As Reported by the House Judiciary Committee

136th General Assembly

Regular Session 2025-2026

H. B. No. 296

Representative Miller, M.

Cosponsors: Representatives Click, Deeter, Fischer, Humphrey, Lear, White, E., Jarrells, Brewer, Williams, Rader, Synenberg

То	amend section 2929.18 of the Revised Code to	1
	delay financial sanctions for one hundred eighty	2
	days after an offender's release from prison or	3
	completion of transitional control	_

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

Section 1. That section 2929.18 of the Revised Code be	5
amended to read as follows:	6
Sec. 2929.18. (A) Except as otherwise provided in this	7
division and in addition to imposing court costs pursuant to	8
section 2947.23 of the Revised Code, the court imposing a	9
sentence upon an offender for a felony may sentence the offender	10
to any financial sanction or combination of financial sanctions	11
authorized under this section or, in the circumstances specified	12
in section 2929.32 of the Revised Code, may impose upon the	13
offender a fine in accordance with that section, and shall	14
sentence the offender to make restitution pursuant to this	15
section and section 2929.281 of the Revised Code. The victim has	16
a right not to seek restitution. Financial sanctions that either	17
are required to be or may be imposed pursuant to this section	18
include, but are not limited to, the following:	19

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(1) Restitution by the offender to the victim of the	20
offender's criminal offense or the victim's estate, in an amount	21
based on the victim's economic loss. In open court, the court	22
shall order that full restitution be made to the victim, to the	23
adult probation department that serves the county on behalf of	24
the victim, to the clerk of courts, or to another agency	25
designated by the court. At sentencing, the court shall	26
determine the amount of restitution to be made by the offender.	27
The victim, victim's representative, victim's attorney, if	28
applicable, the prosecutor or the prosecutor's designee, and the	29
offender may provide information relevant to the determination	30
of the amount of restitution. The amount the court orders as	31
restitution shall not exceed the amount of the economic loss	32
suffered by the victim as a direct and proximate result of the	33
commission of the offense. If the court imposes restitution for	34
the cost of accounting or auditing done to determine the extent	35
of economic loss, the court may order restitution for any amount	36
of the victim's costs of accounting or auditing provided that	37
the amount of restitution is reasonable and does not exceed the	38
value of property or services stolen or damaged as a result of	39
the offense. The court shall hold a hearing on restitution if	40
the offender, victim, victim's representative, or victim's	41
estate disputes the amount. The court shall determine the amount	42
of full restitution by a preponderance of the evidence. All	43
restitution payments shall be credited against any recovery of	44
economic loss in a civil action brought by the victim or the	45
victim's estate against the offender.	46

The court may order that the offender pay a surcharge of not more than five per cent of the amount of the restitution otherwise ordered to the entity responsible for collecting and processing restitution payments.

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The victim, victim's estate, or victim's attorney, if 51 applicable, may file a motion or request that the prosecutor in 52 the case file a motion, or the offender may file a motion, for 53 modification of the payment terms of any restitution ordered. If 54 the court grants the motion, it may modify the payment terms as 5.5 it determines appropriate but shall not reduce the amount of 56 restitution ordered, except as provided in division (A) of 57 section 2929.281 of the Revised Code. The court shall not 58 discharge restitution until it is fully paid by the offender. 59

- (2) Except as provided in division (B)(1), (3), or (4) of this section, a fine payable by the offender to the state, to a political subdivision, or as described in division (B)(2) of this section to one or more law enforcement agencies, with the amount of the fine based on a standard percentage of the offender's daily income over a period of time determined by the court and based upon the seriousness of the offense. A fine ordered under this division shall not exceed the maximum conventional fine amount authorized for the level of the offense under division (A)(3) of this section.
- (3) Except as provided in division (B)(1), (3), or (4) of this section, a fine payable by the offender to the state, to a political subdivision when appropriate for a felony, or as described in division (B)(2) of this section to one or more law enforcement agencies, in the following amount:
- (a) For a felony of the first degree, not more than twenty 75 thousand dollars; 76
- (b) For a felony of the second degree, not more than 77 fifteen thousand dollars; 78
 - (c) For a felony of the third degree, not more than ten

board of county commissioners, a legislative authority of a	108
municipal corporation, or another local governmental entity, if,	109
pursuant to section 307.93, 341.14, 341.19, 341.23, 753.02,	110
753.04, 753.16, 2301.56, or 2947.19 of the Revised Code and	111
section 2929.37 of the Revised Code, the board, legislative	112
authority, or other local governmental entity requires prisoners	113
to reimburse the county, municipal corporation, or other entity	114
for its expenses incurred by reason of the prisoner's	115
confinement, and if the court does not impose a financial	116
sanction under division (A)(5)(a)(ii) of this section,	117
confinement costs may be assessed pursuant to section 2929.37 of	118
the Revised Code. In addition, the offender may be required to	119
pay the fees specified in section 2929.38 of the Revised Code in	120
accordance with that section.	121

