

**As Reported by the Senate General Government Committee**

**135th General Assembly**

**Regular Session**

**2023-2024**

**Sub. H. B. No. 114**

**Representatives Humphrey, Seitz**

**Cosponsors: Representatives Brennan, Williams, Miranda, Blackshear, Brent, Upchurch, McNally, Schmidt, Rogers, Weinstein, Isaacsohn, Brown, Mohamed, Abdullahi, Baker, Brewer, Denson, Dobos, Forhan, Galonski, Grim, Jarrells, Lightbody, Liston, Mathews, Miller, A., Thomas, C.**

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**A BILL**

To amend sections 3517.01, 3517.10, 3517.12, 1  
3517.13, 3517.155, and 3517.992 of the Revised 2  
Code to modify the Campaign Finance Law and to 3  
delay the deadline for a major political party 4  
to certify its presidential and vice 5  
presidential candidates to the Secretary of 6  
State for the 2024 general election. 7

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

**Section 1.** That sections 3517.01, 3517.10, 3517.12, 8  
3517.13, 3517.155, and 3517.992 of the Revised Code be amended 9  
to read as follows: 10

**Sec. 3517.01.** (A) (1) A political party within the meaning 11  
of Title XXXV of the Revised Code is any group of voters that 12  
meets either of the following requirements: 13

(a) Except as otherwise provided in this division, at the 14  
most recent regular state election, the group polled for its 15  
candidate for governor in the state or nominees for presidential 16

electors at least three per cent of the entire vote cast for 17  
that office. A group that meets the requirements of this 18  
division remains a political party for a period of four years 19  
after meeting those requirements. 20

(b) The group filed with the secretary of state, 21  
subsequent to its failure to meet the requirements of division 22  
(A) (1) (a) of this section, a party formation petition that meets 23  
all of the following requirements: 24

(i) The petition is signed by qualified electors equal in 25  
number to at least one per cent of the total vote for governor 26  
or nominees for presidential electors at the most recent 27  
election for such office. 28

(ii) The petition is signed by not fewer than five hundred 29  
qualified electors from each of at least a minimum of one-half 30  
of the congressional districts in this state. If an odd number 31  
of congressional districts exists in this state, the number of 32  
districts that results from dividing the number of congressional 33  
districts by two shall be rounded up to the next whole number. 34

(iii) The petition declares the petitioners' intention of 35  
organizing a political party, the name of which shall be stated 36  
in the declaration, and of participating in the succeeding 37  
general election, held in even-numbered years, that occurs more 38  
than one hundred twenty-five days after the date of filing. 39

(iv) The petition designates a committee of not less than 40  
three nor more than five individuals of the petitioners, who 41  
shall represent the petitioners in all matters relating to the 42  
petition. Notice of all matters or proceedings pertaining to the 43  
petition may be served on the committee, or any of them, either 44  
personally or by registered mail, or by leaving such notice at 45

the usual place of residence of each of them. 46

(2) No such group of electors shall assume a name or 47  
designation that is similar, in the opinion of the secretary of 48  
state, to that of an existing political party as to confuse or 49  
mislead the voters at an election. 50

(B) A campaign committee shall be legally liable for any 51  
debts, contracts, or expenditures incurred or executed in its 52  
name. 53

(C) Notwithstanding the definitions found in section 54  
3501.01 of the Revised Code, as used in this section and 55  
sections 3517.08 to 3517.14, 3517.99, and 3517.992 of the 56  
Revised Code: 57

(1) "Campaign committee" means a candidate or a 58  
combination of two or more persons authorized by a candidate 59  
under section 3517.081 of the Revised Code to receive 60  
contributions and make expenditures. 61

(2) "Campaign treasurer" means an individual appointed by 62  
a candidate under section 3517.081 of the Revised Code. 63

(3) "Candidate" has the same meaning as in division (H) of 64  
section 3501.01 of the Revised Code and also includes any person 65  
who, at any time before or after an election, receives 66  
contributions or makes expenditures or other use of 67  
contributions, has given consent for another to receive 68  
contributions or make expenditures or other use of 69  
contributions, or appoints a campaign treasurer, for the purpose 70  
of bringing about the person's nomination or election to public 71  
office. When two persons jointly seek the offices of governor 72  
and lieutenant governor, "candidate" means the pair of 73  
candidates jointly. "Candidate" does not include candidates for 74

election to the offices of member of a county or state central 75  
committee, presidential elector, and delegate to a national 76  
convention or conference of a political party. 77

(4) "Continuing association" means an association, other 78  
than a campaign committee, political party, legislative campaign 79  
fund, political contributing entity, or labor organization, that 80  
is intended to be a permanent organization that has a primary 81  
purpose other than supporting or opposing specific candidates, 82  
political parties, or ballot issues, and that functions on a 83  
regular basis throughout the year. "Continuing association" 84  
includes organizations that are determined to be not organized 85  
for profit under subsection 501 and that are described in 86  
subsection 501(c) (3), 501(c) (4), or 501(c) (6) of the Internal 87  
Revenue Code. 88

(5) "Contribution" means a loan, gift, deposit, 89  
forgiveness of indebtedness, donation, advance, payment, or 90  
transfer of funds or anything of value, including a transfer of 91  
funds from an inter vivos or testamentary trust or decedent's 92  
estate, and the payment by any person other than the person to 93  
whom the services are rendered for the personal services of 94  
another person, which contribution is made, received, or used 95  
for the purpose of influencing the results of an election. Any 96  
loan, gift, deposit, forgiveness of indebtedness, donation, 97  
advance, payment, or transfer of funds or of anything of value, 98  
including a transfer of funds from an inter vivos or 99  
testamentary trust or decedent's estate, and the payment by any 100  
campaign committee, political action committee, legislative 101  
campaign fund, political party, political contributing entity, 102  
or person other than the person to whom the services are 103  
rendered for the personal services of another person, that is 104  
made, received, or used by a state or county political party, 105

other than the moneys an entity may receive under sections 106  
3517.101, 3517.1012, and 3517.1013 of the Revised Code, shall be 107  
considered to be a "contribution" for the purpose of section 108  
3517.10 of the Revised Code and shall be included on a statement 109  
of contributions filed under that section. 110

"Contribution" does not include any of the following: 111

(a) Services provided without compensation by individuals 112  
volunteering a portion or all of their time on behalf of a 113  
person; 114

(b) Ordinary home hospitality; 115

(c) The personal expenses of a volunteer paid for by that 116  
volunteer campaign worker; 117

(d) Any gift given to an entity pursuant to section 118  
3517.101 of the Revised Code; 119

(e) Any contribution as defined in section 3517.1011 of 120  
the Revised Code that is made, received, or used to pay the 121  
direct costs of producing or airing an electioneering 122  
communication; 123

(f) Any gift given to a state or county political party 124  
for the party's restricted fund under division (A) (2) of section 125  
3517.1012 of the Revised Code; 126

(g) Any gift given to a state political party for deposit 127  
in a Levin account pursuant to section 3517.1013 of the Revised 128  
Code. As used in this division, "Levin account" has the same 129  
meaning as in that section. 130

(h) Any donation given to a transition fund under section 131  
3517.1014 of the Revised Code. 132

(6) "Expenditure" means the disbursement or use of a contribution or other funds for the purpose of influencing the results of an election or of making a charitable donation under division (G) of section 3517.08 of the Revised Code. Any disbursement or use of a contribution by a state or county political party is an expenditure and shall be considered either to be made for the purpose of influencing the results of an election or to be made as a charitable donation under division (G) of section 3517.08 of the Revised Code and shall be reported on a statement of expenditures filed under section 3517.10 of the Revised Code. During the thirty days preceding a primary or general election, any disbursement to pay the direct costs of producing or airing a broadcast, cable, or satellite communication that refers to a clearly identified candidate shall be considered to be made for the purpose of influencing the results of that election and shall be reported as an expenditure or as an independent expenditure under section 3517.10 or 3517.105 of the Revised Code, as applicable, except that the information required to be reported regarding contributors for those expenditures or independent expenditures shall be the same as the information required to be reported under divisions (D) (1) and (2) of section 3517.1011 of the Revised Code.

As used in this division, "broadcast, cable, or satellite communication" and "refers to a clearly identified candidate" have the same meanings as in section 3517.1011 of the Revised Code.

(7) "Personal expenses" includes, but is not limited to, ordinary expenses for accommodations, clothing, food, personal motor vehicle or airplane, and home telephone.

(8) "Political action committee" means a combination of 163  
two or more persons, the primary or major purpose of which is to 164  
support or oppose any candidate, political party, or issue, or 165  
to influence the result of any election through express 166  
advocacy, and that is not a political party, a campaign 167  
committee, a political contributing entity, or a legislative 168  
campaign fund. "Political action committee" does not include 169  
either of the following: 170

(a) A continuing association that makes disbursements for 171  
the direct costs of producing or airing electioneering 172  
communications and that does not engage in express advocacy; 173

(b) A political club that is formed primarily for social 174  
purposes and that consists of one hundred members or less, has 175  
officers and periodic meetings, has less than two thousand five 176  
hundred dollars in its treasury at all times, and makes an 177  
aggregate total contribution of one thousand dollars or less per 178  
calendar year. 179

(9) "Public office" means any state, county, municipal, 180  
township, or district office, except an office of a political 181  
party, that is filled by an election and the offices of United 182  
States senator and representative. 183

(10) "Anything of value" has the same meaning as in 184  
section 1.03 of the Revised Code. 185

(11) "Beneficiary of a campaign fund" means a candidate, a 186  
public official or employee for whose benefit a campaign fund 187  
exists, and any other person who has ever been a candidate or 188  
public official or employee and for whose benefit a campaign 189  
fund exists. 190

(12) "Campaign fund" means money or other property, 191

including contributions.	192
(13) "Public official or employee" has the same meaning as in section 102.01 of the Revised Code.	193 194
(14) "Caucus" means all of the members of the house of representatives or all of the members of the senate of the general assembly who are members of the same political party.	195 196 197
(15) "Legislative campaign fund" means a fund that is established as an auxiliary of a state political party and associated with one of the houses of the general assembly.	198 199 200
(16) "In-kind contribution" means anything of value other than money that is used to influence the results of an election or is transferred to or used in support of or in opposition to a candidate, campaign committee, legislative campaign fund, political party, political action committee, or political contributing entity and that is made with the consent of, in coordination, cooperation, or consultation with, or at the request or suggestion of the benefited candidate, committee, fund, party, or entity. The financing of the dissemination, distribution, or republication, in whole or part, of any broadcast or of any written, graphic, or other form of campaign materials prepared by the candidate, the candidate's campaign committee, or their authorized agents is an in-kind contribution to the candidate and an expenditure by the candidate.	201 202 203 204 205 206 207 208 209 210 211 212 213 214
<del>(17)</del> (17)(a) "Independent expenditure" means <del>an either of</del> <u>the following:</u>	215 216
<u>(i) An expenditure</u> by a person advocating the election or defeat of an identified candidate or candidates, that is not made with the consent of, in coordination, cooperation, or consultation with, or at the request or suggestion of any	217 218 219 220



candidate or candidates or of the campaign committee or agent of 221  
the candidate or candidates; 222

(ii) An expenditure by a person advocating support of or 223  
opposition to an identified ballot issue or question or to 224  
achieve the successful circulation of an initiative or 225  
referendum petition in order to place such an issue or question 226  
on the ballot, regardless of whether the ballot issue or 227  
question has yet been certified to appear on the ballot. As- 228

(b) As used in division ~~(C) (17)~~ (C) (17) (a) of this 229  
section: 230

~~(a)~~ (i) "Person" means an individual, partnership, 231  
unincorporated business organization or association, political 232  
action committee, political contributing entity, separate 233  
segregated fund, association, or other organization or group of 234  
persons, but not a labor organization or a corporation unless 235  
the labor organization or corporation is a political 236  
contributing entity. 237

~~(b)~~ (ii) "Advocating" means any communication containing a 238  
message advocating election or defeat. 239

