As Introduced

132nd General Assembly Regular Session 2017-2018

S. B. No. 177

Senator Lehner

Cosponsors: Senators Beagle, Coley, Thomas

A BILL

To am	nend sections 2305.234, 3701.071, and 5119.44,	1
to	enact section 3701.074, and to repeal section	2
23	05.2341 of the Revised Code to expand the	3
ci	rcumstances in which qualified immunity from	4
ci	vil liability applies with respect to	5
vo	lunteer health care services provided to	6
in	digent and uninsured persons.	7

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

Section 1. That sections 2305.234, 3701.071, and 5119.44	8
be amended and section 3701.074 of the Revised Code be enacted	9
to read as follows:	10
Sec. 2305.234. (A) As used in this section:	11
(1) "Chiropractic claim," <u>"dental claim,"</u> "medical claim,"	12
and "optometric claim" have the same meanings as in section	13
2305.113 of the Revised Code.	14
(2) "Dental claim" has the same meaning as in section-	15
2305.113 of the Revised Code, except that it does not include-	16
any claim arising out of a dental operation or any derivative	17
claim for relief that arises out of a dental operation.	18

(3)—"Governmental health care program" has the same	19
meaning as in section 4731.65 of the Revised Code.	20
(3) "Health care service" means any type of medical,	21
dental, or other health-related diagnosis, care, or treatment	22
provided to a person. "Health care service" includes, as the	23
case may be, providing samples of medicine or other medical	24
products, performing any operation, or delivering a baby.	25
(4) "Health care facility or location" means a hospital,	26
clinic, ambulatory surgical facility, office of a health care	27
professional or associated group of health care professionals,	28
training institution for health care professionals, a free	29
clinic or other nonprofit shelter or health care facility as	30
those terms are defined in section 3701.071 of the Revised Code,	31
or any other place where medical, dental, or other health-	32
related diagnosis, care, or treatment <u>a health care service</u> is	33
provided to a person .	34
(5) "Health care professional" means any of the following	35
who provide medical, dental, or other health-related diagnosis,	36
care, or treatment health care services:	37
(a) Physicians authorized under Chapter 4731. of the	38
Revised Code to practice medicine and surgery or osteopathic	39
medicine and surgery;	40
(b) Advanced practice registered nurses, registered	41
nurses, and licensed practical nurses licensed under Chapter	42
4723. of the Revised Code;	43
(c) Physician assistants authorized to practice under	44
Chapter 4730. of the Revised Code;	45
(d) Dentists and dental hygienists licensed under Chapter	46
4715. of the Revised Code;	47

(a) Physical therewists, physical therewist essistants	48
(e) Physical therapists, physical therapist assistants, occupational therapists, occupational therapy assistants, and	40 49
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athletic trainers licensed under Chapter 4755. of the Revised	50
Code;	51
(f) Chiropractors licensed under Chapter 4734. of the	52
Revised Code;	53
(g) Optometrists licensed under Chapter 4725. of the	54
Revised Code;	55
Nevised code,	55
(h) Podiatrists authorized under Chapter 4731. of the	56
Revised Code to practice podiatry;	57
(i) Dietitians licensed under Chapter 4759. of the Revised	58
Code;	59
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(j) Pharmacists licensed under Chapter 4729. of the	60
Revised Code;	61
(k) Emergency medical technicians-basic, emergency medical	62
technicians-intermediate, and emergency medical technicians-	63
paramedic, certified under Chapter 4765. of the Revised Code;	64
(1) Respiratory care professionals licensed under Chapter	65
4761. of the Revised Code;	66
(m) Speech-language pathologists and audiologists licensed	67
under Chapter 4753. of the Revised Code;	
under Chapter 4755. Of the Revised Code;	68
(n) Licensed professional clinical counselors, licensed	69
professional counselors, independent social workers, social	70
workers, independent marriage and family therapists, and	71
marriage and family therapists, licensed under Chapter 4757. of	72
the Revised Code;	73
(o) Psychologists licensed under Chapter 4732. of the	74

Revised Code;

