

**As Introduced**

**136th General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2025-2026**

**H. B. No. 323**

**Representative Lorenz  
Cosponsor: Representative Brennan**

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To amend sections 2151.421 and 4113.99 and to enact 1  
section 4113.90 of the Revised Code to require 2  
employers report suspected sexual assault 3  
involving minor employees. 4

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

**Section 1.** That sections 2151.421 and 4113.99 be amended 5  
and section 4113.90 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as 6  
follows: 7

**Sec. 2151.421.** (A) (1) (a) No person described in division 8  
(A) (1) (b) of this section who is acting in an official or 9  
professional capacity and knows, or has reasonable cause to 10  
suspect based on facts that would cause a reasonable person in a 11  
similar position to suspect, that a child under eighteen years 12  
of age, or a person under twenty-one years of age with a 13  
developmental disability or physical impairment, has suffered or 14  
faces a threat of suffering any physical or mental wound, 15  
injury, disability, or condition of a nature that reasonably 16  
indicates abuse or neglect of the child shall fail to 17  
immediately report that knowledge or reasonable cause to suspect 18  
to the entity or persons specified in this division. Except as 19  
otherwise provided in this division or section 5120.173 of the 20

Revised Code, the person making the report shall make it to the public children services agency or a peace officer in the county in which the child resides or in which the abuse or neglect is occurring or has occurred. If the person making the report is a peace officer, the officer shall make it to the public children services agency in the county in which the child resides or in which the abuse or neglect is occurring or has occurred. In the circumstances described in section 5120.173 of the Revised Code, the person making the report shall make it to the entity specified in that section.

(b) Division (A) (1) (a) of this section applies to any person who is an attorney; health care professional; practitioner of a limited branch of medicine as specified in section 4731.15 of the Revised Code; licensed school psychologist; independent marriage and family therapist or marriage and family therapist; coroner; administrator or employee of a child care center; administrator or employee of a residential camp, child day camp, or private, nonprofit therapeutic wilderness camp; administrator or employee of a certified child care agency or other public or private children services agency; school teacher; school employee; school authority; peace officer; humane society agent; dog warden, deputy dog warden, or other person appointed to act as an animal control officer for a municipal corporation or township in accordance with state law, an ordinance, or a resolution; person, other than a cleric, rendering spiritual treatment through prayer in accordance with the tenets of a well-recognized religion; employee of a county department of job and family services who is a professional and who works with children and families; superintendent or regional administrator employed by the department of youth services; superintendent,

board member, or employee of a county board of developmental 52  
disabilities; investigative agent contracted with by a county 53  
board of developmental disabilities; employee of the department 54  
of developmental disabilities; employee of a facility or home 55  
that provides respite care in accordance with section 5123.171 56  
of the Revised Code; employee of an entity that provides 57  
homemaker services; employee of a qualified organization as 58  
defined in section 2151.90 of the Revised Code; a host family as 59  
defined in section 2151.90 of the Revised Code; foster 60  
caregiver; a person performing the duties of an assessor 61  
pursuant to Chapter 3107. or 5103. of the Revised Code; third 62  
party employed by a public children services agency to assist in 63  
providing child or family related services; court appointed 64  
special advocate; or guardian ad litem. 65

(c) If two or more health care professionals, after 66  
providing health care services to a child, determine or suspect 67  
that the child has been or is being abused or neglected, the 68  
health care professionals may designate one of the health care 69  
professionals to report the abuse or neglect. A single report 70  
made under this division shall meet the reporting requirements 71  
of division (A)(1) of this section. 72

(d) No employer, as defined in section 4113.90 of the 73  
Revised Code, who is acting in an official or professional 74  
capacity and knows, or has reasonable cause to suspect based on 75  
facts that would cause a reasonable person in a similar position 76  
to suspect, that a child under eighteen years of age, or a 77  
person under twenty-one years of age with a developmental 78  
disability or physical impairment, has suffered or faces a 79  
threat of suffering any physical or mental wound, injury, 80  
disability, or condition of a nature that reasonably indicates 81  
sexual assault of the child shall fail to immediately report 82

that knowledge or reasonable cause to suspect to the entity or 83  
persons specified in this division. Except as provided in this 84  
division or section 5120.173 of the Revised Code, the employer 85  
making the report shall make it within forty-eight hours to the 86  
public children services agency or a peace officer in the county 87  
in which the child resides or in which the abuse is occurring or 88  
has occurred. If the employer making the report is a peace 89  
officer, the officer shall make it to the public children 90  
services agency in the county in which the child resides or in 91  
which the abuse is occurring or has occurred. In the 92  
circumstances described in section 5120.173 of the Revised Code, 93  
the employer making the report shall make it to the entity 94  
specified in that section. 95

