

As Introduced

**130th General Assembly
Regular Session
2013-2014**

H. B. No. 554

Representative Stinziano

**Cosponsors: Representatives Antonio, Becker, Bishoff, Hagan, R., Phillips,
Letson**

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A B I L L

To amend sections 3517.13 and 3517.992 of the Revised 1
Code to prohibit a person who holds an elective 2
office and who is a candidate from using public 3
funds to mail to individuals unsolicited 4
applications for absent voter's ballots that 5
contain the name of the candidate or an image of 6
the candidate's signature. 7

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

Section 1. That sections 3517.13 and 3517.992 of the Revised 8
Code be amended to read as follows: 9

Sec. 3517.13. (A)(1) No campaign committee of a statewide 10
candidate shall fail to file a complete and accurate statement 11
required under division (A)(1) of section 3517.10 of the Revised 12
Code. 13

(2) No campaign committee of a statewide candidate shall fail 14
to file a complete and accurate monthly statement, and no campaign 15
committee of a statewide candidate or a candidate for the office 16
of chief justice or justice of the supreme court shall fail to 17
file a complete and accurate two-business-day statement, as 18

required under section 3517.10 of the Revised Code. 19

As used in this division, "statewide candidate" has the same 20
meaning as in division (F)(2) of section 3517.10 of the Revised 21
Code. 22

(B) No campaign committee shall fail to file a complete and 23
accurate statement required under division (A)(1) of section 24
3517.10 of the Revised Code. 25

(C) No campaign committee shall fail to file a complete and 26
accurate statement required under division (A)(2) of section 27
3517.10 of the Revised Code. 28

(D) No campaign committee shall fail to file a complete and 29
accurate statement required under division (A)(3) or (4) of 30
section 3517.10 of the Revised Code. 31

(E) No person other than a campaign committee shall knowingly 32
fail to file a statement required under section 3517.10 or 33
3517.107 of the Revised Code. 34

(F) No person shall make cash contributions to any person 35
totaling more than one hundred dollars in each primary, special, 36
or general election. 37

(G)(1) No person shall knowingly conceal or misrepresent 38
contributions given or received, expenditures made, or any other 39
information required to be reported by a provision in sections 40
3517.08 to 3517.13 and 3517.17 of the Revised Code. 41

(2)(a) No person shall make a contribution to a campaign 42
committee, political action committee, political contributing 43
entity, legislative campaign fund, political party, or person 44
making disbursements to pay the direct costs of producing or 45
airing electioneering communications in the name of another 46
person. 47

(b) A person does not make a contribution in the name of 48

another when either of the following applies: 49

(i) An individual makes a contribution from a partnership or 50
other unincorporated business account, if the contribution is 51
reported by listing both the name of the partnership or other 52
unincorporated business and the name of the partner or owner 53
making the contribution as required under division (I) of section 54
3517.10 of the Revised Code. 55

(ii) A person makes a contribution in that person's spouse's 56
name or in both of their names. 57

(H) No person within this state, publishing a newspaper or 58
other periodical, shall charge a campaign committee for political 59
advertising a rate in excess of the rate such person would charge 60
if the campaign committee were a general rate advertiser whose 61
advertising was directed to promoting its business within the same 62
area as that encompassed by the particular office that the 63
candidate of the campaign committee is seeking. The rate shall 64
take into account the amount of space used, as well as the type of 65
advertising copy submitted by or on behalf of the campaign 66
committee. All discount privileges otherwise offered by a 67
newspaper or periodical to general rate advertisers shall be 68
available upon equal terms to all campaign committees. 69

No person within this state, operating a radio or television 70
station or network of stations in this state, shall charge a 71
campaign committee for political broadcasts a rate that exceeds: 72

(1) During the forty-five days preceding the date of a 73
primary election and during the sixty days preceding the date of a 74
general or special election in which the candidate of the campaign 75
committee is seeking office, the lowest unit charge of the station 76
for the same class and amount of time for the same period; 77

(2) At any other time, the charges made for comparable use of 78
that station by its other users. 79

