To the board of trustees, directors, or park	539
commissioners of each subdivision that will be served by a public	540

safety answering point under the plan.

(D) If the committee has not adopted a final plan on or 542 before the deadline in division (C) of this section, the committee 543 shall cease to exist. A new 9-1-1 planning committee may be 544 convened in the manner established in section 4931.42 of the 545 Revised Code to develop an implementation proposal and final plan 546 in accordance with the requirements of sections 4931.42 to 4931.44 547 of the Revised Code. 548

Sec. 4931.44. (A) Within sixty days after receipt of the 549 final plan pursuant to division (C) of section 4931.43 of the 550 Revised Code, the board of county commissioners of the county and 551 the legislative authority of each municipal corporation in the 552 county and of each township whose territory is proposed to be 553 included in a countywide 9-1-1 system shall act by resolution to 554 approve or disapprove the plan, except that, with respect to a 555 final plan that provides for funding of the 9-1-1 system in part 556 through charges imposed under section 4931.51 of the Revised Code, 557 the board of county commissioners shall not act by resolution to 558 approve or disapprove the plan until after a resolution adopted 559 under section 4931.51 of the Revised Code has become effective as 560 provided in division (D) of that section. A municipal corporation 561 or township whose territory is proposed to be included in the 562 system includes any municipal corporation or township in which a 563 part of its territory is excluded pursuant to division (A)(2) of 564 section 4931.41 of the Revised Code. Each such authority 565 immediately shall notify the board of county commissioners in 566 writing of its approval or disapproval of the final plan. Failure 567 by a board or legislative authority to notify the board of county 568 commissioners of approval or disapproval within such sixty-day 569 period shall be deemed disapproval by the board or authority. 570

(B) As used in this division, "county's population" excludes 571 the population of any municipal corporation or township that, 572 under the plan, is completely excluded from 9-1-1 service in the 573

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(5) Represcribing the funding of public safety answering	603
points as between the alternatives set forth in division (B)(5) of	604
section 4931.43 of the Revised Code;	605
(5)(6) Providing for wireless enhanced 9-1-1;	606
$\frac{(6)}{(7)}$ Adding a telephone company as a participant in a	607
countywide 9-1-1 system after the implementation of wireline 9-1-1	608
or wireless enhanced 9-1-1;	609
$\frac{(7)(8)}{(8)}$ Providing that the state highway patrol or one or more	610
public safety answering points of another 9-1-1 system function as	611
a public safety answering point or points for the provision of	612
wireline or wireless 9-1-1 for all or part of the territory of the	613
system established under the final plan, as contemplated under	614
division (J) of section 4931.41 of the Revised Code;	615
$\frac{(8)}{(9)}$ Making any other necessary adjustments to the plan.	616
(B) Except as otherwise provided in division (C) of this	617
section, a final plan shall be amended in the manner provided for	618
adopting a final plan under sections 4931.42 to 4931.44 of the	619
Revised Code, including convening a 9-1-1 planning committee and	620
developing a proposed amended plan prior to adopting an amended	621
final plan.	622
(C)(1) To amend a final plan for the purpose described in	623
division (A) $\frac{(6)}{(7)}$ of this section, an entity that wishes to be	624
added as a participant in a 9-1-1 system shall file a written	625
letter of that intent with the board of county commissioners of	626
the county that approved the final plan. The final plan is deemed	627
amended upon the filing of that letter. The entity that files the	628
letter shall send written notice of that filing to all	629
subdivisions, regional councils of governments, and telephone	630
companies participating in the system.	631
(2) An amendment to a final plan for a purpose set forth in	632

division (A)(1), (3), $\frac{(5)(6)}{(6)}$, or $\frac{(8)(9)}{(9)}$ of this section may be

made by an addendum approved by a majority of the 9-1-1 planning	634
committee. The board of county commissioners shall call a meeting	635
of the 9-1-1 planning committee for the purpose of considering an	636
addendum pursuant to this division.	637

- (3) Adoption of any resolution under section 4931.51 of the 638 Revised Code pursuant to a final plan that both has been adopted 639 and provides for funding through charges imposed under that 640 section is not an amendment of a final plan for the purpose of 641 this division. 642
- (D) When a final plan is amended for a purpose described in 643 division (A)(1), (2), or $\frac{(6)(7)}{(7)}$ of this section, sections 4931.47 644 and 5733.55 of the Revised Code apply with respect to the receipt 645 of the nonrecurring and recurring rates and charges for the 646 wireline telephone network portion of the 9-1-1 system. 647
- **Sec. 4931.49.** (A)(1) The state, the state highway patrol, $\frac{1}{2}$ 648 a subdivision, or a regional council of governments participating 649 in a 9-1-1 system established under sections 4931.40 to 4931.70 of 650 the Revised Code and any officer, agent, employee, or independent 651 contractor of the state, the state highway patrol, or such a 652 participating subdivision or regional council of governments is 653 not liable in damages in a civil action for injuries, death, or 654 loss to persons or property arising from any act or omission, 655 except willful or wanton misconduct, in connection with 656 developing, adopting, or approving any final plan or any agreement 657 made under section 4931.48 of the Revised Code or otherwise 658 bringing into operation the 9-1-1 system pursuant to sections 659 4931.40 to 4931.70 of the Revised Code. 660
- (2) The Ohio 9-1-1 council, the wireless 9-1-1 advisory 661 board, and any member of that council or board are not liable in 662 damages in a civil action for injuries, death, or loss to persons 663 or property arising from any act or omission, except willful or 664

wanton misconduct, in connection with the development or operation 665 of a 9-1-1 system established under sections 4931.40 to 4931.70 of the Revised Code. 667