(p) Independent chemical dependency counselors-clinical 76 supervisors, independent chemical dependency counselors, 77 chemical dependency counselors III, and chemical dependency 78 counselors II, licensed under Chapter 4758. of the Revised Code, 79 and chemical dependency counselor assistants, prevention 80 consultants, prevention specialists, prevention specialist 81 assistants, and registered applicants, certified under that 82 chapter. 83

(6) "Health care worker" means a person other than a 84 health care professional who provides medical, dental, or other 85 health-related care or treatment under the direction of a health 86 care professional with the authority to direct that individual's 87 activities, including medical technicians, medical assistants, 88 dental assistants, orderlies, aides, students enrolled in health 89 care professional education programs, and individuals acting in 90 similar capacities. 91

(7) "Indigent and uninsured person" means a person who meets both of the following requirements:

(a) Relative to being indigent, the person's income is not 94 greater than two hundred per cent of the federal poverty line, 95 as defined by the United States office of management and budget 96 and revised in accordance with section 673(2) of the "Omnibus 97 Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981," 95 Stat. 511, 42 U.S.C. 98 9902, as amended, except in any case in which division (A)(7)(b) 99 (iii) of this section includes a person whose income is greater 100 than two hundred per cent of the federal poverty line. 101

(b) Relative to being uninsured, one of the followingapplies:

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(i) The person is not a policyholder, certificate holder,	104
insured, contract holder, subscriber, enrollee, member,	105
beneficiary, or other covered individual under a health	106
insurance or health care policy, contract, or plan.	107
(ii) The person is a policyholder, certificate holder,	108
insured, contract holder, subscriber, enrollee, member,	109
beneficiary, or other covered individual under a health	110
insurance or health care policy, contract, or plan, but the	111
insurer, policy, contract, or plan denies coverage or is the	112
subject of insolvency or bankruptcy proceedings in any	113
jurisdiction.	114
(iii) Until June 30, 2019, the <u>The</u> person is eligible for	115
the medicaid program or is a medicaid recipient.	116
(iv) Except as provided in division (A)(7)(b)(iii) of this	117
section, the person is not eligible for or a recipient,	118
enrollee, or beneficiary of any governmental health care	
program.	120
(8) "Nonprofit health care referral organization" means an	121
entity that is not operated for profit and refers patients to,	122
or arranges for the provision of, health-related diagnosis,	123
care, or treatment <u>health care services</u> by a health care	124
professional or health care worker.	125
(9) "Operation" means any procedure that involves cutting	126
or otherwise infiltrating human tissue by mechanical means,	
including surgery, laser surgery, ionizing radiation,	128
therapeutic ultrasound or the removal of intraocular foreign	129

therapeutic ultrasound, or the removal of intraocular foreign129bodies. "Operation" does not include the administration of130medication by injection, unless the injection is administered in131conjunction with a procedure infiltrating human tissue by132

mechanical means other than the administration of medicine by 133 injection. "Operation" does not include routine dental-134 restorative procedures, the scaling of teeth, or extractions of 135 teeth that are not impacted. 136 (10) "Tort action" means a civil action for damages for 137 injury, death, or loss to person or property other than a civil 138 action for damages for a breach of contract or another agreement 139 between persons or government entities. 140 (11) "Volunteer" means an individual who provides any 141 medical, dental, or other health-care related diagnosis, care,-142 or treatment health care service without the expectation of 143 receiving and without receipt of any compensation or other form 144 of remuneration from an indigent and uninsured person, another 145 person on behalf of an indigent and uninsured person, any health 146 care facility or location, any nonprofit health care referral 147 organization, or any other person or government entity. 148 (12) "Community control sanction" has the same meaning as 149 in section 2929.01 of the Revised Code. 150 (13) "Deep sedation" means a drug-induced depression of-151 consciousness during which a patient cannot be easily aroused 152 but responds purposefully following repeated or painful 153 stimulation, a patient's ability to independently maintain-154 ventilatory function may be impaired, a patient may require 155 assistance in maintaining a patent airway and spontaneous-156 ventilation may be inadequate, and cardiovascular function is 157 usually maintained. 158 (14) "General anesthesia" means a drug-induced loss of 159 consciousness during which a patient is not arousable, even by 160 painful stimulation, the ability to independently maintain-161

