

As Introduced

**135th General Assembly
Regular Session
2023-2024**

S. B. No. 215

Senators Gavarone, McColley

A BILL

To amend sections 3517.01, 3517.10, 3517.12, 1
3517.13, and 3517.992 of the Revised Code to 2
prohibit foreign nationals from making 3
contributions or expenditures regarding ballot 4
issue campaigns. 5

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

Section 1. That sections 3517.01, 3517.10, 3517.12, 6
3517.13, and 3517.992 of the Revised Code be amended to read as 7
follows: 8

Sec. 3517.01. (A) (1) A political party within the meaning 9
of Title XXXV of the Revised Code is any group of voters that 10
meets either of the following requirements: 11

(a) Except as otherwise provided in this division, at the 12
most recent regular state election, the group polled for its 13
candidate for governor in the state or nominees for presidential 14
electors at least three per cent of the entire vote cast for 15
that office. A group that meets the requirements of this 16
division remains a political party for a period of four years 17
after meeting those requirements. 18

(b) The group filed with the secretary of state, 19

subsequent to its failure to meet the requirements of division 20
(A) (1) (a) of this section, a party formation petition that meets 21
all of the following requirements: 22

(i) The petition is signed by qualified electors equal in 23
number to at least one per cent of the total vote for governor 24
or nominees for presidential electors at the most recent 25
election for such office. 26

(ii) The petition is signed by not fewer than five hundred 27
qualified electors from each of at least a minimum of one-half 28
of the congressional districts in this state. If an odd number 29
of congressional districts exists in this state, the number of 30
districts that results from dividing the number of congressional 31
districts by two shall be rounded up to the next whole number. 32

(iii) The petition declares the petitioners' intention of 33
organizing a political party, the name of which shall be stated 34
in the declaration, and of participating in the succeeding 35
general election, held in even-numbered years, that occurs more 36
than one hundred twenty-five days after the date of filing. 37

(iv) The petition designates a committee of not less than 38
three nor more than five individuals of the petitioners, who 39
shall represent the petitioners in all matters relating to the 40
petition. Notice of all matters or proceedings pertaining to the 41
petition may be served on the committee, or any of them, either 42
personally or by registered mail, or by leaving such notice at 43
the usual place of residence of each of them. 44

(2) No such group of electors shall assume a name or 45
designation that is similar, in the opinion of the secretary of 46
state, to that of an existing political party as to confuse or 47
mislead the voters at an election. 48

(B) A campaign committee shall be legally liable for any 49
debts, contracts, or expenditures incurred or executed in its 50
name. 51

(C) Notwithstanding the definitions found in section 52
3501.01 of the Revised Code, as used in this section and 53
sections 3517.08 to 3517.14, 3517.99, and 3517.992 of the 54
Revised Code: 55

(1) "Campaign committee" means a candidate or a 56
combination of two or more persons authorized by a candidate 57
under section 3517.081 of the Revised Code to receive 58
contributions and make expenditures. 59

(2) "Campaign treasurer" means an individual appointed by 60
a candidate under section 3517.081 of the Revised Code. 61

(3) "Candidate" has the same meaning as in division (H) of 62
section 3501.01 of the Revised Code and also includes any person 63
who, at any time before or after an election, receives 64
contributions or makes expenditures or other use of 65
contributions, has given consent for another to receive 66
contributions or make expenditures or other use of 67
contributions, or appoints a campaign treasurer, for the purpose 68
of bringing about the person's nomination or election to public 69
office. When two persons jointly seek the offices of governor 70
and lieutenant governor, "candidate" means the pair of 71
candidates jointly. "Candidate" does not include candidates for 72
election to the offices of member of a county or state central 73
committee, presidential elector, and delegate to a national 74
convention or conference of a political party. 75

(4) "Continuing association" means an association, other 76
than a campaign committee, political party, legislative campaign 77

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

(5) "Contribution" means a loan, gift, deposit, 87
forgiveness of indebtedness, donation, advance, payment, or 88
transfer of funds or anything of value, including a transfer of 89
funds from an inter vivos or testamentary trust or decedent's 90
estate, and the payment by any person other than the person to 91
whom the services are rendered for the personal services of 92
another person, which contribution is made, received, or used 93
for the purpose of influencing the results of an election. Any 94
loan, gift, deposit, forgiveness of indebtedness, donation, 95
advance, payment, or transfer of funds or of anything of value, 96
including a transfer of funds from an inter vivos or 97
testamentary trust or decedent's estate, and the payment by any 98
campaign committee, political action committee, legislative 99
campaign fund, political party, political contributing entity, 100
or person other than the person to whom the services are 101
rendered for the personal services of another person, that is 102
made, received, or used by a state or county political party, 103
other than the moneys an entity may receive under sections 104
3517.101, 3517.1012, and 3517.1013 of the Revised Code, shall be 105
considered to be a "contribution" for the purpose of section 106
3517.10 of the Revised Code and shall be included on a statement 107
of contributions filed under that section. 108

"Contribution" does not include any of the following:	109
(a) Services provided without compensation by individuals	110
volunteering a portion or all of their time on behalf of a	111
person;	112
(b) Ordinary home hospitality;	113
(c) The personal expenses of a volunteer paid for by that	114
volunteer campaign worker;	115
(d) Any gift given to an entity pursuant to section	116
3517.101 of the Revised Code;	117
(e) Any contribution as defined in section 3517.1011 of	118
the Revised Code that is made, received, or used to pay the	119
direct costs of producing or airing an electioneering	120
communication;	121
(f) Any gift given to a state or county political party	122
for the party's restricted fund under division (A) (2) of section	123
3517.1012 of the Revised Code;	124
(g) Any gift given to a state political party for deposit	125
in a Levin account pursuant to section 3517.1013 of the Revised	126
Code. As used in this division, "Levin account" has the same	127
meaning as in that section.	128
(h) Any donation given to a transition fund under section	129
3517.1014 of the Revised Code.	130
(6) "Expenditure" means the disbursement or use of a	131
contribution <u>or other funds or anything of value</u> for the purpose	132
of influencing the results of an election or of making a	133
charitable donation under division (G) of section 3517.08 of the	134
Revised Code. Any disbursement or use of a contribution by a	135
state or county political party is an expenditure and shall be	136

considered either to be made for the purpose of influencing the 137
results of an election or to be made as a charitable donation 138
under division (G) of section 3517.08 of the Revised Code and 139
shall be reported on a statement of expenditures filed under 140
section 3517.10 of the Revised Code. During the thirty days 141
preceding a primary or general election, any disbursement to pay 142
the direct costs of producing or airing a broadcast, cable, or 143
satellite communication that refers to a clearly identified 144
candidate shall be considered to be made for the purpose of 145
influencing the results of that election and shall be reported 146
as an expenditure or as an independent expenditure under section 147
3517.10 or 3517.105 of the Revised Code, as applicable, except 148
that the information required to be reported regarding 149
contributors for those expenditures or independent expenditures 150
shall be the same as the information required to be reported 151
under divisions (D) (1) and (2) of section 3517.1011 of the 152
Revised Code. 153

As used in this division, "broadcast, cable, or satellite 154
communication" and "refers to a clearly identified candidate" 155
have the same meanings as in section 3517.1011 of the Revised 156
Code. 157

(7) "Personal expenses" includes, but is not limited to, 158
ordinary expenses for accommodations, clothing, food, personal 159
motor vehicle or airplane, and home telephone. 160

(8) "Political action committee" means a combination of 161
two or more persons, the primary or major purpose of which is to 162
support or oppose any candidate, political party, or issue, or 163
to influence the result of any election through express 164
advocacy, and that is not a political party, a campaign 165
committee, a political contributing entity, or a legislative 166

campaign fund. "Political action committee" does not include	167
either of the following:	168
(a) A continuing association that makes disbursements for	169
the direct costs of producing or airing electioneering	170
communications and that does not engage in express advocacy;	171
(b) A political club that is formed primarily for social	172
purposes and that consists of one hundred members or less, has	173
officers and periodic meetings, has less than two thousand five	174
hundred dollars in its treasury at all times, and makes an	175
aggregate total contribution of one thousand dollars or less per	176
calendar year.	177
(9) "Public office" means any state, county, municipal,	178
township, or district office, except an office of a political	179
party, that is filled by an election and the offices of United	180
States senator and representative.	181
(10) "Anything of value" has the same meaning as in	182
section 1.03 of the Revised Code.	183
(11) "Beneficiary of a campaign fund" means a candidate, a	184
public official or employee for whose benefit a campaign fund	185
exists, and any other person who has ever been a candidate or	186
public official or employee and for whose benefit a campaign	187
fund exists.	188
(12) "Campaign fund" means money or other property,	189
including contributions.	190
(13) "Public official or employee" has the same meaning as	191
in section 102.01 of the Revised Code.	192
(14) "Caucus" means all of the members of the house of	193
representatives or all of the members of the senate of the	194

general assembly who are members of the same political party. 195

(15) "Legislative campaign fund" means a fund that is 196
established as an auxiliary of a state political party and 197
associated with one of the houses of the general assembly. 198

(16) "In-kind contribution" means anything of value other 199
than money that is used to influence the results of an election 200
or is transferred to or used in support of or in opposition to a 201
candidate, campaign committee, legislative campaign fund, 202
political party, political action committee, or political 203
contributing entity and that is made with the consent of, in 204
coordination, cooperation, or consultation with, or at the 205
request or suggestion of the benefited candidate, committee, 206
fund, party, or entity. The financing of the dissemination, 207
distribution, or republication, in whole or part, of any 208
broadcast or of any written, graphic, or other form of campaign 209
materials prepared by the candidate, the candidate's campaign 210
committee, or their authorized agents is an in-kind contribution 211
to the candidate and an expenditure by the candidate. 212

~~(17)~~ (17) (a) "Independent expenditure" means ~~an either of~~ 213
the following: 214

(i) An expenditure by a person advocating the election or 215
defeat of an identified candidate or candidates, that is not 216
made with the consent of, in coordination, cooperation, or 217
consultation with, or at the request or suggestion of any 218
candidate or candidates or of the campaign committee or agent of 219
the candidate or candidates; 220

