

As Introduced

131st General Assembly

Regular Session

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S. B. No. 206

Senator LaRose

Cosponsors: Senators Gardner, Hite, Coley, Lehner, Tavares

A BILL

To amend sections 3517.10, 3517.105, 3517.106, 1
3517.1011, and 3517.11 of the Revised Code to 2
require certain campaign committees and other 3
entities to file campaign finance statements 4
electronically and to require the Secretary of 5
State to make the information in those 6
statements available online. 7

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

Section 1. That sections 3517.10, 3517.105, 3517.106, 8
3517.1011, and 3517.11 of the Revised Code be amended to read as 9
follows: 10

Sec. 3517.10. (A) Except as otherwise provided in this 11
division, every campaign committee, political action committee, 12
legislative campaign fund, political party, and political 13
contributing entity that made or received a contribution or made 14
an expenditure in connection with the nomination or election of 15
any candidate or in connection with any ballot issue or question 16
at any election held or to be held in this state shall file, on 17
a form prescribed under this section or by electronic means of 18
transmission as provided in this section and section 3517.106 of 19

the Revised Code, a full, true, and itemized statement, made 20
under penalty of election falsification, setting forth in detail 21
the contributions and expenditures, not later than four p.m. of 22
the following dates: 23

(1) The twelfth day before the election to reflect 24
contributions received and expenditures made from the close of 25
business on the last day reflected in the last previously filed 26
statement, if any, to the close of business on the twentieth day 27
before the election; 28

(2) The thirty-eighth day after the election to reflect 29
the contributions received and expenditures made from the close 30
of business on the last day reflected in the last previously 31
filed statement, if any, to the close of business on the seventh 32
day before the filing of the statement; 33

(3) The last business day of January of every year to 34
reflect the contributions received and expenditures made from 35
the close of business on the last day reflected in the last 36
previously filed statement, if any, to the close of business on 37
the last day of December of the previous year; 38

(4) The last business day of July of every year to reflect 39
the contributions received and expenditures made from the close 40
of business on the last day reflected in the last previously 41
filed statement, if any, to the close of business on the last 42
day of June of that year. 43

A campaign committee shall only be required to file the 44
statements prescribed under divisions (A)(1) and (2) of this 45
section in connection with the nomination or election of the 46
committee's candidate. 47

The statement required under division (A)(1) of this 48

section shall not be required of any campaign committee, 49
political action committee, legislative campaign fund, political 50
party, or political contributing entity that has received 51
contributions of less than one thousand dollars and has made 52
expenditures of less than one thousand dollars at the close of 53
business on the twentieth day before the election. Those 54
contributions and expenditures shall be reported in the 55
statement required under division (A) (2) of this section. 56

If an election to select candidates to appear on the 57
general election ballot is held within sixty days before a 58
general election, the campaign committee of a successful 59
candidate in the earlier election may file the statement 60
required by division (A) (1) of this section for the general 61
election instead of the statement required by division (A) (2) of 62
this section for the earlier election if the pregeneral election 63
statement reflects the status of contributions and expenditures 64
for the period twenty days before the earlier election to twenty 65
days before the general election. 66

If a person becomes a candidate less than twenty days 67
before an election, the candidate's campaign committee is not 68
required to file the statement required by division (A) (1) of 69
this section. 70

No statement under division (A) (3) of this section shall 71
be required for any year in which a campaign committee, 72
political action committee, legislative campaign fund, political 73
party, or political contributing entity is required to file a 74
postgeneral election statement under division (A) (2) of this 75
section. However, a statement under division (A) (3) of this 76
section may be filed, at the option of the campaign committee, 77
political action committee, legislative campaign fund, political 78

party, or political contributing entity. 79

No campaign committee of a candidate for the office of 80
chief justice or justice of the supreme court, and no campaign 81
committee of a candidate for the office of judge of any court in 82
this state, shall be required to file a statement under division 83
(A) (4) of this section. 84

Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph and in the 85
next paragraph of this section, the only campaign committees 86
required to file a statement under division (A) (4) of this 87
section are the campaign committee of a statewide candidate and 88
the campaign committee of a candidate for county office. The 89
campaign committee of a candidate for any other nonjudicial 90
office is required to file a statement under division (A) (4) of 91
this section if that campaign committee receives, during that 92
period, contributions exceeding ten thousand dollars. 93

No statement under division (A) (4) of this section shall 94
be required of a campaign committee, a political action 95
committee, a legislative campaign fund, a political party, or a 96
political contributing entity for any year in which the campaign 97
committee, political action committee, legislative campaign 98
fund, political party, or political contributing entity is 99
required to file a postprimary election statement under division 100
(A) (2) of this section. However, a statement under division (A) 101
(4) of this section may be filed at the option of the campaign 102
committee, political action committee, legislative campaign 103
fund, political party, or political contributing entity. 104

No statement under division (A) (3) or (4) of this section 105
shall be required if the campaign committee, political action 106
committee, legislative campaign fund, political party, or 107
political contributing entity has no contributions that it has 108

received and no expenditures that it has made since the last 109
date reflected in its last previously filed statement. However, 110
the campaign committee, political action committee, legislative 111
campaign fund, political party, or political contributing entity 112
shall file a statement to that effect, on a form prescribed 113
under this section and made under penalty of election 114
falsification, on the date required in division (A) (3) or (4) of 115
this section, as applicable. 116

The campaign committee of a statewide candidate shall file 117
a monthly statement of contributions received during each of the 118
months of July, August, and September in the year of the general 119
election in which the candidate seeks office. The campaign 120
committee of a statewide candidate shall file the monthly 121
statement not later than three business days after the last day 122
of the month covered by the statement. During the period 123
beginning on the nineteenth day before the general election in 124
which a statewide candidate seeks election to office and 125
extending through the day of that general election, each time 126
the campaign committee of the joint candidates for the offices 127
of governor and lieutenant governor or of a candidate for the 128
office of secretary of state, auditor of state, treasurer of 129
state, or attorney general receives a contribution from a 130
contributor that causes the aggregate amount of contributions 131
received from that contributor during that period to equal or 132
exceed ten thousand dollars and each time the campaign committee 133
of a candidate for the office of chief justice or justice of the 134
supreme court receives a contribution from a contributor that 135
causes the aggregate amount of contributions received from that 136
contributor during that period to exceed ten thousand dollars, 137
the campaign committee shall file a two-business-day statement 138
reflecting that contribution. Contributions reported on a two- 139

business-day statement required to be filed by a campaign 140
committee of a statewide candidate in a primary election shall 141
also be included in the postprimary election statement required 142
to be filed by that campaign committee under division (A) (2) of 143
this section. A two-business-day statement required by this 144
paragraph shall be filed not later than two business days after 145
receipt of the contribution. The statements required by this 146
paragraph shall be filed in addition to any other statements 147
required by this section. 148

Subject to the secretary of state having implemented, 149
tested, and verified the successful operation of any system the 150
secretary of state prescribes pursuant to divisions (C) (6) (b) 151
and (D) (6) of this section and division ~~(H)~~ (F) (1) of section 152
3517.106 of the Revised Code for the filing of campaign finance 153
statements by electronic means of transmission, a campaign 154
committee of a statewide candidate shall file a two-business-day 155
statement under the preceding paragraph by electronic means of 156
transmission if the campaign committee is required to file a 157
pre-election, postelection, or monthly statement of 158
contributions and expenditures by electronic means of 159
transmission under this section or section 3517.106 of the 160
Revised Code. 161

If a campaign committee or political action committee has 162
no balance on hand and no outstanding obligations and desires to 163
terminate itself, it shall file a statement to that effect, on a 164
form prescribed under this section and made under penalty of 165
election falsification, with the official with whom it files a 166
statement under division (A) of this section after filing a 167
final statement of contributions and a final statement of 168
expenditures, if contributions have been received or 169
expenditures made since the period reflected in its last 170

previously filed statement. 171

(B) Except as otherwise provided in division (C) (7) of 172
this section, each statement required by division (A) of this 173
section shall contain the following information: 174

(1) The full name and address of each campaign committee, 175
political action committee, legislative campaign fund, political 176
party, or political contributing entity, including any treasurer 177
of the committee, fund, party, or entity, filing a contribution 178
and expenditure statement; 179

(2) (a) In the case of a campaign committee, the 180
candidate's full name and address; 181

(b) In the case of a political action committee, the 182
registration number assigned to the committee under division (D) 183
(1) of this section. 184

(3) The date of the election and whether it was or will be 185
a general, primary, or special election; 186

(4) A statement of contributions received, which shall 187
include the following information: 188

(a) The month, day, and year of the contribution; 189

(b) (i) The full name and address of each person, political 190
party, campaign committee, legislative campaign fund, political 191
action committee, or political contributing entity from whom 192
contributions are received and the registration number assigned 193
to the political action committee under division (D) (1) of this 194
section. The requirement of filing the full address does not 195
apply to any statement filed by a state or local committee of a 196
political party, to a finance committee of such committee, or to 197
a committee recognized by a state or local committee as its 198

fund-raising auxiliary. Notwithstanding division (F) of this section, the requirement of filing the full address shall be considered as being met if the address filed is the same address the contributor provided under division (E) (1) of this section.

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

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

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

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

(e) A separately itemized account of all contributions and expenditures regardless of the amount, except a receipt of a contribution from a person in the sum of twenty-five dollars or

less at one social or fund-raising activity and a receipt of a 228
contribution transmitted pursuant to section 3599.031 of the 229
Revised Code from amounts deducted from the wages and salaries 230
of employees if the contribution from the amount deducted from 231
the wages and salary of any one employee is twenty-five dollars 232
or less aggregated in a calendar year. An account of the total 233
contributions from each social or fund-raising activity shall 234
include a description of and the value of each in-kind 235
contribution received at that activity from any person who made 236
one or more such contributions whose aggregate value exceeded 237
two hundred fifty dollars and shall be listed separately, 238
together with the expenses incurred and paid in connection with 239
that activity. A campaign committee, political action committee, 240
legislative campaign fund, political party, or political 241
contributing entity shall keep records of contributions from 242
each person in the amount of twenty-five dollars or less at one 243
social or fund-raising activity and contributions from amounts 244
deducted under section 3599.031 of the Revised Code from the 245
wages and salary of each employee in the amount of twenty-five 246
dollars or less aggregated in a calendar year. No continuing 247
association that is recognized by a state or local committee of 248
a political party as an auxiliary of the party and that makes a 249
contribution from funds derived solely from regular dues paid by 250
members of the auxiliary shall be required to list the name or 251
address of any members who paid those dues. 252

Contributions that are other income shall be itemized 253
separately from all other contributions. The information 254
required under division (B)(4) of this section shall be provided 255
for all other income itemized. As used in this paragraph, "other 256
income" means a loan, investment income, or interest income. 257

(f) In the case of a campaign committee of a state elected 258

officer, if a person doing business with the state elected 259
officer in the officer's official capacity makes a contribution 260
to the campaign committee of that officer, the information 261
required under division (B) (4) of this section in regard to that 262
contribution, which shall be filed together with and considered 263
a part of the committee's statement of contributions as required 264
under division (A) of this section but shall be filed on a 265
separate form provided by the secretary of state. As used in 266
this division: 267

(i) "State elected officer" has the same meaning as in 268
section 3517.092 of the Revised Code. 269

(ii) "Person doing business" means a person or an officer 270
of an entity who enters into one or more contracts with a state 271
elected officer or anyone authorized to enter into contracts on 272
behalf of that officer to receive payments for goods or 273
services, if the payments total, in the aggregate, more than 274
five thousand dollars during a calendar year. 275

(5) A statement of expenditures which shall include the 276
following information: 277

(a) The month, day, and year of the expenditure; 278

(b) The full name and address of each person, political 279
party, campaign committee, legislative campaign fund, political 280
action committee, or political contributing entity to whom the 281
expenditure was made and the registration number assigned to the 282
political action committee under division (D) (1) of this 283
section; 284

