

As Passed by the Senate

135th General Assembly

Special Session

2023-2024

Am. Sub. H. B. No. 271

Representatives Mathews, Peterson

Cosponsors: Representatives Gross, Hall, Abrams, Baker, Barhorst, Brennan, Brent, Brewer, Carruthers, Claggett, Creech, Cross, Daniels, Dell'Aquila, Denson, Dobos, Forhan, Ghanbari, Hillyer, Holmes, Jarrells, Johnson, Jones, King, Klopfenstein, Lampton, Liston, Lorenz, McClain, McNally, Miller, J., Miller, M., Mohamed, Patton, Pavliga, Piccolantonio, Pizzulli, Robb Blasdel, Russo, Somani, Swearingen, Thomas, C., Troy, Whitted, Wiggam, Williams

Senators Brenner, Cirino, Schaffer

A BILL

To amend sections 3505.06, 3517.01, 3517.10, 1
3517.12, 3517.13, 3517.155, 3517.992, and 2
3517.993 of the Revised Code to specify that 3
state questions and issues appearing on ballots 4
must be numbered consecutively based on the 5
previous election and to respond to the 6
Governor's proclamation calling a special 7
session of the General Assembly by modifying the 8
Campaign Finance Law and delaying the deadline 9
for a major political party to certify its 10
presidential and vice presidential candidates to 11
the Secretary of State for the 2024 general 12
election. 13

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

Section 1. That sections 3505.06, 3517.01, 3517.10, 14

3517.12, 3517.13, 3517.155, 3517.992, and 3517.993 of the 15
Revised Code be amended to read as follows: 16

Sec. 3505.06. (A) On the questions and issues ballot shall 17
be printed all questions and issues to be submitted at any one 18
election together with the percentage of affirmative votes 19
necessary for passage as required by law. Such ballot shall have 20
printed across the top thereof, and below the stubs, "Official 21
Questions and Issues Ballot." 22

(B) (1) Questions and issues shall be grouped together on 23
the ballot from top to bottom as provided in division (B) (1) of 24
this section, except as otherwise provided in division (B) (2) of 25
this section. State questions and issues shall always appear as 26
the top group of questions and issues. In calendar year 1997, 27
the following questions and issues shall be grouped together on 28
the ballot, in the following order from top to bottom, after the 29
state questions and issues: 30

(a) County questions and issues; 31

(b) Municipal questions and issues; 32

(c) Township questions and issues; 33

(d) School or other district questions and issues. 34

In each succeeding calendar year after 1997, each group of 35
questions and issues described in division (B) (1) (a) to (d) of 36
this section shall be moved down one place on the ballot except 37
that the group that was last on the ballot during the 38
immediately preceding calendar year shall appear at the top of 39
the ballot after the state questions and issues. The rotation 40
shall be performed only once each calendar year, beginning with 41
the first election held during the calendar year. The rotation 42
of groups of questions and issues shall be performed during each 43

calendar year as required by division (B) (1) of this section, 44
even if no questions and issues from any one or more such groups 45
appear on the ballot at any particular election held during that 46
calendar year. 47

(2) Questions and issues shall be grouped together on the 48
ballot, from top to bottom, in the following order when it is 49
not practicable to group them together as required by division 50
(B) (1) of this section because of the type of voting machines 51
used by the board of elections: state questions and issues, 52
county questions and issues, municipal questions and issues, 53
township questions and issues, and school or other district 54
questions and issues. The particular order in which each of a 55
group of state questions or issues is placed on the ballot shall 56
be determined by, and certified to each board of elections by, 57
the secretary of state. 58

(3) Failure of the board of elections to rotate questions 59
and issues as required by division (B) (1) of this section does 60
not affect the validity of the election at which the failure 61
occurred, and is not grounds for contesting an election under 62
section 3515.08 of the Revised Code. 63

(C) The particular order in which each of a group of 64
county, municipal, township, or school district questions or 65
issues is placed on the ballot shall be determined by the board 66
providing the ballots. 67

(D) The printed matter pertaining to each question or 68
issue on the ballot shall be enclosed at the top and bottom 69
thereof by a heavy horizontal line across the width of the 70
ballot. Immediately below such top line shall be printed a brief 71
title descriptive of the question or issue below it, such as 72
"Proposed Constitutional Amendment," "Proposed Bond Issue," 73

"Proposed Annexation of Territory," "Proposed Increase in Tax Rate," or such other brief title as will be descriptive of the question or issue to which it pertains, together with a brief statement of the percentage of affirmative votes necessary for passage, such as "A sixty-five per cent affirmative vote is necessary for passage," "A majority vote is necessary for passage," or such other brief statement as will be descriptive of the percentage of affirmative votes required.

(E) The questions and issues ballot need not contain the full text of the proposal to be voted upon. A condensed text that will properly describe the question, issue, or an amendment proposed by other than the general assembly shall be used as prepared and certified by the secretary of state for state-wide questions or issues or by the board for local questions or issues. If other than a full text is used, the full text of the proposed question, issue, or amendment together with the percentage of affirmative votes necessary for passage as required by law shall be posted in each polling place in some spot that is easily accessible to the voters.

~~(F) Each~~ (F) (1) Except as otherwise provided in division (F) (2) of this section, each question and issue appearing on the questions and issues ballot may be consecutively numbered. The question or issue determined to appear at the top of the ballot may be designated on the face thereof by the Arabic numeral "1" and all questions and issues placed below on the ballot shall be consecutively numbered. Such numeral shall be placed below the heavy top horizontal line enclosing such question or issue and to the left of the brief title thereof.

(2) Beginning with the general election to be held on November 5, 2024, a state question or issue determined to appear

at the top of the ballot shall be designated on the face thereof 104
by the Arabic numeral "1" and all state questions and issues 105
placed below on the ballot shall be consecutively numbered. For 106
elections occurring after the general election held on November 107
5, 2024, a state question or issue determined to appear at the 108
top of the ballot shall be designated on the face thereof by the 109
Arabic numeral that is consecutive to the Arabic numeral of the 110
last state question or issue that appeared on the ballot at the 111
immediately preceding election at which a state question or 112
issue appeared on the ballot and all state questions or issues 113
placed below on the ballot shall be consecutively numbered. Such 114
numeral shall be placed below the heavy top horizontal line 115
enclosing such question or issue and to the left of the brief 116
title thereof. Once a state question or issue appears on the 117
ballot designated by the Arabic numeral "500," the state 118
question or issue appearing at the top of the ballot at the 119
immediately following election at which a state question or 120
issue appears on the ballot shall be designated by the Arabic 121
numeral "1." 122

(G) No portion of a ballot question proposing to levy a 123
property tax in excess of the ten-mill limitation under any 124
section of the Revised Code, including the renewal or 125
replacement of such a levy, may be printed in boldface type or 126
in a font size that is different from the font size of other 127
text in the ballot question. The prohibitions in division (G) of 128
this section do not apply to printed matter either described in 129
division (D) of this section related to such a ballot question 130
or located in the area of the ballot in which votes are 131
indicated for or against that question. 132

Sec. 3517.01. (A) (1) A political party within the meaning 133
of Title XXXV of the Revised Code is any group of voters that 134

meets either of the following requirements:	135
(a) Except as otherwise provided in this division, at the	136
most recent regular state election, the group polled for its	137
candidate for governor in the state or nominees for presidential	138
electors at least three per cent of the entire vote cast for	139
that office. A group that meets the requirements of this	140
division remains a political party for a period of four years	141
after meeting those requirements.	142
(b) The group filed with the secretary of state,	143
subsequent to its failure to meet the requirements of division	144
(A) (1) (a) of this section, a party formation petition that meets	145
all of the following requirements:	146
(i) The petition is signed by qualified electors equal in	147
number to at least one per cent of the total vote for governor	148
or nominees for presidential electors at the most recent	149
election for such office.	150
(ii) The petition is signed by not fewer than five hundred	151
qualified electors from each of at least a minimum of one-half	152
of the congressional districts in this state. If an odd number	153
of congressional districts exists in this state, the number of	154
districts that results from dividing the number of congressional	155
districts by two shall be rounded up to the next whole number.	156
(iii) The petition declares the petitioners' intention of	157
organizing a political party, the name of which shall be stated	158
in the declaration, and of participating in the succeeding	159
general election, held in even-numbered years, that occurs more	160
than one hundred twenty-five days after the date of filing.	161
(iv) The petition designates a committee of not less than	162
three nor more than five individuals of the petitioners, who	163

shall represent the petitioners in all matters relating to the 164
petition. Notice of all matters or proceedings pertaining to the 165
petition may be served on the committee, or any of them, either 166
personally or by registered mail, or by leaving such notice at 167
the usual place of residence of each of them. 168

(2) No such group of electors shall assume a name or 169
designation that is similar, in the opinion of the secretary of 170
state, to that of an existing political party as to confuse or 171
mislead the voters at an election. 172

(B) A campaign committee shall be legally liable for any 173
debts, contracts, or expenditures incurred or executed in its 174
name. 175

(C) Notwithstanding the definitions found in section 176
3501.01 of the Revised Code, as used in this section and 177
sections 3517.08 to 3517.14, 3517.99, and 3517.992 of the 178
Revised Code: 179

(1) "Campaign committee" means a candidate or a 180
combination of two or more persons authorized by a candidate 181
under section 3517.081 of the Revised Code to receive 182
contributions and make expenditures. 183

(2) "Campaign treasurer" means an individual appointed by 184
a candidate under section 3517.081 of the Revised Code. 185

(3) "Candidate" has the same meaning as in division (H) of 186
section 3501.01 of the Revised Code and also includes any person 187
who, at any time before or after an election, receives 188
contributions or makes expenditures or other use of 189
contributions, has given consent for another to receive 190
contributions or make expenditures or other use of 191
contributions, or appoints a campaign treasurer, for the purpose 192

of bringing about the person's nomination or election to public 193
office. When two persons jointly seek the offices of governor 194
and lieutenant governor, "candidate" means the pair of 195
candidates jointly. "Candidate" does not include candidates for 196
election to the offices of member of a county or state central 197
committee, presidential elector, and delegate to a national 198
convention or conference of a political party. 199

(4) "Continuing association" means an association, other 200
than a campaign committee, political party, legislative campaign 201
fund, political contributing entity, or labor organization, that 202
is intended to be a permanent organization that has a primary 203
purpose other than supporting or opposing specific candidates, 204
political parties, or ballot issues, and that functions on a 205
regular basis throughout the year. "Continuing association" 206
includes organizations that are determined to be not organized 207
for profit under subsection 501 and that are described in 208
subsection 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), or 501(c)(6) of the Internal 209
Revenue Code. 210

(5) "Contribution" means a loan, gift, deposit, 211
forgiveness of indebtedness, donation, advance, payment, or 212
transfer of funds or anything of value, including a transfer of 213
funds from an inter vivos or testamentary trust or decedent's 214
estate, and the payment by any person other than the person to 215
whom the services are rendered for the personal services of 216
another person, which contribution is made, received, or used 217
for the purpose of influencing the results of an election. Any 218
loan, gift, deposit, forgiveness of indebtedness, donation, 219
advance, payment, or transfer of funds or of anything of value, 220
including a transfer of funds from an inter vivos or 221
testamentary trust or decedent's estate, and the payment by any 222
campaign committee, political action committee, legislative 223

campaign fund, political party, political contributing entity, 224
or person other than the person to whom the services are 225
rendered for the personal services of another person, that is 226
made, received, or used by a state or county political party, 227
other than the moneys an entity may receive under sections 228
3517.101, 3517.1012, and 3517.1013 of the Revised Code, shall be 229
considered to be a "contribution" for the purpose of section 230
3517.10 of the Revised Code and shall be included on a statement 231
of contributions filed under that section. 232

"Contribution" does not include any of the following: 233

(a) Services provided without compensation by individuals 234
volunteering a portion or all of their time on behalf of a 235
person; 236

(b) Ordinary home hospitality; 237

(c) The personal expenses of a volunteer paid for by that 238
volunteer campaign worker; 239

(d) Any gift given to an entity pursuant to section 240
3517.101 of the Revised Code; 241

(e) Any contribution as defined in section 3517.1011 of 242
the Revised Code that is made, received, or used to pay the 243
direct costs of producing or airing an electioneering 244
communication; 245

(f) Any gift given to a state or county political party 246
for the party's restricted fund under division (A) (2) of section 247
3517.1012 of the Revised Code; 248

