As Reported by the Senate Insurance and Financial Institutions Committee

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Representative Perales

Cosponsors: Representatives Miller, A., O'Brien, Riedel, Romanchuk, Scherer, Seitz, Weinstein, Abrams, Baldridge, Blair, Boggs, Brent, Brown, Callender, Carruthers, Cera, Clites, Crawley, Cross, Crossman, Dean, Edwards, Fraizer, Ghanbari, Ginter, Green, Grendell, Hambley, Hillyer, Hoops, Ingram, Jones, Keller, Kelly, Kick, Lanese, Lang, LaRe, Leland, Lepore-Hagan, Liston, Manning, D., Manning, G., McClain, Miller, J., Miranda, Oelslager, Patterson, Plummer, Roemer, Rogers, Russo, Smith, K., Smith, T., Sobecki, Stephens, Stoltzfus, Strahorn, Sweeney, West, Wiggam

Senator Hackett

A BILL

To amend sections 4113.21, 4123.026, 4123.52, 4123.56, 4123.58, 4123.65, and 4123.66 and to enact section 4121.471 of the Revised Code regarding employee medical examinations and changes to the Worker's Compensation Law.

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

Section 1. That sections 4113.21, 4123.026, 4123.52, 4123.56, 4123.58, 4123.65, and 4123.66 be amended and section 4121.471 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as follows:

Sec. 4113.21. (A) No private employer shall require any prospective employee or applicant for employment to pay the cost of a medical examination required by the employer as a condition...
of employment.

(B) No public employer or private employer furnishing services to a public employer in accordance with a contract subject to the "Service Contract Act of 1965," 41 U.S.C. 6701 et seq., shall require any employee, prospective employee, or applicant for employment to pay the cost of an initial or any subsequent medical examinations required by the public employer or private employer as a condition of employment or continued employment.

(C) As used in this section:

(1) "Private employer" means any individual, partnership, trust, estate, joint-stock company, insurance company, common carrier, public utility, or corporation, whether domestic or foreign, or the receiver, trustee in bankruptcy, trustee, or the successor thereof, who has in employment three or more individuals at any one time within a calendar year.

(2) "Public employer" means the United States, the state, any political subdivision of the state, and any agency of the United States, the state, or a political subdivision of the state.

(3) "Employee" means any person who may be permitted, required, or directed by any employer in consideration of direct or indirect gain or profit, to engage in any employment.

(D) Any employer who violates this section shall forfeit not more than one hundred dollars for each violation. The bureau of workers' compensation and the public utilities commission shall enforce this section.

Sec. 4121.471. A claim for an additional award under Section 35 of Article II, Ohio Constitution, alleging that an
injury, occupational disease, or death resulted from an employer's failure to comply with a specific safety rule for the protection of the lives, health, and safety of employees shall be forever barred unless it is filed within one year after the date of the injury or death or within one year after the disability due to the occupational disease began.

Sec. 4123.026. (A) The administrator of workers' compensation, or a self-insuring public employer for the peace officers, firefighters, and emergency medical workers employed by or volunteering for that self-insuring public employer, or a detention facility that is a self-insuring employer for the facility's employees, including corrections officers, shall pay the costs of conducting post-exposure medical diagnostic services, consistent with the standards of medical care existing at the time of the exposure, to investigate whether an injury or occupational disease was sustained by a peace officer, firefighter, or emergency medical worker, or detention facility employee, including a corrections officer, when coming into contact with the blood or other body fluid of another person in the course of and arising out of the peace officer's, firefighter's, or emergency medical worker's, or detention facility employee's employment, or when responding to an inherently dangerous situation in the manner described in, and in accordance with the conditions specified under, division (A)(1)(a) of section 4123.01 of the Revised Code, through any of the following means:

(1) Splash or spatter in the eye or mouth, including when received in the course of conducting mouth-to-mouth resuscitation;

(2) A puncture in the skin;
(3) A cut in the skin or another opening in the skin such as an open sore, wound, lesion, abrasion, or ulcer.