(c) The object or purpose for which the expenditure was 285
made; 286

(d) The amount of each expenditure. 287

(C) (1) The statement of contributions and expenditures 288
shall be signed by the person completing the form. If a 289
statement of contributions and expenditures is filed by 290
electronic means of transmission pursuant to this section or 291
section 3517.106 of the Revised Code, the electronic signature 292
of the person who executes the statement and transmits the 293
statement by electronic means of transmission, as provided in 294
division ~~(H)~~(F) of section 3517.106 of the Revised Code, shall 295
be attached to or associated with the statement and shall be 296
binding on all persons and for all purposes under the campaign 297
finance reporting law as if the signature had been handwritten 298
in ink on a printed form. 299

(2) The person filing the statement, under penalty of 300
election falsification, shall include with it a list of each 301
anonymous contribution, the circumstances under which it was 302
received, and the reason it cannot be attributed to a specific 303
donor. 304

(3) Each statement of a campaign committee of a candidate 305
who holds public office shall contain a designation of each 306
contributor who is an employee in any unit or department under 307
the candidate's direct supervision and control. In a space 308
provided in the statement, the person filing the statement shall 309
affirm that each such contribution was voluntarily made. 310

(4) A campaign committee that did not receive 311
contributions or make expenditures in connection with the 312
nomination or election of its candidate shall file a statement 313
to that effect, on a form prescribed under this section and made 314
under penalty of election falsification, on the date required in 315
division (A) (2) of this section. 316

(5) The campaign committee of any person who attempts to 317

become a candidate and who, for any reason, does not become 318
certified in accordance with Title XXXV of the Revised Code for 319
placement on the official ballot of a primary, general, or 320
special election to be held in this state, and who, at any time 321
prior to or after an election, receives contributions or makes 322
expenditures, or has given consent for another to receive 323
contributions or make expenditures, for the purpose of bringing 324
about the person's nomination or election to public office, 325
shall file the statement or statements prescribed by this 326
section and a termination statement, if applicable. Division (C) 327
(5) of this section does not apply to any person with respect to 328
an election to the offices of member of a county or state 329
central committee, presidential elector, or delegate to a 330
national convention or conference of a political party. 331

(6) (a) The statements required to be filed under this 332
section shall specify the balance in the hands of the campaign 333
committee, political action committee, legislative campaign 334
fund, political party, or political contributing entity and the 335
disposition intended to be made of that balance. 336

(b) The secretary of state shall prescribe the form for 337
all statements required to be filed under this section and shall 338
furnish the forms to the boards of elections in the several 339
counties. The boards of elections shall supply printed copies of 340
those forms without charge. The secretary of state shall 341
prescribe the appropriate methodology, protocol, and data file 342
structure for statements required or permitted to be filed by 343
electronic means of transmission to the secretary of state or a 344
board of elections under division (A) of this section, ~~divisions~~ 345
~~division~~ (E), ~~(F)~~, and ~~(G)~~ of section 3517.106, division (D) of 346
section 3517.1011, division (B) of section 3517.1012, division 347
(C) of section 3517.1013, and divisions (D) and (I) of section 348

3517.1014 of the Revised Code. Subject to division (A) of this 349
section, ~~divisions~~ division (E), ~~(F)~~, and ~~(G)~~ of section 350
3517.106, division (D) of section 3517.1011, division (B) of 351
section 3517.1012, division (C) of section 3517.1013, and 352
divisions (D) and (I) of section 3517.1014 of the Revised Code, 353
the statements required to be stored on computer by the 354
secretary of state under division (B) of section 3517.106 of the 355
Revised Code shall be filed in whatever format the secretary of 356
state considers necessary to enable the secretary of state to 357
store the information contained in the statements on computer. 358
Any such format shall be of a type and nature that is readily 359
available to whoever is required to file the statements in that 360
format. 361

(c) The secretary of state shall assess the need for 362
training regarding the filing of campaign finance statements by 363
electronic means of transmission and regarding associated 364
technologies for candidates, campaign committees, political 365
action committees, legislative campaign funds, political 366
parties, or political contributing entities, for individuals, 367
partnerships, or other entities, for persons making 368
disbursements to pay the direct costs of producing or airing 369
electioneering communications, or for treasurers of transition 370
funds, required or permitted to file statements by electronic 371
means of transmission under this section or section 3517.105, 372
3517.106, 3517.1011, 3517.1012, 3517.1013, or 3517.1014 of the 373
Revised Code. If, in the opinion of the secretary of state, 374
training in these areas is necessary, the secretary of state 375
shall arrange for the provision of voluntary training programs 376
for candidates, campaign committees, political action 377
committees, legislative campaign funds, political parties, or 378
political contributing entities, for individuals, partnerships, 379

and other entities, for persons making disbursements to pay the 380
direct costs of producing or airing electioneering 381
communications, or for treasurers of transition funds, as 382
appropriate. 383

(7) Each monthly statement and each two-business-day 384
statement required by division (A) of this section shall contain 385
the information required by divisions (B) (1) to (4), (C) (2), 386
and, if appropriate, (C) (3) of this section. Each statement 387
shall be signed as required by division (C) (1) of this section. 388

(D) (1) Prior to receiving a contribution or making an 389
expenditure, every campaign committee, political action 390
committee, legislative campaign fund, political party, or 391
political contributing entity shall appoint a treasurer and 392
shall file, on a form prescribed by the secretary of state, a 393
designation of that appointment, including the full name and 394
address of the treasurer and of the campaign committee, 395
political action committee, legislative campaign fund, political 396
party, or political contributing entity. That designation shall 397
be filed with the official with whom the campaign committee, 398
political action committee, legislative campaign fund, political 399
party, or political contributing entity is required to file 400
statements under section 3517.11 of the Revised Code. The name 401
of a campaign committee shall include at least the last name of 402
the campaign committee's candidate. If two or more candidates 403
are the beneficiaries of a single campaign committee under 404
division (B) of section 3517.081 of the Revised Code, the name 405
of the campaign committee shall include at least the last name 406
of each candidate who is a beneficiary of that campaign 407
committee. The secretary of state shall assign a registration 408
number to each political action committee that files a 409
designation of the appointment of a treasurer under this 410

division if the political action committee is required by 411
division (A) (1) of section 3517.11 of the Revised Code to file 412
the statements prescribed by this section with the secretary of 413
state. 414

(2) The treasurer appointed under division (D) (1) of this 415
section shall keep a strict account of all contributions, from 416
whom received and the purpose for which they were disbursed. 417

(3) (a) Except as otherwise provided in section 3517.108 of 418
the Revised Code, a campaign committee shall deposit all 419
monetary contributions received by the committee into an account 420
separate from a personal or business account of the candidate or 421
campaign committee. 422

(b) A political action committee shall deposit all 423
monetary contributions received by the committee into an account 424
separate from all other funds. 425

(c) A state or county political party may establish a 426
state candidate fund that is separate from an account that 427
contains the public moneys received from the Ohio political 428
party fund under section 3517.17 of the Revised Code and from 429
all other funds. A state or county political party may deposit 430
into its state candidate fund any amounts of monetary 431
contributions that are made to or accepted by the political 432
party subject to the applicable limitations, if any, prescribed 433
in section 3517.102 of the Revised Code. A state or county 434
political party shall deposit all other monetary contributions 435
received by the party into one or more accounts that are 436
separate from its state candidate fund and from its account that 437
contains the public moneys received from the Ohio political 438
party fund under section 3517.17 of the Revised Code. 439

(d) Each state political party shall have only one 440
legislative campaign fund for each house of the general 441
assembly. Each such fund shall be separate from any other funds 442
or accounts of that state party. A legislative campaign fund is 443
authorized to receive contributions and make expenditures for 444
the primary purpose of furthering the election of candidates who 445
are members of that political party to the house of the general 446
assembly with which that legislative campaign fund is 447
associated. Each legislative campaign fund shall be administered 448
and controlled in a manner designated by the caucus. As used in 449
this division, "caucus" has the same meaning as in section 450
3517.01 of the Revised Code and includes, as an ex officio 451
member, the chairperson of the state political party with which 452
the caucus is associated or that chairperson's designee. 453

(4) Every expenditure in excess of twenty-five dollars 454
shall be vouched for by a receipted bill, stating the purpose of 455
the expenditure, that shall be filed with the statement of 456
expenditures. A canceled check with a notation of the purpose of 457
the expenditure is a receipted bill for purposes of division (D) 458
(4) of this section. 459

(5) The secretary of state or the board of elections, as 460
the case may be, shall issue a receipt for each statement filed 461
under this section and shall preserve a copy of the receipt for 462
a period of at least six years. All statements filed under this 463
section shall be open to public inspection in the office where 464
they are filed and shall be carefully preserved for a period of 465
at least six years after the year in which they are filed. 466

(6) The secretary of state, by rule adopted pursuant to 467
section 3517.23 of the Revised Code, shall prescribe both of the 468
following: 469

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

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

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

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

(ii) All statements filed with a board of elections by
electronic means of transmission, and all addenda, amendments,

corrections, and amended versions of those statements, filed 500
with the board under this section, division (B) (2) (b) or (C) (2) 501
(b) of section 3517.105, or section 3517.106, 3517.1012, or 502
3517.11 of the Revised Code. ~~The~~ 503

(b) The secretary of state may remove the information from 504
the internet after a reasonable period of time. 505

(E) (1) Any person, political party, campaign committee, 506
legislative campaign fund, political action committee, or 507
political contributing entity that makes a contribution in 508
connection with the nomination or election of any candidate or 509
in connection with any ballot issue or question at any election 510
held or to be held in this state shall provide its full name and 511
address to the recipient of the contribution at the time the 512
contribution is made. The political action committee also shall 513
provide the registration number assigned to the committee under 514
division (D) (1) of this section to the recipient of the 515
contribution at the time the contribution is made. 516

(2) Any individual who makes a contribution that exceeds 517
one hundred dollars to a political action committee, political 518
contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or political 519
party or to a campaign committee of a statewide candidate or 520
candidate for the office of member of the general assembly shall 521
provide the name of the individual's current employer, if any, 522
or, if the individual is self-employed, the individual's 523
occupation and the name of the individual's business, if any, to 524
the recipient of the contribution at the time the contribution 525
is made. Sections 3599.39 and 3599.40 of the Revised Code do not 526
apply to division (E) (2) of this section. 527

(3) If a campaign committee shows that it has exercised 528
its best efforts to obtain, maintain, and submit the information 529

required under divisions (B) (4) (b) (ii) and (iii) of this 530
section, that committee is considered to have met the 531
requirements of those divisions. A campaign committee shall not 532
be considered to have exercised its best efforts unless, in 533
connection with written solicitations, it regularly includes a 534
written request for the information required under division (B) 535
(4) (b) (ii) of this section from the contributor or the 536
information required under division (B) (4) (b) (iii) of this 537
section from whoever transmits the contribution. 538

(4) Any check that a political action committee uses to 539
make a contribution or an expenditure shall contain the full 540
name and address of the committee and the registration number 541
assigned to the committee under division (D) (1) of this section. 542

(F) As used in this section: 543

(1) (a) Except as otherwise provided in division (F) (1) of 544
this section, "address" means all of the following if they 545
exist: apartment number, street, road, or highway name and 546
number, rural delivery route number, city or village, state, and 547
zip code as used in a person's post-office address, but not 548
post-office box. 549

(b) Except as otherwise provided in division (F) (1) of 550
this section, if an address is required in this section, a post- 551
office box and office, room, or suite number may be included in 552
addition to, but not in lieu of, an apartment, street, road, or 553
highway name and number. 554

(c) If an address is required in this section, a campaign 555
committee, political action committee, legislative campaign 556
fund, political party, or political contributing entity may use 557
the business or residence address of its treasurer or deputy 558

treasurer. The post-office box number of the campaign committee, 559
political action committee, legislative campaign fund, political 560
party, or political contributing entity may be used in addition 561
to that address. 562