- (B) Except as otherwise provided in section 4765.49 of the 668 Revised Code, an individual who gives emergency instructions 669 through a 9-1-1 system established under sections 4931.40 to 670 4931.70 of the Revised Code, and the principals for whom the 671 person acts, including both employers and independent contractors, 672 public and private, and an individual who follows emergency 673 instructions and the principals for whom that person acts, 674 including both employers and independent contractors, public and 675 private, are not liable in damages in a civil action for injuries, 676 death, or loss to persons or property arising from the issuance or 677 following of emergency instructions, except where the issuance or 678 following of the instructions constitutes willful or wanton 679 misconduct. 680
- (C) Except for willful or wanton misconduct, a telephone 681 company, and any other installer, maintainer, or provider, through 682 the sale or otherwise, of customer premises equipment, and their 683 respective officers, directors, employees, agents, and suppliers 684 are not liable in damages in a civil action for injuries, death, 685 or loss to persons or property incurred by any person resulting 686 from any of the following:
- (1) Such an entity's or its officers', directors', 688 employees', agents', or suppliers' participation in or acts or 689 omissions in connection with participating in or developing, 690 maintaining, or operating a 9-1-1 system, whether that system is 691 established pursuant to sections 4931.40 to 4931.70 of the Revised 692 Code or otherwise in accordance with schedules regarding 9-1-1 693 systems filed with the public utilities commission pursuant to 694 section 4905.30 of the Revised Code by a telephone company that is 695 a wireline service provider; 696

(2) Such an entity's or its officers', directors', 697 employees', agents', or suppliers' provision of assistance to a 698 public utility, municipal utility, or state or local government as 699 authorized by divisions (F)(4) and (5) of this section. 700 (D) No person shall knowingly use the telephone number of a 701 9-1-1 system established under sections 4931.40 to 4931.70 of the 702 Revised Code to report an emergency if the person knows that no 703 emergency exists. 704 (E) No person shall knowingly use a 9-1-1 system for a 705 purpose other than obtaining emergency service. 706 (F) No person shall disclose or use any information 707 concerning telephone numbers, addresses, or names obtained from 708 the data base that serves the public safety answering point of a 709 9-1-1 system established under sections 4931.40 to 4931.70 of the 710 Revised Code, except for any of the following purposes or under 711 any of the following circumstances: 712 (1) For the purpose of the 9-1-1 system; 713 (2) For the purpose of responding to an emergency call to an 714 emergency service provider; 715 (3) In the circumstance of the inadvertent disclosure of such 716 information due solely to technology of the wireline telephone 717 network portion of the 9-1-1 system not allowing access to the 718 data base to be restricted to 9-1-1 specific answering lines at a 719 public safety answering point; 720 (4) In the circumstance of access to a data base being given 721 by a telephone company that is a wireline service provider to a 722 public utility or municipal utility in handling customer calls in 723 times of public emergency or service outages. The charge, terms, 724 and conditions for the disclosure or use of such information for 725 the purpose of such access to a data base shall be subject to the 726

jurisdiction of the public utilities commission.

- (5) In the circumstance of access to a data base given by a 728 telephone company that is a wireline service provider to a state 729 and local government in warning of a public emergency, as 730 determined by the public utilities commission. The charge, terms, 731 and conditions for the disclosure or use of that information for 732 the purpose of access to a data base is subject to the 733 jurisdiction of the public utilities commission.
- Sec. 4931.50. (A) The attorney general, upon request of the 735 public utilities commission or on the attorney general's own 736 initiative, shall begin proceedings against a telephone company 737 that is a wireline service provider to enforce compliance with 738 sections 4931.40 to 4931.70 of the Revised Code or with the terms, 739 conditions, requirements, or specifications of a final plan or of 740 an agreement under section 4931.48 of the Revised Code as to 741 wireline or wireless 9-1-1. 742
- (B) The attorney general, upon the attorney general's own 743 initiative, or any prosecutor, upon the prosecutor's initiative, 744 shall begin proceedings against a subdivision or a regional 745 council of governments as to wireline or wireless 9-1-1 to enforce 746 compliance with sections 4931.40 to 4931.70 of the Revised Code or 747 with the terms, conditions, requirements, or specifications of a 748 final plan or of an agreement under section 4931.48 of the Revised 749 Code as to wireline or wireless 9-1-1. 750
- sec. 4931.64. (A) Prior to the first disbursement under this 751
 section and annually thereafter not later than the twenty-fifth 752
 day of January, until the wireless 9-1-1 government assistance 753
 fund is depleted, the Ohio 9-1-1 coordinator shall do both of the 754
 following for the purposes of division (B) of this section: 755
- (1) Determine, for a county that has adopted a final plan 756 under sections 4931.40 to 4931.70 of the Revised Code for the 757

provision of wireless enhanced 9-1-1 within the territory covered
by the countywide 9-1-1 system established under the plan, the
number of wireless telephone numbers assigned to wireless service
subscribers that have billing addresses within the county. That
number shall be adjusted between any two counties so that the
number of wireless telephone numbers assigned to wireless service
subscribers who have billing addresses within any portion of a
municipal corporation that territorially lies primarily in one of
the two counties but extends into the other county is added to the
number already determined for that primary county and subtracted
for the other county.