(ii) An expenditure by a person advocating support of or 221
opposition to an identified ballot issue or question or to 222
achieve the successful circulation of an initiative or 223

referendum petition in order to place such an issue or question 224
on the ballot, regardless of whether the ballot issue or 225
question has yet been certified to appear on the ballot. As- 226

(b) As used in division ~~(C) (17)~~ (C) (17) (a) of this 227
section: 228

~~(a)~~ (i) "Person" means an individual, partnership, 229
unincorporated business organization or association, political 230
action committee, political contributing entity, separate 231
segregated fund, association, or other organization or group of 232
persons, but not a labor organization or a corporation unless 233
the labor organization or corporation is a political 234
contributing entity. 235

~~(b)~~ (ii) "Advocating" means any communication containing a 236
message advocating election or defeat. 237

~~(c)~~ (iii) "Identified candidate" means that the name of 238
the candidate appears, a photograph or drawing of the candidate 239
appears, or the identity of the candidate is otherwise apparent 240
by unambiguous reference. 241

~~(d)~~ (iv) "Made in coordination, cooperation, or 242
consultation with, or at the request or suggestion of, any 243
candidate or the campaign committee or agent of the candidate" 244
means made pursuant to any arrangement, coordination, or 245
direction by the candidate, the candidate's campaign committee, 246
or the candidate's agent prior to the publication, distribution, 247
display, or broadcast of the communication. An expenditure is 248
presumed to be so made when it is any of the following: 249

~~(i)~~ (I) Based on information about the candidate's plans, 250
projects, or needs provided to the person making the expenditure 251
by the candidate, or by the candidate's campaign committee or 252

agent, with a view toward having an expenditure made;	253
(ii) <u>(II)</u> Made by or through any person who is, or has been, authorized to raise or expend funds, who is, or has been, an officer of the candidate's campaign committee, or who is, or has been, receiving any form of compensation or reimbursement from the candidate or the candidate's campaign committee or agent;	254 255 256 257 258 259
(iii) <u>(III)</u> Except as otherwise provided in division (D) of section 3517.105 of the Revised Code, made by a political party in support of a candidate, unless the expenditure is made by a political party to conduct voter registration or voter education efforts.	260 261 262 263 264
(e) <u>(v)</u> "Agent" means any person who has actual oral or written authority, either express or implied, to make or to authorize the making of expenditures on behalf of a candidate, or means any person who has been placed in a position with the candidate's campaign committee or organization such that it would reasonably appear that in the ordinary course of campaign-related activities the person may authorize expenditures.	265 266 267 268 269 270 271
(18) "Labor organization" means a labor union; an employee organization; a federation of labor unions, groups, locals, or other employee organizations; an auxiliary of a labor union, employee organization, or federation of labor unions, groups, locals, or other employee organizations; or any other bona fide organization in which employees participate and that exists for the purpose, in whole or in part, of dealing with employers concerning grievances, labor disputes, wages, hours, and other terms and conditions of employment.	272 273 274 275 276 277 278 279 280
(19) "Separate segregated fund" means a separate	281

segregated fund established pursuant to the Federal Election Campaign Act.	282 283
(20) "Federal Election Campaign Act" means the "Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971," 86 Stat. 11, 2 U.S.C.A. 431, et seq., as amended.	284 285 286
(21) "Restricted fund" means the fund a state or county political party must establish under division (A)(1) of section 3517.1012 of the Revised Code.	287 288 289
(22) "Electioneering communication" has the same meaning as in section 3517.1011 of the Revised Code.	290 291
(23) "Express advocacy" means a communication that contains express words advocating the nomination, election, or defeat of a candidate or that contains express words advocating the adoption or defeat of a question or issue, as determined by a final judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction.	292 293 294 295 296
(24) "Political committee" has the same meaning as in section 3517.1011 of the Revised Code.	297 298
(25) "Political contributing entity" means any entity, including a corporation or labor organization, that may lawfully make contributions and expenditures and that is not an individual or a political action committee, continuing association, campaign committee, political party, legislative campaign fund, designated state campaign committee, or state candidate fund. For purposes of this division, "lawfully" means not prohibited by any section of the Revised Code, or authorized by a final judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction.	299 300 301 302 303 304 305 306 307
(26) "Internet identifier of record" has the same meaning as in section 9.312 of the Revised Code.	308 309

Sec. 3517.10. (A) Except as otherwise provided in this 310
division, every campaign committee, political action committee, 311
legislative campaign fund, political party, and political 312
contributing entity that made or received a contribution or made 313
an expenditure in connection with the nomination or election of 314
any candidate or in connection with any ballot issue or question 315
at any election held or to be held in this state shall file, on 316
a form prescribed under this section or by electronic means of 317
transmission as provided in this section and section 3517.106 of 318
the Revised Code, a full, true, and itemized statement, made 319
under penalty of election falsification, setting forth in detail 320
the contributions and expenditures, not later than four p.m. of 321
the following dates: 322

(1) The twelfth day before the election to reflect 323
contributions received and expenditures made from the close of 324
business on the last day reflected in the last previously filed 325
statement, if any, to the close of business on the twentieth day 326
before the election; 327

(2) The thirty-eighth day after the election to reflect 328
the contributions received and expenditures made from the close 329
of business on the last day reflected in the last previously 330
filed statement, if any, to the close of business on the seventh 331
day before the filing of the statement; 332

(3) The last business day of January of every year to 333
reflect the contributions received and expenditures made from 334
the close of business on the last day reflected in the last 335
previously filed statement, if any, to the close of business on 336
the last day of December of the previous year; 337

(4) The last business day of July of every year to reflect 338
the contributions received and expenditures made from the close 339

of business on the last day reflected in the last previously 340
filed statement, if any, to the close of business on the last 341
day of June of that year. 342

A campaign committee shall only be required to file the 343
statements prescribed under divisions (A) (1) and (2) of this 344
section in connection with the nomination or election of the 345
committee's candidate. 346

The statement required under division (A) (1) of this 347
section shall not be required of any campaign committee, 348
political action committee, legislative campaign fund, political 349
party, or political contributing entity that has received 350
contributions of less than one thousand dollars and has made 351
expenditures of less than one thousand dollars at the close of 352
business on the twentieth day before the election. Those 353
contributions and expenditures shall be reported in the 354
statement required under division (A) (2) of this section. 355

If an election to select candidates to appear on the 356
general election ballot is held within sixty days before a 357
general election, the campaign committee of a successful 358
candidate in the earlier election may file the statement 359
required by division (A) (1) of this section for the general 360
election instead of the statement required by division (A) (2) of 361
this section for the earlier election if the pregeneral election 362
statement reflects the status of contributions and expenditures 363
for the period twenty days before the earlier election to twenty 364
days before the general election. 365

If a person becomes a candidate less than twenty days 366
before an election, the candidate's campaign committee is not 367
required to file the statement required by division (A) (1) of 368
this section. 369

No statement under division (A) (3) of this section shall 370
be required for any year in which a campaign committee, 371
political action committee, legislative campaign fund, political 372
party, or political contributing entity is required to file a 373
postgeneral election statement under division (A) (2) of this 374
section. However, a statement under division (A) (3) of this 375
section may be filed, at the option of the campaign committee, 376
political action committee, legislative campaign fund, political 377
party, or political contributing entity. 378

No campaign committee of a candidate for the office of 379
chief justice or justice of the supreme court, and no campaign 380
committee of a candidate for the office of judge of any court in 381
this state, shall be required to file a statement under division 382
(A) (4) of this section. 383

Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph and in the 384
next paragraph of this section, the only campaign committees 385
required to file a statement under division (A) (4) of this 386
section are the campaign committee of a statewide candidate and 387
the campaign committee of a candidate for county office. The 388
campaign committee of a candidate for any other nonjudicial 389
office is required to file a statement under division (A) (4) of 390
this section if that campaign committee receives, during that 391
period, contributions exceeding ten thousand dollars. 392

No statement under division (A) (4) of this section shall 393
be required of a campaign committee, a political action 394
committee, a legislative campaign fund, a political party, or a 395
political contributing entity for any year in which the campaign 396
committee, political action committee, legislative campaign 397
fund, political party, or political contributing entity is 398
required to file a postprimary election statement under division 399

(A) (2) of this section. However, a statement under division (A) 400
(4) of this section may be filed at the option of the campaign 401
committee, political action committee, legislative campaign 402
fund, political party, or political contributing entity. 403

No statement under division (A) (3) or (4) of this section 404
shall be required if the campaign committee, political action 405
committee, legislative campaign fund, political party, or 406
political contributing entity has no contributions that it has 407
received and no expenditures that it has made since the last 408
date reflected in its last previously filed statement. However, 409
the campaign committee, political action committee, legislative 410
campaign fund, political party, or political contributing entity 411
shall file a statement to that effect, on a form prescribed 412
under this section and made under penalty of election 413
falsification, on the date required in division (A) (3) or (4) of 414
this section, as applicable. 415

The campaign committee of a statewide candidate shall file 416
a monthly statement of contributions received during each of the 417
months of July, August, and September in the year of the general 418
election in which the candidate seeks office. The campaign 419
committee of a statewide candidate shall file the monthly 420
statement not later than three business days after the last day 421
of the month covered by the statement. During the period 422
beginning on the nineteenth day before the general election in 423
which a statewide candidate seeks election to office and 424
extending through the day of that general election, each time 425
the campaign committee of the joint candidates for the offices 426
of governor and lieutenant governor or of a candidate for the 427
office of secretary of state, auditor of state, treasurer of 428
state, or attorney general receives a contribution from a 429
contributor that causes the aggregate amount of contributions 430