~~(c)~~ (iii) "Identified candidate" means that the name of 240  
the candidate appears, a photograph or drawing of the candidate 241  
appears, or the identity of the candidate is otherwise apparent 242  
by unambiguous reference. 243

~~(d)~~ (iv) "Made in coordination, cooperation, or 244  
consultation with, or at the request or suggestion of, any 245  
candidate or the campaign committee or agent of the candidate" 246  
means made pursuant to any arrangement, coordination, or 247  
direction by the candidate, the candidate's campaign committee, 248  
or the candidate's agent prior to the publication, distribution, 249

display, or broadcast of the communication. An expenditure is 250  
presumed to be so made when it is any of the following: 251

~~(i)~~ (I) Based on information about the candidate's plans, 252  
projects, or needs provided to the person making the expenditure 253  
by the candidate, or by the candidate's campaign committee or 254  
agent, with a view toward having an expenditure made; 255

~~(ii)~~ (II) Made by or through any person who is, or has 256  
been, authorized to raise or expend funds, who is, or has been, 257  
an officer of the candidate's campaign committee, or who is, or 258  
has been, receiving any form of compensation or reimbursement 259  
from the candidate or the candidate's campaign committee or 260  
agent; 261

~~(iii)~~ (III) Except as otherwise provided in division (D) 262  
of section 3517.105 of the Revised Code, made by a political 263  
party in support of a candidate, unless the expenditure is made 264  
by a political party to conduct voter registration or voter 265  
education efforts. 266

~~(e)~~ (v) "Agent" means any person who has actual oral or 267  
written authority, either express or implied, to make or to 268  
authorize the making of expenditures on behalf of a candidate, 269  
or means any person who has been placed in a position with the 270  
candidate's campaign committee or organization such that it 271  
would reasonably appear that in the ordinary course of campaign- 272  
related activities the person may authorize expenditures. 273

(18) "Labor organization" means a labor union; an employee 274  
organization; a federation of labor unions, groups, locals, or 275  
other employee organizations; an auxiliary of a labor union, 276  
employee organization, or federation of labor unions, groups, 277  
locals, or other employee organizations; or any other bona fide 278

organization in which employees participate and that exists for 279  
the purpose, in whole or in part, of dealing with employers 280  
concerning grievances, labor disputes, wages, hours, and other 281  
terms and conditions of employment. 282

(19) "Separate segregated fund" means a separate 283  
segregated fund established pursuant to the Federal Election 284  
Campaign Act. 285

(20) "Federal Election Campaign Act" means the "Federal 286  
Election Campaign Act of 1971," 86 Stat. 11, 2 U.S.C.A. 431, et 287  
seq., as amended. 288

(21) "Restricted fund" means the fund a state or county 289  
political party must establish under division (A)(1) of section 290  
3517.1012 of the Revised Code. 291

(22) "Electioneering communication" has the same meaning 292  
as in section 3517.1011 of the Revised Code. 293

(23) "Express advocacy" means a communication that 294  
contains express words advocating the nomination, election, or 295  
defeat of a candidate or that contains express words advocating 296  
the adoption or defeat of a question or issue, as determined by 297  
a final judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction. 298

(24) "Political committee" has the same meaning as in 299  
section 3517.1011 of the Revised Code. 300

(25) "Political contributing entity" means any entity, 301  
including a corporation or labor organization, that may lawfully 302  
make contributions and expenditures and that is not an 303  
individual or a political action committee, continuing 304  
association, campaign committee, political party, legislative 305  
campaign fund, designated state campaign committee, or state 306  
candidate fund. For purposes of this division, "lawfully" means 307

not prohibited by any section of the Revised Code, or authorized 308  
by a final judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction. 309

(26) "Internet identifier of record" has the same meaning 310  
as in section 9.312 of the Revised Code. 311

**Sec. 3517.10.** (A) Except as otherwise provided in this 312  
division, every campaign committee, political action committee, 313  
legislative campaign fund, political party, and political 314  
contributing entity that made or received a contribution or made 315  
an expenditure in connection with the nomination or election of 316  
any candidate or in connection with any ballot issue or question 317  
at any election held or to be held in this state shall file, on 318  
a form prescribed under this section or by electronic means of 319  
transmission as provided in this section and section 3517.106 of 320  
the Revised Code, a full, true, and itemized statement, made 321  
under penalty of election falsification, setting forth in detail 322  
the contributions and expenditures, not later than four p.m. of 323  
the following dates: 324

(1) The twelfth day before the election to reflect 325  
contributions received and expenditures made from the close of 326  
business on the last day reflected in the last previously filed 327  
statement, if any, to the close of business on the twentieth day 328  
before the election; 329

(2) The thirty-eighth day after the election to reflect 330  
the contributions received and expenditures made from the close 331  
of business on the last day reflected in the last previously 332  
filed statement, if any, to the close of business on the seventh 333  
day before the filing of the statement; 334

(3) The last business day of January of every year to 335  
reflect the contributions received and expenditures made from 336

the close of business on the last day reflected in the last 337  
previously filed statement, if any, to the close of business on 338  
the last day of December of the previous year; 339

(4) The last business day of July of every year to reflect 340  
the contributions received and expenditures made from the close 341  
of business on the last day reflected in the last previously 342  
filed statement, if any, to the close of business on the last 343  
day of June of that year. 344

A campaign committee shall only be required to file the 345  
statements prescribed under divisions (A) (1) and (2) of this 346  
section in connection with the nomination or election of the 347  
committee's candidate. 348

The statement required under division (A) (1) of this 349  
section shall not be required of any campaign committee, 350  
political action committee, legislative campaign fund, political 351  
party, or political contributing entity that has received 352  
contributions of less than one thousand dollars and has made 353  
expenditures of less than one thousand dollars at the close of 354  
business on the twentieth day before the election. Those 355  
contributions and expenditures shall be reported in the 356  
statement required under division (A) (2) of this section. 357

If an election to select candidates to appear on the 358  
general election ballot is held within sixty days before a 359  
general election, the campaign committee of a successful 360  
candidate in the earlier election may file the statement 361  
required by division (A) (1) of this section for the general 362  
election instead of the statement required by division (A) (2) of 363  
this section for the earlier election if the pregeneral election 364  
statement reflects the status of contributions and expenditures 365  
for the period twenty days before the earlier election to twenty 366

days before the general election. 367

If a person becomes a candidate less than twenty days 368  
before an election, the candidate's campaign committee is not 369  
required to file the statement required by division (A) (1) of 370  
this section. 371

No statement under division (A) (3) of this section shall 372  
be required for any year in which a campaign committee, 373  
political action committee, legislative campaign fund, political 374  
party, or political contributing entity is required to file a 375  
postgeneral election statement under division (A) (2) of this 376  
section. However, a statement under division (A) (3) of this 377  
section may be filed, at the option of the campaign committee, 378  
political action committee, legislative campaign fund, political 379  
party, or political contributing entity. 380

No campaign committee of a candidate for the office of 381  
chief justice or justice of the supreme court, and no campaign 382  
committee of a candidate for the office of judge of any court in 383  
this state, shall be required to file a statement under division 384  
(A) (4) of this section. 385

Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph and in the 386  
next paragraph of this section, the only campaign committees 387  
required to file a statement under division (A) (4) of this 388  
section are the campaign committee of a statewide candidate and 389  
the campaign committee of a candidate for county office. The 390  
campaign committee of a candidate for any other nonjudicial 391  
office is required to file a statement under division (A) (4) of 392  
this section if that campaign committee receives, during that 393  
period, contributions exceeding ten thousand dollars. 394

No statement under division (A) (4) of this section shall 395

be required of a campaign committee, a political action 396  
committee, a legislative campaign fund, a political party, or a 397  
political contributing entity for any year in which the campaign 398  
committee, political action committee, legislative campaign 399  
fund, political party, or political contributing entity is 400  
required to file a postprimary election statement under division 401  
(A) (2) of this section. However, a statement under division (A) 402  
(4) of this section may be filed at the option of the campaign 403  
committee, political action committee, legislative campaign 404  
fund, political party, or political contributing entity. 405

No statement under division (A) (3) or (4) of this section 406  
shall be required if the campaign committee, political action 407  
committee, legislative campaign fund, political party, or 408  
political contributing entity has no contributions that it has 409  
received and no expenditures that it has made since the last 410  
date reflected in its last previously filed statement. However, 411  
the campaign committee, political action committee, legislative 412  
campaign fund, political party, or political contributing entity 413  
shall file a statement to that effect, on a form prescribed 414  
under this section and made under penalty of election 415  
falsification, on the date required in division (A) (3) or (4) of 416  
this section, as applicable. 417

The campaign committee of a statewide candidate shall file 418  
a monthly statement of contributions received during each of the 419  
months of July, August, and September in the year of the general 420  
election in which the candidate seeks office. The campaign 421  
committee of a statewide candidate shall file the monthly 422  
statement not later than three business days after the last day 423  
of the month covered by the statement. During the period 424  
beginning on the nineteenth day before the general election in 425  
which a statewide candidate seeks election to office and 426

extending through the day of that general election, each time 427  
the campaign committee of the joint candidates for the offices 428  
of governor and lieutenant governor or of a candidate for the 429  
office of secretary of state, auditor of state, treasurer of 430  
state, or attorney general receives a contribution from a 431  
contributor that causes the aggregate amount of contributions 432  
received from that contributor during that period to equal or 433  
exceed ten thousand dollars and each time the campaign committee 434  
of a candidate for the office of chief justice or justice of the 435  
supreme court receives a contribution from a contributor that 436  
causes the aggregate amount of contributions received from that 437  
contributor during that period to exceed ten thousand dollars, 438  
the campaign committee shall file a two-business-day statement 439  
reflecting that contribution. Contributions reported on a two- 440  
business-day statement required to be filed by a campaign 441  
committee of a statewide candidate in a primary election shall 442  
also be included in the postprimary election statement required 443  
to be filed by that campaign committee under division (A) (2) of 444  
this section. A two-business-day statement required by this 445  
paragraph shall be filed not later than two business days after 446  
receipt of the contribution. The statements required by this 447  
paragraph shall be filed in addition to any other statements 448  
required by this section. 449

Subject to the secretary of state having implemented, 450  
tested, and verified the successful operation of any system the 451  
secretary of state prescribes pursuant to divisions (C) (6) (b) 452  
and (D) (6) of this section and division (F) (1) of section 453  
3517.106 of the Revised Code for the filing of campaign finance 454  
statements by electronic means of transmission, a campaign 455  
committee of a statewide candidate shall file a two-business-day 456  
statement under the preceding paragraph by electronic means of 457



transmission if the campaign committee is required to file a 458  
pre-election, postelection, or monthly statement of 459  
contributions and expenditures by electronic means of 460  
transmission under this section or section 3517.106 of the 461  
Revised Code. 462

If a campaign committee or political action committee has 463  
no balance on hand and no outstanding obligations and desires to 464  
terminate itself, it shall file a statement to that effect, on a 465  
form prescribed under this section and made under penalty of 466  
election falsification, with the official with whom it files a 467  
statement under division (A) of this section after filing a 468  
final statement of contributions and a final statement of 469  
expenditures, if contributions have been received or 470  
expenditures made since the period reflected in its last 471  
previously filed statement. 472

(B) Except as otherwise provided in division (C) (7) of 473  
this section, each statement required by division (A) of this 474  
section shall contain the following information: 475

(1) The full name and address of each campaign committee, 476  
political action committee, legislative campaign fund, political 477  
party, or political contributing entity, including any treasurer 478  
of the committee, fund, party, or entity, filing a contribution 479  
and expenditure statement; 480

(2) (a) In the case of a campaign committee, the 481  
candidate's full name and address; 482

(b) In the case of a political action committee, the 483  
registration number assigned to the committee under division (D) 484  
(1) of this section. 485

