As Introduced

132nd General Assembly Regular Session 2017-2018

H. B. No. 615

Representative West

A BILL

То	amend section 2117.06 of the Revised Code to	1
	require creditors, prior to collecting the debt	2
	of a decedent outside of probate, to explicitly	3
	inform the person from whom payment is sought	4
	that the person is under no obligation to pay	5
	the debt.	6

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

Section 1. That section 2117.06 of the Revised Code be	7
amended to read as follows:	8
Sec. 2117.06. (A) All creditors having claims against an	9
estate, including claims arising out of contract, out of tort,	10
on cognovit notes, or on judgments, whether due or not due,	11
secured or unsecured, liquidated or unliquidated, shall present	12
their claims in one of the following manners:	13
(1) After the appointment of an executor or administrator	14
and prior to the filing of a final account or a certificate of	15
termination, in one of the following manners:	16
(a) To the executor or administrator in a writing;	17
(b) To the executor or administrator in a writing, and to	18

the probate court by filing a copy of the writing with it; 19 (c) In a writing that is sent by ordinary mail addressed 20 to the decedent and that is actually received by the executor or 21 administrator within the appropriate time specified in division 22 (B) of this section. For purposes of this division, if an 23 executor or administrator is not a natural person, the writing 24 shall be considered as being actually received by the executor 25 or administrator only if the person charged with the primary 26 responsibility of administering the estate of the decedent 27 actually receives the writing within the appropriate time 28 29 specified in division (B) of this section. (2) If the final account or certificate of termination has 30 been filed, in a writing to those distributees of the decedent's 31 estate who may share liability for the payment of the claim. 32 (B) Except as provided in section 2117.061 of the Revised 33 Code, all claims shall be presented within six months after the 34 death of the decedent, whether or not the estate is released 3.5 from administration or an executor or administrator is appointed 36 during that six-month period. Every claim presented shall set 37 forth the claimant's address. 38 (C) Except as provided in section 2117.061 of the Revised 39 Code, a claim that is not presented within six months after the 40 death of the decedent shall be forever barred as to all parties, 41 including, but not limited to, devisees, legatees, and 42 distributees. No payment shall be made on the claim and no 43 action shall be maintained on the claim, except as otherwise 44 provided in sections 2117.37 to 2117.42 of the Revised Code with 45 reference to contingent claims. 46

(D) In the absence of any prior demand for allowance, the

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executor or administrator shall allow or reject all claims,	48
except tax assessment claims, within thirty days after their	49
presentation, provided that failure of the executor or	50
administrator to allow or reject within that time shall not	51
prevent the executor or administrator from doing so after that	52
time and shall not prejudice the rights of any claimant. Upon	53
the allowance of a claim, the executor or the administrator, on	54
demand of the creditor, shall furnish the creditor with a	55
written statement or memorandum of the fact and date of the	56
allowance.	57

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- (E) If the executor or administrator has actual knowledge of a pending action commenced against the decedent prior to the decedent's death in a court of record in this state, the executor or administrator shall file a notice of the appointment of the executor or administrator in the pending action within ten days after acquiring that knowledge. If the administrator or executor is not a natural person, actual knowledge of a pending suit against the decedent shall be limited to the actual knowledge of the person charged with the primary responsibility of administering the estate of the decedent. Failure to file the notice within the ten-day period does not extend the claim period established by this section.
- (F) This section applies to any person who is required to give written notice to the executor or administrator of a motion or application to revive an action pending against the decedent at the date of the death of the decedent.
- (G) Nothing in this section or in section 2117.07 of the 74 Revised Code shall be construed to reduce the periods of 75 limitation or periods prior to repose in section 2125.02 or 76 Chapter 2305. of the Revised Code, provided that no portion of 77

any recovery on a claim brought pursuant to that section or any	78
section in that chapter shall come from the assets of an estate	79
unless the claim has been presented against the estate in	80
accordance with Chapter 2117. of the Revised Code.	81

- (H) Any person whose claim has been presented and has not been rejected after presentment is a creditor as that term is used in Chapters 2113. to 2125. of the Revised Code. Claims that are contingent need not be presented except as provided in sections 2117.37 to 2117.42 of the Revised Code, but, whether presented pursuant to those sections or this section, contingent claims may be presented in any of the manners described in division (A) of this section.
- (I) If a creditor presents a claim against an estate in accordance with division (A)(1)(b) of this section, the probate court shall not close the administration of the estate until that claim is allowed or rejected.
- (J) The probate court shall not require an executor or administrator to make and return into the court a schedule of claims against the estate.
- (K) If the executor or administrator makes a distribution of the assets of the estate pursuant to section 2113.53 of the Revised Code and prior to the expiration of the time for the presentation of claims as set forth in this section, the executor or administrator shall provide notice on the account delivered to each distributee that the distributee may be liable to the estate if a claim is presented prior to the filing of the final account and may be liable to the claimant if the claim is presented after the filing of the final account up to the value of the distribution and may be required to return all or any part of the value of the distribution if a valid claim is

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subsequently made against the estate within the time permitted	108
under this section.	
(L) If a creditor having a claim described in division (A)	110
of this section attempts to collect on the claim from an	111
individual rather than from the estate and if the individual is	112
not under any obligation to pay the debt, the creditor shall	113
reasonably inform the individual that the individual is not	114
under an obligation to pay the debt. Failure to so reasonably	115
inform the individual is deemed an unconscionable act or	116
practice in connection with a consumer transaction in violation	117
of section 1345.031 of the Revised Code and subjects the	118
creditor to the remedies described in section 1345.07 of the	119
Revised Code.	
Section 2. That existing section 2117.06 of the Revised	121
Code is hereby repealed.	122