(d) For the sole purpose of a campaign committee's 563
reporting of contributions on a statement of contributions 564
received under division (B) (4) of this section, "address" has 565
one of the following meanings at the option of the campaign 566
committee: 567

(i) The same meaning as in division (F) (1) (a) of this 568
section; 569

(ii) All of the following, if they exist: the 570
contributor's post-office box number and city or village, state, 571
and zip code as used in the contributor's post-office address. 572

(e) As used with regard to the reporting under this 573
section of any expenditure, "address" means all of the following 574
if they exist: apartment number, street, road, or highway name 575
and number, rural delivery route number, city or village, state, 576
and zip code as used in a person's post-office address, or post- 577
office box. If an address concerning any expenditure is required 578
in this section, a campaign committee, political action 579
committee, legislative campaign fund, political party, or 580
political contributing entity may use the business or residence 581
address of its treasurer or deputy treasurer or its post-office 582
box number. 583

(2) "Statewide candidate" means the joint candidates for 584
the offices of governor and lieutenant governor or a candidate 585
for the office of secretary of state, auditor of state, 586
treasurer of state, attorney general, member of the state board 587

of education, chief justice of the supreme court, or justice of the supreme court. 588
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(3) "Candidate for county office" means a candidate for the office of county auditor, county treasurer, clerk of the court of common pleas, judge of the court of common pleas, sheriff, county recorder, county engineer, county commissioner, prosecuting attorney, or coroner. 590
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(G) An independent expenditure shall be reported whenever and in the same manner that an expenditure is required to be reported under this section and shall be reported pursuant to division (B) (2) (a) or (C) (2) (a) of section 3517.105 of the Revised Code. 595
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(H) (1) Except as otherwise provided in division (H) (2) of this section, if, during the combined pre-election and postelection reporting periods for an election, a campaign committee has received contributions of five hundred dollars or less and has made expenditures in the total amount of five hundred dollars or less, it may file a statement to that effect, under penalty of election falsification, in lieu of the statement required by division (A) (2) of this section. The statement shall indicate the total amount of contributions received and the total amount of expenditures made during those combined reporting periods. 600
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(2) In the case of a successful candidate at a primary election, if either the total contributions received by or the total expenditures made by the candidate's campaign committee during the preprimary, postprimary, pregeneral, and postgeneral election periods combined equal more than five hundred dollars, the campaign committee may file the statement under division (H) (1) of this section only for the primary election. The first 611
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statement that the campaign committee files in regard to the 618
general election shall reflect all contributions received and 619
all expenditures made during the preprimary and postprimary 620
election periods. 621

(3) Divisions (H) (1) and (2) of this section do not apply 622
if a campaign committee receives contributions or makes 623
expenditures prior to the first day of January of the year of 624
the election at which the candidate seeks nomination or election 625
to office or if the campaign committee does not file a 626
termination statement with its postprimary election statement in 627
the case of an unsuccessful primary election candidate or with 628
its postgeneral election statement in the case of other 629
candidates. 630

(I) In the case of a contribution made by a partner of a 631
partnership or an owner or a member of another unincorporated 632
business from any funds of the partnership or other 633
unincorporated business, all of the following apply: 634

(1) The recipient of the contribution shall report the 635
contribution by listing both the partnership or other 636
unincorporated business and the name of the partner, owner, or 637
member making the contribution. 638

(2) In reporting the contribution, the recipient of the 639
contribution shall be entitled to conclusively rely upon the 640
information provided by the partnership or other unincorporated 641
business, provided that the information includes one of the 642
following: 643

(a) The name of each partner, owner, or member as of the 644
date of the contribution or contributions, and a statement that 645
the total contributions are to be allocated equally among all of 646

the partners, owners, or members; or 647

(b) The name of each partner, owner, or member as of the 648
date of the contribution or contributions who is participating 649
in the contribution or contributions, and a statement that the 650
contribution or contributions are to be allocated to those 651
individuals in accordance with the information provided by the 652
partnership or other unincorporated business to the recipient of 653
the contribution. 654

(3) For purposes of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code, 655
the contribution shall be considered to have been made by the 656
partner, owner, or member reported under division (I)(1) of this 657
section. 658

(4) No contribution from a partner of a partnership or an 659
owner or a member of another unincorporated business shall be 660
accepted from any funds of the partnership or other 661
unincorporated business unless the recipient reports the 662
contribution under division (I)(1) of this section together with 663
the information provided under division (I)(2) of this section. 664

(5) No partnership or other unincorporated business shall 665
make a contribution or contributions solely in the name of the 666
partnership or other unincorporated business. 667

(6) As used in division (I) of this section, "partnership 668
or other unincorporated business" includes, but is not limited 669
to, a cooperative, a sole proprietorship, a general partnership, 670
a limited partnership, a limited partnership association, a 671
limited liability partnership, and a limited liability company. 672

(J) A candidate shall have only one campaign committee at 673
any given time for all of the offices for which the person is a 674
candidate or holds office. 675

(K) (1) In addition to filing a designation of appointment 676
of a treasurer under division (D) (1) of this section, the 677
campaign committee of any candidate for an elected municipal 678
office that pays an annual amount of compensation of five 679
thousand dollars or less, the campaign committee of any 680
candidate for member of a board of education except member of 681
the state board of education, or the campaign committee of any 682
candidate for township trustee or township fiscal officer may 683
sign, under penalty of election falsification, a certificate 684
attesting that the committee will not accept contributions 685
during an election period that exceed in the aggregate two 686
thousand dollars from all contributors and one hundred dollars 687
from any one individual, and that the campaign committee will 688
not make expenditures during an election period that exceed in 689
the aggregate two thousand dollars. 690

The certificate shall be on a form prescribed by the 691
secretary of state and shall be filed not later than ten days 692
after the candidate files a declaration of candidacy and 693
petition, a nominating petition, or a declaration of intent to 694
be a write-in candidate. 695

(2) Except as otherwise provided in division (K) (3) of 696
this section, a campaign committee that files a certificate 697
under division (K) (1) of this section is not required to file 698
the statements required by division (A) of this section. 699

(3) If, after filing a certificate under division (K) (1) 700
of this section, a campaign committee exceeds any of the 701
limitations described in that division during an election 702
period, the certificate is void and thereafter the campaign 703
committee shall file the statements required by division (A) of 704
this section. If the campaign committee has not previously filed 705

a statement, then on the first statement the campaign committee 706
is required to file under division (A) of this section after the 707
committee's certificate is void, the committee shall report all 708
contributions received and expenditures made from the time the 709
candidate filed the candidate's declaration of candidacy and 710
petition, nominating petition, or declaration of intent to be a 711
write-in candidate. 712

(4) As used in division (K) of this section, "election 713
period" means the period of time beginning on the day a person 714
files a declaration of candidacy and petition, nominating 715
petition, or declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate 716
through the day of the election at which the person seeks 717
nomination to office if the person is not elected to office, or, 718
if the candidate was nominated in a primary election, the day of 719
the election at which the candidate seeks office. 720

(L) A political contributing entity that receives 721
contributions from the dues, membership fees, or other 722
assessments of its members or from its officers, shareholders, 723
and employees may report the aggregate amount of contributions 724
received from those contributors and the number of individuals 725
making those contributions, for each filing period under 726
divisions (A) (1), (2), (3), and (4) of this section, rather than 727
reporting information as required under division (B) (4) of this 728
section, including, when applicable, the name of the current 729
employer, if any, of a contributor whose contribution exceeds 730
one hundred dollars or, if such a contributor is self-employed, 731
the contributor's occupation and the name of the contributor's 732
business, if any. Division (B) (4) of this section applies to a 733
political contributing entity with regard to contributions it 734
receives from all other contributors. 735

Sec. 3517.105. (A) (1) As used in this section, "public political advertising" means advertising to the general public through a broadcasting station, newspaper, magazine, poster, yard sign, or outdoor advertising facility, by direct mail, or by any other means of advertising to the general public.

(2) For purposes of this section and section 3517.20 of the Revised Code, a person is a member of a political action committee if the person makes one or more contributions to that political action committee, and a person is a member of a political contributing entity if the person makes one or more contributions to, or pays dues, membership fees, or other assessments to, that political contributing entity.

(B) (1) Whenever a candidate, a campaign committee, a political action committee or political contributing entity with ten or more members, or a legislative campaign fund makes an independent expenditure, or whenever a political action committee or political contributing entity with fewer than ten members makes an independent expenditure in excess of one hundred dollars for a local candidate, in excess of two hundred fifty dollars for a candidate for the office of member of the general assembly, or in excess of five hundred dollars for a statewide candidate, for the purpose of financing communications advocating the election or defeat of an identified candidate or solicits without the candidate's express consent a contribution for or against an identified candidate through public political advertising, a statement shall appear or be presented in a clear and conspicuous manner in the advertising that does both of the following:

(a) Clearly indicates that the communication or public political advertising is not authorized by the candidate or the

candidate's campaign committee; 766

(b) Clearly identifies the candidate, campaign committee, 767
political action committee, political contributing entity, or 768
legislative campaign fund that has paid for the communication or 769
public political advertising in accordance with section 3517.20 770
of the Revised Code. 771

(2) (a) Whenever any campaign committee, legislative 772
campaign fund, political action committee, political 773
contributing entity, or political party makes an independent 774
expenditure in support of or opposition to any candidate, the 775
committee, entity, fund, or party shall report the independent 776
expenditure and identify the candidate on a statement prescribed 777
by the secretary of state and filed by the committee, entity, 778
fund, or party as part of its statement of contributions and 779
expenditures pursuant to division (A) of section 3517.10 and 780
division (A) of section 3517.11 of the Revised Code. 781

(b) Whenever any individual, partnership, or other entity, 782
except a corporation, labor organization, campaign committee, 783
legislative campaign fund, political action committee, political 784
contributing entity, or political party, makes one or more 785
independent expenditures in support of or opposition to any 786
candidate, the individual, partnership, or other entity shall 787
file with the secretary of state in the case of a statewide 788
candidate, or with the board of elections in the county in which 789
the candidate files the candidate's petitions for nomination or 790
election for district or local office, not later than the dates 791
specified in divisions (A) (1), (2), (3), and (4) of section 792
3517.10 of the Revised Code, and, except as otherwise provided 793
in that section, a statement itemizing all independent 794
expenditures made during the period since the close of business 795

on the last day reflected in the last previously filed such 796
statement, if any. The statement shall be made on a form 797
prescribed by the secretary of state or shall be filed by 798
electronic means of transmission pursuant to division ~~(C)~~ (E) of 799
section 3517.106 of the Revised Code as authorized or required 800
by that division. The statement shall indicate the date and the 801
amount of each independent expenditure and the candidate on 802
whose behalf it was made and shall be made under penalty of 803
election falsification. 804

(C) (1) Whenever a corporation, labor organization, 805
campaign committee, political action committee with ten or more 806
members, or legislative campaign fund makes an independent 807
expenditure, or whenever a political action committee with fewer 808
than ten members makes an independent expenditure in excess of 809
one hundred dollars for a local ballot issue or question, or in 810
excess of five hundred dollars for a statewide ballot issue or 811
question, for the purpose of financing communications advocating 812
support of or opposition to an identified ballot issue or 813
question or solicits without the express consent of the ballot 814
issue committee a contribution for or against an identified 815
ballot issue or question through public political advertising, a 816
statement shall appear or be presented in a clear and 817
conspicuous manner in the advertising that does both of the 818
following: 819

(a) Clearly indicates that the communication or public 820
political advertising is not authorized by the identified ballot 821
issue committee; 822

(b) Clearly identifies the corporation, labor 823
organization, campaign committee, legislative campaign fund, or 824
political action committee that has paid for the communication 825

or public political advertising in accordance with section 826
3517.20 of the Revised Code. 827