(g) Any gift given to a state political party for deposit 249
in a Levin account pursuant to section 3517.1013 of the Revised 250
Code. As used in this division, "Levin account" has the same 251

meaning as in that section.	252
(h) Any donation given to a transition fund under section 3517.1014 of the Revised Code.	253 254
(6) "Expenditure" means the disbursement or use of a contribution for the purpose of influencing the results of an election or of making a charitable donation under division (G) of section 3517.08 of the Revised Code. Any disbursement or use of a contribution by a state or county political party is an expenditure and shall be considered either to be made for the purpose of influencing the results of an election or to be made as a charitable donation under division (G) of section 3517.08 of the Revised Code and shall be reported on a statement of expenditures filed under section 3517.10 of the Revised Code. During the thirty days preceding a primary or general election, any disbursement to pay the direct costs of producing or airing a broadcast, cable, or satellite communication that refers to a clearly identified candidate shall be considered to be made for the purpose of influencing the results of that election and shall be reported as an expenditure or as an independent expenditure under section 3517.10 or 3517.105 of the Revised Code, as applicable, except that the information required to be reported regarding contributors for those expenditures or independent expenditures shall be the same as the information required to be reported under divisions (D) (1) and (2) of section 3517.1011 of the Revised Code.	255 256 257 258 259 260 261 262 263 264 265 266 267 268 269 270 271 272 273 274 275 276
As used in this division, "broadcast, cable, or satellite communication" and "refers to a clearly identified candidate" have the same meanings as in section 3517.1011 of the Revised Code.	277 278 279 280
(7) "Personal expenses" includes, but is not limited to,	281

ordinary expenses for accommodations, clothing, food, personal	282
motor vehicle or airplane, and home telephone.	283
(8) "Political action committee" means a combination of	284
two or more persons, the primary or major purpose of which is to	285
support or oppose any candidate, political party, or issue, or	286
to influence the result of any election through express	287
advocacy, and that is not a political party, a campaign	288
committee, a political contributing entity, or a legislative	289
campaign fund. "Political action committee" does not include	290
either of the following:	291
(a) A continuing association that makes disbursements for	292
the direct costs of producing or airing electioneering	293
communications and that does not engage in express advocacy;	294
(b) A political club that is formed primarily for social	295
purposes and that consists of one hundred members or less, has	296
officers and periodic meetings, has less than two thousand five	297
hundred dollars in its treasury at all times, and makes an	298
aggregate total contribution of one thousand dollars or less per	299
calendar year.	300
(9) "Public office" means any state, county, municipal,	301
township, or district office, except an office of a political	302
party, that is filled by an election and the offices of United	303
States senator and representative.	304
(10) "Anything of value" has the same meaning as in	305
section 1.03 of the Revised Code.	306
(11) "Beneficiary of a campaign fund" means a candidate, a	307
public official or employee for whose benefit a campaign fund	308
exists, and any other person who has ever been a candidate or	309
public official or employee and for whose benefit a campaign	310

fund exists. 311

(12) "Campaign fund" means money or other property, 312
including contributions. 313

(13) "Public official or employee" has the same meaning as 314
in section 102.01 of the Revised Code. 315

(14) "Caucus" means all of the members of the house of 316
representatives or all of the members of the senate of the 317
general assembly who are members of the same political party. 318

(15) "Legislative campaign fund" means a fund that is 319
established as an auxiliary of a state political party and 320
associated with one of the houses of the general assembly. 321

(16) "In-kind contribution" means anything of value other 322
than money that is used to influence the results of an election 323
or is transferred to or used in support of or in opposition to a 324
candidate, campaign committee, legislative campaign fund, 325
political party, political action committee, or political 326
contributing entity and that is made with the consent of, in 327
coordination, cooperation, or consultation with, or at the 328
request or suggestion of the benefited candidate, committee, 329
fund, party, or entity. The financing of the dissemination, 330
distribution, or republication, in whole or part, of any 331
broadcast or of any written, graphic, or other form of campaign 332
materials prepared by the candidate, the candidate's campaign 333
committee, or their authorized agents is an in-kind contribution 334
to the candidate and an expenditure by the candidate. 335

~~(17)~~(17) (a) "Independent expenditure" means an either of 336
the following: 337

(i) An expenditure by a person advocating the election or 338
defeat of an identified candidate or candidates, that is not 339

made with the consent of, in coordination, cooperation, or 340
consultation with, or at the request or suggestion of any 341
candidate or candidates or of the campaign committee or agent of 342
the candidate or candidates; 343

(ii) An expenditure by a person advocating support of or 344
opposition to an identified ballot issue or question or to 345
achieve the successful circulation of an initiative or 346
referendum petition in order to place such an issue or question 347
on the ballot, regardless of whether the ballot issue or 348
question has yet been certified to appear on the ballot. As- 349

(b) As used in division ~~(C) (17)~~ (C) (17) (a) of this 350
section: 351

~~(a)~~ (i) "Person" means an individual, partnership, 352
unincorporated business organization or association, political 353
action committee, political contributing entity, separate 354
segregated fund, association, or other organization or group of 355
persons, but not a labor organization or a corporation unless 356
the labor organization or corporation is a political 357
contributing entity. 358

~~(b)~~ (ii) "Advocating" means any communication containing a 359
message advocating election or defeat. 360

~~(c)~~ (iii) "Identified candidate" means that the name of 361
the candidate appears, a photograph or drawing of the candidate 362
appears, or the identity of the candidate is otherwise apparent 363
by unambiguous reference. 364

~~(d)~~ (iv) "Made in coordination, cooperation, or 365
consultation with, or at the request or suggestion of, any 366
candidate or the campaign committee or agent of the candidate" 367
means made pursuant to any arrangement, coordination, or 368

direction by the candidate, the candidate's campaign committee, 369
or the candidate's agent prior to the publication, distribution, 370
display, or broadcast of the communication. An expenditure is 371
presumed to be so made when it is any of the following: 372

~~(i)~~ (I) Based on information about the candidate's plans, 373
projects, or needs provided to the person making the expenditure 374
by the candidate, or by the candidate's campaign committee or 375
agent, with a view toward having an expenditure made; 376

~~(ii)~~ (II) Made by or through any person who is, or has 377
been, authorized to raise or expend funds, who is, or has been, 378
an officer of the candidate's campaign committee, or who is, or 379
has been, receiving any form of compensation or reimbursement 380
from the candidate or the candidate's campaign committee or 381
agent; 382

~~(iii)~~ (III) Except as otherwise provided in division (D) 383
of section 3517.105 of the Revised Code, made by a political 384
party in support of a candidate, unless the expenditure is made 385
by a political party to conduct voter registration or voter 386
education efforts. 387

~~(e)~~ (v) "Agent" means any person who has actual oral or 388
written authority, either express or implied, to make or to 389
authorize the making of expenditures on behalf of a candidate, 390
or means any person who has been placed in a position with the 391
candidate's campaign committee or organization such that it 392
would reasonably appear that in the ordinary course of campaign- 393
related activities the person may authorize expenditures. 394

(18) "Labor organization" means a labor union; an employee 395
organization; a federation of labor unions, groups, locals, or 396
other employee organizations; an auxiliary of a labor union, 397

employee organization, or federation of labor unions, groups, 398
locals, or other employee organizations; or any other bona fide 399
organization in which employees participate and that exists for 400
the purpose, in whole or in part, of dealing with employers 401
concerning grievances, labor disputes, wages, hours, and other 402
terms and conditions of employment. 403

(19) "Separate segregated fund" means a separate 404
segregated fund established pursuant to the Federal Election 405
Campaign Act. 406

(20) "Federal Election Campaign Act" means the "Federal 407
Election Campaign Act of 1971," 86 Stat. 11, 2 U.S.C.A. 431, et 408
seq., as amended. 409

(21) "Restricted fund" means the fund a state or county 410
political party must establish under division (A)(1) of section 411
3517.1012 of the Revised Code. 412

(22) "Electioneering communication" has the same meaning 413
as in section 3517.1011 of the Revised Code. 414

(23) "Express advocacy" means a communication that 415
contains express words advocating the nomination, election, or 416
defeat of a candidate or that contains express words advocating 417
the adoption or defeat of a question or issue, as determined by 418
a final judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction. 419

(24) "Political committee" has the same meaning as in 420
section 3517.1011 of the Revised Code. 421

(25) "Political contributing entity" means any entity, 422
including a corporation or labor organization, that may lawfully 423
make contributions and expenditures and that is not an 424
individual or a political action committee, continuing 425
association, campaign committee, political party, legislative 426

campaign fund, designated state campaign committee, or state 427
candidate fund. For purposes of this division, "lawfully" means 428
not prohibited by any section of the Revised Code, or authorized 429
by a final judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction. 430

(26) "Internet identifier of record" has the same meaning 431
as in section 9.312 of the Revised Code. 432

Sec. 3517.10. (A) Except as otherwise provided in this 433
division, every campaign committee, political action committee, 434
legislative campaign fund, political party, and political 435
contributing entity that made or received a contribution or made 436
an expenditure in connection with the nomination or election of 437
any candidate or in connection with any ballot issue or question 438
at any election held or to be held in this state shall file, on 439
a form prescribed under this section or by electronic means of 440
transmission as provided in this section and section 3517.106 of 441
the Revised Code, a full, true, and itemized statement, made 442
under penalty of election falsification, setting forth in detail 443
the contributions and expenditures, not later than four p.m. of 444
the following dates: 445

(1) The twelfth day before the election to reflect 446
contributions received and expenditures made from the close of 447
business on the last day reflected in the last previously filed 448
statement, if any, to the close of business on the twentieth day 449
before the election; 450

(2) The thirty-eighth day after the election to reflect 451
the contributions received and expenditures made from the close 452
of business on the last day reflected in the last previously 453
filed statement, if any, to the close of business on the seventh 454
day before the filing of the statement; 455

(3) The last business day of January of every year to 456
reflect the contributions received and expenditures made from 457
the close of business on the last day reflected in the last 458
previously filed statement, if any, to the close of business on 459
the last day of December of the previous year; 460

(4) The last business day of July of every year to reflect 461
the contributions received and expenditures made from the close 462
of business on the last day reflected in the last previously 463
filed statement, if any, to the close of business on the last 464
day of June of that year. 465

A campaign committee shall only be required to file the 466
statements prescribed under divisions (A) (1) and (2) of this 467
section in connection with the nomination or election of the 468
committee's candidate. 469

The statement required under division (A) (1) of this 470
section shall not be required of any campaign committee, 471
political action committee, legislative campaign fund, political 472
party, or political contributing entity that has received 473
contributions of less than one thousand dollars and has made 474
expenditures of less than one thousand dollars at the close of 475
business on the twentieth day before the election. Those 476
contributions and expenditures shall be reported in the 477
statement required under division (A) (2) of this section. 478

If an election to select candidates to appear on the 479
general election ballot is held within sixty days before a 480
general election, the campaign committee of a successful 481
candidate in the earlier election may file the statement 482
required by division (A) (1) of this section for the general 483
election instead of the statement required by division (A) (2) of 484
this section for the earlier election if the pregeneral election 485

statement reflects the status of contributions and expenditures 486
for the period twenty days before the earlier election to twenty 487
days before the general election. 488

If a person becomes a candidate less than twenty days 489
before an election, the candidate's campaign committee is not 490
required to file the statement required by division (A) (1) of 491
this section. 492

No statement under division (A) (3) of this section shall 493
be required for any year in which a campaign committee, 494
political action committee, legislative campaign fund, political 495
party, or political contributing entity is required to file a 496
postgeneral election statement under division (A) (2) of this 497
section. However, a statement under division (A) (3) of this 498
section may be filed, at the option of the campaign committee, 499
political action committee, legislative campaign fund, political 500
party, or political contributing entity. 501

No campaign committee of a candidate for the office of 502
chief justice or justice of the supreme court, and no campaign 503
committee of a candidate for the office of judge of any court in 504
this state, shall be required to file a statement under division 505
(A) (4) of this section. 506

Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph and in the 507
next paragraph of this section, the only campaign committees 508
required to file a statement under division (A) (4) of this 509
section are the campaign committee of a statewide candidate and 510
the campaign committee of a candidate for county office. The 511
campaign committee of a candidate for any other nonjudicial 512
office is required to file a statement under division (A) (4) of 513
this section if that campaign committee receives, during that 514
period, contributions exceeding ten thousand dollars. 515

No statement under division (A) (4) of this section shall 516
be required of a campaign committee, a political action 517
committee, a legislative campaign fund, a political party, or a 518
political contributing entity for any year in which the campaign 519
committee, political action committee, legislative campaign 520
fund, political party, or political contributing entity is 521
required to file a postprimary election statement under division 522
(A) (2) of this section. However, a statement under division (A) 523
(4) of this section may be filed at the option of the campaign 524
committee, political action committee, legislative campaign 525
fund, political party, or political contributing entity. 526

No statement under division (A) (3) or (4) of this section 527
shall be required if the campaign committee, political action 528
committee, legislative campaign fund, political party, or 529
political contributing entity has no contributions that it has 530
received and no expenditures that it has made since the last 531
date reflected in its last previously filed statement. However, 532
the campaign committee, political action committee, legislative 533
campaign fund, political party, or political contributing entity 534
shall file a statement to that effect, on a form prescribed 535
under this section and made under penalty of election 536
falsification, on the date required in division (A) (3) or (4) of 537
this section, as applicable. 538

