As Reported by the House Commerce and Labor Committee

129th General Assembly Regular Session 2011-2012

Sub. S. B. No. 139

Senator Hughes

Cosponsors: Senators Schaffer, Seitz, Patton, Bacon, Beagle, Daniels, Faber, Hite, Jones, Niehaus, Obhof, Tavares

A BILL

То	amend sections 4123.291, 4125.01, 4125.02,	1
	4125.03, 4125.05, 4125.07, 4125.08, 4141.24, and	2
	5747.07 and to enact sections 4125.041, 4125.042,	3
	4125.051, 4125.10, and 4125.11 of the Revised Code	4
	to establish certain financial capacity	5
	requirements for professional employer	6
	organizations, clarify rights and liabilities of	7
	professional employer organizations and client	8
	employers, and make other changes to the	9
	professional employer organization law.	1.0

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

Section 1. That sections 4123.291, 4125.01, 4125.02, 4125.03,	11
4125.05, 4125.07, 4125.08, 4141.24, and 5747.07 be amended and	12
sections 4125.041, 4125.042, 4125.051, 4125.10, and 4125.11 of the	13
Revised Code be enacted to read as follows:	
Sec. 4123.291. (A) An adjudicating committee appointed by the	15
administrator of workers' compensation to hear any matter	
specified in divisions (B)(1) to (7) of this section shall hear	17
the matter within sixty days of the date on which an employer	18

files the request, protest, or petition. An employer desiring to	19
file a request, protest, or petition regarding any matter	20
specified in divisions (B)(1) to (7) of this section shall file	21
the request, protest, or petition to the adjudicating committee on	22
or before twenty-four months after the administrator sends notice	23
of the determination about which the employer is filing the	24
request, protest, or petition.	25

- (B) An employer who is adversely affected by a decision of an 26 adjudicating committee appointed by the administrator may appeal 27 the decision of the committee to the administrator or the 28 administrator's designee. The employer shall file the appeal in 29 writing within thirty days after the employer receives the 30 decision of the adjudicating committee. The administrator or the 31 designee shall hear the appeal and hold a hearing, provided that 32 the decision of the adjudicating committee relates to one of the 33 following: 34
- (1) An employer request for a waiver of a default in the 35 payment of premiums pursuant to section 4123.37 of the Revised 36 Code; 37
- (2) An employer request for the settlement of liability as a 38 noncomplying employer under section 4123.75 of the Revised Code; 39
- (3) An employer petition objecting to the assessment of a 40 premium pursuant to section 4123.37 of the Revised Code and the 41 rules adopted pursuant to that section; 42
- (4) An employer request for the abatement of penalties
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 assessed pursuant to section 4123.32 of the Revised Code and the
 rules adopted pursuant to that section;
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- (5) An employer protest relating to an audit finding or a
 determination of a manual classification, experience rating, or
 transfer or combination of risk experience;
 - (6) Any decision relating to any other risk premium matter

organization or professional employer organization reporting	110
entity in complying with this chapter and any rules adopted under	111
it. The assurance organization shall be approved by the	112
administrator before acting on behalf of the professional employer	113
organization or the professional employer organization reporting	114
entity and shall abide by all standards and procedures established	115
by the administrator for that approval. The administrator may	116
permit a professional employer organization or professional	117
employer organization reporting entity to authorize an assurance	118
organization approved by the administrator to act on behalf of the	119
professional employer organization or professional employer	120
organization reporting entity, and the administrator shall specify	121
certain provisions of this chapter that may be satisfied by an	122
assurance organization acting with that authority. The rules shall	123
also stipulate that the use of an assurance organization by a	124
professional employer organization to comply with this chapter is	125
not required and is strictly voluntary.	126
Sec. 4125.03. (A) The professional employer organization with	127
whom a shared employee is coemployed shall do all of the	128
following:	129
(1) Pay wages associated with a shared employee pursuant to	130
the terms and conditions of compensation in the professional	131
employer organization agreement between the professional employer	132
organization and the client employer;	133
(2) Pay all related payroll taxes associated with a shared	134
employee independent of the terms and conditions contained in the	135
professional employer organization agreement between the	136
professional employer organization and the client employer;	137
(3) Maintain workers' compensation coverage, pay all workers'	138
compensation premiums and manage all workers' compensation claims,	139
filings, and related procedures associated with a shared employee	140

following information to the client employer upon the written

request of the client employer:

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<pre>employer may have;</pre>	201
(4) Comply with any applicable licensure, regulatory, or	202
statutory requirement of the client employer.	203
(C) Notwithstanding division (B) of this section, a client	204
employer may retain sufficient direction and control over a shared	205
employee as is necessary to conduct the client employer's business	206
and to discharge any fiduciary responsibility that it may have, or	207
to comply with any applicable licensure, regulatory, or statutory	208
requirement of the client employer	209
(E) Unless otherwise agreed to in the professional employer	210
organization agreement, liability for acts, errors, and omissions	211
<pre>shall be determined as follows:</pre>	212
(1) A professional employer organization shall not be liable	213
for the acts, errors, and omissions of a client employer or a	214
shared employee when those acts, errors, and omissions occur under	215
the direction and control of the client employer.	216
(2) A client employer shall not be liable for the acts,	217
errors, and omissions of a professional employer organization or a	218
shared employee when those acts, errors, and omissions occur under	219
the direction and control of the professional employer	220
organization.	221
(F) Nothing in divisions (D) and (E) of this section shall be	222
construed to limit any liability or obligation specifically agreed	223
to in the professional employer organization agreement.	224
Gaz. 4125 041 7 shared amplement under a montagational	225
Sec. 4125.041. A shared employee under a professional	
employer organization agreement shall not, solely as a result of	226
being a shared employee, be considered an employee of the	227
professional employer organization for purposes of general	228
liability insurance, fidelity bonds, surety bonds, employer	229
liability not otherwise covered by Chapters 4121, and 4123, of the	230