(I) Subject to divisions (K), (L), (M), and (N) of this 80
section, no agency or department of this state or any political 81
subdivision shall award any contract, other than one let by 82
competitive bidding or a contract incidental to such contract or 83
which is by force account, for the purchase of goods costing more 84
than five hundred dollars or services costing more than five 85
hundred dollars to any individual, partnership, association, 86
including, without limitation, a professional association 87
organized under Chapter 1785. of the Revised Code, estate, or 88
trust if the individual has made or the individual's spouse has 89
made, or any partner, shareholder, administrator, executor, or 90
trustee or the spouse of any of them has made, as an individual, 91
within the two previous calendar years, one or more contributions 92
totaling in excess of one thousand dollars to the holder of the 93
public office having ultimate responsibility for the award of the 94
contract or to the public officer's campaign committee. 95

(J) Subject to divisions (K), (L), (M), and (N) of this 96
section, no agency or department of this state or any political 97
subdivision shall award any contract, other than one let by 98
competitive bidding or a contract incidental to such contract or 99
which is by force account, for the purchase of goods costing more 100
than five hundred dollars or services costing more than five 101
hundred dollars to a corporation or business trust, except a 102
professional association organized under Chapter 1785. of the 103
Revised Code, if an owner of more than twenty per cent of the 104
corporation or business trust or the spouse of that person has 105
made, as an individual, within the two previous calendar years, 106
taking into consideration only owners for all of that period, one 107
or more contributions totaling in excess of one thousand dollars 108
to the holder of a public office having ultimate responsibility 109
for the award of the contract or to the public officer's campaign 110
committee. 111

(K) For purposes of divisions (I) and (J) of this section, if a public officer who is responsible for the award of a contract is appointed by the governor, whether or not the appointment is subject to the advice and consent of the senate, excluding members of boards, commissions, committees, authorities, councils, boards of trustees, task forces, and other such entities appointed by the governor, the office of the governor is considered to have ultimate responsibility for the award of the contract.

(L) For purposes of divisions (I) and (J) of this section, if a public officer who is responsible for the award of a contract is appointed by the elected chief executive officer of a municipal corporation, or appointed by the elected chief executive officer of a county operating under an alternative form of county government or county charter, excluding members of boards, commissions, committees, authorities, councils, boards of trustees, task forces, and other such entities appointed by the chief executive officer, the office of the chief executive officer is considered to have ultimate responsibility for the award of the contract.

(M)(1) Divisions (I) and (J) of this section do not apply to contracts awarded by the board of commissioners of the sinking fund, municipal legislative authorities, boards of education, boards of county commissioners, boards of township trustees, or other boards, commissions, committees, authorities, councils, boards of trustees, task forces, and other such entities created by law, by the supreme court or courts of appeals, by county courts consisting of more than one judge, courts of common pleas consisting of more than one judge, or municipal courts consisting of more than one judge, or by a division of any court if the division consists of more than one judge. This division shall apply to the specified entity only if the members of the entity act collectively in the award of a contract for goods or services.

(2) Divisions (I) and (J) of this section do not apply to 144
actions of the controlling board. 145

(N)(1) Divisions (I) and (J) of this section apply to 146
contributions made to the holder of a public office having 147
ultimate responsibility for the award of a contract, or to the 148
public officer's campaign committee, during the time the person 149
holds the office and during any time such person was a candidate 150
for the office. Those divisions do not apply to contributions made 151
to, or to the campaign committee of, a candidate for or holder of 152
the office other than the holder of the office at the time of the 153
award of the contract. 154

(2) Divisions (I) and (J) of this section do not apply to 155
contributions of a partner, shareholder, administrator, executor, 156
trustee, or owner of more than twenty per cent of a corporation or 157
business trust made before the person held any of those positions 158
or after the person ceased to hold any of those positions in the 159
partnership, association, estate, trust, corporation, or business 160
trust whose eligibility to be awarded a contract is being 161
determined, nor to contributions of the person's spouse made 162
before the person held any of those positions, after the person 163
ceased to hold any of those positions, before the two were 164
married, after the granting of a decree of divorce, dissolution of 165
marriage, or annulment, or after the granting of an order in an 166
action brought solely for legal separation. Those divisions do not 167
apply to contributions of the spouse of an individual whose 168
eligibility to be awarded a contract is being determined made 169
before the two were married, after the granting of a decree of 170
divorce, dissolution of marriage, or annulment, or after the 171
granting of an order in an action brought solely for legal 172
separation. 173