(2) (a) Whenever any corporation, labor organization, 828
campaign committee, legislative campaign fund, political party, 829
or political action committee makes an independent expenditure 830
in support of or opposition to any ballot issue or question, the 831
corporation or labor organization shall report the independent 832
expenditure in accordance with division (C) of section 3599.03 833
of the Revised Code, and the campaign committee, legislative 834
campaign fund, political party, or political action committee 835
shall report the independent expenditure and identify the ballot 836
issue or question on a statement prescribed by the secretary of 837
state and filed by the committee, fund, or party as part of its 838
statement of contributions and expenditures pursuant to division 839
(A) of section 3517.10 and division (A) of section 3517.11 of 840
the Revised Code. 841

(b) Whenever any individual, partnership, or other entity, 842
except a corporation, labor organization, campaign committee, 843
legislative campaign fund, political action committee, or 844
political party, makes one or more independent expenditures in 845
excess of one hundred dollars in support of or opposition to any 846
ballot issue or question, the individual, partnership, or other 847
entity shall file with the secretary of state in the case of a 848
statewide ballot issue or question, or with the board of 849
elections in the county that certifies the issue or question for 850
placement on the ballot in the case of a district or local issue 851
or question, not later than the dates specified in divisions (A) 852
(1), (2), (3), and (4) of section 3517.10 of the Revised Code, 853
and, except as otherwise provided in that section, a statement 854
itemizing all independent expenditures made during the period 855
since the close of business on the last day reflected in the 856

last previously filed such statement, if any. The statement 857
shall be made on a form prescribed by the secretary of state or 858
shall be filed by electronic means of transmission pursuant to 859
division ~~(C)~~(E) of section 3517.106 of the Revised Code as 860
authorized or required by that division. The statement shall 861
indicate the date and the amount of each independent expenditure 862
and the ballot issue or question in support of or opposition to 863
which it was made and shall be made under penalty of election 864
falsification. 865

(3) No person, campaign committee, legislative campaign 866
fund, political action committee, corporation, labor 867
organization, or other organization or association shall use or 868
cause to be used a false or fictitious name in making an 869
independent expenditure in support of or opposition to any 870
candidate or any ballot issue or question. A name is false or 871
fictitious if the person, campaign committee, legislative 872
campaign fund, political action committee, corporation, labor 873
organization, or other organization or association does not 874
actually exist or operate, if the corporation, labor 875
organization, or other organization or association has failed to 876
file a fictitious name or other registration with the secretary 877
of state, if it is required to do so, or if the person, campaign 878
committee, legislative campaign fund, or political action 879
committee has failed to file a designation of the appointment of 880
a treasurer, if it is required to do so by division (D)(1) of 881
section 3517.10 of the Revised Code. 882

(D) Any expenditure by a political party for the purpose 883
of financing communications advocating the election or defeat of 884
a candidate for judicial office shall be deemed to be an 885
independent expenditure subject to the provisions of this 886
section. 887

Sec. 3517.106. (A) As used in this section: 888

(1) "Statewide office" means any of the offices of 889
governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, auditor of 890
state, treasurer of state, attorney general, member of the state 891
board of education, chief justice of the supreme court, and 892
justice of the supreme court. 893

(2) "Addendum to a statement" includes an amendment or 894
other correction to that statement. 895

(B) ~~(1)~~ The secretary of state shall store all of the 896
following information on computer~~the~~; 897

(1) The information contained in statements of 898
contributions and expenditures and monthly statements required 899
to be filed under section 3517.10 of the Revised Code and in 900
statements of independent expenditures required to be filed 901
under section 3517.105 of the Revised Code ~~by any of the~~ 902
~~following:~~ 903

~~(a) The campaign committees of candidates for statewide~~ 904
~~office;~~ 905

~~(b) The political action committees and political~~ 906
~~contributing entities described in division (A) (1) of section~~ 907
~~3517.11 of the Revised Code;~~ 908

~~(c) Legislative campaign funds;~~ 909

~~(d) State political parties;~~ 910

~~(e) Individuals, partnerships, corporations, labor~~ 911
~~organizations, or other entities that make independent~~ 912
~~expenditures in support of or opposition to a statewide~~ 913
~~candidate or a statewide ballot issue or question;~~ 914

~~(f) The campaign committees of candidates for the office of member of the general assembly;~~ 915
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~~(g) County political parties, with respect to their state candidate funds. with the secretary of state and the information transmitted to the secretary of state by boards of elections under division (E) (2) of this section;~~ 917
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(2) The ~~secretary of state shall store on computer the~~ information contained in disclosure of electioneering 921
communications statements required to be filed under section 922
3517.1011 of the Revised Code. 923
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(3) The ~~secretary of state shall store on computer the~~ information contained in deposit and disbursement statements 925
required to be filed with the office of the secretary of state 926
under section 3517.1012 of the Revised Code. 927
928

(4) The ~~secretary of state shall store on computer the~~ gift and disbursement information contained in statements 929
required to be filed with the office of the secretary of state 930
under section 3517.1013 of the Revised Code. 931
932

(5) The ~~secretary of state shall store on computer the~~ information contained in donation and disbursement statements 933
required to be filed with the office of the secretary of state 934
under section 3517.1014 of the Revised Code. 935
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(C) (1) The secretary of state shall make available to the 937
campaign committees, political action committees, political 938
contributing entities, legislative campaign funds, political 939
parties, individuals, partnerships, corporations, labor 940
organizations, treasurers of transition funds, and other 941
~~entities described in division (B) of this section that are~~ 942
permitted or required to file statements by electronic means of 943

transmission, and to members of the news media and other 944
interested persons, for a reasonable fee, computer programs that 945
are compatible with the secretary of state's method of storing 946
the information contained in the statements. 947

(2) The secretary of state shall make the information 948
required to be stored under division (B) of this section 949
available on computer at the secretary of state's office so 950
that, to the maximum extent feasible, individuals may obtain at 951
the secretary of state's office any part or all of that 952
information for any given year, subject to the limitation 953
expressed in division (D) of this section. 954

(D) The secretary of state shall keep the information 955
stored on computer under division (B) of this section for at 956
least six years. 957

(E) (1) Subject to division ~~(L)~~(J) of this section and 958
subject to the secretary of state having implemented, tested, 959
and verified the successful operation of any system the 960
secretary of state prescribes pursuant to division ~~(H)~~(F) (1) of 961
this section and divisions (C) (6) (b) and (D) (6) of section 962
3517.10 of the Revised Code for the filing of campaign finance 963
statements by electronic means of transmission, ~~the each of the~~ 964
following entities shall be permitted or required to file 965
statements by electronic means of transmission, as applicable: 966

(a) The campaign committee of each candidate for statewide 967
office may file the statements prescribed by section 3517.10 of 968
the Revised Code by electronic means of transmission or, if the 969
total amount of the contributions received or the total amount 970
of the expenditures made by the campaign committee for the 971
applicable reporting period as specified in division (A) of 972
section 3517.10 of the Revised Code exceeds ten thousand 973

dollars, shall file those statements by electronic means of transmission. 974
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(b) A campaign committee of a candidate for the office of member of the general assembly or a campaign committee of a candidate for the office of judge of a court of appeals may file the statements prescribed by section 3517.10 of the Revised Code in accordance with division (A) (2) of section 3517.11 of the Revised Code or by electronic means of transmission to the office of the secretary of state or, if the total amount of the contributions received by the campaign committee for the applicable reporting period as specified in division (A) of section 3517.10 of the Revised Code exceeds ten thousand dollars, shall file those statements by electronic means of transmission to the office of the secretary of state. 976
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(c) A campaign committee of a candidate for an office other than a statewide office, the office of member of the general assembly, or the office of judge of a court of appeals may file the statements prescribed by section 3517.10 of the Revised Code by electronic means of transmission to the board of elections. If the total amount of the contributions received by the campaign committee for the applicable reporting period as specified in division (A) of section 3517.10 of the Revised Code exceeds two thousand dollars, the campaign committee shall file those statements by electronic means of transmission to the board of elections. 988
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(d) A political action committee and a political contributing entity described in division (A) (1) of section 3517.11 of the Revised Code, a legislative campaign fund, and a state political party may file the statements prescribed by section 3517.10 of the Revised Code by electronic means of 999
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transmission or, if the total amount of the contributions 1004
received or the total amount of the expenditures made by the 1005
political action committee, political contributing entity, 1006
legislative campaign fund, or state political party for the 1007
applicable reporting period as specified in division (A) of 1008
section 3517.10 of the Revised Code exceeds ten thousand 1009
dollars, shall file those statements by electronic means of 1010
transmission. 1011

(e) A county political party shall file the statements 1012
prescribed by section 3517.10 of the Revised Code with respect 1013
to its state candidate fund by electronic means of transmission 1014
to the office of the secretary of state. 1015

(f) A county political party may file all other statements 1016
prescribed by section 3517.10 of the Revised Code by electronic 1017
means of transmission to the board of elections. If the total 1018
amount of contributions received or the total amount of the 1019
expenditures made by the county political party reflected on 1020
those statements for the applicable reporting period as 1021
specified in division (A) of section 3517.10 of the Revised Code 1022
exceeds two thousand dollars, the county political party shall 1023
file those statements by electronic means of transmission to the 1024
board of elections. 1025

(g) A political action committee or political contributing 1026
entity described in division (A) (3) of section 3517.11 of the 1027
Revised Code may file the statements prescribed by section 1028
3517.10 of the Revised Code by electronic means of transmission 1029
to the board of elections. If the total amount of the 1030
contributions received or the total amount of the expenditures 1031
made by the political action committee or political contributing 1032
entity for the applicable reporting period as specified in 1033

division (A) of section 3517.10 of the Revised Code exceeds two 1034
thousand dollars, the political action committee or political 1035
contributing entity shall file those statements by electronic 1036
means of transmission. 1037

(h) Any individual, partnership, or other entity that 1038
makes independent expenditures in support of or opposition to a 1039
statewide candidate or a statewide ballot issue or question as 1040
provided in division (B) (2) (b) or (C) (2) (b) of section 3517.105 1041
of the Revised Code may file the statement specified in that 1042
division by electronic means of transmission or, if the total 1043
amount of independent expenditures made during the reporting 1044
period under that division exceeds ten thousand dollars, shall 1045
file the statement specified in that division by electronic 1046
means of transmission. 1047

(i) Any individual, partnership, or other entity that 1048
makes independent expenditures in support of or opposition to a 1049
candidate or ballot issue other than a statewide candidate or a 1050
statewide ballot issue as provided in division (B) (2) (b) or (C) 1051
(2) (b) of section 3517.105 of the Revised Code may file the 1052
statement specified in that division by electronic means of 1053
transmission to the board of elections. If the total amount of 1054
expenditures reflected on that statement exceeds two thousand 1055
dollars, the entity shall file the statement specified in that 1056
division by electronic means of transmission. 1057

(2) A board of elections that receives a statement by 1058
electronic means of transmission shall transmit that statement 1059
to the secretary of state within five business days after 1060
receiving the statement. If the board receives an addendum or an 1061
amended statement from an entity that filed a statement with the 1062
board by electronic means of transmission, the board shall 1063

transmit the addendum or amended statement to the secretary of 1064
state not later than the close of business on the day the board 1065
received the addendum or amended statement. 1066

(3) (a) Except as otherwise provided in ~~this~~ division (E) 1067
(3) (b) of this section, within five business days after a 1068
statement filed ~~by a campaign committee of a candidate for~~ 1069
~~statewide office~~ under division (E) (1) of this section is 1070
received by the secretary of state by electronic or other means 1071
of transmission, the secretary of state shall make available 1072
online to the public through the internet, as provided in 1073
division ~~(H)~~ (G) of this section, the contribution and 1074
expenditure information in that statement. ~~The~~ 1075

(b) The secretary of state shall not make available online 1076
to the public through the internet any contribution or 1077
expenditure information contained in a statement for any 1078
candidate until the secretary of state is able to make available 1079
online to the public through the internet the contribution and 1080
expenditure information for all candidates for a particular 1081
office, or until the applicable filing deadline for that 1082
statement has passed, whichever is sooner. As soon as the 1083
secretary of state has available all of the contribution and 1084
expenditure information for all candidates for a particular 1085
office, or as soon as the applicable filing deadline for a 1086
statement has passed, whichever is sooner, the secretary of 1087
state shall simultaneously make available online to the public 1088
through the internet the information for all candidates for that 1089
office. 1090

(4) (a) If a statement filed by electronic means of 1091
transmission is found to be incomplete or inaccurate after the 1092
examination of the statement for completeness and accuracy 1093

pursuant to division (B) (3) (a) of section 3517.11 of the Revised Code, the ~~campaign committee entity that filed the statement~~ shall file by electronic means of transmission any addendum to the statement that provides the information necessary to complete or correct the statement or, if required by the ~~secretary of state~~ under that division, an amended statement.