(B) The administrator, a self-insuring public employer, or a detention facility that is a self-insuring employer shall pay the costs of conducting post-exposure medical diagnostic services to investigate whether an employee described in division (A) of this section sustained an injury or occupational disease if both of the following apply:

1. In the course of employment the employee is exposed to a drug or other chemical substance.

2. The post-exposure medical diagnostic service is consistent with the standards of medical care existing at the time of exposure.

(C) As used in this section:

1. "Peace officer" has the same meaning as in section 2935.01 of the Revised Code.

2. "Firefighter" means a firefighter, whether paid or volunteer, of a lawfully constituted fire department.

3. "Emergency medical worker" means a first responder, emergency medical technician-basic, emergency medical technician-intermediate, or emergency medical technician-paramedic, certified under Chapter 4765. of the Revised Code, whether paid or volunteer.

4. "Corrections officer" means a person employed by a detention facility as a corrections officer.

5. "Detention facility" means any public or private place used for the confinement of a person charged with or convicted of any crime in this state or another state or under the laws of
the United States or alleged or found to be a delinquent child or unruly child in this state or another state or under the laws of the United States.

Sec. 4123.52. (A) The jurisdiction of the industrial commission and the authority of the administrator of workers' compensation over each case is continuing, and the commission may make such modification or change with respect to former findings or orders with respect thereto, as, in its opinion is justified. No modification or change nor any finding or award in respect of any claim shall be made with respect to disability, compensation, dependency, or benefits, after five years from the date of injury in the absence of medical benefits being provided under this chapter or in the absence of payment of compensation under section 4123.57, 4123.58, or division (A) or (B) of section 4123.56 of the Revised Code or wages in lieu of compensation in a manner so as to satisfy the requirements of section 4123.84 of the Revised Code, in which event the modification, change, finding, or award shall be made within five years from the date of the last medical services being rendered or the date of the last payment of compensation or from the date of death, nor unless written notice of claim for the specific part or parts of the body injured or disabled has been given as provided in section 4123.84 or 4123.85 of the Revised Code. The commission shall not make any modification, change, finding, or award which shall award compensation for a back period in excess of two years prior to the date of filing application therefor.

(B) Notwithstanding division (A) of this section, and except as otherwise provided in a rule that shall be adopted by the administrator, with the advice and consent of the bureau of workers' compensation board of directors, neither the
The administrator nor the commission shall make any finding or award for payment of medical or vocational rehabilitation services submitted for payment more than one year after the date the services were rendered or more than one year after the date the services became payable under division (I) of section 4123.511 of the Revised Code, whichever is later. No medical or vocational rehabilitation provider shall bill a claimant for services rendered if the administrator or commission is prohibited from making that payment under this division.

(C) Division (B) of this section does not apply to requests made by the centers for medicare and medicaid services in the United States department of health and human services for reimbursement of conditional payments made pursuant to section 1395y(b)(2) of title 42, United States Code (commonly known as the "Medicare Secondary Payer Act").

(D) This section does not affect the right of a claimant to compensation accruing subsequent to the filing of any such application, provided the application is filed within the time limit provided in this section.

(E) This section does not deprive the commission of its continuing jurisdiction to determine the questions raised by any application for modification of award which has been filed with the commission after June 1, 1932, and prior to the expiration of the applicable period but in respect to which no award has been granted or denied during the applicable period.

(F) The commission may, by general rules, provide for the destruction of files of cases in which no further action may be taken.

(G) The commission and administrator of workers'
compensation each may, by general rules, provide for the
retention and destruction of all other records in their
possession or under their control pursuant to section 121.211
and sections 149.34 to 149.36 of the Revised Code. The bureau of
workers' compensation may purchase or rent required equipment
for the document retention media, as determined necessary to
preserve the records. Photographs, microphotographs, microfilm,
films, or other direct document retention media, when properly
identified, have the same effect as the original record and may
be offered in like manner and may be received as evidence in
proceedings before the industrial commission, staff hearing
officers, and district hearing officers, and in any court where
the original record could have been introduced.