(2) Except as provided in division (A) (3) of this section, 96  
an attorney, physician, or advanced practice registered nurse is 97  
not required to make a report pursuant to division (A) (1) of 98  
this section concerning any communication the attorney, 99  
physician, or advanced practice registered nurse receives from a 100  
client or patient in an attorney-client, physician-patient, or 101  
advanced practice registered nurse-patient relationship, if, in 102  
accordance with division (A) or (B) of section 2317.02 of the 103  
Revised Code, the attorney, physician, or advanced practice 104  
registered nurse could not testify with respect to that 105  
communication in a civil or criminal proceeding. 106

(3) The client or patient in an attorney-client, 107  
physician-patient, or advanced practice registered nurse-patient 108  
relationship described in division (A) (2) of this section is 109  
deemed to have waived any testimonial privilege under division 110  
(A) or (B) of section 2317.02 of the Revised Code with respect 111  
to any communication the attorney, physician, or advanced 112  
practice registered nurse receives from the client or patient in 113

that relationship, and the attorney, physician, or advanced  
practice registered nurse shall make a report pursuant to  
division (A)(1) of this section with respect to that  
communication, if all of the following apply:

(a) The client or patient, at the time of the  
communication, is a child under eighteen years of age or is a  
person under twenty-one years of age with a developmental  
disability or physical impairment.

(b) The attorney, physician, or advanced practice  
registered nurse knows, or has reasonable cause to suspect based  
on facts that would cause a reasonable person in similar  
position to suspect that the client or patient has suffered or  
faces a threat of suffering any physical or mental wound,  
injury, disability, or condition of a nature that reasonably  
indicates abuse or neglect of the client or patient.

(c) The abuse or neglect does not arise out of the  
client's or patient's attempt to have an abortion without the  
notification of her parents, guardian, or custodian in  
accordance with section 2151.85 of the Revised Code.

(4) (a) No cleric and no person, other than a volunteer,  
designated by any church, religious society, or faith acting as  
a leader, official, or delegate on behalf of the church,  
religious society, or faith who is acting in an official or  
professional capacity, who knows, or has reasonable cause to  
believe based on facts that would cause a reasonable person in a  
similar position to believe, that a child under eighteen years  
of age, or a person under twenty-one years of age with a  
developmental disability or physical impairment, has suffered or  
faces a threat of suffering any physical or mental wound,  
injury, disability, or condition of a nature that reasonably

indicates abuse or neglect of the child, and who knows, or has 144  
reasonable cause to believe based on facts that would cause a 145  
reasonable person in a similar position to believe, that another 146  
cleric or another person, other than a volunteer, designated by 147  
a church, religious society, or faith acting as a leader, 148  
official, or delegate on behalf of the church, religious 149  
society, or faith caused, or poses the threat of causing, the 150  
wound, injury, disability, or condition that reasonably 151  
indicates abuse or neglect shall fail to immediately report that 152  
knowledge or reasonable cause to believe to the entity or 153  
persons specified in this division. Except as provided in 154  
section 5120.173 of the Revised Code, the person making the 155  
report shall make it to the public children services agency or a 156  
peace officer in the county in which the child resides or in 157  
which the abuse or neglect is occurring or has occurred. In the 158  
circumstances described in section 5120.173 of the Revised Code, 159  
the person making the report shall make it to the entity 160  
specified in that section. 161

(b) Except as provided in division (A) (4) (c) of this 162  
section, a cleric is not required to make a report pursuant to 163  
division (A) (4) (a) of this section concerning any communication 164  
the cleric receives from a penitent in a cleric-penitent 165  
relationship, if, in accordance with division (C) of section 166  
2317.02 of the Revised Code, the cleric could not testify with 167  
respect to that communication in a civil or criminal proceeding. 168