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

Subject to the secretary of state having implemented, 448
tested, and verified the successful operation of any system the 449
secretary of state prescribes pursuant to divisions (C) (6) (b) 450
and (D) (6) of this section and division (F) (1) of section 451
3517.106 of the Revised Code for the filing of campaign finance 452
statements by electronic means of transmission, a campaign 453
committee of a statewide candidate shall file a two-business-day 454
statement under the preceding paragraph by electronic means of 455
transmission if the campaign committee is required to file a 456
pre-election, postelection, or monthly statement of 457
contributions and expenditures by electronic means of 458
transmission under this section or section 3517.106 of the 459
Revised Code. 460

If a campaign committee or political action committee has 461

no balance on hand and no outstanding obligations and desires to 462
terminate itself, it shall file a statement to that effect, on a 463
form prescribed under this section and made under penalty of 464
election falsification, with the official with whom it files a 465
statement under division (A) of this section after filing a 466
final statement of contributions and a final statement of 467
expenditures, if contributions have been received or 468
expenditures made since the period reflected in its last 469
previously filed statement. 470

(B) Except as otherwise provided in division (C) (7) of 471
this section, each statement required by division (A) of this 472
section shall contain the following information: 473

(1) The full name and address of each campaign committee, 474
political action committee, legislative campaign fund, political 475
party, or political contributing entity, including any treasurer 476
of the committee, fund, party, or entity, filing a contribution 477
and expenditure statement; 478

(2) (a) In the case of a campaign committee, the 479
candidate's full name and address; 480

(b) In the case of a political action committee, the 481
registration number assigned to the committee under division (D) 482
(1) of this section. 483

(3) The date of the election and whether it was or will be 484
a general, primary, or special election; 485

(4) A statement of contributions received, which shall 486
include the following information: 487

(a) The month, day, and year of the contribution; 488

(b) (i) The full name and address of each person, political 489

party, campaign committee, legislative campaign fund, political 490
action committee, or political contributing entity from whom 491
contributions are received and the registration number assigned 492
to the political action committee under division (D) (1) of this 493
section. The requirement of filing the full address does not 494
apply to any statement filed by a state or local committee of a 495
political party, to a finance committee of such committee, or to 496
a committee recognized by a state or local committee as its 497
fund-raising auxiliary. Notwithstanding division (F) of this 498
section, the requirement of filing the full address shall be 499
considered as being met if the address filed is the same address 500
the contributor provided under division (E) (1) of this section. 501

(ii) If a political action committee, political 502
contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or political 503
party that is required to file campaign finance statements by 504
electronic means of transmission under section 3517.106 of the 505
Revised Code or a campaign committee of a statewide candidate or 506
candidate for the office of member of the general assembly 507
receives a contribution from an individual that exceeds one 508
hundred dollars, the name of the individual's current employer, 509
if any, or, if the individual is self-employed, the individual's 510
occupation and the name of the individual's business, if any; 511

(iii) If a campaign committee of a statewide candidate or 512
candidate for the office of member of the general assembly 513
receives a contribution transmitted pursuant to section 3599.031 514
of the Revised Code from amounts deducted from the wages and 515
salaries of two or more employees that exceeds in the aggregate 516
one hundred dollars during any one filing period under division 517
(A) (1), (2), (3), or (4) of this section, the full name of the 518
employees' employer and the full name of the labor organization 519
of which the employees are members, if any. 520

(c) A description of the contribution received, if other	521
than money;	522
(d) The value in dollars and cents of the contribution;	523
(e) A separately itemized account of all contributions and	524
expenditures regardless of the amount, except a receipt of a	525
contribution from a person in the sum of twenty-five dollars or	526
less at one social or fund-raising activity and a receipt of a	527
contribution transmitted pursuant to section 3599.031 of the	528
Revised Code from amounts deducted from the wages and salaries	529
of employees if the contribution from the amount deducted from	530
the wages and salary of any one employee is twenty-five dollars	531
or less aggregated in a calendar year. An account of the total	532
contributions from each social or fund-raising activity shall	533
include a description of and the value of each in-kind	534
contribution received at that activity from any person who made	535
one or more such contributions whose aggregate value exceeded	536
two hundred fifty dollars and shall be listed separately,	537
together with the expenses incurred and paid in connection with	538
that activity. A campaign committee, political action committee,	539
legislative campaign fund, political party, or political	540
contributing entity shall keep records of contributions from	541
each person in the amount of twenty-five dollars or less at one	542
social or fund-raising activity and contributions from amounts	543
deducted under section 3599.031 of the Revised Code from the	544
wages and salary of each employee in the amount of twenty-five	545
dollars or less aggregated in a calendar year. No continuing	546
association that is recognized by a state or local committee of	547
a political party as an auxiliary of the party and that makes a	548
contribution from funds derived solely from regular dues paid by	549
members of the auxiliary shall be required to list the name or	550
address of any members who paid those dues.	551

Contributions that are other income shall be itemized 552
separately from all other contributions. The information 553
required under division (B) (4) of this section shall be provided 554
for all other income itemized. As used in this paragraph, "other 555
income" means a loan, investment income, or interest income. 556

(f) In the case of a campaign committee of a state elected 557
officer, if a person doing business with the state elected 558
officer in the officer's official capacity makes a contribution 559
to the campaign committee of that officer, the information 560
required under division (B) (4) of this section in regard to that 561
contribution, which shall be filed together with and considered 562
a part of the committee's statement of contributions as required 563
under division (A) of this section but shall be filed on a 564
separate form provided by the secretary of state. As used in 565
this division: 566

(i) "State elected officer" has the same meaning as in 567
section 3517.092 of the Revised Code. 568

(ii) "Person doing business" means a person or an officer 569
of an entity who enters into one or more contracts with a state 570
elected officer or anyone authorized to enter into contracts on 571
behalf of that officer to receive payments for goods or 572
services, if the payments total, in the aggregate, more than 573
five thousand dollars during a calendar year. 574

(5) A statement of expenditures which shall include the 575
following information: 576

(a) The month, day, and year of the expenditure; 577

(b) The full name and address of each person, political 578
party, campaign committee, legislative campaign fund, political 579
action committee, or political contributing entity to whom the 580

expenditure was made and the registration number assigned to the 581
political action committee under division (D) (1) of this 582
section; 583

(c) The object or purpose for which the expenditure was 584
made; 585

(d) The amount of each expenditure. 586

(C) (1) The statement of contributions and expenditures 587
shall be signed by the person completing the form. If a 588
statement of contributions and expenditures is filed by 589
electronic means of transmission pursuant to this section or 590
section 3517.106 of the Revised Code, the electronic signature 591
of the person who executes the statement and transmits the 592
statement by electronic means of transmission, as provided in 593
division (F) of section 3517.106 of the Revised Code, shall be 594
attached to or associated with the statement and shall be 595
binding on all persons and for all purposes under the campaign 596
finance reporting law as if the signature had been handwritten 597
in ink on a printed form. 598

(2) The person filing the statement, under penalty of 599
election falsification, shall include with it a both of the 600
following: 601

(a) A list of each anonymous contribution, the 602
circumstances under which it was received, and the reason it 603
cannot be attributed to a specific donor; 604

(b) A certification that the campaign committee, political 605
action committee, legislative campaign fund, political party, or 606
political contributing entity, as applicable, has not accepted 607
any contribution that is prohibited under this chapter or 608
section 3599.03 or 3599.031 of the Revised Code during the 609

period covered by the statement. 610

(3) Each statement of a campaign committee of a candidate 611
who holds public office shall contain a designation of each 612
contributor who is an employee in any unit or department under 613
the candidate's direct supervision and control. In a space 614
provided in the statement, the person filing the statement shall 615
affirm that each such contribution was voluntarily made. 616

(4) A campaign committee that did not receive 617
contributions or make expenditures in connection with the 618
nomination or election of its candidate shall file a statement 619
to that effect, on a form prescribed under this section and made 620
under penalty of election falsification, on the date required in 621
division (A) (2) of this section. 622

(5) The campaign committee of any person who attempts to 623
become a candidate and who, for any reason, does not become 624
certified in accordance with Title XXXV of the Revised Code for 625
placement on the official ballot of a primary, general, or 626
special election to be held in this state, and who, at any time 627
prior to or after an election, receives contributions or makes 628
expenditures, or has given consent for another to receive 629
contributions or make expenditures, for the purpose of bringing 630
about the person's nomination or election to public office, 631
shall file the statement or statements prescribed by this 632
section and a termination statement, if applicable. Division (C) 633
(5) of this section does not apply to any person with respect to 634
an election to the offices of member of a county or state 635
central committee, presidential elector, or delegate to a 636
national convention or conference of a political party. 637

(6) (a) The statements required to be filed under this 638
section shall specify the balance in the hands of the campaign 639

committee, political action committee, legislative campaign 640
fund, political party, or political contributing entity and the 641
disposition intended to be made of that balance. 642

(b) The secretary of state shall prescribe the form for 643
all statements required to be filed under this section and shall 644
furnish the forms to the boards of elections in the several 645
counties. The boards of elections shall supply printed copies of 646
those forms without charge. The secretary of state shall 647
prescribe the appropriate methodology, protocol, and data file 648
structure for statements required or permitted to be filed by 649
electronic means of transmission to the secretary of state or a 650
board of elections under division (A) of this section, division 651
(E) of section 3517.106, division (D) of section 3517.1011, 652
division (B) of section 3517.1012, division (C) of section 653
3517.1013, and divisions (D) and (I) of section 3517.1014 of the 654
Revised Code. Subject to division (A) of this section, division 655
(E) of section 3517.106, division (D) of section 3517.1011, 656
division (B) of section 3517.1012, division (C) of section 657
3517.1013, and divisions (D) and (I) of section 3517.1014 of the 658
Revised Code, the statements required to be stored on computer 659
by the secretary of state under division (B) of section 3517.106 660
of the Revised Code shall be filed in whatever format the 661
secretary of state considers necessary to enable the secretary 662
of state to store the information contained in the statements on 663
computer. Any such format shall be of a type and nature that is 664
readily available to whoever is required to file the statements 665
in that format. 666

(c) The secretary of state shall assess the need for 667
training regarding the filing of campaign finance statements by 668
electronic means of transmission and regarding associated 669
technologies for candidates, campaign committees, political 670