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Revised Code, or liquor liability insurance carried by the	231
professional employer organization, unless the professional	232
employer organization agreement and applicable prearranged	233
employment contract, insurance contract, or bond specifically	234
states otherwise.	235
Sec. 4125.042. (A) For purposes of determining tax credits	236
and other economic incentives that are provided by this state or	237
any political subdivision and based on employment, shared	238
employees under a professional employer organization agreement	239
shall be considered employees solely of the client employer.	240
(1) A client employer shall be entitled to the benefit of any	241
tax credit, economic incentive, or similar benefit arising as the	242
result of the client employer's employment of shared employees. If	243
the grant or amount of any tax credit, economic incentive, or	244
other benefit is based on number of employees, each client	245
employer shall be treated as employing only those shared employees	246
coemployed by the client employer. Shared employees working for	247
other client employers of the professional employer organization	248
shall not be counted as employees for that purpose.	249
(2) Upon request by a client employer or an agency or	250
department of this state, a professional employer organization	251
shall provide employment information reasonably required by the	252
agency or department responsible for administration of the tax	253
credit or economic incentive and necessary to support any request,	254
claim, application, or other action by a client employer seeking	255
the tax credit or economic incentive.	256
(B) Shared employees whose services are subject to sales tax	257
shall be considered the employees of the client employer for	258
purposes of collecting and levying sales tax on the services	259
performed by the shared employee. Nothing contained in this	260
chapter shall relieve a client employer or professional employer	261

organization of any sales tax liability with respect to its goods	262
or services.	263
(C) Any tax assessed on a per capita or per employee basis	264
shall be assessed against the client employer for shared employees	265
and against the professional employer organization for employees	266
of the professional employer organization who are not shared	267
employees coemployed with a client employer.	268
(D) For purposes of computing any tax that is imposed or	269
calculated upon the basis of total payroll, the professional	270
employer organization shall be eligible to use any small business	271
allowance or exemption based solely on the employees of the	272
professional employer organization who are not shared employees	273
with any client employer. The eligibility of a client employer for	274
the allowance or exemption shall be based solely upon the payroll	275
of the employees of the client employer, including any shared	276
employees coemployed by the client employer.	277
Sec. 4125.05. (A) Not later than thirty days after November	278
5, 2004, or not later than thirty days after the formation of a	279
professional employer organization, whichever date occurs later, a	280
professional employer organization operating in this state shall	281
register with the administrator of the bureau of workers'	282
compensation on forms provided by the administrator. Following	283
initial registration, each professional employer organization	284
shall register with the administrator annually on or before the	285
thirty-first day of December. Commonly owned or controlled	286
applicants may register as a professional employer organization	287
reporting entity or register individually. Registration as a part	288
of a professional employer organization reporting entity shall not	289
disqualify an individual professional employer organization from	290
participating in a group-rated plan under division (A)(4) of	291

section 4123.29 of the Revised Code.

(B) Initial registration and each annual registration renewal	293
shall include all of the following:	294
(1) A list of each of the professional employer	295
organization's client employers current as of the date of	296
registration for purposes of initial registration or current as of	297
the date of annual registration renewal, or within fourteen days	298
of adding or releasing a client, that includes the client	299
employer's name, address, federal tax identification number, and	300
bureau of workers' compensation risk number;	301
(2) A fee as determined by the administrator;	302
(3) The name or names under which the professional employer	303
organization conducts business;	304
(4) The address of the professional employer organization's	305
principal place of business and the address of each office it	306
maintains in this state;	307
(5) The professional employer organization's taxpayer or	308
employer identification number;	309
(6) A list of each state in which the professional employer	310
organization has operated in the preceding five years, and the	311
name, corresponding with each state, under which the professional	312
employer organization operated in each state, including any	313
alternative names, names of predecessors, and if known, successor	314
business entities <u>;</u>	315
(7) The most recent financial statement prepared and audited	316
pursuant to division (B) of section 4125.051 of the Revised Code;	317
(8) If there is any deficit in the working capital required	318
under division (A) of section 4125.051 of the Revised Code, a	319
bond, irrevocable letter of credit, or securities with a minimum	320
market value in an amount sufficient to cover the deficit in	321
accordance with the requirements of that section;	322

provide security in the form of a bond or letter of credit	353
assignable to the Ohio bureau of workers' compensation not to	354
exceed an amount equal to the premiums and assessments incurred	355
for the two most recent payroll periods, prior to any discounts or	356
dividends, to meet the financial obligations of the professional	357
employer organization pursuant to this chapter and Chapters 4121.	358
and 4123. of the Revised Code.	359

- (2) As an alternative to providing security in the form of a 360 bond or letter of credit under division (D)(1) of this section, 361 the administrator shall permit a professional employer 362 organization to make periodic payments of prospective premiums and 363 assessments to the bureau or to submit proof of being certified by 364 either a nationally recognized organization that certifies 365 professional employer organizations or by a government entity 366 approved by the administrator. 367
- (3) A professional employer organization may appeal the 368 amount of the security required pursuant to rules adopted under 369 division (C)(D)(1) of this section in accordance with section 370 4123.291 of the Revised Code.
- $\frac{(D)}{(E)}$ Notwithstanding division $\frac{(C)}{(D)}$ of this section, a 372 professional employer organization that qualifies for 373 self-insurance or retrospective rating under section 4123.29 or 374 4123.35 of the Revised Code shall abide by the financial 375 disclosure and security requirements pursuant to those sections 376 and the rules adopted under those sections in place of the 377 requirements specified in division $\frac{(C)}{(D)}$ of this section or 378 specified in rules adopted pursuant to that division. 379
- (E)(F) Except to the extent necessary for the administrator