(c) The penitent in a cleric-penitent relationship 169  
described in division (A) (4) (b) of this section is deemed to 170  
have waived any testimonial privilege under division (C) of 171  
section 2317.02 of the Revised Code with respect to any 172  
communication the cleric receives from the penitent in that 173  
cleric-penitent relationship, and the cleric shall make a report 174

pursuant to division (A) (4) (a) of this section with respect to	175
that communication, if all of the following apply:	176
(i) The penitent, at the time of the communication, is a	177
child under eighteen years of age or is a person under twenty-	178
one years of age with a developmental disability or physical	179
impairment.	180
(ii) The cleric knows, or has reasonable cause to believe	181
based on facts that would cause a reasonable person in a similar	182
position to believe, as a result of the communication or any	183
observations made during that communication, the penitent has	184
suffered or faces a threat of suffering any physical or mental	185
wound, injury, disability, or condition of a nature that	186
reasonably indicates abuse or neglect of the penitent.	187
(iii) The abuse or neglect does not arise out of the	188
penitent's attempt to have an abortion performed upon a child	189
under eighteen years of age or upon a person under twenty-one	190
years of age with a developmental disability or physical	191
impairment without the notification of her parents, guardian, or	192
custodian in accordance with section 2151.85 of the Revised	193
Code.	194
(d) Divisions (A) (4) (a) and (c) of this section do not	195
apply in a cleric-penitent relationship when the disclosure of	196
any communication the cleric receives from the penitent is in	197
violation of the sacred trust.	198
(e) As used in divisions (A) (1) and (4) of this section,	199
"cleric" and "sacred trust" have the same meanings as in section	200
2317.02 of the Revised Code.	201
(B) Anyone who knows, or has reasonable cause to suspect	202
based on facts that would cause a reasonable person in similar	203

circumstances to suspect, that a child under eighteen years of 204  
age, or a person under twenty-one years of age with a 205  
developmental disability or physical impairment, has suffered or 206  
faces a threat of suffering any physical or mental wound, 207  
injury, disability, or other condition of a nature that 208  
reasonably indicates abuse or neglect of the child may report or 209  
cause reports to be made of that knowledge or reasonable cause 210  
to suspect to the entity or persons specified in this division. 211  
Except as provided in section 5120.173 of the Revised Code, a 212  
person making a report or causing a report to be made under this 213  
division shall make it or cause it to be made to the public 214  
children services agency or to a peace officer. In the 215  
circumstances described in section 5120.173 of the Revised Code, 216  
a person making a report or causing a report to be made under 217  
this division shall make it or cause it to be made to the entity 218  
specified in that section. 219

(C) Any report made pursuant to division (A) or (B) of 220  
this section shall be made forthwith either by telephone, in 221  
person, or electronically and shall be followed by a written 222  
report, if requested by the receiving agency or officer. The 223  
written report shall contain: 224

(1) The names and addresses of the child and the child's 225  
parents or the person or persons having custody of the child, if 226  
known; 227

(2) The child's age and the nature and extent of the 228  
child's injuries, abuse, or neglect that is known or reasonably 229  
suspected or believed, as applicable, to have occurred or of the 230  
threat of injury, abuse, or neglect that is known or reasonably 231  
suspected or believed, as applicable, to exist, including any 232  
evidence of previous injuries, abuse, or neglect; 233



(3) Any other information, including, but not limited to, 234  
results and reports of any medical examinations, tests, or 235  
procedures performed under division (D) of this section, that 236  
might be helpful in establishing the cause of the injury, abuse, 237  
or neglect that is known or reasonably suspected or believed, as 238  
applicable, to have occurred or of the threat of injury, abuse, 239  
or neglect that is known or reasonably suspected or believed, as 240  
applicable, to exist. 241

(D) (1) Any person, who is required by division (A) of this 242  
section to report child abuse or child neglect that is known or 243  
reasonably suspected or believed to have occurred, may take or 244  
cause to be taken color photographs of areas of trauma visible 245  
on a child and, if medically necessary for the purpose of 246  
diagnosing or treating injuries that are suspected to have 247  
occurred as a result of child abuse or child neglect, perform or 248  
cause to be performed radiological examinations and any other 249  
medical examinations of, and tests or procedures on, the child. 250

