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132nd General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2017-2018

Sub. H. B. No. 2

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**A BILL**

To amend sections 2315.18, 2315.21, 4112.01, 1  
4112.02, 4112.04, 4112.05, 4112.08, 4112.14, and 2  
4112.99; to amend, for the purpose of adopting 3  
new section numbers as indicated in parentheses, 4  
sections 4112.051 (4112.055) and 4112.052 5  
(4112.056); and to enact new sections 4112.051 6  
and 4112.052 and section 4112.054 of the Revised 7  
Code to modify Ohio civil rights laws related to 8  
employment. 9

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

**Section 1.** That sections 2315.18, 2315.21, 4112.01, 10  
4112.02, 4112.04, 4112.05, 4112.08, 4112.14, and 4112.99 be 11  
amended; sections 4112.051 (4112.055) and 4112.052 (4112.056) be 12  
amended for the purpose of adopting new section numbers as 13  
indicated in parentheses; and new sections 4112.051 and 4112.052 14  
and section 4112.054 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as 15  
follows: 16

**Sec. 2315.18.** (A) As used in this section and in section 17  
2315.19 of the Revised Code: 18



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- (1) "Asbestos claim" has the same meaning as in section 19  
2307.91 of the Revised Code. 20
- (2) "Economic loss" means any of the following types of 21  
pecuniary harm: 22
- (a) All wages, salaries, or other compensation lost as a 23  
result of an injury or loss to person or property that is a 24  
subject of a tort action; 25
- (b) All expenditures for medical care or treatment, 26  
rehabilitation services, or other care, treatment, services, 27  
products, or accommodations as a result of an injury or loss to 28  
person or property that is a subject of a tort action; 29
- (c) Any other expenditures incurred as a result of an 30  
injury or loss to person or property that is a subject of a tort 31  
action, other than attorney's fees incurred in connection with 32  
that action. 33
- (3) "Medical claim," "dental claim," "optometric claim," 34  
and "chiropractic claim" have the same meanings as in section 35  
2305.113 of the Revised Code. 36
- (4) "Noneconomic loss" means nonpecuniary harm that 37  
results from an injury or loss to person or property that is a 38  
subject of a tort action, including, but not limited to, pain 39  
and suffering, loss of society, consortium, companionship, care, 40  
assistance, attention, protection, advice, guidance, counsel, 41  
instruction, training, or education, disfigurement, mental 42  
anguish, and any other intangible loss. 43
- (5) "Occurrence" means all claims resulting from or 44  
arising out of any one person's bodily injury. 45
- (6) "Product liability claim" has the same meaning as in 46

section 2307.71 of the Revised Code. 47

(7) "Tort action" means a civil action for damages for 48  
injury or loss to person or property. "Tort action" includes a 49  
civil action upon a product liability claim or an asbestos 50  
claim, a civil action based on an unlawful discriminatory 51  
practice relating to employment brought under section 4112.052 52  
of the Revised Code, and a civil action brought under section 53  
4112.14 of the Revised Code. "Tort action" does not include a 54  
civil action upon a medical claim, dental claim, optometric 55  
claim, or chiropractic claim or a civil action for damages for a 56  
breach of contract or another agreement between persons. 57

(8) "Trier of fact" means the jury or, in a nonjury 58  
action, the court. 59

(B) In a tort action to recover damages for injury or loss 60  
to person or property, all of the following apply: 61

(1) There shall not be any limitation on the amount of 62  
compensatory damages that represents the economic loss of the 63  
person who is awarded the damages in the tort action. 64

(2) Except as otherwise provided in division (B)(3) of 65  
this section, the amount of compensatory damages that represents 66  
damages for noneconomic loss that is recoverable in a tort 67  
action under this section to recover damages for injury or loss 68  
to person or property shall not exceed the greater of two 69  
hundred fifty thousand dollars or an amount that is equal to 70  
three times the economic loss, as determined by the trier of 71  
fact, of the plaintiff in that tort action to a maximum of three 72  
hundred fifty thousand dollars for each plaintiff in that tort 73  
action or a maximum of five hundred thousand dollars for each 74  
occurrence that is the basis of that tort action. 75

(3) There shall not be any limitation on the amount of 76  
compensatory damages that represents damages for noneconomic 77  
loss that is recoverable in a tort action to recover damages for 78  
injury or loss to person or property if the noneconomic losses 79  
of the plaintiff are for either of the following: 80

(a) Permanent and substantial physical deformity, loss of 81  
use of a limb, or loss of a bodily organ system; 82

(b) Permanent physical functional injury that permanently 83  
prevents the injured person from being able to independently 84  
care for self and perform life-sustaining activities. 85

(C) In determining an award of compensatory damages for 86  
noneconomic loss in a tort action, the trier of fact shall not 87  
consider any of the following: 88

(1) Evidence of a defendant's alleged wrongdoing, 89  
misconduct, or guilt; 90

(2) Evidence of the defendant's wealth or financial 91  
resources; 92

(3) All other evidence that is offered for the purpose of 93  
punishing the defendant, rather than offered for a compensatory 94  
purpose. 95

(D) If a trial is conducted in a tort action to recover 96  
damages for injury or loss to person or property and a plaintiff 97  
prevails in that action, the court in a nonjury trial shall make 98  
findings of fact, and the jury in a jury trial shall return a 99  
general verdict accompanied by answers to interrogatories, that 100  
shall specify all of the following: 101

(1) The total compensatory damages recoverable by the 102  
plaintiff; 103

(2) The portion of the total compensatory damages that 104  
represents damages for economic loss; 105

(3) The portion of the total compensatory damages that 106  
represents damages for noneconomic loss. 107

(E) (1) After the trier of fact in a tort action to recover 108  
damages for injury or loss to person or property complies with 109  
division (D) of this section, the court shall enter a judgment 110  
in favor of the plaintiff for compensatory damages for economic 111  
loss in the amount determined pursuant to division (D) (2) of 112  
this section, and, subject to division (F) (1) of this section, 113  
the court shall enter a judgment in favor of the plaintiff for 114  
compensatory damages for noneconomic loss. Except as provided in 115  
division (B) (3) of this section, in no event shall a judgment 116  
for compensatory damages for noneconomic loss exceed the maximum 117  
recoverable amount that represents damages for noneconomic loss 118  
as provided in division (B) (2) of this section. Division (B) of 119  
this section shall be applied in a jury trial only after the 120  
jury has made its factual findings and determination as to the 121  
damages. 122

(2) Prior to the trial in the tort action described in 123  
division (D) of this section, any party may seek summary 124  
judgment with respect to the nature of the alleged injury or 125  
loss to person or property, seeking a determination of the 126  
damages as described in division (B) (2) of this section. 127

(F) (1) A court of common pleas has no jurisdiction to 128  
enter judgment on an award of compensatory damages for 129  
noneconomic loss in excess of the limits set forth in this 130  
section. 131

(2) If the trier of fact is a jury, the court shall not 132

instruct the jury with respect to the limit on compensatory 133  
damages for noneconomic loss described in division (B) (2) of 134  
this section, and neither counsel for any party nor a witness 135  
shall inform the jury or potential jurors of that limit. 136

(G) With respect to a tort action to which division (B) (2) 137  
of this section applies, any excess amount of compensatory 138  
damages for noneconomic loss that is greater than the applicable 139  
amount specified in division (B) (2) of this section shall not be 140  
reallocated to any other tortfeasor beyond the amount of 141  
compensatory damages that the tortfeasor would otherwise be 142  
responsible for under the laws of this state. 143

(H) This section does not apply to any of the following: 144

(1) Tort actions that are brought against the state in the 145  
court of claims, including, but not limited to, those actions in 146  
which a state university or college is a defendant and to which 147  
division (B) (3) of section 3345.40 of the Revised Code applies; 148

(2) Tort actions that are brought against political 149  
subdivisions of this state and that are commenced under or are 150  
subject to Chapter 2744. of the Revised Code. Division (C) of 151  
section 2744.05 of the Revised Code applies to recoverable 152  
damages in those actions. 153

(3) Wrongful death actions brought pursuant to Chapter 154  
2125. of the Revised Code. 155

(I) If the provisions regarding the limits on compensatory 156  
damages for noneconomic loss set forth in division (B) (2) of 157  
this section have been determined to be unconstitutional, then 158  
division (C) of this section and section 2315.19 of the Revised 159  
Code shall govern the determination of an award of compensatory 160  
damages for noneconomic loss in a tort action. 161

<b>Sec. 2315.21.</b> (A) As used in this section:	162
(1) "Tort action" means a civil action for damages for injury or loss to person or property.	163 164
<u>(a) "Tort action" includes <del>a</del> all of the following:</u>	165
<u>(i) A product liability claim for damages for injury or loss to person or property that is subject to sections 2307.71 to 2307.80 of the Revised Code, <del>but</del>;</u>	166 167 168
<u>(ii) A civil action based on an unlawful discriminatory practice relating to employment brought under section 4112.052 of the Revised Code;</u>	169 170 171
<u>(iii) A civil action brought under section 4112.14 of the Revised Code.</u>	172 173
<u>(b) "Tort action" does not include a civil action for damages for a breach of contract or another agreement between persons.</u>	174 175 176
(2) "Trier of fact" means the jury or, in a nonjury action, the court.	177 178
(3) "Home" has the same meaning as in section 3721.10 of the Revised Code.	179 180
(4) "Employer" includes, but is not limited to, a parent, subsidiary, affiliate, division, or department of the employer. If the employer is an individual, the individual shall be considered an employer under this section only if the subject of the tort action is related to the individual's capacity as an employer.	181 182 183 184 185 186
(5) "Small employer" means an employer who employs not more than one hundred persons on a full-time permanent basis,	187 188

or, if the employer is classified as being in the manufacturing 189  
sector by the North American industrial classification system, 190  
"small employer" means an employer who employs not more than 191  
five hundred persons on a full-time permanent basis. 192

(B) (1) In a tort action that is tried to a jury and in 193  
which a plaintiff makes a claim for compensatory damages and a 194  
claim for punitive or exemplary damages, upon the motion of any 195  
party, the trial of the tort action shall be bifurcated as 196  
follows: 197

(a) The initial stage of the trial shall relate only to 198  
the presentation of evidence, and a determination by the jury, 199  
with respect to whether the plaintiff is entitled to recover 200  
compensatory damages for the injury or loss to person or 201  
property from the defendant. During this stage, no party to the 202  
tort action shall present, and the court shall not permit a 203  
party to present, evidence that relates solely to the issue of 204  
whether the plaintiff is entitled to recover punitive or 205  
exemplary damages for the injury or loss to person or property 206  
from the defendant. 207

(b) If the jury determines in the initial stage of the 208  
trial that the plaintiff is entitled to recover compensatory 209  
damages for the injury or loss to person or property from the 210  
defendant, evidence may be presented in the second stage of the 211  
trial, and a determination by that jury shall be made, with 212  
respect to whether the plaintiff additionally is entitled to 213  
recover punitive or exemplary damages for the injury or loss to 214  
person or property from the defendant. 215

(2) In a tort action that is tried to a jury and in which 216  
a plaintiff makes a claim for both compensatory damages and 217  
punitive or exemplary damages, the court shall instruct the jury 218

to return, and the jury shall return, a general verdict and, if 219  
that verdict is in favor of the plaintiff, answers to an 220  
interrogatory that specifies the total compensatory damages 221  
recoverable by the plaintiff from each defendant. 222

(3) In a tort action that is tried to a court and in which 223  
a plaintiff makes a claim for both compensatory damages and 224  
punitive or exemplary damages, the court shall make its 225  
determination with respect to whether the plaintiff is entitled 226  
to recover compensatory damages for the injury or loss to person 227  
or property from the defendant and, if that determination is in 228  
favor of the plaintiff, shall make findings of fact that specify 229  
the total compensatory damages recoverable by the plaintiff from 230  
the defendant. 231

(C) Subject to division (E) of this section, punitive or 232  
exemplary damages are not recoverable from a defendant in 233  
question in a tort action unless both of the following apply: 234

(1) The actions or omissions of that defendant demonstrate 235  
malice or aggravated or egregious fraud, or that defendant as 236  
principal or master knowingly authorized, participated in, or 237  
ratified actions or omissions of an agent or servant that so 238  
demonstrate. 239

(2) The trier of fact has returned a verdict or has made a 240  
determination pursuant to division (B) (2) or (3) of this section 241  
of the total compensatory damages recoverable by the plaintiff 242  
from that defendant. 243

(D) (1) In a tort action, the trier of fact shall determine 244  
the liability of any defendant for punitive or exemplary damages 245  
and the amount of those damages. 246

(2) Except as provided in division (D) (6) of this section, 247

all of the following apply regarding any award of punitive or 248  
exemplary damages in a tort action: 249

(a) The court shall not enter judgment for punitive or 250  
exemplary damages in excess of two times the amount of the 251  
compensatory damages awarded to the plaintiff from that 252  
defendant, as determined pursuant to division (B)(2) or (3) of 253  
this section. 254

(b) If the defendant is a small employer or individual, 255  
the court shall not enter judgment for punitive or exemplary 256  
damages in excess of the lesser of two times the amount of the 257  
compensatory damages awarded to the plaintiff from the defendant 258  
or ten ~~percent~~ per cent of the employer's or individual's net 259  
worth when the tort was committed up to a maximum of three 260  
hundred fifty thousand dollars, as determined pursuant to 261  
division (B)(2) or (3) of this section. 262