The campaign committee of a statewide candidate shall file 539
a monthly statement of contributions received during each of the 540
months of July, August, and September in the year of the general 541
election in which the candidate seeks office. The campaign 542
committee of a statewide candidate shall file the monthly 543
statement not later than three business days after the last day 544
of the month covered by the statement. During the period 545
beginning on the nineteenth day before the general election in 546

which a statewide candidate seeks election to office and 547
extending through the day of that general election, each time 548
the campaign committee of the joint candidates for the offices 549
of governor and lieutenant governor or of a candidate for the 550
office of secretary of state, auditor of state, treasurer of 551
state, or attorney general receives a contribution from a 552
contributor that causes the aggregate amount of contributions 553
received from that contributor during that period to equal or 554
exceed ten thousand dollars and each time the campaign committee 555
of a candidate for the office of chief justice or justice of the 556
supreme court receives a contribution from a contributor that 557
causes the aggregate amount of contributions received from that 558
contributor during that period to exceed ten thousand dollars, 559
the campaign committee shall file a two-business-day statement 560
reflecting that contribution. Contributions reported on a two- 561
business-day statement required to be filed by a campaign 562
committee of a statewide candidate in a primary election shall 563
also be included in the postprimary election statement required 564
to be filed by that campaign committee under division (A) (2) of 565
this section. A two-business-day statement required by this 566
paragraph shall be filed not later than two business days after 567
receipt of the contribution. The statements required by this 568
paragraph shall be filed in addition to any other statements 569
required by this section. 570

Subject to the secretary of state having implemented, 571
tested, and verified the successful operation of any system the 572
secretary of state prescribes pursuant to divisions (C) (6) (b) 573
and (D) (6) of this section and division (F) (1) of section 574
3517.106 of the Revised Code for the filing of campaign finance 575
statements by electronic means of transmission, a campaign 576
committee of a statewide candidate shall file a two-business-day 577

statement under the preceding paragraph by electronic means of 578
transmission if the campaign committee is required to file a 579
pre-election, postelection, or monthly statement of 580
contributions and expenditures by electronic means of 581
transmission under this section or section 3517.106 of the 582
Revised Code. 583

If a campaign committee or political action committee has 584
no balance on hand and no outstanding obligations and desires to 585
terminate itself, it shall file a statement to that effect, on a 586
form prescribed under this section and made under penalty of 587
election falsification, with the official with whom it files a 588
statement under division (A) of this section after filing a 589
final statement of contributions and a final statement of 590
expenditures, if contributions have been received or 591
expenditures made since the period reflected in its last 592
previously filed statement. 593

(B) Except as otherwise provided in division (C) (7) of 594
this section, each statement required by division (A) of this 595
section shall contain the following information: 596

(1) The full name and address of each campaign committee, 597
political action committee, legislative campaign fund, political 598
party, or political contributing entity, including any treasurer 599
of the committee, fund, party, or entity, filing a contribution 600
and expenditure statement; 601

(2) (a) In the case of a campaign committee, the 602
candidate's full name and address; 603

(b) In the case of a political action committee, the 604
registration number assigned to the committee under division (D) 605
(1) of this section. 606

(3) The date of the election and whether it was or will be 607
a general, primary, or special election; 608

(4) A statement of contributions received, which shall 609
include the following information: 610

(a) The month, day, and year of the contribution; 611

(b) (i) The full name and address of each person, political 612
party, campaign committee, legislative campaign fund, political 613
action committee, or political contributing entity from whom 614
contributions are received and the registration number assigned 615
to the political action committee under division (D) (1) of this 616
section. The requirement of filing the full address does not 617
apply to any statement filed by a state or local committee of a 618
political party, to a finance committee of such committee, or to 619
a committee recognized by a state or local committee as its 620
fund-raising auxiliary. Notwithstanding division (F) of this 621
section, the requirement of filing the full address shall be 622
considered as being met if the address filed is the same address 623
the contributor provided under division (E) (1) of this section. 624

(ii) If a political action committee, political 625
contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or political 626
party that is required to file campaign finance statements by 627
electronic means of transmission under section 3517.106 of the 628
Revised Code or a campaign committee of a statewide candidate or 629
candidate for the office of member of the general assembly 630
receives a contribution from an individual that exceeds one 631
hundred dollars, the name of the individual's current employer, 632
if any, or, if the individual is self-employed, the individual's 633
occupation and the name of the individual's business, if any; 634

(iii) If a campaign committee of a statewide candidate or 635

candidate for the office of member of the general assembly 636
receives a contribution transmitted pursuant to section 3599.031 637
of the Revised Code from amounts deducted from the wages and 638
salaries of two or more employees that exceeds in the aggregate 639
one hundred dollars during any one filing period under division 640
(A) (1), (2), (3), or (4) of this section, the full name of the 641
employees' employer and the full name of the labor organization 642
of which the employees are members, if any. 643

(c) A description of the contribution received, if other 644
than money; 645

(d) The value in dollars and cents of the contribution; 646

(e) A separately itemized account of all contributions and 647
expenditures regardless of the amount, except a receipt of a 648
contribution from a person in the sum of twenty-five dollars or 649
less at one social or fund-raising activity and a receipt of a 650
contribution transmitted pursuant to section 3599.031 of the 651
Revised Code from amounts deducted from the wages and salaries 652
of employees if the contribution from the amount deducted from 653
the wages and salary of any one employee is twenty-five dollars 654
or less aggregated in a calendar year. An account of the total 655
contributions from each social or fund-raising activity shall 656
include a description of and the value of each in-kind 657
contribution received at that activity from any person who made 658
one or more such contributions whose aggregate value exceeded 659
two hundred fifty dollars and shall be listed separately, 660
together with the expenses incurred and paid in connection with 661
that activity. A campaign committee, political action committee, 662
legislative campaign fund, political party, or political 663
contributing entity shall keep records of contributions from 664
each person in the amount of twenty-five dollars or less at one 665

social or fund-raising activity and contributions from amounts 666
deducted under section 3599.031 of the Revised Code from the 667
wages and salary of each employee in the amount of twenty-five 668
dollars or less aggregated in a calendar year. No continuing 669
association that is recognized by a state or local committee of 670
a political party as an auxiliary of the party and that makes a 671
contribution from funds derived solely from regular dues paid by 672
members of the auxiliary shall be required to list the name or 673
address of any members who paid those dues. 674

Contributions that are other income shall be itemized 675
separately from all other contributions. The information 676
required under division (B)(4) of this section shall be provided 677
for all other income itemized. As used in this paragraph, "other 678
income" means a loan, investment income, or interest income. 679

(f) In the case of a campaign committee of a state elected 680
officer, if a person doing business with the state elected 681
officer in the officer's official capacity makes a contribution 682
to the campaign committee of that officer, the information 683
required under division (B)(4) of this section in regard to that 684
contribution, which shall be filed together with and considered 685
a part of the committee's statement of contributions as required 686
under division (A) of this section but shall be filed on a 687
separate form provided by the secretary of state. As used in 688
this division: 689

(i) "State elected officer" has the same meaning as in 690
section 3517.092 of the Revised Code. 691

(ii) "Person doing business" means a person or an officer 692
of an entity who enters into one or more contracts with a state 693
elected officer or anyone authorized to enter into contracts on 694
behalf of that officer to receive payments for goods or 695

services, if the payments total, in the aggregate, more than 696
five thousand dollars during a calendar year. 697

(5) A statement of expenditures which shall include the 698
following information: 699

(a) The month, day, and year of the expenditure; 700

(b) The full name and address of each person, political 701
party, campaign committee, legislative campaign fund, political 702
action committee, or political contributing entity to whom the 703
expenditure was made and the registration number assigned to the 704
political action committee under division (D) (1) of this 705
section; 706

(c) The object or purpose for which the expenditure was 707
made; 708

(d) The amount of each expenditure. 709

(C) (1) The statement of contributions and expenditures 710
shall be signed by the person completing the form. If a 711
statement of contributions and expenditures is filed by 712
electronic means of transmission pursuant to this section or 713
section 3517.106 of the Revised Code, the electronic signature 714
of the person who executes the statement and transmits the 715
statement by electronic means of transmission, as provided in 716
division (F) of section 3517.106 of the Revised Code, shall be 717
attached to or associated with the statement and shall be 718
binding on all persons and for all purposes under the campaign 719
finance reporting law as if the signature had been handwritten 720
in ink on a printed form. 721

(2) The person filing the statement, under penalty of 722
election falsification, shall include with it ~~a~~ both of the 723
following: 724

(a) A list of each anonymous contribution, the 725
circumstances under which it was received, and the reason it 726
cannot be attributed to a specific donor; 727

(b) A certification that the campaign committee, political 728
action committee, legislative campaign fund, political party, or 729
political contributing entity, as applicable, has not knowingly 730
accepted any contribution that is prohibited under this chapter 731
or section 3599.03 or 3599.031 of the Revised Code, including 732
under division (W) of section 3517.13 of the Revised Code, 733
during the period covered by the statement. 734

(3) Each statement of a campaign committee of a candidate 735
who holds public office shall contain a designation of each 736
contributor who is an employee in any unit or department under 737
the candidate's direct supervision and control. In a space 738
provided in the statement, the person filing the statement shall 739
affirm that each such contribution was voluntarily made. 740

(4) A campaign committee that did not receive 741
contributions or make expenditures in connection with the 742
nomination or election of its candidate shall file a statement 743
to that effect, on a form prescribed under this section and made 744
under penalty of election falsification, on the date required in 745
division (A) (2) of this section. 746

(5) The campaign committee of any person who attempts to 747
become a candidate and who, for any reason, does not become 748
certified in accordance with Title XXXV of the Revised Code for 749
placement on the official ballot of a primary, general, or 750
special election to be held in this state, and who, at any time 751
prior to or after an election, receives contributions or makes 752
expenditures, or has given consent for another to receive 753
contributions or make expenditures, for the purpose of bringing 754

about the person's nomination or election to public office, 755
shall file the statement or statements prescribed by this 756
section and a termination statement, if applicable. Division (C) 757
(5) of this section does not apply to any person with respect to 758
an election to the offices of member of a county or state 759
central committee, presidential elector, or delegate to a 760
national convention or conference of a political party. 761

(6) (a) The statements required to be filed under this 762
section shall specify the balance in the hands of the campaign 763
committee, political action committee, legislative campaign 764
fund, political party, or political contributing entity and the 765
disposition intended to be made of that balance. 766

(b) The secretary of state shall prescribe the form for 767
all statements required to be filed under this section and shall 768
furnish the forms to the boards of elections in the several 769
counties. The boards of elections shall supply printed copies of 770
those forms without charge. The secretary of state shall 771
prescribe the appropriate methodology, protocol, and data file 772
structure for statements required or permitted to be filed by 773
electronic means of transmission to the secretary of state or a 774
board of elections under division (A) of this section, division 775
(E) of section 3517.106, division (D) of section 3517.1011, 776
division (B) of section 3517.1012, division (C) of section 777
3517.1013, and divisions (D) and (I) of section 3517.1014 of the 778
Revised Code. Subject to division (A) of this section, division 779
(E) of section 3517.106, division (D) of section 3517.1011, 780
division (B) of section 3517.1012, division (C) of section 781
3517.1013, and divisions (D) and (I) of section 3517.1014 of the 782
Revised Code, the statements required to be stored on computer 783
by the secretary of state under division (B) of section 3517.106 784
of the Revised Code shall be filed in whatever format the 785

secretary of state considers necessary to enable the secretary 786
of state to store the information contained in the statements on 787
computer. Any such format shall be of a type and nature that is 788
readily available to whoever is required to file the statements 789
in that format. 790

(c) The secretary of state shall assess the need for 791
training regarding the filing of campaign finance statements by 792
electronic means of transmission and regarding associated 793
technologies for candidates, campaign committees, political 794
action committees, legislative campaign funds, political 795
parties, or political contributing entities, for individuals, 796
partnerships, or other entities, for persons making 797
disbursements to pay the direct costs of producing or airing 798
electioneering communications, or for treasurers of transition 799
funds, required or permitted to file statements by electronic 800
means of transmission under this section or section 3517.105, 801
3517.106, 3517.1011, 3517.1012, 3517.1013, or 3517.1014 of the 802
Revised Code. If, in the opinion of the secretary of state, 803
training in these areas is necessary, the secretary of state 804
shall arrange for the provision of voluntary training programs 805
for candidates, campaign committees, political action 806
committees, legislative campaign funds, political parties, or 807
political contributing entities, for individuals, partnerships, 808
and other entities, for persons making disbursements to pay the 809
direct costs of producing or airing electioneering 810
communications, or for treasurers of transition funds, as 811
appropriate. 812