- (2) Determine each county's proportionate share of the wireless 9-1-1 government assistance fund for the ensuing calendar year on the basis set forth in division (B) of this section; estimate the ensuing calendar year's fund balance; compute each such county's estimated proceeds for the ensuing calendar year based on its proportionate share and the estimated fund balance; and certify such amount of proceeds to the county auditor of each such county.
- (B) The Ohio 9-1-1 coordinator, in accordance with this division and not later than the last day of each month, shall disburse the amount credited as remittances to the wireless 9-1-1 government assistance fund during the second preceding month, plus any accrued interest on the fund. Such a disbursement shall be paid to each county treasurer. The amount to be so disbursed monthly to a particular county shall be a proportionate share of the wireless 9-1-1 government assistance fund balance based on the ratio between the following:
- (1) The number of wireless telephone numbers determined for 786 the county by the coordinator pursuant to division (A) of this 787 section; 788
 - (2) The total number of wireless telephone numbers assigned

to subscribers who have billing addresses within this state. To the extent that the fund balance permits, the disbursements to each county shall total at least ninety thousand dollars annually.

- (C)(1) Each county that has not adopted a final plan for the 793 provision of wireless enhanced 9-1-1 under sections 4931.40 to 794 4931.70 of the Revised Code shall be deemed as having done so for 795 the purposes of making the determinations under divisions (A)(1) 796 and (2) of this section.
- (2) For each county described in division (C)(1) of this section, the coordinator shall retain in the wireless 9-1-1 government assistance fund an amount equal to what would otherwise be paid as the county's disbursements under division (B) of this section if it had adopted such a final plan, plus any related accrued interest, to be set aside for that county. If the board of county commissioners notifies the coordinator prior to January 1, 2010, that a final plan for the provision of wireless enhanced 9-1-1 has been adopted, the coordinator shall disburse and pay to the county treasurer, not later than the last day of the month following the month the notification is made, the total amount so set aside for the county plus any related accrued interest. As of January 1, 2010, any money and interest so retained and not disbursed as authorized under this division shall be available for disbursement only as provided in division (B) of this section.
- (D) Immediately upon receipt by a county treasurer of a 813 disbursement under division (B) or (C) of this section, the county 814 shall disburse, in accordance with the allocation formula set 815 forth in the final plan, the amount the county so received to any 816 other subdivisions in the county and any regional councils of 817 governments in the county that pay the costs of a public safety 818 answering point providing wireless enhanced 9-1-1 under the plan. 819
- (E) Nothing in sections 4931.40 to 4931.70 of the Revised Code affects the authority of a subdivision operating or served by

a public safety answering point of a 9-1-1 system or a regional	822
council of governments operating a public safety answering point	823
of a 9-1-1 system to use, as provided in the final plan for the	824
system or in an agreement under section 4931.48 of the Revised	825
Code, any other authorized revenue of the subdivision or the	826
regional council of governments for the purposes of providing	827
basic or enhanced 9-1-1.	828

- Sec. 4931.65. Except as otherwise provided in section 829 4931.651 of the Revised Code: 830
- (A) A countywide 9-1-1 system receiving a disbursement under 831 section 4931.64 of the Revised Code shall provide countywide 832 wireless enhanced 9-1-1 in accordance with sections 4931.40 to 833 4931.70 of the Revised Code beginning as soon as reasonably 834 possible after receipt of the first disbursement or, if that 835 service is already implemented, shall continue to provide such 836 service. Except as provided in divisions (B) and (C) of this 837 section, a disbursement shall be used solely for the purpose of 838 paying either or both of the following: 839
- (1) Any costs of designing, upgrading, purchasing, leasing, 840 programming, installing, testing, or maintaining the necessary 841 data, hardware, software, and trunking required for the public 842 safety answering point or points of the 9-1-1 system to provide 843 wireless enhanced 9-1-1, which costs are incurred before or on or 844 after May 6, 2005, and consist of such additional costs of the 845 9-1-1 system over and above any costs incurred to provide wireline 846 9-1-1 or to otherwise provide wireless enhanced 9-1-1. Annually, 847 up to twenty-five thousand dollars of the disbursements received 848 on or after January 1, 2009, may be applied to data, hardware, and 849 software that automatically alerts personnel receiving a 9-1-1 850 call that a person at the subscriber's address or telephone number 851 may have a mental or physical disability, of which that personnel 852

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shall inform the appropriate emergency service provider. On or	853
after the provision of technical and operational standards	854
pursuant to division (D)(1) of section 4931.68 of the Revised	855
Code, a regional council of governments operating a public safety	856
answering point or a subdivision shall consider the standards	857
before incurring any costs described in this division.	858
(2) Any costs of training the staff of the public safety	859
answering point or points to provide wireless enhanced 9-1-1,	860
which costs are incurred before or on or after May 6, 2005.	861
(B) Beginning one year following the imposition of the	862
wireless 9-1-1 charge under section 4931.61 of the Revised Code, a	863
subdivision or a regional council of governments that certifies to	864
the Ohio 9-1-1 coordinator that it has paid the costs described in	865
divisions (A)(1) and (2) of this section and is providing	866
countywide wireless enhanced 9-1-1 may use disbursements received	867
under section 4931.64 of the Revised Code to pay any of its	868
personnel costs of one or more public safety answering points	869
providing countywide wireless enhanced 9-1-1.	870
(C) After receiving its April 2013, disbursement under	871
section 4931.64 of the Revised Code, a <u>regional council of</u>	872
governments operating a public safety answering point or a	873
subdivision may use any remaining balance of disbursements it	874
received under that section to pay any of its costs of providing	875
countywide wireless 9-1-1, including the personnel costs of one or	876
more public safety answering points providing that service.	877
(D) The costs described in divisions (A), (B), and (C) of	878
this section may include any such costs payable pursuant to an	879
agreement under division (J) of section 4931.41 of the Revised	880
Code.	881