(O) No beneficiary of a campaign fund or other person shall 174
convert for personal use, and no person shall knowingly give to a 175

beneficiary of a campaign fund or any other person, for the 176
beneficiary's or any other person's personal use, anything of 177
value from the beneficiary's campaign fund, including, without 178
limitation, payments to a beneficiary for services the beneficiary 179
personally performs, except as reimbursement for any of the 180
following: 181

(1) Legitimate and verifiable prior campaign expenses 182
incurred by the beneficiary; 183

(2) Legitimate and verifiable ordinary and necessary prior 184
expenses incurred by the beneficiary in connection with duties as 185
the holder of a public office, including, without limitation, 186
expenses incurred through participation in nonpartisan or 187
bipartisan events if the participation of the holder of a public 188
office would normally be expected; 189

(3) Legitimate and verifiable ordinary and necessary prior 190
expenses incurred by the beneficiary while doing any of the 191
following: 192

(a) Engaging in activities in support of or opposition to a 193
candidate other than the beneficiary, political party, or ballot 194
issue; 195

(b) Raising funds for a political party, political action 196
committee, political contributing entity, legislative campaign 197
fund, campaign committee, or other candidate; 198

(c) Participating in the activities of a political party, 199
political action committee, political contributing entity, 200
legislative campaign fund, or campaign committee; 201

(d) Attending a political party convention or other political 202
meeting. 203

For purposes of this division, an expense is incurred 204
whenever a beneficiary has either made payment or is obligated to 205

make payment, as by the use of a credit card or other credit 206
procedure or by the use of goods or services received on account. 207

(P) No beneficiary of a campaign fund shall knowingly accept, 208
and no person shall knowingly give to the beneficiary of a 209
campaign fund, reimbursement for an expense under division (O) of 210
this section to the extent that the expense previously was 211
reimbursed or paid from another source of funds. If an expense is 212
reimbursed under division (O) of this section and is later paid or 213
reimbursed, wholly or in part, from another source of funds, the 214
beneficiary shall repay the reimbursement received under division 215
(O) of this section to the extent of the payment made or 216
reimbursement received from the other source. 217

(Q) No candidate or public official or employee shall accept 218
for personal or business use anything of value from a political 219
party, political action committee, political contributing entity, 220
legislative campaign fund, or campaign committee other than the 221
candidate's or public official's or employee's own campaign 222
committee, and no person shall knowingly give to a candidate or 223
public official or employee anything of value from a political 224
party, political action committee, political contributing entity, 225
legislative campaign fund, or such a campaign committee, except 226
for the following: 227

(1) Reimbursement for legitimate and verifiable ordinary and 228
necessary prior expenses not otherwise prohibited by law incurred 229
by the candidate or public official or employee while engaged in 230
any legitimate activity of the political party, political action 231
committee, political contributing entity, legislative campaign 232
fund, or such campaign committee. Without limitation, reimbursable 233
expenses under this division include those incurred while doing 234
any of the following: 235

(a) Engaging in activities in support of or opposition to 236
another candidate, political party, or ballot issue; 237

(b) Raising funds for a political party, legislative campaign fund, campaign committee, or another candidate;	238 239
(c) Attending a political party convention or other political meeting.	240 241
(2) Compensation not otherwise prohibited by law for actual and valuable personal services rendered under a written contract to the political party, political action committee, political contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or such campaign committee for any legitimate activity of the political party, political action committee, political contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or such campaign committee.	242 243 244 245 246 247 248
Reimbursable expenses under this division do not include, and it is a violation of this division for a candidate or public official or employee to accept, or for any person to knowingly give to a candidate or public official or employee from a political party, political action committee, political contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or campaign committee other than the candidate's or public official's or employee's own campaign committee, anything of value for activities primarily related to the candidate's or public official's or employee's own campaign for election, except for contributions to the candidate's or public official's or employee's campaign committee.	249 250 251 252 253 254 255 256 257 258 259 260
For purposes of this division, an expense is incurred whenever a candidate or public official or employee has either made payment or is obligated to make payment, as by the use of a credit card or other credit procedure, or by the use of goods or services on account.	261 262 263 264 265
(R)(1) Division (O) or (P) of this section does not prohibit a campaign committee from making direct advance or post payment from contributions to vendors for goods and services for which	266 267 268

reimbursement is permitted under division (O) of this section, 269
except that no campaign committee shall pay its candidate or other 270
beneficiary for services personally performed by the candidate or 271
other beneficiary. 272

