

As Reported by the House State and Local Government Committee

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Am. S. B. No. 107

Senator Rulli

Cosponsors: Senators Brenner, Eklund, Antonio, Sykes, Fedor, Roegner, Coley, Hoagland, Huffman, M., Burke, Craig, Gavarone, Hackett, Huffman, S., Kunze, Lehner, Maharath, Manning, McColley, Obhof, Schaffer, Thomas, Uecker, Williams, Wilson, Yuko Representatives Wiggam, Ginter, Kelly, Arndt, Hambley, Skindell, Smith, T., Sobecki

A BILL

To amend sections 3517.10, 3517.105, 3517.106,
3517.1011, and 3517.11 of the Revised Code to
allow certain entities to file campaign finance
statements electronically and to require the
Secretary of State to make the information in
those electronic statements available online.

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

Section 1. That sections 3517.10, 3517.105, 3517.106,
3517.1011, and 3517.11 of the Revised Code be amended to read as
follows:

Sec. 3517.10. (A) Except as otherwise provided in this
division, every campaign committee, political action committee,
legislative campaign fund, political party, and political
contributing entity that made or received a contribution or made
an expenditure in connection with the nomination or election of
any candidate or in connection with any ballot issue or question

at any election held or to be held in this state shall file, on 16
a form prescribed under this section or by electronic means of 17
transmission as provided in this section and section 3517.106 of 18
the Revised Code, a full, true, and itemized statement, made 19
under penalty of election falsification, setting forth in detail 20
the contributions and expenditures, not later than four p.m. of 21
the following dates: 22

(1) The twelfth day before the election to reflect 23
contributions received and expenditures made from the close of 24
business on the last day reflected in the last previously filed 25
statement, if any, to the close of business on the twentieth day 26
before the election; 27

(2) The thirty-eighth day after the election to reflect 28
the contributions received and expenditures made from the close 29
of business on the last day reflected in the last previously 30
filed statement, if any, to the close of business on the seventh 31
day before the filing of the statement; 32

(3) The last business day of January of every year to 33
reflect the contributions received and expenditures made from 34
the close of business on the last day reflected in the last 35
previously filed statement, if any, to the close of business on 36
the last day of December of the previous year; 37

(4) The last business day of July of every year to reflect 38
the contributions received and expenditures made from the close 39
of business on the last day reflected in the last previously 40
filed statement, if any, to the close of business on the last 41
day of June of that year. 42

A campaign committee shall only be required to file the 43
statements prescribed under divisions (A) (1) and (2) of this 44

section in connection with the nomination or election of the 45
committee's candidate. 46

The statement required under division (A)(1) of this 47
section shall not be required of any campaign committee, 48
political action committee, legislative campaign fund, political 49
party, or political contributing entity that has received 50
contributions of less than one thousand dollars and has made 51
expenditures of less than one thousand dollars at the close of 52
business on the twentieth day before the election. Those 53
contributions and expenditures shall be reported in the 54
statement required under division (A)(2) of this section. 55

If an election to select candidates to appear on the 56
general election ballot is held within sixty days before a 57
general election, the campaign committee of a successful 58
candidate in the earlier election may file the statement 59
required by division (A)(1) of this section for the general 60
election instead of the statement required by division (A)(2) of 61
this section for the earlier election if the pregeneral election 62
statement reflects the status of contributions and expenditures 63
for the period twenty days before the earlier election to twenty 64
days before the general election. 65

If a person becomes a candidate less than twenty days 66
before an election, the candidate's campaign committee is not 67
required to file the statement required by division (A)(1) of 68
this section. 69

No statement under division (A)(3) of this section shall 70
be required for any year in which a campaign committee, 71
political action committee, legislative campaign fund, political 72
party, or political contributing entity is required to file a 73
postgeneral election statement under division (A)(2) of this 74

section. However, a statement under division (A) (3) of this 75
section may be filed, at the option of the campaign committee, 76
political action committee, legislative campaign fund, political 77
party, or political contributing entity. 78

No campaign committee of a candidate for the office of 79
chief justice or justice of the supreme court, and no campaign 80
committee of a candidate for the office of judge of any court in 81
this state, shall be required to file a statement under division 82
(A) (4) of this section. 83

Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph and in the 84
next paragraph of this section, the only campaign committees 85
required to file a statement under division (A) (4) of this 86
section are the campaign committee of a statewide candidate and 87
the campaign committee of a candidate for county office. The 88
campaign committee of a candidate for any other nonjudicial 89
office is required to file a statement under division (A) (4) of 90
this section if that campaign committee receives, during that 91
period, contributions exceeding ten thousand dollars. 92

No statement under division (A) (4) of this section shall 93
be required of a campaign committee, a political action 94
committee, a legislative campaign fund, a political party, or a 95
political contributing entity for any year in which the campaign 96
committee, political action committee, legislative campaign 97
fund, political party, or political contributing entity is 98
required to file a postprimary election statement under division 99
(A) (2) of this section. However, a statement under division (A) 100
(4) of this section may be filed at the option of the campaign 101
committee, political action committee, legislative campaign 102
fund, political party, or political contributing entity. 103

No statement under division (A) (3) or (4) of this section 104

shall be required if the campaign committee, political action 105
committee, legislative campaign fund, political party, or 106
political contributing entity has no contributions that it has 107
received and no expenditures that it has made since the last 108
date reflected in its last previously filed statement. However, 109
the campaign committee, political action committee, legislative 110
campaign fund, political party, or political contributing entity 111
shall file a statement to that effect, on a form prescribed 112
under this section and made under penalty of election 113
falsification, on the date required in division (A) (3) or (4) of 114
this section, as applicable. 115

The campaign committee of a statewide candidate shall file 116
a monthly statement of contributions received during each of the 117
months of July, August, and September in the year of the general 118
election in which the candidate seeks office. The campaign 119
committee of a statewide candidate shall file the monthly 120
statement not later than three business days after the last day 121
of the month covered by the statement. During the period 122
beginning on the nineteenth day before the general election in 123
which a statewide candidate seeks election to office and 124
extending through the day of that general election, each time 125
the campaign committee of the joint candidates for the offices 126
of governor and lieutenant governor or of a candidate for the 127
office of secretary of state, auditor of state, treasurer of 128
state, or attorney general receives a contribution from a 129
contributor that causes the aggregate amount of contributions 130
received from that contributor during that period to equal or 131
exceed ten thousand dollars and each time the campaign committee 132
of a candidate for the office of chief justice or justice of the 133
supreme court receives a contribution from a contributor that 134
causes the aggregate amount of contributions received from that 135

contributor during that period to exceed ten thousand dollars, 136
the campaign committee shall file a two-business-day statement 137
reflecting that contribution. Contributions reported on a two- 138
business-day statement required to be filed by a campaign 139
committee of a statewide candidate in a primary election shall 140
also be included in the postprimary election statement required 141
to be filed by that campaign committee under division (A) (2) of 142
this section. A two-business-day statement required by this 143
paragraph shall be filed not later than two business days after 144
receipt of the contribution. The statements required by this 145
paragraph shall be filed in addition to any other statements 146
required by this section. 147

Subject to the secretary of state having implemented, 148
tested, and verified the successful operation of any system the 149
secretary of state prescribes pursuant to divisions (C) (6) (b) 150
and (D) (6) of this section and division ~~(H)~~ (F) (1) of section 151
3517.106 of the Revised Code for the filing of campaign finance 152
statements by electronic means of transmission, a campaign 153
committee of a statewide candidate shall file a two-business-day 154
statement under the preceding paragraph by electronic means of 155
transmission if the campaign committee is required to file a 156
pre-election, postelection, or monthly statement of 157
contributions and expenditures by electronic means of 158
transmission under this section or section 3517.106 of the 159
Revised Code. 160

If a campaign committee or political action committee has 161
no balance on hand and no outstanding obligations and desires to 162
terminate itself, it shall file a statement to that effect, on a 163
form prescribed under this section and made under penalty of 164
election falsification, with the official with whom it files a 165
statement under division (A) of this section after filing a 166

final statement of contributions and a final statement of 167
expenditures, if contributions have been received or 168
expenditures made since the period reflected in its last 169
previously filed statement. 170

(B) Except as otherwise provided in division (C) (7) of 171
this section, each statement required by division (A) of this 172
section shall contain the following information: 173

(1) The full name and address of each campaign committee, 174
political action committee, legislative campaign fund, political 175
party, or political contributing entity, including any treasurer 176
of the committee, fund, party, or entity, filing a contribution 177
and expenditure statement; 178

(2) (a) In the case of a campaign committee, the 179
candidate's full name and address; 180

(b) In the case of a political action committee, the 181
registration number assigned to the committee under division (D) 182
(1) of this section. 183

(3) The date of the election and whether it was or will be 184
a general, primary, or special election; 185

(4) A statement of contributions received, which shall 186
include the following information: 187

(a) The month, day, and year of the contribution; 188

(b) (i) The full name and address of each person, political 189
party, campaign committee, legislative campaign fund, political 190
action committee, or political contributing entity from whom 191
contributions are received and the registration number assigned 192
to the political action committee under division (D) (1) of this 193
section. The requirement of filing the full address does not 194

apply to any statement filed by a state or local committee of a political party, to a finance committee of such committee, or to a committee recognized by a state or local committee as its fund-raising auxiliary. Notwithstanding division (F) of this section, the requirement of filing the full address shall be considered as being met if the address filed is the same address the contributor provided under division (E) (1) of this section.

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

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

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

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

(e) A separately itemized account of all contributions and 224
expenditures regardless of the amount, except a receipt of a 225
contribution from a person in the sum of twenty-five dollars or 226
less at one social or fund-raising activity and a receipt of a 227
contribution transmitted pursuant to section 3599.031 of the 228
Revised Code from amounts deducted from the wages and salaries 229
of employees if the contribution from the amount deducted from 230
the wages and salary of any one employee is twenty-five dollars 231
or less aggregated in a calendar year. An account of the total 232
contributions from each social or fund-raising activity shall 233
include a description of and the value of each in-kind 234
contribution received at that activity from any person who made 235
one or more such contributions whose aggregate value exceeded 236
two hundred fifty dollars and shall be listed separately, 237
together with the expenses incurred and paid in connection with 238
that activity. A campaign committee, political action committee, 239
legislative campaign fund, political party, or political 240
contributing entity shall keep records of contributions from 241
each person in the amount of twenty-five dollars or less at one 242
social or fund-raising activity and contributions from amounts 243
deducted under section 3599.031 of the Revised Code from the 244
wages and salary of each employee in the amount of twenty-five 245
dollars or less aggregated in a calendar year. No continuing 246
association that is recognized by a state or local committee of 247
a political party as an auxiliary of the party and that makes a 248
contribution from funds derived solely from regular dues paid by 249
members of the auxiliary shall be required to list the name or 250
address of any members who paid those dues. 251

Contributions that are other income shall be itemized 252
separately from all other contributions. The information 253
required under division (B) (4) of this section shall be provided 254

for all other income itemized. As used in this paragraph, "other income" means a loan, investment income, or interest income. 255
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(f) In the case of a campaign committee of a state elected officer, if a person doing business with the state elected officer in the officer's official capacity makes a contribution to the campaign committee of that officer, the information required under division (B)(4) of this section in regard to that contribution, which shall be filed together with and considered a part of the committee's statement of contributions as required under division (A) of this section but shall be filed on a separate form provided by the secretary of state. As used in this division: 257
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(i) "State elected officer" has the same meaning as in section 3517.092 of the Revised Code. 267
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(ii) "Person doing business" means a person or an officer of an entity who enters into one or more contracts with a state elected officer or anyone authorized to enter into contracts on behalf of that officer to receive payments for goods or services, if the payments total, in the aggregate, more than five thousand dollars during a calendar year. 269
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(5) A statement of expenditures which shall include the following information: 275
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(a) The month, day, and year of the expenditure; 277