(7) Each monthly statement and each two-business-day 813
statement required by division (A) of this section shall contain 814
the information required by divisions (B) (1) to (4), (C) (2), 815
and, if appropriate, (C) (3) of this section. Each statement 816

shall be signed as required by division (C) (1) of this section. 817

(D) (1) (a) Prior to receiving a contribution or making an 818
expenditure, every campaign committee, political action 819
committee, legislative campaign fund, political party, or 820
political contributing entity shall appoint a treasurer and 821
shall file, on a form prescribed by the secretary of state, a 822
designation of that appointment, including the full name and 823
address of the treasurer and of the campaign committee, 824
political action committee, legislative campaign fund, political 825
party, or political contributing entity. That designation shall 826
be filed with the official with whom the campaign committee, 827
political action committee, legislative campaign fund, political 828
party, or political contributing entity is required to file 829
statements under section 3517.11 of the Revised Code. The name 830
of a campaign committee shall include at least the last name of 831
the campaign committee's candidate. If two or more candidates 832
are the beneficiaries of a single campaign committee under 833
division (B) of section 3517.081 of the Revised Code, the name 834
of the campaign committee shall include at least the last name 835
of each candidate who is a beneficiary of that campaign 836
committee. The secretary of state shall assign a registration 837
number to each political action committee that files a 838
designation of the appointment of a treasurer under this 839
division if the political action committee is required by 840
division (A) (1) of section 3517.11 of the Revised Code to file 841
the statements prescribed by this section with the secretary of 842
state. 843

(b) The form of the designation of treasurer shall require 844
the filer to certify, under penalty of election falsification, 845
that the campaign committee, political action committee, 846
legislative campaign fund, political party, or political 847

contributing entity, as applicable, has not knowingly accepted, 848
and will not knowingly accept, any contribution that is 849
prohibited under this chapter or section 3599.03 or 3599.031 of 850
the Revised Code, including under division (W) of section 851
3517.13 of the Revised Code. 852

(c) The secretary of state shall not accept for filing a 853
designation of treasurer of a political action committee or 854
political contributing entity if, in the opinion of the 855
secretary of state, the name of the political action committee 856
or political contributing entity would lead a reasonable person 857
to believe that the political action committee or political 858
contributing entity acts on behalf of or represents a county 859
political party, unless the designation is accompanied by a 860
written statement, signed by the chairperson of the county 861
political party's executive committee, granting the political 862
action committee or political contributing entity permission to 863
act on behalf of or represent the county political party. 864

(2) The treasurer appointed under division (D)(1) of this 865
section shall keep a strict account of all contributions, from 866
whom received and the purpose for which they were disbursed. 867

(3) (a) Except as otherwise provided in section 3517.108 of 868
the Revised Code, a campaign committee shall deposit all 869
monetary contributions received by the committee into an account 870
separate from a personal or business account of the candidate or 871
campaign committee. 872

(b) A political action committee shall deposit all 873
monetary contributions received by the committee into an account 874
separate from all other funds. 875

(c) A state or county political party may establish a 876

state candidate fund that is separate from all other funds. A 877
state or county political party may deposit into its state 878
candidate fund any amounts of monetary contributions that are 879
made to or accepted by the political party subject to the 880
applicable limitations, if any, prescribed in section 3517.102 881
of the Revised Code. A state or county political party shall 882
deposit all other monetary contributions received by the party 883
into one or more accounts that are separate from its state 884
candidate fund. 885

(d) Each state political party shall have only one 886
legislative campaign fund for each house of the general 887
assembly. Each such fund shall be separate from any other funds 888
or accounts of that state party. A legislative campaign fund is 889
authorized to receive contributions and make expenditures for 890
the primary purpose of furthering the election of candidates who 891
are members of that political party to the house of the general 892
assembly with which that legislative campaign fund is 893
associated. Each legislative campaign fund shall be administered 894
and controlled in a manner designated by the caucus. As used in 895
this division, "caucus" has the same meaning as in section 896
3517.01 of the Revised Code and includes, as an ex officio 897
member, the chairperson of the state political party with which 898
the caucus is associated or that chairperson's designee. 899

(4) Every expenditure in excess of twenty-five dollars 900
shall be vouched for by a receipted bill, stating the purpose of 901
the expenditure, that shall be filed with the statement of 902
expenditures. A canceled check with a notation of the purpose of 903
the expenditure is a receipted bill for purposes of division (D) 904
(4) of this section. 905

(5) The secretary of state or the board of elections, as 906

the case may be, shall issue a receipt for each statement filed 907
under this section and shall preserve a copy of the receipt for 908
a period of at least six years. All statements filed under this 909
section shall be open to public inspection in the office where 910
they are filed and shall be carefully preserved for a period of 911
at least six years after the year in which they are filed. 912

(6) The secretary of state, by rule adopted pursuant to 913
section 3517.23 of the Revised Code, shall prescribe both of the 914
following: 915

(a) The manner of immediately acknowledging, with date and 916
time received, and preserving the receipt of statements that are 917
transmitted by electronic means of transmission to the secretary 918
of state or a board of elections pursuant to this section or 919
section 3517.106, 3517.1011, 3517.1012, 3517.1013, or 3517.1014 920
of the Revised Code; 921

(b) The manner of preserving the contribution and 922
expenditure, contribution and disbursement, deposit and 923
disbursement, gift and disbursement, or donation and 924
disbursement information in the statements described in division 925
(D) (6) (a) of this section. The secretary of state shall preserve 926
the contribution and expenditure, contribution and disbursement, 927
deposit and disbursement, gift and disbursement, or donation and 928
disbursement information in those statements for at least ten 929
years after the year in which they are filed by electronic means 930
of transmission. 931

(7) (a) The secretary of state, pursuant to division (G) of 932
section 3517.106 of the Revised Code, shall make available 933
online to the public through the internet the contribution and 934
expenditure, contribution and disbursement, deposit and 935
disbursement, gift and disbursement, or donation and 936

disbursement information in all of the following documents:	937
(i) All statements, all addenda, amendments, or other	938
corrections to statements, and all amended statements filed with	939
the secretary of state by electronic or other means of	940
transmission under this section, division (B) (2) (b) or (C) (2) (b)	941
of section 3517.105, or section 3517.106, 3517.1011, 3517.1012,	942
3517.1013, 3517.1014, or 3517.11 of the Revised Code;	943
(ii) All statements filed with a board of elections by	944
electronic means of transmission, and all addenda, amendments,	945
corrections, and amended versions of those statements, filed	946
with the board under this section, division (B) (2) (b) or (C) (2)	947
(b) of section 3517.105, or section 3517.106, 3517.1012, or	948
3517.11 of the Revised Code.	949
(b) The secretary of state may remove the information from	950
the internet after a reasonable period of time.	951
(E) (1) Any person, political party, campaign committee,	952
legislative campaign fund, political action committee, or	953
political contributing entity that makes a contribution in	954
connection with the nomination or election of any candidate or	955
in connection with any ballot issue or question at any election	956
held or to be held in this state shall provide its full name and	957
address to the recipient of the contribution at the time the	958
contribution is made. The political action committee also shall	959
provide the registration number assigned to the committee under	960
division (D) (1) of this section to the recipient of the	961
contribution at the time the contribution is made.	962
(2) Any individual who makes a contribution that exceeds	963
one hundred dollars to a political action committee, political	964
contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or political	965

party or to a campaign committee of a statewide candidate or 966
candidate for the office of member of the general assembly shall 967
provide the name of the individual's current employer, if any, 968
or, if the individual is self-employed, the individual's 969
occupation and the name of the individual's business, if any, to 970
the recipient of the contribution at the time the contribution 971
is made. Sections 3599.39 and 3599.40 of the Revised Code do not 972
apply to division (E) (2) of this section. 973

(3) If a campaign committee shows that it has exercised 974
its best efforts to obtain, maintain, and submit the information 975
required under divisions (B) (4) (b) (ii) and (iii) of this 976
section, that committee is considered to have met the 977
requirements of those divisions. A campaign committee shall not 978
be considered to have exercised its best efforts unless, in 979
connection with written solicitations, it regularly includes a 980
written request for the information required under division (B) 981
(4) (b) (ii) of this section from the contributor or the 982
information required under division (B) (4) (b) (iii) of this 983
section from whoever transmits the contribution. 984

(4) Any check that a political action committee uses to 985
make a contribution or an expenditure shall contain the full 986
name and address of the committee and the registration number 987
assigned to the committee under division (D) (1) of this section. 988

(F) As used in this section: 989

(1) (a) Except as otherwise provided in division (F) (1) of 990
this section, "address" means all of the following if they 991
exist: apartment number, street, road, or highway name and 992
number, rural delivery route number, city or village, state, and 993
zip code as used in a person's post-office address, but not 994
post-office box. 995

(b) Except as otherwise provided in division (F)(1) of 996
this section, if an address is required in this section, a post- 997
office box and office, room, or suite number may be included in 998
addition to, but not in lieu of, an apartment, street, road, or 999
highway name and number. 1000

(c) If an address is required in this section, a campaign 1001
committee, political action committee, legislative campaign 1002
fund, political party, or political contributing entity may use 1003
the business or residence address of its treasurer or deputy 1004
treasurer. The post-office box number of the campaign committee, 1005
political action committee, legislative campaign fund, political 1006
party, or political contributing entity may be used in addition 1007
to that address. 1008

(d) For the sole purpose of a campaign committee's 1009
reporting of contributions on a statement of contributions 1010
received under division (B)(4) of this section, "address" has 1011
one of the following meanings at the option of the campaign 1012
committee: 1013

(i) The same meaning as in division (F)(1)(a) of this 1014
section; 1015

(ii) All of the following, if they exist: the 1016
contributor's post-office box number and city or village, state, 1017
and zip code as used in the contributor's post-office address. 1018

(e) As used with regard to the reporting under this 1019
section of any expenditure, "address" means all of the following 1020
if they exist: apartment number, street, road, or highway name 1021
and number, rural delivery route number, city or village, state, 1022
and zip code as used in a person's post-office address, or post- 1023
office box. If an address concerning any expenditure is required 1024

in this section, a campaign committee, political action 1025
committee, legislative campaign fund, political party, or 1026
political contributing entity may use the business or residence 1027
address of its treasurer or deputy treasurer or its post-office 1028
box number. 1029

(2) "Statewide candidate" means the joint candidates for 1030
the offices of governor and lieutenant governor or a candidate 1031
for the office of secretary of state, auditor of state, 1032
treasurer of state, attorney general, member of the state board 1033
of education, chief justice of the supreme court, or justice of 1034
the supreme court. 1035

(3) "Candidate for county office" means a candidate for 1036
the office of county auditor, county treasurer, clerk of the 1037
court of common pleas, judge of the court of common pleas, 1038
sheriff, county recorder, county engineer, county commissioner, 1039
prosecuting attorney, or coroner. 1040

(G) An independent expenditure shall be reported whenever 1041
and in the same manner that an expenditure is required to be 1042
reported under this section and shall be reported pursuant to 1043
division (B) (2) (a) or (C) (2) (a) of section 3517.105 of the 1044
Revised Code. 1045

(H) (1) Except as otherwise provided in division (H) (2) of 1046
this section, if, during the combined pre-election and 1047
postelection reporting periods for an election, a campaign 1048
committee has received contributions of five hundred dollars or 1049
less and has made expenditures in the total amount of five 1050
hundred dollars or less, it may file a statement to that effect, 1051
under penalty of election falsification, in lieu of the 1052
statement required by division (A) (2) of this section. The 1053
statement shall indicate the total amount of contributions 1054

received and the total amount of expenditures made during those 1055
combined reporting periods. 1056

(2) In the case of a successful candidate at a primary 1057
election, if either the total contributions received by or the 1058
total expenditures made by the candidate's campaign committee 1059
during the preprimary, postprimary, pregeneral, and postgeneral 1060
election periods combined equal more than five hundred dollars, 1061
the campaign committee may file the statement under division (H) 1062
(1) of this section only for the primary election. The first 1063
statement that the campaign committee files in regard to the 1064
general election shall reflect all contributions received and 1065
all expenditures made during the preprimary and postprimary 1066
election periods. 1067

(3) Divisions (H) (1) and (2) of this section do not apply 1068
if a campaign committee receives contributions or makes 1069
expenditures prior to the first day of January of the year of 1070
the election at which the candidate seeks nomination or election 1071
to office or if the campaign committee does not file a 1072
termination statement with its postprimary election statement in 1073
the case of an unsuccessful primary election candidate or with 1074
its postgeneral election statement in the case of other 1075
candidates. 1076

(I) In the case of a contribution made by a partner of a 1077
partnership or an owner or a member of another unincorporated 1078
business from any funds of the partnership or other 1079
unincorporated business, all of the following apply: 1080

(1) The recipient of the contribution shall report the 1081
contribution by listing both the partnership or other 1082
unincorporated business and the name of the partner, owner, or 1083
member making the contribution. 1084

(2) In reporting the contribution, the recipient of the contribution shall be entitled to conclusively rely upon the information provided by the partnership or other unincorporated business, provided that the information includes one of the following:

(a) The name of each partner, owner, or member as of the date of the contribution or contributions, and a statement that the total contributions are to be allocated equally among all of the partners, owners, or members; or

(b) The name of each partner, owner, or member as of the date of the contribution or contributions who is participating in the contribution or contributions, and a statement that the contribution or contributions are to be allocated to those individuals in accordance with the information provided by the partnership or other unincorporated business to the recipient of the contribution.