Sec. 4931.66. (A)(1) A telephone company, the state highway

patrol as described in division (J) of section 4931.41 of the

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Revised Code, and each subdivision <u>or regional council of</u>	884
governments operating one or more public safety answering points	885
for a countywide system providing wireless 9-1-1, shall provide	886
the Ohio 9-1-1 coordinator with such information as the	887
coordinator requests for the purposes of carrying out the	888
coordinator's duties under sections 4931.60 to 4931.70 of the	889
Revised Code, including, but not limited to, duties regarding the	890
collection of the wireless 9-1-1 charge and regarding the	891
provision of a report or recommendation under section 4931.70 of	892
the Revised Code.	893

- (2) A wireless service provider shall provide an official, 894 employee, agent, or representative of a subdivision or regional 895 council of governments operating a public safety answering point, 896 or of the state highway patrol as described in division (J) of 897 section 4931.41 of the Revised Code, with such technical, service, 898 and location information as the official, employee, agent, or 899 900 representative requests for the purpose of providing wireless 9-1-1. 901
- (3) A subdivision or regional council of governments

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 operating one or more public safety answering points of a 9-1-1

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 system, and a telephone company, shall provide to the Ohio 9-1-1

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 council such information as the council requires for the purpose

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 of carrying out its duties under division (D) of section 4931.68

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 of the Revised Code.
- (B)(1) Any information provided under division (A) of this 908 section that consists of trade secrets as defined in section 909 1333.61 of the Revised Code or of information regarding the 910 customers, revenues, expenses, or network information of a 911 telephone company shall be confidential and does not constitute a 912 public record for the purpose of section 149.43 of the Revised 913 Code. 914

(2) The public utilities commission, the Ohio 9-1-1	915
coordinator, and any official, employee, agent, or representative	916
of the commission, of the state highway patrol as described in	917
division (J) of section 4931.41 of the Revised Code, or of a	918
subdivision or regional council of governments operating a public	919
safety answering point, while acting or claiming to act in the	920
capacity of the commission or coordinator or such official,	921
employee, agent, or representative, shall not disclose any	922
information provided under division (A) of this section regarding	923
a telephone company's customers, revenues, expenses, or network	924
information. Nothing in division (B)(2) of this section precludes	925
any such information from being aggregated and included in any	926
report required under section 4931.70 or division (D)(2) of	927
section 4931.69 of the Revised Code, provided the aggregated	928
information does not identify the number of any particular	929
company's customers or the amount of its revenues or expenses or	930
identify a particular company as to any network information.	931

sec. 5703.57. (A) As used in this section, "Ohio business 932
gateway" has the same meaning as in section 718.051 of the Revised 933
Code. 934

(B) There is hereby created the Ohio business gateway 935 steering committee to direct the continuing development of the 936 Ohio business gateway and to oversee its operations. The committee 937 shall provide general oversight regarding operation of the Ohio 938 business gateway and shall recommend to the department of 939 administrative services enhancements that will improve the Ohio 940 business gateway. The committee shall consider all banking, 941 technological, administrative, and other issues associated with 942 the Ohio business gateway and shall make recommendations regarding 943 the type of reporting forms or other tax documents to be filed 944 through the Ohio business gateway. 945

(D) A vacancy on the committee does not impair the right of

the other members to exercise all the functions of the committee.

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constitutes a quorum for the conduct of business of the committee. The concurrence of at least a majority of the members of the committee is necessary for any action to be taken by the committee. On request, each member of the committee shall be reimbursed for the actual and necessary expenses incurred in the discharge of the member's duties.	976 977 978 979 980 981
committee is necessary for any action to be taken by the committee. On request, each member of the committee shall be reimbursed for the actual and necessary expenses incurred in the	978 979 980 981
committee. On request, each member of the committee shall be reimbursed for the actual and necessary expenses incurred in the	979 980 981
reimbursed for the actual and necessary expenses incurred in the	980 981
	981
discharge of the member's duties.	
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(E) The committee is a part of the department of taxation for	982
administrative purposes.	983
(F) Each year, the governor shall select a member of the	984
committee to serve as chairperson. The chairperson shall appoint	985
an official or employee of the department of taxation to act as	986
the committee's secretary. The secretary shall keep minutes of the	987
committee's meetings and a journal of all meetings, proceedings,	988
findings, and determinations of the committee.	989
(G) The committee $\frac{1}{2}$ may hire professional, technical, and	990
clerical staff needed to support its activities.	991
(H) The committee shall meet as often as necessary to perform	992
its duties.	993
Sec. 5705.13. (A) A taxing authority of a subdivision, by	994
resolution or ordinance, may establish reserve balance accounts to	995
accumulate currently available resources for the following	996
purposes:	997
(1) To stabilize subdivision budgets against cyclical changes	998
in revenues and expenditures;	999
(2) Except as otherwise provided by this section, to provide	1000
for the payment of claims $\underline{and\ deductibles}$ under $\underline{a}\ \underline{an\ individual\ or}$	1001
joint self-insurance program for the subdivision, if the	1002
subdivision is permitted by law to establish such a program;	1003

(3) To provide for the payment of claims, assessments, and

<u>deductibles</u> under a <u>self-insurance program, individual</u>
retrospective ratings plan, group rating plan, group retrospective
rating plan, medical only program, deductible plan, or large
deductible plan for workers' compensation.

The ordinance or resolution establishing a reserve balance 1009 account shall state the purpose for which the account is 1010 established, the fund in which the account is to be established, 1011 and the total amount of money to be reserved in the account. 1012

A subdivision that participates in a risk-sharing pool, by

which governments pool risks and funds and share in the costs of

losses, shall not establish a reserve balance account to provide

self-insurance for the subdivision.

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Not more than one reserve balance account may be established 1017 for each of the purposes permitted under divisions (A)(2) and (3) 1018 of this section. Money to the credit of a reserve balance account 1019 may be expended only for the purpose for which the account was 1020 established.