(b) The full name and address of each person, political party, campaign committee, legislative campaign fund, political action committee, or political contributing entity to whom the expenditure was made and the registration number assigned to the political action committee under division (D)(1) of this section; 278
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(c) The object or purpose for which the expenditure was made;	284 285
(d) The amount of each expenditure.	286
(C) (1) The statement of contributions and expenditures shall be signed by the person completing the form. If a statement of contributions and expenditures is filed by electronic means of transmission pursuant to this section or section 3517.106 of the Revised Code, the electronic signature of the person who executes the statement and transmits the statement by electronic means of transmission, as provided in division (H) <u>(F)</u> of section 3517.106 of the Revised Code, shall be attached to or associated with the statement and shall be binding on all persons and for all purposes under the campaign finance reporting law as if the signature had been handwritten in ink on a printed form.	287 288 289 290 291 292 293 294 295 296 297 298
(2) The person filing the statement, under penalty of election falsification, shall include with it a list of each anonymous contribution, the circumstances under which it was received, and the reason it cannot be attributed to a specific donor.	299 300 301 302 303
(3) Each statement of a campaign committee of a candidate who holds public office shall contain a designation of each contributor who is an employee in any unit or department under the candidate's direct supervision and control. In a space provided in the statement, the person filing the statement shall affirm that each such contribution was voluntarily made.	304 305 306 307 308 309
(4) A campaign committee that did not receive contributions or make expenditures in connection with the nomination or election of its candidate shall file a statement	310 311 312

to that effect, on a form prescribed under this section and made 313
under penalty of election falsification, on the date required in 314
division (A) (2) of this section. 315

(5) The campaign committee of any person who attempts to 316
become a candidate and who, for any reason, does not become 317
certified in accordance with Title XXXV of the Revised Code for 318
placement on the official ballot of a primary, general, or 319
special election to be held in this state, and who, at any time 320
prior to or after an election, receives contributions or makes 321
expenditures, or has given consent for another to receive 322
contributions or make expenditures, for the purpose of bringing 323
about the person's nomination or election to public office, 324
shall file the statement or statements prescribed by this 325
section and a termination statement, if applicable. Division (C) 326
(5) of this section does not apply to any person with respect to 327
an election to the offices of member of a county or state 328
central committee, presidential elector, or delegate to a 329
national convention or conference of a political party. 330

(6) (a) The statements required to be filed under this 331
section shall specify the balance in the hands of the campaign 332
committee, political action committee, legislative campaign 333
fund, political party, or political contributing entity and the 334
disposition intended to be made of that balance. 335

(b) The secretary of state shall prescribe the form for 336
all statements required to be filed under this section and shall 337
furnish the forms to the boards of elections in the several 338
counties. The boards of elections shall supply printed copies of 339
those forms without charge. The secretary of state shall 340
prescribe the appropriate methodology, protocol, and data file 341
structure for statements required or permitted to be filed by 342

electronic means of transmission to the secretary of state or a 343
board of elections under division (A) of this section, ~~divisions~~ 344
division (E), ~~(F), and (G)~~ of section 3517.106, division (D) of 345
section 3517.1011, division (B) of section 3517.1012, division 346
(C) of section 3517.1013, and divisions (D) and (I) of section 347
3517.1014 of the Revised Code. Subject to division (A) of this 348
section, ~~divisions~~ division (E), ~~(F), and (G)~~ of section 349
3517.106, division (D) of section 3517.1011, division (B) of 350
section 3517.1012, division (C) of section 3517.1013, and 351
divisions (D) and (I) of section 3517.1014 of the Revised Code, 352
the statements required to be stored on computer by the 353
secretary of state under division (B) of section 3517.106 of the 354
Revised Code shall be filed in whatever format the secretary of 355
state considers necessary to enable the secretary of state to 356
store the information contained in the statements on computer. 357
Any such format shall be of a type and nature that is readily 358
available to whoever is required to file the statements in that 359
format. 360

(c) The secretary of state shall assess the need for 361
training regarding the filing of campaign finance statements by 362
electronic means of transmission and regarding associated 363
technologies for candidates, campaign committees, political 364
action committees, legislative campaign funds, political 365
parties, or political contributing entities, for individuals, 366
partnerships, or other entities, for persons making 367
disbursements to pay the direct costs of producing or airing 368
electioneering communications, or for treasurers of transition 369
funds, required or permitted to file statements by electronic 370
means of transmission under this section or section 3517.105, 371
3517.106, 3517.1011, 3517.1012, 3517.1013, or 3517.1014 of the 372
Revised Code. If, in the opinion of the secretary of state, 373

training in these areas is necessary, the secretary of state 374
shall arrange for the provision of voluntary training programs 375
for candidates, campaign committees, political action 376
committees, legislative campaign funds, political parties, or 377
political contributing entities, for individuals, partnerships, 378
and other entities, for persons making disbursements to pay the 379
direct costs of producing or airing electioneering 380
communications, or for treasurers of transition funds, as 381
appropriate. 382

(7) Each monthly statement and each two-business-day 383
statement required by division (A) of this section shall contain 384
the information required by divisions (B)(1) to (4), (C)(2), 385
and, if appropriate, (C)(3) of this section. Each statement 386
shall be signed as required by division (C)(1) of this section. 387

(D)(1) Prior to receiving a contribution or making an 388
expenditure, every campaign committee, political action 389
committee, legislative campaign fund, political party, or 390
political contributing entity shall appoint a treasurer and 391
shall file, on a form prescribed by the secretary of state, a 392
designation of that appointment, including the full name and 393
address of the treasurer and of the campaign committee, 394
political action committee, legislative campaign fund, political 395
party, or political contributing entity. That designation shall 396
be filed with the official with whom the campaign committee, 397
political action committee, legislative campaign fund, political 398
party, or political contributing entity is required to file 399
statements under section 3517.11 of the Revised Code. The name 400
of a campaign committee shall include at least the last name of 401
the campaign committee's candidate. If two or more candidates 402
are the beneficiaries of a single campaign committee under 403
division (B) of section 3517.081 of the Revised Code, the name 404

of the campaign committee shall include at least the last name 405
of each candidate who is a beneficiary of that campaign 406
committee. The secretary of state shall assign a registration 407
number to each political action committee that files a 408
designation of the appointment of a treasurer under this 409
division if the political action committee is required by 410
division (A) (1) of section 3517.11 of the Revised Code to file 411
the statements prescribed by this section with the secretary of 412
state. 413

(2) The treasurer appointed under division (D) (1) of this 414
section shall keep a strict account of all contributions, from 415
whom received and the purpose for which they were disbursed. 416

(3) (a) Except as otherwise provided in section 3517.108 of 417
the Revised Code, a campaign committee shall deposit all 418
monetary contributions received by the committee into an account 419
separate from a personal or business account of the candidate or 420
campaign committee. 421

(b) A political action committee shall deposit all 422
monetary contributions received by the committee into an account 423
separate from all other funds. 424

(c) A state or county political party may establish a 425
state candidate fund that is separate from an account that 426
contains the public moneys received from the Ohio political 427
party fund under section 3517.17 of the Revised Code and from 428
all other funds. A state or county political party may deposit 429
into its state candidate fund any amounts of monetary 430
contributions that are made to or accepted by the political 431
party subject to the applicable limitations, if any, prescribed 432
in section 3517.102 of the Revised Code. A state or county 433
political party shall deposit all other monetary contributions 434

received by the party into one or more accounts that are 435
separate from its state candidate fund and from its account that 436
contains the public moneys received from the Ohio political 437
party fund under section 3517.17 of the Revised Code. 438

(d) Each state political party shall have only one 439
legislative campaign fund for each house of the general 440
assembly. Each such fund shall be separate from any other funds 441
or accounts of that state party. A legislative campaign fund is 442
authorized to receive contributions and make expenditures for 443
the primary purpose of furthering the election of candidates who 444
are members of that political party to the house of the general 445
assembly with which that legislative campaign fund is 446
associated. Each legislative campaign fund shall be administered 447
and controlled in a manner designated by the caucus. As used in 448
this division, "caucus" has the same meaning as in section 449
3517.01 of the Revised Code and includes, as an ex officio 450
member, the chairperson of the state political party with which 451
the caucus is associated or that chairperson's designee. 452

(4) Every expenditure in excess of twenty-five dollars 453
shall be vouched for by a receipted bill, stating the purpose of 454
the expenditure, that shall be filed with the statement of 455
expenditures. A canceled check with a notation of the purpose of 456
the expenditure is a receipted bill for purposes of division (D) 457
(4) of this section. 458

(5) The secretary of state or the board of elections, as 459
the case may be, shall issue a receipt for each statement filed 460
under this section and shall preserve a copy of the receipt for 461
a period of at least six years. All statements filed under this 462
section shall be open to public inspection in the office where 463
they are filed and shall be carefully preserved for a period of 464

at least six years after the year in which they are filed. 465

(6) The secretary of state, by rule adopted pursuant to 466
section 3517.23 of the Revised Code, shall prescribe both of the 467
following: 468

(a) The manner of immediately acknowledging, with date and 469
time received, and preserving the receipt of statements that are 470
transmitted by electronic means of transmission to the secretary 471
of state or a board of elections pursuant to this section or 472
section 3517.106, 3517.1011, 3517.1012, 3517.1013, or 3517.1014 473
of the Revised Code; 474

(b) The manner of preserving the contribution and 475
expenditure, contribution and disbursement, deposit and 476
disbursement, gift and disbursement, or donation and 477
disbursement information in the statements described in division 478
(D) (6) (a) of this section. The secretary of state shall preserve 479
the contribution and expenditure, contribution and disbursement, 480
deposit and disbursement, gift and disbursement, or donation and 481
disbursement information in those statements for at least ten 482
years after the year in which they are filed by electronic means 483
of transmission. 484

(7) (a) The secretary of state, pursuant to division ~~(I)~~ 485
(G) of section 3517.106 of the Revised Code, shall make 486
available online to the public through the internet the 487
contribution and expenditure, contribution and disbursement, 488
deposit and disbursement, gift and disbursement, or donation and 489
disbursement information in all of the following documents: 490

(i) All statements, all addenda, amendments, or other 491
corrections to statements, and all amended statements filed with 492
the secretary of state by electronic or other means of 493

transmission under this section, division (B) (2) (b) or (C) (2) (b) 494
of section 3517.105, or section 3517.106, 3517.1011, 3517.1012, 495
3517.1013, 3517.1014, or 3517.11 of the Revised Code; 496

(ii) All statements filed with a board of elections by 497
electronic means of transmission, and all addenda, amendments, 498
corrections, and amended versions of those statements, filed 499
with the board under this section, division (B) (2) (b) or (C) (2) 500
(b) of section 3517.105, or section 3517.106, 3517.1012, or 501
3517.11 of the Revised Code. The 502

(b) The secretary of state may remove the information from 503
the internet after a reasonable period of time. 504

(E) (1) Any person, political party, campaign committee, 505
legislative campaign fund, political action committee, or 506
political contributing entity that makes a contribution in 507
connection with the nomination or election of any candidate or 508
in connection with any ballot issue or question at any election 509
held or to be held in this state shall provide its full name and 510
address to the recipient of the contribution at the time the 511
contribution is made. The political action committee also shall 512
provide the registration number assigned to the committee under 513
division (D) (1) of this section to the recipient of the 514
contribution at the time the contribution is made. 515

(2) Any individual who makes a contribution that exceeds 516
one hundred dollars to a political action committee, political 517
contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or political 518
party or to a campaign committee of a statewide candidate or 519
candidate for the office of member of the general assembly shall 520
provide the name of the individual's current employer, if any, 521
or, if the individual is self-employed, the individual's 522
occupation and the name of the individual's business, if any, to 523

the recipient of the contribution at the time the contribution 524
is made. Sections 3599.39 and 3599.40 of the Revised Code do not 525
apply to division (E) (2) of this section. 526

(3) If a campaign committee shows that it has exercised 527
its best efforts to obtain, maintain, and submit the information 528
required under divisions (B) (4) (b) (ii) and (iii) of this 529
section, that committee is considered to have met the 530
requirements of those divisions. A campaign committee shall not 531
be considered to have exercised its best efforts unless, in 532
connection with written solicitations, it regularly includes a 533
written request for the information required under division (B) 534
(4) (b) (ii) of this section from the contributor or the 535
information required under division (B) (4) (b) (iii) of this 536
section from whoever transmits the contribution. 537

(4) Any check that a political action committee uses to 538
make a contribution or an expenditure shall contain the full 539
name and address of the committee and the registration number 540
assigned to the committee under division (D) (1) of this section. 541