(3) For purposes of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code, the contribution shall be considered to have been made by the partner, owner, or member reported under division (I)(1) of this section.

(4) No contribution from a partner of a partnership or an owner or a member of another unincorporated business shall be accepted from any funds of the partnership or other unincorporated business unless the recipient reports the contribution under division (I)(1) of this section together with the information provided under division (I)(2) of this section.

(5) No partnership or other unincorporated business shall make a contribution or contributions solely in the name of the partnership or other unincorporated business.

(6) As used in division (I) of this section, "partnership or other unincorporated business" includes, but is not limited to, a cooperative, a sole proprietorship, a general partnership, a limited partnership, a limited partnership association, a limited liability partnership, and a limited liability company.

(J) A candidate shall have only one campaign committee at any given time for all of the offices for which the person is a candidate or holds office.

(K) (1) In addition to filing a designation of appointment of a treasurer under division (D) (1) of this section, the campaign committee of any candidate for an elected municipal office that pays an annual amount of compensation of five thousand dollars or less, the campaign committee of any candidate for member of a board of education except member of the state board of education, or the campaign committee of any candidate for township trustee or township fiscal officer may sign, under penalty of election falsification, a certificate attesting that the committee will not accept contributions during an election period that exceed in the aggregate two thousand dollars from all contributors and one hundred dollars from any one individual, and that the campaign committee will not make expenditures during an election period that exceed in the aggregate two thousand dollars.

The certificate shall be on a form prescribed by the secretary of state and shall be filed not later than ten days after the candidate files a declaration of candidacy and petition, a nominating petition, or a declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in division (K) (3) of this section, a campaign committee that files a certificate

under division (K) (1) of this section is not required to file 1144
the statements required by division (A) of this section. 1145

(3) If, after filing a certificate under division (K) (1) 1146
of this section, a campaign committee exceeds any of the 1147
limitations described in that division during an election 1148
period, the certificate is void and thereafter the campaign 1149
committee shall file the statements required by division (A) of 1150
this section. If the campaign committee has not previously filed 1151
a statement, then on the first statement the campaign committee 1152
is required to file under division (A) of this section after the 1153
committee's certificate is void, the committee shall report all 1154
contributions received and expenditures made from the time the 1155
candidate filed the candidate's declaration of candidacy and 1156
petition, nominating petition, or declaration of intent to be a 1157
write-in candidate. 1158

(4) As used in division (K) of this section, "election 1159
period" means the period of time beginning on the day a person 1160
files a declaration of candidacy and petition, nominating 1161
petition, or declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate 1162
through the day of the election at which the person seeks 1163
nomination to office if the person is not elected to office, or, 1164
if the candidate was nominated in a primary election, the day of 1165
the election at which the candidate seeks office. 1166

(L) A political contributing entity that receives 1167
contributions from the dues, membership fees, or other 1168
assessments of its members or from its officers, shareholders, 1169
and employees may report the aggregate amount of contributions 1170
received from those contributors and the number of individuals 1171
making those contributions, for each filing period under 1172
divisions (A) (1), (2), (3), and (4) of this section, rather than 1173

reporting information as required under division (B) (4) of this 1174
section, including, when applicable, the name of the current 1175
employer, if any, of a contributor whose contribution exceeds 1176
one hundred dollars or, if such a contributor is self-employed, 1177
the contributor's occupation and the name of the contributor's 1178
business, if any. Division (B) (4) of this section applies to a 1179
political contributing entity with regard to contributions it 1180
receives from all other contributors. 1181

Sec. 3517.12. (A) ~~Prior to receiving a contribution or~~ 1182
~~making an expenditure, the circulator or~~ If the committee in 1183
charge of an initiative or referendum petition, or supplementary 1184
petition for additional signatures, for the submission to the 1185
electors of a constitutional amendment, proposed law, section, 1186
or item of any law wishes to receive any contribution or make 1187
any expenditure for the purpose of achieving the successful 1188
circulation of the petition, the committee shall ~~appoint a~~ 1189
~~treasurer and shall file with the secretary of state, on a form~~ 1190
~~prescribed by the secretary of state, a designation of that~~ 1191
~~appointment, including the full name and address of the~~ 1192
~~treasurer and of the circulator or committee~~ file a designation 1193
of treasurer under division (D) of section 3517.10 of the 1194
Revised Code as a political action committee before receiving a 1195
contribution or making an expenditure and thereafter shall 1196
comply with all applicable requirements of this chapter 1197
concerning political action committees. 1198

(B) ~~The circulator or~~ If the committee in charge of an 1199
initiative or referendum petition, or supplementary petition for 1200
additional signatures, for the submission to the electors of a 1201
constitutional amendment, proposed law, section, or item of any 1202
law receives no contributions and makes no expenditures for the 1203
purpose of achieving the successful circulation of the petition, 1204

and is not otherwise considered a campaign committee, political 1205
party, legislative campaign fund, political action committee, or 1206
political contributing entity, then the committee shall, within 1207
thirty days after ~~those~~ the petition ~~papers are~~ is filed, file 1208
with the secretary of state, on a form prescribed by the 1209
secretary of state, ~~an itemized~~ a statement, made under penalty 1210
of election falsification, ~~showing in detail the following:~~ 1211

~~(1) All money or things of value paid, given, promised, or~~ 1212
~~received for circulating the petitions;~~ 1213

~~(2) All appointments, promotions, or increases in salary,~~ 1214
~~in positions which were given, promised, or received, or to~~ 1215
~~obtain which assistance was given, promised, or received as a~~ 1216
~~consideration for work done in circulating petitions;~~ 1217

~~(3) Full names and addresses, including street, city, and~~ 1218
~~state, of all persons to whom such payments or promises were~~ 1219
~~made and of all persons from whom such payments or promises were~~ 1220
~~received;~~ 1221

~~(4) Full names and addresses, including street, city, and~~ 1222
~~state, of all persons who contributed anything of value to be~~ 1223
~~used in circulating the petitions, and the amounts of those~~ 1224
~~contributions;~~ 1225

~~(5) Time spent and salaries earned while soliciting~~ 1226
~~signatures to petitions by persons who were regular salaried~~ 1227
~~employees of some person or whom that employer authorized to~~ 1228
~~solicit as part of their regular duties.~~ 1229

~~If~~ that the committee received no money or things of 1230
~~value were paid or received or if no promises were made or~~ 1231
~~received as a consideration for work done in circulating a~~ 1232
~~petition, the statement shall contain words to that effect~~ 1233

contributions and made no expenditures for the purpose of 1234
achieving the successful circulation of the petition. 1235

~~(C) The treasurer designated under division (A) of this~~ 1236
~~section shall file statements of contributions and expenditures~~ 1237
~~in accordance with section 3517.10 of the Revised Code regarding~~ 1238
~~all contributions made or received and all expenditures made by~~ 1239
~~that treasurer or the circulator or committee in connection with~~ 1240
~~the initiative or referendum petition, or supplementary petition~~ 1241
~~for additional signatures, for the submission of a~~ 1242
~~constitutional amendment, proposed law, section, or item of any~~ 1243
~~law.~~ 1244

Sec. 3517.13. (A) (1) No campaign committee of a statewide 1245
candidate shall fail to file a complete and accurate statement 1246
required under division (A) (1) of section 3517.10 of the Revised 1247
Code. 1248

(2) No campaign committee of a statewide candidate shall 1249
fail to file a complete and accurate monthly statement, and no 1250
campaign committee of a statewide candidate or a candidate for 1251
the office of chief justice or justice of the supreme court 1252
shall fail to file a complete and accurate two-business-day 1253
statement, as required under section 3517.10 of the Revised 1254
Code. 1255

As used in this division, "statewide candidate" has the 1256
same meaning as in division (F) (2) of section 3517.10 of the 1257
Revised Code. 1258

(B) No campaign committee shall fail to file a complete 1259
and accurate statement required under division (A) (1) of section 1260
3517.10 of the Revised Code. 1261

(C) No campaign committee shall fail to file a complete 1262

and accurate statement required under division (A) (2) of section 1263
3517.10 of the Revised Code. 1264

(D) No campaign committee shall fail to file a complete 1265
and accurate statement required under division (A) (3) or (4) of 1266
section 3517.10 of the Revised Code. 1267

(E) No person other than a campaign committee shall 1268
knowingly fail to file a statement required under section 1269
3517.10 or 3517.107 of the Revised Code. 1270

(F) No person shall make cash contributions to any person 1271
totaling more than one hundred dollars in each primary, special, 1272
or general election. 1273

(G) (1) No person shall knowingly conceal or misrepresent 1274
contributions given or received, expenditures made, or any other 1275
information required to be reported by a provision in sections 1276
3517.08 to 3517.13 of the Revised Code. 1277

(2) (a) No person shall make a contribution to a campaign 1278
committee, political action committee, political contributing 1279
entity, legislative campaign fund, political party, or person 1280
making disbursements to pay the direct costs of producing or 1281
airing electioneering communications in the name of another 1282
person. 1283

(b) A person does not make a contribution in the name of 1284
another when either of the following applies: 1285

(i) An individual makes a contribution from a partnership 1286
or other unincorporated business account, if the contribution is 1287
reported by listing both the name of the partnership or other 1288
unincorporated business and the name of the partner or owner 1289
making the contribution as required under division (I) of 1290
section 3517.10 of the Revised Code. 1291

(ii) A person makes a contribution in that person's 1292
spouse's name or in both of their names. 1293

(H) No person within this state, publishing a newspaper or 1294
other periodical, shall charge a campaign committee for 1295
political advertising a rate in excess of the rate such person 1296
would charge if the campaign committee were a general rate 1297
advertiser whose advertising was directed to promoting its 1298
business within the same area as that encompassed by the 1299
particular office that the candidate of the campaign committee 1300
is seeking. The rate shall take into account the amount of space 1301
used, as well as the type of advertising copy submitted by or on 1302
behalf of the campaign committee. All discount privileges 1303
otherwise offered by a newspaper or periodical to general rate 1304
advertisers shall be available upon equal terms to all campaign 1305
committees. 1306

No person within this state, operating a radio or 1307
television station or network of stations in this state, shall 1308
charge a campaign committee for political broadcasts a rate that 1309
exceeds: 1310

(1) During the forty-five days preceding the date of a 1311
primary election and during the sixty days preceding the date of 1312
a general or special election in which the candidate of the 1313
campaign committee is seeking office, the lowest unit charge of 1314
the station for the same class and amount of time for the same 1315
period; 1316

(2) At any other time, the charges made for comparable use 1317
of that station by its other users. 1318

(I) Subject to divisions (K), (L), (M), and (N) of this 1319
section, no agency or department of this state or any political 1320

subdivision shall award any contract, other than one let by 1321
competitive bidding or a contract incidental to such contract or 1322
which is by force account, for the purchase of goods costing 1323
more than five hundred dollars or services costing more than 1324
five hundred dollars to any individual, partnership, 1325
association, including, without limitation, a professional 1326
association organized under Chapter 1785. of the Revised Code, 1327
estate, or trust if the individual has made or the individual's 1328
spouse has made, or any partner, shareholder, administrator, 1329
executor, or trustee or the spouse of any of them has made, as 1330
an individual, within the two previous calendar years, one or 1331
more contributions totaling in excess of one thousand dollars to 1332
the holder of the public office having ultimate responsibility 1333
for the award of the contract or to the public officer's 1334
campaign committee. 1335

(J) Subject to divisions (K), (L), (M), and (N) of this 1336
section, no agency or department of this state or any political 1337
subdivision shall award any contract, other than one let by 1338
competitive bidding or a contract incidental to such contract or 1339
which is by force account, for the purchase of goods costing 1340
more than five hundred dollars or services costing more than 1341
five hundred dollars to a corporation or business trust, except 1342
a professional association organized under Chapter 1785. of the 1343
Revised Code, if an owner of more than twenty per cent of the 1344
corporation or business trust or the spouse of that person has 1345
made, as an individual, within the two previous calendar years, 1346
taking into consideration only owners for all of that period, 1347
one or more contributions totaling in excess of one thousand 1348
dollars to the holder of a public office having ultimate 1349
responsibility for the award of the contract or to the public 1350
officer's campaign committee. 1351

(K) For purposes of divisions (I) and (J) of this section, 1352
if a public officer who is responsible for the award of a 1353
contract is appointed by the governor, whether or not the 1354
appointment is subject to the advice and consent of the senate, 1355
excluding members of boards, commissions, committees, 1356
authorities, councils, boards of trustees, task forces, and 1357
other such entities appointed by the governor, the office of the 1358
governor is considered to have ultimate responsibility for the 1359
award of the contract. 1360