(2) The results and any available reports of examinations, 251  
tests, or procedures made under division (D) (1) of this section 252  
shall be included in a report made pursuant to division (A) of 253  
this section. Any additional reports of examinations, tests, or 254  
procedures that become available shall be provided to the public 255  
children services agency, upon request. 256

(3) If a health care professional provides health care 257  
services in a hospital, children's advocacy center, or emergency 258  
medical facility to a child about whom a report has been made 259  
under division (A) of this section, the health care professional 260  
may take any steps that are reasonably necessary for the release 261  
or discharge of the child to an appropriate environment. Before 262  
the child's release or discharge, the health care professional 263

may obtain information, or consider information obtained, from 264  
other entities or individuals that have knowledge about the 265  
child. Nothing in division (D) (3) of this section shall be 266  
construed to alter the responsibilities of any person under 267  
sections 2151.27 and 2151.31 of the Revised Code. 268

(4) A health care professional may conduct medical 269  
examinations, tests, or procedures on the siblings of a child 270  
about whom a report has been made under division (A) of this 271  
section and on other children who reside in the same home as the 272  
child, if the professional determines that the examinations, 273  
tests, or procedures are medically necessary to diagnose or 274  
treat the siblings or other children in order to determine 275  
whether reports under division (A) of this section are warranted 276  
with respect to such siblings or other children. The results of 277  
the examinations, tests, or procedures on the siblings and other 278  
children may be included in a report made pursuant to division 279  
(A) of this section. 280

(5) Medical examinations, tests, or procedures conducted 281  
under divisions (D) (1) and (4) of this section and decisions 282  
regarding the release or discharge of a child under division (D) 283  
(3) of this section do not constitute a law enforcement 284  
investigation or activity. 285

(E) (1) When a peace officer receives a report made 286  
pursuant to division (A) or (B) of this section, upon receipt of 287  
the report, the peace officer who receives the report shall 288  
refer the report to the appropriate public children services 289  
agency, in accordance with requirements specified under division 290  
(B) (6) of section 2151.4221 of the Revised Code, unless an 291  
arrest is made at the time of the report that results in the 292  
appropriate public children services agency being contacted 293

concerning the possible abuse or neglect of a child or the	294
possible threat of abuse or neglect of a child.	295
(2) When a public children services agency receives a	296
report pursuant to this division or division (A) or (B) of this	297
section, upon receipt of the report, the public children	298
services agency shall do all of the following:	299
(a) Comply with section 2151.422 of the Revised Code;	300
(b) If the county served by the agency is also served by a	301
children's advocacy center and the report alleges sexual abuse	302
of a child or another type of abuse of a child that is specified	303
in the memorandum of understanding that creates the center as	304
being within the center's jurisdiction, comply regarding the	305
report with the protocol and procedures for referrals and	306
investigations, with the coordinating activities, and with the	307
authority or responsibility for performing or providing	308
functions, activities, and services stipulated in the	309
interagency agreement entered into under section 2151.428 of the	310
Revised Code relative to that center;	311
(c) Unless an arrest is made at the time of the report	312
that results in the appropriate law enforcement agency being	313
contacted concerning the possible abuse or neglect of a child or	314
the possible threat of abuse or neglect of a child, and in	315
accordance with requirements specified under division (B) (6) of	316
section 2151.4221 of the Revised Code, notify the appropriate	317
law enforcement agency of the report, if the public children	318
services agency received either of the following:	319
(i) A report of abuse of a child;	320
(ii) A report of neglect of a child that alleges a type of	321
neglect identified by the department of children and youth in	322

rules adopted under division (L)(2) of this section. 323

(F) No peace officer shall remove a child about whom a 324  
report is made pursuant to this section from the child's 325  
parents, stepparents, or guardian or any other persons having 326  
custody of the child without consultation with the public 327  
children services agency, unless, in the judgment of the 328  
officer, and, if the report was made by a physician or advanced 329  
practice registered nurse, the physician or nurse, immediate 330  
removal is considered essential to protect the child from 331  
further abuse or neglect. The agency that must be consulted 332  
shall be the agency conducting the investigation of the report 333  
as determined pursuant to section 2151.422 of the Revised Code. 334