(F) As used in this section: 542

(1) (a) Except as otherwise provided in division (F) (1) of 543
this section, "address" means all of the following if they 544
exist: apartment number, street, road, or highway name and 545
number, rural delivery route number, city or village, state, and 546
zip code as used in a person's post-office address, but not 547
post-office box. 548

(b) Except as otherwise provided in division (F) (1) of 549
this section, if an address is required in this section, a post- 550
office box and office, room, or suite number may be included in 551
addition to, but not in lieu of, an apartment, street, road, or 552

highway name and number. 553

(c) If an address is required in this section, a campaign 554
committee, political action committee, legislative campaign 555
fund, political party, or political contributing entity may use 556
the business or residence address of its treasurer or deputy 557
treasurer. The post-office box number of the campaign committee, 558
political action committee, legislative campaign fund, political 559
party, or political contributing entity may be used in addition 560
to that address. 561

(d) For the sole purpose of a campaign committee's 562
reporting of contributions on a statement of contributions 563
received under division (B) (4) of this section, "address" has 564
one of the following meanings at the option of the campaign 565
committee: 566

(i) The same meaning as in division (F) (1) (a) of this 567
section; 568

(ii) All of the following, if they exist: the 569
contributor's post-office box number and city or village, state, 570
and zip code as used in the contributor's post-office address. 571

(e) As used with regard to the reporting under this 572
section of any expenditure, "address" means all of the following 573
if they exist: apartment number, street, road, or highway name 574
and number, rural delivery route number, city or village, state, 575
and zip code as used in a person's post-office address, or post- 576
office box. If an address concerning any expenditure is required 577
in this section, a campaign committee, political action 578
committee, legislative campaign fund, political party, or 579
political contributing entity may use the business or residence 580
address of its treasurer or deputy treasurer or its post-office 581

box number. 582

(2) "Statewide candidate" means the joint candidates for 583
the offices of governor and lieutenant governor or a candidate 584
for the office of secretary of state, auditor of state, 585
treasurer of state, attorney general, member of the state board 586
of education, chief justice of the supreme court, or justice of 587
the supreme court. 588

(3) "Candidate for county office" means a candidate for 589
the office of county auditor, county treasurer, clerk of the 590
court of common pleas, judge of the court of common pleas, 591
sheriff, county recorder, county engineer, county commissioner, 592
prosecuting attorney, or coroner. 593

(G) An independent expenditure shall be reported whenever 594
and in the same manner that an expenditure is required to be 595
reported under this section and shall be reported pursuant to 596
division (B) (2) (a) or (C) (2) (a) of section 3517.105 of the 597
Revised Code. 598

(H) (1) Except as otherwise provided in division (H) (2) of 599
this section, if, during the combined pre-election and 600
postelection reporting periods for an election, a campaign 601
committee has received contributions of five hundred dollars or 602
less and has made expenditures in the total amount of five 603
hundred dollars or less, it may file a statement to that effect, 604
under penalty of election falsification, in lieu of the 605
statement required by division (A) (2) of this section. The 606
statement shall indicate the total amount of contributions 607
received and the total amount of expenditures made during those 608
combined reporting periods. 609

(2) In the case of a successful candidate at a primary 610

election, if either the total contributions received by or the 611
total expenditures made by the candidate's campaign committee 612
during the preprimary, postprimary, pregeneral, and postgeneral 613
election periods combined equal more than five hundred dollars, 614
the campaign committee may file the statement under division (H) 615
(1) of this section only for the primary election. The first 616
statement that the campaign committee files in regard to the 617
general election shall reflect all contributions received and 618
all expenditures made during the preprimary and postprimary 619
election periods. 620

(3) Divisions (H) (1) and (2) of this section do not apply 621
if a campaign committee receives contributions or makes 622
expenditures prior to the first day of January of the year of 623
the election at which the candidate seeks nomination or election 624
to office or if the campaign committee does not file a 625
termination statement with its postprimary election statement in 626
the case of an unsuccessful primary election candidate or with 627
its postgeneral election statement in the case of other 628
candidates. 629

(I) In the case of a contribution made by a partner of a 630
partnership or an owner or a member of another unincorporated 631
business from any funds of the partnership or other 632
unincorporated business, all of the following apply: 633

(1) The recipient of the contribution shall report the 634
contribution by listing both the partnership or other 635
unincorporated business and the name of the partner, owner, or 636
member making the contribution. 637

(2) In reporting the contribution, the recipient of the 638
contribution shall be entitled to conclusively rely upon the 639
information provided by the partnership or other unincorporated 640

business, provided that the information includes one of the 641
following: 642

(a) The name of each partner, owner, or member as of the 643
date of the contribution or contributions, and a statement that 644
the total contributions are to be allocated equally among all of 645
the partners, owners, or members; or 646

(b) The name of each partner, owner, or member as of the 647
date of the contribution or contributions who is participating 648
in the contribution or contributions, and a statement that the 649
contribution or contributions are to be allocated to those 650
individuals in accordance with the information provided by the 651
partnership or other unincorporated business to the recipient of 652
the contribution. 653

(3) For purposes of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code, 654
the contribution shall be considered to have been made by the 655
partner, owner, or member reported under division (I)(1) of this 656
section. 657

(4) No contribution from a partner of a partnership or an 658
owner or a member of another unincorporated business shall be 659
accepted from any funds of the partnership or other 660
unincorporated business unless the recipient reports the 661
contribution under division (I)(1) of this section together with 662
the information provided under division (I)(2) of this section. 663

(5) No partnership or other unincorporated business shall 664
make a contribution or contributions solely in the name of the 665
partnership or other unincorporated business. 666

(6) As used in division (I) of this section, "partnership 667
or other unincorporated business" includes, but is not limited 668
to, a cooperative, a sole proprietorship, a general partnership, 669

a limited partnership, a limited partnership association, a 670
limited liability partnership, and a limited liability company. 671

(J) A candidate shall have only one campaign committee at 672
any given time for all of the offices for which the person is a 673
candidate or holds office. 674

(K) (1) In addition to filing a designation of appointment 675
of a treasurer under division (D) (1) of this section, the 676
campaign committee of any candidate for an elected municipal 677
office that pays an annual amount of compensation of five 678
thousand dollars or less, the campaign committee of any 679
candidate for member of a board of education except member of 680
the state board of education, or the campaign committee of any 681
candidate for township trustee or township fiscal officer may 682
sign, under penalty of election falsification, a certificate 683
attesting that the committee will not accept contributions 684
during an election period that exceed in the aggregate two 685
thousand dollars from all contributors and one hundred dollars 686
from any one individual, and that the campaign committee will 687
not make expenditures during an election period that exceed in 688
the aggregate two thousand dollars. 689

The certificate shall be on a form prescribed by the 690
secretary of state and shall be filed not later than ten days 691
after the candidate files a declaration of candidacy and 692
petition, a nominating petition, or a declaration of intent to 693
be a write-in candidate. 694

(2) Except as otherwise provided in division (K) (3) of 695
this section, a campaign committee that files a certificate 696
under division (K) (1) of this section is not required to file 697
the statements required by division (A) of this section. 698

(3) If, after filing a certificate under division (K) (1) 699
of this section, a campaign committee exceeds any of the 700
limitations described in that division during an election 701
period, the certificate is void and thereafter the campaign 702
committee shall file the statements required by division (A) of 703
this section. If the campaign committee has not previously filed 704
a statement, then on the first statement the campaign committee 705
is required to file under division (A) of this section after the 706
committee's certificate is void, the committee shall report all 707
contributions received and expenditures made from the time the 708
candidate filed the candidate's declaration of candidacy and 709
petition, nominating petition, or declaration of intent to be a 710
write-in candidate. 711

(4) As used in division (K) of this section, "election 712
period" means the period of time beginning on the day a person 713
files a declaration of candidacy and petition, nominating 714
petition, or declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate 715
through the day of the election at which the person seeks 716
nomination to office if the person is not elected to office, or, 717
if the candidate was nominated in a primary election, the day of 718
the election at which the candidate seeks office. 719

(L) A political contributing entity that receives 720
contributions from the dues, membership fees, or other 721
assessments of its members or from its officers, shareholders, 722
and employees may report the aggregate amount of contributions 723
received from those contributors and the number of individuals 724
making those contributions, for each filing period under 725
divisions (A) (1), (2), (3), and (4) of this section, rather than 726
reporting information as required under division (B) (4) of this 727
section, including, when applicable, the name of the current 728
employer, if any, of a contributor whose contribution exceeds 729

one hundred dollars or, if such a contributor is self-employed, 730
the contributor's occupation and the name of the contributor's 731
business, if any. Division (B) (4) of this section applies to a 732
political contributing entity with regard to contributions it 733
receives from all other contributors. 734

Sec. 3517.105. (A) (1) As used in this section, "public 735
political advertising" means advertising to the general public 736
through a broadcasting station, newspaper, magazine, poster, 737
yard sign, or outdoor advertising facility, by direct mail, or 738
by any other means of advertising to the general public. 739

(2) For purposes of this section and section 3517.20 of 740
the Revised Code, a person is a member of a political action 741
committee if the person makes one or more contributions to that 742
political action committee, and a person is a member of a 743
political contributing entity if the person makes one or more 744
contributions to, or pays dues, membership fees, or other 745
assessments to, that political contributing entity. 746

(B) (1) Whenever a candidate, a campaign committee, a 747
political action committee or political contributing entity with 748
ten or more members, or a legislative campaign fund makes an 749
independent expenditure, or whenever a political action 750
committee or political contributing entity with fewer than ten 751
members makes an independent expenditure in excess of one 752
hundred dollars for a local candidate, in excess of two hundred 753
fifty dollars for a candidate for the office of member of the 754
general assembly, or in excess of five hundred dollars for a 755
statewide candidate, for the purpose of financing communications 756
advocating the election or defeat of an identified candidate or 757
solicits without the candidate's express consent a contribution 758
for or against an identified candidate through public political 759

advertising, a statement shall appear or be presented in a clear 760
and conspicuous manner in the advertising that does both of the 761
following: 762

(a) Clearly indicates that the communication or public 763
political advertising is not authorized by the candidate or the 764
candidate's campaign committee; 765

(b) Clearly identifies the candidate, campaign committee, 766
political action committee, political contributing entity, or 767
legislative campaign fund that has paid for the communication or 768
public political advertising in accordance with section 3517.20 769
of the Revised Code. 770

(2) (a) Whenever any campaign committee, legislative 771
campaign fund, political action committee, political 772
contributing entity, or political party makes an independent 773
expenditure in support of or opposition to any candidate, the 774
committee, entity, fund, or party shall report the independent 775
expenditure and identify the candidate on a statement prescribed 776
by the secretary of state and filed by the committee, entity, 777
fund, or party as part of its statement of contributions and 778
expenditures pursuant to division (A) of section 3517.10 and 779
division (A) of section 3517.11 of the Revised Code. 780

(b) Whenever any individual, partnership, or other entity, 781
except a corporation, labor organization, campaign committee, 782
legislative campaign fund, political action committee, political 783
contributing entity, or political party, makes one or more 784
independent expenditures in support of or opposition to any 785
candidate, the individual, partnership, or other entity shall 786
file with the secretary of state in the case of a statewide 787
candidate, or with the board of elections in the county in which 788
the candidate files the candidate's petitions for nomination or 789

election for district or local office, not later than the dates 790
specified in divisions (A) (1), (2), (3), and (4) of section 791
3517.10 of the Revised Code, and, except as otherwise provided 792
in that section, a statement itemizing all independent 793
expenditures made during the period since the close of business 794
on the last day reflected in the last previously filed such 795
statement, if any. The statement shall be made on a form 796
prescribed by the secretary of state or shall be filed by 797
electronic means of transmission pursuant to division ~~(C)~~(E) of 798
section 3517.106 of the Revised Code as authorized or required 799
by that division. The statement shall indicate the date and the 800
amount of each independent expenditure and the candidate on 801
whose behalf it was made and shall be made under penalty of 802
election falsification. 803