(2) If any expense that may be reimbursed under division (O), 273
(P), or (Q) of this section is part of other expenses that may not 274
be paid or reimbursed, the separation of the two types of expenses 275
for the purpose of allocating for payment or reimbursement those 276
expenses that may be paid or reimbursed may be by any reasonable 277
accounting method, considering all of the surrounding 278
circumstances. 279

(3) For purposes of divisions (O), (P), and (Q) of this 280
section, mileage allowance at a rate not greater than that allowed 281
by the internal revenue service at the time the travel occurs may 282
be paid instead of reimbursement for actual travel expenses 283
allowable. 284

(S)(1) As used in division (S) of this section: 285

(a) "State elective office" has the same meaning as in 286
section 3517.092 of the Revised Code. 287

(b) "Federal office" means a federal office as defined in the 288
Federal Election Campaign Act. 289

(c) "Federal campaign committee" means a principal campaign 290
committee or authorized committee as defined in the Federal 291
Election Campaign Act. 292

(2) No person who is a candidate for state elective office 293
and who previously sought nomination or election to a federal 294
office shall transfer any funds or assets from that person's 295
federal campaign committee for nomination or election to the 296
federal office to that person's campaign committee as a candidate 297
for state elective office. 298

(3) No campaign committee of a person who is a candidate for state elective office and who previously sought nomination or election to a federal office shall accept any funds or assets from that person's federal campaign committee for that person's nomination or election to the federal office.

(T)(1) Except as otherwise provided in division (B)(6)(c) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code, a state or county political party shall not disburse moneys from any account other than a state candidate fund to make contributions to any of the following:

(a) A state candidate fund;

(b) A legislative campaign fund;

(c) A campaign committee of a candidate for the office of governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, auditor of state, treasurer of state, attorney general, member of the state board of education, or member of the general assembly.

(2) No state candidate fund, legislative campaign fund, or campaign committee of a candidate for any office described in division (T)(1)(c) of this section shall knowingly accept a contribution in violation of division (T)(1) of this section.

(U) No person shall fail to file a statement required under section 3517.12 of the Revised Code.

(V) No campaign committee shall fail to file a statement required under division (K)(3) of section 3517.10 of the Revised Code.

(W)(1) No foreign national shall, directly or indirectly through any other person or entity, make a contribution, expenditure, or independent expenditure or promise, either expressly or implicitly, to make a contribution, expenditure, or independent expenditure in support of or opposition to a candidate

for any elective office in this state, including an office of a political party.

(2) No candidate, campaign committee, political action committee, political contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, state candidate fund, political party, or separate segregated fund shall solicit or accept a contribution, expenditure, or independent expenditure from a foreign national. The secretary of state may direct any candidate, committee, entity, fund, or party that accepts a contribution, expenditure, or independent expenditure in violation of this division to return the contribution, expenditure, or independent expenditure or, if it is not possible to return the contribution, expenditure, or independent expenditure, then to return instead the value of it, to the contributor.

(3) As used in division (W) of this section, "foreign national" has the same meaning as in section 441e(b) of the Federal Election Campaign Act.

(X)(1) No state or county political party shall transfer any moneys from its restricted fund to any account of the political party into which contributions may be made or from which contributions or expenditures may be made.

(2)(a) No state or county political party shall deposit a contribution or contributions that it receives into its restricted fund.

(b) No state or county political party shall make a contribution or an expenditure from its restricted fund.

(3)(a) No corporation or labor organization shall make a gift or gifts from the corporation's or labor organization's money or property aggregating more than ten thousand dollars to any one state or county political party for the party's restricted fund in a calendar year.

