As Introduced

136th General Assembly Regular Session

H. B. No. 170

2025-2026

Representatives Robb Blasdel, Peterson

То	enact sections 1509.71, 1509.72, 1509.73,	1
	1509.75, 1509.76, 1509.77, 1509.79, 5301.57,	2
	5301.58, 5301.59, and 5301.60 of the Revised	3
	Code to establish a process to regulate carbon	4
	capture and storage technologies and the	-
	geologic sequestration of carbon dioxide for	6
	long-term storage.	7

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

Section 1. That sections 1509.71, 1509.72, 1509.73,	8
1509.75, 1509.76, 1509.77, 1509.79, 5301.57, 5301.58, 5301.59,	9
and 5301.60 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as follows:	10
Sec. 1509.71. As used in sections 1509.71 to 1509.79 of	11
the Revised Code:	12
"Carbon dioxide" means naturally occurring, geologically	13
sourced, or anthropogenically sourced carbon dioxide including	14
its derivatives and all mixtures, combinations, and phases,	15
whether liquid, gaseous, solid, stripped, segregated, or divided	16
from any other fluid stream thereof.	17
"Carbon dioxide well" means a well that is used to inject	18
carbon dioxide into a reservoir for carbon sequestration under a	19
UIC Class VI permit. "Carbon dioxide well" shall be considered a	20

"well" for purposes of section 1509.01 of the Revised Code.	21
"Carbon dioxide plume" means the extent of an underground	22
injected carbon dioxide stream.	23
"Carbon sequestration" means the underground storage of	24
carbon dioxide in a geological formation.	25
"Carbon sequestration project" means a project that	26
involves the underground storage of carbon dioxide in a	27
geological formation pursuant to at least one UIC Class VI	28
permit.	29
"Owner" includes, unless the context indicates otherwise,	30
a person who has the right to drill a carbon dioxide well and to	31
inject carbon dioxide in an underground geologic formation.	32
"Owner," as defined in section 1509.01 of the Revised Code, does	33
not apply to sections 1509.71 to 1509.79 or sections 5301.58 to	34
5301.60 of the Revised Code unless the context indicates	35
otherwise.	36
"Pore space" means subsurface cavities and voids, whether	37
natural or artificially created, that are suitable for use as a	38
sequestration space for carbon dioxide.	39
"Storage facility" means the pore space in the subsurface	40
area consisting of the extent of a carbon dioxide plume and the	41
geological seals that confine the carbon dioxide plume that are	42
required to be delineated on an approved UIC Class VI permit or	43
an amendment to a UIC Class VI permit issued to a storage	44
operator.	45
"Storage operator" means an individual, corporation, or	46
other legal entity that operates a carbon sequestration project,	47
regardless of whether an owner that has the right to drill and	48
store carbon dioxide in the project area contracts, retains, or	4 9

	F.0
allows an individual, corporation, or other legal entity to	50
conduct operations or provide other services at the carbon	51
sequestration project.	52
"UIC Class VI permit" means an underground injection	53
control program permit issued by the chief of the division of	54
oil and gas resources management that allows the operation of a	55
carbon dioxide well.	56
"Underground storage of carbon dioxide" means the	57
injection and storage of carbon dioxide into underground strata	58
and formations under at least one UIC Class VI permit.	59
Sec. 1509.72. The division of oil and gas resources	60
management has sole and exclusive authority to regulate carbon	61
sequestration and the operation of storage facilities within the	62
state, excepting only those activities regulated under federal_	63
laws for which oversight has been delegated to the environmental	64
protection agency and activities regulated under sections	65
6111.01 to 6111.028 of the Revised Code. The regulation of	66
carbon sequestration activities is a matter of general statewide	67
interest that requires uniform statewide regulation, and	68
sections 1509.71 to 1509.79 of the Revised Code and rules	69
adopted under those sections constitute a comprehensive plan	70
with respect to all aspects of carbon sequestration within this	71
state, including storage facility operation and permitting	72
related to those activities.	73
In order to assist the division in the furtherance of its	74
sole and exclusive authority as established in this section, the	75
chief of the division of oil and gas resources management may	76
enter into cooperative agreements with other state agencies	77
regarding carbon sequestration projects. Such cooperative	78
agreements do not confer on other state agencies any authority	79