(C) (1) Whenever a corporation, labor organization, 804
campaign committee, political action committee with ten or more 805
members, or legislative campaign fund makes an independent 806
expenditure, or whenever a political action committee with fewer 807
than ten members makes an independent expenditure in excess of 808
one hundred dollars for a local ballot issue or question, or in 809
excess of five hundred dollars for a statewide ballot issue or 810
question, for the purpose of financing communications advocating 811
support of or opposition to an identified ballot issue or 812
question or solicits without the express consent of the ballot 813
issue committee a contribution for or against an identified 814
ballot issue or question through public political advertising, a 815
statement shall appear or be presented in a clear and 816
conspicuous manner in the advertising that does both of the 817
following: 818

(a) Clearly indicates that the communication or public 819
political advertising is not authorized by the identified ballot 820

issue committee;	821
(b) Clearly identifies the corporation, labor	822
organization, campaign committee, legislative campaign fund, or	823
political action committee that has paid for the communication	824
or public political advertising in accordance with section	825
3517.20 of the Revised Code.	826
(2) (a) Whenever any corporation, labor organization,	827
campaign committee, legislative campaign fund, political party,	828
or political action committee makes an independent expenditure	829
in support of or opposition to any ballot issue or question, the	830
corporation or labor organization shall report the independent	831
expenditure in accordance with division (C) of section 3599.03	832
of the Revised Code, and the campaign committee, legislative	833
campaign fund, political party, or political action committee	834
shall report the independent expenditure and identify the ballot	835
issue or question on a statement prescribed by the secretary of	836
state and filed by the committee, fund, or party as part of its	837
statement of contributions and expenditures pursuant to division	838
(A) of section 3517.10 and division (A) of section 3517.11 of	839
the Revised Code.	840
(b) Whenever any individual, partnership, or other entity,	841
except a corporation, labor organization, campaign committee,	842
legislative campaign fund, political action committee, or	843
political party, makes one or more independent expenditures in	844
excess of one hundred dollars in support of or opposition to any	845
ballot issue or question, the individual, partnership, or other	846
entity shall file with the secretary of state in the case of a	847
statewide ballot issue or question, or with the board of	848
elections in the county that certifies the issue or question for	849
placement on the ballot in the case of a district or local issue	850

or question, not later than the dates specified in divisions (A) 851
(1), (2), (3), and (4) of section 3517.10 of the Revised Code, 852
and, except as otherwise provided in that section, a statement 853
itemizing all independent expenditures made during the period 854
since the close of business on the last day reflected in the 855
last previously filed such statement, if any. The statement 856
shall be made on a form prescribed by the secretary of state or 857
shall be filed by electronic means of transmission pursuant to 858
division ~~(G)~~(E) of section 3517.106 of the Revised Code as 859
authorized or required by that division. The statement shall 860
indicate the date and the amount of each independent expenditure 861
and the ballot issue or question in support of or opposition to 862
which it was made and shall be made under penalty of election 863
falsification. 864

(3) No person, campaign committee, legislative campaign 865
fund, political action committee, corporation, labor 866
organization, or other organization or association shall use or 867
cause to be used a false or fictitious name in making an 868
independent expenditure in support of or opposition to any 869
candidate or any ballot issue or question. A name is false or 870
fictitious if the person, campaign committee, legislative 871
campaign fund, political action committee, corporation, labor 872
organization, or other organization or association does not 873
actually exist or operate, if the corporation, labor 874
organization, or other organization or association has failed to 875
file a fictitious name or other registration with the secretary 876
of state, if it is required to do so, or if the person, campaign 877
committee, legislative campaign fund, or political action 878
committee has failed to file a designation of the appointment of 879
a treasurer, if it is required to do so by division (D) (1) of 880
section 3517.10 of the Revised Code. 881

(D) Any expenditure by a political party for the purpose 882
of financing communications advocating the election or defeat of 883
a candidate for judicial office shall be deemed to be an 884
independent expenditure subject to the provisions of this 885
section. 886

Sec. 3517.106. (A) As used in this section: 887

(1) "Statewide office" means any of the offices of 888
governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, auditor of 889
state, treasurer of state, attorney general, chief justice of 890
the supreme court, and justice of the supreme court. 891

(2) "Addendum to a statement" includes an amendment or 892
other correction to that statement. 893

(B) ~~(1)~~ The secretary of state shall store all of the 894
following information on computer~~the~~: 895

(1) The information contained in statements of 896
contributions and expenditures and monthly statements required 897
to be filed under section 3517.10 of the Revised Code and in 898
statements of independent expenditures required to be filed 899
under section 3517.105 of the Revised Code ~~by any of the~~ 900
~~following:~~ 901

~~(a) The campaign committees of candidates for statewide~~ 902
~~office;~~ 903

~~(b) The political action committees and political~~ 904
~~contributing entities described in division (A) (1) of section~~ 905
~~3517.11 of the Revised Code;~~ 906

~~(c) Legislative campaign funds;~~ 907

~~(d) State political parties;~~ 908

(e) Individuals, partnerships, corporations, labor organizations, or other entities that make independent expenditures in support of or opposition to a statewide candidate or a statewide ballot issue or question;	909
	910
	911
	912
(f) The campaign committees of candidates for the office of member of the general assembly;	913
	914
(g) County political parties, with respect to their state candidate funds. <u>with the secretary of state and the information transmitted to the secretary of state by boards of elections under division (E) (2) of this section;</u>	915
	916
	917
	918
(2) The secretary of state shall store on computer the information contained in disclosure of electioneering communications statements required to be filed under section 3517.1011 of the Revised Code. ;	919
	920
	921
	922
(3) The secretary of state shall store on computer the information contained in deposit and disbursement statements required to be filed with the office of the secretary of state under section 3517.1012 of the Revised Code. ;	923
	924
	925
	926
(4) The secretary of state shall store on computer the gift and disbursement information contained in statements required to be filed with the office of the secretary of state under section 3517.1013 of the Revised Code. ;	927
	928
	929
	930
(5) The secretary of state shall store on computer the information contained in donation and disbursement statements required to be filed with the office of the secretary of state under section 3517.1014 of the Revised Code.	931
	932
	933
	934
(C) (1) The secretary of state shall make available to the campaign committees, political action committees, political contributing entities, legislative campaign funds, political	935
	936
	937

parties, individuals, partnerships, corporations, labor 938
organizations, treasurers of transition funds, and other 939
~~entities described in division (B) of this section that are~~ 940
permitted or required to file statements by electronic means of 941
transmission, and to members of the news media and other 942
interested persons, for a reasonable fee, computer programs that 943
are compatible with the secretary of state's method of storing 944
the information contained in the statements. 945

(2) The secretary of state shall make the information 946
required to be stored under division (B) of this section 947
available on computer at the secretary of state's office so 948
that, to the maximum extent feasible, individuals may obtain at 949
the secretary of state's office any part or all of that 950
information for any given year, subject to the limitation 951
expressed in division (D) of this section. 952

(D) The secretary of state shall keep the information 953
stored on computer under division (B) of this section for at 954
least six years. 955

(E) (1) Subject to division ~~(I)~~ (J) of this section and 956
subject to the secretary of state having implemented, tested, 957
and verified the successful operation of any system the 958
secretary of state prescribes pursuant to division ~~(H)~~ (F) (1) of 959
this section and divisions (C) (6) (b) and (D) (6) of section 960
3517.10 of the Revised Code for the filing of campaign finance 961
statements by electronic means of transmission, ~~the each of the~~ 962
following entities shall be permitted or required to file 963
statements by electronic means of transmission, as applicable: 964

(a) The campaign committee of each candidate for statewide 965
office may file the statements prescribed by section 3517.10 of 966
the Revised Code by electronic means of transmission or, if the 967

total amount of the contributions received or the total amount 968
of the expenditures made by the campaign committee for the 969
applicable reporting period as specified in division (A) of 970
section 3517.10 of the Revised Code exceeds ten thousand 971
dollars, shall file those statements by electronic means of 972
transmission. 973

(b) A campaign committee of a candidate for the office of 974
member of the general assembly or a campaign committee of a 975
candidate for the office of judge of a court of appeals may file 976
the statements prescribed by section 3517.10 of the Revised Code 977
in accordance with division (A) (2) of section 3517.11 of the 978
Revised Code or by electronic means of transmission to the 979
office of the secretary of state or, if the total amount of the 980
contributions received by the campaign committee for the 981
applicable reporting period as specified in division (A) of 982
section 3517.10 of the Revised Code exceeds ten thousand 983
dollars, shall file those statements by electronic means of 984
transmission to the office of the secretary of state. 985

(c) A campaign committee of a candidate for an office 986
other than a statewide office, the office of member of the 987
general assembly, or the office of judge of a court of appeals 988
may file the statements prescribed by section 3517.10 of the 989
Revised Code by electronic means of transmission to the 990
secretary of state or the board of elections, as applicable. 991

(d) A political action committee and a political 992
contributing entity described in division (A) (1) of section 993
3517.11 of the Revised Code, a legislative campaign fund, and a 994
state political party may file the statements prescribed by 995
section 3517.10 of the Revised Code by electronic means of 996
transmission to the office of the secretary of state or, if the 997

total amount of the contributions received or the total amount 998
of the expenditures made by the political action committee, 999
political contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or 1000
state political party for the applicable reporting period as 1001
specified in division (A) of section 3517.10 of the Revised Code 1002
exceeds ten thousand dollars, shall file those statements by 1003
electronic means of transmission. 1004

(e) A county political party shall file the statements 1005
prescribed by section 3517.10 of the Revised Code with respect 1006
to its state candidate fund by electronic means of transmission 1007
to the office of the secretary of state. 1008

(f) A county political party may file all other statements 1009
prescribed by section 3517.10 of the Revised Code by electronic 1010
means of transmission to the board of elections. 1011

(g) A political action committee or political contributing 1012
entity described in division (A) (3) of section 3517.11 of the 1013
Revised Code may file the statements prescribed by section 1014
3517.10 of the Revised Code by electronic means of transmission 1015
to the board of elections. 1016

(h) Any individual, partnership, or other entity that 1017
makes independent expenditures in support of or opposition to a 1018
statewide candidate or a statewide ballot issue or question as 1019
provided in division (B) (2) (b) or (C) (2) (b) of section 3517.105 1020
of the Revised Code may file the statement specified in that 1021
division by electronic means of transmission to the office of 1022
the secretary of state or, if the total amount of independent 1023
expenditures made during the reporting period under that 1024
division exceeds ten thousand dollars, shall file the statement 1025
specified in that division by electronic means of transmission. 1026

(i) Any individual, partnership, or other entity that 1027
makes independent expenditures in support of or opposition to a 1028
candidate or ballot issue other than a statewide candidate or a 1029
statewide ballot issue as provided in division (B) (2) (b) or (C) 1030
(2) (b) of section 3517.105 of the Revised Code may file the 1031
statement specified in that division by electronic means of 1032
transmission to the board of elections. 1033

(2) A board of elections that receives a statement by 1034
electronic means of transmission shall transmit that statement 1035
to the secretary of state within five business days after 1036
receiving the statement. If the board receives an addendum or an 1037
amended statement from an entity that filed a statement with the 1038
board by electronic means of transmission, the board shall 1039
transmit the addendum or amended statement to the secretary of 1040
state not later than the close of business on the day the board 1041
received the addendum or amended statement. 1042

(3) (a) Except as otherwise provided in ~~this~~ division (E) 1043
(3) (b) of this section, within five business days after a 1044
statement filed by a ~~campaign committee of a candidate for~~ 1045
~~statewide office~~ under division (E) (1) of this section is 1046
received by the secretary of state by electronic or other means 1047
of transmission, the secretary of state shall make available 1048
online to the public through the internet, as provided in 1049
division ~~(I)~~ (G) of this section, the contribution and 1050
expenditure information in that statement. ~~The~~ 1051

(b) The secretary of state shall not make available online 1052
to the public through the internet any contribution or 1053
expenditure information contained in a statement for any 1054
candidate until the secretary of state is able to make available 1055
online to the public through the internet the contribution and 1056

expenditure information for all candidates for a particular 1057
office, or until the applicable filing deadline for that 1058
statement has passed, whichever is sooner. As soon as the 1059
secretary of state has available all of the contribution and 1060
expenditure information for all candidates for a particular 1061
office, or as soon as the applicable filing deadline for a 1062
statement has passed, whichever is sooner, the secretary of 1063
state shall simultaneously make available online to the public 1064
through the internet the information for all candidates for that 1065
office. 1066