(b) No state or county political party shall accept a gift or 360
gifts for the party's restricted fund aggregating more than ten 361
thousand dollars from any one corporation or labor organization in 362
a calendar year. 363

(4) No state or county political party shall transfer any 364
moneys in the party's restricted fund to any other state or county 365
political party. 366

(5) No state or county political party shall knowingly fail 367
to file a statement required under section 3517.1012 of the 368
Revised Code. 369

(Y) The administrator of workers' compensation and the 370
employees of the bureau of workers' compensation shall not conduct 371
any business with or award any contract, other than one awarded by 372
competitive bidding, for the purchase of goods costing more than 373
five hundred dollars or services costing more than five hundred 374
dollars to any individual, partnership, association, including, 375
without limitation, a professional association organized under 376
Chapter 1785. of the Revised Code, estate, or trust, if the 377
individual has made, or the individual's spouse has made, or any 378
partner, shareholder, administrator, executor, or trustee, or the 379
spouses of any of those individuals has made, as an individual, 380
within the two previous calendar years, one or more contributions 381
totaling in excess of one thousand dollars to the campaign 382
committee of the governor or lieutenant governor or to the 383
campaign committee of any candidate for the office of governor or 384
lieutenant governor. 385

(Z) The administrator of workers' compensation and the 386
employees of the bureau of workers' compensation shall not conduct 387
business with or award any contract, other than one awarded by 388
competitive bidding, for the purchase of goods costing more than 389
five hundred dollars or services costing more than five hundred 390
dollars to a corporation or business trust, except a professional 391

association organized under Chapter 1785. of the Revised Code, if 392
an owner of more than twenty per cent of the corporation or 393
business trust, or the spouse of the owner, has made, as an 394
individual, within the two previous calendar years, taking into 395
consideration only owners for all of such period, one or more 396
contributions totaling in excess of one thousand dollars to the 397
campaign committee of the governor or lieutenant governor or to 398
the campaign committee of any candidate for the office of governor 399
or lieutenant governor. 400

(AA)(1) No person who holds an elective office and who is a 401
candidate shall use public funds to mail to individuals 402
unsolicited applications for absent voter's ballots that contain 403
the name of the candidate or an image of the candidate's 404
signature. 405

(2) As used in division (AA) of this section, "candidate" has 406
the same meaning as in section 3501.01 of the Revised Code. 407

Sec. 3517.992. This section establishes penalties only with 408
respect to acts or failures to act that occur on and after August 409
24, 1995. 410

(A)(1) A candidate whose campaign committee violates division 411
(A), (B), (C), (D), or (V) of section 3517.13 of the Revised Code, 412
or a treasurer of a campaign committee who violates any of those 413
divisions, shall be fined not more than one hundred dollars for 414
each day of violation. 415

(2) Whoever violates division (E) or (X)(5) of section 416
3517.13 or division (E)(1) of section 3517.1014 of the Revised 417
Code shall be fined not more than one hundred dollars for each day 418
of violation. 419

(B) An entity that violates division (G)(1) of section 420
3517.101 of the Revised Code shall be fined not more than one 421

hundred dollars for each day of violation. 422

(C) Whoever violates division (G)(2) of section 3517.101, 423
division (G) of section 3517.13, or division (E)(2) or (3) of 424
section 3517.1014 of the Revised Code shall be fined not more than 425
ten thousand dollars or, if the offender is a person who was 426
nominated or elected to public office, shall forfeit the 427
nomination or the office to which the offender was elected, or 428
both. 429

(D) Whoever violates division (F) of section 3517.13 of the 430
Revised Code shall be fined not more than three times the amount 431
contributed. 432

(E) Whoever violates division (H) of section 3517.13 of the 433
Revised Code shall be fined not more than one hundred dollars. 434

(F) Whoever violates division (O), (P), or (Q) of section 435
3517.13 of the Revised Code is guilty of a misdemeanor of the 436
first degree. 437

(G) A state or county committee of a political party that 438
violates division (B)(1) of section 3517.18 of the Revised Code 439
shall be fined not more than twice the amount of the improper 440
expenditure. 441

(H) An entity that violates division (H) of section 3517.101 442
of the Revised Code shall be fined not more than twice the amount 443
of the improper expenditure or use. 444

(I)(1) Any individual who violates division (B)(1) of section 445
3517.102 of the Revised Code and knows that the contribution the 446
individual makes violates that division shall be fined an amount 447
equal to three times the amount contributed in excess of the 448
amount permitted by that division. 449