(3) The date of the election and whether it was or will be 486

a general, primary, or special election;	487
(4) A statement of contributions received, which shall	488
include the following information:	489
(a) The month, day, and year of the contribution;	490
(b) (i) The full name and address of each person, political	491
party, campaign committee, legislative campaign fund, political	492
action committee, or political contributing entity from whom	493
contributions are received and the registration number assigned	494
to the political action committee under division (D) (1) of this	495
section. The requirement of filing the full address does not	496
apply to any statement filed by a state or local committee of a	497
political party, to a finance committee of such committee, or to	498
a committee recognized by a state or local committee as its	499
fund-raising auxiliary. Notwithstanding division (F) of this	500
section, the requirement of filing the full address shall be	501
considered as being met if the address filed is the same address	502
the contributor provided under division (E) (1) of this section.	503
(ii) If a political action committee, political	504
contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or political	505
party that is required to file campaign finance statements by	506
electronic means of transmission under section 3517.106 of the	507
Revised Code or a campaign committee of a statewide candidate or	508
candidate for the office of member of the general assembly	509
receives a contribution from an individual that exceeds one	510
hundred dollars, the name of the individual's current employer,	511
if any, or, if the individual is self-employed, the individual's	512
occupation and the name of the individual's business, if any;	513
(iii) If a campaign committee of a statewide candidate or	514
candidate for the office of member of the general assembly	515

receives a contribution transmitted pursuant to section 3599.031 516  
of the Revised Code from amounts deducted from the wages and 517  
salaries of two or more employees that exceeds in the aggregate 518  
one hundred dollars during any one filing period under division 519  
(A) (1), (2), (3), or (4) of this section, the full name of the 520  
employees' employer and the full name of the labor organization 521  
of which the employees are members, if any. 522

(c) A description of the contribution received, if other 523  
than money; 524

(d) The value in dollars and cents of the contribution; 525

(e) A separately itemized account of all contributions and 526  
expenditures regardless of the amount, except a receipt of a 527  
contribution from a person in the sum of twenty-five dollars or 528  
less at one social or fund-raising activity and a receipt of a 529  
contribution transmitted pursuant to section 3599.031 of the 530  
Revised Code from amounts deducted from the wages and salaries 531  
of employees if the contribution from the amount deducted from 532  
the wages and salary of any one employee is twenty-five dollars 533  
or less aggregated in a calendar year. An account of the total 534  
contributions from each social or fund-raising activity shall 535  
include a description of and the value of each in-kind 536  
contribution received at that activity from any person who made 537  
one or more such contributions whose aggregate value exceeded 538  
two hundred fifty dollars and shall be listed separately, 539  
together with the expenses incurred and paid in connection with 540  
that activity. A campaign committee, political action committee, 541  
legislative campaign fund, political party, or political 542  
contributing entity shall keep records of contributions from 543  
each person in the amount of twenty-five dollars or less at one 544  
social or fund-raising activity and contributions from amounts 545

deducted under section 3599.031 of the Revised Code from the 546  
wages and salary of each employee in the amount of twenty-five 547  
dollars or less aggregated in a calendar year. No continuing 548  
association that is recognized by a state or local committee of 549  
a political party as an auxiliary of the party and that makes a 550  
contribution from funds derived solely from regular dues paid by 551  
members of the auxiliary shall be required to list the name or 552  
address of any members who paid those dues. 553

Contributions that are other income shall be itemized 554  
separately from all other contributions. The information 555  
required under division (B)(4) of this section shall be provided 556  
for all other income itemized. As used in this paragraph, "other 557  
income" means a loan, investment income, or interest income. 558

(f) In the case of a campaign committee of a state elected 559  
officer, if a person doing business with the state elected 560  
officer in the officer's official capacity makes a contribution 561  
to the campaign committee of that officer, the information 562  
required under division (B)(4) of this section in regard to that 563  
contribution, which shall be filed together with and considered 564  
a part of the committee's statement of contributions as required 565  
under division (A) of this section but shall be filed on a 566  
separate form provided by the secretary of state. As used in 567  
this division: 568

(i) "State elected officer" has the same meaning as in 569  
section 3517.092 of the Revised Code. 570

(ii) "Person doing business" means a person or an officer 571  
of an entity who enters into one or more contracts with a state 572  
elected officer or anyone authorized to enter into contracts on 573  
behalf of that officer to receive payments for goods or 574  
services, if the payments total, in the aggregate, more than 575

five thousand dollars during a calendar year.	576
(5) A statement of expenditures which shall include the following information:	577 578
(a) The month, day, and year of the expenditure;	579
(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;	580 581 582 583 584 585
(c) The object or purpose for which the expenditure was made;	586 587
(d) The amount of each expenditure.	588
(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 (F) 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.	589 590 591 592 593 594 595 596 597 598 599 600
(2) The person filing the statement, under penalty of election falsification, shall include with it <u>a-both of the following:</u>	601 602 603

(a) A list of each anonymous contribution, the 604  
circumstances under which it was received, and the reason it 605  
cannot be attributed to a specific donor; 606

(b) A certification that the campaign committee, political 607  
action committee, legislative campaign fund, political party, or 608  
political contributing entity, as applicable, has not knowingly 609  
accepted any contribution that is prohibited under this chapter 610  
or section 3599.03 or 3599.031 of the Revised Code, including 611  
under division (W) of section 3517.13 of the Revised Code, 612  
during the period covered by the statement. 613

(3) Each statement of a campaign committee of a candidate 614  
who holds public office shall contain a designation of each 615  
contributor who is an employee in any unit or department under 616  
the candidate's direct supervision and control. In a space 617  
provided in the statement, the person filing the statement shall 618  
affirm that each such contribution was voluntarily made. 619

(4) A campaign committee that did not receive 620  
contributions or make expenditures in connection with the 621  
nomination or election of its candidate shall file a statement 622  
to that effect, on a form prescribed under this section and made 623  
under penalty of election falsification, on the date required in 624  
division (A) (2) of this section. 625

(5) The campaign committee of any person who attempts to 626  
become a candidate and who, for any reason, does not become 627  
certified in accordance with Title XXXV of the Revised Code for 628  
placement on the official ballot of a primary, general, or 629  
special election to be held in this state, and who, at any time 630  
prior to or after an election, receives contributions or makes 631  
expenditures, or has given consent for another to receive 632  
contributions or make expenditures, for the purpose of bringing 633

about the person's nomination or election to public office, 634  
shall file the statement or statements prescribed by this 635  
section and a termination statement, if applicable. Division (C) 636  
(5) of this section does not apply to any person with respect to 637  
an election to the offices of member of a county or state 638  
central committee, presidential elector, or delegate to a 639  
national convention or conference of a political party. 640

(6) (a) The statements required to be filed under this 641  
section shall specify the balance in the hands of the campaign 642  
committee, political action committee, legislative campaign 643  
fund, political party, or political contributing entity and the 644  
disposition intended to be made of that balance. 645

(b) The secretary of state shall prescribe the form for 646  
all statements required to be filed under this section and shall 647  
furnish the forms to the boards of elections in the several 648  
counties. The boards of elections shall supply printed copies of 649  
those forms without charge. The secretary of state shall 650  
prescribe the appropriate methodology, protocol, and data file 651  
structure for statements required or permitted to be filed by 652  
electronic means of transmission to the secretary of state or a 653  
board of elections under division (A) of this section, division 654  
(E) of section 3517.106, division (D) of section 3517.1011, 655  
division (B) of section 3517.1012, division (C) of section 656  
3517.1013, and divisions (D) and (I) of section 3517.1014 of the 657  
Revised Code. Subject to division (A) of this section, division 658  
(E) of section 3517.106, division (D) of section 3517.1011, 659  
division (B) of section 3517.1012, division (C) of section 660  
3517.1013, and divisions (D) and (I) of section 3517.1014 of the 661  
Revised Code, the statements required to be stored on computer 662  
by the secretary of state under division (B) of section 3517.106 663  
of the Revised Code shall be filed in whatever format the 664

secretary of state considers necessary to enable the secretary 665  
of state to store the information contained in the statements on 666  
computer. Any such format shall be of a type and nature that is 667  
readily available to whoever is required to file the statements 668  
in that format. 669

(c) The secretary of state shall assess the need for 670  
training regarding the filing of campaign finance statements by 671  
electronic means of transmission and regarding associated 672  
technologies for candidates, campaign committees, political 673  
action committees, legislative campaign funds, political 674  
parties, or political contributing entities, for individuals, 675  
partnerships, or other entities, for persons making 676  
disbursements to pay the direct costs of producing or airing 677  
electioneering communications, or for treasurers of transition 678  
funds, required or permitted to file statements by electronic 679  
means of transmission under this section or section 3517.105, 680  
3517.106, 3517.1011, 3517.1012, 3517.1013, or 3517.1014 of the 681  
Revised Code. If, in the opinion of the secretary of state, 682  
training in these areas is necessary, the secretary of state 683  
shall arrange for the provision of voluntary training programs 684  
for candidates, campaign committees, political action 685  
committees, legislative campaign funds, political parties, or 686  
political contributing entities, for individuals, partnerships, 687  
and other entities, for persons making disbursements to pay the 688  
direct costs of producing or airing electioneering 689  
communications, or for treasurers of transition funds, as 690  
appropriate. 691

(7) Each monthly statement and each two-business-day 692  
statement required by division (A) of this section shall contain 693  
the information required by divisions (B) (1) to (4), (C) (2), 694  
and, if appropriate, (C) (3) of this section. Each statement 695



shall be signed as required by division (C) (1) of this section. 696

(D) (1) (a) Prior to receiving a contribution or making an 697  
expenditure, every campaign committee, political action 698  
committee, legislative campaign fund, political party, or 699  
political contributing entity shall appoint a treasurer and 700  
shall file, on a form prescribed by the secretary of state, a 701  
designation of that appointment, including the full name and 702  
address of the treasurer and of the campaign committee, 703  
political action committee, legislative campaign fund, political 704  
party, or political contributing entity. That designation shall 705  
be filed with the official with whom the campaign committee, 706  
political action committee, legislative campaign fund, political 707  
party, or political contributing entity is required to file 708  
statements under section 3517.11 of the Revised Code. The name 709  
of a campaign committee shall include at least the last name of 710  
the campaign committee's candidate. If two or more candidates 711  
are the beneficiaries of a single campaign committee under 712  
division (B) of section 3517.081 of the Revised Code, the name 713  
of the campaign committee shall include at least the last name 714  
of each candidate who is a beneficiary of that campaign 715  
committee. The secretary of state shall assign a registration 716  
number to each political action committee that files a 717  
designation of the appointment of a treasurer under this 718  
division if the political action committee is required by 719  
division (A) (1) of section 3517.11 of the Revised Code to file 720  
the statements prescribed by this section with the secretary of 721  
state. 722

(b) The form of the designation of treasurer shall require 723  
the filer to certify, under penalty of election falsification, 724  
that the campaign committee, political action committee, 725  
legislative campaign fund, political party, or political 726

contributing entity, as applicable, has not knowingly accepted, 727  
and will not knowingly accept, any contribution that is 728  
prohibited under this chapter or section 3599.03 or 3599.031 of 729  
the Revised Code, including under division (W) of section 730  
3517.13 of the Revised Code. 731

(c) The secretary of state shall not accept for filing a 732  
designation of treasurer of a political action committee or 733  
political contributing entity if, in the opinion of the 734  
secretary of state, the name of the political action committee 735  
or political contributing entity would lead a reasonable person 736  
to believe that the political action committee or political 737  
contributing entity acts on behalf of or represents a county 738  
political party, unless the designation is accompanied by a 739  
written statement, signed by the chairperson of the county 740  
political party's executive committee, granting the political 741  
action committee or political contributing entity permission to 742  
act on behalf of or represent the county political party. 743

(2) The treasurer appointed under division (D)(1) of this 744  
section shall keep a strict account of all contributions, from 745  
whom received and the purpose for which they were disbursed. 746

(3) (a) Except as otherwise provided in section 3517.108 of 747  
the Revised Code, a campaign committee shall deposit all 748  
monetary contributions received by the committee into an account 749  
separate from a personal or business account of the candidate or 750  
campaign committee. 751

(b) A political action committee shall deposit all 752  
monetary contributions received by the committee into an account 753  
separate from all other funds. 754

