

As Passed by the House

134th General Assembly

Regular Session

2021-2022

Sub. H. B. No. 564

Representative Koehler

**Cosponsors: Representatives Seitz, Ginter, Carruthers, Abrams, Creech, Fraizer,
Gross, Hall, Holmes, Jones, Kick, Miller, J., Miller, K., Stein, Wiggam**

A BILL

To amend section 3501.054 of the Revised Code to 1
permit certain public officials to collaborate 2
with or accept money from a nongovernmental 3
person or entity for using a building to train 4
precinct election officials, to temporarily 5
expand the category of first responders of 6
certain townships who are considered part-time 7
for purposes of health coverage, and to declare 8
an emergency. 9

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

Section 1. That section 3501.054 of the Revised Code be 10
amended to read as follows: 11

Sec. 3501.054. (A) As used in this section, "public 12
official" means any elected or appointed officer, employee, or 13
agent of the state or any political subdivision, board, 14
commission, bureau, or other public body established by law. 15

(B) No public official that is responsible for 16
administering or conducting an election in this state shall 17

collaborate with, or accept or expend any money from, a 18
nongovernmental person or entity for any costs or activities 19
related to voter registration, voter education, voter 20
identification, get-out-the-vote, absent voting, election 21
official recruitment or training, or any other election-related 22
purpose, other than the following: 23

(1) The collection of any fee that is authorized by law; 24

(2) The use of any building to conduct ~~an~~ either of the 25
following: 26

(a) Training for precinct election officials; 27

(b) An election, including as a polling place. 28

(3) The donation of food for precinct election officials 29
at a polling place on election day. 30

(C) This section does not apply to any money to be 31
deposited in the address confidentiality program fund 32
established under section 111.48 of the Revised Code or the 33
women's suffrage centennial commission fund established under 34
Section 1 of S.B. 30 of the 132nd general assembly, as amended. 35

Section 2. That existing section 3501.054 of the Revised 36
Code is hereby repealed. 37

Section 3. (A) As used in this section: 38

(1) "Applicable large employer" has the same meaning as in 39
section 1513 of the "Patient Protection and Affordable Care 40
Act," 26 U.S.C. 4980H. 41

(2) "First responder" means a township employee whose 42
primary job duties include those of any of the following 43
occupations: 44

(a) A firefighter of a lawfully constituted fire department; 45
46

(b) A first responder, emergency medical technician-basic, 47
emergency medical technician-intermediate, or emergency medical 48
technician-paramedic of an ambulance service organization or 49
emergency medical service organization as described in Chapter 50
4765. of the Revised Code. 51

(B) Notwithstanding the definition of "part-time township 52
employee" in section 505.60 of the Revised Code, "part-time 53
township employee" as used in that section with respect to a 54
first responder and a township that does not qualify as an 55
applicable large employer means a first responder who is hired 56
with the expectation that the first responder will work not more 57
than one thousand nine hundred seventy-six hours in any year. 58
This section applies beginning on the effective date of this 59
section and ending on December 31, 2023. 60

Section 4. This act is hereby declared to be an emergency 61
measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public 62
peace, health, and safety. The reason for such necessity is to 63
ensure that election officials receive proper training, and to 64
ensure that townships can maintain adequate staffing with part- 65
time first responders. Therefore, this act shall go into 66
immediate effect. 67