(2) Any political action committee that violates division 450
(B)(2) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code shall be fined an 451

amount equal to three times the amount contributed in excess of 452
the amount permitted by that division. 453

(3) Any campaign committee that violates division (B)(3) or 454
(5) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code shall be fined an 455
amount equal to three times the amount contributed in excess of 456
the amount permitted by that division. 457

(4)(a) Any legislative campaign fund that violates division 458
(B)(6) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code shall be fined an 459
amount equal to three times the amount transferred or contributed 460
in excess of the amount permitted by that division, as applicable. 461

(b) Any state political party, county political party, or 462
state candidate fund of a state political party or county 463
political party that violates division (B)(6) of section 3517.102 464
of the Revised Code shall be fined an amount equal to three times 465
the amount transferred or contributed in excess of the amount 466
permitted by that division, as applicable. 467

(c) Any political contributing entity that violates division 468
(B)(7) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code shall be fined an 469
amount equal to three times the amount contributed in excess of 470
the amount permitted by that division. 471

(5) Any political party that violates division (B)(4) of 472
section 3517.102 of the Revised Code shall be fined an amount 473
equal to three times the amount contributed in excess of the 474
amount permitted by that division. 475

(6) Notwithstanding divisions (I)(1), (2), (3), (4), and (5) 476
of this section, no violation of division (B) of section 3517.102 477
of the Revised Code occurs, and the secretary of state shall not 478
refer parties to the Ohio elections commission, if the amount 479
transferred or contributed in excess of the amount permitted by 480
that division meets either of the following conditions: 481

(a) It is completely refunded within five business days after 482

it is accepted. 483

(b) It is completely refunded on or before the tenth business 484
day after notification to the recipient of the excess transfer or 485
contribution by the board of elections or the secretary of state 486
that a transfer or contribution in excess of the permitted amount 487
has been received. 488

(J)(1) Any campaign committee that violates division (C)(1), 489
(2), (3), or (6) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code shall be 490
fined an amount equal to three times the amount accepted in excess 491
of the amount permitted by that division. 492

(2)(a) Any county political party that violates division 493
(C)(4)(a)(ii) or (iii) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code 494
shall be fined an amount equal to three times the amount accepted. 495

(b) Any county political party that violates division 496
(C)(4)(a)(i) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code shall be 497
fined an amount from its state candidate fund equal to three times 498
the amount accepted in excess of the amount permitted by that 499
division. 500

(c) Any state political party that violates division 501
(C)(4)(b) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code shall be fined 502
an amount from its state candidate fund equal to three times the 503
amount accepted in excess of the amount permitted by that 504
division. 505

(3) Any legislative campaign fund that violates division 506
(C)(5) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code shall be fined an 507
amount equal to three times the amount accepted in excess of the 508
amount permitted by that division. 509

(4) Any political action committee or political contributing 510
entity that violates division (C)(7) of section 3517.102 of the 511
Revised Code shall be fined an amount equal to three times the 512
amount accepted in excess of the amount permitted by that 513

division. 514

(5) Notwithstanding divisions (J)(1), (2), (3), and (4) of 515
this section, no violation of division (C) of section 3517.102 of 516
the Revised Code occurs, and the secretary of state shall not 517
refer parties to the Ohio elections commission, if the amount 518
transferred or contributed in excess of the amount permitted to be 519
accepted by that division meets either of the following 520
conditions: 521

(a) It is completely refunded within five business days after 522
its acceptance. 523

(b) It is completely refunded on or before the tenth business 524
day after notification to the recipient of the excess transfer or 525
contribution by the board of elections or the secretary of state 526
that a transfer or contribution in excess of the permitted amount 527
has been received. 528

(K)(1) Any legislative campaign fund that violates division 529
(F)(1) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code shall be fined 530
twenty-five dollars for each day of violation. 531

(2) Any legislative campaign fund that violates division 532
(F)(2) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code shall give to the 533
treasurer of state for deposit into the state treasury to the 534
credit of the Ohio elections commission fund all excess 535
contributions not disposed of as required by division (E) of 536
section 3517.102 of the Revised Code. 537