(c) Any ~~attorneys~~ attorney's fees awarded as a result of a 263  
claim for punitive or exemplary damages shall not be considered 264  
for purposes of determining the cap on punitive damages. 265

(3) No award of prejudgment interest under division (C)(1) 266  
of section 1343.03 of the Revised Code shall include any 267  
prejudgment interest on punitive or exemplary damages found by 268  
the trier of fact. 269

(4) In a tort action, the burden of proof shall be upon a 270  
plaintiff in question, by clear and convincing evidence, to 271  
establish that the plaintiff is entitled to recover punitive or 272  
exemplary damages. 273

(5) (a) In any tort action, except as provided in division 274  
(D)(5)(b) or (6) of this section, punitive or exemplary damages 275  
shall not be awarded against a defendant if that defendant files 276

with the court a certified judgment, judgment entries, or other 277  
evidence showing that punitive or exemplary damages have already 278  
been awarded and have been collected, in any state or federal 279  
court, against that defendant based on the same act or course of 280  
conduct that is alleged to have caused the injury or loss to 281  
person or property for which the plaintiff seeks compensatory 282  
damages and that the aggregate of those previous punitive or 283  
exemplary damage awards exceeds the maximum amount of punitive 284  
or exemplary damages that may be awarded under division (D) (2) 285  
of this section against that defendant in the tort action. 286

(b) Notwithstanding division (D) (5) (a) of this section and 287  
except as provided in division (D) (6) of this section, punitive 288  
or exemplary damages may be awarded against a defendant in 289  
either of the following types of tort actions: 290

(i) In subsequent tort actions involving the same act or 291  
course of conduct for which punitive or exemplary damages have 292  
already been awarded, if the court determines by clear and 293  
convincing evidence that the plaintiff will offer new and 294  
substantial evidence of previously undiscovered, additional 295  
behavior of a type described in division (C) of this section on 296  
the part of that defendant, other than the injury or loss for 297  
which the plaintiff seeks compensatory damages. In that case, 298  
the court shall make specific findings of fact in the record to 299  
support its conclusion. The court shall reduce the amount of any 300  
punitive or exemplary damages otherwise awardable pursuant to 301  
this section by the sum of the punitive or exemplary damages 302  
awards previously rendered against that defendant in any state 303  
or federal court. The court shall not inform the jury about the 304  
court's determination and action under division (D) (5) (b) (i) of 305  
this section. 306

(ii) In subsequent tort actions involving the same act or course of conduct for which punitive or exemplary damages have already been awarded, if the court determines by clear and convincing evidence that the total amount of prior punitive or exemplary damages awards was totally insufficient to punish that defendant's behavior of a type described in division (C) of this section and to deter that defendant and others from similar behavior in the future. In that case, the court shall make specific findings of fact in the record to support its conclusion. The court shall reduce the amount of any punitive or exemplary damages otherwise awardable pursuant to this section by the sum of the punitive or exemplary damages awards previously rendered against that defendant in any state or federal court. The court shall not inform the jury about the court's determination and action under division (D) (5) (b) (ii) of this section.

(6) Division (D) (2) of this section does not apply to a tort action where the alleged injury, death, or loss to person or property resulted from the defendant acting with one or more of the culpable mental states of purposely and knowingly as described in section 2901.22 of the Revised Code and when the defendant has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to a criminal offense that is a felony, that had as an element of the offense one or more of the culpable mental states of purposely and knowingly as described in that section, and that is the basis of the tort action.

(E) This section does not apply to tort actions against the state in the court of claims, including, but not limited to, tort actions against a state university or college that are subject to division (B) (1) of section 3345.40 of the Revised Code, to tort actions against political subdivisions of this

state that are commenced under or are subject to Chapter 2744. 338  
of the Revised Code, or to the extent that another section of 339  
the Revised Code expressly provides any of the following: 340

(1) Punitive or exemplary damages are recoverable from a 341  
defendant in question in a tort action on a basis other than 342  
that the actions or omissions of that defendant demonstrate 343  
malice or aggravated or egregious fraud or on a basis other than 344  
that the defendant in question as principal or master knowingly 345  
authorized, participated in, or ratified actions or omissions of 346  
an agent or servant that so demonstrate. 347

(2) Punitive or exemplary damages are recoverable from a 348  
defendant in question in a tort action irrespective of whether 349  
the plaintiff in question has adduced proof of actual damages. 350

(3) The burden of proof upon a plaintiff in question to 351  
recover punitive or exemplary damages from a defendant in 352  
question in a tort action is one other than clear and convincing 353  
evidence. 354

(4) Punitive or exemplary damages are not recoverable from 355  
a defendant in question in a tort action. 356

(F) If the trier of fact is a jury, the court shall not 357  
instruct the jury with respect to the limits on punitive or 358  
exemplary damages pursuant to division (D) of this section, and 359  
neither counsel for any party or a witness shall inform the jury 360  
or potential jurors of those limits. 361

(G) When determining the amount of an award of punitive or 362  
exemplary damages against either a home or a residential 363  
facility licensed under section 5123.19 of the Revised Code, the 364  
trier of fact shall consider all of the following: 365

(1) The ability of the home or residential facility to pay 366

the award of punitive or exemplary damages based on the home's 367  
or residential facility's assets, income, and net worth; 368

(2) Whether the amount of punitive or exemplary damages is 369  
sufficient to deter future tortious conduct; 370

(3) The financial ability of the home or residential 371  
facility, both currently and in the future, to provide 372  
accommodations, personal care services, and skilled nursing 373  
care. 374

**Sec. 4112.01.** (A) As used in this chapter: 375

(1) "Person" includes one or more individuals, 376  
partnerships, associations, organizations, corporations, legal 377  
representatives, trustees, trustees in bankruptcy, receivers, 378  
and other organized groups of persons. "Person" also includes, 379  
but is not limited to, any owner, lessor, assignor, builder, 380  
manager, broker, salesperson, appraiser, agent, employee, 381  
lending institution, and the state and all political 382  
subdivisions, authorities, agencies, boards, and commissions of 383  
the state. 384

(2) "Employer" ~~includes means~~ the state, any political 385  
subdivision of the state, ~~any or a~~ person employing four or more 386  
persons within the state, and ~~any person acting directly or~~ 387  
~~indirectly in the interest of an employer agent of the state,~~ 388  
political subdivision, or person. 389

(3) "Employee" means an individual employed by any 390  
employer but does not include any individual employed in the 391  
domestic service of any person. 392

(4) "Labor organization" includes any organization that 393  
exists, in whole or in part, for the purpose of collective 394  
bargaining or of dealing with employers concerning grievances, 395

terms or conditions of employment, or other mutual aid or 396  
protection in relation to employment. 397

(5) "Employment agency" includes any person regularly 398  
undertaking, with or without compensation, to procure 399  
opportunities to work or to procure, recruit, refer, or place 400  
employees. 401

(6) "Commission" means the Ohio civil rights commission 402  
created by section 4112.03 of the Revised Code. 403

(7) "Discriminate" includes segregate or separate. 404

(8) "Unlawful discriminatory practice" means any act 405  
prohibited by section 4112.02, 4112.021, or 4112.022 of the 406  
Revised Code. 407

(9) "Place of public accommodation" means any inn, 408  
restaurant, eating house, barbershop, public conveyance by air, 409  
land, or water, theater, store, other place for the sale of 410  
merchandise, or any other place of public accommodation or 411  
amusement of which the accommodations, advantages, facilities, 412  
or privileges are available to the public. 413

(10) "Housing accommodations" includes any building or 414  
structure, or portion of a building or structure, that is used 415  
or occupied or is intended, arranged, or designed to be used or 416  
occupied as the home residence, dwelling, dwelling unit, or 417  
sleeping place of one or more individuals, groups, or families 418  
whether or not living independently of each other; and any 419  
vacant land offered for sale or lease. "Housing accommodations" 420  
also includes any housing accommodations held or offered for 421  
sale or rent by a real estate broker, salesperson, or agent, by 422  
any other person pursuant to authorization of the owner, by the 423  
owner, or by the owner's legal representative. 424

(11) "Restrictive covenant" means any specification 425  
limiting the transfer, rental, lease, or other use of any 426  
housing accommodations because of race, color, religion, sex, 427  
military status, familial status, national origin, disability, 428  
or ancestry, or any limitation based upon affiliation with or 429  
approval by any person, directly or indirectly, employing race, 430  
color, religion, sex, military status, familial status, national 431  
origin, disability, or ancestry as a condition of affiliation or 432  
approval. 433

(12) "Burial lot" means any lot for the burial of deceased 434  
persons within any public burial ground or cemetery, including, 435  
but not limited to, cemeteries owned and operated by municipal 436  
corporations, townships, or companies or associations 437  
incorporated for cemetery purposes. 438

(13) "Disability" means a physical or mental impairment 439  
that substantially limits one or more major life activities, 440  
including the functions of caring for one's self, performing 441  
manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, 442  
learning, and working; a record of a physical or mental 443  
impairment; or being regarded as having a physical or mental 444  
impairment. 445

(14) Except as otherwise provided in section 4112.021 of 446  
the Revised Code, "age" means ~~at least~~ an individual aged forty 447  
~~years-old~~ or older. 448

(15) "Familial status" means either of the following: 449

(a) One or more individuals who are under eighteen years 450  
of age and who are domiciled with a parent or guardian having 451  
legal custody of the individual or domiciled, with the written 452  
permission of the parent or guardian having legal custody, with 453

a designee of the parent or guardian; 454

(b) Any person who is pregnant or in the process of 455  
securing legal custody of any individual who is under eighteen 456  
years of age. 457

(16) (a) Except as provided in division (A) (16) (b) of this 458  
section, "physical or mental impairment" includes any of the 459  
following: 460

(i) Any physiological disorder or condition, cosmetic 461  
disfigurement, or anatomical loss affecting one or more of the 462  
following body systems: neurological; musculoskeletal; special 463  
sense organs; respiratory, including speech organs; 464  
cardiovascular; reproductive; digestive; genito-urinary; hemic 465  
and lymphatic; skin; and endocrine; 466

(ii) Any mental or psychological disorder, including, but 467  
not limited to, intellectual disability, organic brain syndrome, 468  
emotional or mental illness, and specific learning disabilities; 469

(iii) Diseases and conditions, including, but not limited 470  
to, orthopedic, visual, speech, and hearing impairments, 471  
cerebral palsy, autism, epilepsy, muscular dystrophy, multiple 472  
sclerosis, cancer, heart disease, diabetes, human 473  
immunodeficiency virus infection, intellectual disability, 474  
emotional illness, drug addiction, and alcoholism. 475

(b) "Physical or mental impairment" does not include any 476  
of the following: 477

(i) Homosexuality and bisexuality; 478

(ii) Transvestism, transsexualism, pedophilia, 479  
exhibitionism, voyeurism, gender identity disorders not 480  
resulting from physical impairments, or other sexual behavior 481

disorders;	482
(iii) Compulsive gambling, kleptomania, or pyromania;	483
(iv) Psychoactive substance use disorders resulting from the current illegal use of a controlled substance or the current use of alcoholic beverages.	484 485 486
(17) "Dwelling unit" means a single unit of residence for a family of one or more persons.	487 488
(18) "Common use areas" means rooms, spaces, or elements inside or outside a building that are made available for the use of residents of the building or their guests, and includes, but is not limited to, hallways, lounges, lobbies, laundry rooms, refuse rooms, mail rooms, recreational areas, and passageways among and between buildings.	489 490 491 492 493 494
(19) "Public use areas" means interior or exterior rooms or spaces of a privately or publicly owned building that are made available to the general public.	495 496 497
(20) "Controlled substance" has the same meaning as in section 3719.01 of the Revised Code.	498 499
(21) "Disabled tenant" means a tenant or prospective tenant who is a person with a disability.	500 501
(22) "Military status" means a person's status in "service in the uniformed services" as defined in section 5923.05 of the Revised Code.	502 503 504
(23) "Aggrieved person" includes both of the following:	505
(a) Any person who claims to have been injured by any unlawful discriminatory practice described in division (H) of section 4112.02 of the Revised Code;	506 507 508

(b) Any person who believes that the person will be 509  
injured by any unlawful discriminatory practice described in 510  
division (H) of section 4112.02 of the Revised Code that is 511  
about to occur. 512

(24) "Unlawful discriminatory practice relating to 513  
employment" means both of the following: 514

(a) An unlawful discriminatory practice that is prohibited 515  
by division (A), (B), (C), (D), (E), or (F) of section 4112.02 516  
of the Revised Code; 517

(b) An unlawful discriminatory practice that is prohibited 518  
by division (I) or (J) of section 4112.02 of the Revised Code 519  
that is related to employment. 520

(25) "Notice of right to sue" means a notice sent by the 521  
commission to a person who files a charge under section 4112.051 522  
of the Revised Code that states that the person who filed the 523  
charge may bring a civil action related to the charge pursuant 524  
to section 4112.052 or 4112.14 of the Revised Code, in 525  
accordance with section 4112.052 of the Revised Code. 526