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

(7) Each monthly statement and each two-business-day 689
statement required by division (A) of this section shall contain 690
the information required by divisions (B) (1) to (4), (C) (2), 691
and, if appropriate, (C) (3) of this section. Each statement 692
shall be signed as required by division (C) (1) of this section. 693

(D) (1) (a) Prior to receiving a contribution or making an 694
expenditure, every campaign committee, political action 695
committee, legislative campaign fund, political party, or 696
political contributing entity shall appoint a treasurer and 697
shall file, on a form prescribed by the secretary of state, a 698
designation of that appointment, including the full name and 699
address of the treasurer and of the campaign committee, 700
political action committee, legislative campaign fund, political 701

party, or political contributing entity. That designation shall 702
be filed with the official with whom the campaign committee, 703
political action committee, legislative campaign fund, political 704
party, or political contributing entity is required to file 705
statements under section 3517.11 of the Revised Code. The name 706
of a campaign committee shall include at least the last name of 707
the campaign committee's candidate. If two or more candidates 708
are the beneficiaries of a single campaign committee under 709
division (B) of section 3517.081 of the Revised Code, the name 710
of the campaign committee shall include at least the last name 711
of each candidate who is a beneficiary of that campaign 712
committee. The secretary of state shall assign a registration 713
number to each political action committee that files a 714
designation of the appointment of a treasurer under this 715
division if the political action committee is required by 716
division (A) (1) of section 3517.11 of the Revised Code to file 717
the statements prescribed by this section with the secretary of 718
state. 719

(b) The form of the designation of treasurer shall require 720
the filer to certify, under penalty of election falsification, 721
that the campaign committee, political action committee, 722
legislative campaign fund, political party, or political 723
contributing entity, as applicable, has not accepted, and will 724
not accept, any contribution that is prohibited under this 725
chapter or section 3599.03 or 3599.031 of the Revised Code. 726

(c) The secretary of state shall not accept for filing a 727
designation of treasurer of a political action committee or 728
political contributing entity if, in the opinion of the 729
secretary of state, the name of the political action committee 730
or political contributing entity would lead a reasonable person 731
to believe that the political action committee or political 732

contributing entity acts on behalf of or represents a county 733
political party, unless the designation is accompanied by a 734
written statement, signed by the chairperson of the county 735
political party's executive committee, granting the political 736
action committee or political contributing entity permission to 737
act on behalf of or represent the county political party. 738

(2) The treasurer appointed under division (D)(1) of this 739
section shall keep a strict account of all contributions, from 740
whom received and the purpose for which they were disbursed. 741

(3) (a) Except as otherwise provided in section 3517.108 of 742
the Revised Code, a campaign committee shall deposit all 743
monetary contributions received by the committee into an account 744
separate from a personal or business account of the candidate or 745
campaign committee. 746

(b) A political action committee shall deposit all 747
monetary contributions received by the committee into an account 748
separate from all other funds. 749

(c) A state or county political party may establish a 750
state candidate fund that is separate from all other funds. A 751
state or county political party may deposit into its state 752
candidate fund any amounts of monetary contributions that are 753
made to or accepted by the political party subject to the 754
applicable limitations, if any, prescribed in section 3517.102 755
of the Revised Code. A state or county political party shall 756
deposit all other monetary contributions received by the party 757
into one or more accounts that are separate from its state 758
candidate fund. 759

(d) Each state political party shall have only one 760
legislative campaign fund for each house of the general 761

assembly. Each such fund shall be separate from any other funds 762
or accounts of that state party. A legislative campaign fund is 763
authorized to receive contributions and make expenditures for 764
the primary purpose of furthering the election of candidates who 765
are members of that political party to the house of the general 766
assembly with which that legislative campaign fund is 767
associated. Each legislative campaign fund shall be administered 768
and controlled in a manner designated by the caucus. As used in 769
this division, "caucus" has the same meaning as in section 770
3517.01 of the Revised Code and includes, as an ex officio 771
member, the chairperson of the state political party with which 772
the caucus is associated or that chairperson's designee. 773

(4) Every expenditure in excess of twenty-five dollars 774
shall be vouched for by a receipted bill, stating the purpose of 775
the expenditure, that shall be filed with the statement of 776
expenditures. A canceled check with a notation of the purpose of 777
the expenditure is a receipted bill for purposes of division (D) 778
(4) of this section. 779

(5) The secretary of state or the board of elections, as 780
the case may be, shall issue a receipt for each statement filed 781
under this section and shall preserve a copy of the receipt for 782
a period of at least six years. All statements filed under this 783
section shall be open to public inspection in the office where 784
they are filed and shall be carefully preserved for a period of 785
at least six years after the year in which they are filed. 786

(6) The secretary of state, by rule adopted pursuant to 787
section 3517.23 of the Revised Code, shall prescribe both of the 788
following: 789

(a) The manner of immediately acknowledging, with date and 790
time received, and preserving the receipt of statements that are 791

transmitted by electronic means of transmission to the secretary 792
of state or a board of elections pursuant to this section or 793
section 3517.106, 3517.1011, 3517.1012, 3517.1013, or 3517.1014 794
of the Revised Code; 795

(b) The manner of preserving the contribution and 796
expenditure, contribution and disbursement, deposit and 797
disbursement, gift and disbursement, or donation and 798
disbursement information in the statements described in division 799
(D) (6) (a) of this section. The secretary of state shall preserve 800
the contribution and expenditure, contribution and disbursement, 801
deposit and disbursement, gift and disbursement, or donation and 802
disbursement information in those statements for at least ten 803
years after the year in which they are filed by electronic means 804
of transmission. 805

(7) (a) The secretary of state, pursuant to division (G) of 806
section 3517.106 of the Revised Code, shall make available 807
online to the public through the internet the contribution and 808
expenditure, contribution and disbursement, deposit and 809
disbursement, gift and disbursement, or donation and 810
disbursement information in all of the following documents: 811

(i) All statements, all addenda, amendments, or other 812
corrections to statements, and all amended statements filed with 813
the secretary of state by electronic or other means of 814
transmission under this section, division (B) (2) (b) or (C) (2) (b) 815
of section 3517.105, or section 3517.106, 3517.1011, 3517.1012, 816
3517.1013, 3517.1014, or 3517.11 of the Revised Code; 817

(ii) All statements filed with a board of elections by 818
electronic means of transmission, and all addenda, amendments, 819
corrections, and amended versions of those statements, filed 820
with the board under this section, division (B) (2) (b) or (C) (2) 821

(b) of section 3517.105, or section 3517.106, 3517.1012, or 822
3517.11 of the Revised Code. 823

(b) The secretary of state may remove the information from 824
the internet after a reasonable period of time. 825

(E) (1) Any person, political party, campaign committee, 826
legislative campaign fund, political action committee, or 827
political contributing entity that makes a contribution in 828
connection with the nomination or election of any candidate or 829
in connection with any ballot issue or question at any election 830
held or to be held in this state shall provide its full name and 831
address to the recipient of the contribution at the time the 832
contribution is made. The political action committee also shall 833
provide the registration number assigned to the committee under 834
division (D) (1) of this section to the recipient of the 835
contribution at the time the contribution is made. 836

(2) Any individual who makes a contribution that exceeds 837
one hundred dollars to a political action committee, political 838
contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or political 839
party or to a campaign committee of a statewide candidate or 840
candidate for the office of member of the general assembly shall 841
provide the name of the individual's current employer, if any, 842
or, if the individual is self-employed, the individual's 843
occupation and the name of the individual's business, if any, to 844
the recipient of the contribution at the time the contribution 845
is made. Sections 3599.39 and 3599.40 of the Revised Code do not 846
apply to division (E) (2) of this section. 847

(3) If a campaign committee shows that it has exercised 848
its best efforts to obtain, maintain, and submit the information 849
required under divisions (B) (4) (b) (ii) and (iii) of this 850
section, that committee is considered to have met the 851

requirements of those divisions. A campaign committee shall not 852
be considered to have exercised its best efforts unless, in 853
connection with written solicitations, it regularly includes a 854
written request for the information required under division (B) 855
(4)(b)(ii) of this section from the contributor or the 856
information required under division (B)(4)(b)(iii) of this 857
section from whoever transmits the contribution. 858

(4) Any check that a political action committee uses to 859
make a contribution or an expenditure shall contain the full 860
name and address of the committee and the registration number 861
assigned to the committee under division (D)(1) of this section. 862

(F) As used in this section: 863

(1)(a) Except as otherwise provided in division (F)(1) of 864
this section, "address" means all of the following if they 865
exist: apartment number, street, road, or highway name and 866
number, rural delivery route number, city or village, state, and 867
zip code as used in a person's post-office address, but not 868
post-office box. 869

(b) Except as otherwise provided in division (F)(1) of 870
this section, if an address is required in this section, a post- 871
office box and office, room, or suite number may be included in 872
addition to, but not in lieu of, an apartment, street, road, or 873
highway name and number. 874

(c) If an address is required in this section, a campaign 875
committee, political action committee, legislative campaign 876
fund, political party, or political contributing entity may use 877
the business or residence address of its treasurer or deputy 878
treasurer. The post-office box number of the campaign committee, 879
political action committee, legislative campaign fund, political 880

party, or political contributing entity may be used in addition 881
to that address. 882

(d) For the sole purpose of a campaign committee's 883
reporting of contributions on a statement of contributions 884
received under division (B)(4) of this section, "address" has 885
one of the following meanings at the option of the campaign 886
committee: 887

(i) The same meaning as in division (F)(1)(a) of this 888
section; 889

(ii) All of the following, if they exist: the 890
contributor's post-office box number and city or village, state, 891
and zip code as used in the contributor's post-office address. 892

(e) As used with regard to the reporting under this 893
section of any expenditure, "address" means all of the following 894
if they exist: apartment number, street, road, or highway name 895
and number, rural delivery route number, city or village, state, 896
and zip code as used in a person's post-office address, or post- 897
office box. If an address concerning any expenditure is required 898
in this section, a campaign committee, political action 899
committee, legislative campaign fund, political party, or 900
political contributing entity may use the business or residence 901
address of its treasurer or deputy treasurer or its post-office 902
box number. 903