Sec. 4123.56. (A) Except as provided in division (D) of
this section, in the case of temporary disability, an employee
shall receive sixty-six and two-thirds per cent of the
employee's average weekly wage so long as such disability is
total, not to exceed a maximum amount of weekly compensation
which is equal to the statewide average weekly wage as defined
in division (C) of section 4123.62 of the Revised Code, and not
less than a minimum amount of compensation which is equal to
thirty-three and one-third per cent of the statewide average
weekly wage as defined in division (C) of section 4123.62 of the
Revised Code unless the employee's wage is less than thirty-
three and one-third per cent of the minimum statewide average
weekly wage, in which event the employee shall receive
compensation equal to the employee's full wages; provided that
for the first twelve weeks of total disability the employee
shall receive seventy-two per cent of the employee's full weekly
wage, but not to exceed a maximum amount of weekly compensation
which is equal to the lesser of the statewide average weekly
wage as defined in division (C) of section 4123.62 of the Revised Code or one hundred per cent of the employee's net take-home weekly wage. In the case of a self-insuring employer, payments shall be for a duration based upon the medical reports of the attending physician. If the employer disputes the attending physician's report, payments may be terminated only upon application and hearing by a district hearing officer pursuant to division (C) of section 4123.511 of the Revised Code. Payments shall continue pending the determination of the matter, however payment shall not be made for the period when any employee has returned to work, when an employee's treating physician has made a written statement that the employee is capable of returning to the employee's former position of employment, when work within the physical capabilities of the employee is made available by the employer or another employer, or when the employee has reached the maximum medical improvement. Where the employee is capable of work activity, but the employee's employer is unable to offer the employee any employment, the employee shall register with the director of job and family services, who shall assist the employee in finding suitable employment. The termination of temporary total disability, whether by order or otherwise, does not preclude the commencement of temporary total disability at another point in time if the employee again becomes temporarily totally disabled.

After two hundred weeks of temporary total disability benefits, the medical section of the bureau of workers' compensation shall schedule the claimant for an examination for an evaluation to determine whether or not the temporary disability has become permanent. A self-insuring employer shall notify the bureau immediately after payment of two hundred weeks of temporary total disability and request that the bureau
schedule the claimant for such an examination.

When the employee is awarded compensation for temporary total disability for a period for which the employee has received benefits under Chapter 4141. of the Revised Code, the bureau shall pay an amount equal to the amount received from the award to the director of job and family services and the director shall credit the amount to the accounts of the employers to whose accounts the payment of benefits was charged or is chargeable to the extent it was charged or is chargeable.

If any compensation under this section has been paid for the same period or periods for which temporary nonoccupational accident and sickness insurance is or has been paid pursuant to an insurance policy or program to which the employer has made the entire contribution or payment for providing insurance or under a nonoccupational accident and sickness program fully funded by the employer, except as otherwise provided in this division compensation paid under this section for the period or periods shall be paid only to the extent by which the payment or payments exceeds the amount of the nonoccupational insurance or program paid or payable. Offset of the compensation shall be made only upon the prior order of the bureau or industrial commission or agreement of the claimant. If an employer provides supplemental sick leave benefits in addition to temporary total disability compensation paid under this section, and if the employer and an employee agree in writing to the payment of the supplemental sick leave benefits, temporary total disability benefits may be paid without an offset for those supplemental sick leave benefits.

As used in this division, "net take-home weekly wage" means the amount obtained by dividing an employee's total
remuneration, as defined in section 4141.01 of the Revised Code, paid to or earned by the employee during the first four of the last five completed calendar quarters which immediately precede the first day of the employee's entitlement to benefits under this division, by the number of weeks during which the employee was paid or earned remuneration during those four quarters, less the amount of local, state, and federal income taxes deducted for each such week.