(B) For the purposes of divisions (A) to (F) of section 527  
4112.02 of the Revised Code, the terms "because of sex" and "on 528  
the basis of sex" include, but are not limited to, because of or 529  
on the basis of pregnancy, any illness arising out of and 530  
occurring during the course of a pregnancy, childbirth, or 531  
related medical conditions. Women affected by pregnancy, 532  
childbirth, or related medical conditions shall be treated the 533  
same for all employment-related purposes, including receipt of 534  
benefits under fringe benefit programs, as other persons not so 535  
affected but similar in their ability or inability to work, and 536  
nothing in division (B) of section 4111.17 of the Revised Code 537

shall be interpreted to permit otherwise. This division shall 538  
not be construed to require an employer to pay for health 539  
insurance benefits for abortion, except where the life of the 540  
mother would be endangered if the fetus were carried to term or 541  
except where medical complications have arisen from the 542  
abortion, provided that nothing in this division precludes an 543  
employer from providing abortion benefits or otherwise affects 544  
bargaining agreements in regard to abortion. 545

**Sec. 4112.02.** It shall be an unlawful discriminatory 546  
practice: 547

(A) For any employer, because of the race, color, 548  
religion, sex, military status, national origin, disability, 549  
age, or ancestry of any person, to discharge without just cause, 550  
to refuse to hire, or otherwise to discriminate against that 551  
person with respect to hire, tenure, terms, conditions, or 552  
privileges of employment, or any matter directly or indirectly 553  
related to employment. 554

(B) For an employment agency or personnel placement 555  
service, because of race, color, religion, sex, military status, 556  
national origin, disability, age, or ancestry, to do any of the 557  
following: 558

(1) Refuse or fail to accept, register, classify properly, 559  
or refer for employment, or otherwise discriminate against any 560  
person; 561

(2) Comply with a request from an employer for referral of 562  
applicants for employment if the request directly or indirectly 563  
indicates that the employer fails to comply with the provisions 564  
of sections 4112.01 to 4112.07 of the Revised Code. 565

(C) For any labor organization to do any of the following: 566

(1) Limit or classify its membership on the basis of race, 567  
color, religion, sex, military status, national origin, 568  
disability, age, or ancestry; 569

(2) Discriminate against, limit the employment 570  
opportunities of, or otherwise adversely affect the employment 571  
status, wages, hours, or employment conditions of any person as 572  
an employee because of race, color, religion, sex, military 573  
status, national origin, disability, age, or ancestry. 574

(D) For any employer, labor organization, or joint labor- 575  
management committee controlling apprentice training programs to 576  
discriminate against any person because of race, color, 577  
religion, sex, military status, national origin, disability, or 578  
ancestry in admission to, or employment in, any program 579  
established to provide apprentice training. 580

(E) Except where based on a bona fide occupational 581  
qualification certified in advance by the commission, for any 582  
employer, employment agency, personnel placement service, or 583  
labor organization, prior to employment or admission to 584  
membership, to do any of the following: 585

(1) Elicit or attempt to elicit any information concerning 586  
the race, color, religion, sex, military status, national 587  
origin, disability, age, or ancestry of an applicant for 588  
employment or membership; 589

(2) Make or keep a record of the race, color, religion, 590  
sex, military status, national origin, disability, age, or 591  
ancestry of any applicant for employment or membership; 592

(3) Use any form of application for employment, or 593  
personnel or membership blank, seeking to elicit information 594  
regarding race, color, religion, sex, military status, national 595

origin, disability, age, or ancestry; but an employer holding a 596  
contract containing a nondiscrimination clause with the 597  
government of the United States, or any department or agency of 598  
that government, may require an employee or applicant for 599  
employment to furnish documentary proof of United States 600  
citizenship and may retain that proof in the employer's 601  
personnel records and may use photographic or fingerprint 602  
identification for security purposes; 603

(4) Print or publish or cause to be printed or published 604  
any notice or advertisement relating to employment or membership 605  
indicating any preference, limitation, specification, or 606  
discrimination, based upon race, color, religion, sex, military 607  
status, national origin, disability, age, or ancestry; 608

(5) Announce or follow a policy of denying or limiting, 609  
through a quota system or otherwise, employment or membership 610  
opportunities of any group because of the race, color, religion, 611  
sex, military status, national origin, disability, age, or 612  
ancestry of that group; 613

(6) Utilize in the recruitment or hiring of persons any 614  
employment agency, personnel placement service, training school 615  
or center, labor organization, or any other employee-referring 616  
source known to discriminate against persons because of their 617  
race, color, religion, sex, military status, national origin, 618  
disability, age, or ancestry. 619

(F) For any person seeking employment to publish or cause 620  
to be published any advertisement that specifies or in any 621  
manner indicates that person's race, color, religion, sex, 622  
military status, national origin, disability, age, or ancestry, 623  
or expresses a limitation or preference as to the race, color, 624  
religion, sex, military status, national origin, disability, 625

age, or ancestry of any prospective employer. 626

(G) For any proprietor or any employee, keeper, or manager 627  
of a place of public accommodation to deny to any person, except 628  
for reasons applicable alike to all persons regardless of race, 629  
color, religion, sex, military status, national origin, 630  
disability, age, or ancestry, the full enjoyment of the 631  
accommodations, advantages, facilities, or privileges of the 632  
place of public accommodation. 633

(H) Subject to section 4112.024 of the Revised Code, for 634  
any person to do any of the following: 635

(1) Refuse to sell, transfer, assign, rent, lease, 636  
sublease, or finance housing accommodations, refuse to negotiate 637  
for the sale or rental of housing accommodations, or otherwise 638  
deny or make unavailable housing accommodations because of race, 639  
color, religion, sex, military status, familial status, 640  
ancestry, disability, or national origin; 641

(2) Represent to any person that housing accommodations 642  
are not available for inspection, sale, or rental, when in fact 643  
they are available, because of race, color, religion, sex, 644  
military status, familial status, ancestry, disability, or 645  
national origin; 646

(3) Discriminate against any person in the making or 647  
purchasing of loans or the provision of other financial 648  
assistance for the acquisition, construction, rehabilitation, 649  
repair, or maintenance of housing accommodations, or any person 650  
in the making or purchasing of loans or the provision of other 651  
financial assistance that is secured by residential real estate, 652  
because of race, color, religion, sex, military status, familial 653  
status, ancestry, disability, or national origin or because of 654

the racial composition of the neighborhood in which the housing accommodations are located, provided that the person, whether an individual, corporation, or association of any type, lends money as one of the principal aspects or incident to the person's principal business and not only as a part of the purchase price of an owner-occupied residence the person is selling nor merely casually or occasionally to a relative or friend;

(4) Discriminate against any person in the terms or conditions of selling, transferring, assigning, renting, leasing, or subleasing any housing accommodations or in furnishing facilities, services, or privileges in connection with the ownership, occupancy, or use of any housing accommodations, including the sale of fire, extended coverage, or homeowners insurance, because of race, color, religion, sex, military status, familial status, ancestry, disability, or national origin or because of the racial composition of the neighborhood in which the housing accommodations are located;

(5) Discriminate against any person in the terms or conditions of any loan of money, whether or not secured by mortgage or otherwise, for the acquisition, construction, rehabilitation, repair, or maintenance of housing accommodations because of race, color, religion, sex, military status, familial status, ancestry, disability, or national origin or because of the racial composition of the neighborhood in which the housing accommodations are located;

(6) Refuse to consider without prejudice the combined income of both husband and wife for the purpose of extending mortgage credit to a married couple or either member of a married couple;

(7) Print, publish, or circulate any statement or

advertisement, or make or cause to be made any statement or 685  
advertisement, relating to the sale, transfer, assignment, 686  
rental, lease, sublease, or acquisition of any housing 687  
accommodations, or relating to the loan of money, whether or not 688  
secured by mortgage or otherwise, for the acquisition, 689  
construction, rehabilitation, repair, or maintenance of housing 690  
accommodations, that indicates any preference, limitation, 691  
specification, or discrimination based upon race, color, 692  
religion, sex, military status, familial status, ancestry, 693  
disability, or national origin, or an intention to make any such 694  
preference, limitation, specification, or discrimination; 695

(8) Except as otherwise provided in division (H) (8) or 696  
(17) of this section, make any inquiry, elicit any information, 697  
make or keep any record, or use any form of application 698  
containing questions or entries concerning race, color, 699  
religion, sex, military status, familial status, ancestry, 700  
disability, or national origin in connection with the sale or 701  
lease of any housing accommodations or the loan of any money, 702  
whether or not secured by mortgage or otherwise, for the 703  
acquisition, construction, rehabilitation, repair, or 704  
maintenance of housing accommodations. Any person may make 705  
inquiries, and make and keep records, concerning race, color, 706  
religion, sex, military status, familial status, ancestry, 707  
disability, or national origin for the purpose of monitoring 708  
compliance with this chapter. 709

(9) Include in any transfer, rental, or lease of housing 710  
accommodations any restrictive covenant, or honor or exercise, 711  
or attempt to honor or exercise, any restrictive covenant; 712

(10) Induce or solicit, or attempt to induce or solicit, a 713  
housing accommodations listing, sale, or transaction by 714

representing that a change has occurred or may occur with 715  
respect to the racial, religious, sexual, military status, 716  
familial status, or ethnic composition of the block, 717  
neighborhood, or other area in which the housing accommodations 718  
are located, or induce or solicit, or attempt to induce or 719  
solicit, a housing accommodations listing, sale, or transaction 720  
by representing that the presence or anticipated presence of 721  
persons of any race, color, religion, sex, military status, 722  
familial status, ancestry, disability, or national origin, in 723  
the block, neighborhood, or other area will or may have results 724  
including, but not limited to, the following: 725

(a) The lowering of property values; 726

(b) A change in the racial, religious, sexual, military 727  
status, familial status, or ethnic composition of the block, 728  
neighborhood, or other area; 729

(c) An increase in criminal or antisocial behavior in the 730  
block, neighborhood, or other area; 731

(d) A decline in the quality of the schools serving the 732  
block, neighborhood, or other area. 733

(11) Deny any person access to or membership or 734  
participation in any multiple-listing service, real estate 735  
brokers' organization, or other service, organization, or 736  
facility relating to the business of selling or renting housing 737  
accommodations, or discriminate against any person in the terms 738  
or conditions of that access, membership, or participation, on 739  
account of race, color, religion, sex, military status, familial 740  
status, national origin, disability, or ancestry; 741

(12) Coerce, intimidate, threaten, or interfere with any 742  
person in the exercise or enjoyment of, or on account of that 743

person's having exercised or enjoyed or having aided or 744  
encouraged any other person in the exercise or enjoyment of, any 745  
right granted or protected by division (H) of this section; 746

(13) Discourage or attempt to discourage the purchase by a 747  
prospective purchaser of housing accommodations, by representing 748  
that any block, neighborhood, or other area has undergone or 749  
might undergo a change with respect to its religious, racial, 750  
sexual, military status, familial status, or ethnic composition; 751

(14) Refuse to sell, transfer, assign, rent, lease, 752  
sublease, or finance, or otherwise deny or withhold, a burial 753  
lot from any person because of the race, color, sex, military 754  
status, familial status, age, ancestry, disability, or national 755  
origin of any prospective owner or user of the lot; 756

(15) Discriminate in the sale or rental of, or otherwise 757  
make unavailable or deny, housing accommodations to any buyer or 758  
renter because of a disability of any of the following: 759

(a) The buyer or renter; 760

(b) A person residing in or intending to reside in the 761  
housing accommodations after they are sold, rented, or made 762  
available; 763

(c) Any individual associated with the person described in 764  
division (H) (15) (b) of this section. 765

(16) Discriminate in the terms, conditions, or privileges 766  
of the sale or rental of housing accommodations to any person or 767  
in the provision of services or facilities to any person in 768  
connection with the housing accommodations because of a 769  
disability of any of the following: 770

(a) That person; 771

(b) A person residing in or intending to reside in the 772  
housing accommodations after they are sold, rented, or made 773  
available; 774

(c) Any individual associated with the person described in 775  
division (H) (16) (b) of this section. 776

(17) Except as otherwise provided in division (H) (17) of 777  
this section, make an inquiry to determine whether an applicant 778  
for the sale or rental of housing accommodations, a person 779  
residing in or intending to reside in the housing accommodations 780  
after they are sold, rented, or made available, or any 781  
individual associated with that person has a disability, or make 782  
an inquiry to determine the nature or severity of a disability 783  
of the applicant or such a person or individual. The following 784  
inquiries may be made of all applicants for the sale or rental 785  
of housing accommodations, regardless of whether they have 786  
disabilities: 787

(a) An inquiry into an applicant's ability to meet the 788  
requirements of ownership or tenancy; 789

(b) An inquiry to determine whether an applicant is 790  
qualified for housing accommodations available only to persons 791  
with disabilities or persons with a particular type of 792  
disability; 793

(c) An inquiry to determine whether an applicant is 794  
qualified for a priority available to persons with disabilities 795  
or persons with a particular type of disability; 796

(d) An inquiry to determine whether an applicant currently 797  
uses a controlled substance in violation of section 2925.11 of 798  
the Revised Code or a substantively comparable municipal 799  
ordinance; 800

(e) An inquiry to determine whether an applicant at any 801  
time has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to any offense, an 802  
element of which is the illegal sale, offer to sell, 803  
cultivation, manufacture, other production, shipment, 804  
transportation, delivery, or other distribution of a controlled 805  
substance. 806

(18) (a) Refuse to permit, at the expense of a person with 807  
a disability, reasonable modifications of existing housing 808  
accommodations that are occupied or to be occupied by the person 809  
with a disability, if the modifications may be necessary to 810  
afford the person with a disability full enjoyment of the 811  
housing accommodations. This division does not preclude a 812  
landlord of housing accommodations that are rented or to be 813  
rented to a disabled tenant from conditioning permission for a 814  
proposed modification upon the disabled tenant's doing one or 815  
more of the following: 816