(G) (1) Except as provided in section 2151.422 of the 335  
Revised Code or in an interagency agreement entered into under 336  
section 2151.428 of the Revised Code that applies to the 337  
particular report, the public children services agency shall 338  
investigate, within twenty-four hours, each report of child 339  
abuse or child neglect that is known or reasonably suspected or 340  
believed to have occurred and of a threat of child abuse or 341  
child neglect that is known or reasonably suspected or believed 342  
to exist that is referred to it under this section to determine 343  
the circumstances surrounding the injuries, abuse, or neglect or 344  
the threat of injury, abuse, or neglect, the cause of the 345  
injuries, abuse, neglect, or threat, and the person or persons 346  
responsible. The investigation shall be made in cooperation with 347  
the law enforcement agency and in accordance with the memorandum 348  
of understanding prepared under sections 2151.4220 to 2151.4234 349  
of the Revised Code. A representative of the public children 350  
services agency shall, at the time of initial contact with the 351  
person subject to the investigation, inform the person of the 352  
specific complaints or allegations made against the person. The 353

information shall be given in a manner that is consistent with 354  
division (I)(1) of this section and protects the rights of the 355  
person making the report under this section. 356

A failure to make the investigation in accordance with the 357  
memorandum is not grounds for, and shall not result in, the 358  
dismissal of any charges or complaint arising from the report or 359  
the suppression of any evidence obtained as a result of the 360  
report and does not give, and shall not be construed as giving, 361  
any rights or any grounds for appeal or post-conviction relief 362  
to any person. The public children services agency shall report 363  
each case to the uniform statewide automated child welfare 364  
information system that the department of children and youth 365  
shall maintain in accordance with section 5101.13 of the Revised 366  
Code. The public children services agency shall submit a report 367  
of its investigation, in writing, to the law enforcement agency. 368

(2) The public children services agency shall make any 369  
recommendations to the county prosecuting attorney or city 370  
director of law that it considers necessary to protect any 371  
children that are brought to its attention. 372

(H) (1) (a) Except as provided in divisions (H) (1) (b) and 373  
(I) (3) of this section, any person, health care professional, 374  
hospital, institution, school, health department, or agency 375  
shall be immune from any civil or criminal liability for injury, 376  
death, or loss to person or property that otherwise might be 377  
incurred or imposed as a result of any of the following: 378

(i) Participating in the making of reports pursuant to 379  
division (A) of this section or in the making of reports in good 380  
faith, pursuant to division (B) of this section; 381

(ii) Participating in medical examinations, tests, or 382

procedures under division (D) of this section; 383

(iii) Providing information used in a report made pursuant 384  
to division (A) of this section or providing information in good 385  
faith used in a report made pursuant to division (B) of this 386  
section; 387

(iv) Participating in a judicial proceeding resulting from 388  
a report made pursuant to division (A) of this section or 389  
participating in good faith in a proceeding resulting from a 390  
report made pursuant to division (B) of this section. 391

(b) Immunity under division (H) (1) (a) (ii) of this section 392  
shall not apply when a health care provider has deviated from 393  
the standard of care applicable to the provider's profession. 394

(c) Notwithstanding section 4731.22 of the Revised Code, 395  
the physician-patient privilege shall not be a ground for 396  
excluding evidence regarding a child's injuries, abuse, or 397  
neglect, or the cause of the injuries, abuse, or neglect in any 398  
judicial proceeding resulting from a report submitted pursuant 399  
to this section. 400

(2) In any civil or criminal action or proceeding in which 401  
it is alleged and proved that participation in the making of a 402  
report under this section was not in good faith or participation 403  
in a judicial proceeding resulting from a report made under this 404  
section was not in good faith, the court shall award the 405  
prevailing party reasonable attorney's fees and costs and, if a 406  
civil action or proceeding is voluntarily dismissed, may award 407  
reasonable attorney's fees and costs to the party against whom 408  
the civil action or proceeding is brought. 409

(I) (1) Except as provided in divisions (I) (4) and (N) of 410  
this section and sections 2151.423 and 2151.4210 of the Revised 411