(b) Within five business days after the secretary of state receives ~~from a campaign committee of a candidate for statewide office~~ an addendum to the statement or an amended statement by electronic or other means of transmission ~~under this division or division (B) (3) (a) of section 3517.11 of the Revised Code~~, the secretary of state shall make the contribution and expenditure information in the addendum or amended statement available online to the public through the internet as provided in ~~division (I) (G)~~ of this section.

~~(2) Subject to the secretary of state having implemented, tested, and verified the successful operation of any system the secretary of state prescribes pursuant to division (H) (1) of this section and divisions (C) (6) (b) and (D) (6) of section 3517.10 of the Revised Code for the filing of campaign finance statements by electronic means of transmission, a political action committee and a political contributing entity described in division (B) (1) (b) of this section, a legislative campaign fund, and a state political party may file the statements prescribed by section 3517.10 of the Revised Code by electronic means of transmission or, if the total amount of the contributions received or the total amount of the expenditures made by the political action committee, political contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or state political party for the applicable reporting period as specified in division (A) of section 3517.10 of the Revised Code exceeds ten thousand~~

~~dollars, shall file those statements by electronic means of transmission.~~ 1125
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~~Within five business days after a statement filed by a political action committee or a political contributing entity described in division (B) (1) (b) of this section, a legislative campaign fund, or a state political party is received by the secretary of state by electronic or other means of transmission, the secretary of state shall make available online to the public through the internet, as provided in division (I) of this section, the contribution and expenditure information in that statement.~~ 1127
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~~If a statement filed by electronic means of transmission is found to be incomplete or inaccurate after the examination of the statement for completeness and accuracy pursuant to division (B) (3) (a) of section 3517.11 of the Revised Code, the political action committee, political contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or state political party shall file by electronic means of transmission any addendum to the statement that provides the information necessary to complete or correct the statement or, if required by the secretary of state under that division, an amended statement.~~ 1136
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~~Within five business days after the secretary of state receives from a political action committee or a political contributing entity described in division (B) (1) (b) of this section, a legislative campaign fund, or a state political party an addendum to the statement or an amended statement by electronic or other means of transmission under this division or division (B) (3) (a) of section 3517.11 of the Revised Code, the secretary of state shall make the contribution and expenditure information in the addendum or amended statement available~~ 1146
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~~online to the public through the internet as provided in~~ 1155
~~division (I) of this section.~~ 1156

~~(3) Subject to the secretary of state having implemented,~~ 1157
~~tested, and verified the successful operation of any system the~~ 1158
~~secretary of state prescribes pursuant to division (H) (1) of~~ 1159
~~this section and divisions (C) (6) (b) and (D) (6) of section~~ 1160
~~3517.10 of the Revised Code for the filing of campaign finance~~ 1161
~~statements by electronic means of transmission, a county~~ 1162
~~political party shall file the statements prescribed by section~~ 1163
~~3517.10 of the Revised Code with respect to its state candidate~~ 1164
~~fund by electronic means of transmission to the office of the~~ 1165
~~secretary of state.~~ 1166

~~Within five business days after a statement filed by a~~ 1167
~~county political party with respect to its state candidate fund~~ 1168
~~is received by the secretary of state by electronic means of~~ 1169
~~transmission, the secretary of state shall make available online~~ 1170
~~to the public through the internet, as provided in division (I)~~ 1171
~~of this section, the contribution and expenditure information in~~ 1172
~~that statement.~~ 1173

~~If a statement is found to be incomplete or inaccurate~~ 1174
~~after the examination of the statement for completeness and~~ 1175
~~accuracy pursuant to division (B) (3) (a) of section 3517.11 of~~ 1176
~~the Revised Code, a county political party shall file by~~ 1177
~~electronic means of transmission any addendum to the statement~~ 1178
~~that provides the information necessary to complete or correct~~ 1179
~~the statement or, if required by the secretary of state under~~ 1180
~~that division, an amended statement.~~ 1181

~~Within five business days after the secretary of state~~ 1182
~~receives from a county political party an addendum to the~~ 1183
~~statement or an amended statement by electronic means of~~ 1184

~~transmission under this division or division (B) (3) (a) of
section 3517.11 of the Revised Code, the secretary of state
shall make the contribution and expenditure information in the
addendum or amended statement available online to the public
through the internet as provided in division (I) of this
section.~~

~~(F) (1) Subject to division (L) of this section and subject
to the secretary of state having implemented, tested, and
verified the successful operation of any system the secretary of
state prescribes pursuant to division (H) (1) of this section and
divisions (C) (6) (b) and (D) (6) of section 3517.10 of the Revised
Code for the filing of campaign finance statements by electronic
means of transmission, a campaign committee of a candidate for
the office of member of the general assembly or a campaign
committee of a candidate for the office of judge of a court of
appeals may file the statements prescribed by section 3517.10 of
the Revised Code in accordance with division (A) (2) of section
3517.11 of the Revised Code or by electronic means of
transmission to the office of the secretary of state or, if the
total amount of the contributions received by the campaign
committee for the applicable reporting period as specified in
division (A) of section 3517.10 of the Revised Code exceeds ten
thousand dollars, shall file those statements by electronic
means of transmission to the office of the secretary of state.~~

~~Except as otherwise provided in this division, within five
business days after a statement filed by a campaign committee of
a candidate for the office of member of the general assembly or
a campaign committee of a candidate for the office of judge of a
court of appeals is received by the secretary of state by
electronic or other means of transmission, the secretary of
state shall make available online to the public through the~~

~~internet, as provided in division (I) of this section, the~~ 1216
~~contribution and expenditure information in that statement. The~~ 1217
~~secretary of state shall not make available online to the public~~ 1218
~~through the internet any contribution or expenditure information~~ 1219
~~contained in a statement for any candidate until the secretary~~ 1220
~~of state is able to make available online to the public through~~ 1221
~~the internet the contribution and expenditure information for~~ 1222
~~all candidates for a particular office, or until the applicable~~ 1223
~~filing deadline for that statement has passed, whichever is~~ 1224
~~sooner. As soon as the secretary of state has available all of~~ 1225
~~the contribution and expenditure information for all candidates~~ 1226
~~for a particular office, or as soon as the applicable filing~~ 1227
~~deadline for a statement has passed, whichever is sooner, the~~ 1228
~~secretary of state shall simultaneously make available online to~~ 1229
~~the public through the internet the information for all~~ 1230
~~candidates for that office.~~ 1231

~~If a statement filed by electronic means of transmission~~ 1232
~~is found to be incomplete or inaccurate after the examination of~~ 1233
~~the statement for completeness and accuracy pursuant to division~~ 1234
~~(B) (3) (a) of section 3517.11 of the Revised Code, the campaign~~ 1235
~~committee shall file by electronic means of transmission to the~~ 1236
~~office of the secretary of state any addendum to the statement~~ 1237
~~that provides the information necessary to complete or correct~~ 1238
~~the statement or, if required by the secretary of state under~~ 1239
~~that division, an amended statement.~~ 1240

~~Within five business days after the secretary of state~~ 1241
~~receives from a campaign committee of a candidate for the office~~ 1242
~~of member of the general assembly or a campaign committee of a~~ 1243
~~candidate for the office of judge of a court of appeals an~~ 1244
~~addendum to the statement or an amended statement by electronic~~ 1245
~~or other means of transmission under this division or division~~ 1246

~~(B) (3) (a) of section 3517.11 of the Revised Code, the secretary of state shall make the contribution and expenditure information in the addendum or amended statement available online to the public through the internet as provided in division (I) of this section.~~ 1247
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~~(2) (5) If a campaign committee for the office of member of the general assembly or a campaign committee of a candidate for the office of judge of a court of appeals files a statement, addendum, or amended statement is not filed by electronic means of transmission to the office of the secretary of state but is filed by printed version only under division (A) (2) of section 3517.11 of the Revised Code with the appropriate board of elections, the campaign committee of a candidate for the office of member of the general assembly or a campaign committee of a candidate for the office of judge of a court of appeals shall file two copies of the printed version of the statement, addendum, or amended statement with the board of elections. The board of elections shall send one of those copies by certified mail or an electronic copy to the secretary of state before the close of business on the day the board of elections receives the statement, addendum, or amended statement.~~ 1252
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~~(G) Subject to the secretary of state having implemented, tested, and verified the successful operation of any system the secretary of state prescribes pursuant to division (H) (1) of this section and divisions (C) (6) (b) and (D) (6) of section 3517.10 of the Revised Code for the filing of campaign finance statements by electronic means of transmission, any individual, partnership, or other entity that makes independent expenditures in support of or opposition to a statewide candidate or a statewide ballot issue or question as provided in division (B) (2) (b) or (C) (2) (b) of section 3517.105 of the Revised Code may~~ 1268
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~~file the statement specified in that division by electronic means of transmission or, if the total amount of independent expenditures made during the reporting period under that division exceeds ten thousand dollars, shall file the statement specified in that division by electronic means of transmission.~~

~~Within five business days after a statement filed by an individual, partnership, or other entity is received by the secretary of state by electronic or other means of transmission, the secretary of state shall make available online to the public through the internet, as provided in division (I) of this section, the expenditure information in that statement.~~

~~If a statement filed by electronic means of transmission is found to be incomplete or inaccurate after the examination of the statement for completeness and accuracy pursuant to division (B) (3) (a) of section 3517.11 of the Revised Code, the individual, partnership, or other entity shall file by electronic means of transmission any addendum to the statement that provides the information necessary to complete or correct the statement or, if required by the secretary of state under that division, an amended statement.~~

~~Within five business days after the secretary of state receives from an individual, partnership, or other entity described in division (B) (2) (b) or (C) (2) (b) of section 3517.105 of the Revised Code an addendum to the statement or an amended statement by electronic or other means of transmission under this division or division (B) (3) (a) of section 3517.11 of the Revised Code, the secretary of state shall make the expenditure information in the addendum or amended statement available online to the public through the internet as provided in division (I) of this section.~~

~~(H)~~(F)(1) The secretary of state, by rule adopted pursuant 1308
to section 3517.23 of the Revised Code, shall prescribe one or 1309
more techniques by which a person who executes and transmits to 1310
the secretary of state or a board of elections by electronic 1311
means a statement of contributions and expenditures, a statement 1312
of independent expenditures, a disclosure of electioneering 1313
communications statement, a deposit and disbursement statement, 1314
a gift and disbursement statement, or a donation and 1315
disbursement statement, an addendum to any of those statements, 1316
an amended statement of contributions and expenditures, an 1317
amended statement of independent expenditures, an amended 1318
disclosure of electioneering communications statement, an 1319
amended deposit and disbursement statement, an amended gift and 1320
disbursement statement, or an amended donation and disbursement 1321
statement, under this section or section 3517.10, 3517.105, 1322
3517.1011, 3517.1012, 3517.1013, or 3517.1014 of the Revised 1323
Code shall electronically sign the statement, addendum, or 1324
amended statement. Any technique prescribed by the secretary of 1325
state pursuant to this division shall create an electronic 1326
signature that satisfies all of the following: 1327