 to administer the statutory duties of the administrator and for

 employees of the state to perform their official duties, all

 records, reports, client lists, and other information obtained

 from a professional employer organization and professional

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employer organization reporting entity under divisions (A), (B),	385
and $\frac{(B)(C)}{(C)}$ of this section are confidential and shall be	386
considered trade secrets and shall not be published or open to	387
public inspection.	388
$\frac{(F)(G)}{(G)}$ The list described in division (B)(1) of this section	389
shall be considered a trade secret.	390
$\frac{(G)}{(H)}$ The administrator shall establish the fee described in	391
division (B)(2) of this section in an amount that does not exceed	392
the cost of the administration of the initial and renewal	393
registration process.	394
(I) A financial statement required under division (B)(7) of	395
this section for initial registration shall be the most recent	396
financial statement of the professional employer organization or	397
professional employer organization reporting entity of which the	398
professional employer organization is a member and shall not be	399
older than thirteen months. For each registration renewal, the	400
professional employer organization shall file the required	401
financial statement within one hundred eighty days after the end	402
of the professional employer organization's or professional	403
employer organization reporting entity's fiscal year. A	404
professional employer organization may apply to the administrator	405
for an extension beyond that time if the professional employer	406
organization provides the administrator with a letter from the	407
professional employer organization's auditor stating the reason	408
for delay and the anticipated completion date.	409
(J) Multiple, unrelated professional employer organizations	410
shall not combine together for purposes of obtaining workers'	411
compensation coverage or for forming any type of self-insurance	412
arrangement available under this chapter. Multiple, unrelated	413
professional employer organization reporting entities shall not	414
combine together for purposes of obtaining workers' compensation	415
coverage or for forming any type of self-insurance arrangement	416

Sec. 4125.07. Not later than fourteen calendar days after the

date on which a professional employer organization agreement is

terminated, the professional employer organization is adjudged

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bankrupt, the professional employer organization ceases operations	510
within the state of Ohio, or the registration of the professional	511
employer organization is revoked, the professional employer	512
organization shall submit to the administrator of the bureau of	513
workers' compensation and each client employer associated with	514
that professional employer organization a completed workers'	515
compensation lease termination notice form provided by the	516
administrator. The completed form shall include all client payroll	517
and claim information listed in a format specified by the	518
administrator and notice of all workers' compensation claims that	519
have been reported to the professional employer organization in	520
accordance with its internal reporting policies.	521
A professional employer organization shall report any	522
transfer of employees between related professional employer	523
organization entities or professional employer organization	524
reporting entities to the administrator within fourteen calendar	525
days after the date of the transfer on a form prescribed by the	526
administrator. The professional employer organization or	527
professional employer organization reporting entity shall include	528
in the form all client payroll and claim information regarding the	529
transferred employees listed in a format specified by the	530
administrator and a notice of all workers' compensation claims	531
that have been reported to the professional employer organization	532
or professional employer organization reporting entity in	533
accordance with the internal reporting policies of the	534
professional employer organization or professional employer	535
organization reporting entity.	536

Sec. 4125.08. Nothing in this chapter exempts a professional 537 employer organization, client employer, or shared employee from 538 any applicable federal, state, or local licensing, registration, 539 or certification statutes or regulations. An individual required 540

to obtain and maintain a license, registration, or certification	541
under law and who is a shared employee of a professional employer	542
organization and a client employer is an employee of the client	543
employer for purposes of obtaining and maintaining the appropriate	544
license, registration, or certification as required by law. A	545
professional employer organization does not engage in any	546
occupation, trade, or profession that requires a license,	547
certification, or registration solely by entering into a	548
professional employer agreement with a client employer or	549
coemploying a shared employee.	550
A client employer shall have the sole right of direction and	551
control of the professional or licensed activities of shared	552
employees and of the client employer's business. The shared	553
employees and client employers shall remain subject to regulation	554
by the board, commission, or agency responsible for licensing,	555
registration, or certification of the shared employees or client	556
employers.	557
Sec. 4125.10. Nothing contained in this chapter or in any	558
professional employer organization agreement shall do any of the	559
following:	560
(A) Diminish, abolish, or remove the rights and obligations	561
of client employers and shared employees existing prior to the	562
effective date of the professional employer organization	563
agreement;	564
(B) Affect, modify, or amend any contractual relationship or	565
restrictive covenant between a shared employee and any client	566
employer in effect at the time a professional employer	567
organization agreement becomes effective;	568
(C) Prohibit or amend any contractual relationship or	569
restrictive covenant between a client employer and a shared	570
employee that is entered into after the professional employer	571

is in excess of the limitations imposed by divisions (A)(2)(a), 602 (b), and (c) of this section and if the employer's account is 603 otherwise eligible for the transfer, then before the employer's 604 contribution rate is computed for the next succeeding contribution 605 period, an amount equal to the amount of the excess eligible for 606 transfer shall be permanently transferred from the account of such 607 employer and charged to the mutualized account provided in 608 division (B) of section 4141.25 of the Revised Code. 609

- (a) If as of any computation date, a contributory employer's 610 account shows a negative balance in excess of ten per cent of the 611 employer's average annual payroll, then before the employer's 612 contribution rate is computed for the next succeeding contribution 613 period, an amount equal to the amount of the excess shall be 614 transferred from the account as provided in this division. No 615 contributory employer's account may have any excess transferred 616 pursuant to division (A)(2)(a) of this section, unless the 617 employer's account has shown a positive balance for at least two 618 consecutive computation dates prior to the computation date with 619 respect to which the transfer is proposed. Each time a transfer is 620 made pursuant to division (A)(2)(a) of this section, the 621 employer's account is ineligible for any additional transfers 622 under that division, until the account shows a positive balance 623 for at least two consecutive computation dates subsequent to the 624 computation date of which the most recent transfer occurs pursuant 625 to division (A)(2)(a), (b), or (c) of this section. 626
- (b) If at the next computation date after the computation 627 date at which a transfer from the account occurs pursuant to 628 division (A)(2)(a) of this section, a contributory employer's 629 account shows a negative balance in excess of fifteen per cent of 630 the employer's average annual payroll, then before the employer's 631 contribution rate is computed for the next succeeding contribution 632 period an amount equal to the amount of the excess shall be 633