- (c) Reimbursement by the offender for costs pursuant to section 2929.71 of the Revised Code;
- (d) Reimbursement by the offender for costs pursuant to 124 section 2917.321 of the Revised Code. 125
- (B) (1) For a first, second, or third degree felony 126 violation of any provision of Chapter 2925., 3719., or 4729. of 127 the Revised Code, the sentencing court shall impose upon the 128 offender a mandatory fine of at least one-half of, but not more 129 than, the maximum statutory fine amount authorized for the level 130 of the offense pursuant to division (A)(3) of this section. If 131 an offender alleges in an affidavit filed with the court prior 132 to sentencing that the offender is indigent and unable to pay 133 the mandatory fine and if the court determines the offender is 134 an indigent person and is unable to pay the mandatory fine 135 described in this division, the court shall not impose the 136 mandatory fine upon the offender. 137

- (2) Any mandatory fine imposed upon an offender under

 division (B)(1) of this section and any fine imposed upon an

 offender under division (A)(2) or (3) of this section for any

 fourth or fifth degree felony violation of any provision of

 Chapter 2925., 3719., or 4729. of the Revised Code shall be paid

 to law enforcement agencies pursuant to division (F) of section

 2925.03 of the Revised Code.
- (3) For a fourth degree felony OVI offense and for a third

 degree felony OVI offense, the sentencing court shall impose

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 upon the offender a mandatory fine in the amount specified in

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 division (G)(1)(d) or (e) of section 4511.19 of the Revised

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 Code, whichever is applicable. The mandatory fine so imposed

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 shall be disbursed as provided in the division pursuant to which

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 it is imposed.
- (4) Notwithstanding any fine otherwise authorized or 152 required to be imposed under division (A)(2) or (3) or (B)(1) of 153 this section or section 2929.31 of the Revised Code for a 154 violation of section 2925.03 of the Revised Code, in addition to 155 any penalty or sanction imposed for that offense under section 156 2925.03 or sections 2929.11 to 2929.18 of the Revised Code and 157 in addition to the forfeiture of property in connection with the 158 offense as prescribed in Chapter 2981. of the Revised Code, the 159 court that sentences an offender for a violation of section 160 2925.03 of the Revised Code may impose upon the offender a fine 161 in addition to any fine imposed under division (A)(2) or (3) of 162 this section and in addition to any mandatory fine imposed under 163 division (B)(1) of this section. The fine imposed under division 164 (B) (4) of this section shall be used as provided in division (H) 165 of section 2925.03 of the Revised Code. A fine imposed under 166 division (B)(4) of this section shall not exceed whichever of 167 the following is applicable: 168

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- (a) The total value of any personal or real property in 169 which the offender has an interest and that was used in the 170 course of, intended for use in the course of, derived from, or 171 realized through conduct in violation of section 2925.03 of the 172 Revised Code, including any property that constitutes proceeds 173 derived from that offense; 174
- (b) If the offender has no interest in any property of the type described in division (B)(4)(a) of this section or if it is not possible to ascertain whether the offender has an interest in any property of that type in which the offender may have an interest, the amount of the mandatory fine for the offense imposed under division (B)(1) of this section or, if no mandatory fine is imposed under division (B)(1) of this section, the amount of the fine authorized for the level of the offense imposed under division (A)(3) of this section.
- (5) Prior to imposing a fine under division (B)(4) of this 184 section, the court shall determine whether the offender has an 185 interest in any property of the type described in division (B) 186 (4)(a) of this section. Except as provided in division (B)(6) or 187 (7) of this section, a fine that is authorized and imposed under 188 division (B)(4) of this section does not limit or affect the 189 imposition of the penalties and sanctions for a violation of 190 section 2925.03 of the Revised Code prescribed under those 191 sections or sections 2929.11 to 2929.18 of the Revised Code and 192 does not limit or affect a forfeiture of property in connection 193 with the offense as prescribed in Chapter 2981. of the Revised 194 Code. 195
- (6) If the sum total of a mandatory fine amount imposed for a first, second, or third degree felony violation of section 2925.03 of the Revised Code under division (B)(1) of this