(c) A state or county political party may establish a 755

state candidate fund that is separate from all other funds. A 756  
state or county political party may deposit into its state 757  
candidate fund any amounts of monetary contributions that are 758  
made to or accepted by the political party subject to the 759  
applicable limitations, if any, prescribed in section 3517.102 760  
of the Revised Code. A state or county political party shall 761  
deposit all other monetary contributions received by the party 762  
into one or more accounts that are separate from its state 763  
candidate fund. 764

(d) Each state political party shall have only one 765  
legislative campaign fund for each house of the general 766  
assembly. Each such fund shall be separate from any other funds 767  
or accounts of that state party. A legislative campaign fund is 768  
authorized to receive contributions and make expenditures for 769  
the primary purpose of furthering the election of candidates who 770  
are members of that political party to the house of the general 771  
assembly with which that legislative campaign fund is 772  
associated. Each legislative campaign fund shall be administered 773  
and controlled in a manner designated by the caucus. As used in 774  
this division, "caucus" has the same meaning as in section 775  
3517.01 of the Revised Code and includes, as an ex officio 776  
member, the chairperson of the state political party with which 777  
the caucus is associated or that chairperson's designee. 778

(4) Every expenditure in excess of twenty-five dollars 779  
shall be vouched for by a receipted bill, stating the purpose of 780  
the expenditure, that shall be filed with the statement of 781  
expenditures. A canceled check with a notation of the purpose of 782  
the expenditure is a receipted bill for purposes of division (D) 783  
(4) of this section. 784

(5) The secretary of state or the board of elections, as 785

the case may be, shall issue a receipt for each statement filed 786  
under this section and shall preserve a copy of the receipt for 787  
a period of at least six years. All statements filed under this 788  
section shall be open to public inspection in the office where 789  
they are filed and shall be carefully preserved for a period of 790  
at least six years after the year in which they are filed. 791

(6) The secretary of state, by rule adopted pursuant to 792  
section 3517.23 of the Revised Code, shall prescribe both of the 793  
following: 794

(a) The manner of immediately acknowledging, with date and 795  
time received, and preserving the receipt of statements that are 796  
transmitted by electronic means of transmission to the secretary 797  
of state or a board of elections pursuant to this section or 798  
section 3517.106, 3517.1011, 3517.1012, 3517.1013, or 3517.1014 799  
of the Revised Code; 800

(b) The manner of preserving the contribution and 801  
expenditure, contribution and disbursement, deposit and 802  
disbursement, gift and disbursement, or donation and 803  
disbursement information in the statements described in division 804  
(D) (6) (a) of this section. The secretary of state shall preserve 805  
the contribution and expenditure, contribution and disbursement, 806  
deposit and disbursement, gift and disbursement, or donation and 807  
disbursement information in those statements for at least ten 808  
years after the year in which they are filed by electronic means 809  
of transmission. 810

(7) (a) The secretary of state, pursuant to division (G) of 811  
section 3517.106 of the Revised Code, shall make available 812  
online to the public through the internet the contribution and 813  
expenditure, contribution and disbursement, deposit and 814  
disbursement, gift and disbursement, or donation and 815

disbursement information in all of the following documents:	816
(i) All statements, all addenda, amendments, or other	817
corrections to statements, and all amended statements filed with	818
the secretary of state by electronic or other means of	819
transmission under this section, division (B) (2) (b) or (C) (2) (b)	820
of section 3517.105, or section 3517.106, 3517.1011, 3517.1012,	821
3517.1013, 3517.1014, or 3517.11 of the Revised Code;	822
(ii) All statements filed with a board of elections by	823
electronic means of transmission, and all addenda, amendments,	824
corrections, and amended versions of those statements, filed	825
with the board under this section, division (B) (2) (b) or (C) (2)	826
(b) of section 3517.105, or section 3517.106, 3517.1012, or	827
3517.11 of the Revised Code.	828
(b) The secretary of state may remove the information from	829
the internet after a reasonable period of time.	830
(E) (1) Any person, political party, campaign committee,	831
legislative campaign fund, political action committee, or	832
political contributing entity that makes a contribution in	833
connection with the nomination or election of any candidate or	834
in connection with any ballot issue or question at any election	835
held or to be held in this state shall provide its full name and	836
address to the recipient of the contribution at the time the	837
contribution is made. The political action committee also shall	838
provide the registration number assigned to the committee under	839
division (D) (1) of this section to the recipient of the	840
contribution at the time the contribution is made.	841
(2) Any individual who makes a contribution that exceeds	842
one hundred dollars to a political action committee, political	843
contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or political	844

party or to a campaign committee of a statewide candidate or 845  
candidate for the office of member of the general assembly shall 846  
provide the name of the individual's current employer, if any, 847  
or, if the individual is self-employed, the individual's 848  
occupation and the name of the individual's business, if any, to 849  
the recipient of the contribution at the time the contribution 850  
is made. Sections 3599.39 and 3599.40 of the Revised Code do not 851  
apply to division (E) (2) of this section. 852

(3) If a campaign committee shows that it has exercised 853  
its best efforts to obtain, maintain, and submit the information 854  
required under divisions (B) (4) (b) (ii) and (iii) of this 855  
section, that committee is considered to have met the 856  
requirements of those divisions. A campaign committee shall not 857  
be considered to have exercised its best efforts unless, in 858  
connection with written solicitations, it regularly includes a 859  
written request for the information required under division (B) 860  
(4) (b) (ii) of this section from the contributor or the 861  
information required under division (B) (4) (b) (iii) of this 862  
section from whoever transmits the contribution. 863

(4) Any check that a political action committee uses to 864  
make a contribution or an expenditure shall contain the full 865  
name and address of the committee and the registration number 866  
assigned to the committee under division (D) (1) of this section. 867

(F) As used in this section: 868

(1) (a) Except as otherwise provided in division (F) (1) of 869  
this section, "address" means all of the following if they 870  
exist: apartment number, street, road, or highway name and 871  
number, rural delivery route number, city or village, state, and 872  
zip code as used in a person's post-office address, but not 873  
post-office box. 874

(b) Except as otherwise provided in division (F)(1) of 875  
this section, if an address is required in this section, a post- 876  
office box and office, room, or suite number may be included in 877  
addition to, but not in lieu of, an apartment, street, road, or 878  
highway name and number. 879

(c) If an address is required in this section, a campaign 880  
committee, political action committee, legislative campaign 881  
fund, political party, or political contributing entity may use 882  
the business or residence address of its treasurer or deputy 883  
treasurer. The post-office box number of the campaign committee, 884  
political action committee, legislative campaign fund, political 885  
party, or political contributing entity may be used in addition 886  
to that address. 887

(d) For the sole purpose of a campaign committee's 888  
reporting of contributions on a statement of contributions 889  
received under division (B)(4) of this section, "address" has 890  
one of the following meanings at the option of the campaign 891  
committee: 892

(i) The same meaning as in division (F)(1)(a) of this 893  
section; 894

(ii) All of the following, if they exist: the 895  
contributor's post-office box number and city or village, state, 896  
and zip code as used in the contributor's post-office address. 897

(e) As used with regard to the reporting under this 898  
section of any expenditure, "address" means all of the following 899  
if they exist: apartment number, street, road, or highway name 900  
and number, rural delivery route number, city or village, state, 901  
and zip code as used in a person's post-office address, or post- 902  
office box. If an address concerning any expenditure is required 903

in this section, a campaign committee, political action 904  
committee, legislative campaign fund, political party, or 905  
political contributing entity may use the business or residence 906  
address of its treasurer or deputy treasurer or its post-office 907  
box number. 908

(2) "Statewide candidate" means the joint candidates for 909  
the offices of governor and lieutenant governor or a candidate 910  
for the office of secretary of state, auditor of state, 911  
treasurer of state, attorney general, member of the state board 912  
of education, chief justice of the supreme court, or justice of 913  
the supreme court. 914

(3) "Candidate for county office" means a candidate for 915  
the office of county auditor, county treasurer, clerk of the 916  
court of common pleas, judge of the court of common pleas, 917  
sheriff, county recorder, county engineer, county commissioner, 918  
prosecuting attorney, or coroner. 919

(G) An independent expenditure shall be reported whenever 920  
and in the same manner that an expenditure is required to be 921  
reported under this section and shall be reported pursuant to 922  
division (B) (2) (a) or (C) (2) (a) of section 3517.105 of the 923  
Revised Code. 924

(H) (1) Except as otherwise provided in division (H) (2) of 925  
this section, if, during the combined pre-election and 926  
postelection reporting periods for an election, a campaign 927  
committee has received contributions of five hundred dollars or 928  
less and has made expenditures in the total amount of five 929  
hundred dollars or less, it may file a statement to that effect, 930  
under penalty of election falsification, in lieu of the 931  
statement required by division (A) (2) of this section. The 932  
statement shall indicate the total amount of contributions 933



received and the total amount of expenditures made during those 934  
combined reporting periods. 935

(2) In the case of a successful candidate at a primary 936  
election, if either the total contributions received by or the 937  
total expenditures made by the candidate's campaign committee 938  
during the preprimary, postprimary, pregeneral, and postgeneral 939  
election periods combined equal more than five hundred dollars, 940  
the campaign committee may file the statement under division (H) 941  
(1) of this section only for the primary election. The first 942  
statement that the campaign committee files in regard to the 943  
general election shall reflect all contributions received and 944  
all expenditures made during the preprimary and postprimary 945  
election periods. 946

(3) Divisions (H) (1) and (2) of this section do not apply 947  
if a campaign committee receives contributions or makes 948  
expenditures prior to the first day of January of the year of 949  
the election at which the candidate seeks nomination or election 950  
to office or if the campaign committee does not file a 951  
termination statement with its postprimary election statement in 952  
the case of an unsuccessful primary election candidate or with 953  
its postgeneral election statement in the case of other 954  
candidates. 955

(I) In the case of a contribution made by a partner of a 956  
partnership or an owner or a member of another unincorporated 957  
business from any funds of the partnership or other 958  
unincorporated business, all of the following apply: 959

(1) The recipient of the contribution shall report the 960  
contribution by listing both the partnership or other 961  
unincorporated business and the name of the partner, owner, or 962  
member making the contribution. 963

(2) In reporting the contribution, the recipient of the contribution shall be entitled to conclusively rely upon the information provided by the partnership or other unincorporated business, provided that the information includes one of the following:

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

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

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

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

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

(6) As used in division (I) of this section, "partnership or other unincorporated business" includes, but is not limited to, a cooperative, a sole proprietorship, a general partnership, a limited partnership, a limited partnership association, a limited liability partnership, and a limited liability company.