(i) Providing a reasonable description of the proposed 817  
modification and reasonable assurances that the proposed 818  
modification will be made in a workerlike manner and that any 819  
required building permits will be obtained prior to the 820  
commencement of the proposed modification; 821

(ii) Agreeing to restore at the end of the tenancy the 822  
interior of the housing accommodations to the condition they 823  
were in prior to the proposed modification, but subject to 824  
reasonable wear and tear during the period of occupancy, if it 825  
is reasonable for the landlord to condition permission for the 826  
proposed modification upon the agreement; 827

(iii) Paying into an interest-bearing escrow account that 828  
is in the landlord's name, over a reasonable period of time, a 829  
reasonable amount of money not to exceed the projected costs at 830

the end of the tenancy of the restoration of the interior of the 831  
housing accommodations to the condition they were in prior to 832  
the proposed modification, but subject to reasonable wear and 833  
tear during the period of occupancy, if the landlord finds the 834  
account reasonably necessary to ensure the availability of funds 835  
for the restoration work. The interest earned in connection with 836  
an escrow account described in this division shall accrue to the 837  
benefit of the disabled tenant who makes payments into the 838  
account. 839

(b) A landlord shall not condition permission for a 840  
proposed modification upon a disabled tenant's payment of a 841  
security deposit that exceeds the customarily required security 842  
deposit of all tenants of the particular housing accommodations. 843

(19) Refuse to make reasonable accommodations in rules, 844  
policies, practices, or services when necessary to afford a 845  
person with a disability equal opportunity to use and enjoy a 846  
dwelling unit, including associated public and common use areas; 847

(20) Fail to comply with the standards and rules adopted 848  
under division (A) of section 3781.111 of the Revised Code; 849

(21) Discriminate against any person in the selling, 850  
brokering, or appraising of real property because of race, 851  
color, religion, sex, military status, familial status, 852  
ancestry, disability, or national origin; 853

(22) Fail to design and construct covered multifamily 854  
dwellings for first occupancy on or after June 30, 1992, in 855  
accordance with the following conditions: 856

(a) The dwellings shall have at least one building 857  
entrance on an accessible route, unless it is impractical to do 858  
so because of the terrain or unusual characteristics of the 859

site. 860

(b) With respect to dwellings that have a building 861  
entrance on an accessible route, all of the following apply: 862

(i) The public use areas and common use areas of the 863  
dwellings shall be readily accessible to and usable by persons 864  
with a disability. 865

(ii) All the doors designed to allow passage into and 866  
within all premises shall be sufficiently wide to allow passage 867  
by persons with a disability who are in wheelchairs. 868

(iii) All premises within covered multifamily dwelling 869  
units shall contain an accessible route into and through the 870  
dwelling; all light switches, electrical outlets, thermostats, 871  
and other environmental controls within such units shall be in 872  
accessible locations; the bathroom walls within such units shall 873  
contain reinforcements to allow later installation of grab bars; 874  
and the kitchens and bathrooms within such units shall be 875  
designed and constructed in a manner that enables an individual 876  
in a wheelchair to maneuver about such rooms. 877

For purposes of division (H) (22) of this section, "covered 878  
multifamily dwellings" means buildings consisting of four or 879  
more units if such buildings have one or more elevators and 880  
ground floor units in other buildings consisting of four or more 881  
units. 882

(I) For any person to discriminate in any manner against 883  
any other person because that person has opposed any unlawful 884  
discriminatory practice defined in this section or because that 885  
person has made a charge, testified, assisted, or participated 886  
in any manner in any investigation, proceeding, or hearing under 887  
sections 4112.01 to 4112.07 of the Revised Code. 888

(J) For any person to aid, abet, incite, compel, or coerce 889  
the doing of any act declared by this section to be an unlawful 890  
discriminatory practice, to obstruct or prevent any person from 891  
complying with this chapter or any order issued under it, or to 892  
attempt directly or indirectly to commit any act declared by 893  
this section to be an unlawful discriminatory practice. 894

(K) Nothing in divisions (A) to (E) of this section shall 895  
be construed to require a person with a disability to be 896  
employed or trained under circumstances that would significantly 897  
increase the occupational hazards affecting either the person 898  
with a disability, other employees, the general public, or the 899  
facilities in which the work is to be performed, or to require 900  
the employment or training of a person with a disability in a 901  
job that requires the person with a disability routinely to 902  
undertake any task, the performance of which is substantially 903  
and inherently impaired by the person's disability. 904

~~(L) An aggrieved individual may enforce the individual's 905  
rights relative to discrimination on the basis of age as 906  
provided for in this section by instituting a civil action, 907  
within one hundred eighty days after the alleged unlawful 908  
discriminatory practice occurred, in any court with jurisdiction 909  
for any legal or equitable relief that will effectuate the 910  
individual's rights. 911~~

~~A person who files a civil action under this division is 912  
barred, with respect to the practices complained of, from 913  
instituting a civil action under section 4112.14 of the Revised 914  
Code and from filing a charge with the commission under section 915  
4112.05 of the Revised Code. 916~~

~~(M) With regard to age, it shall not be an unlawful 917  
discriminatory practice and it shall not constitute a violation 918~~

of division (A) of section 4112.14 of the Revised Code for any 919  
employer, employment agency, joint labor-management committee 920  
controlling apprenticeship training programs, or labor 921  
organization to do any of the following: 922

(1) Establish bona fide employment qualifications 923  
reasonably related to the particular business or occupation that 924  
may include standards for skill, aptitude, physical capability, 925  
intelligence, education, maturation, and experience; 926

(2) Observe the terms of a bona fide seniority system or 927  
any bona fide employee benefit plan, including, but not limited 928  
to, a retirement, pension, or insurance plan, that is not a 929  
subterfuge to evade the purposes of this section. However, no 930  
such employee benefit plan shall excuse the failure to hire any 931  
individual, and no such seniority system or employee benefit 932  
plan shall require or permit the involuntary retirement of any 933  
individual, because of the individual's age except as provided 934  
for in the "Age Discrimination in Employment Act Amendment of 935  
1978," 92 Stat. 189, 29 U.S.C.A. 623, as amended by the "Age 936  
Discrimination in Employment Act Amendments of 1986," 100 Stat. 937  
3342, 29 U.S.C.A. 623, as amended. 938

(3) Retire an employee who has attained sixty-five years 939  
of age who, for the two-year period immediately before 940  
retirement, is employed in a bona fide executive or a high 941  
policymaking position, if the employee is entitled to an 942  
immediate nonforfeitable annual retirement benefit from a 943  
pension, profit-sharing, savings, or deferred compensation plan, 944  
or any combination of those plans, of the employer of the 945  
employee, which equals, in the aggregate, at least forty-four 946  
thousand dollars, in accordance with the conditions of the "Age 947  
Discrimination in Employment Act Amendment of 1978," 92 Stat. 948

189, 29 U.S.C.A. 631, as amended by the "Age Discrimination in 949  
Employment Act Amendments of 1986," 100 Stat. 3342, 29 U.S.C.A. 950  
631, as amended; 951

(4) Observe the terms of any bona fide apprenticeship 952  
program if the program is registered with the Ohio 953  
apprenticeship council pursuant to sections 4139.01 to 4139.06 954  
of the Revised Code and is approved by the federal committee on 955  
apprenticeship of the United States department of labor. 956

~~(N)~~ (M) Nothing in this chapter prohibiting age 957  
discrimination and nothing in division (A) of section 4112.14 of 958  
the Revised Code shall be construed to prohibit the following: 959

(1) The designation of uniform age the attainment of which 960  
is necessary for public employees to receive pension or other 961  
retirement benefits pursuant to Chapter 145., 742., 3307., 962  
3309., or 5505. of the Revised Code; 963

(2) The mandatory retirement of uniformed patrol officers 964  
of the state highway patrol as provided in section 5505.16 of 965  
the Revised Code; 966

(3) The maximum age requirements for appointment as a 967  
patrol officer in the state highway patrol established by 968  
section 5503.01 of the Revised Code; 969

(4) The maximum age requirements established for original 970  
appointment to a police department or fire department in 971  
sections 124.41 and 124.42 of the Revised Code; 972

(5) Any maximum age not in conflict with federal law that 973  
may be established by a municipal charter, municipal ordinance, 974  
or resolution of a board of township trustees for original 975  
appointment as a police officer or firefighter; 976

(6) Any mandatory retirement provision not in conflict 977  
with federal law of a municipal charter, municipal ordinance, or 978  
resolution of a board of township trustees pertaining to police 979  
officers and firefighters; 980

(7) Until January 1, 1994, the mandatory retirement of any 981  
employee who has attained seventy years of age and who is 982  
serving under a contract of unlimited tenure, or similar 983  
arrangement providing for unlimited tenure, at an institution of 984  
higher education as defined in the "Education Amendments of 985  
1980," 94 Stat. 1503, 20 U.S.C.A. 1141(a). 986

~~(N)~~(1) (a) Except as provided in division ~~(N)~~(1) (b) 987  
of this section, for purposes of divisions (A) to (E) of this 988  
section, a disability does not include any physiological 989  
disorder or condition, mental or psychological disorder, or 990  
disease or condition caused by an illegal use of any controlled 991  
substance by an employee, applicant, or other person, if an 992  
employer, employment agency, personnel placement service, labor 993  
organization, or joint labor-management committee acts on the 994  
basis of that illegal use. 995

(b) Division ~~(N)~~(1) (a) of this section does not apply 996  
to an employee, applicant, or other person who satisfies any of 997  
the following: 998

(i) The employee, applicant, or other person has 999  
successfully completed a supervised drug rehabilitation program 1000  
and no longer is engaging in the illegal use of any controlled 1001  
substance, or the employee, applicant, or other person otherwise 1002  
successfully has been rehabilitated and no longer is engaging in 1003  
that illegal use. 1004

(ii) The employee, applicant, or other person is 1005

participating in a supervised drug rehabilitation program and no 1006  
longer is engaging in the illegal use of any controlled 1007  
substance. 1008

(iii) The employee, applicant, or other person is 1009  
erroneously regarded as engaging in the illegal use of any 1010  
controlled substance, but the employee, applicant, or other 1011  
person is not engaging in that illegal use. 1012

(2) Divisions (A) to (E) of this section do not prohibit 1013  
an employer, employment agency, personnel placement service, 1014  
labor organization, or joint labor-management committee from 1015  
doing any of the following: 1016

(a) Adopting or administering reasonable policies or 1017  
procedures, including, but not limited to, testing for the 1018  
illegal use of any controlled substance, that are designed to 1019  
ensure that an individual described in division ~~(O)~~(N) (1) (b) (i) 1020  
or (ii) of this section no longer is engaging in the illegal use 1021  
of any controlled substance; 1022

(b) Prohibiting the illegal use of controlled substances 1023  
and the use of alcohol at the workplace by all employees; 1024

(c) Requiring that employees not be under the influence of 1025  
alcohol or not be engaged in the illegal use of any controlled 1026  
substance at the workplace; 1027

(d) Requiring that employees behave in conformance with 1028  
the requirements established under "The Drug-Free Workplace Act 1029  
of 1988," 102 Stat. 4304, 41 U.S.C.A. 701, as amended; 1030

(e) Holding an employee who engages in the illegal use of 1031  
any controlled substance or who is an alcoholic to the same 1032  
qualification standards for employment or job performance, and 1033  
the same behavior, to which the employer, employment agency, 1034

personnel placement service, labor organization, or joint labor- 1035  
management committee holds other employees, even if any 1036  
unsatisfactory performance or behavior is related to an 1037  
employee's illegal use of a controlled substance or alcoholism; 1038

(f) Exercising other authority recognized in the 1039  
"Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990," 104 Stat. 327, 42 1040  
U.S.C.A. 12101, as amended, including, but not limited to, 1041  
requiring employees to comply with any applicable federal 1042  
standards. 1043

(3) For purposes of this chapter, a test to determine the 1044  
illegal use of any controlled substance does not include a 1045  
medical examination. 1046

(4) Division ~~(O)~~ (N) of this section does not encourage, 1047  
prohibit, or authorize, and shall not be construed as 1048  
encouraging, prohibiting, or authorizing, the conduct of testing 1049  
for the illegal use of any controlled substance by employees, 1050  
applicants, or other persons, or the making of employment 1051  
decisions based on the results of that type of testing. 1052

~~(P)~~ (O) This section does not apply to a religious 1053  
corporation, association, educational institution, or society 1054  
with respect to the employment of an individual of a particular 1055  
religion to perform work connected with the carrying on by that 1056  
religious corporation, association, educational institution, or 1057  
society of its activities. 1058

The unlawful discriminatory practices defined in this 1059  
section do not make it unlawful for a person or an appointing 1060  
authority administering an examination under section 124.23 of 1061  
the Revised Code to obtain information about an applicant's 1062  
military status for the purpose of determining if the applicant 1063

is eligible for the additional credit that is available under 1064  
that section. 1065

**Sec. 4112.04.** (A) The commission shall do all of the 1066  
following: 1067

(1) Establish and maintain a principal office in the city 1068  
of Columbus and any other offices within the state that it 1069  
considers necessary; 1070

(2) Appoint an executive director who shall serve at the 1071  
pleasure of the commission and be its principal administrative 1072  
officer. The executive director shall be paid a salary fixed 1073  
pursuant to Chapter 124. of the Revised Code. 1074