section plus the amount of any fine imposed under division (B)	199
(4) of this section does not exceed the maximum statutory fine	200
amount authorized for the level of the offense under division	201
(A)(3) of this section or section 2929.31 of the Revised Code,	202
the court may impose a fine for the offense in addition to the	203
mandatory fine and the fine imposed under division (B)(4) of	204
this section. The sum total of the amounts of the mandatory	205
fine, the fine imposed under division (B)(4) of this section,	206
and the additional fine imposed under division (B)(6) of this	207
section shall not exceed the maximum statutory fine amount	208
authorized for the level of the offense under division (A)(3) of	209
this section or section 2929.31 of the Revised Code. The clerk	210
of the court shall pay any fine that is imposed under division	211
(B)(6) of this section to the county, township, municipal	212
corporation, park district as created pursuant to section 511.18	213
or 1545.04 of the Revised Code, or state law enforcement	214
agencies in this state that primarily were responsible for or	215
involved in making the arrest of, and in prosecuting, the	216
offender pursuant to division (F) of section 2925.03 of the	217
Revised Code.	218

- (7) If the sum total of the amount of a mandatory fine imposed for a first, second, or third degree felony violation of section 2925.03 of the Revised Code plus the amount of any fine imposed under division (B)(4) of this section exceeds the maximum statutory fine amount authorized for the level of the offense under division (A)(3) of this section or section 2929.31 of the Revised Code, the court shall not impose a fine under division (B)(6) of this section.
- (8) (a) If an offender who is convicted of or pleads guilty
 to a violation of section 2905.01, 2905.02, 2907.21, 2907.22, or
 2923.32, division (A)(1) or (2) of section 2907.323 involving a
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minor, or division (B)(1), (2), (3), (4), or (5) of section	230
2919.22 of the Revised Code also is convicted of or pleads	231
guilty to a specification of the type described in section	232
2941.1422 of the Revised Code that charges that the offender	233
knowingly committed the offense in furtherance of human	234
trafficking, the sentencing court shall sentence the offender to	235
a financial sanction of restitution by the offender to the	236
victim or the victim's estate, with the restitution including	237
the costs of housing, counseling, and medical and legal	238
assistance incurred by the victim as a direct result of the	239
offense and the greater of the following:	240

- (i) The gross income or value to the offender of the victim's labor or services;
- (ii) The value of the victim's labor as guaranteed under the minimum wage and overtime provisions of the "Federal Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938," 52 Stat. 1060, 20 U.S.C. 207, and state labor laws.
- (b) If a court imposing sentence upon an offender for a felony is required to impose upon the offender a financial sanction of restitution under division (B)(8)(a) of this section, in addition to that financial sanction of restitution, the court may sentence the offender to any other financial sanction or combination of financial sanctions authorized under this section, including a restitution sanction under division (A)(1) of this section.
- (9) In addition to any other fine that is or may be imposed under this section, the court imposing sentence upon an offender for a felony that is a sexually oriented offense or a child-victim oriented offense, as those terms are defined in section 2950.01 of the Revised Code, may impose a fine of not

less than fifty nor more than five hundred dollars. 260 (10) For a felony violation of division (A) of section 261 2921.321 of the Revised Code that results in the death of the 262 police dog or horse that is the subject of the violation, the 263 sentencing court shall impose upon the offender a mandatory fine 264 from the range of fines provided under division (A)(3) of this 265 section for a felony of the third degree. A mandatory fine 266 imposed upon an offender under division (B) (10) of this section 267 shall be paid to the law enforcement agency that was served by 268 269 the police dog or horse that was killed in the felony violation of division (A) of section 2921.321 of the Revised Code to be 270 used as provided in division (E)(1)(b) of that section. 271 (11) In addition to any other fine that is or may be 272 imposed under this section, the court imposing sentence upon an 273 offender for any of the following offenses that is a felony may 274 impose a fine of not less than seventy nor more than five 275 hundred dollars, which, except as provided in division (B) (12) 276 of this section, shall be transmitted to the treasurer of state 277 to be credited to the address confidentiality program fund 278 279 created by section 111.48 of the Revised Code: (a) Domestic violence; 280 (b) Menacing by stalking; 281 282 (c) Rape; (d) Sexual battery; 283 (e) Trafficking in persons; 284 (f) A violation of section 2905.01, 2905.02, 2907.21, 285 2907.22, or 2923.32, division (A)(1) or (2) of section 2907.323 286 involving a minor, or division (B)(1), (2), (3), (4), or (5) of 287