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permanently transferred from the account as provided in this 634 division. 635

- (c) If at the next computation date subsequent to the 636 computation date at which a transfer from a contributory 637 employer's account occurs pursuant to division (A)(2)(b) of this 638 section, the employer's account shows a negative balance in excess 639 of twenty per cent of the employer's average annual payroll, then 640 before the employer's contribution rate is computed for the next 641 succeeding contribution period, an amount equal to the amount of 642 the excess shall be permanently transferred from the account as 643 provided in this division. 644
- (d) If no transfer occurs pursuant to division (A)(2)(b) or 645 (c) of this section, the employer's account is ineligible for any 646 additional transfers under division (A)(2) of this section until 647 the account requalifies for a transfer pursuant to division 648 (A)(2)(a) of this section.
- (B) Any employer may make voluntary payments in addition to 650 the contributions required under this chapter, in accordance with 651 rules established by the director. Such payments shall be included 652 in the employer's account as of the computation date, provided 653 they are received by the director by the thirty-first day of 654 December following such computation date. Such voluntary payment, 655 when accepted from an employer, will not be refunded in whole or 656 in part. In determining whether an employer's account has a 657 positive balance on two consecutive computation dates and is 658 eligible for transfers under division (A)(2) of this section, the 659 director shall exclude any voluntary payments made subsequent to 660 the last transfer made under division (A)(2) of this section. 661
- (C) All contributions to the fund shall be pooled and available to pay benefits to any individual entitled to benefits irrespective of the source of such contributions.

(D)(1) For the purposes of this section and sections 4141.241	665
and 4141.242 of the Revised Code, an employer's account shall be	666
charged only for benefits based on remuneration paid by such	667
employer. Benefits paid to an eligible individual shall be charged	668
against the account of each employer within the claimant's base	669
period in the proportion to which wages attributable to each	670
employer of the claimant bears to the claimant's total base period	671
wages. Charges to the account of a base period employer with whom	672
the claimant is employed part-time at the time the claimant's	673
application for a determination of benefits rights is filed shall	674
be charged to the mutualized account when all of the following	675
conditions are met:	676
(a) The claimant also worked part-time for the employer	677

- (a) The claimant also worked part-time for the employer 677 during the base period of the claim. 678
- (b) The claimant is unemployed due to loss of other 679 employment.
- (c) The employer is not a reimbursing employer under section 681 4141.241 or 4141.242 of the Revised Code. 682
- (2) Notwithstanding division (D)(1) of this section, charges 683 to the account of any employer, including any reimbursing 684 employer, shall be charged to the mutualized account if it finally 685 is determined by a court on appeal that the employer's account is 686 not chargeable for the benefits. 687
- (3) Any benefits paid to a claimant under section 4141.28 of 688 the Revised Code prior to a final determination of the claimant's 689 right to the benefits shall be charged to the employer's account 690 as provided in division (D)(1) of this section, provided that if 691 there is no final determination of the claim by the subsequent 692 thirtieth day of June, the employer's account shall be credited 693 with the total amount of benefits that has been paid prior to that 694 date, based on the determination that has not become final. The 695

total amount credited to the employer's account shall be charged

to a suspense account, which shall be maintained as a separate

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bookkeeping account and administered as a part of this section,

and shall not be used in determining the account balance of the

employer for the purpose of computing the employer's contribution

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rate under section 4141.25 of the Revised Code.

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If it is finally determined that the claimant is entitled to 702 all or a part of the benefits in dispute, the suspense account 703 shall be credited and the appropriate employer's account charged 704 with the benefits. If it is finally determined that the claimant 705 is not entitled to all or any portion of the benefits in dispute, 706 the benefits shall be credited to the suspense account and a 707 corresponding charge made to the mutualized account established in 708 division (B) of section 4141.25 of the Revised Code, provided 709 that, except as otherwise provided in this section, if benefits 710 are chargeable to an employer or group of employers who is 711 required or elects to make payments to the fund in lieu of 712 contributions under section 4141.241 of the Revised Code, the 713 benefits shall be charged to the employer's account in the manner 714 provided in division (D)(1) of this section and division (B) of 715 section 4141.241 of the Revised Code, and no part of the benefits 716 717 may be charged to the suspense account provided in this division.

To the extent that benefits that have been paid to a claimant 718 and charged to the employer's account are found not to be due the 719 claimant and are recovered by the director as provided in section 720 4141.35 of the Revised Code, they shall be credited to the 721 employer's account.

(4) The director shall notify each employer at least once 723 each month of the benefits charged to the employer's account since 724 the last preceding notice; except that for the purposes of 725 sections 4141.241 and 4141.242 of the Revised Code which provides 726 the billing of employers on a payment in lieu of a contribution 727

basis, the director may prescribe a quarterly or less frequent 728 notice of benefits charged to the employer's account. Such notice 729 will show a summary of the amount of benefits paid which were 730 charged to the employer's account. This notice shall not be deemed 731 a determination of the claimant's eligibility for benefits. Any 732 employer so notified, however, may file within fifteen days after 733 the mailing date of the notice, an exception to charges appearing 734 on the notice on the grounds that such charges are not in 735 accordance with this section. The director shall promptly examine 736 the exception to such charges and shall notify the employer of the 737 director's decision thereon, which decision shall become final 738 unless appealed to the unemployment compensation review commission 739 in the manner provided in section 4141.26 of the Revised Code. For 740 the purposes of this division, an exception is considered timely 741 filed when it has been received as provided in division (D)(1) of 742 section 4141.281 of the Revised Code. 743