A reserve balance account established for the purpose 1022 described in division (A)(1) of this section may be established in 1023 the general fund or in one or more special funds for operating 1024 purposes of the subdivision. The amount of money to be reserved in 1025 such an account in any fiscal year shall not exceed five per cent 1026 of the revenue credited in the preceding fiscal year to the fund 1027 in which the account is established, or, in the case of a reserve 1028 balance account of a county or of a township, the greater of that 1029 amount or one-sixth of the expenditures during the preceding 1030 fiscal year from the fund in which the account is established. 1031 Subject to division (G) of section 5705.29 of the Revised Code, 1032 any reserve balance in an account established under division 1033 (A)(1) of this section shall not be considered part of the 1034 unencumbered balance or revenue of the subdivision under division 1035 (A) of section 5705.35 or division (A)(1) of section 5705.36 of 1036 the Revised Code.

At any time, a taxing authority of a subdivision, by

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resolution or ordinance, may reduce or eliminate the reserve

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balance in a reserve balance account established for the purpose

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described in division (A)(1) of this section.

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A reserve balance account established for the purpose 1042 described in division (A)(2) or (3) of this section shall be 1043 established in the general fund of the subdivision or by the 1044 establishment of a separate internal service fund established to 1045 account for the operation of the an individual or joint 1046 self-insurance or retrospective ratings plan program described in 1047 division (A)(2) of this section or a workers' compensation program 1048 or plan described in division (A)(3) of this section, and shall be 1049 based on sound actuarial principles. The total amount of money in 1050 a reserve balance account for self-insurance may be expressed in 1051 dollars or as the amount determined to represent an adequate 1052 reserve according to sound actuarial principles. 1053

A taxing authority of a subdivision, by resolution or 1054 ordinance, may rescind a reserve balance account established under 1055 this division. If a reserve balance account is rescinded, money 1056 that has accumulated in the account shall be transferred to the 1057 fund or funds from which the money originally was transferred. 1058

(B) A taxing authority of a subdivision, by resolution or 1059 ordinance, may establish a special revenue fund for the purpose of 1060 accumulating resources for the payment of accumulated sick leave 1061 and vacation leave, and for payments in lieu of taking 1062 compensatory time off, upon the termination of employment or the 1063 retirement of officers and employees of the subdivision. The 1064 special revenue fund may also accumulate resources for payment of 1065 salaries during any fiscal year when the number of pay periods 1066 exceeds the usual and customary number of pay periods. 1067 Notwithstanding sections 5705.14, 5705.15, and 5705.16 of the 1068

Revised Code, the taxing authority, by resolution or ordinance,	1069
may transfer money to the special revenue fund from any other fund	1070
of the subdivision from which such payments may lawfully be made.	1071
The taxing authority, by resolution or ordinance, may rescind a	1072
special revenue fund established under this division. If a special	1073
revenue fund is rescinded, money that has accumulated in the fund	1074
shall be transferred to the fund or funds from which the money	1075
originally was transferred.	1076

(C) A taxing authority of a subdivision, by resolution or 1077 ordinance, may establish a capital projects fund for the purpose 1078 of accumulating resources for the acquisition, construction, or 1079 improvement of fixed assets of the subdivision. For the purposes 1080 of this section, "fixed assets" includes motor vehicles. More than 1081 one capital projects fund may be established and may exist at any 1082 time. The ordinance or resolution shall identify the source of the 1083 money to be used to acquire, construct, or improve the fixed 1084 assets identified in the resolution or ordinance, the amount of 1085 money to be accumulated for that purpose, the period of time over 1086 which that amount is to be accumulated, and the fixed assets that 1087 the taxing authority intends to acquire, construct, or improve 1088 with the money to be accumulated in the fund. 1089

A taxing authority of a subdivision shall not accumulate money in a capital projects fund for more than ten years after the resolution or ordinance establishing the fund is adopted. If the subdivision has not entered into a contract for the acquisition, construction, or improvement of fixed assets for which money was accumulated in such a fund before the end of that ten-year period, the fiscal officer of the subdivision shall transfer all money in the fund to the fund or funds from which that money originally was transferred or the fund that originally was intended to receive the money.

A taxing authority of a subdivision, by resolution or

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ordinance, may rescind a capital projects fund. If a capital	
projects fund is rescinded, money that has accumulated in the fund	
shall be transferred to the fund or funds from which the money	
originally was transferred.	

Notwithstanding sections 5705.14, 5705.15, and 5705.16 of the 1105
Revised Code, the taxing authority of a subdivision, by resolution 1106
or ordinance, may transfer money to the capital projects fund from 1107
any other fund of the subdivision that may lawfully be used for 1108
the purpose of acquiring, constructing, or improving the fixed 1109
assets identified in the resolution or ordinance. 1110

Sec. 5713.07. The county auditor, at the time of making the 1111 assessment of real property subject to taxation, shall enter in a 1112 separate list pertinent descriptions of all burying grounds, 1113 public schoolhouses, houses used exclusively for public worship, 1114 institutions of purely public charity, real property used 1115 exclusively for a home for the aged, as defined in section 5701.13 1116 of the Revised Code, public buildings and property used 1117 exclusively for any public purpose, and any other property, with 1118 the lot or tract of land on which such house, institution, public 1119 building, or other property is situated, and which have been 1120 exempted from taxation by either the tax commissioner or auditor 1121 under section 5715.27 of the Revised Code or by the housing 1122 officer under section 3735.67 of the Revised Code. The auditor 1123 shall value such houses, buildings, property, and lots and tracts 1124 of land at their taxable value in the same manner as the auditor 1125 is required to value other real property, designating in each case 1126 the township, municipal corporation, and number of the school 1127 district, or the name or designation of the school, religious 1128 society, or institution to which each house, lot, or tract 1129 belongs. If such property is held and used for other public 1130 purposes, the auditor shall state by whom or how it is held. 1131