to administer or enforce sections 1509.71 to 1509.79 of the	80
Revised Code and rules adopted under those sections. In	81
addition, such cooperative agreements shall not be construed to	82
dilute or diminish the division's sole and exclusive authority	83
as established in this section.	84
Nothing in this section affects the authority granted to	85
the director of transportation and local authorities in section	86
723.01 or 4513.34 of the Revised Code, provided that the	87
authority granted under those sections shall not be exercised in	88
a manner that discriminates against, unfairly impedes, or	89
obstructs carbon sequestration projects regulated under sections	90
1509.71 to 1509.79 of the Revised Code.	91
Sec. 1509.73. (A) The chief of the division of oil and gas	92
resources management shall adopt, rescind, and amend, rules for	93
the administration, implementation, and enforcement of sections	94
1509.71 to 1509.79 of the Revised Code.	95
(B) Rules adopted under this section shall include	96
provisions regarding applications for and the issuance of UIC	97
Class VI permits; the terms and conditions of those permits;	98
entry to conduct inspections and to examine records to ascertain	99
compliance with sections 1509.71 to 1509.79 of the Revised Code,	100
rules adopted under those sections, and orders and terms and	101
conditions of permits issued under those sections; the provision	102
and maintenance of information through monitoring,	103
recordkeeping, and reporting; and other provisions in	104
furtherance of the goals of this chapter and the Safe Drinking	105
Water Act.	106
(C) The rules adopted under this section shall establish	107
both of the following:	108

(1) A requirement that an applicant for a UIC Class VI	109
permit attest that the applicant has the legal right to inject	110
carbon dioxide in the underground formation proposed in the	111
application and to the proposed extents that the carbon dioxide	112
will migrate, including the pressure front associated with the	113
<pre>injected carbon dioxide;</pre>	114
(2) The amount of the costs estimated to implement the	115
closure plan of the carbon dioxide well and associated	116
facilities and any post injection site care and site closure;	117
(D) The rules adopted under this section shall include an	118
identification of the subjects that the chief shall address when	119
attaching terms and conditions to a UIC Class VI permit. The	120
subjects shall include at least all of the following:	121
(1) Requirements for the operation and monitoring of a	122
<pre>carbon dioxide well;</pre>	123
(2) Safety concerning the drilling and operation of a	124
<pre>carbon dioxide well;</pre>	125
(3) Spacing, setback, and other provisions to prevent	126
storage facilities and storage operators from impacting the	127
ability of owners of oil and gas interests to develop those	128
interests;	129
(4) Protection of the public and private water supply,	130
including the amount of water used and the source or sources of	131
the water;	132
(5) Fencing and screening of surface facilities of a	133
<pre>carbon dioxide well;</pre>	134
(6) Containment and disposal of drilling and other wastes	135
related to a carbon sequestration project;	136

(7) Construction of access roads for purposes of the	137
drilling and operation of a carbon dioxide well;	138
(8) Noise mitigation for purposes of the drilling of a	139
carbon dioxide well and the operation of such a well, excluding	140
safety and maintenance operations;	141
(9) Liability insurance to pay damages for injury to	142
persons or property caused by the construction or operation of	143
the storage facility, to be maintained for the period of time	144
beginning at the commencement of construction operations and	145
ending when the chief issues a certificate of project completion	146
under section 1509.77 of the Revised Code;	147
(10) Liability insurance coverage of at least fifteen	148
million dollars to cover bodily injury and property damage	149
caused by the construction, drilling, or operation of the	150
owner's carbon dioxide wells in this state. The rules shall	151
require the insurance policy to include additional coverage for	152
an environmental endorsement.	153
(11) A surety bond conditioned on compliance with all	154
obligations imposed under sections 1509.71 to 1509.79 of the	155
Revised Code, to be maintained for the period of time beginning	156
at the commencement of construction operations and ending when	157
the chief issues a certificate of project completion. The rules	158
shall establish the required amount of the surety bond that is	159
not less than the cost estimate identified in the application.	160
The surety bond shall be sufficient to cover corrective actions,	161
plugging, post-injection site care prior to receipt of a	162
certificate of project completion, and emergency or remedial	163
response.	164
Sec. 1509.75. (A) Carbon sequestration projects are	165