Code, a report made under this section is confidential. The 412  
information provided in a report made pursuant to this section 413  
and the name of the person who made the report shall not be 414  
released for use, and shall not be used, as evidence in any 415  
civil action or proceeding brought against the person who made 416  
the report. Nothing in this division shall preclude the use of 417  
reports of other incidents of known or suspected abuse or 418  
neglect in a civil action or proceeding brought pursuant to 419  
division (M) of this section against a person who is alleged to 420  
have violated division (A) (1) of this section, provided that any 421  
information in a report that would identify the child who is the 422  
subject of the report or the maker of the report, if the maker 423  
of the report is not the defendant or an agent or employee of 424  
the defendant, has been redacted. In a criminal proceeding, the 425  
report is admissible in evidence in accordance with the Rules of 426  
Evidence and is subject to discovery in accordance with the 427  
Rules of Criminal Procedure. 428

(2) (a) Except as provided in division (I) (2) (b) of this 429  
section, no person shall permit or encourage the unauthorized 430  
dissemination of the contents of any report made under this 431  
section. 432

(b) A health care professional that obtains the same 433  
information contained in a report made under this section from a 434  
source other than the report may disseminate the information, if 435  
its dissemination is otherwise permitted by law. 436

(3) A person who knowingly makes or causes another person 437  
to make a false report under division (B) of this section that 438  
alleges that any person has committed an act or omission that 439  
resulted in a child being an abused child or a neglected child 440  
is guilty of a violation of section 2921.14 of the Revised Code. 441

(4) If a report is made pursuant to division (A) or (B) of 442  
this section and the child who is the subject of the report dies 443  
for any reason at any time after the report is made, but before 444  
the child attains eighteen years of age, the public children 445  
services agency or peace officer to which the report was made or 446  
referred, on the request of the child fatality review board, the 447  
suicide fatality review committee, or the director of health 448  
pursuant to guidelines established under section 3701.70 of the 449  
Revised Code, shall submit a summary sheet of information 450  
providing a summary of the report to the review board or review 451  
committee of the county in which the deceased child resided at 452  
the time of death or to the director. On the request of the 453  
review board, review committee, or director, the agency or peace 454  
officer may, at its discretion, make the report available to the 455  
review board, review committee, or director. If the county 456  
served by the public children services agency is also served by 457  
a children's advocacy center and the report of alleged sexual 458  
abuse of a child or another type of abuse of a child is 459  
specified in the memorandum of understanding that creates the 460  
center as being within the center's jurisdiction, the agency or 461  
center shall perform the duties and functions specified in this 462  
division in accordance with the interagency agreement entered 463  
into under section 2151.428 of the Revised Code relative to that 464  
advocacy center. 465

(5) Not later than five business days after the 466  
determination of a disposition, a public children services 467  
agency shall advise a person alleged to have inflicted abuse or 468  
neglect on a child who is the subject of a report made pursuant 469  
to this section, including a report alleging sexual abuse of a 470  
child or another type of abuse of a child referred to a 471  
children's advocacy center pursuant to an interagency agreement 472



entered into under section 2151.428 of the Revised Code, in 473  
writing of the disposition of the investigation. The agency 474  
shall not provide to the person any information that identifies 475  
the person who made the report, statements of witnesses, or 476  
police or other investigative reports. The written notice of 477  
disposition shall be made in a form designated by the department 478  
of job and family services and shall inform the person of the 479  
right to appeal the disposition. 480

(J) Any report that is required by this section, other 481  
than a report that is made to the state highway patrol as 482  
described in section 5120.173 of the Revised Code, shall result 483  
in protective services and emergency supportive services being 484  
made available by the public children services agency on behalf 485  
of the children about whom the report is made. The agency 486  
required to provide the services shall be the agency conducting 487  
the investigation of the report pursuant to section 2151.422 of 488  
the Revised Code. If a child is determined to be a candidate for 489  
prevention services, the agency also shall make efforts to 490  
prevent neglect or abuse, to enhance a child's welfare, and to 491  
preserve the family unit intact by referring a report for 492  
assessment and provision of services to an agency providing 493  
prevention services. 494

(K) (1) Except as provided in division (K) (4) or (5) of 495  
this section, a person who is required to make a report under 496  
division (A) of this section may make a reasonable number of 497  
requests of the public children services agency that receives or 498  
is referred the report, or of the children's advocacy center 499  
that is referred the report if the report is referred to a 500  
children's advocacy center pursuant to an interagency agreement 501  
entered into under section 2151.428 of the Revised Code, to be 502  
provided with the following information: 503