ventilatory function is often impaired, a patient often requires	162
assistance in maintaining a patent airway, positive pressure	163
ventilation may be required because of depressed spontaneous	
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ventilation or drug-induced depression of neuromuscular	
function, and cardiovascular function may be impaired.	166
(B)(1) Subject to divisions (F) and (G)(3) of this	167
section, a health care professional who is a volunteer and	168
complies with division (B)(2) of this section is not liable in	169
damages to any person or government entity in a tort or other	170
civil action, including an action on a medical, dental,	171
chiropractic, optometric, or other health-related claim, for	172
injury, death, or loss to person or property that allegedly	173
arises from an action or omission of the volunteer in the	174
provision to an indigent and uninsured person of medical,	175
dental, or other health-related diagnosis, care, or treatment,	176
including the provision of samples of medicine and other medical	177
products a health care service, unless the action or omission	178
constitutes willful or wanton misconduct.	179
(2) The model for four the immunity dependent in distingtion (D)	100
(2) To qualify for the immunity described in division (B)	180
(1) of this section, a health care professional shall do all of	181
the following prior to providing diagnosis, care, or treatment <u>a</u>	182
health care service:	183
(a) Determine, in good faith, that the indigent and	184
uninsured person is mentally capable of giving informed consent	185
to the provision of the diagnosis, care, or treatment <u>health</u>	186
care service and is not subject to duress or under undue	187
influence;	188
(b) Inform the person of the provisions of this section,	189
including notifying the person that, by giving informed consent	190
to the provision of the diagnosis, care, or treatment health	191

care service, the person cannot hold the health care 192
professional liable for damages in a tort or other civil action, 193
including an action on a medical, dental, chiropractic, 194
optometric, or other health-related claim, unless the action or 195
omission of the health care professional constitutes willful or 196
wanton misconduct; 197

(c) Obtain the informed consent of the person and a 198 written waiver, signed by the person or by another individual on 199 behalf of and in the presence of the person, that states that 200 201 the person is mentally competent to give informed consent and, without being subject to duress or under undue influence, gives 202 informed consent to the provision of the diagnosis, care, or 203 treatment health care service subject to the provisions of this 204 section. A written waiver under division (B)(2)(c) of this 205 section shall state clearly and in conspicuous type that the 206 person or other individual who signs the waiver is signing it 207 with full knowledge that, by giving informed consent to the 208 provision of the diagnosis, care, or treatment health care 209 service, the person cannot bring a tort or other civil action, 210 including an action on a medical, dental, chiropractic, 211 optometric, or other health-related claim, against the health 212 care professional unless the action or omission of the health 213 care professional constitutes willful or wanton misconduct. 214

(3) A physician or podiatrist who is not covered by
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medical malpractice insurance, but complies with division (B)(2)
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of this section, is not required to comply with division (A) of
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section 4731.143 of the Revised Code.
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(C) Subject to divisions (F) and (G)(3) of this section,
health care workers who are volunteers are not liable in damages
to any person or government entity in a tort or other civil
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action, including an action upon a medical, dental, 222 chiropractic, optometric, or other health-related claim, for 223 injury, death, or loss to person or property that allegedly 224 arises from an action or omission of the health care worker in 225 the provision to an indigent and uninsured person of medical, 226 dental, or other health-related diagnosis, care, or treatment_a_ 227 health care service, unless the action or omission constitutes 228 willful or wanton misconduct. 229

230 (D) Subject to divisions (F) and (G)(3) of this section, a231 nonprofit health care referral organization is not liable in 232 damages to any person or government entity in a tort or other civil action, including an action on a medical, dental, 233 chiropractic, optometric, or other health-related claim, for 234 injury, death, or loss to person or property that allegedly 235 arises from an action or omission of the nonprofit health care 236 referral organization in referring indigent and uninsured 237 persons to, or arranging for the provision of, medical, dental, 238 or other health-related diagnosis, care, or treatment a health 239 care service by a health care professional described in division 240 (B) (1) of this section or a health care worker described in 241 division (C) of this section, unless the action or omission 242 constitutes willful or wanton misconduct. 243