(B)(1) If an employee in a claim allowed under this chapter suffers a wage loss as a result of returning to employment other than the employee's former position of employment due to an injury or occupational disease, the employee shall receive compensation at sixty-six and two-thirds per cent of the difference between the employee's average weekly wage and the employee's present earnings not to exceed the statewide average weekly wage. The payments may continue for up to a maximum of two hundred weeks, but the payments shall be reduced by the corresponding number of weeks in which the employee receives payments pursuant to division (A)(2) of section 4121.67 of the Revised Code.

(2) If an employee in a claim allowed under this chapter suffers a wage loss as a result of being unable to find employment consistent with the employee's disability resulting from the employee's injury or occupational disease, the employee shall receive compensation at sixty-six and two-thirds per cent of the difference between the employee's average weekly wage and the employee's present earnings, not to exceed the statewide average weekly wage. The payments may continue for up to a maximum of fifty-two weeks. The first twenty-six weeks of payments under division (B)(2) of this section shall be in addition to the maximum of two hundred weeks of payments allowed
under division (B)(1) of this section. If an employee in a claim
allowed under this chapter receives compensation under division
(B)(2) of this section in excess of twenty-six weeks, the number
of weeks of compensation allowable under division (B)(1) of this
section shall be reduced by the corresponding number of weeks in
excess of twenty-six, and up to fifty-two, that is allowable
under division (B)(1) of this section.

(3) The number of weeks of wage loss payable to an
employee under divisions (B)(1) and (2) of this section shall
not exceed two hundred and twenty-six weeks in the aggregate.

(C) In the event an employee of a professional sports
franchise domiciled in this state is disabled as the result of
an injury or occupational disease, the total amount of payments
made under a contract of hire or collective bargaining agreement
to the employee during a period of disability is deemed an
advanced payment of compensation payable under sections 4123.56
to 4123.58 of the Revised Code. The employer shall be reimbursed
the total amount of the advanced payments out of any award of
compensation made pursuant to sections 4123.56 to 4123.58 of the
Revised Code.

(D) If an employee receives temporary total disability
benefits pursuant to division (A) of this section and social
security retirement benefits pursuant to the "Social Security
Act," the weekly benefit amount under division (A) of this
section shall not exceed sixty-six and two-thirds per cent of
the statewide average weekly wage as defined in division (C) of
section 4123.62 of the Revised Code.

(E) If an employee is eligible for compensation under
division (A) of this section, but the employee's full weekly
wage has not been determined at the time payments are to
commence under division (H) of section 4123.511 of the Revised Code, the employee shall receive thirty-three and one-third percent of the statewide average weekly wage as defined in division (C) of section 4123.62 of the Revised Code. On determination of the employee's full weekly wage, the compensation an employee receives shall be adjusted pursuant to division (A) of this section.

If the amount of compensation an employee receives under this division is greater than the adjusted amount the employee receives under division (A) of this section that is based on the employee's full weekly wage, the excess amount shall be recovered in the manner provided in division (K) of section 4123.511 of the Revised Code. If the amount of compensation an employee receives under this division is less than the adjusted amount the employee receives under that division that is based on the employee's full weekly wage, the employee shall receive the difference between those two amounts.

(F) If an employee is unable to work or suffers a wage loss as the direct result of an impairment arising from an injury or occupational disease, the employee is entitled to receive compensation under this section, provided the employee is otherwise qualified. If an employee is not working or has suffered a wage loss as the direct result of reasons unrelated to the allowed injury or occupational disease, the employee is not eligible to receive compensation under this section. It is the intent of the general assembly to supersede any previous judicial decision that applied the doctrine of voluntary abandonment to a claim brought under this section.

Sec. 4123.58. (A) In cases of permanent total disability, the employee shall receive an award to continue until the
employee's death in the amount of sixty-six and two-thirds per
cent of the employee's average weekly wage, but, except as
otherwise provided in division (B) of this section, not more
than a maximum amount of weekly compensation which is equal to
sixty-six and two-thirds per cent of the statewide average
weekly wage as defined in division (C) of section 4123.62 of the
Revised Code in effect on the date of injury or on the date the
disability due to the occupational disease begins, nor not less
than a minimum amount of weekly compensation which is equal to
fifty per cent of the statewide average weekly wage as defined
in division (C) of section 4123.62 of the Revised Code in effect
on the date of injury or on the date the disability due to the
occupational disease begins, unless the employee's average
weekly wage is less than fifty per cent of the statewide average
weekly wage at the time of the injury, in which event the
employee shall receive compensation in an amount equal to the
employee's average weekly wage.