(2) "Statewide candidate" means the joint candidates for 904
the offices of governor and lieutenant governor or a candidate 905
for the office of secretary of state, auditor of state, 906
treasurer of state, attorney general, member of the state board 907
of education, chief justice of the supreme court, or justice of 908
the supreme court. 909

(3) "Candidate for county office" means a candidate for 910
the office of county auditor, county treasurer, clerk of the 911
court of common pleas, judge of the court of common pleas, 912
sheriff, county recorder, county engineer, county commissioner, 913
prosecuting attorney, or coroner. 914

(G) An independent expenditure shall be reported whenever 915
and in the same manner that an expenditure is required to be 916
reported under this section and shall be reported pursuant to 917
division (B) (2) (a) or (C) (2) (a) of section 3517.105 of the 918
Revised Code. 919

(H) (1) Except as otherwise provided in division (H) (2) of 920
this section, if, during the combined pre-election and 921
postelection reporting periods for an election, a campaign 922
committee has received contributions of five hundred dollars or 923
less and has made expenditures in the total amount of five 924
hundred dollars or less, it may file a statement to that effect, 925
under penalty of election falsification, in lieu of the 926
statement required by division (A) (2) of this section. The 927
statement shall indicate the total amount of contributions 928
received and the total amount of expenditures made during those 929
combined reporting periods. 930

(2) In the case of a successful candidate at a primary 931
election, if either the total contributions received by or the 932
total expenditures made by the candidate's campaign committee 933
during the preprimary, postprimary, pregeneral, and postgeneral 934
election periods combined equal more than five hundred dollars, 935
the campaign committee may file the statement under division (H) 936
(1) of this section only for the primary election. The first 937
statement that the campaign committee files in regard to the 938
general election shall reflect all contributions received and 939

all expenditures made during the preprimary and postprimary 940
election periods. 941

(3) Divisions (H) (1) and (2) of this section do not apply 942
if a campaign committee receives contributions or makes 943
expenditures prior to the first day of January of the year of 944
the election at which the candidate seeks nomination or election 945
to office or if the campaign committee does not file a 946
termination statement with its postprimary election statement in 947
the case of an unsuccessful primary election candidate or with 948
its postgeneral election statement in the case of other 949
candidates. 950

(I) In the case of a contribution made by a partner of a 951
partnership or an owner or a member of another unincorporated 952
business from any funds of the partnership or other 953
unincorporated business, all of the following apply: 954

(1) The recipient of the contribution shall report the 955
contribution by listing both the partnership or other 956
unincorporated business and the name of the partner, owner, or 957
member making the contribution. 958

(2) In reporting the contribution, the recipient of the 959
contribution shall be entitled to conclusively rely upon the 960
information provided by the partnership or other unincorporated 961
business, provided that the information includes one of the 962
following: 963

(a) The name of each partner, owner, or member as of the 964
date of the contribution or contributions, and a statement that 965
the total contributions are to be allocated equally among all of 966
the partners, owners, or members; or 967

(b) The name of each partner, owner, or member as of the 968

date of the contribution or contributions who is participating 969
in the contribution or contributions, and a statement that the 970
contribution or contributions are to be allocated to those 971
individuals in accordance with the information provided by the 972
partnership or other unincorporated business to the recipient of 973
the contribution. 974

(3) For purposes of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code, 975
the contribution shall be considered to have been made by the 976
partner, owner, or member reported under division (I) (1) of this 977
section. 978

(4) No contribution from a partner of a partnership or an 979
owner or a member of another unincorporated business shall be 980
accepted from any funds of the partnership or other 981
unincorporated business unless the recipient reports the 982
contribution under division (I) (1) of this section together with 983
the information provided under division (I) (2) of this section. 984

(5) No partnership or other unincorporated business shall 985
make a contribution or contributions solely in the name of the 986
partnership or other unincorporated business. 987

(6) As used in division (I) of this section, "partnership 988
or other unincorporated business" includes, but is not limited 989
to, a cooperative, a sole proprietorship, a general partnership, 990
a limited partnership, a limited partnership association, a 991
limited liability partnership, and a limited liability company. 992

(J) A candidate shall have only one campaign committee at 993
any given time for all of the offices for which the person is a 994
candidate or holds office. 995

(K) (1) In addition to filing a designation of appointment 996
of a treasurer under division (D) (1) of this section, the 997

campaign committee of any candidate for an elected municipal 998
office that pays an annual amount of compensation of five 999
thousand dollars or less, the campaign committee of any 1000
candidate for member of a board of education except member of 1001
the state board of education, or the campaign committee of any 1002
candidate for township trustee or township fiscal officer may 1003
sign, under penalty of election falsification, a certificate 1004
attesting that the committee will not accept contributions 1005
during an election period that exceed in the aggregate two 1006
thousand dollars from all contributors and one hundred dollars 1007
from any one individual, and that the campaign committee will 1008
not make expenditures during an election period that exceed in 1009
the aggregate two thousand dollars. 1010

The certificate shall be on a form prescribed by the 1011
secretary of state and shall be filed not later than ten days 1012
after the candidate files a declaration of candidacy and 1013
petition, a nominating petition, or a declaration of intent to 1014
be a write-in candidate. 1015

(2) Except as otherwise provided in division (K) (3) of 1016
this section, a campaign committee that files a certificate 1017
under division (K) (1) of this section is not required to file 1018
the statements required by division (A) of this section. 1019

(3) If, after filing a certificate under division (K) (1) 1020
of this section, a campaign committee exceeds any of the 1021
limitations described in that division during an election 1022
period, the certificate is void and thereafter the campaign 1023
committee shall file the statements required by division (A) of 1024
this section. If the campaign committee has not previously filed 1025
a statement, then on the first statement the campaign committee 1026
is required to file under division (A) of this section after the 1027

committee's certificate is void, the committee shall report all 1028
contributions received and expenditures made from the time the 1029
candidate filed the candidate's declaration of candidacy and 1030
petition, nominating petition, or declaration of intent to be a 1031
write-in candidate. 1032

(4) As used in division (K) of this section, "election 1033
period" means the period of time beginning on the day a person 1034
files a declaration of candidacy and petition, nominating 1035
petition, or declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate 1036
through the day of the election at which the person seeks 1037
nomination to office if the person is not elected to office, or, 1038
if the candidate was nominated in a primary election, the day of 1039
the election at which the candidate seeks office. 1040

(L) A political contributing entity that receives 1041
contributions from the dues, membership fees, or other 1042
assessments of its members or from its officers, shareholders, 1043
and employees may report the aggregate amount of contributions 1044
received from those contributors and the number of individuals 1045
making those contributions, for each filing period under 1046
divisions (A) (1), (2), (3), and (4) of this section, rather than 1047
reporting information as required under division (B) (4) of this 1048
section, including, when applicable, the name of the current 1049
employer, if any, of a contributor whose contribution exceeds 1050
one hundred dollars or, if such a contributor is self-employed, 1051
the contributor's occupation and the name of the contributor's 1052
business, if any. Division (B) (4) of this section applies to a 1053
political contributing entity with regard to contributions it 1054
receives from all other contributors. 1055

Sec. 3517.12. (A) ~~Prior to receiving a contribution or~~ 1056
~~making an expenditure, the circulator or~~ If the committee in 1057

charge of an initiative or referendum petition, or supplementary 1058
petition for additional signatures, for the submission to the 1059
electors of a ~~constitutional amendment, proposed law, section,~~ 1060
~~or item of any law~~ ballot issue or question receives a 1061
contribution or makes an expenditure for the purpose of 1062
achieving the successful circulation of the petition, the 1063
committee is considered a political action committee for that 1064
purpose and shall ~~appoint a treasurer and shall file with the~~ 1065
~~secretary of state, on a form prescribed by the secretary of~~ 1066
~~state, a designation of that appointment, including the full~~ 1067
~~name and address of the treasurer and of the circulator or~~ 1068
~~committee~~ comply with all applicable requirements of this 1069
chapter concerning political action committees, including filing 1070
a designation of treasurer under division (D) of section 3517.10 1071
of the Revised Code before receiving a contribution or making an 1072
expenditure and filing all required statements of contributions 1073
and expenditures. 1074

(B) ~~The circulator or~~ If the committee in charge of an 1075
initiative or referendum petition, or supplementary petition for 1076
additional signatures, for the submission to the electors of a 1077
~~constitutional amendment, proposed law, section, or item of any~~ 1078
~~law~~ ballot issue or question receives no contributions and makes 1079
no expenditures for the purpose of achieving the successful 1080
circulation of the petition, and is not otherwise considered a 1081
campaign committee, political party, legislative campaign fund, 1082
political action committee, or political contributing entity, 1083
then the committee shall, within thirty days after ~~those the~~ 1084
~~petition papers are~~ is filed, file with the ~~secretary of state~~ 1085
office with which the petition is filed, on a form prescribed by 1086
the secretary of state, ~~an itemized~~ a statement, made under 1087
penalty of election falsification, ~~showing in detail the~~ 1088

following: 1089

~~(1) All money or things of value paid, given, promised, or received for circulating the petitions;~~ 1090
1091

~~(2) All appointments, promotions, or increases in salary, in positions which were given, promised, or received, or to obtain which assistance was given, promised, or received as a consideration for work done in circulating petitions;~~ 1092
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~~(3) Full names and addresses, including street, city, and state, of all persons to whom such payments or promises were made and of all persons from whom such payments or promises were received;~~ 1096
1097
1098
1099

~~(4) Full names and addresses, including street, city, and state, of all persons who contributed anything of value to be used in circulating the petitions, and the amounts of those contributions;~~ 1100
1101
1102
1103

~~(5) Time spent and salaries earned while soliciting signatures to petitions by persons who were regular salaried employees of some person or whom that employer authorized to solicit as part of their regular duties.~~ 1104
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~~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.~~ 1108
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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~~ 1114
1115
1116
1117