(E) Subject to divisions (F) and (G) (3) of this section 244 and to the extent that the registration requirements of section 245 3701.071 of the Revised Code apply, a health care facility or 246 location associated with a health care professional described in 247 division (B)(1) of this section, a health care worker described 248 in division (C) of this section, or a nonprofit health care 249 referral organization described in division (D) of this section 250 is not liable in damages to any person or government entity in a 251 tort or other civil action, including an action on a medical, 252

dental, chiropractic, optometric, or other health-related claim, 253 for injury, death, or loss to person or property that allegedly 254 arises from an action or omission of the health care 255 professional or worker or nonprofit health care referral 256 organization relative to the medical, dental, or other health-2.57 related diagnosis, care, or treatment health care service 258 provided to an indigent and uninsured person on behalf of or at 259 the health care facility or location, unless the action or 260 omission constitutes willful or wanton misconduct. 261

(F)(1) Except as provided in division (F)(2) of this 262 section, the immunities provided by divisions (B), (C), (D), and 263 (E) of this section are not available to a health care 264 professional, health care worker, nonprofit health care referral 265 organization, or health care facility or location if, at the 266 time of an alleged injury, death, or loss to person or property, 267 the health care professionals or health care workers involved 268 are providing one <u>either</u> of the following: 269

(a) Any medical, dental, or other health-related
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diagnosis, care, or treatment <u>A health care service pursuant</u> to
a community service work order entered by a court under division
(B) of section 2951.02 of the Revised Code or imposed by a court
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as a community control sanction;

(b) Performance of an operation to which any one of the following applies:

(i) The operation requires the administration of deep277sedation or general anesthesia.278

(ii) The operation is a procedure that is not typically279performed in an office.280

(iii) The individual involved is a health care 281

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professional, and the operation is beyond the scope of practice 282 or the education, training, and competence, as applicable, of 283 the health care professional. 284 (c) Delivery of a baby or any other The purposeful 285 termination of a human pregnancy other than by delivery of a 286 287 baby. (2) Division (F)(1) of this section does not apply when a 288 health care professional or health care worker provides medical, 289 dental, or other health related diagnosis, care, or treatment <u>a</u> 290 health care service that is necessary to preserve the life of a 291 292 person in a medical emergency. (G)(1) This section does not create a new cause of action 293 or substantive legal right against a health care professional, 294 health care worker, nonprofit health care referral organization, 295 or health care facility or location. 296 (2) This section does not affect any immunities from civil 297 liability or defenses established by another section of the 298 Revised Code or available at common law to which a health care 299 professional, health care worker, nonprofit health care referral 300 301 organization, or health care facility or location may be entitled in connection with the provision of emergency or other 302 medical, dental, or other health-related diagnosis, care, or 303 treatment health care services. 304 (3) This section does not grant an immunity from tort or 305 other civil liability to a health care professional, health care 306

worker, nonprofit health care referral organization, or health 307
care facility or location for actions that are outside the scope 308
of authority of the health care professionals professional or 309
health care workers worker involved. 310

In the case of the diagnosis, care, or treatment of an311indigent and uninsured person who is eligible for the medicaid312program or is a medicaid recipient, this section grants an313immunity from tort or other civil liability only if the person's314diagnosis, care, or treatment is provided in a free clinic, as315defined in section 3701.071 of the Revised Code.316

(4) This section does not affect any legal responsibility
of a health care professional, health care worker, or nonprofit
health care referral organization to comply with any applicable
law of this state or rule of an agency of this state.

(5) This section does not affect any legal responsibility
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of a health care facility or location to comply with any
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applicable law of this state, rule of an agency of this state,
or local code, ordinance, or regulation that pertains to or
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regulates building, housing, air pollution, water pollution,
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sanitation, health, fire, zoning, or safety.