(E) The director shall terminate and close the account of any 744 contributory employer who has been subject to this chapter if the 745 enterprise for which the account was established is no longer in 746 operation and it has had no payroll and its account has not been 747 chargeable with benefits for a period of five consecutive years. 748 The amount of any positive balance, computed as provided in 749 division (A)(3) of section 4141.25 of the Revised Code, in an 750 account closed and terminated as provided in this section shall be 751 credited to the mutualized account as provided in division 752 (B)(2)(b) of section 4141.25 of the Revised Code. The amount of 753 any negative balance, computed as provided in division (A)(3) of 754 section 4141.25 of the Revised Code, in an account closed and 755 terminated as provided in this section shall be charged to the 756 mutualized account as provided in division (B)(1)(b) of section 757 4141.25 of the Revised Code. The amount of any positive balance or 758 negative balance, credited or charged to the mutualized account 759 after the termination and closing of an employer's account, shall 760

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not thereafter be considered in determining the contribution rate of such employer. The closing of an employer's account as provided in this division shall not relieve such employer from liability for any unpaid contributions or payment in lieu of contributions which are due for periods prior to such closing.

If the director finds that a contributory employer's business is closed solely because of the entrance of one or more of the owners, officers, or partners, or the majority stockholder, into the armed forces of the United States, or any of its allies, or of the United Nations after July 1, 1950, such employer's account shall not be terminated and if the business is resumed within two years after the discharge or release of such persons from active duty in the armed forces, the employer's experience shall be deemed to have been continuous throughout such period. The reserve ratio of any such employer shall be the total contributions paid by such employer minus all benefits, including benefits paid to any individual during the period such employer was in the armed forces, based upon wages paid by the employer prior to the employer's entrance into the armed forces divided by the average of the employer's annual payrolls for the three most recent years during the whole of which the employer has been in business.

(F) If an employer transfers all of its trade or business to another employer or person, the acquiring employer or person shall be the successor in interest to the transferring employer and shall assume the resources and liabilities of such transferring employer's account, and continue the payment of all contributions, or payments in lieu of contributions, due under this chapter.

If an employer or person acquires substantially all, or a 788 clearly segregable and identifiable portion of an employer's trade 789 or business, then upon the director's approval of a properly 790 completed application for successorship, the employer or person 791 acquiring the trade or business, or portion thereof, shall be the 792

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successor in interest. The director by rule may prescribe	793
procedures for effecting transfers of experience as provided for	794
in this section.	795
(G) Notwithstanding sections 4141.09, 4141.23, 4141.24,	796
4141.241, 4141.242, 4141.25, 4141.26, and 4141.27 of the Revised	797
Code, both of the following apply regarding assignment of rates	798
and transfers of experience:	799
(1) If an employer transfers its trade or business, or a	800
portion thereof, to another employer and, at the time of the	801
transfer, both employers are under substantially common ownership,	802
management, or control, then the unemployment experience	803
attributable to the transferred trade or business, or portion	804
thereof, shall be transferred to the employer to whom the business	805
is so transferred. The director shall recalculate the rates of	806
both employers and those rates shall be effective immediately upon	807
the date of the transfer of the trade or business.	808
(2) Whenever a person is not an employer under this chapter	809
at the time the person acquires the trade or business of an	810
employer, the unemployment experience of the acquired trade or	811
business shall not be transferred to the person if the director	812
finds that the person acquired the trade or business solely or	813
primarily for the purpose of obtaining a lower rate of	814
contributions. Instead, that person shall be assigned the	815
applicable new employer rate under division (A)(1) of section	816
4141.25 of the Revised Code.	817
(H) The director shall establish procedures to identify the	818
transfer or acquisition of a trade or business for purposes of	819
this section and shall adopt rules prescribing procedures for	820
effecting transfers of experience as described in this section.	821

(I) No rate of contribution less than two and seven-tenths

per cent shall be permitted a contributory employer succeeding to

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the experience of another contributory employer pursuant to this 824 section for any period subsequent to such succession, except in 825 accordance with rules prescribed by the director, which rules 826 shall be consistent with federal requirements for additional 827 credit allowance in section 3303 of the "Internal Revenue Code of 828 1954" and consistent with this chapter, except that such rules may 829 establish a computation date for any such period different from 830 the computation date generally prescribed by this chapter, and may 831 define "calendar year" as meaning a twelve-consecutive-month 832 period ending on the same day of the year as that on which such 833 computation date occurs. 834

(J) The director may prescribe rules for the establishment, maintenance, and dissolution of common contribution rates for two or more contributory employers, and in accordance with such rules and upon application by two or more employers shall establish such common rate to be computed by merging the several contribution rate factors of such employers for the purpose of establishing a common contribution rate applicable to all such employers.

(K) The director shall adopt rules applicable to professional
employer organizations and professional employer organization
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reporting entities to address the method in which a professional
employer organization or professional employer organization
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reporting entity reports quarterly wages and contributions to the
director for shared employees.
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(1) The rules shall recognize a professional employer 848 organization or professional employer organization reporting 849 entity as the employer of record of the shared employees of the 850 professional employer organization or professional employer 851 organization reporting entity for reporting purposes; however, the 852 rules shall require that each shared employee of a single client 853 employer be reported under a separate and unique subaccount of the 854 professional employer organization or professional employer 855