authorized in the state for the purposes of injecting carbon	166
dioxide into the pore space of a storage facility through at	167
least one carbon dioxide injection well under a UIC Class VI	168
<pre>permit.</pre>	169
(B) To operate a carbon sequestration project under	170
sections 1509.71 to 1509.79 of the Revised Code, a storage	171
operator shall obtain at least both of the following:	172
(1) A UIC Class VI permit, which shall be applied for in	173
the name of the storage operator;	174
(2) Any additional permits required by applicable laws,	175
rules, and regulations, except that a storage operator is not	176
required to obtain a permit required under section 1509.05 of	177
the Revised Code.	178
(C) Prior to carbon sequestration, the chief of the	179
division of oil and gas resources management may require a	180
storage operator to deploy a seismicity monitoring system. The	181
storage operator shall use the system to determine, to the best	182
of the operator's ability, the presence or absence, magnitude,	183
and the hypocenter location of seismic activity within the	184
vicinity of the storage facility as may be necessary to perform	185
an array and a risk analysis and as required by the chief. The	186
chief may periodically require the storage operator to utilize	187
the seismicity monitoring system during carbon sequestration	188
operations.	189
(D) Prior to operating a carbon sequestration project	190
under sections 1509.71 to 1509.79 of the Revised Code, a storage	191
operator shall design the project to isolate any existing or	192
future production of oil and gas from the carbon dioxide plume.	193
The chief shall issue a permit under those sections only if the	194

chief is satisfied that the interests of the owners of the oil	195
and gas will not be adversely affected.	196
(E) Provisions of this chapter codified in sections other	197
than sections 1509.71 to 1509.79 of the Revised Code apply to	198
carbon sequestration projects to the extent that those	199
provisions are consistent with, and not specifically excepted	200
from, sections 1509.71 to 1509.79 of the Revised Code.	201
Sec. 1509.76. (A) A storage operator who has obtained the	202
consent of owners of at least seventy per cent of the pore space	203
proposed to be used in a storage facility may submit a statutory	204
consolidation application for the operation of the entire	205
proposed storage facility to the chief of the division of oil	206
and gas resources management. In calculating the seventy per	207
cent, a pore space owner's entire interest in the proposed	208
storage facility, including any divided, undivided, partial,	209
fee, or other interest in the pore space, shall be included to	210
the fullest extent of that interest.	211
(B) An applicant shall include the following with the	212
<pre>application:</pre>	213
(1) A list of all persons reasonably known to own an	214
interest in the pore space proposed to be used for the storage	215
<pre>facility;</pre>	216
(2) A processing fee based on actual application	217
processing costs incurred by the division of oil and gas	218
resources management. Promptly after receiving an application,	219
the division shall prepare and submit to the applicant an	220
estimate of the processing fee and a payment billing schedule.	221
The division shall maintain a record of all application	222
processing costs incurred. After the division's work on the	223

application has concluded, the division shall send a final	224
statement to the applicant. The applicant shall pay the full	225
processing fee before the division issues its final decision on	226
an application. The applicant shall pay the processing fee	227
regardless of whether a permit is issued or denied, or whether	228
the application is withdrawn. The division shall return any	229
unused funds paid to the division as part of the processing fee	230
estimate to the applicant.	231
(3) Proof of notice provided under division (D) of this	232
section, if applicable;	233
(4) Any additional information reasonably requested by the	234
chief.	235
(C) For each application, the chief shall provide notice	236
to all pore space owners located within the proposed storage	237
facility and all subsurface owners located within the proposed	238
storage facility of the proposed carbon sequestration project,	239
as identified by the applicant in the application. The chief	240
shall not rule on an application until after such notice has	241
been provided. If, upon receipt of the notice, the subsurface	242
property owner expresses an objection to the chief regarding the	243
design of the carbon sequestration project based on the	244
potential adverse effect to a commercially valuable mineral,	245
including, without limitation a coal or oil and gas estate, the	246
storage operator shall address the objection to the satisfaction	247
of the chief. Such objections are not required to be submitted	248
in the timeframe required for notifications to the chief under	249
division (D) of this section, but shall be made in accordance	250
with requirements established by the chief.	251
(D) If the proposed storage facility contains pore space	252
for which the owner is unknown or unlocatable, the storage	253