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section 2919.22 of the Revised Code, if the offender also is	288
convicted of a specification of the type described in section	289
2941.1422 of the Revised Code that charges that the offender	290
knowingly committed the offense in furtherance of human	291
trafficking.	292
crarries.	2 7 2

- (12)(a) A court that imposes a fine under division (B)(11) of this section may retain up to twenty-five per cent of amounts collected in satisfaction of the fine to cover administrative costs.
- (b) A court that imposes a fine under division (B) (11) of 297 this section may assign up to twenty-five per cent of amounts 298 collected in satisfaction of the fine to reimburse the 299 prosecuting attorney for costs associated with prosecution of 300 the offense.
- (C)(1) Except as provided in section 2951.021 of the 302 Revised Code, the offender shall pay reimbursements imposed upon 303 the offender pursuant to division (A)(5)(a) of this section to 304 pay the costs incurred by a county pursuant to any sanction 305 imposed under this section or section 2929.16 or 2929.17 of the 306 307 Revised Code or in operating a facility used to confine offenders pursuant to a sanction imposed under section 2929.16 308 of the Revised Code to the county treasurer. The county 309 treasurer shall deposit the reimbursements in the sanction cost 310 reimbursement fund that each board of county commissioners shall 311 create in its county treasury. The county shall use the amounts 312 deposited in the fund to pay the costs incurred by the county 313 pursuant to any sanction imposed under this section or section 314 2929.16 or 2929.17 of the Revised Code or in operating a 315 facility used to confine offenders pursuant to a sanction 316 imposed under section 2929.16 of the Revised Code. 317

- (2) Except as provided in section 2951.021 of the Revised 318 Code, the offender shall pay reimbursements imposed upon the 319 offender pursuant to division (A)(5)(a) of this section to pay 320 the costs incurred by a municipal corporation pursuant to any 321 sanction imposed under this section or section 2929.16 or 322 2929.17 of the Revised Code or in operating a facility used to 323 324 confine offenders pursuant to a sanction imposed under section 2929.16 of the Revised Code to the treasurer of the municipal 325 326 corporation. The treasurer shall deposit the reimbursements in a special fund that shall be established in the treasury of each 327 municipal corporation. The municipal corporation shall use the 328 amounts deposited in the fund to pay the costs incurred by the 329 municipal corporation pursuant to any sanction imposed under 330 this section or section 2929.16 or 2929.17 of the Revised Code 331 or in operating a facility used to confine offenders pursuant to 332 a sanction imposed under section 2929.16 of the Revised Code. 333
- (3) Except as provided in section 2951.021 of the Revised 334 Code, the offender shall pay reimbursements imposed pursuant to 335 division (A)(5)(a) of this section for the costs incurred by a 336 private provider pursuant to a sanction imposed under this 337 section or section 2929.16 or 2929.17 of the Revised Code to the 338 provider. 339
- (D) Except as otherwise provided in this division, a 340 financial sanction imposed pursuant to division (A) or (B) of 341 this section is a judgment in favor of the state or a political 342 subdivision in which the court that imposed the financial 343 sanction is located, and the offender subject to the financial 344 sanction is the judgment debtor. A financial sanction of 345 reimbursement imposed pursuant to division (A)(5)(a)(ii) of this 346 section upon an offender who is incarcerated in a state facility 347 or a municipal jail is a judgment in favor of the state or the 348