(3) Appoint hearing examiners and other employees and 1075  
agents who it considers necessary and prescribe their duties 1076  
subject to Chapter 124. of the Revised Code; 1077

(4) Adopt, promulgate, amend, and rescind rules to 1078  
effectuate the provisions of this chapter and the policies and 1079  
practice of the commission in connection with this chapter; 1080

(5) Formulate policies to effectuate the purposes of this 1081  
chapter and make recommendations to agencies and officers of the 1082  
state or political subdivisions to effectuate the policies; 1083

(6) Receive, investigate, and pass upon written charges 1084  
made under oath of unlawful discriminatory practices; 1085

(7) Make periodic surveys of the existence and effect of 1086  
discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, military 1087  
status, familial status, national origin, disability, age, or 1088  
ancestry on the enjoyment of civil rights by persons within the 1089  
state; 1090

(8) Report, from time to time, but not less than once a 1091

year, to the general assembly and the governor, describing in 1092  
detail the investigations, proceedings, and hearings it has 1093  
conducted and their outcome, the decisions it has rendered, and 1094  
the other work performed by it, which report shall include a 1095  
copy of any surveys prepared pursuant to division (A) (7) of this 1096  
section and shall include the recommendations of the commission 1097  
as to legislative or other remedial action; 1098

(9) Prepare a comprehensive educational program, in 1099  
cooperation with the department of education, for the students 1100  
of the public schools of this state and for all other residents 1101  
of this state that is designed to eliminate prejudice on the 1102  
basis of race, color, religion, sex, military status, familial 1103  
status, national origin, disability, age, or ancestry in this 1104  
state, to further good will among those groups, and to emphasize 1105  
the origin of prejudice against those groups, its harmful 1106  
effects, and its incompatibility with American principles of 1107  
equality and fair play; 1108

(10) Receive progress reports from agencies, 1109  
instrumentalities, institutions, boards, commissions, and other 1110  
entities of this state or any of its political subdivisions and 1111  
their agencies, instrumentalities, institutions, boards, 1112  
commissions, and other entities regarding affirmative action 1113  
programs for the employment of persons against whom 1114  
discrimination is prohibited by this chapter, or regarding any 1115  
affirmative housing accommodations programs developed to 1116  
eliminate or reduce an imbalance of race, color, religion, sex, 1117  
military status, familial status, national origin, disability, 1118  
or ancestry. All agencies, instrumentalities, institutions, 1119  
boards, commissions, and other entities of this state or its 1120  
political subdivisions, and all political subdivisions, that 1121  
have undertaken affirmative action programs pursuant to a 1122

conciliation agreement with the commission, an executive order 1123  
of the governor, any federal statute or rule, or an executive 1124  
order of the president of the United States shall file progress 1125  
reports with the commission annually on or before the first day 1126  
of November. The commission shall analyze and evaluate the 1127  
progress reports and report its findings annually to the general 1128  
assembly on or before the thirtieth day of January of the year 1129  
immediately following the receipt of the reports. 1130

(11) Notify a person who files a charge pursuant to 1131  
section 4112.051 of the Revised Code that under division (A) of 1132  
section 4112.052 of the Revised Code, the person is prohibited 1133  
from bringing a civil action under this chapter unless one of 1134  
the following applies: 1135

(a) The conditions stated in division (B)(1) of section 1136  
4112.052 of the Revised Code are satisfied; 1137

(b) An exception specified in division (B)(2) of section 1138  
4112.052 of the Revised Code applies. 1139

(B) The commission may do any of the following: 1140

(1) Meet and function at any place within the state; 1141

(2) Initiate and undertake on its own motion 1142  
investigations of problems of employment or housing 1143  
accommodations discrimination; 1144

(3) Hold hearings, subpoena witnesses, compel their 1145  
attendance, administer oaths, take the testimony of any person 1146  
under oath, require the production for examination of any books 1147  
and papers relating to any matter under investigation or in 1148  
question before the commission, and make rules as to the 1149  
issuance of subpoenas by individual commissioners. 1150

(a) In conducting a hearing or investigation, the 1151  
commission shall have access at all reasonable times to 1152  
premises, records, documents, individuals, and other evidence or 1153  
possible sources of evidence and may examine, record, and copy 1154  
the premises, records, documents, and other evidence or possible 1155  
sources of evidence and take and record the testimony or 1156  
statements of the individuals as reasonably necessary for the 1157  
furtherance of the hearing or investigation. In investigations, 1158  
the commission shall comply with the fourth amendment to the 1159  
United States Constitution relating to unreasonable searches and 1160  
seizures. The commission or a member of the commission may issue 1161  
subpoenas to compel access to or the production of premises, 1162  
records, documents, and other evidence or possible sources of 1163  
evidence or the appearance of individuals, and may issue 1164  
interrogatories to a respondent, to the same extent and subject 1165  
to the same limitations as would apply if the subpoenas or 1166  
interrogatories were issued or served in aid of a civil action 1167  
in a court of common pleas. 1168

(b) Upon written application by a party to a hearing under 1169  
division (B) of section 4112.05 or division (G) of section 1170  
4112.051 of the Revised Code, the commission shall issue 1171  
subpoenas in its name to the same extent and subject to the same 1172  
limitations as subpoenas issued by the commission. Subpoenas 1173  
issued at the request of a party shall show on their face the 1174  
name and address of the party and shall state that they were 1175  
issued at the party's request. 1176

(c) Witnesses summoned by subpoena of the commission are 1177  
entitled to the witness and mileage fees provided for under 1178  
section 119.094 of the Revised Code. 1179

(d) Within five days after service of a subpoena upon any 1180

person, the person may petition the commission to revoke or 1181  
modify the subpoena. The commission shall grant the petition if 1182  
it finds that the subpoena requires an appearance or attendance 1183  
at an unreasonable time or place, that it requires production of 1184  
evidence that does not relate to any matter before the 1185  
commission, that it does not describe with sufficient 1186  
particularity the evidence to be produced, that compliance would 1187  
be unduly onerous, or for other good reason. 1188

(e) In case of contumacy or refusal to obey a subpoena, 1189  
the commission or person at whose request it was issued may 1190  
petition for its enforcement in the court of common pleas in the 1191  
county in which the person to whom the subpoena was addressed 1192  
resides, was served, or transacts business. 1193

(4) Create local or statewide advisory agencies and 1194  
conciliation councils to aid in effectuating the purposes of 1195  
this chapter. The commission may itself, or it may empower these 1196  
agencies and councils to, do either or both of the following: 1197

(a) Study the problems of discrimination in all or 1198  
specific fields of human relationships when based on race, 1199  
color, religion, sex, military status, familial status, national 1200  
origin, disability, age, or ancestry; 1201

(b) Foster through community effort, or otherwise, good 1202  
will among the groups and elements of the population of the 1203  
state. 1204

The agencies and councils may make recommendations to the 1205  
commission for the development of policies and procedures in 1206  
general. They shall be composed of representative citizens who 1207  
shall serve without pay, except that reimbursement for actual 1208  
and necessary traveling expenses shall be made to citizens who 1209

serve on a statewide agency or council. 1210

(5) Issue any publications and the results of 1211  
investigations and research that in its judgment will tend to 1212  
promote good will and minimize or eliminate discrimination 1213  
because of race, color, religion, sex, military status, familial 1214  
status, national origin, disability, age, or ancestry. 1215

**Sec. 4112.05.** (A) (1) ~~The~~ With the exception of unlawful 1216  
discriminatory practices relating to employment, the commission, 1217  
as provided in this section, shall prevent any person from 1218  
engaging in unlawful discriminatory practices. 1219

(2) The commission may at any time attempt to resolve 1220  
allegations of unlawful discriminatory practices other than 1221  
allegations concerning unlawful discriminatory practices 1222  
relating to employment by the use of alternative dispute 1223  
resolution, provided that, before instituting the formal hearing 1224  
authorized by division (B) of this section, it shall attempt, by 1225  
informal methods of conference, conciliation, and persuasion, to 1226  
induce compliance with this chapter. 1227

(B) (1) Any person may file a charge with the commission 1228  
alleging that another person has engaged or is engaging in an 1229  
unlawful discriminatory practice. In the case of a charge 1230  
alleging an unlawful discriminatory practice that is not an 1231  
unlawful discriminatory practice relating to employment and that 1232  
is described in division (A), (B), (C), (D), (E), (F), (G), (I), 1233  
or (J) of section 4112.02 or in section 4112.021 or 4112.022 of 1234  
the Revised Code, the charge shall be in writing and under oath 1235  
and shall be filed with the commission within six months after 1236  
the alleged unlawful discriminatory practice was committed. In 1237  
the case of a charge alleging an unlawful discriminatory 1238  
practice described in division (H) of section 4112.02 of the 1239

Revised Code, the charge shall be in writing and under oath and 1240  
shall be filed with the commission within one year after the 1241  
alleged unlawful discriminatory practice was committed. 1242

(a) An oath under this ~~chapter~~section may be made in any 1243  
form of affirmation the person deems binding on the person's 1244  
conscience. Acceptable forms include, but are not limited to, 1245  
declarations made under penalty of perjury. 1246

(b) Any charge timely received, via facsimile, postal 1247  
mail, electronic mail, or otherwise, may be signed under oath 1248  
after the limitations period for filing set forth under division 1249  
(B) (1) of this section and will relate back to the original 1250  
filing date. 1251

(2) Upon receiving a charge other than a charge concerning 1252  
unlawful discriminatory practices relating to employment, the 1253  
commission may initiate a preliminary investigation to determine 1254  
whether it is probable that an unlawful discriminatory practice 1255  
has been or is being engaged in. The commission also may 1256  
conduct, upon its own initiative and independent of the filing 1257  
of any charges, a preliminary investigation relating to any of 1258  
the unlawful discriminatory practices that are not unlawful 1259  
discriminatory practices relating to employment and that are 1260  
described in division ~~(A), (B), (C), (D), (E), (F), (I),~~ or (J) 1261  
of section 4112.02 or in section 4112.021 or 4112.022 of the 1262  
Revised Code. Prior to a notification of a complainant under 1263  
division (B) (4) of this section or prior to the commencement of 1264  
informal methods of conference, conciliation, and persuasion, or 1265  
alternative dispute resolution, under that division, the members 1266  
of the commission and the officers and employees of the 1267  
commission shall not make public in any manner and shall retain 1268  
as confidential all information that was obtained as a result of 1269

or that otherwise pertains to a preliminary investigation other 1270  
than one described in division (B) (3) of this section. 1271

(3) (a) Unless it is impracticable to do so and subject to 1272  
its authority under division (B) (3) (d) of this section, the 1273  
commission shall complete a preliminary investigation of a 1274  
charge filed pursuant to division (B) (1) of this section that 1275  
alleges an unlawful discriminatory practice described in 1276  
division (H) of section 4112.02 of the Revised Code, and shall 1277  
take one of the following actions, within one hundred days after 1278  
the filing of the charge: 1279

(i) Notify the complainant and the respondent that it is 1280  
not probable that an unlawful discriminatory practice described 1281  
in division (H) of section 4112.02 of the Revised Code has been 1282  
or is being engaged in and that the commission will not issue a 1283  
complaint in the matter; 1284

(ii) Initiate a complaint and schedule it for informal 1285  
methods of conference, conciliation, and persuasion, or 1286  
alternative dispute resolution; 1287

(iii) Initiate a complaint and refer it to the attorney 1288  
general with a recommendation to seek a temporary or permanent 1289  
injunction or a temporary restraining order. If this action is 1290  
taken, the attorney general shall apply, as expeditiously as 1291  
possible after receipt of the complaint, to the court of common 1292  
pleas of the county in which the unlawful discriminatory 1293  
practice allegedly occurred for the appropriate injunction or 1294  
order, and the court shall hear and determine the application as 1295  
expeditiously as possible. 1296

(b) If it is not practicable to comply with the 1297  
requirements of division (B) (3) (a) of this section within the 1298

one-hundred-day period described in that division, the 1299  
commission shall notify the complainant and the respondent in 1300  
writing of the reasons for the noncompliance. 1301

(c) Prior to the issuance of a complaint under division 1302  
(B) (3) (a) (ii) or (iii) of this section or prior to a 1303  
notification of the complainant and the respondent under 1304  
division (B) (3) (a) (i) of this section, the members of the 1305  
commission and the officers and employees of the commission 1306  
shall not make public in any manner and shall retain as 1307  
confidential all information that was obtained as a result of or 1308  
that otherwise pertains to a preliminary investigation of a 1309  
charge filed pursuant to division (B) (1) of this section that 1310  
alleges an unlawful discriminatory practice described in 1311  
division (H) of section 4112.02 of the Revised Code. 1312

(d) Notwithstanding the types of action described in 1313  
divisions (B) (3) (a) (ii) and (iii) of this section, prior to the 1314  
issuance of a complaint or the referral of a complaint to the 1315  
attorney general and prior to endeavoring to eliminate an 1316  
unlawful discriminatory practice described in division (H) of 1317  
section 4112.02 of the Revised Code by informal methods of 1318  
conference, conciliation, and persuasion, or by alternative 1319  
dispute resolution, the commission may seek a temporary or 1320  
permanent injunction or a temporary restraining order in the 1321  
court of common pleas of the county in which the unlawful 1322  
discriminatory practice allegedly occurred. 1323