~~that treasurer or the circulator or committee in connection with~~ 1118
~~the initiative or referendum petition, or supplementary petition~~ 1119
~~for additional signatures, for the submission of a~~ 1120
~~constitutional amendment, proposed law, section, or item of any~~ 1121
~~law.~~ 1122

Sec. 3517.13. (A) (1) No campaign committee of a statewide 1123
candidate shall fail to file a complete and accurate statement 1124
required under division (A) (1) of section 3517.10 of the Revised 1125
Code. 1126

(2) No campaign committee of a statewide candidate shall 1127
fail to file a complete and accurate monthly statement, and no 1128
campaign committee of a statewide candidate or a candidate for 1129
the office of chief justice or justice of the supreme court 1130
shall fail to file a complete and accurate two-business-day 1131
statement, as required under section 3517.10 of the Revised 1132
Code. 1133

As used in this division, "statewide candidate" has the 1134
same meaning as in division (F) (2) of section 3517.10 of the 1135
Revised Code. 1136

(B) No campaign committee shall fail to file a complete 1137
and accurate statement required under division (A) (1) of section 1138
3517.10 of the Revised Code. 1139

(C) No campaign committee shall fail to file a complete 1140
and accurate statement required under division (A) (2) of section 1141
3517.10 of the Revised Code. 1142

(D) No campaign committee shall fail to file a complete 1143
and accurate statement required under division (A) (3) or (4) of 1144
section 3517.10 of the Revised Code. 1145

(E) No person other than a campaign committee shall 1146

knowingly fail to file a statement required under section 1147
3517.10 or 3517.107 of the Revised Code. 1148

(F) No person shall make cash contributions to any person 1149
totaling more than one hundred dollars in each primary, special, 1150
or general election. 1151

(G) (1) No person shall knowingly conceal or misrepresent 1152
contributions given or received, expenditures made, or any other 1153
information required to be reported by a provision in sections 1154
3517.08 to 3517.13 of the Revised Code. 1155

(2) (a) No person shall make a contribution to a campaign 1156
committee, political action committee, political contributing 1157
entity, legislative campaign fund, political party, or person 1158
making disbursements to pay the direct costs of producing or 1159
airing electioneering communications in the name of another 1160
person. 1161

(b) A person does not make a contribution in the name of 1162
another when either of the following applies: 1163

(i) An individual makes a contribution from a partnership 1164
or other unincorporated business account, if the contribution is 1165
reported by listing both the name of the partnership or other 1166
unincorporated business and the name of the partner or owner 1167
making the contribution as required under division (I) of 1168
section 3517.10 of the Revised Code. 1169

(ii) A person makes a contribution in that person's 1170
spouse's name or in both of their names. 1171

(H) No person within this state, publishing a newspaper or 1172
other periodical, shall charge a campaign committee for 1173
political advertising a rate in excess of the rate such person 1174
would charge if the campaign committee were a general rate 1175

advertiser whose advertising was directed to promoting its 1176
business within the same area as that encompassed by the 1177
particular office that the candidate of the campaign committee 1178
is seeking. The rate shall take into account the amount of space 1179
used, as well as the type of advertising copy submitted by or on 1180
behalf of the campaign committee. All discount privileges 1181
otherwise offered by a newspaper or periodical to general rate 1182
advertisers shall be available upon equal terms to all campaign 1183
committees. 1184

No person within this state, operating a radio or 1185
television station or network of stations in this state, shall 1186
charge a campaign committee for political broadcasts a rate that 1187
exceeds: 1188

(1) During the forty-five days preceding the date of a 1189
primary election and during the sixty days preceding the date of 1190
a general or special election in which the candidate of the 1191
campaign committee is seeking office, the lowest unit charge of 1192
the station for the same class and amount of time for the same 1193
period; 1194

(2) At any other time, the charges made for comparable use 1195
of that station by its other users. 1196

(I) Subject to divisions (K), (L), (M), and (N) of this 1197
section, no agency or department of this state or any political 1198
subdivision shall award any contract, other than one let by 1199
competitive bidding or a contract incidental to such contract or 1200
which is by force account, for the purchase of goods costing 1201
more than five hundred dollars or services costing more than 1202
five hundred dollars to any individual, partnership, 1203
association, including, without limitation, a professional 1204
association organized under Chapter 1785. of the Revised Code, 1205

estate, or trust if the individual has made or the individual's 1206
spouse has made, or any partner, shareholder, administrator, 1207
executor, or trustee or the spouse of any of them has made, as 1208
an individual, within the two previous calendar years, one or 1209
more contributions totaling in excess of one thousand dollars to 1210
the holder of the public office having ultimate responsibility 1211
for the award of the contract or to the public officer's 1212
campaign committee. 1213

(J) Subject to divisions (K), (L), (M), and (N) of this 1214
section, no agency or department of this state or any political 1215
subdivision shall award any contract, other than one let by 1216
competitive bidding or a contract incidental to such contract or 1217
which is by force account, for the purchase of goods costing 1218
more than five hundred dollars or services costing more than 1219
five hundred dollars to a corporation or business trust, except 1220
a professional association organized under Chapter 1785. of the 1221
Revised Code, if an owner of more than twenty per cent of the 1222
corporation or business trust or the spouse of that person has 1223
made, as an individual, within the two previous calendar years, 1224
taking into consideration only owners for all of that period, 1225
one or more contributions totaling in excess of one thousand 1226
dollars to the holder of a public office having ultimate 1227
responsibility for the award of the contract or to the public 1228
officer's campaign committee. 1229

(K) For purposes of divisions (I) and (J) of this section, 1230
if a public officer who is responsible for the award of a 1231
contract is appointed by the governor, whether or not the 1232
appointment is subject to the advice and consent of the senate, 1233
excluding members of boards, commissions, committees, 1234
authorities, councils, boards of trustees, task forces, and 1235
other such entities appointed by the governor, the office of the 1236

governor is considered to have ultimate responsibility for the 1237
award of the contract. 1238

(L) For purposes of divisions (I) and (J) of this section, 1239
if a public officer who is responsible for the award of a 1240
contract is appointed by the elected chief executive officer of 1241
a municipal corporation, or appointed by the elected chief 1242
executive officer of a county operating under an alternative 1243
form of county government or county charter, excluding members 1244
of boards, commissions, committees, authorities, councils, 1245
boards of trustees, task forces, and other such entities 1246
appointed by the chief executive officer, the office of the 1247
chief executive officer is considered to have ultimate 1248
responsibility for the award of the contract. 1249

(M) (1) Divisions (I) and (J) of this section do not apply 1250
to contracts awarded by the board of commissioners of the 1251
sinking fund, municipal legislative authorities, boards of 1252
education, boards of county commissioners, boards of township 1253
trustees, or other boards, commissions, committees, authorities, 1254
councils, boards of trustees, task forces, and other such 1255
entities created by law, by the supreme court or courts of 1256
appeals, by county courts consisting of more than one judge, 1257
courts of common pleas consisting of more than one judge, or 1258
municipal courts consisting of more than one judge, or by a 1259
division of any court if the division consists of more than one 1260
judge. This division shall apply to the specified entity only if 1261
the members of the entity act collectively in the award of a 1262
contract for goods or services. 1263

(2) Divisions (I) and (J) of this section do not apply to 1264
actions of the controlling board. 1265

(N) (1) Divisions (I) and (J) of this section apply to 1266

contributions made to the holder of a public office having 1267
ultimate responsibility for the award of a contract, or to the 1268
public officer's campaign committee, during the time the person 1269
holds the office and during any time such person was a candidate 1270
for the office. Those divisions do not apply to contributions 1271
made to, or to the campaign committee of, a candidate for or 1272
holder of the office other than the holder of the office at the 1273
time of the award of the contract. 1274

(2) Divisions (I) and (J) of this section do not apply to 1275
contributions of a partner, shareholder, administrator, 1276
executor, trustee, or owner of more than twenty per cent of a 1277
corporation or business trust made before the person held any of 1278
those positions or after the person ceased to hold any of those 1279
positions in the partnership, association, estate, trust, 1280
corporation, or business trust whose eligibility to be awarded a 1281
contract is being determined, nor to contributions of the 1282
person's spouse made before the person held any of those 1283
positions, after the person ceased to hold any of those 1284
positions, before the two were married, after the granting of a 1285
decree of divorce, dissolution of marriage, or annulment, or 1286
after the granting of an order in an action brought solely for 1287
legal separation. Those divisions do not apply to contributions 1288
of the spouse of an individual whose eligibility to be awarded a 1289
contract is being determined made before the two were married, 1290
after the granting of a decree of divorce, dissolution of 1291
marriage, or annulment, or after the granting of an order in an 1292
action brought solely for legal separation. 1293

(O) No beneficiary of a campaign fund or other person 1294
shall convert for personal use, and no person shall knowingly 1295
give to a beneficiary of a campaign fund or any other person, 1296
for the beneficiary's or any other person's personal use, 1297

anything of value from the beneficiary's campaign fund, 1298
including, without limitation, payments to a beneficiary for 1299
services the beneficiary personally performs, except as 1300
reimbursement for any of the following: 1301

(1) Legitimate and verifiable prior campaign expenses 1302
incurred by the beneficiary; 1303

(2) Legitimate and verifiable ordinary and necessary prior 1304
expenses incurred by the beneficiary in connection with duties 1305
as the holder of a public office, including, without limitation, 1306
expenses incurred through participation in nonpartisan or 1307
bipartisan events if the participation of the holder of a public 1308
office would normally be expected; 1309

(3) Legitimate and verifiable ordinary and necessary prior 1310
expenses incurred by the beneficiary while doing any of the 1311
following: 1312

(a) Engaging in activities in support of or opposition to 1313
a candidate other than the beneficiary, political party, or 1314
ballot issue; 1315

(b) Raising funds for a political party, political action 1316
committee, political contributing entity, legislative campaign 1317
fund, campaign committee, or other candidate; 1318

(c) Participating in the activities of a political party, 1319
political action committee, political contributing entity, 1320
legislative campaign fund, or campaign committee; 1321