Sec. 3701.071. (A) As used in this section:

(1) "Free clinic" means a nonprofit organization exempt
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from federal income taxation under section 501(c)(3) of the
"Internal Revenue Code of 1986," as amended, or a program
component of a nonprofit organization, to which both of the
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following apply:

(a) Its primary mission is to provide health care services
for free or for a minimal administrative fee to individuals with
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limited resources.

(b) It facilitates the delivery of health care services
through the use of volunteer health care professionals and
voluntary care networks.

(2) <u>"Health care service" and</u> "Indigent_indigent_and 339

uninsured person" <u>has have</u> the same <u>meaning meanings</u> as in 340 section 2305.234 of the Revised Code. 341

(3) "Nonprofit shelter or health care facility" means a 342 charitable nonprofit corporation organized and operated pursuant 343 to Chapter 1702. of the Revised Code, or any charitable 344 organization not organized and not operated for profit, that 345 provides shelter, health care services, or shelter and health 346 care services to indigent and uninsured persons. "Nonprofit 347 shelter or health care facility" includes any such shelter or 348 349 facility that is operated as or includes a free clinic. "Nonprofit shelter or health care facility" does not include a 350 hospital, as defined in section 3727.01 of the Revised Code, a 351 facility licensed under Chapter 3721. of the Revised Code, or a 352 medical facility that is operated for profit. 353

(B) A nonprofit shelter or health care facility operating
in this state shall register on the first day of January each
year with the department of health. The
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The immunity provided by division (E) of section 2305.234 357 358 of the Revised Code is not available to a nonprofit shelter or health care facility until the shelter or facility registers 359 with the department in accordance with this section. During the 360 period in which a nonprofit shelter or health care facility is 361 registered, the immunity that is available to the shelter or 362 facility extends to any alternate or temporary location that is 363 used by the shelter or facility to facilitate the provision of 364 health care services, including any type of vehicle or other 365 unit used as part of a mobile health care program. 366

(C) A nonprofit shelter or health care facility operating
 in this state shall keep records of all patients who receive
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 medical, dental, or other health-related diagnosis, care, or
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treatment health care services at the shelter or facility. The370department of health shall monitor the quality of care provided371to patients at nonprofit shelters or health care facilities. The372monitoring program may be conducted by contracting with another373entity or through any other method authorized by law. The374department may solicit and accept funds from private sources to375fund the monitoring program.376

(D) A free clinic operating in this state shall compile information on medicaid eligibility and application requirements and procedures and display copies of that information in a prominent location for the benefit of persons who seek or receive <u>health care</u> services from the clinic.

Sec. 3701.074. As used in this section, "health care382facility or location," "health care professional," "health care383service," "health care worker," "indigent and uninsured person,"384"nonprofit health care referral organization," and "volunteer"385have the same meanings as in section 2305.234 of the Revised386Code.387

The department of health shall prepare an annual report 388 regarding the provision to indigent and uninsured persons of 389 health care services by volunteers in this state. The report 390 shall include information regarding the efficacy of access and 391 treatment outcomes of the health care services provided. The 392 department shall annually submit a copy of the report to the 393 general assembly in accordance with section 101.68 of the 394 Revised Code. 395

All persons designated by the department shall submit to396the department information requested by the department to397prepare the report. All health care facilities or locations,398health care professionals, health care workers, and nonprofit399

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Code.

health care referral organizations shall grant to the department	
access to all records related to health care services provided	
to indigent and uninsured persons by volunteers.	
In the absence of willful or wanton misconduct, a person	403
who furnishes information to the department under this section	404
with respect to any patient the person examined or treated is	405
not liable in damages to any person for furnishing the	406
information and is not subject to professional disciplinary	407
action for betrayal of a professional confidence for furnishing	408
the information. The information is not subject to introduction	409
into evidence in any civil action against the provider. A person	410
who furnishes information to the department under this section	411
is not liable for the misuse or improper release of the	412
information by the department or by any person.	413
Information reported under this section that is protected	414
health information pursuant to section 3701.17 of the Revised	415
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Code shall be released only in accordance with that section.	416 417
Information that does not identify an individual may be released	
in summary, statistical, or aggregate form.	418
The director of health shall adopt rules as necessary to	419
carry out the purposes of this section. The rules shall be	420
adopted in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code and	421
establish standards and procedures for submitting to the	422
department information concerning health care services provided	423
to indigent and uninsured persons by volunteers.	424
Sec. 5119.44. As used in this section, "free clinic" has	425
the same meaning as in section 2305.2341 <u>3701.071</u> of the Revised	426