(a) Whether the agency or center has initiated an investigation of the report;	504 505
(b) Whether the agency or center is continuing to investigate the report;	506 507
(c) Whether the agency or center is otherwise involved with the child who is the subject of the report;	508 509
(d) The general status of the health and safety of the child who is the subject of the report;	510 511
(e) Whether the report has resulted in the filing of a complaint in juvenile court or of criminal charges in another court.	512 513 514
(2) (a) A person may request the information specified in division (K) (1) of this section only if, at the time the report is made, the person's name, address, and telephone number are provided to the person who receives the report.	515 516 517 518
(b) When a peace officer or employee of a public children services agency receives a report pursuant to division (A) or (B) of this section the recipient of the report shall inform the person of the right to request the information described in division (K) (1) of this section. The recipient of the report shall include in the initial child abuse or child neglect report that the person making the report was so informed and, if provided at the time of the making of the report, shall include the person's name, address, and telephone number in the report.	519 520 521 522 523 524 525 526 527
(c) If the person making the report provides the person's name and contact information on making the report, the public children services agency that received or was referred the report shall send a written notice via United States mail or electronic mail, in accordance with the person's preference, to	528 529 530 531 532

the person not later than seven calendar days after receipt of 533  
the report. The notice shall provide the status of the agency's 534  
investigation into the report made, who the person may contact 535  
at the agency for further information, and a description of the 536  
person's rights under division (K) (1) of this section. 537

(d) Each request is subject to verification of the 538  
identity of the person making the report. If that person's 539  
identity is verified, the agency shall provide the person with 540  
the information described in division (K) (1) of this section a 541  
reasonable number of times, except that the agency shall not 542  
disclose any confidential information regarding the child who is 543  
the subject of the report other than the information described 544  
in those divisions. 545

(3) A request made pursuant to division (K) (1) of this 546  
section is not a substitute for any report required to be made 547  
pursuant to division (A) of this section. 548

(4) If an agency other than the agency that received or 549  
was referred the report is conducting the investigation of the 550  
report pursuant to section 2151.422 of the Revised Code, the 551  
agency conducting the investigation shall comply with the 552  
requirements of division (K) of this section. 553

(5) A health care professional who made a report under 554  
division (A) of this section, or on whose behalf such a report 555  
was made as provided in division (A) (1) (c) of this section, may 556  
authorize a person to obtain the information described in 557  
division (K) (1) of this section if the person requesting the 558  
information is associated with or acting on behalf of the health 559  
care professional who provided health care services to the child 560  
about whom the report was made. 561

(6) If the person making the report provides the person's name and contact information on making the report, the public children services agency that received or was referred the report shall send a written notice via United States mail or electronic mail, in accordance with the person's preference, to the person not later than seven calendar days after the agency closes the investigation into the case reported by the person. The notice shall notify the person that the agency has closed the investigation.

(L) (1) The director of children and youth shall adopt rules in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code to implement this section. The department of children and youth may enter into a plan of cooperation with any other governmental entity to aid in ensuring that children are protected from abuse and neglect. The department shall make recommendations to the attorney general that the department determines are necessary to protect children from child abuse and child neglect.

(2) The director of children and youth shall adopt rules in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code to identify the types of neglect of a child that a public children services agency shall be required to notify law enforcement of pursuant to division (E) (2) (c) (ii) of this section.

(M) Whoever violates division (A) of this section is liable for compensatory and exemplary damages to the child who would have been the subject of the report that was not made. A person who brings a civil action or proceeding pursuant to this division against a person who is alleged to have violated division (A) (1) of this section may use in the action or proceeding reports of other incidents of known or suspected abuse or neglect, provided that any information in a report that

would identify the child who is the subject of the report or the maker of the report, if the maker is not the defendant or an agent or employee of the defendant, has been redacted.

(N) (1) As used in this division:

(a) "Out-of-home care" includes a nonchartered nonpublic school if the alleged child abuse or child neglect, or alleged threat of child abuse or child neglect, described in a report received by a public children services agency allegedly occurred in or involved the nonchartered nonpublic school and the alleged perpetrator named in the report holds a certificate, permit, or license issued by the state board of education under section 3301.071 or Chapter 3319. of the Revised Code.