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

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

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

(2) Except as otherwise provided in division (K) (3) of this section, a campaign committee that files a certificate

under division (K) (1) of this section is not required to file 1023  
the statements required by division (A) of this section. 1024

(3) If, after filing a certificate under division (K) (1) 1025  
of this section, a campaign committee exceeds any of the 1026  
limitations described in that division during an election 1027  
period, the certificate is void and thereafter the campaign 1028  
committee shall file the statements required by division (A) of 1029  
this section. If the campaign committee has not previously filed 1030  
a statement, then on the first statement the campaign committee 1031  
is required to file under division (A) of this section after the 1032  
committee's certificate is void, the committee shall report all 1033  
contributions received and expenditures made from the time the 1034  
candidate filed the candidate's declaration of candidacy and 1035  
petition, nominating petition, or declaration of intent to be a 1036  
write-in candidate. 1037

(4) As used in division (K) of this section, "election 1038  
period" means the period of time beginning on the day a person 1039  
files a declaration of candidacy and petition, nominating 1040  
petition, or declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate 1041  
through the day of the election at which the person seeks 1042  
nomination to office if the person is not elected to office, or, 1043  
if the candidate was nominated in a primary election, the day of 1044  
the election at which the candidate seeks office. 1045

(L) A political contributing entity that receives 1046  
contributions from the dues, membership fees, or other 1047  
assessments of its members or from its officers, shareholders, 1048  
and employees may report the aggregate amount of contributions 1049  
received from those contributors and the number of individuals 1050  
making those contributions, for each filing period under 1051  
divisions (A) (1), (2), (3), and (4) of this section, rather than 1052

reporting information as required under division (B) (4) of this 1053  
section, including, when applicable, the name of the current 1054  
employer, if any, of a contributor whose contribution exceeds 1055  
one hundred dollars or, if such a contributor is self-employed, 1056  
the contributor's occupation and the name of the contributor's 1057  
business, if any. Division (B) (4) of this section applies to a 1058  
political contributing entity with regard to contributions it 1059  
receives from all other contributors. 1060

**Sec. 3517.12.** (A) ~~Prior to receiving a contribution or~~ 1061  
~~making an expenditure, the circulator or~~ If the committee in 1062  
charge of an initiative or referendum petition, or supplementary 1063  
petition for additional signatures, for the submission to the 1064  
electors of a ~~constitutional amendment, proposed law, section,~~ 1065  
~~or item of any law~~ ballot issue or question receives a 1066  
contribution or makes an expenditure for the purpose of 1067  
achieving the successful circulation of the petition, the 1068  
committee is considered a political action committee for that 1069  
purpose and shall appoint a treasurer and shall file with the 1070  
~~secretary of state, on a form prescribed by the secretary of~~ 1071  
~~state, a designation of that appointment, including the full~~ 1072  
~~name and address of the treasurer and of the circulator or~~ 1073  
~~committee~~ comply with all applicable requirements of this 1074  
chapter concerning political action committees, including filing 1075  
a designation of treasurer under division (D) of section 3517.10 1076  
of the Revised Code before receiving a contribution or making an 1077  
expenditure and filing all required statements of contributions 1078  
and expenditures. 1079

(B) ~~The circulator or~~ If the committee in charge of an 1080  
initiative or referendum petition, or supplementary petition for 1081  
additional signatures, for the submission to the electors of a 1082  
~~constitutional amendment, proposed law, section, or item of any~~ 1083

~~law ballot issue or question receives no contributions and makes~~ 1084  
~~no expenditures for the purpose of achieving the successful~~ 1085  
~~circulation of the petition, and is not otherwise considered a~~ 1086  
~~campaign committee, political party, legislative campaign fund,~~ 1087  
~~political action committee, or political contributing entity,~~ 1088  
~~then the committee shall, within thirty days after those the~~ 1089  
~~petition papers are is filed, file with the secretary of state~~ 1090  
~~office with which the petition is filed, on a form prescribed by~~ 1091  
~~the secretary of state, an itemized a statement, made under~~ 1092  
~~penalty of election falsification, showing in detail the~~ 1093  
~~following:~~ 1094

~~(1) All money or things of value paid, given, promised, or~~ 1095  
~~received for circulating the petitions;~~ 1096

~~(2) All appointments, promotions, or increases in salary,~~ 1097  
~~in positions which were given, promised, or received, or to~~ 1098  
~~obtain which assistance was given, promised, or received as a~~ 1099  
~~consideration for work done in circulating petitions;~~ 1100

~~(3) Full names and addresses, including street, city, and~~ 1101  
~~state, of all persons to whom such payments or promises were~~ 1102  
~~made and of all persons from whom such payments or promises were~~ 1103  
~~received;~~ 1104

~~(4) Full names and addresses, including street, city, and~~ 1105  
~~state, of all persons who contributed anything of value to be~~ 1106  
~~used in circulating the petitions, and the amounts of those~~ 1107  
~~contributions;~~ 1108

~~(5) Time spent and salaries earned while soliciting~~ 1109  
~~signatures to petitions by persons who were regular salaried~~ 1110  
~~employees of some person or whom that employer authorized to~~ 1111  
~~solicit as part of their regular duties.~~ 1112

~~If that the committee received no money or things of value were paid or received or if no promises were made or received as a consideration for work done in circulating a petition, the statement shall contain words to that effect contributions and made no expenditures for the purpose of achieving the successful circulation of the petition.~~ 1113  
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~~(C) The treasurer designated under division (A) of this section shall file statements of contributions and expenditures in accordance with section 3517.10 of the Revised Code regarding all contributions made or received and all expenditures made by that treasurer or the circulator or committee in connection with the initiative or referendum petition, or supplementary petition for additional signatures, for the submission of a constitutional amendment, proposed law, section, or item of any law.~~ 1119  
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**Sec. 3517.13.** (A) (1) No campaign committee of a statewide candidate shall fail to file a complete and accurate statement required under division (A) (1) of section 3517.10 of the Revised Code. 1128  
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(2) No campaign committee of a statewide candidate shall fail to file a complete and accurate monthly statement, and no campaign committee of a statewide candidate or a candidate for the office of chief justice or justice of the supreme court shall fail to file a complete and accurate two-business-day statement, as required under section 3517.10 of the Revised Code. 1132  
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As used in this division, "statewide candidate" has the same meaning as in division (F) (2) of section 3517.10 of the Revised Code. 1139  
1140  
1141

(B) No campaign committee shall fail to file a complete 1142  
and accurate statement required under division (A) (1) of section 1143  
3517.10 of the Revised Code. 1144

(C) No campaign committee shall fail to file a complete 1145  
and accurate statement required under division (A) (2) of section 1146  
3517.10 of the Revised Code. 1147

(D) No campaign committee shall fail to file a complete 1148  
and accurate statement required under division (A) (3) or (4) of 1149  
section 3517.10 of the Revised Code. 1150

(E) No person other than a campaign committee shall 1151  
knowingly fail to file a statement required under section 1152  
3517.10 or 3517.107 of the Revised Code. 1153

(F) No person shall make cash contributions to any person 1154  
totaling more than one hundred dollars in each primary, special, 1155  
or general election. 1156

(G) (1) No person shall knowingly conceal or misrepresent 1157  
contributions given or received, expenditures made, or any other 1158  
information required to be reported by a provision in sections 1159  
3517.08 to 3517.13 of the Revised Code. 1160

(2) (a) No person shall make a contribution to a campaign 1161  
committee, political action committee, political contributing 1162  
entity, legislative campaign fund, political party, or person 1163  
making disbursements to pay the direct costs of producing or 1164  
airing electioneering communications in the name of another 1165  
person. 1166

(b) A person does not make a contribution in the name of 1167  
another when either of the following applies: 1168

(i) An individual makes a contribution from a partnership 1169



or other unincorporated business account, if the contribution is 1170  
reported by listing both the name of the partnership or other 1171  
unincorporated business and the name of the partner or owner 1172  
making the contribution as required under division (I) of 1173  
section 3517.10 of the Revised Code. 1174

(ii) A person makes a contribution in that person's 1175  
spouse's name or in both of their names. 1176

(H) No person within this state, publishing a newspaper or 1177  
other periodical, shall charge a campaign committee for 1178  
political advertising a rate in excess of the rate such person 1179  
would charge if the campaign committee were a general rate 1180  
advertiser whose advertising was directed to promoting its 1181  
business within the same area as that encompassed by the 1182  
particular office that the candidate of the campaign committee 1183  
is seeking. The rate shall take into account the amount of space 1184  
used, as well as the type of advertising copy submitted by or on 1185  
behalf of the campaign committee. All discount privileges 1186  
otherwise offered by a newspaper or periodical to general rate 1187  
advertisers shall be available upon equal terms to all campaign 1188  
committees. 1189

No person within this state, operating a radio or 1190  
television station or network of stations in this state, shall 1191  
charge a campaign committee for political broadcasts a rate that 1192  
exceeds: 1193

(1) During the forty-five days preceding the date of a 1194  
primary election and during the sixty days preceding the date of 1195  
a general or special election in which the candidate of the 1196  
campaign committee is seeking office, the lowest unit charge of 1197  
the station for the same class and amount of time for the same 1198  
period; 1199

(2) At any other time, the charges made for comparable use 1200  
of that station by its other users. 1201

(I) Subject to divisions (K), (L), (M), and (N) of this 1202  
section, no agency or department of this state or any political 1203  
subdivision shall award any contract, other than one let by 1204  
competitive bidding or a contract incidental to such contract or 1205  
which is by force account, for the purchase of goods costing 1206  
more than five hundred dollars or services costing more than 1207  
five hundred dollars to any individual, partnership, 1208  
association, including, without limitation, a professional 1209  
association organized under Chapter 1785. of the Revised Code, 1210  
estate, or trust if the individual has made or the individual's 1211  
spouse has made, or any partner, shareholder, administrator, 1212  
executor, or trustee or the spouse of any of them has made, as 1213  
an individual, within the two previous calendar years, one or 1214  
more contributions totaling in excess of one thousand dollars to 1215  
the holder of the public office having ultimate responsibility 1216  
for the award of the contract or to the public officer's 1217  
campaign committee. 1218

(J) Subject to divisions (K), (L), (M), and (N) of this 1219  
section, no agency or department of this state or any political 1220  
subdivision shall award any contract, other than one let by 1221  
competitive bidding or a contract incidental to such contract or 1222  
which is by force account, for the purchase of goods costing 1223  
more than five hundred dollars or services costing more than 1224  
five hundred dollars to a corporation or business trust, except 1225  
a professional association organized under Chapter 1785. of the 1226  
Revised Code, if an owner of more than twenty per cent of the 1227  
corporation or business trust or the spouse of that person has 1228  
made, as an individual, within the two previous calendar years, 1229  
taking into consideration only owners for all of that period, 1230

one or more contributions totaling in excess of one thousand 1231  
dollars to the holder of a public office having ultimate 1232  
responsibility for the award of the contract or to the public 1233  
officer's campaign committee. 1234

(K) For purposes of divisions (I) and (J) of this section, 1235  
if a public officer who is responsible for the award of a 1236  
contract is appointed by the governor, whether or not the 1237  
appointment is subject to the advice and consent of the senate, 1238  
excluding members of boards, commissions, committees, 1239  
authorities, councils, boards of trustees, task forces, and 1240  
other such entities appointed by the governor, the office of the 1241  
governor is considered to have ultimate responsibility for the 1242  
award of the contract. 1243

(L) For purposes of divisions (I) and (J) of this section, 1244  
if a public officer who is responsible for the award of a 1245  
contract is appointed by the elected chief executive officer of 1246  
a municipal corporation, or appointed by the elected chief 1247  
executive officer of a county operating under an alternative 1248  
form of county government or county charter, excluding members 1249  
of boards, commissions, committees, authorities, councils, 1250  
boards of trustees, task forces, and other such entities 1251  
appointed by the chief executive officer, the office of the 1252  
chief executive officer is considered to have ultimate 1253  
responsibility for the award of the contract. 1254

(M) (1) Divisions (I) and (J) of this section do not apply 1255  
to contracts awarded by the board of commissioners of the 1256  
sinking fund, municipal legislative authorities, boards of 1257  
education, boards of county commissioners, boards of township 1258  
trustees, or other boards, commissions, committees, authorities, 1259  
councils, boards of trustees, task forces, and other such 1260

entities created by law, by the supreme court or courts of 1261  
appeals, by county courts consisting of more than one judge, 1262  
courts of common pleas consisting of more than one judge, or 1263  
municipal courts consisting of more than one judge, or by a 1264  
division of any court if the division consists of more than one 1265  
judge. This division shall apply to the specified entity only if 1266  
the members of the entity act collectively in the award of a 1267  
contract for goods or services. 1268

(2) Divisions (I) and (J) of this section do not apply to 1269  
actions of the controlling board. 1270

(N) (1) Divisions (I) and (J) of this section apply to 1271  
contributions made to the holder of a public office having 1272  
ultimate responsibility for the award of a contract, or to the 1273  
public officer's campaign committee, during the time the person 1274  
holds the office and during any time such person was a candidate 1275  
for the office. Those divisions do not apply to contributions 1276  
made to, or to the campaign committee of, a candidate for or 1277  
holder of the office other than the holder of the office at the 1278  
time of the award of the contract. 1279