(B) In the event the weekly workers' compensation amount
when combined with disability benefits received pursuant to the
Social Security Act is less than the statewide average weekly
wage as defined in division (C) of section 4123.62 of the
Revised Code, then the maximum amount of weekly compensation
shall be the statewide average weekly wage as defined in
division (C) of section 4123.62 of the Revised Code. At any time
that social security disability benefits terminate or are
reduced, the workers' compensation award shall be recomputed to
pay the maximum amount permitted under this division.

(C) Permanent total disability shall be compensated
according to this section only when at least one of the
following applies to the claimant:
(1) The claimant has lost, or lost the use of both hands or both arms, or both feet or both legs, or both eyes, or of any two thereof; however, the loss or loss of use of one limb does not constitute the loss or loss of use of two body parts;

(2) The impairment resulting from the employee's injury or occupational disease prevents the employee from engaging in sustained remunerative employment utilizing the employment skills that the employee has or may reasonably be expected to develop.

(D) Permanent total disability shall not be compensated when the reason the employee is unable to engage in sustained remunerative employment is due to any of the following reasons, whether individually or in combination:

(1) Impairments of the employee that are not the result of an allowed injury or occupational disease;

(2) Solely the employee's age or aging;

(3) The employee retired or otherwise voluntarily abandoned the workforce for reasons unrelated to the allowed injury or occupational disease.

(4) The employee has not engaged in educational or rehabilitative efforts to enhance the employee's employability, unless such efforts are determined to be in vain.

(E) Compensation payable under this section for permanent total disability is in addition to benefits payable under division (B) of section 4123.57 of the Revised Code.

(F) If an employee is awarded compensation for permanent total disability under this section because the employee sustained a traumatic brain injury, the employee is entitled to
that compensation regardless of the employee's employment in a
sheltered workshop subsequent to the award, on the condition
that the employee does not receive income, compensation, or
remuneration from that employment in excess of two thousand
dollars in any calendar quarter. As used in this division,
"sheltered workshop" means a state agency or nonprofit
organization established to carry out a program of
rehabilitation for handicapped individuals or to provide these
individuals with remunerative employment or other occupational
rehabilitating activity.

Sec. 4123.65. (A) A state fund employer or the employee of
such an employer may file an application with the administrator
of workers' compensation for approval of a final settlement of a
claim under this chapter. The application shall include the
settlement agreement, and except as otherwise specified in this
division, be signed by the claimant and employer, and clearly
set forth the circumstances by reason of which the proposed
settlement is deemed desirable and that the parties agree to the
terms of the settlement agreement. A claimant may file an
application without an employer's signature in the following
situations:

(1) The employer is no longer doing business in Ohio;

(2) The claim no longer is in the employer's industrial
accident or occupational disease experience as provided in
division (B) of section 4123.34 of the Revised Code and the
claimant no longer is employed with that employer;

(3) The employer has failed to comply with section 4123.35
of the Revised Code.

If a claimant files an application without an employer's
signature, and the employer still is doing business in this state, the administrator shall send written notice of the application to the employer immediately upon receipt of the application. If the employer fails to respond to the notice within thirty days after the notice is sent, the application need not contain the employer's signature.

If a state fund employer or an employee of such an employer has not filed an application for a final settlement under this division, the administrator may file an application on behalf of the employer or the employee, provided that the administrator gives notice of the filing to the employer and the employee and to the representative of record of the employer and of the employee immediately upon the filing. An application filed by the administrator shall contain all of the information and signatures required of an employer or an employee who files an application under this division. Every self-insuring employer that enters into a final settlement agreement with an employee shall mail, within seven days of executing the agreement, a copy of the agreement to the administrator and the employee's representative. The administrator shall place the agreement into the claimant's file.