(a) It is unique to the signer. 1328

(b) It objectively identifies the signer. 1329

(c) It involves the use of a signature device or other 1330
means or method that is under the sole control of the signer and 1331
that cannot be readily duplicated or compromised. 1332

(d) It is created and linked to the electronic record to 1333
which it relates in a manner that, if the record or signature is 1334
intentionally or unintentionally changed after signing, the 1335
electronic signature is invalidated. 1336

(2) An electronic signature prescribed by the secretary of 1337
state under division ~~(H)~~(F)(1) of this section shall be attached 1338
to or associated with the statement of contributions and 1339
expenditures, the statement of independent expenditures, the 1340
disclosure of electioneering communications statement, the 1341
deposit and disbursement statement, the gift and disbursement 1342
statement, or the donation and disbursement statement, the 1343
addendum to any of those statements, the amended statement of 1344
contributions and expenditures, the amended statement of 1345
independent expenditures, the amended disclosure of 1346
electioneering communications statement, the amended deposit and 1347
disbursement statement, the amended gift and disbursement 1348
statement, or the amended donation and disbursement statement 1349
that is executed and transmitted by electronic means by the 1350
person to whom the electronic signature is attributed. The 1351
electronic signature that is attached to or associated with the 1352
statement, addendum, or amended statement under this division 1353
shall be binding on all persons and for all purposes under the 1354
campaign finance reporting law as if the signature had been 1355
handwritten in ink on a printed form. 1356

~~(I)~~(G) The secretary of state shall make all of the 1357
following information available online to the public by any 1358
means that are searchable, viewable, and accessible through the 1359
internet: 1360

(1) The contribution and expenditure, the contribution and 1361
disbursement, the deposit and disbursement, the gift and 1362
disbursement, or the donation and disbursement information in 1363
all statements, all addenda to the statements, and all amended 1364
statements that are filed with the secretary of state by 1365
electronic or other means of transmission under this section or 1366
section 3517.10, 3517.105, 3517.1011, 3517.1012, 3517.1013, 1367

3517.1014, or 3517.11 of the Revised Code ~~available online to~~ 1368
~~the public by any means that are searchable, viewable, and~~ 1369
~~accessible through the internet;~~ 1370

(2) The contribution and expenditure or the deposit and 1371
disbursement information in all statements that are filed with a 1372
board of elections by electronic means of transmission, and in 1373
all addenda to those statements and all amended versions of 1374
those statements, under this section or section 3517.10, 1375
3517.105, 3517.1012, or 3517.11 of the Revised Code. 1376

~~(J)~~(H) (1) As used in this division, "library" means a 1377
library that is open to the public and that is one of the 1378
following: 1379

(a) A library that is maintained and regulated under 1380
section 715.13 of the Revised Code; 1381

(b) A library that is created, maintained, and regulated 1382
under Chapter 3375. of the Revised Code. 1383

(2) The secretary of state shall notify all libraries of 1384
the location on the internet at which the contribution and 1385
expenditure, contribution and disbursement, deposit and 1386
disbursement, gift and disbursement, or donation and 1387
disbursement information in campaign finance statements required 1388
to be made available online to the public through the internet 1389
pursuant to division ~~(I)~~(G) of this section may be accessed. 1390

If that location is part of the world wide web and if the 1391
secretary of state has notified a library of that world wide web 1392
location as required by this division, the library shall include 1393
a link to that world wide web location on each internet- 1394
connected computer it maintains that is accessible to the 1395
public. 1396

(3) If the system the secretary of state prescribes for 1397
the filing of campaign finance statements by electronic means of 1398
transmission pursuant to division ~~(H)~~(F) (1) of this section and 1399
divisions (C) (6) (b) and (D) (6) of section 3517.10 of the Revised 1400
Code includes filing those statements through the internet via 1401
the world wide web, the secretary of state shall notify all 1402
libraries of the world wide web location at which those 1403
statements may be filed. 1404

If those statements may be filed through the internet via 1405
the world wide web and if the secretary of state has notified a 1406
library of that world wide web location as required by this 1407
division, the library shall include a link to that world wide 1408
web location on each internet-connected computer it maintains 1409
that is accessible to the public. 1410

~~(K)~~(I) It is an affirmative defense to a complaint or 1411
charge brought against any campaign committee, political action 1412
committee, political contributing entity, legislative campaign 1413
fund, or political party, any individual, partnership, or other 1414
entity, any person making disbursements to pay the direct costs 1415
of producing or airing electioneering communications, or any 1416
treasurer of a transition fund, for the failure to file by 1417
electronic means of transmission a campaign finance statement as 1418
required by this section or section 3517.10, 3517.105, 1419
3517.1011, 3517.1012, 3517.1013, or 3517.1014 of the Revised 1420
Code that all of the following apply to the campaign committee, 1421
political action committee, political contributing entity, 1422
legislative campaign fund, or political party, the individual, 1423
partnership, or other entity, the person making disbursements to 1424
pay the direct costs of producing or airing electioneering 1425
communications, or the treasurer of a transition fund that 1426
failed to so file: 1427

(1) The campaign committee, political action committee, 1428
political contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or 1429
political party, the individual, partnership, or other entity, 1430
the person making disbursements to pay the direct costs of 1431
producing or airing electioneering communications, or the 1432
treasurer of a transition fund attempted to file by electronic 1433
means of transmission the required statement prior to the 1434
deadline set forth in the applicable section. 1435

(2) The campaign committee, political action committee, 1436
political contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or 1437
political party, the individual, partnership, or other entity, 1438
the person making disbursements to pay the direct costs of 1439
producing or airing electioneering communications, or the 1440
treasurer of a transition fund was unable to file by electronic 1441
means of transmission due to an expected or unexpected shutdown 1442
of the whole or part of the electronic campaign finance 1443
statement-filing system, such as for maintenance or because of 1444
hardware, software, or network connection failure. 1445

(3) The campaign committee, political action committee, 1446
political contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or 1447
political party, the individual, partnership, or other entity, 1448
the person making disbursements to pay the direct costs of 1449
producing or airing electioneering communications, or the 1450
treasurer of a transition fund filed by electronic means of 1451
transmission the required statement within a reasonable period 1452
of time after being unable to so file it under the circumstance 1453
described in division ~~(K)~~(I)(2) of this section. 1454

~~(H)~~(J)(1) The secretary of state shall adopt rules 1455
pursuant to Chapter 119. of the Revised Code to permit a 1456
campaign committee of a candidate for statewide office that 1457

makes expenditures of less than twenty-five thousand dollars 1458
during the filing period or a campaign committee for the office 1459
of member of the general assembly or the office of judge of a 1460
court of appeals that would otherwise be required to file 1461
campaign finance statements by electronic means of transmission 1462
under division (E) ~~or (F)~~ of this section to file those 1463
statements by paper with the office of the secretary of state. 1464
Those rules shall provide for all of the following: 1465

(a) An eligible campaign committee that wishes to file a 1466
campaign finance statement by paper instead of by electronic 1467
means of transmission shall file the statement on paper with the 1468
office of the secretary of state not sooner than twenty-four 1469
hours after the end of the filing period set forth in section 1470
3517.10 of the Revised Code that is covered by the applicable 1471
statement. 1472

(b) The statement shall be accompanied by a fee, the 1473
amount of which the secretary of state shall determine by rule. 1474
The amount of the fee established under this division shall not 1475
exceed the data entry and data verification costs the secretary 1476
of state will incur to convert the information on the statement 1477
to an electronic format as required under division ~~(I)~~ (G) of 1478
this section. 1479

(c) The secretary of state shall arrange for the 1480
information in campaign finance statements filed pursuant to 1481
division ~~(L)~~ (J) of this section to be made available online to 1482
the public through the internet in the same manner, and at the 1483
same times, as information is made available under divisions 1484
(E), ~~(F)~~, and ~~(I)~~ (G) of this section for candidates whose 1485
campaign committees file those statements by electronic means of 1486
transmission. 1487

(d) The candidate of an eligible campaign committee that 1488
intends to file a campaign finance statement pursuant to 1489
division ~~(I)~~(J) of this section shall file a notice indicating 1490
that the candidate's campaign committee intends to so file and 1491
stating that filing the statement by electronic means of 1492
transmission would constitute a hardship for the candidate or 1493
for the eligible campaign committee. 1494

(e) An eligible campaign committee that files a campaign 1495
finance statement on paper pursuant to division ~~(I)~~(J) of this 1496
section shall review the contribution and information made 1497
available online by the secretary of state with respect to that 1498
paper filing and shall notify the secretary of state of any 1499
errors with respect to that filing that appear in the data made 1500
available on that web site. 1501

(f) If an eligible campaign committee whose candidate has 1502
filed a notice in accordance with rules adopted under division 1503
~~(I)~~(J) (1) (d) of this section subsequently fails to file that 1504
statement on paper by the applicable deadline established in 1505
rules adopted under division ~~(I)~~(J) (1) (a) of this section, 1506
penalties for the late filing of the campaign finance statement 1507
shall apply to that campaign committee for each day after that 1508
paper filing deadline, as if the campaign committee had filed 1509
the statement after the applicable deadline set forth in 1510
division (A) of section 3517.10 of the Revised Code. 1511

(2) The process for permitting campaign committees that 1512
would otherwise be required to file campaign finance statements 1513
by electronic means of transmission to file those statements on 1514
paper with the office of the secretary of state that is required 1515
to be developed under division ~~(I)~~(J) (1) of this section shall 1516
be in effect and available for use by eligible campaign 1517

committees for all campaign finance statements that are required 1518
to be filed on or after June 30, 2005. Notwithstanding any 1519
provision of the Revised Code to the contrary, if the process 1520
the secretary of state is required to develop under division (L) 1521
(1) of this section is not in effect and available for use on 1522
and after June 30, 2005, all penalties for the failure of 1523
campaign committees to file campaign finance statements by 1524
electronic means of transmission shall be suspended until such 1525
time as that process is in effect and available for use. 1526

(3) Notwithstanding any provision of the Revised Code to 1527
the contrary, any eligible campaign committee that files 1528
campaign finance statements on paper with the office of the 1529
secretary of state pursuant to division ~~(I)~~(J) (1) of this 1530
section shall be deemed to have filed those campaign finance 1531
statements by electronic means of transmission to the office of 1532
the secretary of state. 1533

Sec. 3517.1011. (A) As used in this section: 1534

(1) "Address" has the same meaning as in section 3517.10 1535
of the Revised Code. 1536

(2) "Broadcast, cable, or satellite communication" means a 1537
communication that is publicly distributed by a television 1538
station, radio station, cable television system, or satellite 1539
system. 1540

(3) "Candidate" has the same meaning as in section 3501.01 1541
of the Revised Code. 1542

(4) "Contribution" means any loan, gift, deposit, 1543
forgiveness of indebtedness, donation, advance, payment, or 1544
transfer of funds or of anything of value, including a transfer 1545
of funds from an inter vivos or testamentary trust or decedent's 1546

estate, and the payment by any person other than the person to 1547
whom the services are rendered for the personal services of 1548
another person, that is made, received, or used to pay the 1549
direct costs of producing or airing electioneering 1550
communications. 1551

(5) (a) "Coordinated electioneering communication" means 1552
any electioneering communication that is made pursuant to any 1553
arrangement, coordination, or direction by a candidate or a 1554
candidate's campaign committee, by an officer, agent, employee, 1555
or consultant of a candidate or a candidate's campaign 1556
committee, or by a former officer, former agent, former 1557
employee, or former consultant of a candidate or a candidate's 1558
campaign committee prior to the airing, broadcasting, or 1559
cablecasting of the communication. An electioneering 1560
communication is presumed to be a "coordinated electioneering 1561
communication" when it is either of the following: 1562

(i) Based on information about a candidate's plans, 1563
projects, or needs provided to the person making the 1564
disbursement by the candidate or the candidate's campaign 1565
committee, by an officer, agent, employee, or consultant of the 1566
candidate or the candidate's campaign committee, or by a former 1567
officer, former agent, former employee, or former consultant of 1568
the candidate or the candidate's campaign committee, with a view 1569
toward having the communication made; 1570