operator shall publish one notice in a newspaper of the largest	254
circulation in each county in which the carbon sequestration	255
project is located. The notice shall appear not more than thirty	256
days prior to the date the application is submitted to the	257
<pre>chief.</pre>	258
<pre>The notice shall:</pre>	259
(1) State that an application for statutory consolidation	260
will be filed with the division;	261
(2) Describe the proposed storage facility;	262
(3) In the case of an unknown pore space owner, state the	263
owner's interest in the proposed storage facility, and the name	264
of the last known owner of that interest;	265
(4) State that a person claiming an interest in the pore	266
space proposed to be consolidated shall notify the chief and the	267
applicant at the published address within twenty days of the	268
notice's publication date. Within seven days of receiving notice	269
of a claim, the applicant shall provide information to the	270
claimant, in a form and manner prescribed by the chief,	271
regarding the right of the claimant to file an objection and	272
participate in the application proceeding before the division.	273
(E)(1)(a) The chief shall hold a hearing regarding an	274
application submitted under this section, except as otherwise	275
provided in division (E)(1)(b) of this section.	276
(b) If the chief determines that an application is	277
materially incomplete before the required hearing date, the	278
chief shall notify the applicant. If the applicant does not	279
timely correct the application, the chief may reschedule the	280
hearing date.	281

(2) At the hearing, the chief shall consider whether the	282
application is reasonably necessary to facilitate the	283
underground storage of carbon dioxide.	284
(F)(1) The chief shall issue an order approving the	285
application submitted under this section and providing for the	286
operation of the proposed storage facility if the chief finds	287
that such operation is reasonably necessary to facilitate the	288
underground storage of carbon dioxide. The chief shall issue the	289
order not later than sixty days after the date of the hearing	290
under division (E) of this section, unless the chief denies the	291
application by order within that sixty-day period.	292
(2) An order approving an application shall be upon terms	293
and conditions that are just and reasonable and shall prescribe	294
a plan for operations that include:	295
(a) A description of the pore space and storage facility	296
<pre>proposed to be operated;</pre>	297
(b) The location of and means to access carbon injection	298
wells, outbuildings, roads, and monitoring equipment;	299
(c) A statement of the nature of the operations	300
<pre>contemplated;</pre>	301
(d)(i) An allocation to the separately owned interests in	302
the storage facility of all economic benefits derived from	303
operation of the storage facility.	304
(ii) The allocation shall be in accord with the agreement,	305
if any, of the interested parties. If there is no agreement	306
between the parties, the chief shall determine the value of each	307
separately owned interest in the storage facility, exclusive of	308
physical equipment, for development of the storage facility, and	309
the economic benefits allocated to each interest shall be the	310

proportion that the value of each interest so determined bears	311
to the value of all interests in the storage facility.	312
(e) A provision describing how the credits and charges	313
shall be made in the adjustment among the owners in the storage	314
facility for their respective investments in wells, machinery,	315
<pre>materials, and equipment contributed to the operations;</pre>	316
(f) A provision describing how the expenses of operations,	317
including capital investment, shall be determined and charged to	318
the separately owned interests and how the expenses shall be	319
<pre>paid;</pre>	320
(g) A provision, if necessary, for carrying or otherwise	321
financing any person who does not meet the person's financial	322
obligations in connection with the storage facility, allowing a	323
reasonable interest charge for such service;	324
(h) A provision for the supervision and conduct of the	325
storage facility operations, in respect to which each person	326
shall have a vote with a value corresponding to the percentage	327
of the expenses of operations chargeable against the interest of	328
that person;	329
(i) The time when the storage facility operations shall	330
commence and the manner in which, and the circumstances under	331
which, the operations shall terminate;	332
(j) Any additional provisions as are found to be	333
appropriate for carrying on the operations, and for the	334
protection or adjustment of correlative rights.	335
(3) The storage operator shall file a certified copy of	336
the order and a survey of the storage facility in the office of	337
the county recorder of the county in which all or a portion of	338
the storage facility is located. The chief shall make the order	339