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municipal corporation, and the offender subject to the financial	349
sanction is the judgment debtor. A financial sanction of	350
reimbursement imposed upon an offender pursuant to this section	351
for costs incurred by a private provider of sanctions is a	352
judgment in favor of the private provider, and the offender	353
subject to the financial sanction is the judgment debtor. A	354
financial sanction of a mandatory fine imposed under division	355
(B) (10) of this section that is required under that division to	356
be paid to a law enforcement agency is a judgment in favor of	357
the specified law enforcement agency, and the offender subject	358
to the financial sanction is the judgment debtor. A financial	359
sanction of restitution imposed pursuant to division (A)(1) or	360
(B)(8) of this section is an order in favor of the victim of the	361
offender's criminal act that can be collected through a	362
certificate of judgment as described in division (D)(1) of this	363
section, through execution as described in division (D)(2) of	364
this section, or through an order as described in division (D)	365
(3) of this section, and the offender shall be considered for	366
purposes of the collection as the judgment debtor. Imposition of	367
a financial sanction and execution on the judgment does not	368
preclude any other power of the court to impose or enforce	369
sanctions on the offender. Once Subject to division (K) of this	370
section, once the financial sanction is imposed as a judgment or	371
order under this division, the victim, private provider, state,	372
or political subdivision may do any of the following:	373
(1) Obtain from the clerk of the court in which the	374
judgment was entered, at no cost, a certificate of judgment that	375
Jaagment was enterted, at no cost, a continuous or judgment that	5 , 5

shall be in the same manner and form as a certificate of

(2) Obtain execution of the judgment or order through any

judgment issued in a civil action;

available procedure, including:

(a) An execution against the property of the judgment	380
debtor under Chapter 2329. of the Revised Code;	381
(b) An execution against the person of the judgment debtor	382
under Chapter 2331. of the Revised Code;	383
(c) A proceeding in aid of execution under Chapter 2333.	384
of the Revised Code, including:	385
(i) A proceeding for the examination of the judgment	386
debtor under sections 2333.09 to 2333.12 and sections 2333.15 to	387
2333.27 of the Revised Code;	388
2333.27 Of the Revised Code;	300
(ii) A proceeding for attachment of the person of the	389
judgment debtor under section 2333.28 of the Revised Code;	390
(iii) A creditor's suit under section 2333.01 of the	391
Revised Code.	392
(d) The attachment of the property of the judgment debtor	393
under Chapter 2715. of the Revised Code;	394
under enapter 2713. Or the Revised Code,	331
(e) The garnishment of the property of the judgment debtor	395
under Chapter 2716. of the Revised Code.	396
(3) Obtain an order for the assignment of wages of the	397
judgment debtor under section 1321.33 of the Revised Code.	398
(E) A court that imposes a financial sanction upon an	399
offender may hold a hearing if necessary to determine whether	400
the offender is able to pay the sanction or is likely in the	401
future to be able to pay it.	402
(F) Each court imposing a financial sanction upon an	403
offender under this section or under section 2929.32 of the	403
Revised Code may designate the clerk of the court or another	405
person to collect the financial sanction. The clerk or other	406

person authorized by law or the court to collect the financial	407
sanction may enter into contracts with one or more public	408
agencies or private vendors for the collection of, amounts due	409
under the financial sanction imposed pursuant to this section or	410
section 2929.32 of the Revised Code. Before entering into a	411
contract for the collection of amounts due from an offender	412
pursuant to any financial sanction imposed pursuant to this	413
section or section 2929.32 of the Revised Code, a court shall	414
comply with sections 307.86 to 307.92 of the Revised Code.	415

- (G) If a court that imposes a financial sanction under division (A) or (B) of this section finds that an offender satisfactorily has completed all other sanctions imposed upon the offender and that all restitution that has been ordered has been paid as ordered, the court may suspend any financial sanctions imposed pursuant to this section or section 2929.32 of the Revised Code that have not been paid.
- (H) No financial sanction imposed under this section or section 2929.32 of the Revised Code shall preclude a victim from bringing a civil action against the offender.
- (I) If the court imposes restitution, fines, fees, or incarceration costs on a business or corporation, it is the duty of the person authorized to make disbursements from the assets of the business or corporation to pay the restitution, fines, fees, or incarceration costs from those assets.
- (J) If an offender is sentenced to pay restitution, a 431 fine, fee, or incarceration costs, the clerk of the sentencing 432 court, on request, shall make the offender's payment history 433 available to the prosecutor, victim, victim's representative, 434 victim's attorney, if applicable, the probation department, and 435 the court without cost.

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(K) The court shall not require an offender to pay any	437
outstanding court-assessed fines, fees, financial sanctions, or	438
costs arising from a criminal proceeding during either of the	439
following periods, whichever is later:	440
(1) The one hundred eighty days following the offender's	441
release from a sentence of imprisonment of one year or more;	442
(2) The one hundred eighty days following the offender's	443
completion of a period of transitional control, as defined in	444
section 2967.01 of the Revised Code.	445
This division does not apply to restitution owed to a	446
victim.	447
Section 2. That existing section 2929.18 of the Revised	448

Code is hereby repealed.