(4) If the commission determines after a preliminary 1324  
investigation other than one concerning an alleged unlawful 1325  
discriminatory practice relating to employment or one described 1326  
in division (B) (3) of this section that it is not probable that 1327  
an unlawful discriminatory practice has been or is being engaged 1328

in, it shall notify any complainant under division (B)(1) of 1329  
this section that it has so determined and that it will not 1330  
issue a complaint in the matter. If the commission determines 1331  
after a preliminary investigation other than the one concerning 1332  
an alleged unlawful discriminatory practice relating to 1333  
employment or one described in division (B)(3) of this section 1334  
that it is probable that an unlawful discriminatory practice has 1335  
been or is being engaged in, it shall endeavor to eliminate the 1336  
practice by informal methods of conference, conciliation, and 1337  
persuasion, or by alternative dispute resolution. 1338

(5) Nothing said or done during informal methods of 1339  
conference, conciliation, and persuasion, or during alternative 1340  
dispute resolution, under this section shall be disclosed by any 1341  
member of the commission or its staff or be used as evidence in 1342  
any subsequent hearing or other proceeding. If, after a 1343  
preliminary investigation and the use of informal methods of 1344  
conference, conciliation, and persuasion, or alternative dispute 1345  
resolution, under this section, the commission is satisfied that 1346  
any unlawful discriminatory practice will be eliminated, it may 1347  
treat the charge involved as being conciliated and enter that 1348  
disposition on the records of the commission. If the commission 1349  
fails to effect the elimination of an unlawful discriminatory 1350  
practice by informal methods of conference, conciliation, and 1351  
persuasion, or by alternative dispute resolution under this 1352  
section and to obtain voluntary compliance with this chapter, 1353  
the commission shall issue and cause to be served upon any 1354  
person, including the respondent against whom a complainant has 1355  
filed a charge pursuant to division (B)(1) of this section, a 1356  
complaint stating the charges involved and containing a notice 1357  
of an opportunity for a hearing before the commission, a member 1358  
of the commission, or a hearing examiner at a place that is 1359

stated in the notice and that is located within the county in 1360  
which the alleged unlawful discriminatory practice has occurred 1361  
or is occurring or in which the respondent resides or transacts 1362  
business. The hearing shall be held not less than thirty days 1363  
after the service of the complaint upon the complainant, the 1364  
aggrieved persons other than the complainant on whose behalf the 1365  
complaint is issued, and the respondent, unless the complainant, 1366  
an aggrieved person, or the respondent elects to proceed under 1367  
division (A) (2) of section ~~4112.051~~4112.055 of the Revised Code 1368  
when that division is applicable. If a complaint pertains to an 1369  
alleged unlawful discriminatory practice described in division 1370  
(H) of section 4112.02 of the Revised Code, the complaint shall 1371  
notify the complainant, an aggrieved person, and the respondent 1372  
of the right of the complainant, an aggrieved person, or the 1373  
respondent to elect to proceed with the administrative hearing 1374  
process under this section or to proceed under division (A) (2) 1375  
of section ~~4112.051~~4112.055 of the Revised Code. 1376

(6) The attorney general shall represent the commission at 1377  
any hearing held pursuant to division (B) (5) of this section and 1378  
shall present the evidence in support of the complaint. 1379

(7) Any complaint issued pursuant to division (B) (5) of 1380  
this section after the filing of a charge under division (B) (1) 1381  
of this section shall be so issued within one year after the 1382  
complainant filed the charge with respect to an alleged unlawful 1383  
discriminatory practice. 1384

(C) (1) Any complaint issued pursuant to division (B) of 1385  
this section may be amended by the commission, a member of the 1386  
commission, or the hearing examiner conducting a hearing under 1387  
division (B) of this section. 1388

(a) Except as provided in division (C) (1) (b) of this 1389

section, a complaint issued pursuant to division (B) of this 1390  
section may be amended at any time prior to or during the 1391  
hearing. 1392

(b) If a complaint issued pursuant to division (B) of this 1393  
section alleges an unlawful discriminatory practice described in 1394  
division (H) of section 4112.02 of the Revised Code, the 1395  
complaint may be amended at any time up to seven days prior to 1396  
the hearing and not thereafter. 1397

(2) The respondent has the right to file an answer or an 1398  
amended answer to the original and amended complaints and to 1399  
appear at the hearing in person, by attorney, or otherwise to 1400  
examine and cross-examine witnesses. 1401

(D) The complainant shall be a party to a hearing under 1402  
division (B) of this section, and any person who is an 1403  
indispensable party to a complete determination or settlement of 1404  
a question involved in the hearing shall be joined. Any 1405  
aggrieved person who has or claims an interest in the subject of 1406  
the hearing and in obtaining or preventing relief against the 1407  
unlawful discriminatory practices complained of shall be 1408  
permitted to appear only for the presentation of oral or written 1409  
arguments, to present evidence, perform direct and cross- 1410  
examination, and be represented by counsel. The commission shall 1411  
adopt rules, in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code 1412  
governing the authority granted under this division. 1413

(E) In any hearing under division (B) of this section, the 1414  
commission, a member of the commission, or the hearing examiner 1415  
shall not be bound by the Rules of Evidence but, in ascertaining 1416  
the practices followed by the respondent, shall take into 1417  
account all reliable, probative, and substantial statistical or 1418  
other evidence produced at the hearing that may tend to prove 1419

the existence of a predetermined pattern of employment or 1420  
membership, provided that nothing contained in this section 1421  
shall be construed to authorize or require any person to observe 1422  
the proportion that persons of any race, color, religion, sex, 1423  
military status, familial status, national origin, disability, 1424  
age, or ancestry bear to the total population or in accordance 1425  
with any criterion other than the individual qualifications of 1426  
the applicant. 1427

(F) The testimony taken at a hearing under division (B) of 1428  
this section shall be under oath and shall be reduced to writing 1429  
and filed with the commission. Thereafter, in its discretion, 1430  
the commission, upon the service of a notice upon the 1431  
complainant and the respondent that indicates an opportunity to 1432  
be present, may take further testimony or hear argument. 1433

(G) (1) (a) If, upon all reliable, probative, and 1434  
substantial evidence presented at a hearing under division (B) 1435  
of this section, the commission determines that the respondent 1436  
has engaged in, or is engaging in, any unlawful discriminatory 1437  
practice, whether against the complainant or others, the 1438  
commission shall state its findings of fact and conclusions of 1439  
law and shall issue and, subject to the provisions of Chapter 1440  
119. of the Revised Code, cause to be served on the respondent 1441  
an order requiring the respondent to do all of the following: 1442

~~(1)~~(i) Cease and desist from the unlawful discriminatory 1443  
practice; 1444

(ii) Take any further affirmative or other action that 1445  
will effectuate the purposes of this chapter, including, but not 1446  
limited to, hiring, reinstatement, or upgrading of employees 1447  
with or without back pay, or admission or restoration to union 1448  
membership; 1449

(iii) Report to the commission the manner of compliance. 1450

If the commission directs payment of back pay, it shall 1451  
make allowance for interim earnings. 1452

(b) If the commission finds a violation of division (H) of 1453  
section 4112.02 of the Revised Code, in addition to the action 1454  
described in division (G)(1)(a) of this section, the commission 1455  
additionally may require the respondent to undergo 1456  
~~recommendation~~remediation in the form of a class, seminar, or 1457  
any other type of remediation approved by the commission, may 1458  
require the ~~responded~~respondent to pay actual damages and 1459  
reasonable attorney's fees, and may, to vindicate the public 1460  
interest, assess a civil penalty against the respondent as 1461  
follows: 1462

(i) If division (G)(1)(b)(ii) or (iii) of this section 1463  
does not apply, a civil penalty in an amount not to exceed ten 1464  
thousand dollars; 1465

(ii) If division (G)(1)(b)(iii) of this section does not 1466  
apply and if the respondent has been determined by a final order 1467  
of the commission or by a final judgment of a court to have 1468  
committed one violation of division (H) of section 4112.02 of 1469  
the Revised Code during the five-year period immediately 1470  
preceding the date on which a complaint was issued pursuant to 1471  
division (B) of this section, a civil penalty in an amount not 1472  
to exceed twenty-five thousand dollars; 1473

(iii) If the respondent has been determined by a final 1474  
order of the commission or by a final judgment of a court to 1475  
have committed two or more violations of division (H) of section 1476  
4112.02 of the Revised Code during the seven-year period 1477  
immediately preceding the date on which a complaint was issued 1478

pursuant to division (B) of this section, a civil penalty 1479  
damages in an amount not to exceed fifty thousand dollars. 1480

(2) Upon the submission of reports of compliance, the 1481  
commission may issue a declaratory order stating that the 1482  
respondent has ceased to engage in particular unlawful 1483  
discriminatory practices. 1484

(H) If the commission finds that no probable cause exists 1485  
for crediting charges of unlawful discriminatory practices or 1486  
if, upon all the evidence presented at a hearing under division 1487  
(B) of this section on a charge, the commission finds that a 1488  
respondent has not engaged in any unlawful discriminatory 1489  
practice against the complainant or others, it shall state its 1490  
findings of fact and shall issue and cause to be served on the 1491  
complainant an order dismissing the complaint as to the 1492  
respondent. A copy of the order shall be delivered in all cases 1493  
to the attorney general and any other public officers whom the 1494  
commission considers proper. 1495

If, upon all the evidence presented at a hearing under 1496  
division (B) of this section on a charge, the commission finds 1497  
that a respondent has not engaged in any unlawful discriminatory 1498  
practice against the complainant or others, it may award to the 1499  
respondent reasonable attorney's fees to the extent provided in 1500  
5 U.S.C. 504 and accompanying regulations. 1501

(I) Until the time period for appeal set forth in division 1502  
(H) of section 4112.06 of the Revised Code expires, the 1503  
commission, subject to the provisions of Chapter 119. of the 1504  
Revised Code, at any time, upon reasonable notice, and in the 1505  
manner it considers proper, may modify or set aside, in whole or 1506  
in part, any finding or order made by it under this section. 1507

Sec. 4112.051. (A) As used in this section: 1508

(1) "Complainant" means a person who files a charge under 1509  
this section. 1510

(2) "Respondent" means a person who is the subject of a 1511  
charge filed under this section. 1512

(B) The Ohio civil rights commission, as provided in this 1513  
section, shall prevent any person from engaging in unlawful 1514  
discriminatory practices relating to employment. The commission 1515  
may at any time attempt to resolve allegations of unlawful 1516  
discriminatory practices relating to employment by the use of 1517  
alternative dispute resolution, provided that, before 1518  
instituting the formal hearing authorized by this section, it 1519  
shall attempt, by informal methods of conference, conciliation, 1520  
and persuasion, to induce compliance with this chapter. 1521

(C) (1) Any person who believes that a person has been the 1522  
subject of an unlawful discriminatory practice relating to 1523  
employment may file a charge with the commission alleging either 1524  
or both of the following: 1525

(a) That an employer, employment agency, personnel 1526  
placement service, or labor organization has engaged or is 1527  
engaging in an unlawful discriminatory practice relating to 1528  
employment; 1529

(b) That a person has engaged in an unlawful 1530  
discriminatory practice relating to employment described in 1531  
division (A) (24) (b) of section 4112.01 of the Revised Code. 1532

(2) A charge under this section shall be in writing, under 1533  
oath, and shall be filed with the commission within two years 1534  
after the alleged unlawful discriminatory practice was 1535  
committed. 1536

(3) An oath under this section may be made in any form of 1537  
affirmation the person considers binding on the person's 1538  
conscience. Acceptable forms include, but are not limited to, 1539  
declarations made under penalty of perjury. 1540

(4) Any charge timely received, via facsimile, postal 1541  
mail, electronic mail, or otherwise, may be signed under oath 1542  
after the limitations period for filing set forth under division 1543  
(C) of this section and will relate back to the original filing 1544  
date. 1545

(D) (1) Upon receiving a charge under this section, the 1546  
commission may initiate a preliminary investigation to determine 1547  
whether it is probable that an alleged unlawful discriminatory 1548  
practice relating to employment has occurred or is occurring. 1549  
The commission also may conduct, on its own initiative and 1550  
independent of the filing of any charge, a preliminary 1551  
investigation relating to any alleged unlawful discriminatory 1552  
practice relating to employment. Before a notification of a 1553  
complainant under division (E) of this section or before the 1554  
commencement of informal methods of conference, conciliation, 1555  
and persuasion, or alternative dispute resolution, under 1556  
division (F) of this section, the members of the commission and 1557  
the officers and employees of the commission shall not make 1558  
public in any manner and shall retain as confidential all 1559  
information that was obtained as a result of or that otherwise 1560  
pertains to a preliminary investigation. 1561

(2) With respect to a charge filed under division (C) of 1562  
this section that alleges an unlawful discriminatory practice 1563  
relating to employment, the complainant may request in writing 1564  
that the commission cease its preliminary investigation and 1565  
issue a notice of right to sue to the complainant. If the 1566

commission ceases its preliminary investigation, it shall issue 1567  
a notice of right to sue to the complainant. The complainant is 1568  
prohibited from refiling the charge with the commission. 1569

(E) If, after a preliminary investigation, the commission 1570  
determines that it is not probable that an unlawful 1571  
discriminatory practice relating to employment has occurred or 1572  
is occurring, the commission shall notify the complainant of its 1573  
determination and that it will not issue a complaint in the 1574  
matter. The commission shall include a notice of right to sue in 1575  
the notice. 1576