organization reporting entity to reflect the experience of the	856
shared employees of that client employer.	857
(2) The director shall use a subaccount solely to determine	858
experience rates for that individual subaccount on an annual basis	859
and shall recognize a professional employer organization or	860
professional employer organization reporting entity as the	861
employer of record associated with each subaccount. The director	862
shall combine the rate experience that existed on a client	863
employer's account prior to entering into a professional employer	864
organization agreement with the experience accumulated as a	865
subaccount of the professional employer organization or	866
professional employer organization reporting entity. The combined	867
experience shall remain with the client account upon termination	868
of the professional employer organization agreement.	869
(3) A professional employer organization or professional	870
employer organization reporting entity shall provide a power of	871
attorney or other evidence, which evidence may be included as part	872
of a professional employer organization agreement, completed by	873
each client employer of the professional employer organization or	874
professional employer organization reporting entity, authorizing	875
the professional employer organization or professional employer	876
organization reporting entity to act on behalf of the client	877
employer in accordance with the requirements of this chapter.	878
(4) Any rule adopted pursuant to division (K) of this section	879
also shall include administrative requirements that permit a	880
professional employer organization or a professional employer	881
organization reporting entity to transmit any reporting and	882
payment data required under division (K)(1) of this section	883
collectively as a single filing with the director.	884
(5) As used in division (K) of this section, "client	885
employer," "professional employer organization," "professional	886
employer organization agreement, " "professional employer	887

organization reporting entity," and "shared employee" have the	888
same meanings as in section 4125.01 of the Revised Code.	889
Sec. 5747.07. (A) As used in this section:	890
(1) "Partial weekly withholding period" means a period during	891
which an employer directly, indirectly, or constructively pays	892
compensation to, or credits compensation to the benefit of, an	893
employee, and that consists of a consecutive Saturday, Sunday,	894
Monday, and Tuesday or a consecutive Wednesday, Thursday, and	895
Friday. There are two partial weekly withholding periods each	896
week, except that a partial weekly withholding period cannot	897
extend from one calendar year into the next calendar year; if the	898
first day of January falls on a day other than Saturday or	899
Wednesday, the partial weekly withholding period ends on the	900
thirty-first day of December and there are three partial weekly	901
withholding periods during that week.	902
(2) "Undeposited taxes" means the taxes an employer is	903
required to deduct and withhold from an employee's compensation	904
pursuant to section 5747.06 of the Revised Code that have not been	905
remitted to the tax commissioner pursuant to this section or to	906
the treasurer of state pursuant to section 5747.072 of the Revised	907
Code.	908
(3) A "week" begins on Saturday and concludes at the end of	909
the following Friday.	910
(4) "Client employer," "professional employer organization,"	911
"professional employer organization agreement," and "professional	912
employer organization reporting entity" have the same meanings as	913
in section 4125.01 of the Revised Code.	914
(B) Except as provided in divisions (C) and (D) of this	915
section and in division (A) of section 5747.072 of the Revised	916

Code, every employer required to deduct and withhold any amount

under section 5747.06 of the Revised Code shall file a return and 918 shall pay the amount required by law as follows: 919

- (1) An employer who accumulates or is required to accumulate 920 921 undeposited taxes of one hundred thousand dollars or more during a partial weekly withholding period shall make the payment of the 922 undeposited taxes by the close of the first banking day after the 923 day on which the accumulation reaches one hundred thousand 924 dollars. If required under division (I) of this section, the 925 payment shall be made by electronic funds transfer under section 926 5747.072 of the Revised Code. 927
- (2)(a) Except as required by division (B)(1) of this section, 928 an employer described in division (B)(2)(b) of this section shall 929 make the payment of undeposited taxes within three banking days 930 after the close of a partial weekly withholding period during 931 which the employer was required to deduct and withhold any amount 932 under this chapter. If required under division (I) of this 933 section, the payment shall be made by electronic funds transfer 934 under section 5747.072 of the Revised Code. 935
- (b) For amounts required to be deducted and withheld during 936 1994, an employer described in division (B)(2)(b) of this section 937 is one whose actual or required payments under this section 938 exceeded one hundred eighty thousand dollars during the 939 twelve-month period ending June 30, 1993. For amounts required to 940 be deducted and withheld during 1995 and each year thereafter, an 941 employer described in division (B)(2)(b) of this section is one 942 whose actual or required payments under this section were at least 943 eighty-four thousand dollars during the twelve-month period ending 944 on the thirtieth day of June of the preceding calendar year. 945
- (3) Except as required by divisions (B)(1) and (2) of this 946 section, if an employer's actual or required payments were more 947 than two thousand dollars during the twelve-month period ending on 948 the thirtieth day of June of the preceding calendar year, the 949

employer shall make the payment of undeposited taxes for each	950
month during which they were required to be withheld no later than	951
fifteen days following the last day of that month. The employer	952
shall file the return prescribed by the tax commissioner with the	953
payment.	954

- (4) Except as required by divisions (B)(1), (2), and (3) of 955 this section, an employer shall make the payment of undeposited 956 taxes for each calendar quarter during which they were required to 957 be withheld no later than the last day of the month following the 958 last day of March, June, September, and December each year. The 959 employer shall file the return prescribed by the tax commissioner 960 with the payment.
- (C) The return and payment schedules prescribed by divisions 962
 (B)(1) and (2) of this section do not apply to the return and 963
 payment of undeposited school district income taxes arising from 964
 taxes levied pursuant to Chapter 5748. of the Revised Code. 965
 Undeposited school district income taxes shall be returned and 966
 paid pursuant to divisions (B)(3) and (4) of this section, as 967
 applicable. 968
- (D)(1) The requirements of division (B) of this section are 969 met if the amount paid is not less than ninety-five per cent of 970 the actual tax withheld or required to be withheld for the prior 971 quarterly, monthly, or partial weekly withholding period, and the 972 underpayment is not due to willful neglect. Any underpayment of 973 withheld tax shall be paid within thirty days of the date on which 974 the withheld tax was due without regard to division (D)(1) of this 975 section. An employer described in division (B)(1) or (2) of this 976 section shall make the payment by electronic funds transfer under 977 section 5747.072 of the Revised Code. 978
- (2) If the tax commissioner believes that quarterly or 979 monthly payments would result in a delay that might jeopardize the 980 remittance of withholding payments, the commissioner may order 981

that the payments be made weekly, or more frequently if necessary, 982 and the payments shall be made no later than three banking days 983 following the close of the period for which the jeopardy order is 984 made. An order requiring weekly or more frequent payments shall be 985 delivered to the employer personally or by certified mail and 986 remains in effect until the commissioner notifies the employer to 987 the contrary.