(2) Divisions (I) and (J) of this section do not apply to 1280  
contributions of a partner, shareholder, administrator, 1281  
executor, trustee, or owner of more than twenty per cent of a 1282  
corporation or business trust made before the person held any of 1283  
those positions or after the person ceased to hold any of those 1284  
positions in the partnership, association, estate, trust, 1285  
corporation, or business trust whose eligibility to be awarded a 1286  
contract is being determined, nor to contributions of the 1287  
person's spouse made before the person held any of those 1288  
positions, after the person ceased to hold any of those 1289  
positions, before the two were married, after the granting of a 1290

decree of divorce, dissolution of marriage, or annulment, or 1291  
after the granting of an order in an action brought solely for 1292  
legal separation. Those divisions do not apply to contributions 1293  
of the spouse of an individual whose eligibility to be awarded a 1294  
contract is being determined made before the two were married, 1295  
after the granting of a decree of divorce, dissolution of 1296  
marriage, or annulment, or after the granting of an order in an 1297  
action brought solely for legal separation. 1298

(0) No beneficiary of a campaign fund or other person 1299  
shall convert for personal use, and no person shall knowingly 1300  
give to a beneficiary of a campaign fund or any other person, 1301  
for the beneficiary's or any other person's personal use, 1302  
anything of value from the beneficiary's campaign fund, 1303  
including, without limitation, payments to a beneficiary for 1304  
services the beneficiary personally performs, except as 1305  
reimbursement for any of the following: 1306

(1) Legitimate and verifiable prior campaign expenses 1307  
incurred by the beneficiary; 1308

(2) Legitimate and verifiable ordinary and necessary prior 1309  
expenses incurred by the beneficiary in connection with duties 1310  
as the holder of a public office, including, without limitation, 1311  
expenses incurred through participation in nonpartisan or 1312  
bipartisan events if the participation of the holder of a public 1313  
office would normally be expected; 1314

(3) Legitimate and verifiable ordinary and necessary prior 1315  
expenses incurred by the beneficiary while doing any of the 1316  
following: 1317

(a) Engaging in activities in support of or opposition to 1318  
a candidate other than the beneficiary, political party, or 1319

ballot issue;	1320
(b) Raising funds for a political party, political action committee, political contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, campaign committee, or other candidate;	1321 1322 1323
(c) Participating in the activities of a political party, political action committee, political contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or campaign committee;	1324 1325 1326
(d) Attending a political party convention or other political meeting.	1327 1328
For purposes of this division, an expense is incurred whenever a beneficiary has either made payment or is obligated to make payment, as by the use of a credit card or other credit procedure or by the use of goods or services received on account.	1329 1330 1331 1332 1333
(P) No beneficiary of a campaign fund shall knowingly accept, and no person shall knowingly give to the beneficiary of a campaign fund, reimbursement for an expense under division (O) of this section to the extent that the expense previously was reimbursed or paid from another source of funds. If an expense is reimbursed under division (O) of this section and is later paid or reimbursed, wholly or in part, from another source of funds, the beneficiary shall repay the reimbursement received under division (O) of this section to the extent of the payment made or reimbursement received from the other source.	1334 1335 1336 1337 1338 1339 1340 1341 1342 1343
(Q) No candidate or public official or employee shall accept for personal or business use anything of value from a political party, political action committee, political contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or campaign committee other than the candidate's or public official's or	1344 1345 1346 1347 1348

employee's own campaign committee, and no person shall knowingly 1349  
give to a candidate or public official or employee anything of 1350  
value from a political party, political action committee, 1351  
political contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or 1352  
such a campaign committee, except for the following: 1353

(1) Reimbursement for legitimate and verifiable ordinary 1354  
and necessary prior expenses not otherwise prohibited by law 1355  
incurred by the candidate or public official or employee while 1356  
engaged in any legitimate activity of the political party, 1357  
political action committee, political contributing entity, 1358  
legislative campaign fund, or such campaign committee. Without 1359  
limitation, reimbursable expenses under this division include 1360  
those incurred while doing any of the following: 1361

(a) Engaging in activities in support of or opposition to 1362  
another candidate, political party, or ballot issue; 1363

(b) Raising funds for a political party, legislative 1364  
campaign fund, campaign committee, or another candidate; 1365

(c) Attending a political party convention or other 1366  
political meeting. 1367

(2) Compensation not otherwise prohibited by law for 1368  
actual and valuable personal services rendered under a written 1369  
contract to the political party, political action committee, 1370  
political contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or 1371  
such campaign committee for any legitimate activity of the 1372  
political party, political action committee, political 1373  
contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or such campaign 1374  
committee. 1375

Reimbursable expenses under this division do not include, 1376  
and it is a violation of this division for a candidate or public 1377

official or employee to accept, or for any person to knowingly 1378  
give to a candidate or public official or employee from a 1379  
political party, political action committee, political 1380  
contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or campaign 1381  
committee other than the candidate's or public official's or 1382  
employee's own campaign committee, anything of value for 1383  
activities primarily related to the candidate's or public 1384  
official's or employee's own campaign for election, except for 1385  
contributions to the candidate's or public official's or 1386  
employee's campaign committee. 1387

For purposes of this division, an expense is incurred 1388  
whenever a candidate or public official or employee has either 1389  
made payment or is obligated to make payment, as by the use of a 1390  
credit card or other credit procedure, or by the use of goods or 1391  
services on account. 1392

(R) (1) Division (O) or (P) of this section does not 1393  
prohibit a campaign committee from making direct advance or post 1394  
payment from contributions to vendors for goods and services for 1395  
which reimbursement is permitted under division (O) of this 1396  
section, except that no campaign committee shall pay its 1397  
candidate or other beneficiary for services personally performed 1398  
by the candidate or other beneficiary. 1399

(2) If any expense that may be reimbursed under division 1400  
(O), (P), or (Q) of this section is part of other expenses that 1401  
may not be paid or reimbursed, the separation of the two types 1402  
of expenses for the purpose of allocating for payment or 1403  
reimbursement those expenses that may be paid or reimbursed may 1404  
be by any reasonable accounting method, considering all of the 1405  
surrounding circumstances. 1406

(3) For purposes of divisions (O), (P), and (Q) of this 1407



section, mileage allowance at a rate not greater than that 1408  
allowed by the internal revenue service at the time the travel 1409  
occurs may be paid instead of reimbursement for actual travel 1410  
expenses allowable. 1411

(4) For purposes of divisions (O), (P), and (Q) of this 1412  
section, the reasonable cost of child care rendered in this 1413  
state is considered an ordinary and necessary expense incurred 1414  
by a beneficiary while engaging in the activities and duties 1415  
described in those divisions, so long as all of the following 1416  
apply: 1417

(a) The cost is incurred only as a direct result of the 1418  
beneficiary engaging in those activities and duties and would 1419  
not otherwise be incurred. 1420

(b) The beneficiary is a primary caregiver of the child. 1421

(c) The child is twelve years of age or younger. 1422

(S) (1) As used in division (S) of this section: 1423

(a) "State elective office" has the same meaning as in 1424  
section 3517.092 of the Revised Code. 1425

(b) "Federal office" means a federal office as defined in 1426  
the Federal Election Campaign Act. 1427

(c) "Federal campaign committee" means a principal 1428  
campaign committee or authorized committee as defined in the 1429  
Federal Election Campaign Act. 1430

(2) No person who is a candidate for state elective office 1431  
and who previously sought nomination or election to a federal 1432  
office shall transfer any funds or assets from that person's 1433  
federal campaign committee for nomination or election to the 1434  
federal office to that person's campaign committee as a 1435

candidate for state elective office.	1436
(3) No campaign committee of a person who is a candidate	1437
for state elective office and who previously sought nomination	1438
or election to a federal office shall accept any funds or assets	1439
from that person's federal campaign committee for that person's	1440
nomination or election to the federal office.	1441
(T) (1) Except as otherwise provided in division (B) (6) (c)	1442
of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code, a state or county	1443
political party shall not disburse moneys from any account other	1444
than a state candidate fund to make contributions to any of the	1445
following:	1446
(a) A state candidate fund;	1447
(b) A legislative campaign fund;	1448
(c) A campaign committee of a candidate for the office of	1449
governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, auditor of	1450
state, treasurer of state, attorney general, member of the state	1451
board of education, or member of the general assembly.	1452
(2) No state candidate fund, legislative campaign fund, or	1453
campaign committee of a candidate for any office described in	1454
division (T) (1) (c) of this section shall knowingly accept a	1455
contribution in violation of division (T) (1) of this section.	1456
(U) No person shall fail to file a statement required	1457
under section 3517.12 of the Revised Code.	1458
(V) No campaign committee shall fail to file a statement	1459
required under division (K) (3) of section 3517.10 of the Revised	1460
Code.	1461
(W) (1) No foreign national shall, directly or indirectly	1462
through any other person or entity, <del>make</del> <u>do any of the</u>	1463

following: 1464

(a) Make a contribution, expenditure, or independent 1465  
expenditure or promise, either expressly or implicitly, to make 1466  
a contribution, expenditure, or independent expenditure~~in~~ 1467  
~~support of or opposition to a candidate for any elective office~~ 1468  
~~in this state, including an office of a political party;~~ 1469

(b) Solicit another person to make a contribution, 1470  
expenditure, or independent expenditure; 1471

(c) Make a loan, gift, deposit, forgiveness of 1472  
indebtedness, donation, advance, payment, or transfer of funds 1473  
to another person with a designation, instruction, or 1474  
encumbrance that the foreign national knows will result in any 1475  
part of the loan, gift, deposit, forgiveness of indebtedness, 1476  
donation, advance, payment, or transfer of funds being used to 1477  
make a contribution, expenditure, or independent expenditure. As 1478  
used in this division, "designation, instruction, or 1479  
encumbrance" includes any designation, instruction, or 1480  
encumbrance that is direct or indirect, express or implied, oral 1481  
or written, or involving an intermediary or conduit. 1482

(2) No candidate, campaign committee, political action 1483  
committee, political contributing entity, legislative campaign 1484  
fund, state candidate fund, political party, ~~or~~ separate 1485  
segregated fund, continuing association, corporation, or labor 1486  
organization shall do either of the following: 1487

(a) Knowingly transfer funds, or accept a transfer of 1488  
funds, directly or indirectly into an account from which the 1489  
person makes contributions or expenditures from an account that 1490  
is controlled by the person or by the person's affiliate and 1491  
that, at any time, has contained funds received directly or 1492

indirectly from a foreign national. For purposes of this 1493  
division, a person is affiliated with another person if they are 1494  
both established, financed, maintained, or controlled by, or if 1495  
they are, the same corporation, organization, labor 1496  
organization, or other person, including any parent, subsidiary, 1497  
division, or department of that corporation, organization, labor 1498  
organization, or other person. 1499

(b) Otherwise knowingly solicit or accept a contribution, 1500  
expenditure, or independent expenditure, directly or indirectly 1501  
through another person or entity, from a foreign national. The 1502  
secretary of state may direct any candidate, committee, entity, 1503  
fund, or party that accepts a contribution, expenditure, or 1504  
independent expenditure in violation of this division to return 1505  
the contribution, expenditure, or independent expenditure or, if 1506  
it is not possible to return the contribution, expenditure, or 1507  
independent expenditure, then to return instead the value of it, 1508  
to the contributor. 1509

(3) No person shall knowingly aid or facilitate a 1510  
violation of division (W) (1) or (2) of this section. 1511

(4) As used in division (W) of this section, "foreign 1512  
national" has the same meaning as in section 441e(b) of the 1513  
Federal Election Campaign Act means any of the following, as 1514  
applicable: 1515

(a) In the case of an individual, an individual who is not 1516  
a United States citizen or national; 1517

(b) A government of a foreign country or of a political 1518  
subdivision of a foreign country; 1519

(c) A foreign political party; 1520

(d) A person, other than an individual, that is organized 1521

under the laws of, or has its principal place of business in, a 1522  
foreign country. 1523

(X) (1) No state or county political party shall transfer 1524  
any moneys from its restricted fund to any account of the 1525  
political party into which contributions may be made or from 1526  
which contributions or expenditures may be made. 1527

(2) (a) No state or county political party shall deposit a 1528  
contribution or contributions that it receives into its 1529  
restricted fund. 1530

(b) No state or county political party shall make a 1531  
contribution or an expenditure from its restricted fund. 1532