(L) For purposes of divisions (I) and (J) of this section, 1361
if a public officer who is responsible for the award of a 1362
contract is appointed by the elected chief executive officer of 1363
a municipal corporation, or appointed by the elected chief 1364
executive officer of a county operating under an alternative 1365
form of county government or county charter, excluding members 1366
of boards, commissions, committees, authorities, councils, 1367
boards of trustees, task forces, and other such entities 1368
appointed by the chief executive officer, the office of the 1369
chief executive officer is considered to have ultimate 1370
responsibility for the award of the contract. 1371

(M) (1) Divisions (I) and (J) of this section do not apply 1372
to contracts awarded by the board of commissioners of the 1373
sinking fund, municipal legislative authorities, boards of 1374
education, boards of county commissioners, boards of township 1375
trustees, or other boards, commissions, committees, authorities, 1376
councils, boards of trustees, task forces, and other such 1377
entities created by law, by the supreme court or courts of 1378
appeals, by county courts consisting of more than one judge, 1379
courts of common pleas consisting of more than one judge, or 1380
municipal courts consisting of more than one judge, or by a 1381
division of any court if the division consists of more than one 1382

judge. This division shall apply to the specified entity only if 1383
the members of the entity act collectively in the award of a 1384
contract for goods or services. 1385

(2) Divisions (I) and (J) of this section do not apply to 1386
actions of the controlling board. 1387

(N) (1) Divisions (I) and (J) of this section apply to 1388
contributions made to the holder of a public office having 1389
ultimate responsibility for the award of a contract, or to the 1390
public officer's campaign committee, during the time the person 1391
holds the office and during any time such person was a candidate 1392
for the office. Those divisions do not apply to contributions 1393
made to, or to the campaign committee of, a candidate for or 1394
holder of the office other than the holder of the office at the 1395
time of the award of the contract. 1396

(2) Divisions (I) and (J) of this section do not apply to 1397
contributions of a partner, shareholder, administrator, 1398
executor, trustee, or owner of more than twenty per cent of a 1399
corporation or business trust made before the person held any of 1400
those positions or after the person ceased to hold any of those 1401
positions in the partnership, association, estate, trust, 1402
corporation, or business trust whose eligibility to be awarded a 1403
contract is being determined, nor to contributions of the 1404
person's spouse made before the person held any of those 1405
positions, after the person ceased to hold any of those 1406
positions, before the two were married, after the granting of a 1407
decree of divorce, dissolution of marriage, or annulment, or 1408
after the granting of an order in an action brought solely for 1409
legal separation. Those divisions do not apply to contributions 1410
of the spouse of an individual whose eligibility to be awarded a 1411
contract is being determined made before the two were married, 1412

after the granting of a decree of divorce, dissolution of 1413
marriage, or annulment, or after the granting of an order in an 1414
action brought solely for legal separation. 1415

(O) No beneficiary of a campaign fund or other person 1416
shall convert for personal use, and no person shall knowingly 1417
give to a beneficiary of a campaign fund or any other person, 1418
for the beneficiary's or any other person's personal use, 1419
anything of value from the beneficiary's campaign fund, 1420
including, without limitation, payments to a beneficiary for 1421
services the beneficiary personally performs, except as 1422
reimbursement for any of the following: 1423

(1) Legitimate and verifiable prior campaign expenses 1424
incurred by the beneficiary; 1425

(2) Legitimate and verifiable ordinary and necessary prior 1426
expenses incurred by the beneficiary in connection with duties 1427
as the holder of a public office, including, without limitation, 1428
expenses incurred through participation in nonpartisan or 1429
bipartisan events if the participation of the holder of a public 1430
office would normally be expected; 1431

(3) Legitimate and verifiable ordinary and necessary prior 1432
expenses incurred by the beneficiary while doing any of the 1433
following: 1434

(a) Engaging in activities in support of or opposition to 1435
a candidate other than the beneficiary, political party, or 1436
ballot issue; 1437

(b) Raising funds for a political party, political action 1438
committee, political contributing entity, legislative campaign 1439
fund, campaign committee, or other candidate; 1440

(c) Participating in the activities of a political party, 1441

political action committee, political contributing entity, 1442
legislative campaign fund, or campaign committee; 1443

(d) Attending a political party convention or other 1444
political meeting. 1445

For purposes of this division, an expense is incurred 1446
whenever a beneficiary has either made payment or is obligated 1447
to make payment, as by the use of a credit card or other credit 1448
procedure or by the use of goods or services received on 1449
account. 1450

(P) No beneficiary of a campaign fund shall knowingly 1451
accept, and no person shall knowingly give to the beneficiary of 1452
a campaign fund, reimbursement for an expense under division (O) 1453
of this section to the extent that the expense previously was 1454
reimbursed or paid from another source of funds. If an expense 1455
is reimbursed under division (O) of this section and is later 1456
paid or reimbursed, wholly or in part, from another source of 1457
funds, the beneficiary shall repay the reimbursement received 1458
under division (O) of this section to the extent of the payment 1459
made or reimbursement received from the other source. 1460

(Q) No candidate or public official or employee shall 1461
accept for personal or business use anything of value from a 1462
political party, political action committee, political 1463
contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or campaign 1464
committee other than the candidate's or public official's or 1465
employee's own campaign committee, and no person shall knowingly 1466
give to a candidate or public official or employee anything of 1467
value from a political party, political action committee, 1468
political contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or 1469
such a campaign committee, except for the following: 1470

(1) Reimbursement for legitimate and verifiable ordinary 1471
and necessary prior expenses not otherwise prohibited by law 1472
incurred by the candidate or public official or employee while 1473
engaged in any legitimate activity of the political party, 1474
political action committee, political contributing entity, 1475
legislative campaign fund, or such campaign committee. Without 1476
limitation, reimbursable expenses under this division include 1477
those incurred while doing any of the following: 1478

(a) Engaging in activities in support of or opposition to 1479
another candidate, political party, or ballot issue; 1480

(b) Raising funds for a political party, legislative 1481
campaign fund, campaign committee, or another candidate; 1482

(c) Attending a political party convention or other 1483
political meeting. 1484

(2) Compensation not otherwise prohibited by law for 1485
actual and valuable personal services rendered under a written 1486
contract to the political party, political action committee, 1487
political contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or 1488
such campaign committee for any legitimate activity of the 1489
political party, political action committee, political 1490
contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or such campaign 1491
committee. 1492

Reimbursable expenses under this division do not include, 1493
and it is a violation of this division for a candidate or public 1494
official or employee to accept, or for any person to knowingly 1495
give to a candidate or public official or employee from a 1496
political party, political action committee, political 1497
contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or campaign 1498
committee other than the candidate's or public official's or 1499

employee's own campaign committee, anything of value for 1500
activities primarily related to the candidate's or public 1501
official's or employee's own campaign for election, except for 1502
contributions to the candidate's or public official's or 1503
employee's campaign committee. 1504

For purposes of this division, an expense is incurred 1505
whenever a candidate or public official or employee has either 1506
made payment or is obligated to make payment, as by the use of a 1507
credit card or other credit procedure, or by the use of goods or 1508
services on account. 1509

(R) (1) Division (O) or (P) of this section does not 1510
prohibit a campaign committee from making direct advance or post 1511
payment from contributions to vendors for goods and services for 1512
which reimbursement is permitted under division (O) of this 1513
section, except that no campaign committee shall pay its 1514
candidate or other beneficiary for services personally performed 1515
by the candidate or other beneficiary. 1516

(2) If any expense that may be reimbursed under division 1517
(O), (P), or (Q) of this section is part of other expenses that 1518
may not be paid or reimbursed, the separation of the two types 1519
of expenses for the purpose of allocating for payment or 1520
reimbursement those expenses that may be paid or reimbursed may 1521
be by any reasonable accounting method, considering all of the 1522
surrounding circumstances. 1523

(3) For purposes of divisions (O), (P), and (Q) of this 1524
section, mileage allowance at a rate not greater than that 1525
allowed by the internal revenue service at the time the travel 1526
occurs may be paid instead of reimbursement for actual travel 1527
expenses allowable. 1528

(S) (1) As used in division (S) of this section:	1529
(a) "State elective office" has the same meaning as in section 3517.092 of the Revised Code.	1530 1531
(b) "Federal office" means a federal office as defined in the Federal Election Campaign Act.	1532 1533
(c) "Federal campaign committee" means a principal campaign committee or authorized committee as defined in the Federal Election Campaign Act.	1534 1535 1536
(2) No person who is a candidate for state elective office and who previously sought nomination or election to a federal office shall transfer any funds or assets from that person's federal campaign committee for nomination or election to the federal office to that person's campaign committee as a candidate for state elective office.	1537 1538 1539 1540 1541 1542
(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.	1543 1544 1545 1546 1547
(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:	1548 1549 1550 1551 1552
(a) A state candidate fund;	1553
(b) A legislative campaign fund;	1554
(c) A campaign committee of a candidate for the office of governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, auditor of	1555 1556

state, treasurer of state, attorney general, member of the state 1557
board of education, or member of the general assembly. 1558

(2) No state candidate fund, legislative campaign fund, or 1559
campaign committee of a candidate for any office described in 1560
division (T) (1) (c) of this section shall knowingly accept a 1561
contribution in violation of division (T) (1) of this section. 1562

(U) No person shall fail to file a statement required 1563
under section 3517.12 of the Revised Code. 1564

(V) No campaign committee shall fail to file a statement 1565
required under division (K) (3) of section 3517.10 of the Revised 1566
Code. 1567

(W) (1) No foreign national shall, directly or indirectly 1568
through any other person or entity, ~~make knowingly do any of the~~ 1569
following: 1570

(a) Make a contribution, expenditure, or independent 1571
expenditure or promise, either expressly or implicitly, to make 1572
a contribution, expenditure, or independent expenditure in 1573
support of or opposition to a candidate for any elective office 1574
in this state, including an office of a political party; 1575

(b) Solicit another person to make a contribution, 1576
expenditure, or independent expenditure; 1577

(c) Make a loan, gift, deposit, forgiveness of 1578
indebtedness, donation, advance, payment, or transfer of funds 1579
to another person with a designation, instruction, or 1580
encumbrance that the foreign national knows will result in any 1581
part of the loan, gift, deposit, forgiveness of indebtedness, 1582
donation, advance, payment, or transfer of funds being used to 1583
make a contribution, expenditure, or independent expenditure. As 1584
used in this division, "designation, instruction, or 1585

encumbrance" includes any designation, instruction, or 1586
encumbrance that is direct or indirect, express or implied, oral 1587
or written, or involving an intermediary or conduit. 1588

(2) No candidate, campaign committee, political action 1589
committee, political contributing entity, legislative campaign 1590
fund, state candidate fund, political party, ~~or~~ separate 1591
segregated fund, or continuing association shall do either of 1592
the following: 1593

(a) Knowingly transfer funds, or accept a transfer of 1594
funds, directly or indirectly into an account from which the 1595
person makes contributions or expenditures from an account that 1596
is controlled by the person or by the person's affiliate and 1597
that the person, at any time, knew to contain funds described in 1598
division (W) (1) of this section that are received directly or 1599
indirectly through another person or entity from a foreign 1600
national. For purposes of this division, a person is affiliated 1601
with another person if they are both established, financed, 1602
maintained, or controlled by, or if they are, the same person, 1603
including any parent, subsidiary, division, or department of 1604
that person. 1605

(b) Otherwise knowingly solicit or accept a contribution, 1606
expenditure, or independent expenditure, directly or indirectly 1607
through another person or entity, from a foreign national. ~~The~~ 1608
secretary of state may direct any candidate, committee, entity, 1609
fund, or party that accepts a contribution, expenditure, or 1610
independent expenditure in violation of this division to return 1611
the contribution, expenditure, or independent expenditure or, if 1612
it is not possible to return the contribution, expenditure, or 1613
independent expenditure, then to return instead the value of it, 1614
to the contributor. 1615

(3) No person shall knowingly aid or facilitate a violation of division (W) (1) or (2) of this section. 1616
1617

(4) 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 means any of the following, as applicable: 1618
1619
1620
1621

(a) In the case of an individual, an individual who is not a United States citizen or national; 1622
1623

(b) A government of a foreign country or of a political subdivision of a foreign country; 1624
1625

(c) A foreign political party; 1626

(d) A person, other than an individual, that is organized under the laws of, or has its principal place of business in, a foreign country. 1627
1628
1629

(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. 1630
1631
1632
1633

(2) (a) No state or county political party shall deposit a contribution or contributions that it receives into its restricted fund. 1634
1635
1636

(b) No state or county political party shall make a contribution or an expenditure from its restricted fund. 1637
1638

(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. 1639
1640
1641
1642
1643

(b) No state or county political party shall accept a gift 1644
or gifts for the party's restricted fund aggregating more than 1645
ten thousand dollars from any one corporation or labor 1646
organization in a calendar year. 1647