(b) "Administrator, director, or other chief administrative officer" means the superintendent of the school district if the out-of-home care entity subject to a report made pursuant to this section is a school operated by the district.

(2) No later than the end of the day following the day on which a public children services agency receives a report of alleged child abuse or child neglect, or a report of an alleged threat of child abuse or child neglect, that allegedly occurred in or involved an out-of-home care entity, the agency shall provide written notice of the allegations contained in and the person named as the alleged perpetrator in the report to the administrator, director, or other chief administrative officer of the out-of-home care entity that is the subject of the report unless the administrator, director, or other chief administrative officer is named as an alleged perpetrator in the report. If the administrator, director, or other chief administrative officer of an out-of-home care entity is named as an alleged perpetrator in a report of alleged child abuse or

child neglect, or a report of an alleged threat of child abuse 622  
or child neglect, that allegedly occurred in or involved the 623  
out-of-home care entity, the agency shall provide the written 624  
notice to the owner or governing board of the out-of-home care 625  
entity that is the subject of the report. The agency shall not 626  
provide witness statements or police or other investigative 627  
reports. 628

(3) No later than three days after the day on which a 629  
public children services agency that conducted the investigation 630  
as determined pursuant to section 2151.422 of the Revised Code 631  
makes a disposition of an investigation involving a report of 632  
alleged child abuse or child neglect, or a report of an alleged 633  
threat of child abuse or child neglect, that allegedly occurred 634  
in or involved an out-of-home care entity, the agency shall send 635  
written notice of the disposition of the investigation to the 636  
administrator, director, or other chief administrative officer 637  
and the owner or governing board of the out-of-home care entity. 638  
The agency shall not provide witness statements or police or 639  
other investigative reports. 640

(0) As used in this section: 641

(1) "Children's advocacy center" and "sexual abuse of a 642  
child" have the same meanings as in section 2151.425 of the 643  
Revised Code. 644

(2) "Health care professional" means an individual who 645  
provides health-related services. "Health care professional" 646  
includes all of the following: a physician, including a hospital 647  
intern or resident; a dentist; a podiatrist; a registered nurse, 648  
including such a nurse who is an advanced practice registered 649  
nurse; a licensed practical nurse; a home care nurse; a licensed 650  
psychologist; a speech-language pathologist; an audiologist; a 651

person engaged in social work or the practice of professional 652  
counseling; and an employee of a home health agency. "Health 653  
care professional" does not include a practitioner of a limited 654  
branch of medicine as specified in section 4731.15 of the 655  
Revised Code, licensed school psychologist, independent marriage 656  
and family therapist or marriage and family therapist, or 657  
coroner. 658

(3) "Investigation" means the public children services 659  
agency's response to an accepted report of child abuse or 660  
neglect through either an alternative response or a traditional 661  
response. 662

(4) "Peace officer" means a sheriff, deputy sheriff, 663  
constable, police officer of a township or joint police 664  
district, marshal, deputy marshal, municipal police officer, or 665  
a state highway patrol trooper. 666

Sec. 4113.90. (A) As used in this section, "employer" 667  
means any person who has one or more employees. "Employer" 668  
includes an agent of an employer, the state or any agency or 669  
instrumentality of the state, and any municipal corporation, 670  
county, township, school district, or other political 671  
subdivision or any agency or instrumentality thereof. 672

(B) The director of job and family services shall create a 673  
one-hour virtual training program to help employers recognize 674  
and report sexual assault. The director shall include in the 675  
training program penalties for failing to report sexual assault. 676

(C) No employer shall fail to provide the training program 677  
pursuant to this section to the employer's employees who begin 678  
employment with the employer on or after the effective date of 679  
this section. 680

**Sec. 4113.99.** (A) Whoever violates section 4113.15 of the Revised Code is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree. 681  
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(B) Whoever violates section 4113.16, 4113.18, or 4113.19 of the Revised Code is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. 683  
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(C) Whoever violates section 4113.17 of the Revised Code is guilty of a minor misdemeanor for a first offense; for each subsequent offense such person is guilty of a misdemeanor in the fourth degree. 685  
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(D) Whoever violates division (C) of section 4113.90 of the Revised Code is guilty of a misdemeanor in the fourth degree. 689  
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**Section 2.** That existing sections 2151.421 and 4113.99 of the Revised Code are hereby repealed. 692  
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