(d) Attending a political party convention or other 1322
political meeting. 1323

For purposes of this division, an expense is incurred 1324
whenever a beneficiary has either made payment or is obligated 1325

to make payment, as by the use of a credit card or other credit 1326
procedure or by the use of goods or services received on 1327
account. 1328

(P) No beneficiary of a campaign fund shall knowingly 1329
accept, and no person shall knowingly give to the beneficiary of 1330
a campaign fund, reimbursement for an expense under division (O) 1331
of this section to the extent that the expense previously was 1332
reimbursed or paid from another source of funds. If an expense 1333
is reimbursed under division (O) of this section and is later 1334
paid or reimbursed, wholly or in part, from another source of 1335
funds, the beneficiary shall repay the reimbursement received 1336
under division (O) of this section to the extent of the payment 1337
made or reimbursement received from the other source. 1338

(Q) No candidate or public official or employee shall 1339
accept for personal or business use anything of value from a 1340
political party, political action committee, political 1341
contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or campaign 1342
committee other than the candidate's or public official's or 1343
employee's own campaign committee, and no person shall knowingly 1344
give to a candidate or public official or employee anything of 1345
value from a political party, political action committee, 1346
political contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or 1347
such a campaign committee, except for the following: 1348

(1) Reimbursement for legitimate and verifiable ordinary 1349
and necessary prior expenses not otherwise prohibited by law 1350
incurred by the candidate or public official or employee while 1351
engaged in any legitimate activity of the political party, 1352
political action committee, political contributing entity, 1353
legislative campaign fund, or such campaign committee. Without 1354
limitation, reimbursable expenses under this division include 1355

those incurred while doing any of the following: 1356

(a) Engaging in activities in support of or opposition to 1357
another candidate, political party, or ballot issue; 1358

(b) Raising funds for a political party, legislative 1359
campaign fund, campaign committee, or another candidate; 1360

(c) Attending a political party convention or other 1361
political meeting. 1362

(2) Compensation not otherwise prohibited by law for 1363
actual and valuable personal services rendered under a written 1364
contract to the political party, political action committee, 1365
political contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or 1366
such campaign committee for any legitimate activity of the 1367
political party, political action committee, political 1368
contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or such campaign 1369
committee. 1370

Reimbursable expenses under this division do not include, 1371
and it is a violation of this division for a candidate or public 1372
official or employee to accept, or for any person to knowingly 1373
give to a candidate or public official or employee from a 1374
political party, political action committee, political 1375
contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or campaign 1376
committee other than the candidate's or public official's or 1377
employee's own campaign committee, anything of value for 1378
activities primarily related to the candidate's or public 1379
official's or employee's own campaign for election, except for 1380
contributions to the candidate's or public official's or 1381
employee's campaign committee. 1382

For purposes of this division, an expense is incurred 1383
whenever a candidate or public official or employee has either 1384

made payment or is obligated to make payment, as by the use of a 1385
credit card or other credit procedure, or by the use of goods or 1386
services on account. 1387

(R) (1) Division (O) or (P) of this section does not 1388
prohibit a campaign committee from making direct advance or post 1389
payment from contributions to vendors for goods and services for 1390
which reimbursement is permitted under division (O) of this 1391
section, except that no campaign committee shall pay its 1392
candidate or other beneficiary for services personally performed 1393
by the candidate or other beneficiary. 1394

(2) If any expense that may be reimbursed under division 1395
(O), (P), or (Q) of this section is part of other expenses that 1396
may not be paid or reimbursed, the separation of the two types 1397
of expenses for the purpose of allocating for payment or 1398
reimbursement those expenses that may be paid or reimbursed may 1399
be by any reasonable accounting method, considering all of the 1400
surrounding circumstances. 1401

(3) For purposes of divisions (O), (P), and (Q) of this 1402
section, mileage allowance at a rate not greater than that 1403
allowed by the internal revenue service at the time the travel 1404
occurs may be paid instead of reimbursement for actual travel 1405
expenses allowable. 1406

(S) (1) As used in division (S) of this section: 1407

(a) "State elective office" has the same meaning as in 1408
section 3517.092 of the Revised Code. 1409

(b) "Federal office" means a federal office as defined in 1410
the Federal Election Campaign Act. 1411

(c) "Federal campaign committee" means a principal 1412
campaign committee or authorized committee as defined in the 1413

Federal Election Campaign Act.	1414
(2) No person who is a candidate for state elective office	1415
and who previously sought nomination or election to a federal	1416
office shall transfer any funds or assets from that person's	1417
federal campaign committee for nomination or election to the	1418
federal office to that person's campaign committee as a	1419
candidate for state elective office.	1420
(3) No campaign committee of a person who is a candidate	1421
for state elective office and who previously sought nomination	1422
or election to a federal office shall accept any funds or assets	1423
from that person's federal campaign committee for that person's	1424
nomination or election to the federal office.	1425
(T) (1) Except as otherwise provided in division (B) (6) (c)	1426
of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code, a state or county	1427
political party shall not disburse moneys from any account other	1428
than a state candidate fund to make contributions to any of the	1429
following:	1430
(a) A state candidate fund;	1431
(b) A legislative campaign fund;	1432
(c) A campaign committee of a candidate for the office of	1433
governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, auditor of	1434
state, treasurer of state, attorney general, member of the state	1435
board of education, or member of the general assembly.	1436
(2) No state candidate fund, legislative campaign fund, or	1437
campaign committee of a candidate for any office described in	1438
division (T) (1) (c) of this section shall knowingly accept a	1439
contribution in violation of division (T) (1) of this section.	1440
(U) No person shall fail to file a statement required	1441

under section 3517.12 of the Revised Code. 1442

(V) No campaign committee shall fail to file a statement 1443
required under division (K) (3) of section 3517.10 of the Revised 1444
Code. 1445

(W) (1) No foreign national shall, directly or indirectly 1446
through any other person or entity, ~~make do either of the~~ 1447
following: 1448

(a) Make a contribution, expenditure, or independent 1449
expenditure or promise, either expressly or implicitly, to make 1450
a contribution, expenditure, or independent expenditure ~~in~~ 1451
~~support of or opposition to a candidate for any elective office~~ 1452
~~in this state, including an office of a political party;~~ 1453

(b) Solicit another person to make a contribution, 1454
expenditure, or independent expenditure. 1455

(2) No candidate, campaign committee, political action 1456
committee, political contributing entity, legislative campaign 1457
fund, state candidate fund, political party, ~~or~~ separate 1458
segregated fund, continuing association, corporation, or labor 1459
organization shall, directly or indirectly through another 1460
person or entity, solicit or accept a contribution, expenditure, 1461
or independent expenditure from a foreign national. ~~The~~ 1462
~~secretary of state may direct any candidate, committee, entity,~~ 1463
~~fund, or party that accepts a contribution, expenditure, or~~ 1464
~~independent expenditure in violation of this division to return~~ 1465
~~the contribution, expenditure, or independent expenditure or, if~~ 1466
~~it is not possible to return the contribution, expenditure, or~~ 1467
~~independent expenditure, then to return instead the value of it,~~ 1468
~~to the contributor.~~ 1469

(3) As used in division (W) of this section, "foreign 1470

national" ~~has the same meaning as in section 441e(b) of the~~ 1471
~~Federal Election Campaign Act~~ means any of the following, as 1472
applicable: 1473

(a) In the case of an individual, an individual who is not 1474
a United States citizen or national; 1475

(b) A government of a foreign country or of a political 1476
subdivision of a foreign country; 1477

(c) A foreign political party; 1478

(d) A person, other than an individual, that is organized 1479
under the laws of, or has its principal place of business in, a 1480
foreign country. 1481

(X) (1) No state or county political party shall transfer 1482
any moneys from its restricted fund to any account of the 1483
political party into which contributions may be made or from 1484
which contributions or expenditures may be made. 1485

(2) (a) No state or county political party shall deposit a 1486
contribution or contributions that it receives into its 1487
restricted fund. 1488

(b) No state or county political party shall make a 1489
contribution or an expenditure from its restricted fund. 1490

(3) (a) No corporation or labor organization shall make a 1491
gift or gifts from the corporation's or labor organization's 1492
money or property aggregating more than ten thousand dollars to 1493
any one state or county political party for the party's 1494
restricted fund in a calendar year. 1495

(b) No state or county political party shall accept a gift 1496
or gifts for the party's restricted fund aggregating more than 1497
ten thousand dollars from any one corporation or labor 1498

organization in a calendar year. 1499

(4) No state or county political party shall transfer any 1500
moneys in the party's restricted fund to any other state or 1501
county political party. 1502

(5) No state or county political party shall knowingly 1503
fail to file a statement required under section 3517.1012 of the 1504
Revised Code. 1505

(Y) The administrator of workers' compensation and the 1506
employees of the bureau of workers' compensation shall not 1507
conduct any business with or award any contract, other than one 1508
awarded by competitive bidding, for the purchase of goods 1509
costing more than five hundred dollars or services costing more 1510
than five hundred dollars to any individual, partnership, 1511
association, including, without limitation, a professional 1512
association organized under Chapter 1785. of the Revised Code, 1513
estate, or trust, if the individual has made, or the 1514
individual's spouse has made, or any partner, shareholder, 1515
administrator, executor, or trustee, or the spouses of any of 1516
those individuals has made, as an individual, within the two 1517
previous calendar years, one or more contributions totaling in 1518
excess of one thousand dollars to the campaign committee of the 1519
governor or lieutenant governor or to the campaign committee of 1520
any candidate for the office of governor or lieutenant governor. 1521

(Z) The administrator of workers' compensation and the 1522
employees of the bureau of workers' compensation shall not 1523
conduct business with or award any contract, other than one 1524
awarded by competitive bidding, for the purchase of goods 1525
costing more than five hundred dollars or services costing more 1526
than five hundred dollars to a corporation or business trust, 1527
except a professional association organized under Chapter 1785. 1528

of the Revised Code, if an owner of more than twenty per cent of 1529
the corporation or business trust, or the spouse of the owner, 1530
has made, as an individual, within the two previous calendar 1531
years, taking into consideration only owners for all of such 1532
period, one or more contributions totaling in excess of one 1533
thousand dollars to the campaign committee of the governor or 1534
lieutenant governor or to the campaign committee of any 1535
candidate for the office of governor or lieutenant governor. 1536