(4) No state or county political party shall transfer any 1648
moneys in the party's restricted fund to any other state or 1649
county political party. 1650

(5) No state or county political party shall knowingly 1651
fail to file a statement required under section 3517.1012 of the 1652
Revised Code. 1653

(Y) The administrator of workers' compensation and the 1654
employees of the bureau of workers' compensation shall not 1655
conduct any business with or award any contract, other than one 1656
awarded by competitive bidding, for the purchase of goods 1657
costing more than five hundred dollars or services costing more 1658
than five hundred dollars to any individual, partnership, 1659
association, including, without limitation, a professional 1660
association organized under Chapter 1785. of the Revised Code, 1661
estate, or trust, if the individual has made, or the 1662
individual's spouse has made, or any partner, shareholder, 1663
administrator, executor, or trustee, or the spouses of any of 1664
those individuals has made, as an individual, within the two 1665
previous calendar years, one or more contributions totaling in 1666
excess of one thousand dollars to the campaign committee of the 1667
governor or lieutenant governor or to the campaign committee of 1668
any candidate for the office of governor or lieutenant governor. 1669

(Z) The administrator of workers' compensation and the 1670
employees of the bureau of workers' compensation shall not 1671
conduct business with or award any contract, other than one 1672
awarded by competitive bidding, for the purchase of goods 1673

costing more than five hundred dollars or services costing more 1674
than five hundred dollars to a corporation or business trust, 1675
except a professional association organized under Chapter 1785. 1676
of the Revised Code, if an owner of more than twenty per cent of 1677
the corporation or business trust, or the spouse of the owner, 1678
has made, as an individual, within the two previous calendar 1679
years, taking into consideration only owners for all of such 1680
period, one or more contributions totaling in excess of one 1681
thousand dollars to the campaign committee of the governor or 1682
lieutenant governor or to the campaign committee of any 1683
candidate for the office of governor or lieutenant governor. 1684

Sec. 3517.155. (A) (1) Except as otherwise provided in 1685
division (B) of this section, the Ohio elections commission 1686
shall hold its first hearing on a complaint filed with it, other 1687
than a complaint that receives an expedited hearing under 1688
section 3517.156 of the Revised Code, not later than ninety 1689
business days after the complaint is filed unless the commission 1690
has good cause to hold the hearing after that time, in which 1691
case it shall hold the hearing not later than one hundred eighty 1692
business days after the complaint is filed. At the hearing, the 1693
commission shall determine whether or not the failure to act or 1694
the violation alleged in the complaint has occurred and shall do 1695
only one of the following, except as otherwise provided in 1696
~~division (B) of this section~~ or in division (B) of section 1697
3517.151 of the Revised Code: 1698

(a) Enter a finding that good cause has been shown not to 1699
impose a fine or not to refer the matter to the appropriate 1700
prosecutor; 1701

(b) Impose a fine under section 3517.993 of the Revised 1702
Code; 1703

(c) Refer the matter to the appropriate prosecutor~~+, as~~ 1704
determined under division (A) (2) of this section. 1705

~~(2) As used in division (A) of this section, "appropriate~~ 1706
~~prosecutor" means a prosecutor as defined in section 2935.01 of~~ 1707
~~the Revised Code and either of the following:~~ 1708

(a) In the case of a failure to comply with or a violation 1709
of law involving ~~a campaign committee or the committee's~~ 1710
~~candidate, a political party, a legislative campaign fund, a~~ 1711
~~political action committee, or a political contributing entity,~~ 1712
~~that is required to file a statement of contributions and~~ 1713
~~expenditures with the secretary of state under division (A) of~~ 1714
~~section 3517.11 of the Revised Code~~ any of the following 1715
persons, the prosecutor of Franklin county, commission shall 1716
refer the matter to the attorney general, except that if the 1717
attorney general is a victim or witness or otherwise involved in 1718
the matter, the commission shall refer the matter to a county 1719
prosecutor whom the commission deems appropriate to prosecute 1720
the matter: 1721

(i) A campaign committee, or the committee's candidate, 1722
for a statewide office or the state board of education; 1723

(ii) A committee described in section 3517.12 of the 1724
Revised Code or any other person with respect to contributions, 1725
expenditures, or independent expenditures made or accepted for 1726
the purpose of advocating support of or opposition to an 1727
identified statewide ballot issue or question; 1728

(iii) Any person, other than an individual, whose 1729
principal place of business is not in Ohio; 1730

(iv) Any individual who is not a resident of Ohio. 1731

(b) In the case of a failure to comply with or a violation 1732

of law involving any ~~other campaign committee or committee's~~ 1733
~~candidate, or any other political party, political action~~ 1734
~~committee, or political contributing entity either of the~~ 1735
~~following as determined by the commission:~~ 1736

~~(i) The prosecutor of Franklin county;~~ 1737

~~(ii) The other person, the commission shall refer the~~ 1738
~~matter to the prosecutor of the county in which the ~~candidate or~~~~ 1739
~~ballot question or issue is submitted to the electors or, if it~~ 1740
~~is submitted in more than one county, the most populous of those~~ 1741
~~counties person, other than an individual, has its principal~~ 1742
~~place of business or the county in which the individual resides,~~ 1743
~~as applicable, except that if that prosecutor is a victim or~~ 1744
~~witness or otherwise involved in the matter, the commission~~ 1745
~~shall refer the matter to a county prosecutor whom the~~ 1746
~~commission deems appropriate to prosecute the matter. Upon the~~ 1747
~~request of the prosecutor to whom the commission refers the~~ 1748
~~matter, the attorney general may assume responsibility for~~ 1749
~~prosecuting the matter, unless the attorney general is a victim~~ 1750
~~or witness or is otherwise involved in the matter.~~ 1751

(3) When the commission refers a matter to the attorney 1752
general under this section, or when the attorney general assumes 1753
responsibility for prosecuting a matter under this section, the 1754
attorney general may prosecute the matter with all the rights, 1755
privileges, and powers conferred by law on prosecuting 1756
attorneys, including the power to appear before grand juries and 1757
to interrogate witnesses before such grand juries. These powers 1758
of the attorney general are in addition to any other applicable 1759
powers of the attorney general. 1760

(B) If the commission decides that the evidence is 1761
insufficient for it to determine whether or not the failure to 1762

act or the violation alleged in the complaint has occurred, the 1763
commission, by the affirmative vote of five members, may request 1764
that an investigatory attorney investigate the complaint. Upon 1765
that request, an investigatory attorney shall make an 1766
investigation in order to produce sufficient evidence for the 1767
commission to decide the matter. If the commission requests an 1768
investigation under this division, for good cause shown by the 1769
investigatory attorney, the commission may extend by sixty days 1770
the deadline for holding its first hearing on the complaint as 1771
required in division (A) of this section. 1772

(C) The commission shall take one of the actions required 1773
under division (A) of this section not later than thirty days 1774
after the close of all the evidence presented. 1775

(D) (1) The commission shall make any finding of a failure 1776
to comply with or a violation of law in regard to a complaint 1777
that alleges a violation of division (A) or (B) of section 1778
3517.21, or division (A) or (B) of section 3517.22 of the 1779
Revised Code by clear and convincing evidence. The commission 1780
shall make any finding of a failure to comply with or a 1781
violation of law in regard to any other complaint by a 1782
preponderance of the evidence. 1783

(2) If the commission finds a violation of division (B) of 1784
section 3517.21 or division (B) of section 3517.22 of the 1785
Revised Code, it shall refer the matter to the appropriate 1786
prosecutor under division (A) (1) (c) of this section and shall 1787
not impose a fine under division (A) (1) (b) of this section or 1788
section 3517.993 of the Revised Code. 1789

(3) If the commission finds a violation of division (W) of 1790
section 3517.13 of the Revised Code, it shall do one of the 1791
following: 1792

(a) Impose a fine under section 3517.993 of the Revised Code in an amount equal to three times the amount involved in the violation or ten thousand dollars, whichever amount is greater, with none of the fine suspended and, in the case of a violation of division (W) (2) of section 3517.13 of the Revised Code, order the violator to return an amount equal to any amount accepted in violation of that division to the foreign national from whom it was accepted; 1793
1794
1795
1796
1797
1798
1799
1800

(b) Refer the matter to the appropriate prosecutor under division (A) (1) (c) of this section. 1801
1802

(E) In an action before the commission or a panel of the commission, if the allegations of the complainant are not proved, and the commission takes the action described in division (A) (1) (a) of this section or a panel of the commission takes the action described in division (C) (1) of section 3517.156 of the Revised Code, the commission or a panel of the commission may find that the complaint is frivolous, and, if the commission or panel so finds, the commission shall order the complainant to pay reasonable attorney's fees and to pay the costs of the commission or panel as determined by a majority of the members of the commission. The costs paid to the commission or panel under this division shall be deposited into the Ohio elections commission fund. 1803
1804
1805
1806
1807
1808
1809
1810
1811
1812
1813
1814
1815

Sec. 3517.992. This section establishes penalties only with respect to acts or failures to act that occur on and after August 24, 1995. 1816
1817
1818

(A) (1) A candidate whose campaign committee violates division (A), (B), (C), (D), or (V) of section 3517.13 of the Revised Code, or a treasurer of a campaign committee who violates any of those divisions, shall be fined not more than 1819
1820
1821
1822

one hundred dollars for each day of violation. 1823

(2) Whoever violates division (E) or (X) (5) of section 1824
3517.13 or division (E) (1) of section 3517.1014 of the Revised 1825
Code shall be fined not more than one hundred dollars for each 1826
day of violation. 1827

(B) An entity that violates division (G) (1) of section 1828
3517.101 of the Revised Code shall be fined not more than one 1829
hundred dollars for each day of violation. 1830

(C) Whoever violates division (G) (2) of section 3517.101, 1831
division (G) of section 3517.13, or division (E) (2) or (3) of 1832
section 3517.1014 of the Revised Code shall be fined not more 1833
than ten thousand dollars or, if the offender is a person who 1834
was nominated or elected to public office, shall forfeit the 1835
nomination or the office to which the offender was elected, or 1836
both. 1837

(D) Whoever violates division (F) of section 3517.13 of 1838
the Revised Code shall be fined not more than three times the 1839
amount contributed. 1840

(E) Whoever violates division (H) of section 3517.13 of 1841
the Revised Code shall be fined not more than one hundred 1842
dollars. 1843

(F) Whoever violates division (O), (P), or (Q) of section 1844
3517.13 of the Revised Code is guilty of a misdemeanor of the 1845
first degree. 1846

(G) A state or county committee of a political party that 1847
violates division (B) (1) of section 3517.18 of the Revised Code 1848
as that section existed before its repeal by H.B. 166 of the 1849
133rd general assembly shall be fined not more than twice the 1850
amount of the improper expenditure. 1851

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

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

(2) Any political action committee that violates division (B) (2) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code shall be fined an amount equal to three times the amount contributed in excess of the amount permitted by that division.

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

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

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

(c) Any political contributing entity that violates division (B) (7) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code shall be

fined an amount equal to three times the amount contributed in 1881
excess of the amount permitted by that division. 1882

(5) Any political party that violates division (B) (4) of 1883
section 3517.102 of the Revised Code shall be fined an amount 1884
equal to three times the amount contributed in excess of the 1885
amount permitted by that division. 1886

(6) Notwithstanding divisions (I) (1), (2), (3), (4), and 1887
(5) of this section, no violation of division (B) of section 1888
3517.102 of the Revised Code occurs, and the secretary of state 1889
shall not refer parties to the Ohio elections commission, if the 1890
amount transferred or contributed in excess of the amount 1891
permitted by that division meets either of the following 1892
conditions: 1893

(a) It is completely refunded within five business days 1894
after it is accepted. 1895

(b) It is completely refunded on or before the tenth 1896
business day after notification to the recipient of the excess 1897
transfer or contribution by the board of elections or the 1898
secretary of state that a transfer or contribution in excess of 1899
the permitted amount has been received. 1900

(J) (1) Any campaign committee that violates division (C) 1901
(1), (2), (3), or (6) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code 1902
shall be fined an amount equal to three times the amount 1903
accepted in excess of the amount permitted by that division. 1904

(2) (a) Any county political party that violates division 1905
(C) (4) (a) (ii) or (iii) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code 1906
shall be fined an amount equal to three times the amount 1907
accepted. 1908

(b) Any county political party that violates division (C) 1909

(4) (a) (i) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code shall be fined 1910
an amount from its state candidate fund equal to three times the 1911
amount accepted in excess of the amount permitted by that 1912
division. 1913

(c) Any state political party that violates division (C) 1914
(4) (b) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code shall be fined an 1915
amount from its state candidate fund equal to three times the 1916
amount accepted in excess of the amount permitted by that 1917
division. 1918

(3) Any legislative campaign fund that violates division 1919
(C) (5) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code shall be fined an 1920
amount equal to three times the amount accepted in excess of the 1921
amount permitted by that division. 1922