(A) The department of mental health and addiction services

Page 15

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may provide certain goods and services for the department of 429 mental health and addiction services, the department of 430 developmental disabilities, the department of rehabilitation and 431 correction, the department of youth services, and other state, 432 county, or municipal agencies requesting such goods and services 433 when the department of mental health and addiction services 434 determines that it is in the public interest, and considers it 435 advisable, to provide these goods and services. The department 436 of mental health and addiction services also may provide goods 437 and services to agencies operated by the United States 438 government and to public or private nonprofit agencies, other 439 than free clinics, that are funded in whole or in part by the 440 state if the public or private nonprofit agencies are designated 441 for participation in this program by the director of mental 442 health and addiction services for community addiction services 443 providers and community mental health services providers, the 444 director of developmental disabilities for community 445 developmental disabilities agencies, the director of 446 rehabilitation and correction for community rehabilitation and 447 correction agencies, or the director of youth services for 448 community youth services agencies. 449

Designated community agencies or services providers shall 450 receive goods and services through the department of mental 451 health and addiction services only in those cases where the 452 designating state agency certifies that providing such goods and 453 services to the agency or services provider will conserve public 454 resources to the benefit of the public and where the provision 455 of such goods and services is considered feasible by the 456 department of mental health and addiction services. 4.57

(B) The department of mental health and addiction servicesmay permit free clinics to purchase certain goods and services459

to the extent the purchases fall within the exemption to the460Robinson-Patman Act, 15 U.S.C. 13 et seq., applicable to461nonprofit institutions, in 15 U.S.C. 13c, as amended.462

(C) The goods and services that may be provided by the
department of mental health and addiction services under
divisions (A) and (B) of this section may include:

(1) Procurement, storage, processing, and distribution offood and professional consultation on food operations;467

(2) Procurement, storage, and distribution of medical and
laboratory supplies, dental supplies, medical records, forms,
optical supplies, and sundries, subject to section 5120.135 of
the Revised Code;

(3) Procurement, storage, repackaging, distribution, and
dispensing of drugs, the provision of professional pharmacy
consultation, and drug information services;
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(4) Other goods and services.

(D) The department of mental health and addiction services
 may provide the goods and services designated in division (C) of
 this section to its institutions and to state-operated
 community-based mental health or addiction services providers.

(E) After consultation with and advice from the director 480 of developmental disabilities, the director of rehabilitation 481 and correction, and the director of youth services, the 482 department of mental health and addiction services may provide 483 the goods and services designated in division (C) of this 484 section to the department of developmental disabilities, the 485 department of rehabilitation and correction, and the department 486 of youth services. 487

(F) The cost of administration of this section shall be 488 determined by the department of mental health and addiction 489 services and paid by the agencies, services providers, or free 490 clinics receiving the goods and services to the department for 491 deposit in the state treasury to the credit of the Ohio pharmacy 492 services fund, which is hereby created. The fund shall be used 493 to pay the cost of administration of this section to the 494 department. 495

(G) Whenever a state agency fails to make a payment for 496 497 goods and services provided under this section within thirty-one days after the date the payment was due, the office of budget 498 and management may transfer moneys from the state agency to the 499 department of mental health and addiction services. The amount 500 transferred shall not exceed the amount of overdue payments. 501 Prior to making a transfer under this division, the office of 502 budget and management shall apply any credits the state agency 503 has accumulated in payments for goods and services provided 504 under this section. 505

(H) Purchases of goods and services under this section arenot subject to section 307.86 of the Revised Code.507

Section 2. That existing sections 2305.234, 3701.071, and 508 5119.44 and section 2305.2341 of the Revised Code are hereby 509 repealed. 510