Sec. 3517.992. This section establishes penalties only 1537
with respect to acts or failures to act that occur on and after 1538
August 24, 1995. 1539

(A) (1) A candidate whose campaign committee violates 1540
division (A), (B), (C), (D), or (V) of section 3517.13 of the 1541
Revised Code, or a treasurer of a campaign committee who 1542
violates any of those divisions, shall be fined not more than 1543
one hundred dollars for each day of violation. 1544

(2) Whoever violates division (E) or (X) (5) of section 1545
3517.13 or division (E) (1) of section 3517.1014 of the Revised 1546
Code shall be fined not more than one hundred dollars for each 1547
day of violation. 1548

(B) An entity that violates division (G) (1) of section 1549
3517.101 of the Revised Code shall be fined not more than one 1550
hundred dollars for each day of violation. 1551

(C) Whoever violates division (G) (2) of section 3517.101, 1552
division (G) of section 3517.13, or division (E) (2) or (3) of 1553
section 3517.1014 of the Revised Code shall be fined not more 1554
than ten thousand dollars or, if the offender is a person who 1555
was nominated or elected to public office, shall forfeit the 1556
nomination or the office to which the offender was elected, or 1557

both. 1558

(D) Whoever violates division (F) of section 3517.13 of 1559
the Revised Code shall be fined not more than three times the 1560
amount contributed. 1561

(E) Whoever violates division (H) of section 3517.13 of 1562
the Revised Code shall be fined not more than one hundred 1563
dollars. 1564

(F) Whoever violates division (O), (P), or (Q) of section 1565
3517.13 of the Revised Code is guilty of a misdemeanor of the 1566
first degree. 1567

(G) A state or county committee of a political party that 1568
violates division (B)(1) of section 3517.18 of the Revised Code 1569
as that section existed before its repeal by H.B. 166 of the 1570
133rd general assembly shall be fined not more than twice the 1571
amount of the improper expenditure. 1572

(H) An entity that violates division (H) of section 1573
3517.101 of the Revised Code shall be fined not more than twice 1574
the amount of the improper expenditure or use. 1575

(I) (1) Any individual who violates division (B)(1) of 1576
section 3517.102 of the Revised Code and knows that the 1577
contribution the individual makes violates that division shall 1578
be fined an amount equal to three times the amount contributed 1579
in excess of the amount permitted by that division. 1580

(2) Any political action committee that violates division 1581
(B)(2) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code shall be fined an 1582
amount equal to three times the amount contributed in excess of 1583
the amount permitted by that division. 1584

(3) Any campaign committee that violates division (B)(3) 1585

or (5) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code shall be fined an amount equal to three times the amount contributed in excess of the amount permitted by that division.

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

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

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

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

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

(a) It is completely refunded within five business days after it is accepted. 1615
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(b) It is completely refunded on or before the tenth business day after notification to the recipient of the excess transfer or contribution by the board of elections or the secretary of state that a transfer or contribution in excess of the permitted amount has been received. 1617
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(J) (1) Any campaign committee that violates division (C) (1), (2), (3), or (6) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code shall be fined an amount equal to three times the amount accepted in excess of the amount permitted by that division. 1622
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(2) (a) Any county political party that violates division (C) (4) (a) (ii) or (iii) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code shall be fined an amount equal to three times the amount accepted. 1626
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(b) Any county political party that violates division (C) (4) (a) (i) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code shall be fined an amount from its state candidate fund equal to three times the amount accepted in excess of the amount permitted by that division. 1630
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(c) Any state political party that violates division (C) (4) (b) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code shall be fined an amount from its state candidate fund equal to three times the amount accepted in excess of the amount permitted by that division. 1635
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(3) Any legislative campaign fund that violates division (C) (5) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code shall be fined an amount equal to three times the amount accepted in excess of the amount permitted by that division. 1640
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(4) Any political action committee or political contributing entity that violates division (C) (7) of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code shall be fined an amount equal to three times the amount accepted in excess of the amount permitted by that division.

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

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

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

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

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

(L) Whoever violates section 3517.105 of the Revised Code

shall be fined one thousand dollars. 1673

(M) (1) Whoever solicits a contribution in violation of 1674
section 3517.092 or violates division (B) of section 3517.09 of 1675
the Revised Code is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree. 1676

(2) Whoever knowingly accepts a contribution in violation 1677
of division (B) or (C) of section 3517.092 of the Revised Code 1678
shall be fined an amount equal to three times the amount 1679
accepted in violation of either of those divisions and shall 1680
return to the contributor any amount so accepted. Whoever 1681
unknowingly accepts a contribution in violation of division (B) 1682
or (C) of section 3517.092 of the Revised Code shall return to 1683
the contributor any amount so accepted. 1684

(N) Whoever violates division (S) of section 3517.13 of 1685
the Revised Code shall be fined an amount equal to three times 1686
the amount of funds transferred or three times the value of the 1687
assets transferred in violation of that division. 1688

(O) Any campaign committee that accepts a contribution or 1689
contributions in violation of section 3517.108 of the Revised 1690
Code, uses a contribution in violation of that section, or fails 1691
to dispose of excess contributions in violation of that section 1692
shall be fined an amount equal to three times the amount 1693
accepted, used, or kept in violation of that section. 1694

(P) Any political party, state candidate fund, legislative 1695
candidate fund, or campaign committee that violates division (T) 1696
of section 3517.13 of the Revised Code shall be fined an amount 1697
equal to three times the amount contributed or accepted in 1698
violation of that section. 1699

(Q) A treasurer of a committee or another person who 1700
violates division (U) of section 3517.13 of the Revised Code 1701

shall be fined not more than two hundred fifty dollars. 1702

(R) Whoever violates division (I) or (J) of section 1703
3517.13 of the Revised Code shall be fined not more than one 1704
thousand dollars. Whenever a person is found guilty of violating 1705
division (I) or (J) of section 3517.13 of the Revised Code, the 1706
contract awarded in violation of either of those divisions shall 1707
be rescinded if its terms have not yet been performed. 1708

(S) A candidate whose campaign committee violates or a 1709
treasurer of a campaign committee who violates section 3517.081 1710
of the Revised Code, and a candidate whose campaign committee 1711
violates or a treasurer of a campaign committee or another 1712
person who violates division (C) of section 3517.10 of the 1713
Revised Code, shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars. 1714

(T) A candidate whose campaign committee violates or a 1715
treasurer of a committee who violates division (B) of section 1716
3517.09 of the Revised Code, or a candidate whose campaign 1717
committee violates or a treasurer of a campaign committee or 1718
another person who violates division (C) of section 3517.09 of 1719
the Revised Code shall be fined not more than one thousand 1720
dollars. 1721

(U) Whoever violates section 3517.20 of the Revised Code 1722
shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars. 1723

(V) Whoever violates section 3517.21 or 3517.22 of the 1724
Revised Code shall be imprisoned for not more than six months or 1725
fined not more than five thousand dollars, or both. 1726

(W) A campaign committee that is required to file a 1727
declaration of no limits under division (D) (2) of section 1728
3517.103 of the Revised Code that, before filing that 1729
declaration, accepts a contribution or contributions that exceed 1730

the limitations prescribed in section 3517.102 of the Revised Code, shall return that contribution or those contributions to the contributor.

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

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

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

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

(AA) (1) Whoever knowingly violates division (W) (1) of

section 3517.13 of the Revised Code shall be fined an amount 1760
equal to three times the amount contributed, expended, or 1761
promised in violation of that division or ten thousand dollars, 1762
whichever amount is greater. 1763

(2) Whoever knowingly violates division (W) (2) of section 1764
3517.13 of the Revised Code shall be fined an amount equal to 1765
three times the amount solicited or accepted in violation of 1766
that division or ten thousand dollars, whichever amount is 1767
greater, and shall be required to return an amount equal to any 1768
amount accepted in violation of that division to the foreign 1769
national from whom it was accepted. 1770

(BB) Whoever knowingly violates division (C) or (D) of 1771
section 3517.1011 of the Revised Code shall be fined not more 1772
than ten thousand dollars plus not more than one thousand 1773
dollars for each day of violation. 1774

(CC) (1) Subject to division (CC) (2) of this section, 1775
whoever violates division (H) of section 3517.1011 of the 1776
Revised Code shall be fined an amount up to three times the 1777
amount disbursed for the direct costs of airing the 1778
communication made in violation of that division. 1779

(2) Whoever has been ordered by the Ohio elections 1780
commission or by a court of competent jurisdiction to cease 1781
making communications in violation of division (H) of section 1782
3517.1011 of the Revised Code who again violates that division 1783
shall be fined an amount equal to three times the amount 1784
disbursed for the direct costs of airing the communication made 1785
in violation of that division. 1786

(DD) (1) Any corporation or labor organization that 1787
violates division (X) (3) (a) of section 3517.13 of the Revised 1788

Code shall be fined an amount equal to three times the amount 1789
given in excess of the amount permitted by that division. 1790

(2) Any state or county political party that violates 1791
division (X) (3) (b) of section 3517.13 of the Revised Code shall 1792
be fined an amount equal to three times the amount accepted in 1793
excess of the amount permitted by that division. 1794

(EE) (1) Any campaign committee or person who violates 1795
division (C) (1) (b) or (c) of section 3517.1014 of the Revised 1796
Code shall be fined an amount equal to three times the amount 1797
donated in excess of the amount permitted by that division. 1798

(2) Any officeholder or treasurer of a transition fund who 1799
violates division (C) (3) (a) or (b) of section 3517.1014 of the 1800
Revised Code shall be fined an amount equal to three times the 1801
amount accepted in excess of the amount permitted by that 1802
division. 1803

Section 2. That existing sections 3517.01, 3517.10, 1804
3517.12, 3517.13, and 3517.992 of the Revised Code are hereby 1805
repealed. 1806