(B) Except as provided in divisions (C) and (D) of this section, a settlement agreed to under this section is binding upon all parties thereto and as to items, injuries, and occupational diseases to which the settlement applies.

(C) No settlement agreed to under division (A) of this section or agreed to by a self-insuring employer and the self-insuring employer's employee shall take effect until thirty days after the administrator approves the settlement for state fund employees and employers, or after the self-insuring employer and
employee sign the final settlement agreement. During Except as provided in division (G) of this section, during the thirty-day period, the employer, employee, or administrator, for state fund settlements, and the employer or employee, for self-insuring settlements, may withdraw consent to the settlement by an employer providing written notice to the employer's employee and the administrator or by an employee providing written notice to the employee's employer and the administrator, or by the administrator providing written notice to the state fund employer and employee. If an employee dies during the thirty-day waiting period following the approval of a settlement, the settlement can be voided by any party for good cause shown.

(D) At the time of agreement to any final settlement agreement under division (A) of this section or agreement between a self-insuring employer and the self-insuring employer's employee, the administrator, for state fund settlements, and the self-insuring employer, for self-insuring settlements, immediately shall send a copy of the agreement to the industrial commission who shall assign the matter to a staff hearing officer. The staff hearing officer shall determine, within the time limitations specified in division (C) of this section, whether the settlement agreement is or is not a gross miscarriage of justice. If the staff hearing officer determines within that time period that the settlement agreement is clearly unfair, the staff hearing officer shall issue an order disapproving the settlement agreement. If the staff hearing officer determines that the settlement agreement is not clearly unfair or fails to act within those time limits, the settlement agreement is approved.

(E) A settlement entered into under this section may pertain to one or more claims of a claimant, or one or more
parts of a claim, or the compensation or benefits pertaining to
either, or any combination thereof, provided that nothing in
this section shall be interpreted to require a claimant to enter
into a settlement agreement for every claim that has been filed
with the bureau of workers' compensation by that claimant under
Chapter 4121., 4123., 4127., or 4131. of the Revised Code.

(F) A settlement entered into under this section is not
appealable under section 4123.511 or 4123.512 of the Revised
Code.

(G) Notwithstanding any provision of the Revised Code to
the contrary, an employer shall not deny or withdraw consent to
a settlement application filed under this section if both of the
following apply to the claim that is the subject of the
application:

(1) The claim is no longer within the date of impact
pursuant to the employer's industrial accident or occupational
disease experience as provided in division (B) of section
4123.34 of the Revised Code;

(2) The employee named in the claim is no longer employed
by the employer.

Sec. 4123.66. (A) In addition to the compensation provided
for in this chapter, the administrator of workers' compensation
shall disburse and pay from the state insurance fund the amounts
for medical, nurse, and hospital services and medicine as the
administrator deems proper and, in case death ensues from the
injury or occupational disease, the administrator shall disburse
and pay from the fund reasonable funeral expenses in an amount
not to exceed fifty-five thousand five hundred dollars.
The bureau of workers' compensation shall reimburse anyone,
whether dependent, volunteer, or otherwise, who pays the funeral expenses of any employee whose death ensues from any injury or occupational disease as provided in this section. The administrator may adopt rules, with the advice and consent of the bureau of workers' compensation board of directors, with respect to furnishing medical, nurse, and hospital service and medicine to injured or disabled employees entitled thereto, and for the payment therefor. In case an injury or industrial accident that injures an employee also causes damage to the employee's eyeglasses, artificial teeth or other denture, or hearing aid, or in the event an injury or occupational disease makes it necessary or advisable to replace, repair, or adjust the same, the bureau shall disburse and pay a reasonable amount to repair or replace the same.