Sec. 5713.08. (A) The county auditor shall make a list of all	1132
real and personal property in the auditor's county that is	1133
exempted from taxation. Such list shall show the name of the	1134
owner, the value of the property exempted, and a statement in	1135
brief form of the ground on which such exemption has been granted.	1136
It shall be corrected annually by adding thereto the items of	1137
property which have been exempted during the year, and by striking	1138
therefrom the items which in the opinion of the auditor have lost	1139
their right of exemption and which have been reentered on the	1140
taxable list, but no property shall be struck from the exempt	1141
property list solely because the property has been conveyed to a	1142
single member limited liability company with a nonprofit purpose	1143
from its nonprofit member or because the property has been	1144
conveyed by a single member limited liability company with a	1145
nonprofit purpose to its nonprofit member. No additions shall be	1146
made to such exempt lists and no additional items of property	1147
shall be exempted from taxation without the consent of the tax	1148
commissioner as is provided for in section 5715.27 of the Revised	1149
Code or without the consent of the housing officer under section	1150
3735.67 of the Revised Code, except for property exempted by the	1151
auditor under that section or qualifying agricultural real	1152
property, as defined in section 5709.28 of the Revised Code, that	1153
is enrolled in an agriculture security area that is exempt under	1154
that section. The commissioner may revise at any time the list in	1155
every county so that no property is improperly or illegally	1156
exempted from taxation. The auditor shall follow the orders of the	1157
commissioner given under this section. An abstract of such list	1158
shall be filed annually with the commissioner, on a form approved	1159
by the commissioner, and a copy thereof shall be kept on file in	1160
the office of each auditor for public inspection.	1161

An application for exemption of property shall include a 1162 certificate executed by the county treasurer certifying one of the 1163

following:	1164
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(1) That all taxes, interest, and penalties levied and 1165 assessed against the property sought to be exempted have been paid 1166 in full for all of the tax years preceding the tax year for which 1167 the application for exemption is filed, except for such taxes, 1168 interest, and penalties that may be remitted under division (C) of 1169 this section;

- (2) That the applicant has entered into a valid delinquent 1171 tax contract with the county treasurer pursuant to division (A) of 1172 section 323.31 of the Revised Code to pay all of the delinquent 1173 taxes, interest, and penalties charged against the property, 1174 except for such taxes, interest, and penalties that may be 1175 remitted under division (C) of this section. If the auditor 1176 receives notice under section 323.31 of the Revised Code that such 1177 a written delinquent tax contract has become void, the auditor 1178 shall strike such property from the list of exempted property and 1179 reenter such property on the taxable list. If property is removed 1180 from the exempt list because a written delinquent tax contract has 1181 become void, current taxes shall first be extended against that 1182 property on the general tax list and duplicate of real and public 1183 utility property for the tax year in which the auditor receives 1184 the notice required by division (A) of section 323.31 of the 1185 Revised Code that the delinquent tax contract has become void or, 1186 if that notice is not timely made, for the tax year in which falls 1187 the latest date by which the treasurer is required by such section 1188 to give such notice. A county auditor shall not remove from any 1189 tax list and duplicate the amount of any unpaid delinquent taxes, 1190 assessments, interest, or penalties owed on property that is 1191 placed on the exempt list pursuant to this division. 1192
- (3) That a tax certificate has been issued under section 1193
 5721.32 or 5721.33 of the Revised Code with respect to the 1194
 property that is the subject of the application, and the tax 1195

certificate is outstanding.

- (B) If the treasurer's certificate is not included with the 1197 application or the certificate reflects unpaid taxes, penalties, 1198 and interest that may not be remitted, the tax commissioner or 1199 county auditor with whom the application was filed shall notify 1200 the property owner of that fact, and the applicant shall be given 1201 sixty days from the date that notification was mailed in which to 1202 provide the tax commissioner or county auditor with a corrected 1203 treasurer's certificate. If a corrected treasurer's certificate is 1204 not received within the time permitted, the tax commissioner or 1205 county auditor does not have authority to consider the tax 1206 exemption application. 1207
- (C) Any taxes, interest, and penalties which have become a 1208 lien after the property was first used for the exempt purpose, but 1209 in no case prior to the date of acquisition of the title to the 1210 property by the applicant, may be remitted by the commissioner or 1211 county auditor, except as is provided in division (A) of section 1212 5713.081 of the Revised Code.
- (D) Real property acquired by the state in fee simple is 1214 exempt from taxation from the date of acquisition of title or date 1215 of possession, whichever is the earlier date, provided that all 1216 taxes, interest, and penalties as provided in the apportionment 1217 provisions of section 319.20 of the Revised Code have been paid to 1218 the date of acquisition of title or date of possession by the 1219 state, whichever is earlier. The proportionate amount of taxes 1220 that are a lien but not yet determined, assessed, and levied for 1221 the year in which the property is acquired, shall be remitted by 1222 the county auditor for the balance of the year from date of 1223 acquisition of title or date of possession, whichever is earlier. 1224 This section shall not be construed to authorize the exemption of 1225 such property from taxation or the remission of taxes, interest, 1226 and penalties thereon until all private use has terminated. 1227