- (3) If compelling circumstances exist concerning the 989 remittance of undeposited taxes, the commissioner may order the 990 employer to make payments under any of the payment schedules under 991 division (B) of this section. The order shall be delivered to the 992 employer personally or by certified mail and shall remain in 993 effect until the commissioner notifies the employer to the 994 contrary. For purposes of division (D)(3) of this section, 995 "compelling circumstances" exist if either or both of the 996 following are true: 997
- (a) Based upon annualization of payments made or required to 998 be made during the preceding calendar year and during the current 999 calendar year, the employer would be required for the next 1000 calendar year to make payments under division (B)(2) of this 1001 section.
- (b) Based upon annualization of payments made or required to 1003 be made during the current calendar year, the employer would be 1004 required for the next calendar year to make payments under 1005 division (B)(2) of this section.
- (E)(1) An employer described in division (B)(1) or (2) of 1007 this section shall file, not later than the last day of the month 1008 following the end of each calendar quarter, a return covering, but 1009 not limited to, both the actual amount deducted and withheld and 1010 the amount required to be deducted and withheld for the tax 1011 imposed under section 5747.02 of the Revised Code during each 1012 partial weekly withholding period or portion of a partial weekly 1013

withholding period during that quarter. The employer shall file 1014 the quarterly return even if the aggregate amount required to be 1015 deducted and withheld for the quarter is zero dollars. At the time 1016 of filing the return, the employer shall pay any amounts of 1017 undeposited taxes for the quarter, whether actually deducted and 1018 withheld or required to be deducted and withheld, that have not 1019 been previously paid. If required under division (I) of this 1020 section, the payment shall be made by electronic funds transfer. 1021 The tax commissioner shall prescribe the form and other 1022 requirements of the quarterly return. 1023

(2) In addition to other returns required to be filed and 1024 payments required to be made under this section, every employer 1025 required to deduct and withhold taxes shall file, not later than 1026 the thirty-first day of January of each year, an annual return 1027 covering, but not limited to, both the aggregate amount deducted 1028 and withheld and the aggregate amount required to be deducted and 1029 withheld during the entire preceding year for the tax imposed 1030 under section 5747.02 of the Revised Code and for each tax imposed 1031 under Chapter 5748. of the Revised Code. At the time of filing 1032 that return, the employer shall pay over any amounts of 1033 undeposited taxes for the preceding year, whether actually 1034 deducted and withheld or required to be deducted and withheld, 1035 that have not been previously paid. The employer shall make the 1036 annual report, to each employee and to the tax commissioner, of 1037 the compensation paid and each tax withheld, as the commissioner 1038 by rule may prescribe. 1039

Each employer required to deduct and withhold any tax is

liable for the payment of that amount required to be deducted and

withheld, whether or not the tax has in fact been withheld, unless

the failure to withhold was based upon the employer's good faith

in reliance upon the statement of the employee as to liability,

and the amount shall be deemed to be a special fund in trust for

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the general revenue fund. 1046 (F) Each employer shall file with the employer's annual 1047 return the following items of information on employees for whom 1048 withholding is required under section 5747.06 of the Revised Code: 1049 (1) The full name of each employee, the employee's address, 1050 the employee's school district of residence, and in the case of a 1051 nonresident employee, the employee's principal county of 1052 employment; 1053 (2) The social security number of each employee; 1054 (3) The total amount of compensation paid before any 1055 deductions to each employee for the period for which the annual 1056 return is made; 1057 (4) The amount of the tax imposed by section 5747.02 of the 1058 Revised Code and the amount of each tax imposed under Chapter 1059 5748. of the Revised Code withheld from the compensation of the 1060 employee for the period for which the annual return is made. The 1061 commissioner may extend upon good cause the period for filing any 1062 notice or return required to be filed under this section and may 1063 adopt rules relating to extensions of time. If the extension 1064 results in an extension of time for the payment of the amounts 1065 withheld with respect to which the return is filed, the employer 1066 shall pay, at the time the amount withheld is paid, an amount of 1067 interest computed at the rate per annum prescribed by section 1068 5703.47 of the Revised Code on that amount withheld, from the day 1069 that amount was originally required to be paid to the day of 1070 actual payment or to the day an assessment is issued under section 1071 5747.13 of the Revised Code, whichever occurs first. 1072 (5) In addition to all other interest charges and penalties 1073 imposed, all amounts of taxes withheld or required to be withheld 1074 and remaining unpaid after the day the amounts are required to be 1075

paid shall bear interest from the date prescribed for payment at

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the rate per annum prescribed by section 5703.47 of the Revised 1077