publicly available, which may include posting the order on the	340
division's web site.	341
(G) Storage facility operations conducted pursuant to an	342
order issued under this section constitute a fulfillment of all	343
the express or implied obligations of each lease or contract	344
covering lands in the storage facility to the extent that	345
compliance with such obligations cannot be had because of the	346
order of the chief.	347
Economic benefits allocated to any interest shall be the	348
property and income of the several persons to whom, or to whose	349
credit, the same are allocated or payable under the order	350
providing for storage facility operations.	351
(H) No order of the chief or other contract relating to	352
the pore space and the storage of carbon dioxide from a	353
separately owned interest shall be terminated by the order	354
providing for storage facility operations, but shall remain in	355
force until terminated in accordance with the provisions	356
<pre>thereof.</pre>	357
Except to the extent that the parties affected so agree,	358
no order providing for storage facility operations shall be	359
construed to result in a transfer of any person's title to all	360
or any part of the pore space in the storage facility. All	361
property, whether real or personal, that may be acquired for the	362
account of the owners within the storage facility shall be the	363
property of such owners in the proportion that the expenses of	364
operations are charged.	365
Sec. 1509.77. (A) After carbon dioxide injection into a	366
storage facility ceases, the chief of the division of oil and	367
gas resources management may issue a certificate of project	368

completion upon application by the storage operator. The chief	369
shall issue a certificate only upon satisfaction of the	370
conditions imposed under this section and after providing public	371
notice of the application, an opportunity for public comment,	372
and if deemed necessary by the chief, a public hearing on the	373
application.	374
(B) A certificate shall not be issued until at least fifty	375
years after carbon dioxide injections cease or until an	376
established alternative timeline approved by the chief has	377
elapsed.	378
(C) A certificate shall not be issued until the storage	379
operator establishes with a degree of certainty to the	380
satisfaction of the chief that all of the following apply:	381
(1) The storage operator is in full compliance with all	382
laws governing the injection and storage of the carbon dioxide.	383
(2) The following apply to the carbon dioxide that has	384
been injected underground for storage:	385
(a) It is not expected to extend or migrate outside of the	386
storage facility and poses no threat to public health or safety	387
or the environment or underground sources of drinking water.	388
(b) It is not likely to cross any boundary vertically from	389
the storage facility and is not expected to endanger public	390
health or safety or the environment or underground sources of	391
drinking water.	392
(3) All carbon dioxide wells and associated equipment and	393
facilities to be used in maintaining and managing the stored	394
carbon dioxide are in good condition and will retain mechanical	395
integrity.	396

(4) The storage operator has plugged all carbon dioxide	397
wells not used in maintaining and managing the stored carbon	398
dioxide and has completed all reclamation required by the	399
division.	400
(D) Upon the issuance of a certificate of project	401
completion, the following shall occur:	402
completion, the following shall occur.	102
(1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the	403
former storage operator is released from all regulatory	404
requirements associated with continued storage and maintenance	405
of the injected carbon dioxide, and financial assurance required	406
under rules adopted under section 1509.73 of the Revised Code	407
shall be released to the former storage operator.	408
(2) Primary responsibility and liability for the stored or	409
injected carbon dioxide shall be transferred to the state,	410
except for criminal and contractual liability and except under	411
any of the following circumstances:	412
(a) The storage operator violated a duty imposed on the	413
storage operator by state law or rule prior to approval of site	414
closure and any applicable statutes of limitations have not run	415
out;	416
(b) After notice and a hearing, the chief determines	417
<pre>either of the following:</pre>	418
(i) The storage operator provided deficient or erroneous	419
information that was material and relied upon by the chief to	420
support approval of site closure;	421
(ii) There is carbon dioxide migration that threatens	422
public health or safety or the environment or underground	423
sources of drinking water;	424