(ii) Made by or through any person who is, or has been, 1571
authorized to raise or expend funds on behalf of a candidate or 1572
the candidate's campaign committee, who is, or has been, an 1573
officer, agent, employee, or consultant of the candidate or of 1574
the candidate's campaign committee, or who is, or has been, 1575
receiving any form of compensation or reimbursement from the 1576

candidate or the candidate's campaign committee or from an 1577
officer, agent, employee, or consultant of the candidate or of 1578
the candidate's campaign committee. 1579

(b) An electioneering communication shall not be presumed 1580
to be a "coordinated electioneering communication" under 1581
division (A) (5) (a) (ii) of this section if the communication is 1582
made through any person who provides a service that does not 1583
affect the content of the communication, such as communications 1584
placed through the efforts of a media buyer, unless that person 1585
also affects the content of the communication. 1586

(6) "Disclosure date" means both of the following: 1587

(a) The first date during any calendar year by which a 1588
person makes disbursements for the direct costs of producing or 1589
airing electioneering communications aggregating in excess of 1590
ten thousand dollars; 1591

(b) The same day of the week of each remaining week in the 1592
same calendar year as the day of the week of the initial 1593
disclosure date established under division (A) (6) (a) of this 1594
section, if, during that remaining week, the person makes 1595
disbursements for the direct costs of producing or airing 1596
electioneering communications aggregating in excess of one 1597
dollar. 1598

(7) (a) "Electioneering communication" means any broadcast, 1599
cable, or satellite communication that refers to a clearly 1600
identified candidate and that is made during either of the 1601
following periods of time: 1602

(i) If the person becomes a candidate before the day of 1603
the primary election at which candidates will be nominated for 1604
election to that office, between the date that the person 1605

becomes a candidate and the thirtieth day prior to that primary election, and between the date of the primary election and the thirtieth day prior to the general election at which a candidate will be elected to that office;

(ii) If the person becomes a candidate after the day of the primary election at which candidates were nominated for election to that office, between the date of the primary election and the thirtieth day prior to the general election at which a candidate will be elected to that office.

(b) "Electioneering communication" does not include any of the following:

(i) A communication that is publicly disseminated through a means of communication other than a broadcast, cable, or satellite television or radio station. For example, "electioneering communication" does not include communications appearing in print media, including a newspaper or magazine, handbill, brochure, bumper sticker, yard sign, poster, billboard, and other written materials, including mailings; communications over the internet, including electronic mail; or telephone communications.

(ii) A communication that appears in a news story, commentary, public service announcement, bona fide news programming, or editorial distributed through the facilities of any broadcast, cable, or satellite television or radio station, unless those facilities are owned or controlled by any political party, political committee, or candidate;

(iii) A communication that constitutes an expenditure or an independent expenditure under section 3517.01 of the Revised Code;

(iv) A communication that constitutes a candidate debate 1635
or forum or that solely promotes a candidate debate or forum and 1636
is made by or on behalf of the person sponsoring the debate or 1637
forum. 1638

(8) "Filing date" has the same meaning as in section 1639
3517.109 of the Revised Code. 1640

(9) "Immigration and Nationality Act" means the 1641
Immigration and Nationality Act, 110 Stat. 309 (1996), 8 U.S.C. 1642
1101 et seq., as amended. 1643

(10) "Person" has the same meaning as in section 1.59 of 1644
the Revised Code and includes any political organization 1645
considered exempt from income taxation under section 527 of the 1646
Internal Revenue Code. 1647

(11) "Political committee" means any of the following: 1648

(a) Any committee, club, association, or other group of 1649
persons that receives contributions aggregating in excess of one 1650
thousand dollars during a calendar year or that makes 1651
expenditures aggregating in excess of one thousand dollars 1652
during a calendar year; 1653

(b) Any separate segregated fund; 1654

(c) Any state, county, or local committee of a political 1655
party that does any of the following: 1656

(i) Receives contributions aggregating in excess of five 1657
thousand dollars during a calendar year; 1658

(ii) Makes payments that do not constitute contributions 1659
or expenditures aggregating in excess of five thousand dollars 1660
during a calendar year; 1661

(iii) Makes contributions or expenditures aggregating in 1662
excess of one thousand dollars during a calendar year. 1663

(12) "Publicly distributed" means aired, broadcast, 1664
cablecast, or otherwise disseminated for a fee. 1665

(13) "Refers to a clearly identified candidate" means that 1666
the candidate's name, nickname, photograph, or drawing appears, 1667
or the identity of the candidate is otherwise apparent through 1668
an unambiguous reference to the person such as "the chief 1669
justice," "the governor," "member of the Ohio senate," "member 1670
of the Ohio house of representatives," "county auditor," 1671
"mayor," or "township trustee" or through an unambiguous 1672
reference to the person's status as a candidate. 1673

(B) For the purposes of this section, a person shall be 1674
considered to have made a disbursement if the person has entered 1675
into a contract to make the disbursement. 1676

(C) Any person intending to make a disbursement or 1677
disbursements for the direct costs of producing or airing 1678
electioneering communications, prior to making the first 1679
disbursement for the direct costs of producing or airing an 1680
electioneering communication, shall file a notice with the 1681
office of the secretary of state that the person is intending to 1682
make such disbursements. 1683

(D) (1) Every person that makes a disbursement or 1684
disbursements for the direct costs of producing and airing 1685
electioneering communications aggregating in excess of ten 1686
thousand dollars during any calendar year shall file, within 1687
twenty-four hours of each disclosure date, a disclosure of 1688
electioneering communications statement containing the following 1689
information: 1690

(a) The full name and address of the person making the 1691
disbursement, of any person sharing or exercising direction or 1692
control over the activities of the person making the 1693
disbursement, and of the custodian of the books and accounts of 1694
the person making the disbursement; 1695

(b) The principal place of business of the person making 1696
the disbursement, if not an individual; 1697

(c) The amount of each disbursement of more than one 1698
dollar during the period covered by the statement and the 1699
identity of the person to whom the disbursement was made; 1700

(d) The nominations or elections to which the 1701
electioneering communications pertain and the names, if known, 1702
of the candidates identified or to be identified; 1703

(e) If the disbursements were paid out of a segregated 1704
bank account that consists of funds contributed solely by 1705
individuals who are United States citizens or nationals or 1706
lawfully admitted for permanent residence as defined in section 1707
101(a)(20) of the Immigration and Nationality Act directly to 1708
the account for electioneering communications, the information 1709
specified in division (D)(2) of this section for all 1710
contributors who contributed an aggregate amount of two hundred 1711
dollars or more to the segregated bank account and whose 1712
contributions were used for making the disbursement or 1713
disbursements required to be reported under division (D) of this 1714
section during the period covered by the statement. Nothing in 1715
this division prohibits or shall be construed to prohibit the 1716
use of funds in such a segregated bank account for a purpose 1717
other than electioneering communications. 1718

(f) If the disbursements were paid out of funds not 1719

described in division (D) (1) (e) of this section, the information 1720
specified in division (D) (2) of this section for all 1721
contributors who contributed an aggregate amount of two hundred 1722
dollars or more to the person making the disbursement and whose 1723
contributions were used for making the disbursement or 1724
disbursements required to be reported under division (D) of this 1725
section during the period covered by the statement. 1726

(2) For each contributor for which information is required 1727
to be reported under division (D) (1) (e) or (f) of this section, 1728
all of the following shall be reported: 1729

(a) The month, day, and year that the contributor made the 1730
contribution or contributions aggregating two hundred dollars or 1731
more; 1732

(b) (i) The full name and address of the contributor, and, 1733
if the contributor is a political action committee, the 1734
registration number assigned to the political action committee 1735
under division (D) (1) of section 3517.10 of the Revised Code; 1736

(ii) If the contributor is an individual, the name of the 1737
individual's current employer, if any, or, if the individual is 1738
self-employed, the individual's occupation and the name of the 1739
individual's business, if any; 1740

(iii) If the contribution is transmitted pursuant to 1741
section 3599.031 of the Revised Code from amounts deducted from 1742
the wages and salaries of two or more employees that exceed in 1743
the aggregate one hundred dollars during the period specified in 1744
division (D) (1) (e) or (f) of this section, as applicable, the 1745
full name of the employees' employer and the full name of the 1746
labor organization of which the employees are members, if any. 1747

(c) A description of the contribution, if other than 1748

money; 1749

(d) The value in dollars and cents of the contribution. 1750

(3) Subject to the secretary of state having implemented, 1751
tested, and verified the successful operation of any system the 1752
secretary of state prescribes pursuant to divisions (C) (6) (b) 1753
and (D) (6) of section 3517.10 and division ~~(H)~~(F) (1) of section 1754
3517.106 of the Revised Code for the filing of campaign finance 1755
statements by electronic means of transmission, a person shall 1756
file the disclosure of electioneering communications statement 1757
prescribed under divisions (D) (1) and (2) of this section by 1758
electronic means of transmission to the office of the secretary 1759
of state. 1760

Within five business days after the secretary of state 1761
receives a disclosure of electioneering communications statement 1762
under this division, the secretary of state shall make available 1763
online to the public through the internet, as provided in 1764
division ~~(H)~~(G) of section 3517.106 of the Revised Code, the 1765
contribution and disbursement information in that statement. 1766

If a filed disclosure of electioneering communications 1767
statement is found to be incomplete or inaccurate after its 1768
examination for completeness and accuracy pursuant to division 1769
(B) (3) (a) of section 3517.11 of the Revised Code, the person 1770
shall file by electronic means of transmission to the office of 1771
the secretary of state any addendum, amendment, or other 1772
correction to the statement that provides the information 1773
necessary to complete or correct the statement or, if required 1774
by the secretary of state under that division, an amended 1775
statement. 1776

Within five business days after the secretary of state 1777

receives an addendum, amendment, or other correction to a 1778
disclosure of electioneering communications statement or an 1779
amended statement by electronic means of transmission under this 1780
division or division (B) (3) (a) of section 3517.11 of the Revised 1781
Code, the secretary of state shall make the contribution and 1782
disbursement information in the addendum, amendment, or other 1783
correction to the statement or amended statement available 1784
online to the public through the internet as provided in 1785
division ~~(I)~~(G) of section 3517.106 of the Revised Code. 1786

(E) (1) Any person who makes a contribution for the purpose 1787
of funding the direct costs of producing or airing an 1788
electioneering communication under this section shall provide 1789
the person's full name and address to the recipient of the 1790
contribution at the time the contribution is made. 1791

(2) Any individual who makes a contribution or 1792
contributions aggregating two hundred dollars or more for the 1793
purpose of funding the direct costs of producing or airing an 1794
electioneering communication under this section shall provide 1795
the name of the individual's current employer, if any, or, if 1796
the individual is self-employed, the individual's occupation and 1797
the name of the individual's business, if any, to the recipient 1798
of the contribution at the time the contribution is made. 1799

(F) In each electioneering communication, a statement 1800
shall appear or be presented in a clear and conspicuous manner 1801
that does both of the following: 1802

(1) Clearly indicates that the electioneering 1803
communication is not authorized by the candidate or the 1804
candidate's campaign committee; 1805

(2) Clearly identifies the person making the disbursement 1806

for the electioneering communication in accordance with section 1807
3517.20 of the Revised Code. 1808

(G) Any coordinated electioneering communication is an in- 1809
kind contribution, subject to the applicable contribution limits 1810
prescribed in section 3517.102 of the Revised Code, to the 1811
candidate by the person making disbursements to pay the direct 1812
costs of producing or airing the communication. 1813

(H) No person shall make, during the thirty days preceding 1814
a primary election or during the thirty days preceding a general 1815
election, any broadcast, cable, or satellite communication that 1816
refers to a clearly identified candidate using any contributions 1817
received from a corporation or labor organization. 1818