(F) (1) If, after a preliminary investigation, the 1577  
commission determines that it is probable that an unlawful 1578  
discriminatory practice relating to employment has occurred or 1579  
is occurring, the commission shall notify the complainant and 1580  
the respondent of its determination and, in the notice the 1581  
commission issues to the complainant, inform the complainant 1582  
that the complainant may withdraw the charge and file a civil 1583  
action under this chapter. If the complainant does not withdraw 1584  
the charge, the commission shall endeavor to eliminate the 1585  
alleged unlawful discriminatory practice relating to employment 1586  
by informal methods of conference, conciliation, and persuasion, 1587  
or by alternative dispute resolution. 1588

(2) If, after the use of the informal methods of 1589  
conference, conciliation, and persuasion, or alternative dispute 1590  
resolution, the commission is satisfied that the unlawful 1591  
discriminatory practice in question will be eliminated, the 1592  
commission may treat the charge as being conciliated and enter 1593  
that disposition on the records of the commission. 1594

(3) Nothing said or done during informal methods of 1595  
conference, conciliation, or persuasion, or during alternative 1596

dispute resolution, under this section shall be disclosed by any 1597  
member of the commission or its staff or be used as evidence in 1598  
any subsequent hearing or other proceeding. 1599

(G) If the commission fails to effect the elimination of 1600  
the alleged unlawful discriminatory practice relating to 1601  
employment and is unable to obtain voluntary compliance with 1602  
this chapter through informal methods of conference, 1603  
conciliation, and persuasion, or by alternative dispute 1604  
resolution under this section, the commission shall issue and 1605  
cause to be served upon any person, including the respondent, a 1606  
complaint. 1607

(1) The complaint shall state the charges involved and 1608  
shall contain a notice of a hearing before the commission, a 1609  
member of the commission, or a hearing examiner, as well as the 1610  
hearing's location. Any such hearing shall be held in the county 1611  
in which the alleged unlawful discriminatory practice occurred 1612  
or is occurring or in which the respondent transacts business, 1613  
and shall be held not less than thirty days after service of the 1614  
complaint. After issuing a complaint, the commission may do any 1615  
of the following: 1616

(a) Upon the request of a complainant that the commission 1617  
receives not later than thirty days before the date of the 1618  
hearing, dismiss the complaint; 1619

(b) Eliminate the alleged unlawful discriminatory practice 1620  
relating to employment by the informal methods described in 1621  
division (F) (1) of this section and treat the charge as being 1622  
conciliated as provided in division (F) (2) of this section; 1623

(c) Continue with the hearing process as provided in this 1624  
section. 1625

(2) The attorney general shall represent the commission at any such hearing and shall present the evidence in support of the complaint. 1626  
1627  
1628

(3) Any complaint issued pursuant to this division after the filing of a charge under this section shall be issued within one year after the complainant filed the charge with respect to an alleged unlawful discriminatory practice relating to employment. 1629  
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(4) Any such complaint may be amended by the commission, a member of the commission, or the commission's legal counsel at any time prior to the hearing if the respondent is given sufficient and reasonable notice. The respondent shall have the right to file an answer or an amended answer to the original, and any amended, complaints. 1634  
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(5) The respondent shall have the right to appear at the hearing in person, by attorney, or otherwise to examine and cross-examine witnesses. 1640  
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(6) The complainant shall be a party to a hearing under this section. Any person who is an indispensable party to a complete determination or settlement of the complaint central to the hearing shall be joined. 1643  
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(7) For any hearing initiated under this section, the commission, a member of the commission, or a hearing officer is not bound by the Rules of Evidence, but shall take into account all reliable, probative, and substantial statistical or other evidence produced at the hearing that may prove the existence of a predetermined pattern of employment or membership. 1647  
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(8) (a) The testimony provided during a hearing under this section shall be under oath and shall be transcribed in writing 1653  
1654

and filed with the commission. 1655

(b) The commission, at its discretion, may hear further 1656  
testimony or argument after the initial hearing if notice, that 1657  
indicates an opportunity to be present, is provided to the 1658  
complainant and the respondent. 1659

(H) If, after a hearing carried out under division (G) of 1660  
this section, the commission determines that the respondent has 1661  
engaged in, or is engaging in, any unlawful discriminatory 1662  
practice relating to employment, whether against the complainant 1663  
or others adversely affected by the allegations in the 1664  
complaint, the commission shall state its findings of fact and 1665  
conclusions of law and shall issue and cause to be served to the 1666  
respondent, subject to the provisions of Chapter 119. of the 1667  
Revised Code, an order to cease and desist from the unlawful 1668  
discriminatory practice. 1669

(1) The order shall require the respondent to take 1670  
affirmative or other action necessary to effectuate the purposes 1671  
of this chapter, including hiring, reinstating, or promoting the 1672  
complainant or others adversely affected by the unlawful 1673  
discriminatory practice and shall require the respondent to 1674  
report to the commission the manner of compliance. 1675

(2) (a) The order may require back pay or admission or 1676  
restoration to union membership. 1677

(b) If the order requires back pay, the commission shall 1678  
take into account earnings collected during the resolution of 1679  
the complaint. 1680

(3) Upon receipt of the report of compliance required 1681  
under this division, the commission may issue a declaratory 1682  
order stating that the respondent has ceased to engage in the 1683

unlawful discriminatory practices that were the subject of the 1684  
complaint. 1685

(I) If, after a hearing carried out under division (G) of 1686  
this section, the commission finds that a respondent has not 1687  
engaged in any unlawful discriminatory practice relating to 1688  
employment against the complainant or others, it shall issue an 1689  
order stating its findings of fact and dismissing the complaint 1690  
to the complainant, respondent, and any other affected party. A 1691  
copy of the order shall also be delivered to the attorney 1692  
general and any other public officer the commission considers 1693  
appropriate. 1694

(J) The commission, subject to Chapter 119. of the Revised 1695  
Code, upon reasonable notice to the respondent and claimant and 1696  
in the manner it considers proper, may modify or set aside, in 1697  
whole or in part, any finding or order made under this section 1698  
until the time period for appeal set forth in section 4112.06 of 1699  
the Revised Code has passed. 1700

(K) The commission shall adopt rules, in accordance with 1701  
Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, to carry out this section. 1702

(L) Nothing in this section requires any person to observe 1703  
in hiring the proportion that persons of any race, color, 1704  
religion, sex, military status, familial status, national 1705  
origin, disability, age, or ancestry bear to the total 1706  
population or in accordance with any other criteria than the 1707  
qualifications of applicants. 1708

(M) The issuance of a notice of right to sue by the 1709  
commission under this section does not prohibit the commission 1710  
from offering assistance to the person to whom the notice was 1711  
issued. 1712

(N) If a complainant requests a notice of right to sue 1713  
under this section less than sixty days after filing a charge 1714  
pursuant to division (C) of this section, the commission shall 1715  
not grant the request until at least sixty days after the 1716  
complainant filed the charge. If a complainant requests a notice 1717  
of right to sue under this section sixty or more days after 1718  
filing a charge, the commission may immediately grant the 1719  
request. 1720

**Sec. 4112.052.** (A) Subject to division (B) of this 1721  
section, and except as provided in division (D) (2) of section 1722  
4112.14 of the Revised Code, a person alleging an unlawful 1723  
discriminatory practice relating to employment in violation of 1724  
section 4112.02 of the Revised Code may bring a civil action in 1725  
a court of competent jurisdiction. 1726

(B) (1) Except as otherwise provided in division (B) (2) of 1727  
this section, a person may file a civil action under this 1728  
section alleging an unlawful discriminatory practice relating to 1729  
employment or a violation of division (A) of section 4112.14 of 1730  
the Revised Code only if the person satisfies both of the 1731  
following conditions: 1732

(a) The person has first filed a charge with the Ohio 1733  
civil rights commission under section 4112.051 of the Revised 1734  
Code with respect to the practice complained of in the complaint 1735  
for the civil action within the time period required under that 1736  
section. 1737

(b) One of the following occurs: 1738

(i) The person receives a notice of right to sue from the 1739  
Ohio civil rights commission pursuant to section 4112.051 of the 1740  
Revised Code. 1741

(ii) The person has requested a notice of right to sue from the Ohio civil rights commission, and the commission fails to issue the notice of right to sue within forty-five days after the date the commission is permitted to grant the request under division (N) of section 4112.051 of the Revised Code. 1742  
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(iii) The Ohio civil rights commission, after a preliminary investigation conducted pursuant to a charge filed under section 4112.051 of the Revised Code, determines that it is probable that an unlawful discriminatory practice relating to employment has occurred or is occurring and the complainant, after being informed by the commission of the right to file a civil action under this chapter, elects to file a civil action and notifies the commission of that fact. 1747  
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(2) A person may file a civil action under this section alleging an unlawful discriminatory practice relating to employment or a violation of division (A) of section 4112.14 of the Revised Code without satisfying the conditions of division (B)(1) of this section if either of the following apply: 1755  
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(a) The person seeks only injunctive relief. 1760

(b) All of the following occur: 1761

(i) The person has filed a charge with the Ohio civil rights commission under section 4112.051 of the Revised Code with respect to the practice complained of in the complaint for the civil action within the time period required under that section. 1762  
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(ii) The person has filed a charge with the equal employment opportunity commission or its successor organization with respect to the practice complained of in the complaint for the civil action within the time period required under federal 1767  
1768  
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law. 1771

(iii) The person has received a notice from the equal employment opportunity commission or its successor organization that states that the person may bring a civil action against the employer and the notice was sent in connection with the charge filed with the equal employment opportunity commission or its successor organization. 1772  
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(3) With respect to an action described in division (B)(2)(a) of this section, the person may amend the complaint to include damages, but the amendment will relate back to the original filing date of the complaint in the action only after one of the following occurs: 1778  
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1782

(a) The person receives a notice of right to sue from the Ohio civil rights commission pursuant to section 4112.051 of the Revised Code. 1783  
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(b) The person has requested a notice of right to sue from the Ohio civil rights commission, and the commission fails to issue the notice of right to sue within forty-five days after the date the commission is permitted to grant the request under division (N) of section 4112.051 of the Revised Code. 1786  
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(c) The Ohio civil rights commission, after a preliminary investigation conducted pursuant to a charge filed under section 4112.051 of the Revised Code, determines that it is probable that an unlawful discriminatory practice relating to employment has occurred or is occurring and the complainant, after being informed by the commission of the right to file a civil action under this chapter, elects to file a civil action and notifies the commission of that fact. 1791  
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(4) With respect to an unlawful discriminatory practice 1799

relating to employment described in division (A) (24) (b) of 1800  
section 4112.01 of the Revised Code, a charge filed with the 1801  
Ohio civil rights commission or the equal employment opportunity 1802  
commission satisfies division (B) (1) (a) or divisions (B) (2) (b) 1803  
(i) and (ii) of this section if both of the following apply: 1804

(a) The charge is related to the conduct alleged in the 1805  
complaint for the civil action; 1806

(b) The charge is filed against the person who committed 1807  
the unlawful discriminatory practice, the employer of the person 1808  
who committed the unlawful discriminatory practice, or both the 1809  
person who committed the unlawful discriminatory practice and 1810  
the person's employer. 1811

(C) A civil action brought under this section shall be 1812  
filed within two years after the alleged unlawful discriminatory 1813  
practice was committed, except that the time period to file a 1814  
civil action is tolled for sixty days after the filing of a 1815  
charge under section 4112.051 of the Revised Code that is based, 1816  
in whole or in part, on the same allegations and practices. 1817

(D) A civil action based on 42 U.S.C. 1981a, 42 U.S.C. 1818  
1983, and 42 U.S.C. 1985 shall be brought within two years after 1819  
the cause of action accrues. The period of limitations set forth 1820  
in this division does not apply to causes of action based on 42 1821  
U.S.C. 1981 as amended by the "Civil Rights Act of 1991," Pub. 1822  
L. No. 102-166. 1823

(E) The Ohio civil rights commission may intervene in a 1824  
civil action if the commission determines that the case is of 1825  
public importance. 1826

**Sec. 4112.054.** (A) As used in this section: 1827

(1) "Tangible employment action" means an action resulting 1828

in a significant change in employment status, such as hiring, 1829  
firing, failing to promote, reassignment with significantly 1830  
different responsibilities, or a decision causing a significant 1831  
change in benefits. 1832

(2) "Hostile work environment sexual harassment claim" 1833  
means a charge filed pursuant to section 4112.051 of the Revised 1834  
Code or a civil action filed pursuant to section 4112.052 of the 1835  
Revised Code that alleges an unlawful discriminatory practice 1836  
relating to employment because of sex on the basis of sexually 1837  
harassing behavior that did not result in a tangible employment 1838  
action. 1839

(B) An employer may raise an affirmative defense to 1840  
vicarious liability to an employee resulting from a hostile work 1841  
environment sexual harassment claim in which the hostile work 1842  
environment was created by a supervisor with immediate or 1843  
successively higher authority over the employee, if the employer 1844  
proves both of the following by a preponderance of the evidence: 1845

(1) The employer exercised reasonable care to prevent or 1846  
promptly correct any sexually harassing behavior. 1847

(2) The employee alleging the hostile work environment 1848  
unreasonably failed to take advantage of any preventive or 1849  
corrective opportunities provided by the employer or to avoid 1850  
harm otherwise. 1851

(C) The affirmative defense set forth in this section is 1852  
not available to an employer if the supervisor's harassment 1853  
resulted in a tangible employment action against the employee. 1854