(L) Whoever violates section 3517.105 of the Revised Code 538
shall be fined one thousand dollars. 539

(M)(1) Whoever solicits a contribution in violation of 540
section 3517.092 or violates division (B) of section 3517.09 of 541
the Revised Code is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree. 542

(2) Whoever knowingly accepts a contribution in violation of 543

division (B) or (C) of section 3517.092 of the Revised Code shall 544
be fined an amount equal to three times the amount accepted in 545
violation of either of those divisions and shall return to the 546
contributor any amount so accepted. Whoever unknowingly accepts a 547
contribution in violation of division (B) or (C) of section 548
3517.092 of the Revised Code shall return to the contributor any 549
amount so accepted. 550

(N) Whoever violates division (S) of section 3517.13 of the 551
Revised Code shall be fined an amount equal to three times the 552
amount of funds transferred or three times the value of the assets 553
transferred in violation of that division. 554

(O) Any campaign committee that accepts a contribution or 555
contributions in violation of section 3517.108 of the Revised 556
Code, uses a contribution in violation of that section, or fails 557
to dispose of excess contributions in violation of that section 558
shall be fined an amount equal to three times the amount accepted, 559
used, or kept in violation of that section. 560

(P) Any political party, state candidate fund, legislative 561
candidate fund, or campaign committee that violates division (T) 562
of section 3517.13 of the Revised Code shall be fined an amount 563
equal to three times the amount contributed or accepted in 564
violation of that section. 565

(Q) A treasurer of a committee or another person who violates 566
division (U) of section 3517.13 of the Revised Code shall be fined 567
not more than two hundred fifty dollars. 568

(R) Whoever violates division (I) or (J) of section 3517.13 569
of the Revised Code shall be fined not more than one thousand 570
dollars. Whenever a person is found guilty of violating division 571
(I) or (J) of section 3517.13 of the Revised Code, the contract 572
awarded in violation of either of those divisions shall be 573
rescinded if its terms have not yet been performed. 574

(S) A candidate whose campaign committee violates or a treasurer of a campaign committee who violates section 3517.081 of the Revised Code, and a candidate whose campaign committee violates or a treasurer of a campaign committee or another person who violates division (C) of section 3517.10 of the Revised Code, shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars.

(T) A candidate whose campaign committee violates or a treasurer of a committee who violates division (B) of section 3517.09 of the Revised Code, or a candidate whose campaign committee violates or a treasurer of a campaign committee or another person who violates division (C) of section 3517.09 of the Revised Code shall be fined not more than one thousand dollars.

(U) Whoever violates section 3517.20 of the Revised Code shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars.

(V) Whoever violates section 3517.21 or 3517.22 of the Revised Code shall be imprisoned for not more than six months or fined not more than five thousand dollars, or both.

(W) A campaign committee that is required to file a declaration of no limits under division (D)(2) of section 3517.103 of the Revised Code that, before filing that declaration, accepts a contribution or contributions that exceed the limitations prescribed in section 3517.102 of the Revised Code, shall return that contribution or those contributions to the contributor.

(X) Any campaign committee that fails to file the declaration of filing-day finances required by division (F) of section 3517.109 of the Revised Code shall be fined twenty-five dollars for each day of violation.

(Y)(1) Any campaign committee that fails to dispose of excess funds or excess aggregate contributions under division (B) of section 3517.109 of the Revised Code in the manner required by division (C) of that section shall give to the treasurer of state

for deposit into the Ohio elections commission fund created under 606
division (I) of section 3517.152 of the Revised Code all funds not 607
disposed of pursuant to that division. 608

(2) Any treasurer of a transition fund that fails to dispose 609
of assets remaining in the transition fund as required under 610
division (H)(1) or (2) of section 3517.1014 of the Revised Code 611
shall give to the treasurer of state for deposit into the Ohio 612
elections commission fund all assets not disposed of pursuant to 613
that division. 614

(Z) Any individual, campaign committee, political action 615
committee, political contributing entity, legislative campaign 616
fund, political party, treasurer of a transition fund, or other 617
entity that violates any provision of sections 3517.09 to 3517.12 618
of the Revised Code for which no penalty is provided for under any 619
other division of this section shall be fined not more than one 620
thousand dollars. 621