(3) (a) No corporation or labor organization shall make a 1533  
gift or gifts from the corporation's or labor organization's 1534  
money or property aggregating more than ten thousand dollars to 1535  
any one state or county political party for the party's 1536  
restricted fund in a calendar year. 1537

(b) No state or county political party shall accept a gift 1538  
or gifts for the party's restricted fund aggregating more than 1539  
ten thousand dollars from any one corporation or labor 1540  
organization in a calendar year. 1541

(4) No state or county political party shall transfer any 1542  
moneys in the party's restricted fund to any other state or 1543  
county political party. 1544

(5) No state or county political party shall knowingly 1545  
fail to file a statement required under section 3517.1012 of the 1546  
Revised Code. 1547

(Y) The administrator of workers' compensation and the 1548  
employees of the bureau of workers' compensation shall not 1549

conduct any business with or award any contract, other than one 1550  
awarded by competitive bidding, for the purchase of goods 1551  
costing more than five hundred dollars or services costing more 1552  
than five hundred dollars to any individual, partnership, 1553  
association, including, without limitation, a professional 1554  
association organized under Chapter 1785. of the Revised Code, 1555  
estate, or trust, if the individual has made, or the 1556  
individual's spouse has made, or any partner, shareholder, 1557  
administrator, executor, or trustee, or the spouses of any of 1558  
those individuals has made, as an individual, within the two 1559  
previous calendar years, one or more contributions totaling in 1560  
excess of one thousand dollars to the campaign committee of the 1561  
governor or lieutenant governor or to the campaign committee of 1562  
any candidate for the office of governor or lieutenant governor. 1563

(Z) The administrator of workers' compensation and the 1564  
employees of the bureau of workers' compensation shall not 1565  
conduct business with or award any contract, other than one 1566  
awarded by competitive bidding, for the purchase of goods 1567  
costing more than five hundred dollars or services costing more 1568  
than five hundred dollars to a corporation or business trust, 1569  
except a professional association organized under Chapter 1785. 1570  
of the Revised Code, if an owner of more than twenty per cent of 1571  
the corporation or business trust, or the spouse of the owner, 1572  
has made, as an individual, within the two previous calendar 1573  
years, taking into consideration only owners for all of such 1574  
period, one or more contributions totaling in excess of one 1575  
thousand dollars to the campaign committee of the governor or 1576  
lieutenant governor or to the campaign committee of any 1577  
candidate for the office of governor or lieutenant governor. 1578

**Sec. 3517.155.** (A) (1) Except as otherwise provided in 1579  
division (B) of this section, the Ohio elections commission 1580

shall hold its first hearing on a complaint filed with it, other 1581  
than a complaint that receives an expedited hearing under 1582  
section 3517.156 of the Revised Code, not later than ninety 1583  
business days after the complaint is filed unless the commission 1584  
has good cause to hold the hearing after that time, in which 1585  
case it shall hold the hearing not later than one hundred eighty 1586  
business days after the complaint is filed. At the hearing, the 1587  
commission shall determine whether or not the failure to act or 1588  
the violation alleged in the complaint has occurred and shall do 1589  
only one of the following, except as otherwise provided in 1590  
~~division (B) of this section or in division (B) of section~~ 1591  
3517.151 of the Revised Code: 1592

(a) Enter a finding that good cause has been shown not to 1593  
impose a fine or not to refer the matter to the appropriate 1594  
prosecutor; 1595

(b) Impose a fine under section 3517.993 of the Revised 1596  
Code; 1597

(c) Refer the matter to the appropriate prosecutor~~+~~. 1598

(2) As used in division (A) of this section, "appropriate 1599  
prosecutor" means ~~a prosecutor as defined in section 2935.01 of~~ 1600  
~~the Revised Code and either of the following:~~ 1601

(a) In the case of a failure to comply with or a violation 1602  
of law involving a campaign committee or the committee's 1603  
candidate, a political party, a legislative campaign fund, a 1604  
political action committee, or a political contributing entity, 1605  
that is required to file a statement of contributions and 1606  
expenditures with the secretary of state under division (A) of 1607  
section 3517.11 of the Revised Code, ~~the prosecutor of Franklin~~ 1608  
county attorney general, except that if the attorney general is 1609

a victim or witness or otherwise involved in the matter, 1610  
"appropriate prosecutor" means a county prosecutor whom the 1611  
commission deems appropriate to prosecute the matter; 1612

(b) In the case of a failure to comply with or a violation 1613  
of law involving any other campaign committee or committee's 1614  
candidate, or any other political party, political action 1615  
committee, or political contributing entity, either of the 1616  
following as determined by the commission: 1617

(i) The prosecutor of Franklin county attorney general, 1618  
except that if the attorney general is a victim or witness or 1619  
otherwise involved in the matter, the commission shall refer the 1620  
matter to the prosecutor described in division (A) (2) (b) (ii) of 1621  
this section; 1622

(ii) The prosecutor of the county in which the candidacy 1623  
or ballot question or issue is submitted to the electors or, if 1624  
it is submitted in more than one county, the most populous of 1625  
those counties, except that if that prosecutor is a victim or 1626  
witness or otherwise involved in the matter, the commission 1627  
shall refer the matter to the attorney general. 1628

(3) When the commission refers a matter to the attorney 1629  
general under this section, or when a matter is transferred to 1630  
the attorney general under division (D) (3) (b) of this section, 1631  
the attorney general may prosecute the matter with all the 1632  
rights, privileges, and powers conferred by law on prosecuting 1633  
attorneys, including the power to appear before grand juries and 1634  
to interrogate witnesses before such grand juries. These powers 1635  
of the attorney general are in addition to any other applicable 1636  
powers of the attorney general. 1637

(B) If the commission decides that the evidence is 1638



insufficient for it to determine whether or not the failure to 1639  
act or the violation alleged in the complaint has occurred, the 1640  
commission, by the affirmative vote of five members, may request 1641  
that an investigatory attorney investigate the complaint. Upon 1642  
that request, an investigatory attorney shall make an 1643  
investigation in order to produce sufficient evidence for the 1644  
commission to decide the matter. If the commission requests an 1645  
investigation under this division, for good cause shown by the 1646  
investigatory attorney, the commission may extend by sixty days 1647  
the deadline for holding its first hearing on the complaint as 1648  
required in division (A) of this section. 1649

(C) The commission shall take one of the actions required 1650  
under division (A) of this section not later than thirty days 1651  
after the close of all the evidence presented. 1652

(D) (1) The commission shall make any finding of a failure 1653  
to comply with or a violation of law in regard to a complaint 1654  
that alleges a violation of division (A) or (B) of section 1655  
3517.21, or division (A) or (B) of section 3517.22 of the 1656  
Revised Code by clear and convincing evidence. The commission 1657  
shall make any finding of a failure to comply with or a 1658  
violation of law in regard to any other complaint by a 1659  
preponderance of the evidence. 1660

(2) If the commission finds a violation of division (B) of 1661  
section 3517.21 or division (B) of section 3517.22 of the 1662  
Revised Code, it shall refer the matter to the appropriate 1663  
prosecutor under division (A) (1) (c) of this section and shall 1664  
not impose a fine under division (A) (1) (b) of this section or 1665  
section 3517.993 of the Revised Code. 1666

(3) (a) If the commission finds a violation of division (W) 1667  
of section 3517.13 of the Revised Code, it shall do one of the 1668

following: 1669

(i) Impose a fine under section 3517.993 of the Revised Code in an amount equal to three times the amount involved in the violation or ten thousand dollars, whichever amount is greater, with none of the fine suspended and, in the case of a violation of division (W) (2) of section 3517.13 of the Revised Code, order the violator to return an amount equal to any amount accepted in violation of that division to the foreign national from whom it was accepted; 1670  
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(ii) Refer the matter to the appropriate prosecutor. 1678

(b) (i) Except as otherwise provided in division (D) (3) (b) (ii) of this section, if the commission finds a violation of division (W) of section 3517.13 of the Revised Code and refers the matter to a county prosecutor under division (A) (2) (b) (ii) of this section, the attorney general may transfer the matter to the attorney general for prosecution upon the request of the prosecutor to whom the commission refers the matter or upon the attorney general's own initiative. 1679  
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(ii) Division (D) (3) (b) (i) of this section does not apply to any matter in which the attorney general is a victim or witness or is otherwise involved. 1687  
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(E) In an action before the commission or a panel of the commission, if the allegations of the complainant are not proved, and the commission takes the action described in division (A) (1) (a) of this section or a panel of the commission takes the action described in division (C) (1) of section 3517.156 of the Revised Code, the commission or a panel of the commission may find that the complaint is frivolous, and, if the commission or panel so finds, the commission shall order the 1690  
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complainant to pay reasonable attorney's fees and to pay the 1698  
costs of the commission or panel as determined by a majority of 1699  
the members of the commission. The costs paid to the commission 1700  
or panel under this division shall be deposited into the Ohio 1701  
elections commission fund. 1702

**Sec. 3517.992.** This section establishes penalties only 1703  
with respect to acts or failures to act that occur on and after 1704  
August 24, 1995. 1705

(A) (1) A candidate whose campaign committee violates 1706  
division (A), (B), (C), (D), or (V) of section 3517.13 of the 1707  
Revised Code, or a treasurer of a campaign committee who 1708  
violates any of those divisions, shall be fined not more than 1709  
one hundred dollars for each day of violation. 1710

(2) Whoever violates division (E) or (X) (5) of section 1711  
3517.13 or division (E) (1) of section 3517.1014 of the Revised 1712  
Code shall be fined not more than one hundred dollars for each 1713  
day of violation. 1714

(B) An entity that violates division (G) (1) of section 1715  
3517.101 of the Revised Code shall be fined not more than one 1716  
hundred dollars for each day of violation. 1717

(C) Whoever violates division (G) (2) of section 3517.101, 1718  
division (G) of section 3517.13, or division (E) (2) or (3) of 1719  
section 3517.1014 of the Revised Code shall be fined not more 1720  
than ten thousand dollars or, if the offender is a person who 1721  
was nominated or elected to public office, shall forfeit the 1722  
nomination or the office to which the offender was elected, or 1723  
both. 1724

(D) Whoever violates division (F) of section 3517.13 of 1725  
the Revised Code shall be fined not more than three times the 1726

amount contributed. 1727

(E) Whoever violates division (H) of section 3517.13 of 1728  
the Revised Code shall be fined not more than one hundred 1729  
dollars. 1730

(F) Whoever violates division (O), (P), or (Q) of section 1731  
3517.13 of the Revised Code is guilty of a misdemeanor of the 1732  
first degree. 1733

(G) A state or county committee of a political party that 1734  
violates division (B) (1) of section 3517.18 of the Revised Code 1735  
as that section existed before its repeal by H.B. 166 of the 1736  
133rd general assembly shall be fined not more than twice the 1737  
amount of the improper expenditure. 1738

(H) An entity that violates division (H) of section 1739  
3517.101 of the Revised Code shall be fined not more than twice 1740  
the amount of the improper expenditure or use. 1741

(I) (1) Any individual who violates division (B) (1) of 1742  
section 3517.102 of the Revised Code and knows that the 1743  
contribution the individual makes violates that division shall 1744  
be fined an amount equal to three times the amount contributed 1745  
in excess of the amount permitted by that division. 1746

(2) Any political action committee that violates division 1747  
(B) (2) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code shall be fined an 1748  
amount equal to three times the amount contributed in excess of 1749  
the amount permitted by that division. 1750

(3) Any campaign committee that violates division (B) (3) 1751  
or (5) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code shall be fined an 1752  
amount equal to three times the amount contributed in excess of 1753  
the amount permitted by that division. 1754

(4) (a) Any legislative campaign fund that violates 1755  
division (B) (6) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code shall be 1756  
fined an amount equal to three times the amount transferred or 1757  
contributed in excess of the amount permitted by that division, 1758  
as applicable. 1759

(b) Any state political party, county political party, or 1760  
state candidate fund of a state political party or county 1761  
political party that violates division (B) (6) of section 1762  
3517.102 of the Revised Code shall be fined an amount equal to 1763  
three times the amount transferred or contributed in excess of 1764  
the amount permitted by that division, as applicable. 1765