(4) Any political action committee or political 1923
contributing entity that violates division (C) (7) of section 1924
3517.102 of the Revised Code shall be fined an amount equal to 1925
three times the amount accepted in excess of the amount 1926
permitted by that division. 1927

(5) Notwithstanding divisions (J) (1), (2), (3), and (4) of 1928
this section, no violation of division (C) of section 3517.102 1929
of the Revised Code occurs, and the secretary of state shall not 1930
refer parties to the Ohio elections commission, if the amount 1931
transferred or contributed in excess of the amount permitted to 1932
be accepted by that division meets either of the following 1933
conditions: 1934

(a) It is completely refunded within five business days 1935
after its acceptance. 1936

(b) It is completely refunded on or before the tenth 1937
business day after notification to the recipient of the excess 1938

transfer or contribution by the board of elections or the 1939
secretary of state that a transfer or contribution in excess of 1940
the permitted amount has been received. 1941

(K) (1) Any legislative campaign fund that violates 1942
division (F) (1) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code shall be 1943
fined twenty-five dollars for each day of violation. 1944

(2) Any legislative campaign fund that violates division 1945
(F) (2) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code shall give to the 1946
treasurer of state for deposit into the state treasury to the 1947
credit of the Ohio elections commission fund all excess 1948
contributions not disposed of as required by division (E) of 1949
section 3517.102 of the Revised Code. 1950

(L) Whoever violates section 3517.105 of the Revised Code 1951
shall be fined one thousand dollars. 1952

(M) (1) Whoever solicits a contribution in violation of 1953
section 3517.092 or violates division (B) of section 3517.09 of 1954
the Revised Code is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree. 1955

(2) Whoever knowingly accepts a contribution in violation 1956
of division (B) or (C) of section 3517.092 of the Revised Code 1957
shall be fined an amount equal to three times the amount 1958
accepted in violation of either of those divisions and shall 1959
return to the contributor any amount so accepted. Whoever 1960
unknowingly accepts a contribution in violation of division (B) 1961
or (C) of section 3517.092 of the Revised Code shall return to 1962
the contributor any amount so accepted. 1963

(N) Whoever violates division (S) of section 3517.13 of 1964
the Revised Code shall be fined an amount equal to three times 1965
the amount of funds transferred or three times the value of the 1966
assets transferred in violation of that division. 1967

(O) Any campaign committee that accepts a contribution or 1968
contributions in violation of section 3517.108 of the Revised 1969
Code, uses a contribution in violation of that section, or fails 1970
to dispose of excess contributions in violation of that section 1971
shall be fined an amount equal to three times the amount 1972
accepted, used, or kept in violation of that section. 1973

(P) Any political party, state candidate fund, legislative 1974
candidate fund, or campaign committee that violates division (T) 1975
of section 3517.13 of the Revised Code shall be fined an amount 1976
equal to three times the amount contributed or accepted in 1977
violation of that section. 1978

(Q) A treasurer of a committee or another person who 1979
violates division (U) of section 3517.13 of the Revised Code 1980
shall be fined not more than two hundred fifty dollars. 1981

(R) Whoever violates division (I) or (J) of section 1982
3517.13 of the Revised Code shall be fined not more than one 1983
thousand dollars. Whenever a person is found guilty of violating 1984
division (I) or (J) of section 3517.13 of the Revised Code, the 1985
contract awarded in violation of either of those divisions shall 1986
be rescinded if its terms have not yet been performed. 1987

(S) A candidate whose campaign committee violates or a 1988
treasurer of a campaign committee who violates section 3517.081 1989
of the Revised Code, and a candidate whose campaign committee 1990
violates or a treasurer of a campaign committee or another 1991
person who violates division (C) of section 3517.10 of the 1992
Revised Code, shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars. 1993

(T) A candidate whose campaign committee violates or a 1994
treasurer of a committee who violates division (B) of section 1995
3517.09 of the Revised Code, or a candidate whose campaign 1996

committee violates or a treasurer of a campaign committee or 1997
another person who violates division (C) of section 3517.09 of 1998
the Revised Code shall be fined not more than one thousand 1999
dollars. 2000

(U) Whoever violates section 3517.20 of the Revised Code 2001
shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars. 2002

(V) Whoever violates section 3517.21 or 3517.22 of the 2003
Revised Code shall be imprisoned for not more than six months or 2004
fined not more than five thousand dollars, or both. 2005

(W) A campaign committee that is required to file a 2006
declaration of no limits under division (D) (2) of section 2007
3517.103 of the Revised Code that, before filing that 2008
declaration, accepts a contribution or contributions that exceed 2009
the limitations prescribed in section 3517.102 of the Revised 2010
Code, shall return that contribution or those contributions to 2011
the contributor. 2012

(X) Any campaign committee that fails to file the 2013
declaration of filing-day finances required by division (F) of 2014
section 3517.109 of the Revised Code shall be fined twenty-five 2015
dollars for each day of violation. 2016

(Y) (1) Any campaign committee that fails to dispose of 2017
excess funds or excess aggregate contributions under division 2018
(B) of section 3517.109 of the Revised Code in the manner 2019
required by division (C) of that section shall give to the 2020
treasurer of state for deposit into the Ohio elections 2021
commission fund created under division (I) of section 3517.152 2022
of the Revised Code all funds not disposed of pursuant to that 2023
division. 2024

(2) Any treasurer of a transition fund that fails to 2025

dispose of assets remaining in the transition fund as required 2026
under division (H) (1) or (2) of section 3517.1014 of the Revised 2027
Code shall give to the treasurer of state for deposit into the 2028
Ohio elections commission fund all assets not disposed of 2029
pursuant to that division. 2030

(Z) Any individual, campaign committee, political action 2031
committee, political contributing entity, legislative campaign 2032
fund, political party, treasurer of a transition fund, or other 2033
entity that violates any provision of sections 3517.09 to 2034
3517.12 of the Revised Code for which no penalty is provided for 2035
under any other division of this section shall be fined not more 2036
than one thousand dollars. 2037

(AA) (1) Whoever knowingly violates division (W) (1) of 2038
section 3517.13 of the Revised Code shall be fined an amount 2039
equal to three times the amount contributed, expended, or 2040
promised in violation of that division or ten thousand dollars, 2041
whichever amount is greater. 2042

(2) Whoever knowingly violates division (W) (2) of section 2043
3517.13 of the Revised Code shall be fined an amount equal to 2044
three times the amount solicited or accepted in violation of 2045
that division or ten thousand dollars, whichever amount is 2046
greater, and shall be required to return an amount equal to any 2047
amount accepted in violation of that division to the foreign 2048
national from whom it was accepted. 2049

(3) Whoever knowingly violates division (W) (3) of section 2050
3517.13 of the Revised Code shall be fined an amount equal to 2051
three times the amount involved in the violation or ten thousand 2052
dollars, whichever amount is greater. 2053

(BB) Whoever knowingly violates division (C) or (D) of 2054

section 3517.1011 of the Revised Code shall be fined not more 2055
than ten thousand dollars plus not more than one thousand 2056
dollars for each day of violation. 2057

(CC) (1) Subject to division (CC) (2) of this section, 2058
whoever violates division (H) of section 3517.1011 of the 2059
Revised Code shall be fined an amount up to three times the 2060
amount disbursed for the direct costs of airing the 2061
communication made in violation of that division. 2062

(2) Whoever has been ordered by the Ohio elections 2063
commission or by a court of competent jurisdiction to cease 2064
making communications in violation of division (H) of section 2065
3517.1011 of the Revised Code who again violates that division 2066
shall be fined an amount equal to three times the amount 2067
disbursed for the direct costs of airing the communication made 2068
in violation of that division. 2069

(DD) (1) Any corporation or labor organization that 2070
violates division (X) (3) (a) of section 3517.13 of the Revised 2071
Code shall be fined an amount equal to three times the amount 2072
given in excess of the amount permitted by that division. 2073

(2) Any state or county political party that violates 2074
division (X) (3) (b) of section 3517.13 of the Revised Code shall 2075
be fined an amount equal to three times the amount accepted in 2076
excess of the amount permitted by that division. 2077

(EE) (1) Any campaign committee or person who violates 2078
division (C) (1) (b) or (c) of section 3517.1014 of the Revised 2079
Code shall be fined an amount equal to three times the amount 2080
donated in excess of the amount permitted by that division. 2081

(2) Any officeholder or treasurer of a transition fund who 2082
violates division (C) (3) (a) or (b) of section 3517.1014 of the 2083

Revised Code shall be fined an amount equal to three times the
amount accepted in excess of the amount permitted by that
division.

Sec. 3517.993. This section authorizes the establishment
of fines that may be imposed only with respect to acts or
failures to act that occur on and after August 24, 1995.

(A) Except as otherwise provided in ~~division~~ divisions (D)
(2) and (3) of section 3517.155 of the Revised Code, the Ohio
elections commission may impose administrative fines under
division (A) (1) (b) of section 3517.155 of the Revised Code in
accordance with the amounts set forth under sections 3517.992,
3599.03, and 3599.031 of the Revised Code.

(B) ~~The~~ Except as otherwise provided in division (D) (3) of
section 3517.155 of the Revised Code, the commission may suspend
all or part of a fine it imposes under this section upon
whatever terms and conditions the commission considers just.

(C) (1) The commission shall consider any of the following
circumstances in determining whether to impose a maximum fine
under this section:

(a) Whether the violator has been found guilty of any
other violation of Title XXXV of the Revised Code;

(b) Whether the violation was made knowingly or purposely;

(c) Whether any relevant statements, addenda, or
affidavits required to be filed have not been filed;

(d) Whether the violator has any outstanding fines imposed
for a violation of Title XXXV of the Revised Code;

(e) Whether the violation occurred during the course of a
campaign.

(2) The commission shall consider any of the following 2112
circumstances in determining whether to impose a minimal fine or 2113
no fine under this section: 2114

(a) Whether the violator previously has not been found 2115
guilty of any other violation of Title XXXV of the Revised Code; 2116

(b) Whether the violator has promptly corrected the 2117
violator's violation; 2118

(c) Whether the nature and circumstances of the violation 2119
merit a minimum fine; 2120

(d) Whether there are substantial grounds tending to 2121
excuse or justify the violation, although failing to establish a 2122
defense to the violation; 2123

(e) Whether the violation was not purposely committed. 2124

(3) The circumstances set forth in divisions (C) (1) and 2125
(2) of this section shall be considered by, but shall not 2126
control the decision of, the commission in imposing a fine. 2127

(D) Fines imposed by the commission under this section 2128
shall be paid into the Ohio elections commission fund. 2129

Section 2. That existing sections 3505.06, 3517.01, 2130
3517.10, 3517.12, 3517.13, 3517.155, 3517.992, and 3517.993 of 2131
the Revised Code are hereby repealed. 2132

Section 3. (A) Notwithstanding any provision of the 2133
Revised Code to the contrary, but subject to section 1.14 of the 2134
Revised Code: 2135

(1) For purposes of the 2024 general election, a major 2136
political party shall certify to the Secretary of State in 2137
writing the names of its candidates for president and vice- 2138

president nominated by its national convention pursuant to 2139
section 3505.10 of the Revised Code not later than the effective 2140
date of this section. The political party may transmit the 2141
certification to the Secretary of State by any reasonably 2142
reliable method that, under the circumstances, will provide for 2143
the Secretary of State to receive it by the deadline, including 2144
by any of the following methods: 2145

(a) Hand delivery; 2146

(b) Certified, express, or ordinary mail delivery by the 2147
United States Postal Service; 2148

(c) Commercial carrier service; 2149

(d) Facsimile transmission; 2150

(e) Electronic mail. 2151

(2) The Secretary of State shall certify the forms of the 2152
official ballots to be used at the 2024 general election not 2153
later than the fourth day after the effective date of this 2154
section. 2155

(B) For purposes of this section, "major political party" 2156
has the same meaning as in section 3501.01 of the Revised Code. 2157

Section 4. Section 3 of this act is intended to apply 2158
retroactively to certifications of candidates required to be 2159
made under section 3505.10 of the Revised Code and to the 2160
certification of the forms of the official ballots under section 2161
3505.01 of the Revised Code for purposes of the 2024 general 2162
election. Section 3 of this act is remedial in nature because it 2163
prevents a major political party's candidates for President and 2164
Vice-President from being inadvertently excluded from the ballot 2165
at the 2024 general election. 2166

Section 5. This act responds to the Governor's 2167
proclamation calling a special session of the General Assembly 2168
beginning on Tuesday, May 28, 2024, for the following purposes: 2169

(A) Enabling a major political party to certify to the 2170
Ohio Secretary of State the names of the major party candidates 2171
for President and Vice-President of the United States of America 2172
nominated by the party's national convention pursuant to section 2173
3505.10 of the Revised Code; 2174

(B) Meaningfully strengthening the State of Ohio's 2175
prohibition against foreign influence with and in Ohio's 2176
elections. 2177