(AA)(1) Whoever knowingly violates division (W)(1) of section 622
3517.13 of the Revised Code shall be fined an amount equal to 623
three times the amount contributed, expended, or promised in 624
violation of that division or ten thousand dollars, whichever 625
amount is greater. 626

(2) Whoever knowingly violates division (W)(2) of section 627
3517.13 of the Revised Code shall be fined an amount equal to 628
three times the amount solicited or accepted in violation of that 629
division or ten thousand dollars, whichever amount is greater. 630

(BB) Whoever knowingly violates division (C) or (D) of 631
section 3517.1011 of the Revised Code shall be fined not more than 632
ten thousand dollars plus not more than one thousand dollars for 633
each day of violation. 634

(CC)(1) Subject to division (CC)(2) of this section, whoever 635
violates division (H) of section 3517.1011 of the Revised Code 636

shall be fined an amount up to three times the amount disbursed 637
for the direct costs of airing the communication made in violation 638
of that division. 639

(2) Whoever has been ordered by the Ohio elections commission 640
or by a court of competent jurisdiction to cease making 641
communications in violation of division (H) of section 3517.1011 642
of the Revised Code who again violates that division shall be 643
fined an amount equal to three times the amount disbursed for the 644
direct costs of airing the communication made in violation of that 645
division. 646

(DD)(1) Any corporation or labor organization that violates 647
division (X)(3)(a) of section 3517.13 of the Revised Code shall be 648
fined an amount equal to three times the amount given in excess of 649
the amount permitted by that division. 650

(2) Any state or county political party that violates 651
division (X)(3)(b) of section 3517.13 of the Revised Code shall be 652
fined an amount equal to three times the amount accepted in excess 653
of the amount permitted by that division. 654

(EE)(1) Any campaign committee or person who violates 655
division (C)(1)(b) or (c) of section 3517.1014 of the Revised Code 656
shall be fined an amount equal to three times the amount donated 657
in excess of the amount permitted by that division. 658

(2) Any officeholder or treasurer of a transition fund who 659
violates division (C)(3)(a) or (b) of section 3517.1014 of the 660
Revised Code shall be fined an amount equal to three times the 661
amount accepted in excess of the amount permitted by that 662
division. 663

(FF)(1)(a) Whoever violates division (AA) of section 3517.13 664
of the Revised Code is guilty of improper mailing of applications 665
for absent voter's ballots. Except as otherwise provided in 666
division (FF)(1)(b) or (c) of this section, improper mailing of 667

applications for absent voter's ballots is a felony of the fifth degree. 668
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(b) If the amount of the public funds expended in conducting the improper mailing of applications for absent voter's ballots is one thousand dollars or more and is less than seven thousand five hundred dollars, the offense is a felony of the fourth degree. 670
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(c) If the amount of the public funds expended in conducting the improper mailing of applications for absent voter's ballots is seven thousand five hundred dollars or more, the offense is a felony of the third degree. 674
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(2)(a) A court that imposes a sentence for improper mailing of applications for absent voter's ballots shall require the offender to make restitution for the amount of the public funds expended in conducting the mailing, in addition to the term of imprisonment and any fine imposed. 678
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(b) If the offender, at the time of the commission of the offense or at any other time, was a member, electing employee, participating employee, continuing member, or participant in a retirement system, pension fund, alternative retirement plan, or deferred compensation program described in division (C)(2)(b)(i) of section 2921.41 of the Revised Code, the entity to which restitution is to be made may file a motion with the sentencing court specifying any such system, fund, plan, or program and requesting the court to issue an order requiring that the amount of the restitution be withheld from the benefits that have been or will be granted to the offender by that system, fund, plan, or program, in accordance with the requirements of division (C)(2)(b) of that section. The court shall process the request in accordance with that division. 683
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(c) Upon the filing of charges against a person for improper mailing of applications for absent voter's ballots, the prosecutor 697
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who is assigned the case shall send written notice that charges 699
have been filed against that person to the entities listed in 700
division (D) of section 2921.41 of the Revised Code. The written 701
notice shall specifically identify the person charged. 702

Section 2. That existing sections 3517.13 and 3517.992 of the 703
Revised Code are hereby repealed. 704