(c) The balance of the carbon dioxide storage facility	425
fund is insufficient to cover costs arising from storage	426
facilities and associated carbon dioxide wells after site	427
closure.	428
(3) The storage operator and all individuals who	429
generated, injected, or stored carbon dioxide shall be forever	430
released from all regulatory requirements associated with the	431
continued storage and maintenance of the injected carbon	432
dioxide, except as provided in division (D)(2) of this section.	433
(4) Any bond or financial assurance submitted to the	434
division shall be released.	435
Sec. 1509.79. (A) Storage operators shall pay the	436
department of natural resources a fee of five and twenty-five	437
one hundredth cents for each metric ton of carbon dioxide	438
injected for storage in a storage facility. The fee shall be	439
deposited into the carbon dioxide storage facility fund created	440
under this section.	441
(B)(1) The carbon dioxide storage facility fund is created	442
in the state treasury. Except for fees collected under division	443
(C) of this section, the fund shall consist of any money	444
collected under this section in relation to a Class VI well,	445
including money received by the department from financial	446
responsibility mechanisms established and penalties imposed for	447
violations of sections 1509.71 to 1509.79 of the Revised Code,	448
rules adopted under those sections, and orders and terms and	449
conditions of a permit issued under those sections. All interest	450
earnings of the fund shall be credited to the fund.	451
(2) The chief of the division of oil and gas resources	452
management shall use the money in the fund for the purpose of	453

defraying expenses of the division that are associated with	454
post-closure care of sequestered carbon dioxide in a storage	455
facility, including the maintenance of carbon dioxide wells,	456
associate surface facilities, remediation of any environmental	457
impacts from the injected carbon dioxide, and plugging of	458
monitoring wells associated with the injection of carbon dioxide	459
in a carbon dioxide well.	460
(3) The existence, management, and expenditure of money	461
from the fund do not constitute a waiver of governmental	462
immunity or an assumption of any liability by the state for	463
carbon dioxide storage.	464
(C)(1) In addition to the fee established under division	465
(A) of this section, an owner of a carbon dioxide well shall pay	466
a fee for each metric ton of carbon dioxide injected in the	467
carbon dioxide well. The chief, by rule, shall establish the	468
amount of the fee, and the fee shall be deposited in the carbon	469
capture administrative fund created under this section.	470
(2) The carbon capture administrative fund is created in	471
the state treasury. The fund shall consist of the money	472
collected under division (C)(1) of this section. The chief shall	473
use the funds for the purpose of administering sections 1509.71	474
to 1509.79 of the Revised Code and the rules adopted under those	475
sections that are associated with injection and sequestration of	476
carbon dioxide in a carbon dioxide well and for other purposes	477
determined by the chief. All interest earnings of the fund shall	478
be credited to the fund.	479
Sec. 5301.57. (A) As used in sections 5301.57 to 5301.60	480
of the Revised Code, "carbon dioxide," "carbon dioxide well,"	481
<pre>"carbon sequestration," "owner," "pore space," "storage</pre>	482
operator," and "storage facility," have the same meanings as in	483

section 1509.71 of the Revised Code.	484
(B) As used in sections 5301.58 to 5301.60 of the Revised	485
Code, "subsurface property interest owner" means a property	486
interest owner identified by the records of the recorder of	487
deeds for each county in which a portion of a proposed storage	488
facility is located who holds a fee simple interest, other	489
freehold interest, or leasehold interest in the subsurface of	490
the property, which may include mineral rights, such as coal or	491
oil and gas rights. "Subsurface property interest owner" does	492
not include an owner who holds an interest in property	493
consisting solely of an easement or right-of-way.	494
Sec. 5301.58. (A) The ownership of all pore space in all	495
strata below the surface lands and waters is vested in the owner	496
of the surface directly above the pore space.	497
A conveyance of the surface ownership of real property	498
shall be a conveyance of the pore space in all strata below the	499
surface of the real property unless the ownership interest in	500
the pore space previously has been expressly excepted and	501
reserved, conveyed, or otherwise severed from the surface	502
ownership. The ownership of pore space in the strata may be	503
conveyed in the manner provided by law for the transfer of real	504
property interests. No agreement conveying mineral, oil and gas,	505
coal, limestone or similar resource, or other interests	506
underlying the surface shall convey pore space in the strata	507
unless the agreement expressly includes conveyance of the pore	508
space.	509
(B) No provision of law or rule requiring notice to be	510
given to a surface owner, owner of the mineral or oil and gas	511
interest, or both shall be construed to require notice to	512
individuals holding ownership interests in pore space in the	513