Sec. 5713.081. (A) No application for real property tax	1228
exemption and tax remission shall be filed with, or considered by,	1229
the tax commissioner or county auditor in which tax remission is	1230
requested for more than three tax years, and the commissioner $\underline{\text{or}}$	1231
<u>auditor</u> shall not remit more than three years' taxes, penalties,	1232
and interest.	1233
(B) All taxes, penalties, and interest, that have been	1234
delinquent for more than three years, appearing on the general tax	1235
list and duplicate of real property which have been levied and	1236
assessed against parcels of real property owned by the state, any	1237
political subdivision, or any other entity whose ownership of real	1238
property would constitute public ownership, shall be collected by	1239
the county auditor of the county where the real property is	1240
located. Such The auditor shall deduct from each distribution made	1241
by the auditor, the amount necessary to pay the tax delinquency	1242
from any revenues or funds to the credit of the state, any	1243
political subdivision, or any other entity whose ownership of real	1244
property would constitute public ownership thereof, passing under	1245
the auditor's control, or which come into the auditor's	1246
possession, and such deductions shall be made on a continuing	1247
basis until all delinquent taxes, penalties, and interest noted in	1248
this section have been paid.	1249
(C) As used in division (B) of this section, "political	1250
subdivision" includes townships, municipalities, counties, school	1251
districts, boards of education, all state and municipal	1252
universities, park boards, and any other entity whose ownership of	1253
real property would constitute public ownership.	1254
Sec. 5713.082. (A) Whenever the county auditor reenters an	1255
item of property to the tax list as provided in section 5713.08 of	1255
the Revised Code and there has been no conveyance of the property	1257
one here the code and entere has been no conveyance or one property	1251

between separate entities, the auditor shall send notice by

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certified mail to the owner of the property that it is now subject 1259 to property taxation as a result of such action. The auditor shall 1260 send the notice at the same time the auditor certifies the real 1261 property tax duplicate to the county treasurer. The notice shall 1262 describe the property and indicate that the owner may reapply for 1263 tax exemption by filing an application for exemption as provided 1264 in section 5715.27 of the Revised Code, and that failure to file 1265 such an application within the proper time period will result in 1266 the owner having to pay the taxes even if the property continued 1267 to be used for an exempt purpose. 1268

(B) If the auditor failed to send the notice required by this 1269 section, and if the owner of the property subsequently files an 1270 application for tax exemption for the property for the current tax 1271 year, the tax commissioner or county auditor may grant exemption 1272 to the property, and the commissioner or auditor shall remit all 1273 taxes and penalties for each prior year since the property was 1274 reentered on the tax list, notwithstanding the provisions of 1275 division (A) of section 5713.081 of the Revised Code. 1276

Sec. 5715.27. (A)(1) Except as provided in <u>division (A)(2) of</u> 1277 this section and in section 3735.67 of the Revised Code, the 1278 owner, a vendee in possession under a purchase agreement or a land 1279 contract, the beneficiary of a trust, or a lessee for an initial 1280 term of not less than thirty years of any property may file an 1281 application with the tax commissioner, on forms prescribed by the 1282 commissioner, requesting that such property be exempted from 1283 taxation and that taxes, interest, and penalties be remitted as 1284 provided in division (C) of section 5713.08 of the Revised Code. 1285

(2) If the property that is the subject of the application for exemption is any of the following, the application shall be filed with the county auditor of the county in which the property is listed for taxation:

(a) A public road or highway;	1290
(b) Property belonging to the federal government of the	1291
<u>United States;</u>	1292
(c) Additions or other improvements to an existing building	1293
or structure that belongs to the state or a political subdivision,	1294
as defined in section 5713.081 of the Revised Code, and that is	1295
exempted from taxation as property used exclusively for a public	1296
purpose;	1297
(d) Property of the boards of trustees and of the housing	1298
commissions of the state universities, the northeastern Ohio	1299
universities college of medicine, and of the state to be exempted	1300
under section 3345.17 of the Revised Code.	1301
(B) The board of education of any school district may request	1302
the tax commissioner or county auditor to provide it with	1303
notification of applications for exemption from taxation for	1304
property located within that district. If so requested, the	1305
commissioner or auditor shall send to the board on a monthly basis	1306
reports that contain sufficient information to enable the board to	1307
identify each property that is the subject of an exemption	1308
application, including, but not limited to, the name of the	1309
property owner or applicant, the address of the property, and the	1310
auditor's parcel number. The commissioner or auditor shall mail	1311
the reports by the fifteenth day of the month following the end of	1312
the month in which the commissioner or auditor receives the	1313
applications for exemption.	1314
(C) A board of education that has requested notification	1315
under division (B) of this section may, with respect to any	1316
application for exemption of property located in the district and	1317
included in the commissioner's or auditor's most recent report	1318
provided under that division, file a statement with the	1319
commissioner or auditor and with the applicant indicating its	1320

intent to submit evidence and participate in any hearing on the 1321 application. The statements shall be filed prior to the first day 1322 of the third month following the end of the month in which that 1323 application was docketed by the commissioner or auditor. A 1324 statement filed in compliance with this division entitles the 1325 district to submit evidence and to participate in any hearing on 1326 the property and makes the district a party for purposes of 1327 sections 5717.02 to 5717.04 of the Revised Code in any appeal of 1328 the commissioner's or auditor's decision to the board of tax 1329 appeals. 1330