Code on the amount unpaid, in addition to the amount withheld, 1078

until paid or until the day an assessment is issued under section 1079

5747.13 of the Revised Code, whichever occurs first. 1080

- (G) An employee of a corporation, limited liability company, 1081 or business trust having control or supervision of or charged with 1082 the responsibility of filing the report and making payment, or an 1083 officer, member, manager, or trustee of a corporation, limited 1084 liability company, or business trust who is responsible for the 1085 execution of the corporation's, limited liability company's, or 1086 business trust's fiscal responsibilities, shall be personally 1087 liable for failure to file the report or pay the tax due as 1088 required by this section. The dissolution, termination, or 1089 bankruptcy of a corporation, limited liability company, or 1090 business trust does not discharge a responsible officer's, 1091 member's, manager's, employee's, or trustee's liability for a 1092 failure of the corporation, limited liability company, or business 1093 trust to file returns or pay tax due. 1094
- (H) If an employer required to deduct and withhold income tax 1095 from compensation and to pay that tax to the state under sections 1096 5747.06 and 5747.07 of the Revised Code sells the employer's 1097 business or stock of merchandise or quits the employer's business, 1098 the taxes required to be deducted and withheld and paid to the 1099 state pursuant to those sections prior to that time, together with 1100 any interest and penalties imposed on those taxes, become due and 1101 payable immediately, and that person shall make a final return 1102 within fifteen days after the date of selling or quitting 1103 business. The employer's successor shall withhold a sufficient 1104 amount of the purchase money to cover the amount of the taxes, 1105 interest, and penalties due and unpaid, until the former owner 1106 produces a receipt from the tax commissioner showing that the 1107 taxes, interest, and penalties have been paid or a certificate 1108

of the preceding calendar year.

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indicating that no such taxes are due. If the purchaser of the	1109
business or stock of merchandise fails to withhold purchase money,	1110
the purchaser shall be personally liable for the payment of the	1111
taxes, interest, and penalties accrued and unpaid during the	1112
operation of the business by the former owner. If the amount of	1113
taxes, interest, and penalties outstanding at the time of the	1114
purchase exceeds the total purchase money, the tax commissioner in	1115
the commissioner's discretion may adjust the liability of the	1116
seller or the responsibility of the purchaser to pay that	1117
liability to maximize the collection of withholding tax revenue.	1118
(I)(1) An employer described in division (I)(2) of this	1119
section shall make all payments required by this section for the	1120
year by electronic funds transfer under section 5747.072 of the	1121
Revised Code.	1122
(2)(a) For 1994, an employer described in division (I)(2) of	1123
this section is one whose actual or required payments under this	1124
section exceeded five hundred thousand dollars during the	1125
twelve-month period ending June 30, 1993.	1126
(b) For 1995, an employer described in division (I)(2) of	1127
this section is one whose actual or required payments under this	1128
section exceeded five hundred thousand dollars during the	1129
twelve-month period ending June 30, 1994.	1130
(c) For 1996, an employer described in division (I)(2) of	1131
this section is one whose actual or required payments under this	1132
section exceeded three hundred thousand dollars during the	1133
twelve-month period ending June 30, 1995.	1134
(d) For 1997 through 2000, an employer described in division	1135
(I)(2) of this section is one whose actual or required payments	1136
under this section exceeded one hundred eighty thousand dollars	1137
during the twelve-month period ending on the thirtieth day of June	1138

(e) For 2001 and thereafter, an employer described in	1140
division (I)(2) of this section is one whose actual or required	1141
payments under this section exceeded eighty-four thousand dollars	1142
during the twelve-month period ending on the thirtieth day of June	1143
of the preceding calendar year.	1144
(J)(1) Every professional employer organization and every	1145
professional employer organization reporting entity shall file a	1146
report with the tax commissioner within thirty days after	1147
commencing business in this state or within thirty days after the	1148
effective date of this amendment, whichever is later, that	1149
includes all of the following information:	1150
(a) The name, address, number the employer receives from the	1151
secretary of state to do business in this state, if applicable,	1152
and federal employer identification number of each client employer	1153
of the professional employer organization or professional employer	1154
organization reporting entity;	1155
(b) The date that each client employer became a client of the	1156
professional employer organization or professional employer	1157
organization reporting entity;	1158
(c) The names and mailing addresses of the chief executive	1159
officer and the chief financial officer of each client employer	1160
for taxation of the client employer.	1161
(2) Beginning with the calendar quarter ending after a	1162
professional employer organization or professional employer	1163
organization reporting entity files the report required under	1164
division (J)(1) of this section, and every calendar quarter	1165
thereafter, the professional employer organization or the	1166
professional employer organization reporting entity shall file an	1167
updated report with the tax commissioner. The professional	1168
employer organization or professional employer organization	1169
reporting entity shall file the updated report not later than the	1170

last day of the month following the end of the calendar quarter	1171
and shall include all of the following information in the report:	1172
(a) If an entity became a client employer of the professional	1173
employer organization or professional employer organization	1174
reporting entity at any time during the calendar quarter, all of	1175
the information required under division (J)(1) of this section for	1176
<pre>each new client employer;</pre>	1177
(b) If an entity terminated the professional employer	1178
organization agreement between the professional employer	1179
organization or professional employer organization reporting	1180
entity and the entity at any time during the calendar quarter, the	1181
information described in division (J)(1)(a) of this section for	1182
that entity, the date during the calendar quarter that the entity	1183
ceased being a client of the professional employer organization or	1184
professional employer organization reporting entity, if	1185
applicable, or the date the entity ceased business operations in	1186
this state, if applicable;	1187
(c) If the name or mailing address of the chief executive	1188
officer or the chief financial officer of a client employer has	1189
changed since the professional employer organization or	1190
professional employer organization reporting entity previously	1191
submitted a report under division (J)(1) or (2) of this section,	1192
the updated name or mailing address, or both, of the chief	1193
executive officer or the chief financial officer, as applicable;	1194
(d) If none of the events described in divisions (J)(2)(a) to	1195
(c) of this section occurred during the calendar quarter, a	1196
statement of that fact.	1197
Section 2. That existing sections 4123.291, 4125.01, 4125.02,	1198
4125.03, 4125.05, 4125.07, 4125.08, 4141.24, and 5747.07 of the	1199
Revised Code are hereby repealed.	1200
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Sub. S. B. No. 139 As Reported by the House Commerce and Labor Committee	Page 40
Section 3. Section 4125.05 of the Revised Code as amended by	1201
this act and section 4125.051 of the Revised Code as enacted by	1202
this act take effect April 1, 2013.	1203