(4) (a) If a statement filed by electronic means of 1067
transmission is found to be incomplete or inaccurate after the 1068
examination of the statement for completeness and accuracy 1069
pursuant to division (B) (3) (a) of section 3517.11 of the Revised 1070
Code, ~~the campaign committee entity that filed the statement~~ 1071
shall file by electronic means of transmission any addendum to 1072
the statement that provides the information necessary to 1073
complete or correct the statement or, if required ~~by the~~ 1074
~~secretary of state~~ under that division, an amended statement. 1075

(b) Within five business days after the secretary of state 1076
receives ~~from a campaign committee of a candidate for statewide~~ 1077
~~office~~ an addendum to the statement or an amended statement by 1078
electronic or other means of transmission ~~under this division or~~ 1079
~~division (B) (3) (a) of section 3517.11 of the Revised Code~~, the 1080
secretary of state shall make the contribution and expenditure 1081
information in the addendum or amended statement available 1082
online to the public through the internet as provided in 1083
division ~~(I)~~ (G) of this section. 1084

~~(2) Subject to the secretary of state having implemented,~~ 1085
~~tested, and verified the successful operation of any system the~~ 1086

~~secretary of state prescribes pursuant to division (H) (1) of 1087
this section and divisions (C) (6) (b) and (D) (6) of section 1088
3517.10 of the Revised Code for the filing of campaign finance 1089
statements by electronic means of transmission, a political 1090
action committee and a political contributing entity described 1091
in division (B) (1) (b) of this section, a legislative campaign 1092
fund, and a state political party may file the statements 1093
prescribed by section 3517.10 of the Revised Code by electronic 1094
means of transmission or, if the total amount of the 1095
contributions received or the total amount of the expenditures 1096
made by the political action committee, political contributing 1097
entity, legislative campaign fund, or state political party for 1098
the applicable reporting period as specified in division (A) of 1099
section 3517.10 of the Revised Code exceeds ten thousand 1100
dollars, shall file those statements by electronic means of 1101
transmission. 1102~~

~~Within five business days after a statement filed by a 1103
political action committee or a political contributing entity 1104
described in division (B) (1) (b) of this section, a legislative 1105
campaign fund, or a state political party is received by the 1106
secretary of state by electronic or other means of transmission, 1107
the secretary of state shall make available online to the public 1108
through the internet, as provided in division (I) of this 1109
section, the contribution and expenditure information in that 1110
statement. 1111~~

~~If a statement filed by electronic means of transmission 1112
is found to be incomplete or inaccurate after the examination of 1113
the statement for completeness and accuracy pursuant to division 1114
(B) (3) (a) of section 3517.11 of the Revised Code, the political 1115
action committee, political contributing entity, legislative 1116
campaign fund, or state political party shall file by electronic 1117~~

~~means of transmission any addendum to the statement that~~ 1118
~~provides the information necessary to complete or correct the~~ 1119
~~statement or, if required by the secretary of state under that~~ 1120
~~division, an amended statement.~~ 1121

~~Within five business days after the secretary of state~~ 1122
~~receives from a political action committee or a political~~ 1123
~~contributing entity described in division (B) (1) (b) of this~~ 1124
~~section, a legislative campaign fund, or a state political party~~ 1125
~~an addendum to the statement or an amended statement by~~ 1126
~~electronic or other means of transmission under this division or~~ 1127
~~division (B) (3) (a) of section 3517.11 of the Revised Code, the~~ 1128
~~secretary of state shall make the contribution and expenditure~~ 1129
~~information in the addendum or amended statement available~~ 1130
~~online to the public through the internet as provided in~~ 1131
~~division (I) of this section.~~ 1132

~~(3) Subject to the secretary of state having implemented,~~ 1133
~~tested, and verified the successful operation of any system the~~ 1134
~~secretary of state prescribes pursuant to division (H) (1) of~~ 1135
~~this section and divisions (C) (6) (b) and (D) (6) of section~~ 1136
~~3517.10 of the Revised Code for the filing of campaign finance~~ 1137
~~statements by electronic means of transmission, a county~~ 1138
~~political party shall file the statements prescribed by section~~ 1139
~~3517.10 of the Revised Code with respect to its state candidate~~ 1140
~~fund by electronic means of transmission to the office of the~~ 1141
~~secretary of state.~~ 1142

~~Within five business days after a statement filed by a~~ 1143
~~county political party with respect to its state candidate fund~~ 1144
~~is received by the secretary of state by electronic means of~~ 1145
~~transmission, the secretary of state shall make available online~~ 1146
~~to the public through the internet, as provided in division (I)~~ 1147

~~of this section, the contribution and expenditure information in that statement.~~ 1148
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~~If a statement is found to be incomplete or inaccurate after the examination of the statement for completeness and accuracy pursuant to division (B) (3) (a) of section 3517.11 of the Revised Code, a county political party shall file by electronic means of transmission any addendum to the statement that provides the information necessary to complete or correct the statement or, if required by the secretary of state under that division, an amended statement.~~ 1150
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~~Within five business days after the secretary of state receives from a county political party an addendum to the statement or an amended statement by electronic means of transmission under this division or division (B) (3) (a) of section 3517.11 of the Revised Code, the secretary of state shall make the contribution and expenditure information in the addendum or amended statement available online to the public through the internet as provided in division (I) of this section.~~ 1158
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~~(F) (1) Subject to division (L) of this section and subject to the secretary of state having implemented, tested, and verified the successful operation of any system the secretary of state prescribes pursuant to division (H) (1) of this section and divisions (C) (6) (b) and (D) (6) of section 3517.10 of the Revised Code for the filing of campaign finance statements by electronic means of transmission, a campaign committee of a candidate for the office of member of the general assembly or a campaign committee of a candidate for the office of judge of a court of appeals may file the statements prescribed by section 3517.10 of the Revised Code in accordance with division (A) (2) of section~~ 1167
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~~3517.11 of the Revised Code or by electronic means of~~ 1178
~~transmission to the office of the secretary of state or, if the~~ 1179
~~total amount of the contributions received by the campaign~~ 1180
~~committee for the applicable reporting period as specified in~~ 1181
~~division (A) of section 3517.10 of the Revised Code exceeds ten~~ 1182
~~thousand dollars, shall file those statements by electronic~~ 1183
~~means of transmission to the office of the secretary of state.~~ 1184

~~Except as otherwise provided in this division, within five~~ 1185
~~business days after a statement filed by a campaign committee of~~ 1186
~~a candidate for the office of member of the general assembly or~~ 1187
~~a campaign committee of a candidate for the office of judge of a~~ 1188
~~court of appeals is received by the secretary of state by~~ 1189
~~electronic or other means of transmission, the secretary of~~ 1190
~~state shall make available online to the public through the~~ 1191
~~internet, as provided in division (I) of this section, the~~ 1192
~~contribution and expenditure information in that statement. The~~ 1193
~~secretary of state shall not make available online to the public~~ 1194
~~through the internet any contribution or expenditure information~~ 1195
~~contained in a statement for any candidate until the secretary~~ 1196
~~of state is able to make available online to the public through~~ 1197
~~the internet the contribution and expenditure information for~~ 1198
~~all candidates for a particular office, or until the applicable~~ 1199
~~filing deadline for that statement has passed, whichever is~~ 1200
~~sooner. As soon as the secretary of state has available all of~~ 1201
~~the contribution and expenditure information for all candidates~~ 1202
~~for a particular office, or as soon as the applicable filing~~ 1203
~~deadline for a statement has passed, whichever is sooner, the~~ 1204
~~secretary of state shall simultaneously make available online to~~ 1205
~~the public through the internet the information for all~~ 1206
~~candidates for that office.~~ 1207

~~If a statement filed by electronic means of transmission~~ 1208

~~is found to be incomplete or inaccurate after the examination of~~ 1209
~~the statement for completeness and accuracy pursuant to division~~ 1210
~~(B) (3) (a) of section 3517.11 of the Revised Code, the campaign~~ 1211
~~committee shall file by electronic means of transmission to the~~ 1212
~~office of the secretary of state any addendum to the statement~~ 1213
~~that provides the information necessary to complete or correct~~ 1214
~~the statement or, if required by the secretary of state under~~ 1215
~~that division, an amended statement.~~ 1216

~~Within five business days after the secretary of state~~ 1217
~~receives from a campaign committee of a candidate for the office~~ 1218
~~of member of the general assembly or a campaign committee of a~~ 1219
~~candidate for the office of judge of a court of appeals an~~ 1220
~~addendum to the statement or an amended statement by electronic~~ 1221
~~or other means of transmission under this division or division~~ 1222
~~(B) (3) (a) of section 3517.11 of the Revised Code, the secretary~~ 1223
~~of state shall make the contribution and expenditure information~~ 1224
~~in the addendum or amended statement available online to the~~ 1225
~~public through the internet as provided in division (I) of this~~ 1226
~~section.~~ 1227

~~(2)-(5) If a campaign committee for the office of member~~ 1228
~~of the general assembly or a campaign committee of a candidate~~ 1229
~~for the office of judge of a court of appeals files a statement,~~ 1230
~~addendum, or amended statement is not filed by electronic means~~ 1231
~~of transmission to the office of the secretary of state but is~~ 1232
~~filed by printed version only under division (A) (2) of section~~ 1233
~~3517.11 of the Revised Code with the appropriate board of~~ 1234
~~elections, the campaign committee of a candidate for the office~~ 1235
~~of member of the general assembly or a campaign committee of a~~ 1236
~~candidate for the office of judge of a court of appeals shall~~ 1237
~~file two copies of the printed version of the statement,~~ 1238
~~addendum, or amended statement with the board of elections. The~~ 1239

board of elections shall send one of those copies by certified 1240
mail or an electronic copy to the secretary of state before the 1241
close of business on the day the board of elections receives the 1242
statement, addendum, or amended statement. 1243

~~(G) Subject to the secretary of state having implemented, 1244
tested, and verified the successful operation of any system the 1245
secretary of state prescribes pursuant to division (H) (1) of 1246
this section and divisions (C) (6) (b) and (D) (6) of section 1247
3517.10 of the Revised Code for the filing of campaign finance 1248
statements by electronic means of transmission, any individual, 1249
partnership, or other entity that makes independent expenditures 1250
in support of or opposition to a statewide candidate or a 1251
statewide ballot issue or question as provided in division (B) 1252
(2) (b) or (C) (2) (b) of section 3517.105 of the Revised Code may 1253
file the statement specified in that division by electronic 1254
means of transmission or, if the total amount of independent 1255
expenditures made during the reporting period under that 1256
division exceeds ten thousand dollars, shall file the statement 1257
specified in that division by electronic means of transmission. 1258~~

~~Within five business days after a statement filed by an 1259
individual, partnership, or other entity is received by the 1260
secretary of state by electronic or other means of transmission, 1261
the secretary of state shall make available online to the public 1262
through the internet, as provided in division (I) of this 1263
section, the expenditure information in that statement. 1264~~

~~If a statement filed by electronic means of transmission 1265
is found to be incomplete or inaccurate after the examination of 1266
the statement for completeness and accuracy pursuant to division 1267
(B) (3) (a) of section 3517.11 of the Revised Code, the 1268
individual, partnership, or other entity shall file by 1269~~

~~electronic means of transmission any addendum to the statement~~ 1270
~~that provides the information necessary to complete or correct~~ 1271
~~the statement or, if required by the secretary of state under~~ 1272
~~that division, an amended statement.~~ 1273

~~Within five business days after the secretary of state~~ 1274
~~receives from an individual, partnership, or other entity~~ 1275
~~described in division (B) (2) (b) or (C) (2) (b) of section 3517.105~~ 1276
~~of the Revised Code an addendum to the statement or an amended~~ 1277
~~statement by electronic or other means of transmission under~~ 1278
~~this division or division (B) (3) (a) of section 3517.11 of the~~ 1279
~~Revised Code, the secretary of state shall make the expenditure~~ 1280
~~information in the addendum or amended statement available~~ 1281
~~online to the public through the internet as provided in~~ 1282
~~division (I) of this section.~~ 1283