- (D) The commissioner or auditor shall not hold a hearing on 1331 or grant or deny an application for exemption of property in a 1332 school district whose board of education has requested 1333 notification under division (B) of this section until the end of 1334 the period within which the board may submit a statement with 1335 respect to that application under division (C) of this section. 1336 The commissioner or auditor may act upon an application at any 1337 time prior to that date upon receipt of a written waiver from each 1338 such board of education, or, in the case of exemptions authorized 1339 by section 725.02, 1728.10, 5709.40, 5709.41, 5709.411, 5709.62, 1340 5709.63, 5709.632, 5709.73, 5709.78, 5709.84, or 5709.88 of the 1341 Revised Code, upon the request of the property owner. Failure of a 1342 board of education to receive the report required in division (B) 1343 of this section shall not void an action of the commissioner or 1344 auditor with respect to any application. The commissioner or 1345 auditor may extend the time for filing a statement under division 1346 (C) of this section. 1347
- (E) A complaint may also be filed with the commissioner or 1348 auditor by any person, board, or officer authorized by section 1349 5715.19 of the Revised Code to file complaints with the county 1350 board of revision against the continued exemption of any property 1351 granted exemption by the commissioner or auditor under this 1352

section. 1353

(F) An application for exemption and a complaint against 1354 exemption shall be filed prior to the thirty-first day of December 1355 of the tax year for which exemption is requested or for which the 1356 liability of the property to taxation in that year is requested. 1357 The commissioner or auditor shall consider such application or 1358 complaint in accordance with procedures established by the 1359 commissioner, determine whether the property is subject to 1360 taxation or exempt therefrom, and, if the commissioner makes the 1361 determination, certify the commissioner's findings determination 1362 to the auditor, who. Upon making the determination or receiving 1363 the commissioner's determination, the auditor shall correct the 1364 tax list and duplicate accordingly. If a tax certificate has been 1365 sold under section 5721.32 or 5721.33 of the Revised Code with 1366 respect to property for which an exemption has been requested, the 1367 tax commissioner or auditor shall also certify the findings to the 1368 county treasurer of the county in which the property is located. 1369

- (G) Applications and complaints, and documents of any kind 1370 related to applications and complaints, filed with the tax 1371 commissioner or county auditor under this section, are public 1372 records within the meaning of section 149.43 of the Revised Code. 1373
- (H) If the commissioner or auditor determines that the use of 1374 property or other facts relevant to the taxability of property 1375 that is the subject of an application for exemption or a complaint 1376 under this section has changed while the application or complaint 1377 was pending, the commissioner or auditor may make the 1378 determination under division (F) of this section separately for 1379 each tax year beginning with the year in which the application or 1380 complaint was filed or the year for which remission of taxes under 1381 division (C) of section 5713.08 of the Revised Code was requested, 1382 and including each subsequent tax year during which the 1383 application or complaint is pending before the commissioner or 1384

auditor. 1385

Sec. 5717.02. (A) Except as otherwise provided by law,	1386
appeals from final determinations by the tax commissioner of any	1387
preliminary, amended, or final tax assessments, reassessments,	1388
valuations, determinations, findings, computations, or orders made	1389
by the commissioner may be taken to the board of tax appeals by	1390
the taxpayer, by the person to whom notice of the tax assessment,	1391
reassessment, valuation, determination, finding, computation, or	1392
order by the commissioner is required by law to be given, by the	1393
director of budget and management if the revenues affected by such	1394
that decision would accrue primarily to the state treasury, or by	1395
the county auditors of the counties to the undivided general tax	1396
funds of which the revenues affected by such that decision would	1397
primarily accrue. Appeals from the redetermination by the director	1398
of development under division (B) of section 5709.64 or division	1399
(A) of section 5709.66 of the Revised Code may be taken to the	1400
board of tax appeals by the enterprise to which notice of the	1401
redetermination is required by law to be given. Appeals from a	1402
decision of the tax commissioner or county auditor concerning an	1403
application for a property tax exemption may be taken to the board	1404
of tax appeals by the applicant or by a school district that filed	1405
a statement concerning such that application under division (C) of	1406
section 5715.27 of the Revised Code. Appeals from a	1407
redetermination by the director of job and family services under	1408
section 5733.42 of the Revised Code may be taken by the person to	1409
which the notice of the redetermination is required by law to be	1410
given under that section.	1411

Such (B) The appeals shall be taken by the filing of a notice 1412 of appeal with the board, and with the tax commissioner if the tax 1413 commissioner's action is the subject of the appeal, with the county auditor's action is the subject of 1415 the appeal, with the director of development if that director's 1416

action is the subject of the appeal, or with the director of job	1417
and family services if that director's action is the subject of	1418
the appeal. The notice of appeal shall be filed within sixty days	1419
after service of the notice of the tax assessment, reassessment,	1420
valuation, determination, finding, computation, or order by the	1421
commissioner, property tax exemption determination by the	1422
commissioner or the county auditor, or redetermination by the	1423
director has been given as provided in section 5703.37, 5709.64,	1424
5709.66, or 5733.42 of the Revised Code. The notice of such appeal	1425
may be filed in person or by certified mail, express mail, or	1426
authorized delivery service. If the notice of such appeal is filed	1427
by certified mail, express mail, or authorized delivery service as	1428
provided in section 5703.056 of the Revised Code, the date of the	1429
United States postmark placed on the sender's receipt by the	1430
postal service or the date of receipt recorded by the authorized	1431
delivery service shall be treated as the date of filing. The	1432
notice of appeal shall have attached thereto to it and	1433
incorporated therein in it by reference a true copy of the notice	1434
sent by the commissioner, county auditor, or director to the	1435
taxpayer, enterprise, or other person of the final determination	1436
or redetermination complained of, and shall also specify the	1437
errors therein complained of, but failure to attach a copy of such	1438
that notice and to incorporate it by reference in the notice of	1439
appeal does not invalidate the appeal.	1440

(C) Upon the filing of a notice of appeal, the tax 1441 commissioner, county auditor, or the director, as appropriate, 1442 shall certify to the board a transcript of the record of the 1443 proceedings before the commissioner, auditor, or director, 1444 together with all evidence considered by the commissioner, 1445 auditor, or director in connection therewith with the proceedings. 1446 Such Those appeals or applications may be heard by the board at 1447 its office in Columbus or in the county where the appellant 1448 resides, or it may cause its examiners to conduct such the 1449