Sec. 3517.11. (A) (1) Campaign committees of candidates for 1819
statewide office or the state board of education, political 1820
action committees or political contributing entities that make 1821
contributions to campaign committees of candidates that are 1822
required to file the statements prescribed by section 3517.10 of 1823
the Revised Code with the secretary of state, political action 1824
committees or political contributing entities that make 1825
contributions to campaign committees of candidates for member of 1826
the general assembly, political action committees or political 1827
contributing entities that make contributions to state and 1828
national political parties and to legislative campaign funds, 1829
political action committees or political contributing entities 1830
that receive contributions or make expenditures in connection 1831
with a statewide ballot issue, political action committees or 1832
political contributing entities that make contributions to other 1833
political action committees or political contributing entities, 1834
political parties, and campaign committees, except as set forth 1835
in division (A) (3) of this section, legislative campaign funds, 1836

and state and national political parties shall file the 1837
statements prescribed by section 3517.10 of the Revised Code 1838
with the secretary of state. 1839

(2) (a) Except as otherwise provided in division ~~(F)~~(E) of 1840
section 3517.106 of the Revised Code, campaign committees of 1841
candidates for all other offices shall file the statements 1842
prescribed by section 3517.10 of the Revised Code with the board 1843
of elections where their candidates are required to file their 1844
petitions or other papers for nomination or election. 1845

(b) A campaign committee of a candidate for office of 1846
member of the general assembly or a campaign committee of a 1847
candidate for the office of judge of a court of appeals shall 1848
file two copies of the printed version of any statement, 1849
addendum, or amended statement if the committee does not file 1850
pursuant to division ~~(F)(1)~~(E) or ~~(L)~~(J) of section 3517.106 1851
of the Revised Code but files by printed version only with the 1852
appropriate board of elections. The board of elections shall 1853
send one of those copies by certified mail or an electronic copy 1854
to the secretary of state before the close of business on the 1855
day the board of elections receives the statement, addendum, or 1856
amended statement. 1857

(3) Political action committees or political contributing 1858
entities that only contribute to a county political party, 1859
contribute to campaign committees of candidates whose nomination 1860
or election is to be submitted only to electors within a county, 1861
subdivision, or district, excluding candidates for member of the 1862
general assembly, and receive contributions or make expenditures 1863
in connection with ballot questions or issues to be submitted 1864
only to electors within a county, subdivision, or district shall 1865
file the statements prescribed by section 3517.10 of the Revised 1866

Code with the board of elections in that county or in the county 1867
contained in whole or part within the subdivision or district 1868
having a population greater than that of any other county 1869
contained in whole or part within that subdivision or district, 1870
as the case may be. 1871

(4) Except as otherwise provided in division (E) ~~(3)~~ (1) (e) 1872
of section 3517.106 of the Revised Code with respect to state 1873
candidate funds, county political parties shall file the 1874
statements prescribed by section 3517.10 of the Revised Code 1875
with the board of elections of their respective counties. 1876

(B) (1) The official with whom petitions and other papers 1877
for nomination or election to public office are filed shall 1878
furnish each candidate at the time of that filing a copy of 1879
sections 3517.01, 3517.08 to 3517.11, 3517.13 to 3517.993, 1880
3599.03, and 3599.031 of the Revised Code and any other 1881
materials that the secretary of state may require. Each 1882
candidate receiving the materials shall acknowledge their 1883
receipt in writing. 1884

(2) On or before the tenth day before the dates on which 1885
statements are required to be filed by section 3517.10 of the 1886
Revised Code, every candidate subject to the provisions of this 1887
section and sections 3517.10 and 3517.106 of the Revised Code 1888
shall be notified of the requirements and applicable penalties 1889
of those sections. The secretary of state, by certified mail, 1890
return receipt requested, shall notify all candidates required 1891
to file those statements with the secretary of state's office. 1892
The board of elections of every county shall notify by first 1893
class mail any candidate who has personally appeared at the 1894
office of the board on or before the tenth day before the 1895
statements are required to be filed and signed a form, to be 1896

provided by the secretary of state, attesting that the candidate 1897
has been notified of the candidate's obligations under the 1898
campaign finance law. The board shall forward the completed form 1899
to the secretary of state. The board shall use certified mail, 1900
return receipt requested, to notify all other candidates 1901
required to file those statements with it. 1902

(3) (a) Any statement required to be filed under sections 1903
3517.081 to 3517.17 of the Revised Code that is found to be 1904
incomplete or inaccurate by the officer to whom it is submitted 1905
shall be accepted on a conditional basis, and the person who 1906
filed it shall be notified by certified mail as to the 1907
incomplete or inaccurate nature of the statement. The secretary 1908
of state may examine statements filed for candidates for the 1909
office of member of the general assembly and candidates for the 1910
office of judge of a court of appeals for completeness and 1911
accuracy. The secretary of state shall examine for completeness 1912
and accuracy statements that campaign committees of candidates 1913
for the office of member of the general assembly and campaign 1914
committees of candidates for the office of judge of a court of 1915
appeals file pursuant to division ~~(F)~~ (E) or ~~(L)~~ (J) of section 1916
3517.106 of the Revised Code. If an officer at the board of 1917
elections where a statement filed for a candidate for the office 1918
of member of the general assembly or for a candidate for the 1919
office of judge of a court of appeals was submitted finds the 1920
statement to be incomplete or inaccurate, the officer shall 1921
immediately notify the secretary of state of its incomplete or 1922
inaccurate nature. If either an officer at the board of 1923
elections or the secretary of state finds a statement filed for 1924
a candidate for the office of member of the general assembly or 1925
for a candidate for the office of judge of a court of appeals to 1926
be incomplete or inaccurate, only the secretary of state shall 1927

send the notification as to the incomplete or inaccurate nature 1928
of the statement. 1929

Within twenty-one days after receipt of the notice, in the 1930
case of a pre-election statement, a postelection statement, a 1931
monthly statement, an annual statement, or a semiannual 1932
statement prescribed by section 3517.10, an annual statement 1933
prescribed by section 3517.101, or a statement prescribed by 1934
division (B) (2) (b) or (C) (2) (b) of section 3517.105 or section 1935
3517.107 of the Revised Code, the recipient shall file an 1936
addendum, amendment, or other correction to the statement 1937
providing the information necessary to complete or correct the 1938
statement. The secretary of state may require that, in lieu of 1939
filing an addendum, amendment, or other correction to a 1940
statement that is filed by electronic means of transmission to 1941
the office of the secretary of state or a board of elections 1942
pursuant to section 3517.106 of the Revised Code, the recipient 1943
of the notice described in this division file by electronic 1944
means of transmission an amended statement that incorporates the 1945
information necessary to complete or correct the statement. 1946

The secretary of state shall determine by rule when an 1947
addendum, amendment, or other correction to any of the following 1948
or when an amended statement of any of the following shall be 1949
filed: 1950

(i) A two-business-day statement prescribed by section 1951
3517.10 of the Revised Code; 1952

(ii) A disclosure of electioneering communications 1953
statement prescribed by division (D) of section 3517.1011 of the 1954
Revised Code; 1955

(iii) A deposit and disbursement statement prescribed 1956

under division (B) of section 3517.1012 of the Revised Code;	1957
(iv) A gift and disbursement statement prescribed under section 3517.1013 of the Revised Code;	1958 1959
(v) A donation and disbursement statement prescribed under section 3517.1014 of the Revised Code.	1960 1961
An addendum, amendment, or other correction to a statement that is filed by electronic means of transmission pursuant to section 3517.106 of the Revised Code shall be filed in the same manner as the statement.	1962 1963 1964 1965
The provisions of sections 3517.10, 3517.106, 3517.1011, 3517.1012, 3517.1013, and 3517.1014 of the Revised Code pertaining to the filing of statements of contributions and expenditures, statements of independent expenditures, disclosure of electioneering communications statements, deposit and disbursement statements, gift and disbursement statements, and donation and disbursement statements by electronic means of transmission apply to the filing of addenda, amendments, or other corrections to those statements by electronic means of transmission and the filing of amended statements by electronic means of transmission.	1966 1967 1968 1969 1970 1971 1972 1973 1974 1975 1976
(b) Within five business days after the secretary of state receives, by electronic or other means of transmission, an addendum, amendment, or other correction to a statement or an amended statement under division (B) (3) (a) of this section, the secretary of state, pursuant to divisions (E), (F) , <u>and</u> (G), and (I) of section 3517.106 or division (D) of section 3517.1011 of the Revised Code, shall make the contribution and expenditure, contribution and disbursement, deposit and disbursement, gift and disbursement, or donation and disbursement information in	1977 1978 1979 1980 1981 1982 1983 1984 1985

that addendum, amendment, correction, or amended statement 1986
available online to the public through the internet. 1987

(4) (a) The secretary of state or the board of elections 1988
shall examine all statements for compliance with sections 1989
3517.08 to 3517.17 of the Revised Code. 1990

(b) The secretary of state may contract with an individual 1991
or entity not associated with the secretary of state and 1992
experienced in interpreting the campaign finance law of this 1993
state to conduct examinations of statements filed by any 1994
statewide candidate, as defined in section 3517.103 of the 1995
Revised Code. 1996

(c) The examination shall be conducted by a person or 1997
entity qualified to conduct it. The results of the examination 1998
shall be available to the public, and, when the examination is 1999
conducted by an individual or entity not associated with the 2000
secretary of state, the results of the examination shall be 2001
reported to the secretary of state. 2002

(C) (1) In the event of a failure to file or a late filing 2003
of a statement required to be filed under sections 3517.081 to 2004
3517.17 of the Revised Code, or if a filed statement or any 2005
addendum, amendment, or other correction to a statement or any 2006
amended statement, if an addendum, amendment, or other 2007
correction or an amended statement is required to be filed, is 2008
incomplete or inaccurate or appears to disclose a failure to 2009
comply with or a violation of law, the official whose duty it is 2010
to examine the statement shall promptly file a complaint with 2011
the Ohio elections commission under section 3517.153 of the 2012
Revised Code if the law is one over which the commission has 2013
jurisdiction to hear complaints, or the official shall promptly 2014
report the failure or violation to the board of elections and 2015

the board shall promptly report it to the prosecuting attorney 2016
in accordance with division (J) of section 3501.11 of the 2017
Revised Code. If the official files a complaint with the 2018
commission, the commission shall proceed in accordance with 2019
sections 3517.154 to 3517.157 of the Revised Code. 2020

(2) For purposes of division (C)(1) of this section, a 2021
statement or an addendum, amendment, or other correction to a 2022
statement or an amended statement required to be filed under 2023
sections 3517.081 to 3517.17 of the Revised Code is incomplete 2024
or inaccurate under this section if the statement, addendum, 2025
amendment, other correction, or amended statement fails to 2026
disclose substantially all contributions, gifts, or donations 2027
that are received or deposits that are made that are required to 2028
be reported under sections 3517.10, 3517.107, 3517.108, 2029
3517.1011, 3517.1012, 3517.1013, and 3517.1014 of the Revised 2030
Code or if the statement, addendum, amendment, other correction, 2031
or amended statement fails to disclose at least ninety per cent 2032
of the total contributions, gifts, or donations received or 2033
deposits made or of the total expenditures or disbursements made 2034
during the reporting period. 2035

(D) No certificate of nomination or election shall be 2036
issued to a person, and no person elected to an office shall 2037
enter upon the performance of the duties of that office, until 2038
that person or that person's campaign committee, as appropriate, 2039
has fully complied with this section and sections 3517.08, 2040
3517.081, 3517.10, and 3517.13 of the Revised Code. 2041

Section 2. That existing sections 3517.10, 3517.105, 2042
3517.106, 3517.1011, and 3517.11 of the Revised Code are hereby 2043
repealed. 2044

Section 3. This act shall take effect on the first day of 2045

January that occurs at least one hundred eighty days after the
act is filed with the Secretary of State.

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