~~(H)~~(F)(1) The secretary of state, by rule adopted pursuant 1284
to section 3517.23 of the Revised Code, shall prescribe one or 1285
more techniques by which a person who executes and transmits to 1286
the secretary of state or a board of elections by electronic 1287
means a statement of contributions and expenditures, a statement 1288
of independent expenditures, a disclosure of electioneering 1289
communications statement, a deposit and disbursement statement, 1290
a gift and disbursement statement, or a donation and 1291
disbursement statement, an addendum to any of those statements, 1292
an amended statement of contributions and expenditures, an 1293
amended statement of independent expenditures, an amended 1294
disclosure of electioneering communications statement, an 1295
amended deposit and disbursement statement, an amended gift and 1296
disbursement statement, or an amended donation and disbursement 1297
statement, under this section or section 3517.10, 3517.105, 1298
3517.1011, 3517.1012, 3517.1013, or 3517.1014 of the Revised 1299
Code shall electronically sign the statement, addendum, or 1300

amended statement. Any technique prescribed by the secretary of 1301
state pursuant to this division shall create an electronic 1302
signature that satisfies all of the following: 1303

(a) It is unique to the signer. 1304

(b) It objectively identifies the signer. 1305

(c) It involves the use of a signature device or other 1306
means or method that is under the sole control of the signer and 1307
that cannot be readily duplicated or compromised. 1308

(d) It is created and linked to the electronic record to 1309
which it relates in a manner that, if the record or signature is 1310
intentionally or unintentionally changed after signing, the 1311
electronic signature is invalidated. 1312

(2) An electronic signature prescribed by the secretary of 1313
state under division ~~(H)~~(F)(1) of this section shall be attached 1314
to or associated with the statement of contributions and 1315
expenditures, the statement of independent expenditures, the 1316
disclosure of electioneering communications statement, the 1317
deposit and disbursement statement, the gift and disbursement 1318
statement, or the donation and disbursement statement, the 1319
addendum to any of those statements, the amended statement of 1320
contributions and expenditures, the amended statement of 1321
independent expenditures, the amended disclosure of 1322
electioneering communications statement, the amended deposit and 1323
disbursement statement, the amended gift and disbursement 1324
statement, or the amended donation and disbursement statement 1325
that is executed and transmitted by electronic means by the 1326
person to whom the electronic signature is attributed. The 1327
electronic signature that is attached to or associated with the 1328
statement, addendum, or amended statement under this division 1329

shall be binding on all persons and for all purposes under the 1330
campaign finance reporting law as if the signature had been 1331
handwritten in ink on a printed form. 1332

~~(I)~~(G) The secretary of state shall make all of the 1333
following information available online to the public by any 1334
means that are searchable, viewable, and accessible through the 1335
internet: 1336

(1) The contribution and expenditure, the contribution and 1337
disbursement, the deposit and disbursement, the gift and 1338
disbursement, or the donation and disbursement information in 1339
all statements, all addenda to the statements, and all amended 1340
statements that are filed with the secretary of state by 1341
electronic or other means of transmission under this section or 1342
section 3517.10, 3517.105, 3517.1011, 3517.1012, 3517.1013, 1343
3517.1014, or 3517.11 of the Revised Code~~available online to~~ 1344
~~the public by any means that are searchable, viewable, and~~ 1345
~~accessible through the internet;~~ 1346

(2) The contribution and expenditure or the deposit and 1347
disbursement information in all statements that are filed with a 1348
board of elections by electronic means of transmission, and in 1349
all addenda to those statements and all amended versions of 1350
those statements, under this section or section 3517.10, 1351
3517.105, 3517.1012, or 3517.11 of the Revised Code. 1352

~~(J)~~(H) (1) As used in this division, "library" means a 1353
library that is open to the public and that is one of the 1354
following: 1355

(a) A library that is maintained and regulated under 1356
section 715.13 of the Revised Code; 1357

(b) A library that is created, maintained, and regulated 1358

under Chapter 3375. of the Revised Code. 1359

(2) The secretary of state shall notify all libraries of 1360
the location on the internet at which the contribution and 1361
expenditure, contribution and disbursement, deposit and 1362
disbursement, gift and disbursement, or donation and 1363
disbursement information in campaign finance statements required 1364
to be made available online to the public through the internet 1365
pursuant to division ~~(I)~~(G) of this section may be accessed. 1366

If that location is part of the world wide web and if the 1367
secretary of state has notified a library of that world wide web 1368
location as required by this division, the library shall include 1369
a link to that world wide web location on each internet- 1370
connected computer it maintains that is accessible to the 1371
public. 1372

(3) If the system the secretary of state prescribes for 1373
the filing of campaign finance statements by electronic means of 1374
transmission pursuant to division ~~(H)~~(F)(1) of this section and 1375
divisions (C) (6) (b) and (D) (6) of section 3517.10 of the Revised 1376
Code includes filing those statements through the internet via 1377
the world wide web, the secretary of state shall notify all 1378
libraries of the world wide web location at which those 1379
statements may be filed. 1380

If those statements may be filed through the internet via 1381
the world wide web and if the secretary of state has notified a 1382
library of that world wide web location as required by this 1383
division, the library shall include a link to that world wide 1384
web location on each internet-connected computer it maintains 1385
that is accessible to the public. 1386

~~(K)~~(I) It is an affirmative defense to a complaint or 1387

charge brought against any campaign committee, political action committee, political contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or political party, any individual, partnership, or other entity, any person making disbursements to pay the direct costs of producing or airing electioneering communications, or any treasurer of a transition fund, for the failure to file by electronic means of transmission a campaign finance statement as required by this section or section 3517.10, 3517.105, 3517.1011, 3517.1012, 3517.1013, or 3517.1014 of the Revised Code that all of the following apply to the campaign committee, political action committee, political contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or political party, the individual, partnership, or other entity, the person making disbursements to pay the direct costs of producing or airing electioneering communications, or the treasurer of a transition fund that failed to so file:

(1) The campaign committee, political action committee, political contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or political party, the individual, partnership, or other entity, the person making disbursements to pay the direct costs of producing or airing electioneering communications, or the treasurer of a transition fund attempted to file by electronic means of transmission the required statement prior to the deadline set forth in the applicable section.

(2) The campaign committee, political action committee, political contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or political party, the individual, partnership, or other entity, the person making disbursements to pay the direct costs of producing or airing electioneering communications, or the treasurer of a transition fund was unable to file by electronic means of transmission due to an expected or unexpected shutdown

of the whole or part of the electronic campaign finance 1419
statement-filing system, such as for maintenance or because of 1420
hardware, software, or network connection failure. 1421

(3) The campaign committee, political action committee, 1422
political contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or 1423
political party, the individual, partnership, or other entity, 1424
the person making disbursements to pay the direct costs of 1425
producing or airing electioneering communications, or the 1426
treasurer of a transition fund filed by electronic means of 1427
transmission the required statement within a reasonable period 1428
of time after being unable to so file it under the circumstance 1429
described in division ~~(K)~~(I) (2) of this section. 1430

~~(I)~~(J) (1) The secretary of state shall adopt rules 1431
pursuant to Chapter 119. of the Revised Code to permit a 1432
campaign committee of a candidate for statewide office that 1433
makes expenditures of less than twenty-five thousand dollars 1434
during the filing period or a campaign committee for the office 1435
of member of the general assembly or the office of judge of a 1436
court of appeals that would otherwise be required to file 1437
campaign finance statements by electronic means of transmission 1438
under division (E) ~~or (F)~~ of this section to file those 1439
statements by paper with the office of the secretary of state. 1440
Those rules shall provide for all of the following: 1441

(a) An eligible campaign committee that wishes to file a 1442
campaign finance statement by paper instead of by electronic 1443
means of transmission shall file the statement on paper with the 1444
office of the secretary of state not sooner than twenty-four 1445
hours after the end of the filing period set forth in section 1446
3517.10 of the Revised Code that is covered by the applicable 1447
statement. 1448

(b) The statement shall be accompanied by a fee, the 1449
amount of which the secretary of state shall determine by rule. 1450
The amount of the fee established under this division shall not 1451
exceed the data entry and data verification costs the secretary 1452
of state will incur to convert the information on the statement 1453
to an electronic format as required under division ~~(I)~~(G) of 1454
this section. 1455

(c) The secretary of state shall arrange for the 1456
information in campaign finance statements filed pursuant to 1457
division ~~(L)~~(J) of this section to be made available online to 1458
the public through the internet in the same manner, and at the 1459
same times, as information is made available under divisions 1460
(E), ~~(F)~~, and ~~(I)~~(G) of this section for candidates whose 1461
campaign committees file those statements by electronic means of 1462
transmission. 1463

(d) The candidate of an eligible campaign committee that 1464
intends to file a campaign finance statement pursuant to 1465
division ~~(L)~~(J) of this section shall file a notice indicating 1466
that the candidate's campaign committee intends to so file and 1467
stating that filing the statement by electronic means of 1468
transmission would constitute a hardship for the candidate or 1469
for the eligible campaign committee. 1470

(e) An eligible campaign committee that files a campaign 1471
finance statement on paper pursuant to division ~~(L)~~(J) of this 1472
section shall review the contribution and information made 1473
available online by the secretary of state with respect to that 1474
paper filing and shall notify the secretary of state of any 1475
errors with respect to that filing that appear in the data made 1476
available on that web site. 1477

(f) If an eligible campaign committee whose candidate has 1478

filed a notice in accordance with rules adopted under division 1479
~~(I)~~(J) (1) (d) of this section subsequently fails to file that 1480
statement on paper by the applicable deadline established in 1481
rules adopted under division ~~(I)~~(J) (1) (a) of this section, 1482
penalties for the late filing of the campaign finance statement 1483
shall apply to that campaign committee for each day after that 1484
paper filing deadline, as if the campaign committee had filed 1485
the statement after the applicable deadline set forth in 1486
division (A) of section 3517.10 of the Revised Code. 1487

(2) The process for permitting campaign committees that 1488
would otherwise be required to file campaign finance statements 1489
by electronic means of transmission to file those statements on 1490
paper with the office of the secretary of state that is required 1491
to be developed under division ~~(I)~~(J) (1) of this section shall 1492
be in effect and available for use by eligible campaign 1493
committees for all campaign finance statements that are required 1494
to be filed on or after June 30, 2005. Notwithstanding any 1495
provision of the Revised Code to the contrary, if the process 1496
the secretary of state is required to develop under division (L) 1497
(1) of this section is not in effect and available for use on 1498
and after June 30, 2005, all penalties for the failure of 1499
campaign committees to file campaign finance statements by 1500
electronic means of transmission shall be suspended until such 1501
time as that process is in effect and available for use. 1502

(3) Notwithstanding any provision of the Revised Code to 1503
the contrary, any eligible campaign committee that files 1504
campaign finance statements on paper with the office of the 1505
secretary of state pursuant to division ~~(I)~~(J) (1) of this 1506
section shall be deemed to have filed those campaign finance 1507
statements by electronic means of transmission to the office of 1508
the secretary of state. 1509

Sec. 3517.1011. (A) As used in this section:	1510
(1) "Address" has the same meaning as in section 3517.10 of the Revised Code.	1511 1512
(2) "Broadcast, cable, or satellite communication" means a communication that is publicly distributed by a television station, radio station, cable television system, or satellite system.	1513 1514 1515 1516
(3) "Candidate" has the same meaning as in section 3501.01 of the Revised Code.	1517 1518
(4) "Contribution" means any loan, gift, deposit, forgiveness of indebtedness, donation, advance, payment, or transfer of funds or of anything of value, including a transfer of funds from an inter vivos or testamentary trust or decedent's estate, and the payment by any person other than the person to whom the services are rendered for the personal services of another person, that is made, received, or used to pay the direct costs of producing or airing electioneering communications.	1519 1520 1521 1522 1523 1524 1525 1526 1527
(5) (a) "Coordinated electioneering communication" means any electioneering communication that is made pursuant to any arrangement, coordination, or direction by a candidate or a candidate's campaign committee, by an officer, agent, employee, or consultant of a candidate or a candidate's campaign committee, or by a former officer, former agent, former employee, or former consultant of a candidate or a candidate's campaign committee prior to the airing, broadcasting, or cablecasting of the communication. An electioneering communication is presumed to be a "coordinated electioneering communication" when it is either of the following:	1528 1529 1530 1531 1532 1533 1534 1535 1536 1537 1538