(B) The administrator, in the rules the administrator adopts pursuant to division (A) of this section, may adopt rules specifying the circumstances under which the bureau may make immediate payment for the first fill of prescription drugs for medical conditions identified in an application for compensation or benefits under section 4123.84 or 4123.85 of the Revised Code that occurs prior to the date the administrator issues an initial determination order under division (B) of section 4123.511 of the Revised Code. If the claim is ultimately disallowed in a final administrative or judicial order, and if the employer is a state fund employer who pays assessments into the surplus fund account created under section 4123.34 of the Revised Code, the payments for medical services made pursuant to this division for the first fill of prescription drugs shall be charged to and paid from the surplus fund account and not charged through the state insurance fund to the employer against whom the claim was filed.
(C)(1) If an employer or a welfare plan has provided to or on behalf of an employee any benefits or compensation for an injury or occupational disease and that injury or occupational disease is determined compensable under this chapter, the employer or a welfare plan may request that the administrator reimburse the employer or welfare plan for the amount the employer or welfare plan paid to or on behalf of the employee in compensation or benefits. The administrator shall reimburse the employer or welfare plan for the compensation and benefits paid if, at the time the employer or welfare plan provides the benefits or compensation to or on behalf of employee, the injury or occupational disease had not been determined to be compensable under this chapter and if the employee was not receiving compensation or benefits under this chapter for that injury or occupational disease. The administrator shall reimburse the employer or welfare plan in the amount that the administrator would have paid to or on behalf of the employee under this chapter if the injury or occupational disease originally would have been determined compensable under this chapter. If the employer is a merit-rated employer, the administrator shall adjust the amount of premium next due from the employer according to the amount the administrator pays the employer. The administrator shall adopt rules, in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, to implement this division.

(2) As used in this division, "welfare plan" has the same meaning as in division (1) of 29 U.S.C.A. 1002.

(D)(1) Subject to the requirements of division (D)(2) of this section, the administrator may make a payment of up to five hundred dollars to either of the following:
(a) The centers of medicare and medicaid services, for reimbursement of conditional payments made pursuant to the "Medicare Secondary Payer Act," 42 U.S.C. 1395y;

(b) The Ohio department of medicaid, or a medical assistance provider to whom the department has assigned a right of recovery for a claim for which the department has notified the provider that the department intends to recoup the department's prior payment for the claim, for reimbursement under sections 5160.35 to 5160.43 of the Revised Code for the cost of medical assistance paid on behalf of a medical assistance recipient.

(2) The administrator may make a payment under division (D)(1) of this section if the administrator makes a reasonable determination that both of the following apply:

(a) The payment is for reimbursement of benefits for an injury or occupational disease.

(b) The injury or occupational disease is compensable, or is likely to be compensable, under this chapter or Chapter 4121., 4127., or 4131. of the Revised Code.

(3) Any payment made pursuant to this division shall be charged to and paid from the surplus fund account created under section 4123.34 of the Revised Code.

(4) Nothing in this division shall be construed as limiting the centers of medicare and medicaid services, the department, or any other entity with a lawful right to reimbursement from recovering sums greater than five hundred dollars.

(5) The administrator may adopt rules, with the advice and consent of the bureau of workers' compensation board of
directors, to implement this division.

Section 2. That existing sections 4113.21, 4123.026, 4123.52, 4123.56, 4123.58, 4123.65, and 4123.66 of the Revised Code are hereby repealed.

Section 3. The amendments made to section 4123.52 of the Revised Code by this act apply to claims arising on or after July 1, 2020. The amendments made to sections 4123.56, 4123.58, and 4123.65 of the Revised Code by this act apply to claims pending on or arising after the effective date of this section. The amendments made to section 4123.66 of the Revised Code by this act apply to claims arising on or after the effective date of this section.

Section 4121.471 of the Revised Code, as enacted by this act, applies to claims arising on or after the effective date of this section.

Section 4. Division (A) of Section 4123.512 of the Revised Code, as amended by H.B. 27 of the 132nd General Assembly, applies to claims under Chapter 4121., 4123., 4127., or 4131. of the Revised Code pending on or arising after September 29, 2017.