**Sec. ~~4112.051~~ 4112.055.** (A) (1) Aggrieved persons may 1855  
enforce the rights granted by division (H) of section 4112.02 of 1856  
the Revised Code by filing a civil action in the court of common 1857

pleas of the county in which the alleged unlawful discriminatory 1858  
practice occurred within one year after it allegedly occurred. 1859  
Upon application by an aggrieved person, upon a proper showing, 1860  
and under circumstances that it considers just, a court of 1861  
common pleas may appoint an attorney for the aggrieved person 1862  
and authorize the commencement of a civil action under this 1863  
division without the payment of costs. 1864

Each party to a civil action under this division has the 1865  
right to a jury trial of the action. To assert the right, a 1866  
party shall demand a jury trial in the manner prescribed in the 1867  
Rules of Civil Procedure. If a party demands a jury trial in 1868  
that manner, the civil action shall be tried to a jury. 1869

(2) (a) If a complaint is issued by the commission under 1870  
division (B) (5) of section 4112.05 of the Revised Code for one 1871  
or more alleged unlawful discriminatory practices described in 1872  
division (H) of section 4112.02 of the Revised Code, the 1873  
complainant, any aggrieved person on whose behalf the complaint 1874  
is issued, or the respondent may elect, following receipt of the 1875  
relevant notice described in division (B) (5) of section 4112.05 1876  
of the Revised Code, to proceed with the administrative hearing 1877  
process under that section or to have the alleged unlawful 1878  
discriminatory practices covered by the complaint addressed in a 1879  
civil action commenced in accordance with divisions (A) (1) and 1880  
(2) (b) of this section. An election to have the alleged unlawful 1881  
discriminatory practices so addressed shall be made in a writing 1882  
that is sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the 1883  
commission, to the civil rights section of the office of the 1884  
attorney general, and to the other parties to the pending 1885  
administrative process within thirty days after the electing 1886  
complainant, aggrieved person, or respondent received the 1887  
relevant notice described in division (B) (5) of section 4112.05 1888

of the Revised Code. 1889

(b) Upon receipt of a timely mailed election to have the 1890  
alleged unlawful discriminatory practices addressed in a civil 1891  
action, the commission shall authorize the office of the 1892  
attorney general to commence and maintain the civil action in 1893  
the court of common pleas of the county in which the alleged 1894  
unlawful discriminatory practices occurred. Notwithstanding the 1895  
period of limitations specified in division (A)(1) of this 1896  
section, the office of the attorney general shall commence the 1897  
civil action within thirty days after the receipt of the 1898  
commission's authorization to commence the civil action. 1899

(c) Upon commencement of the civil action in accordance 1900  
with division (A)(2)(b) of this section, the commission shall 1901  
prepare an order dismissing the complaint in the pending 1902  
administrative matter and serve a copy of the order upon the 1903  
complainant, each aggrieved person on whose behalf the complaint 1904  
was issued, and the respondent. 1905

(d) If an election to have the alleged unlawful 1906  
discriminatory practices addressed in a civil action is not 1907  
filed in accordance with division (A)(2)(a) of this section, the 1908  
commission shall continue with the administrative hearing 1909  
process described in section 4112.05 of the Revised Code. 1910

(e) With respect to the issues to be determined in a civil 1911  
action commenced in accordance with division (A)(2)(b) of this 1912  
section, any aggrieved person may intervene as a matter of right 1913  
in that civil action. 1914

(B) If the court or the jury in a civil action under this 1915  
section finds that a violation of division (H) of section 1916  
4112.02 of the Revised Code is about to occur, the court may 1917

order any affirmative action it considers appropriate, including 1918  
a permanent or temporary injunction or temporary restraining 1919  
order. 1920

(C) Any sale, encumbrance, or rental consummated prior to 1921  
the issuance of any court order under the authority of this 1922  
section and involving a bona fide purchaser, encumbrancer, or 1923  
tenant without actual notice of the existence of a charge under 1924  
division (H) of section 4112.02 of the Revised Code or a civil 1925  
action under this section is not affected by the court order. 1926

(D) If the court or the jury in a civil action under this 1927  
section finds that a violation of division (H) of section 1928  
4112.02 of the Revised Code has occurred, the court shall award 1929  
to the plaintiff or to the complainant or aggrieved person on 1930  
whose behalf the office of the attorney general commenced or 1931  
maintained the civil action, whichever is applicable, actual 1932  
damages, reasonable attorney's fees, court costs incurred in the 1933  
prosecution of the action, expert witness fees, and other 1934  
litigation expenses, and may grant other relief that it 1935  
considers appropriate, including a permanent or temporary 1936  
injunction, a temporary restraining order, or other order and 1937  
punitive damages. 1938

(E) Any civil action brought under this section shall be 1939  
heard and determined as expeditiously as possible. 1940

(F) The court in a civil action under this section shall 1941  
notify the commission of any finding pertaining to 1942  
discriminatory housing practices within fifteen days after the 1943  
entry of the finding. 1944

**Sec. ~~4112.052~~ 4112.056.** Whenever the Ohio civil rights 1945  
commission has reasonable cause to believe that any person or 1946

persons are engaged in a pattern or practice of resistance to a 1947  
person or persons' full enjoyment of the rights granted by 1948  
division (H) of section 4112.02 of the Revised Code, or that any 1949  
group of persons has been denied any of the rights granted by 1950  
that division and the denial raises an issue of public 1951  
importance, the commission may refer the matter to the attorney 1952  
general for commencement of a civil action in a court of common 1953  
pleas. The attorney general may seek any preventive relief 1954  
considered necessary to ensure the full enjoyment of the rights 1955  
granted by that division, including a permanent or temporary 1956  
injunction or temporary restraining order. 1957

**Sec. 4112.08.** (A) This chapter shall be construed 1958  
liberally for the accomplishment of its purposes, and any law 1959  
inconsistent with any provision of this chapter shall not apply. 1960  
Nothing contained in this chapter shall be considered to repeal 1961  
any of the provisions of any law of this state relating to 1962  
discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, military 1963  
status, familial status, disability, national origin, age, or 1964  
ancestry, ~~except that any person filing a charge under division~~ 1965  
~~(B)(1) of section 4112.05 of the Revised Code, with respect to~~ 1966  
~~the unlawful discriminatory practices complained of, is barred~~ 1967  
~~from instituting a civil action under section 4112.14 or~~ 1968  
~~division (L) of section 4112.02 of the Revised Code.~~ 1969

However, no person has a cause of action or claim based on 1970  
an unlawful discriminatory practice relating to employment 1971  
described in division (A)(24)(a) of section 4112.01 of the 1972  
Revised Code against a supervisor, manager, or other employee of 1973  
an employer unless that supervisor, manager, or other employee 1974  
is the employer. Nothing in this division abrogates statutory 1975  
claims outside this chapter or any claims of liability that 1976  
exist against an individual at common law. 1977

(B) The procedures and remedies for unlawful 1978  
discriminatory practices relating to employment in this chapter 1979  
are the sole and exclusive procedures and remedies available to 1980  
a person who alleges such discrimination actionable under this 1981  
chapter. 1982

**Sec. 4112.14.** (A) No employer shall discriminate in any 1983  
job opening against any applicant or discharge without just 1984  
cause any employee aged forty or older who is physically able to 1985  
perform the duties and otherwise meets the established 1986  
requirements of the job and laws pertaining to the relationship 1987  
between employer and employee. 1988

(B) ~~Any Except as otherwise provided in section 4112.052~~ 1989  
~~of the Revised Code and this section, a person aged forty or~~ 1990  
~~older who is discriminated against in any job opening or~~ 1991  
~~discharged without just cause by an employer in violation of~~ 1992  
~~division (A) of this section may institute a civil action~~ 1993  
~~against the employer in a court of competent jurisdiction. If~~ 1994  
~~the court finds that an employer has discriminated on the basis~~ 1995  
~~of age, the court shall order an appropriate remedy which shall~~ 1996  
~~include reimbursement to the applicant or employee for the~~ 1997  
~~costs, including reasonable attorney's fees, of the action, or~~ 1998  
~~to reinstate the employee in the employee's former position with~~ 1999  
~~compensation for lost wages and any lost fringe benefits from~~ 2000  
~~the date of the illegal discharge and to reimburse the employee~~ 2001  
~~for the costs, including reasonable attorney's fees, of the~~ 2002  
~~action. ~~The Except as otherwise provided in this section, the~~~~ 2003  
~~remedies available under this section are coexistent with~~ 2004  
~~remedies available pursuant to sections 4112.01 to 4112.11 of~~ 2005  
~~the Revised Code; except that any person instituting a civil~~ 2006  
~~action under this section is, with respect to the practices~~ 2007  
~~complained of, thereby barred from instituting a civil action~~ 2008

~~under division (L) of section 4112.02 of the Revised Code or  
from filing a charge with the Ohio civil rights commission under  
section 4112.05 of the Revised Code.~~ 2009  
2010  
2011

(C) The cause of action described in division (B) of this 2012  
section and any remedies available pursuant to sections 4112.01- 2013  
~~to 4112.11 of the Revised Code shall not be available in the~~ 2014  
case of discharges where the employee has available to the 2015  
employee the opportunity to arbitrate the discharge or where a 2016  
discharge has been arbitrated and has been found to be for just 2017  
cause. 2018

(D) (1) A person is prohibited from bringing a civil action 2019  
under division (B) of this section if the person brought a civil 2020  
action under section 4112.052 of the Revised Code that is based, 2021  
in whole or in part, on the same allegations and practices. 2022

(2) A person is prohibited from bringing a civil action 2023  
under section 4112.052 of the Revised Code if the person brought 2024  
a civil action under division (B) of this section that is based, 2025  
in whole or in part, on the same allegations and practices. 2026

(E) A civil action brought under division (B) of this 2027  
section shall be filed within two years after the alleged 2028  
discrimination occurred, except that the time period to file a 2029  
civil action is tolled for sixty days after the filing of a 2030  
charge under section 4112.051 of the Revised Code that is based, 2031  
in whole or in part, on the same allegations and practices. 2032

**Sec. 4112.99.** (A) Whoever violates this chapter is subject 2033  
to a civil action for damages, injunctive relief, or any other 2034  
appropriate relief. Except as otherwise provided in division (B) 2035  
of this section, a person may bring such a civil action in a 2036  
court of competent jurisdiction. 2037

(B) A person is prohibited from bringing a civil action 2038  
for employment discrimination under this section. 2039

**Section 2.** That existing sections 2315.18, 2315.21, 2040  
4112.01, 4112.02, 4112.04, 4112.05, 4112.051, 4112.052, 4112.08, 2041  
4112.14, and 4112.99 of the Revised Code are hereby repealed. 2042

**Section 3.** The General Assembly, in amending section 2043  
4112.01 and division (A) of section 4112.08 of the Revised Code 2044  
pursuant to this act, hereby declares its intent to supersede 2045  
the effect of the holding of the Ohio Supreme Court in *Genaro* 2046  
*v. Central Transport, Inc.*, 84 Ohio St.3d 293 (1999) and to 2047  
follow the holding in *Wathen v. General Electric Co.*, 115 F.3d 2048  
400 (1997) regarding the definition of "employer" for purposes 2049  
of Chapter 4112. of the Revised Code. The General Assembly 2050  
further declares its intent that individual supervisors, 2051  
managers, or employees not be held liable under Chapter 4112. of 2052  
the Revised Code for unlawful discriminatory practices relating 2053  
to employment that are described in division (A) (24) (a) of 2054  
section 4112.01 of the Revised Code, as amended by this act. The 2055  
General Assembly does not intend this act to abrogate the 2056  
imposition at common law of vicarious liability on employers for 2057  
the unlawful discriminatory practices of their employees or 2058  
agents or to abrogate any other statutory claims that exist 2059  
outside of Chapter 4112. of the Revised Code or claims existing 2060  
at common law that may be made against an individual. 2061

It is the intent of the General Assembly that common law 2062  
claims for wrongful discharge are not available for actions 2063  
maintainable under Chapter 4112. of the Revised Code and that 2064  
the procedures and remedies set forth in Chapter 4112. of the 2065  
Revised Code are the sole and exclusive procedures and remedies 2066  
available under state law for claims of unlawful discriminatory 2067

practice relating to employment that are governed by that 2068  
chapter. The General Assembly declares its intent in amending 2069  
division (B) of section 4112.08 of the Revised Code to conform 2070  
to, and not to overturn, the holding of the Ohio Supreme Court 2071  
in *Collins v. Rizkana*, 73 Ohio St.3d 65, 73 (1995). 2072

The General Assembly declares its intent in enacting 2073  
section 4112.054 of the Revised Code pursuant to this act that 2074  
employers will be encouraged to implement meaningful anti- 2075  
discrimination policies and foster a work environment that is 2076  
fair and tolerant. The General Assembly further declares its 2077  
intent that human resource professionals should have the first 2078  
opportunity to resolve personnel complaints and rectify 2079  
detrimental workplace behavior before such issues result in 2080  
costly litigation. 2081

**Section 4.** Section 4112.04 of the Revised Code is 2082  
presented in this act as a composite of the section as amended 2083  
by both Am. Sub. H.B. 525 of the 127th General Assembly and Am. 2084  
Sub. H.B. 1 of the 128th General Assembly. The General Assembly, 2085  
applying the principle stated in division (B) of section 1.52 of 2086  
the Revised Code that amendments are to be harmonized if 2087  
reasonably capable of simultaneous operation, finds that the 2088  
composite is the resulting version of the section in effect 2089  
prior to the effective date of the section as presented in this 2090  
act. 2091