(i) Based on information about a candidate's plans, 1539
projects, or needs provided to the person making the 1540
disbursement by the candidate or the candidate's campaign 1541
committee, by an officer, agent, employee, or consultant of the 1542
candidate or the candidate's campaign committee, or by a former 1543
officer, former agent, former employee, or former consultant of 1544
the candidate or the candidate's campaign committee, with a view 1545
toward having the communication made; 1546

(ii) Made by or through any person who is, or has been, 1547
authorized to raise or expend funds on behalf of a candidate or 1548
the candidate's campaign committee, who is, or has been, an 1549
officer, agent, employee, or consultant of the candidate or of 1550
the candidate's campaign committee, or who is, or has been, 1551
receiving any form of compensation or reimbursement from the 1552
candidate or the candidate's campaign committee or from an 1553
officer, agent, employee, or consultant of the candidate or of 1554
the candidate's campaign committee. 1555

(b) An electioneering communication shall not be presumed 1556
to be a "coordinated electioneering communication" under 1557
division (A)(5)(a)(ii) of this section if the communication is 1558
made through any person who provides a service that does not 1559
affect the content of the communication, such as communications 1560
placed through the efforts of a media buyer, unless that person 1561
also affects the content of the communication. 1562

(6) "Disclosure date" means both of the following: 1563

(a) The first date during any calendar year by which a 1564
person makes disbursements for the direct costs of producing or 1565
airing electioneering communications aggregating in excess of 1566
ten thousand dollars; 1567

(b) The same day of the week of each remaining week in the 1568
same calendar year as the day of the week of the initial 1569
disclosure date established under division (A)(6)(a) of this 1570
section, if, during that remaining week, the person makes 1571
disbursements for the direct costs of producing or airing 1572
electioneering communications aggregating in excess of one 1573
dollar. 1574

(7) (a) "Electioneering communication" means any broadcast, 1575
cable, or satellite communication that refers to a clearly 1576
identified candidate and that is made during either of the 1577
following periods of time: 1578

(i) If the person becomes a candidate before the day of 1579
the primary election at which candidates will be nominated for 1580
election to that office, between the date that the person 1581
becomes a candidate and the thirtieth day prior to that primary 1582
election, and between the date of the primary election and the 1583
thirtieth day prior to the general election at which a candidate 1584
will be elected to that office; 1585

(ii) If the person becomes a candidate after the day of 1586
the primary election at which candidates were nominated for 1587
election to that office, between the date of the primary 1588
election and the thirtieth day prior to the general election at 1589
which a candidate will be elected to that office. 1590

(b) "Electioneering communication" does not include any of 1591
the following: 1592

(i) A communication that is publicly disseminated through 1593
a means of communication other than a broadcast, cable, or 1594
satellite television or radio station. For example, 1595
"electioneering communication" does not include communications 1596

appearing in print media, including a newspaper or magazine, 1597
handbill, brochure, bumper sticker, yard sign, poster, 1598
billboard, and other written materials, including mailings; 1599
communications over the internet, including electronic mail; or 1600
telephone communications. 1601

(ii) A communication that appears in a news story, 1602
commentary, public service announcement, bona fide news 1603
programming, or editorial distributed through the facilities of 1604
any broadcast, cable, or satellite television or radio station, 1605
unless those facilities are owned or controlled by any political 1606
party, political committee, or candidate; 1607

(iii) A communication that constitutes an expenditure or 1608
an independent expenditure under section 3517.01 of the Revised 1609
Code; 1610

(iv) A communication that constitutes a candidate debate 1611
or forum or that solely promotes a candidate debate or forum and 1612
is made by or on behalf of the person sponsoring the debate or 1613
forum. 1614

(8) "Filing date" has the same meaning as in section 1615
3517.109 of the Revised Code. 1616

(9) "Immigration and Nationality Act" means the 1617
Immigration and Nationality Act, 110 Stat. 309 (1996), 8 U.S.C. 1618
1101 et seq., as amended. 1619

(10) "Person" has the same meaning as in section 1.59 of 1620
the Revised Code and includes any political organization 1621
considered exempt from income taxation under section 527 of the 1622
Internal Revenue Code. 1623

(11) "Political committee" means any of the following: 1624

(a) Any committee, club, association, or other group of persons that receives contributions aggregating in excess of one thousand dollars during a calendar year or that makes expenditures aggregating in excess of one thousand dollars during a calendar year; 1625
1626
1627
1628
1629

(b) Any separate segregated fund; 1630

(c) Any state, county, or local committee of a political party that does any of the following: 1631
1632

(i) Receives contributions aggregating in excess of five thousand dollars during a calendar year; 1633
1634

(ii) Makes payments that do not constitute contributions or expenditures aggregating in excess of five thousand dollars during a calendar year; 1635
1636
1637

(iii) Makes contributions or expenditures aggregating in excess of one thousand dollars during a calendar year. 1638
1639

(12) "Publicly distributed" means aired, broadcast, cablecast, or otherwise disseminated for a fee. 1640
1641

(13) "Refers to a clearly identified candidate" means that the candidate's name, nickname, photograph, or drawing appears, or the identity of the candidate is otherwise apparent through an unambiguous reference to the person such as "the chief justice," "the governor," "member of the Ohio senate," "member of the Ohio house of representatives," "county auditor," "mayor," or "township trustee" or through an unambiguous reference to the person's status as a candidate. 1642
1643
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(B) For the purposes of this section, a person shall be considered to have made a disbursement if the person has entered into a contract to make the disbursement. 1650
1651
1652

(C) Any person intending to make a disbursement or 1653
disbursements for the direct costs of producing or airing 1654
electioneering communications, prior to making the first 1655
disbursement for the direct costs of producing or airing an 1656
electioneering communication, shall file a notice with the 1657
office of the secretary of state that the person is intending to 1658
make such disbursements. 1659

(D) (1) Every person that makes a disbursement or 1660
disbursements for the direct costs of producing and airing 1661
electioneering communications aggregating in excess of ten 1662
thousand dollars during any calendar year shall file, within 1663
twenty-four hours of each disclosure date, a disclosure of 1664
electioneering communications statement containing the following 1665
information: 1666

(a) The full name and address of the person making the 1667
disbursement, of any person sharing or exercising direction or 1668
control over the activities of the person making the 1669
disbursement, and of the custodian of the books and accounts of 1670
the person making the disbursement; 1671

(b) The principal place of business of the person making 1672
the disbursement, if not an individual; 1673

(c) The amount of each disbursement of more than one 1674
dollar during the period covered by the statement and the 1675
identity of the person to whom the disbursement was made; 1676

(d) The nominations or elections to which the 1677
electioneering communications pertain and the names, if known, 1678
of the candidates identified or to be identified; 1679

(e) If the disbursements were paid out of a segregated 1680
bank account that consists of funds contributed solely by 1681

individuals who are United States citizens or nationals or 1682
lawfully admitted for permanent residence as defined in section 1683
101(a)(20) of the Immigration and Nationality Act directly to 1684
the account for electioneering communications, the information 1685
specified in division (D)(2) of this section for all 1686
contributors who contributed an aggregate amount of two hundred 1687
dollars or more to the segregated bank account and whose 1688
contributions were used for making the disbursement or 1689
disbursements required to be reported under division (D) of this 1690
section during the period covered by the statement. Nothing in 1691
this division prohibits or shall be construed to prohibit the 1692
use of funds in such a segregated bank account for a purpose 1693
other than electioneering communications. 1694

(f) If the disbursements were paid out of funds not 1695
described in division (D)(1)(e) of this section, the information 1696
specified in division (D)(2) of this section for all 1697
contributors who contributed an aggregate amount of two hundred 1698
dollars or more to the person making the disbursement and whose 1699
contributions were used for making the disbursement or 1700
disbursements required to be reported under division (D) of this 1701
section during the period covered by the statement. 1702

(2) For each contributor for which information is required 1703
to be reported under division (D)(1)(e) or (f) of this section, 1704
all of the following shall be reported: 1705

(a) The month, day, and year that the contributor made the 1706
contribution or contributions aggregating two hundred dollars or 1707
more; 1708

(b)(i) The full name and address of the contributor, and, 1709
if the contributor is a political action committee, the 1710
registration number assigned to the political action committee 1711

under division (D) (1) of section 3517.10 of the Revised Code; 1712

(ii) If the contributor is an individual, the name of the 1713
individual's current employer, if any, or, if the individual is 1714
self-employed, the individual's occupation and the name of the 1715
individual's business, if any; 1716

(iii) If the contribution is transmitted pursuant to 1717
section 3599.031 of the Revised Code from amounts deducted from 1718
the wages and salaries of two or more employees that exceed in 1719
the aggregate one hundred dollars during the period specified in 1720
division (D) (1) (e) or (f) of this section, as applicable, the 1721
full name of the employees' employer and the full name of the 1722
labor organization of which the employees are members, if any. 1723

(c) A description of the contribution, if other than 1724
money; 1725

(d) The value in dollars and cents of the contribution. 1726

(3) Subject to the secretary of state having implemented, 1727
tested, and verified the successful operation of any system the 1728
secretary of state prescribes pursuant to divisions (C) (6) (b) 1729
and (D) (6) of section 3517.10 and division ~~(H)~~ (F) (1) of section 1730
3517.106 of the Revised Code for the filing of campaign finance 1731
statements by electronic means of transmission, a person shall 1732
file the disclosure of electioneering communications statement 1733
prescribed under divisions (D) (1) and (2) of this section by 1734
electronic means of transmission to the office of the secretary 1735
of state. 1736

Within five business days after the secretary of state 1737
receives a disclosure of electioneering communications statement 1738
under this division, the secretary of state shall make available 1739
online to the public through the internet, as provided in 1740

division ~~(I)~~(G) of section 3517.106 of the Revised Code, the 1741
contribution and disbursement information in that statement. 1742

If a filed disclosure of electioneering communications 1743
statement is found to be incomplete or inaccurate after its 1744
examination for completeness and accuracy pursuant to division 1745
(B) (3) (a) of section 3517.11 of the Revised Code, the person 1746
shall file by electronic means of transmission to the office of 1747
the secretary of state any addendum, amendment, or other 1748
correction to the statement that provides the information 1749
necessary to complete or correct the statement or, if required 1750
by the secretary of state under that division, an amended 1751
statement. 1752

Within five business days after the secretary of state 1753
receives an addendum, amendment, or other correction to a 1754
disclosure of electioneering communications statement or an 1755
amended statement by electronic means of transmission under this 1756
division or division (B) (3) (a) of section 3517.11 of the Revised 1757
Code, the secretary of state shall make the contribution and 1758
disbursement information in the addendum, amendment, or other 1759
correction to the statement or amended statement available 1760
online to the public through the internet as provided in 1761
division ~~(I)~~(G) of section 3517.106 of the Revised Code. 1762

(E) (1) Any person who makes a contribution for the purpose 1763
of funding the direct costs of producing or airing an 1764
electioneering communication under this section shall provide 1765
the person's full name and address to the recipient of the 1766
contribution at the time the contribution is made. 1767

(2) Any individual who makes a contribution or 1768
contributions aggregating two hundred dollars or more for the 1769
purpose of funding the direct costs of producing or airing an 1770

electioneering communication under this section shall provide 1771
the name of the individual's current employer, if any, or, if 1772
the individual is self-employed, the individual's occupation and 1773
the name of the individual's business, if any, to the recipient 1774
of the contribution at the time the contribution is made. 1775

(F) In each electioneering communication, a statement 1776
shall appear or be presented in a clear and conspicuous manner 1777
that does both of the following: 1778

(1) Clearly indicates that the electioneering 1779
communication is not authorized by the candidate or the 1780
candidate's campaign committee; 1781

(2) Clearly identifies the person making the disbursement 1782
for the electioneering communication in accordance with section 1783
3517.20 of the Revised Code. 1784

(G) Any coordinated electioneering communication is an in- 1785
kind contribution, subject to the applicable contribution limits 1786
prescribed in section 3517.102 of the Revised Code, to the 1787
candidate by the person making disbursements to pay the direct 1788
costs of producing or airing the communication. 1789