(c) Any political contributing entity that violates 1766  
division (B) (7) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code shall be 1767  
fined an amount equal to three times the amount contributed in 1768  
excess of the amount permitted by that division. 1769

(5) Any political party that violates division (B) (4) of 1770  
section 3517.102 of the Revised Code shall be fined an amount 1771  
equal to three times the amount contributed in excess of the 1772  
amount permitted by that division. 1773

(6) Notwithstanding divisions (I) (1), (2), (3), (4), and 1774  
(5) of this section, no violation of division (B) of section 1775  
3517.102 of the Revised Code occurs, and the secretary of state 1776  
shall not refer parties to the Ohio elections commission, if the 1777  
amount transferred or contributed in excess of the amount 1778  
permitted by that division meets either of the following 1779  
conditions: 1780

(a) It is completely refunded within five business days 1781  
after it is accepted. 1782

(b) It is completely refunded on or before the tenth 1783

business day after notification to the recipient of the excess 1784  
transfer or contribution by the board of elections or the 1785  
secretary of state that a transfer or contribution in excess of 1786  
the permitted amount has been received. 1787

(J) (1) Any campaign committee that violates division (C) 1788  
(1), (2), (3), or (6) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code 1789  
shall be fined an amount equal to three times the amount 1790  
accepted in excess of the amount permitted by that division. 1791

(2) (a) Any county political party that violates division 1792  
(C) (4) (a) (ii) or (iii) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code 1793  
shall be fined an amount equal to three times the amount 1794  
accepted. 1795

(b) Any county political party that violates division (C) 1796  
(4) (a) (i) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code shall be fined 1797  
an amount from its state candidate fund equal to three times the 1798  
amount accepted in excess of the amount permitted by that 1799  
division. 1800

(c) Any state political party that violates division (C) 1801  
(4) (b) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code shall be fined an 1802  
amount from its state candidate fund equal to three times the 1803  
amount accepted in excess of the amount permitted by that 1804  
division. 1805

(3) Any legislative campaign fund that violates division 1806  
(C) (5) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code shall be fined an 1807  
amount equal to three times the amount accepted in excess of the 1808  
amount permitted by that division. 1809

(4) Any political action committee or political 1810  
contributing entity that violates division (C) (7) of section 1811  
3517.102 of the Revised Code shall be fined an amount equal to 1812

three times the amount accepted in excess of the amount 1813  
permitted by that division. 1814

(5) Notwithstanding divisions (J) (1), (2), (3), and (4) of 1815  
this section, no violation of division (C) of section 3517.102 1816  
of the Revised Code occurs, and the secretary of state shall not 1817  
refer parties to the Ohio elections commission, if the amount 1818  
transferred or contributed in excess of the amount permitted to 1819  
be accepted by that division meets either of the following 1820  
conditions: 1821

(a) It is completely refunded within five business days 1822  
after its acceptance. 1823

(b) It is completely refunded on or before the tenth 1824  
business day after notification to the recipient of the excess 1825  
transfer or contribution by the board of elections or the 1826  
secretary of state that a transfer or contribution in excess of 1827  
the permitted amount has been received. 1828

(K) (1) Any legislative campaign fund that violates 1829  
division (F) (1) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code shall be 1830  
fined twenty-five dollars for each day of violation. 1831

(2) Any legislative campaign fund that violates division 1832  
(F) (2) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code shall give to the 1833  
treasurer of state for deposit into the state treasury to the 1834  
credit of the Ohio elections commission fund all excess 1835  
contributions not disposed of as required by division (E) of 1836  
section 3517.102 of the Revised Code. 1837

(L) Whoever violates section 3517.105 of the Revised Code 1838  
shall be fined one thousand dollars. 1839

(M) (1) Whoever solicits a contribution in violation of 1840  
section 3517.092 or violates division (B) of section 3517.09 of 1841

the Revised Code is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree. 1842

(2) Whoever knowingly accepts a contribution in violation 1843  
of division (B) or (C) of section 3517.092 of the Revised Code 1844  
shall be fined an amount equal to three times the amount 1845  
accepted in violation of either of those divisions and shall 1846  
return to the contributor any amount so accepted. Whoever 1847  
unknowingly accepts a contribution in violation of division (B) 1848  
or (C) of section 3517.092 of the Revised Code shall return to 1849  
the contributor any amount so accepted. 1850

(N) Whoever violates division (S) of section 3517.13 of 1851  
the Revised Code shall be fined an amount equal to three times 1852  
the amount of funds transferred or three times the value of the 1853  
assets transferred in violation of that division. 1854

(O) Any campaign committee that accepts a contribution or 1855  
contributions in violation of section 3517.108 of the Revised 1856  
Code, uses a contribution in violation of that section, or fails 1857  
to dispose of excess contributions in violation of that section 1858  
shall be fined an amount equal to three times the amount 1859  
accepted, used, or kept in violation of that section. 1860

(P) Any political party, state candidate fund, legislative 1861  
candidate fund, or campaign committee that violates division (T) 1862  
of section 3517.13 of the Revised Code shall be fined an amount 1863  
equal to three times the amount contributed or accepted in 1864  
violation of that section. 1865

(Q) A treasurer of a committee or another person who 1866  
violates division (U) of section 3517.13 of the Revised Code 1867  
shall be fined not more than two hundred fifty dollars. 1868

(R) Whoever violates division (I) or (J) of section 1869  
3517.13 of the Revised Code shall be fined not more than one 1870



thousand dollars. Whenever a person is found guilty of violating 1871  
division (I) or (J) of section 3517.13 of the Revised Code, the 1872  
contract awarded in violation of either of those divisions shall 1873  
be rescinded if its terms have not yet been performed. 1874

(S) A candidate whose campaign committee violates or a 1875  
treasurer of a campaign committee who violates section 3517.081 1876  
of the Revised Code, and a candidate whose campaign committee 1877  
violates or a treasurer of a campaign committee or another 1878  
person who violates division (C) of section 3517.10 of the 1879  
Revised Code, shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars. 1880

(T) A candidate whose campaign committee violates or a 1881  
treasurer of a committee who violates division (B) of section 1882  
3517.09 of the Revised Code, or a candidate whose campaign 1883  
committee violates or a treasurer of a campaign committee or 1884  
another person who violates division (C) of section 3517.09 of 1885  
the Revised Code shall be fined not more than one thousand 1886  
dollars. 1887

(U) Whoever violates section 3517.20 of the Revised Code 1888  
shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars. 1889

(V) Whoever violates section 3517.21 or 3517.22 of the 1890  
Revised Code shall be imprisoned for not more than six months or 1891  
fined not more than five thousand dollars, or both. 1892

(W) A campaign committee that is required to file a 1893  
declaration of no limits under division (D) (2) of section 1894  
3517.103 of the Revised Code that, before filing that 1895  
declaration, accepts a contribution or contributions that exceed 1896  
the limitations prescribed in section 3517.102 of the Revised 1897  
Code, shall return that contribution or those contributions to 1898  
the contributor. 1899

(X) Any campaign committee that fails to file the 1900  
declaration of filing-day finances required by division (F) of 1901  
section 3517.109 of the Revised Code shall be fined twenty-five 1902  
dollars for each day of violation. 1903

(Y) (1) Any campaign committee that fails to dispose of 1904  
excess funds or excess aggregate contributions under division 1905  
(B) of section 3517.109 of the Revised Code in the manner 1906  
required by division (C) of that section shall give to the 1907  
treasurer of state for deposit into the Ohio elections 1908  
commission fund created under division (I) of section 3517.152 1909  
of the Revised Code all funds not disposed of pursuant to that 1910  
division. 1911

(2) Any treasurer of a transition fund that fails to 1912  
dispose of assets remaining in the transition fund as required 1913  
under division (H) (1) or (2) of section 3517.1014 of the Revised 1914  
Code shall give to the treasurer of state for deposit into the 1915  
Ohio elections commission fund all assets not disposed of 1916  
pursuant to that division. 1917

(Z) Any individual, campaign committee, political action 1918  
committee, political contributing entity, legislative campaign 1919  
fund, political party, treasurer of a transition fund, or other 1920  
entity that violates any provision of sections 3517.09 to 1921  
3517.12 of the Revised Code for which no penalty is provided for 1922  
under any other division of this section shall be fined not more 1923  
than one thousand dollars. 1924

(AA) (1) Whoever knowingly violates division (W) (1) of 1925  
section 3517.13 of the Revised Code shall be fined an amount 1926  
equal to three times the amount contributed, expended, or 1927  
promised in violation of that division or ten thousand dollars, 1928  
whichever amount is greater. 1929

(2) Whoever knowingly violates division (W) (2) of section 1930  
3517.13 of the Revised Code shall be fined an amount equal to 1931  
three times the amount solicited or accepted in violation of 1932  
that division or ten thousand dollars, whichever amount is 1933  
greater, and shall be required to return an amount equal to any 1934  
amount accepted in violation of that division to the foreign 1935  
national from whom it was accepted. 1936

(3) Whoever knowingly violates division (W) (3) of section 1937  
3517.13 of the Revised Code shall be fined an amount equal to 1938  
three times the amount involved in the violation or ten thousand 1939  
dollars, whichever amount is greater. 1940

(BB) Whoever knowingly violates division (C) or (D) of 1941  
section 3517.1011 of the Revised Code shall be fined not more 1942  
than ten thousand dollars plus not more than one thousand 1943  
dollars for each day of violation. 1944

(CC) (1) Subject to division (CC) (2) of this section, 1945  
whoever violates division (H) of section 3517.1011 of the 1946  
Revised Code shall be fined an amount up to three times the 1947  
amount disbursed for the direct costs of airing the 1948  
communication made in violation of that division. 1949

(2) Whoever has been ordered by the Ohio elections 1950  
commission or by a court of competent jurisdiction to cease 1951  
making communications in violation of division (H) of section 1952  
3517.1011 of the Revised Code who again violates that division 1953  
shall be fined an amount equal to three times the amount 1954  
disbursed for the direct costs of airing the communication made 1955  
in violation of that division. 1956

(DD) (1) Any corporation or labor organization that 1957  
violates division (X) (3) (a) of section 3517.13 of the Revised 1958

Code shall be fined an amount equal to three times the amount 1959  
given in excess of the amount permitted by that division. 1960

(2) Any state or county political party that violates 1961  
division (X) (3) (b) of section 3517.13 of the Revised Code shall 1962  
be fined an amount equal to three times the amount accepted in 1963  
excess of the amount permitted by that division. 1964

(EE) (1) Any campaign committee or person who violates 1965  
division (C) (1) (b) or (c) of section 3517.1014 of the Revised 1966  
Code shall be fined an amount equal to three times the amount 1967  
donated in excess of the amount permitted by that division. 1968

(2) Any officeholder or treasurer of a transition fund who 1969  
violates division (C) (3) (a) or (b) of section 3517.1014 of the 1970  
Revised Code shall be fined an amount equal to three times the 1971  
amount accepted in excess of the amount permitted by that 1972  
division. 1973

**Section 2.** That existing sections 3517.01, 3517.10, 1974  
3517.12, 3517.13, 3517.155, and 3517.992 of the Revised Code are 1975  
hereby repealed. 1976

**Section 3.** (A) Notwithstanding any provision of the 1977  
Revised Code to the contrary, a major political party shall 1978  
certify to the Secretary of State in writing the names of its 1979  
candidates for president and vice-president nominated by its 1980  
national convention pursuant to section 3505.10 of the Revised 1981  
Code not later than the seventy-fourth day before the 2024 1982  
general election. The political party may transmit the 1983  
certification to the Secretary of State by any reasonably 1984  
reliable method that, under the circumstances, will provide for 1985  
the Secretary of State to receive it by the deadline, including 1986  
by any of the following methods: 1987

(1) Hand delivery;	1988
(2) Certified, express, or ordinary mail delivery by the United States Postal Service;	1989 1990
(3) Commercial carrier service;	1991
(4) Facsimile transmission;	1992
(5) Electronic mail.	1993
(B) For purposes of this section, "major political party" has the same meaning as in section 3501.01 of the Revised Code.	1994 1995