underlying strata unless the applicable law specifies notice to	514
the individuals is required or unless the owner of the pore	515
space also owns an interest in the surface or in the mineral or	516
oil and gas interests.	517
(C)(1) Nothing in sections 5301.58 to 5301.60 of the	518
Revised Code shall be construed to change or alter the common	519
law existing as of the effective date of this section with	520
respect to the rights belonging to, or the dominance of, the	521
mineral estate or oil and gas estate. For the purpose of	522
determining the priority of surface and subsurface uses between	523
a severed mineral or oil and gas estate and pore space, the	524
severed mineral or oil and gas estate is dominant regardless of	525
whether ownership of the pore space is vested in the owner of	526
the surface or is owned separately from the surface.	527
(2) If pore space is severed from the surface ownership,	528
the pore space estate shall be considered to be dominant over	529
the surface estate unless the conveyance specifically provides	530
otherwise.	531
(3) Nothing in sections 5301.58 to 5301.60 of the Revised	532
Code shall alter, amend, diminish, or invalidate rights to the	533
pore space that were acquired by deed, contract, or lease prior	534
to the effective date of this section.	535
(D) An instrument that transfers the rights to pore space	536
shall include a specific description of the location of the pore	537
space being transferred. In the event that the instrument uses	538
only a description of the surface, the transfer shall be	539
considered to include pore space owned by the transferor at all	540
depths underlying the described surface area unless specifically	541
excluded. The owner of the pore space shall have no right to use	542
the surface estate beyond that set out in a properly recorded	543

instrument due solely to its ownership in the pore space.	544
An instrument that conveys the surface directly above the	545
pore space, but otherwise seeks to except or reserve the rights	546
to the pore space, shall include a specific reference to the	547
pore space in the instrument. In the event of such exception or	548
reserved rights, the reserved rights to the pore space shall	549
include pore space owned by the transferor at all depths	550
underlying the described surface area unless otherwise	551
specifically excluded.	552
Sec. 5301.59. All carbon dioxide injected into a storage	553
facility for carbon sequestration, and all other substances	554
injected incidental to the injection of carbon dioxide, shall be	555
presumed to be owned by the storage operator. This presumption	556
may be rebutted by an individual claiming contrary ownership by	557
a preponderance of the evidence in an action to establish	558
<pre>ownership.</pre>	559
No owner of pore space, other individual holding any right	560
to control pore space, or other surface or subsurface property	561
interest owner, shall have any liability relating to the	562
injection of carbon dioxide, or any other substances injected	563
incidental to the injection of carbon dioxide, for carbon	564
sequestration activities solely by virtue of their interest in	565
the pore space or their surface or subsurface rights.	566
Sec. 5301.60. (A) A claim for damages due to injection or	567
migration of carbon dioxide shall not be recoverable against a	568
storage operator conducting carbon sequestration in accordance	569
with a valid UIC Class VI permit unless the claimant proves that	570
the injection or migration of carbon dioxide:	571
(1) To injurious to health, or an obstruction to the free	573

H. B. No. 170	Page 21
As Introduced	_

use of property so as essentially to interfere with the	573
comfortable enjoyment of life or property; or	574
(2) Has caused direct physical injury to an individual,	575
animal, or real or personal property.	576
(B) A surface or subsurface property interest owner	577
asserting a claim for injury to personal or real property may	578
recover monetary damages due to injection or migration of carbon	579
dioxide only for the diminution in real or personal property	580
value resulting from the injection or migration of carbon	581
dioxide beyond the storage facility.	582
(C) A surface or subsurface property interest owner may	583
not seek punitive damages due to injection or migration of	584
carbon dioxide if the storage operator acts in compliance with	585
the requirements of the UIC Class VI permit.	586
(D) Divisions (A), (B), and (C) of this section do not	587
apply to any claims that may be asserted by owners of oil and	588
gas interests or owners of class II disposal wells for damages	589
or injuries related to:	590
(1) The injection or migration of carbon dioxide;	591
(2) The construction or operation of a storage facility;	592
<u>or</u>	593
(3) A carbon sequestration project.	594