(H) No person shall make, during the thirty days preceding 1790
a primary election or during the thirty days preceding a general 1791
election, any broadcast, cable, or satellite communication that 1792
refers to a clearly identified candidate using any contributions 1793
received from a corporation or labor organization. 1794

Sec. 3517.11. (A) (1) Campaign committees of candidates for 1795
statewide office or the state board of education, political 1796
action committees or political contributing entities that make 1797
contributions to campaign committees of candidates that are 1798
required to file the statements prescribed by section 3517.10 of 1799

the Revised Code with the secretary of state, political action 1800
committees or political contributing entities that make 1801
contributions to campaign committees of candidates for member of 1802
the general assembly, political action committees or political 1803
contributing entities that make contributions to state and 1804
national political parties and to legislative campaign funds, 1805
political action committees or political contributing entities 1806
that receive contributions or make expenditures in connection 1807
with a statewide ballot issue, political action committees or 1808
political contributing entities that make contributions to other 1809
political action committees or political contributing entities, 1810
political parties, and campaign committees, except as set forth 1811
in division (A) (3) of this section, legislative campaign funds, 1812
and state and national political parties shall file the 1813
statements prescribed by section 3517.10 of the Revised Code 1814
with the secretary of state. 1815

(2) (a) Except as otherwise provided in division ~~(F)~~(E) of 1816
section 3517.106 of the Revised Code, campaign committees of 1817
candidates for all other offices shall file the statements 1818
prescribed by section 3517.10 of the Revised Code with the board 1819
of elections where their candidates are required to file their 1820
petitions or other papers for nomination or election. 1821

(b) A campaign committee of a candidate for office of 1822
member of the general assembly or a campaign committee of a 1823
candidate for the office of judge of a court of appeals shall 1824
file two copies of the printed version of any statement, 1825
addendum, or amended statement if the committee does not file 1826
pursuant to division ~~(F)~~(E) or ~~(H)~~(J) of section 3517.106 1827
of the Revised Code but files by printed version only with the 1828
appropriate board of elections. The board of elections shall 1829
send one of those copies by certified mail or an electronic copy 1830

to the secretary of state before the close of business on the 1831
day the board of elections receives the statement, addendum, or 1832
amended statement. 1833

(3) Political action committees or political contributing 1834
entities that only contribute to a county political party, 1835
contribute to campaign committees of candidates whose nomination 1836
or election is to be submitted only to electors within a county, 1837
subdivision, or district, excluding candidates for member of the 1838
general assembly, and receive contributions or make expenditures 1839
in connection with ballot questions or issues to be submitted 1840
only to electors within a county, subdivision, or district shall 1841
file the statements prescribed by section 3517.10 of the Revised 1842
Code with the board of elections in that county or in the county 1843
contained in whole or part within the subdivision or district 1844
having a population greater than that of any other county 1845
contained in whole or part within that subdivision or district, 1846
as the case may be. 1847

(4) Except as otherwise provided in division (E) ~~(3)~~ (1)(e) 1848
of section 3517.106 of the Revised Code with respect to state 1849
candidate funds, county political parties shall file the 1850
statements prescribed by section 3517.10 of the Revised Code 1851
with the board of elections of their respective counties. 1852

(B) (1) The official with whom petitions and other papers 1853
for nomination or election to public office are filed shall 1854
furnish each candidate at the time of that filing a copy of 1855
sections 3517.01, 3517.08 to 3517.11, 3517.13 to 3517.993, 1856
3599.03, and 3599.031 of the Revised Code and any other 1857
materials that the secretary of state may require. Each 1858
candidate receiving the materials shall acknowledge their 1859
receipt in writing. 1860

(2) On or before the tenth day before the dates on which statements are required to be filed by section 3517.10 of the Revised Code, the secretary of state shall notify every candidate subject to the provisions of this section and sections 3517.10 and 3517.106 of the Revised Code of the requirements and applicable penalties of those sections. The secretary of state shall notify all candidates required to file those statements with the secretary of state's office either by certified mail, or, if the secretary of state has record of an internet identifier of record associated with the candidate, by ordinary mail and by that internet identifier of record. The board of elections of every county shall notify by first class mail any candidate who has personally appeared at the office of the board on or before the tenth day before the statements are required to be filed and signed a form, to be provided by the secretary of state, attesting that the candidate has been notified of the candidate's obligations under the campaign finance law. The board shall forward the completed form to the secretary of state. The board shall notify all other candidates required to file those statements with it either by certified mail, or, if the secretary of state has record of an internet identifier of record associated with the candidate, by ordinary mail and by that internet identifier of record.

(3) (a) Any statement required to be filed under sections 3517.081 to 3517.17 of the Revised Code that is found to be incomplete or inaccurate by the officer to whom it is submitted shall be accepted on a conditional basis, and the person who filed it shall be notified by certified mail as to the incomplete or inaccurate nature of the statement. The secretary of state may examine statements filed for candidates for the office of member of the general assembly and candidates for the

office of judge of a court of appeals for completeness and 1892
accuracy. The secretary of state shall examine for completeness 1893
and accuracy statements that campaign committees of candidates 1894
for the office of member of the general assembly and campaign 1895
committees of candidates for the office of judge of a court of 1896
appeals file pursuant to division ~~(F)~~(E) or ~~(L)~~(J) of section 1897
3517.106 of the Revised Code. If an officer at the board of 1898
elections where a statement filed for a candidate for the office 1899
of member of the general assembly or for a candidate for the 1900
office of judge of a court of appeals was submitted finds the 1901
statement to be incomplete or inaccurate, the officer shall 1902
immediately notify the secretary of state of its incomplete or 1903
inaccurate nature. If either an officer at the board of 1904
elections or the secretary of state finds a statement filed for 1905
a candidate for the office of member of the general assembly or 1906
for a candidate for the office of judge of a court of appeals to 1907
be incomplete or inaccurate, only the secretary of state shall 1908
send the notification as to the incomplete or inaccurate nature 1909
of the statement. 1910

Within twenty-one days after receipt of the notice, in the 1911
case of a pre-election statement, a postelection statement, a 1912
monthly statement, an annual statement, or a semiannual 1913
statement prescribed by section 3517.10, an annual statement 1914
prescribed by section 3517.101, or a statement prescribed by 1915
division (B) (2) (b) or (C) (2) (b) of section 3517.105 or section 1916
3517.107 of the Revised Code, the recipient shall file an 1917
addendum, amendment, or other correction to the statement 1918
providing the information necessary to complete or correct the 1919
statement. The secretary of state may require that, in lieu of 1920
filing an addendum, amendment, or other correction to a 1921
statement that is filed by electronic means of transmission to 1922

the office of the secretary of state or a board of elections 1923
pursuant to section 3517.106 of the Revised Code, the recipient 1924
of the notice described in this division file by electronic 1925
means of transmission an amended statement that incorporates the 1926
information necessary to complete or correct the statement. 1927

The secretary of state shall determine by rule when an 1928
addendum, amendment, or other correction to any of the following 1929
or when an amended statement of any of the following shall be 1930
filed: 1931

(i) A two-business-day statement prescribed by section 1932
3517.10 of the Revised Code; 1933

(ii) A disclosure of electioneering communications 1934
statement prescribed by division (D) of section 3517.1011 of the 1935
Revised Code; 1936

(iii) A deposit and disbursement statement prescribed 1937
under division (B) of section 3517.1012 of the Revised Code; 1938

(iv) A gift and disbursement statement prescribed under 1939
section 3517.1013 of the Revised Code; 1940

(v) A donation and disbursement statement prescribed under 1941
section 3517.1014 of the Revised Code. 1942

An addendum, amendment, or other correction to a statement 1943
that is filed by electronic means of transmission pursuant to 1944
section 3517.106 of the Revised Code shall be filed in the same 1945
manner as the statement. 1946

The provisions of sections 3517.10, 3517.106, 3517.1011, 1947
3517.1012, 3517.1013, and 3517.1014 of the Revised Code 1948
pertaining to the filing of statements of contributions and 1949
expenditures, statements of independent expenditures, disclosure 1950

of electioneering communications statements, deposit and 1951
disbursement statements, gift and disbursement statements, and 1952
donation and disbursement statements by electronic means of 1953
transmission apply to the filing of addenda, amendments, or 1954
other corrections to those statements by electronic means of 1955
transmission and the filing of amended statements by electronic 1956
means of transmission. 1957

(b) Within five business days after the secretary of state 1958
receives, by electronic or other means of transmission, an 1959
addendum, amendment, or other correction to a statement or an 1960
amended statement under division (B) (3) (a) of this section, the 1961
secretary of state, pursuant to divisions (E), ~~(F)~~, and (G), ~~and~~ 1962
~~(I)~~ of section 3517.106 or division (D) of section 3517.1011 of 1963
the Revised Code, shall make the contribution and expenditure, 1964
contribution and disbursement, deposit and disbursement, gift 1965
and disbursement, or donation and disbursement information in 1966
that addendum, amendment, correction, or amended statement 1967
available online to the public through the internet. 1968

(4) (a) The secretary of state or the board of elections 1969
shall examine all statements for compliance with sections 1970
3517.08 to 3517.17 of the Revised Code. 1971

(b) The secretary of state may contract with an individual 1972
or entity not associated with the secretary of state and 1973
experienced in interpreting the campaign finance law of this 1974
state to conduct examinations of statements filed by any 1975
statewide candidate, as defined in section 3517.103 of the 1976
Revised Code. 1977

(c) The examination shall be conducted by a person or 1978
entity qualified to conduct it. The results of the examination 1979
shall be available to the public, and, when the examination is 1980

conducted by an individual or entity not associated with the 1981
secretary of state, the results of the examination shall be 1982
reported to the secretary of state. 1983

(C) (1) In the event of a failure to file or a late filing 1984
of a statement required to be filed under sections 3517.081 to 1985
3517.17 of the Revised Code, or if a filed statement or any 1986
addendum, amendment, or other correction to a statement or any 1987
amended statement, if an addendum, amendment, or other 1988
correction or an amended statement is required to be filed, is 1989
incomplete or inaccurate or appears to disclose a failure to 1990
comply with or a violation of law, the official whose duty it is 1991
to examine the statement shall promptly file a complaint with 1992
the Ohio elections commission under section 3517.153 of the 1993
Revised Code if the law is one over which the commission has 1994
jurisdiction to hear complaints, or the official shall promptly 1995
report the failure or violation to the board of elections and 1996
the board shall promptly report it to the prosecuting attorney 1997
in accordance with division (J) of section 3501.11 of the 1998
Revised Code. If the official files a complaint with the 1999
commission, the commission shall proceed in accordance with 2000
sections 3517.154 to 3517.157 of the Revised Code. 2001

(2) For purposes of division (C) (1) of this section, a 2002
statement or an addendum, amendment, or other correction to a 2003
statement or an amended statement required to be filed under 2004
sections 3517.081 to 3517.17 of the Revised Code is incomplete 2005
or inaccurate under this section if the statement, addendum, 2006
amendment, other correction, or amended statement fails to 2007
disclose substantially all contributions, gifts, or donations 2008
that are received or deposits that are made that are required to 2009
be reported under sections 3517.10, 3517.107, 3517.108, 2010
3517.1011, 3517.1012, 3517.1013, and 3517.1014 of the Revised 2011

Code or if the statement, addendum, amendment, other correction, 2012
or amended statement fails to disclose at least ninety per cent 2013
of the total contributions, gifts, or donations received or 2014
deposits made or of the total expenditures or disbursements made 2015
during the reporting period. 2016

(D) No certificate of nomination or election shall be 2017
issued to a person, and no person elected to an office shall 2018
enter upon the performance of the duties of that office, until 2019
that person or that person's campaign committee, as appropriate, 2020
has fully complied with this section and sections 3517.08, 2021
3517.081, 3517.10, and 3517.13 of the Revised Code. 2022

Section 2. That existing sections 3517.10, 3517.105, 2023
3517.106, 3517.1011, and 3517.11 of the Revised Code are hereby 2024
repealed. 2025

Section 3. This act shall take effect one year after the 2026
first day of January that occurs after the act is filed with the 2027
Secretary of State. 2028