## As Reported by the Committee of Conference

134th General Assembly

Am. Sub. H. B. No. 75

Regular Session 2021-2022

**Representative Oelslager** 

Cosponsors: Representatives Baldridge, Callender, Carruthers, Edwards, Fraizer, Galonski, Holmes, Householder, John, Jones, Lanese, Lepore-Hagan, Miller, J., O'Brien, Plummer, Richardson, Riedel, Russo, White, Young, T. Senators Huffman, S., Antonio, Blessing, Cirino, Craig, Fedor, Gavarone, Hackett, Johnson, Kunze, Lang, Peterson, Reineke, Rulli, Sykes, Thomas, Williams, Wilson, Yuko

## A BILL

Τc	o amend sections 4121.43, 4123.57, 4123.58,	1
	4123.85, 4123.88, 4133.03, 4133.07, and 4133.08	2
	of the Revised Code to make appropriations for	3
	the Bureau of Workers' Compensation for the	4
	biennium beginning July 1, 2021, and ending June	5
	30, 2023, to provide authorization and	6
	conditions for the operation of the Bureau's	7
	programs, and to make changes to the Workers'	8
	Compensation Law.	9

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

Section 1. All items in this act are hereby appropriated 10 out of any moneys in the state treasury to the credit of the 11 designated fund. For all appropriations made in this act, those 12 in the first column are for fiscal year 2022, and those in the 13 second column are for fiscal year 2023. The appropriations made 14 in this act are in addition to any other appropriations made for 15 the biennium beginning July 1, 2021, and ending June 30, 2023. 16

	1	2	3	4	5
A			BWC BUREAU OF WORKERS'	COMPENSATION	
В	Dedica	ted Purp	ose Fund Group		
С	7023	855407	Claims, Risk and Medical Management	\$118,006,090	\$121,583,115
D	7023	855408	Fraud Prevention	\$15,936,735	\$18,011,577
E	7023	855409	Administrative Services	\$124,325,665	\$129,108,432
F	7023	855410	Attorney General Payments	\$6,080,080	\$6,080,080
G	8220	855606	Coal Workers' Fund	\$190,090	\$190,100
Н	8230	855608	Marine Industry	\$79 <b>,</b> 273	\$79 <b>,</b> 276
I	8250	855605	Disabled Workers Relief Fund	\$197,612	\$197 <b>,</b> 621
J	8260	855609	Safety and Hygiene Operating	\$25,343,000	\$25,085,000
K	8260	855610	Safety Grants	\$35,000,000	\$35,000,000
L	8260	855611	Health and Safety Initiative	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000
М	8260	855612	Safety Campaign	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000
N	8260	855613	Research Grants	\$3,000,000	\$1,000,000

Page 2

0	8260	855618	Substance Use Recovery	\$3,500,000	\$4,000,000
			and Workplace Safety		
			Program		

- \$15,000,000 \$15,000,000 P 8260 855619 Safety and Health Center of Excellence
- Q TOTAL DPF Dedicated Purpose Fund Group \$351,158,545 \$359,835,201
- R Federal Fund Group

Т

- 3490 855601 OSHA Enforcement S \$1,869,212 \$1,876,338 3FW0 855614 BLS SOII Grant \$195,104 \$195,104
- U TOTAL FED Federal Fund Group \$2,064,316 \$2,071,442
- V TOTAL ALL BUDGET FUND GROUPS \$353,222,861 \$361,906,643

#### WORKERS' COMPENSATION FRAUD UNIT

19 Of the foregoing appropriation item 855410, Attorney General Payments, \$828,200 in each fiscal year shall be used to 20 fund the expenses of the Workers' Compensation Fraud Unit within 21 the Attorney General's Office. These payments shall be processed 22 at the beginning of each quarter of each fiscal year and 23 deposited into the Workers' Compensation Section Fund (Fund 24 1950) used by the Attorney General. 25

#### SAFETY AND HYGIENE

Notwithstanding section 4121.37 of the Revised Code, the 27 Treasurer of State shall remit \$25,343,000 cash in fiscal year 28 2022 and \$25,085,000 cash in fiscal year 2023 from the State 29 Insurance Fund to the state treasury to the credit of the Safety 30

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and Hygiene Fund (Fund 8260). 31 SAFETY GRANTS 32 Notwithstanding section 4121.37 of the Revised Code, the 33 Treasurer of State shall remit \$35,000,000 cash in fiscal year 34 2022 and \$35,000,000 cash in fiscal year 2023 from the State 35 Insurance Fund to the state treasury to the credit of the Safety 36 and Hygiene Fund (Fund 8260) to be used for Safety Grants. 37 HEALTH AND SAFETY INITIATIVE 38 Notwithstanding section 4121.37 of Revised Code, the 39 Treasurer of State shall remit \$3,000,000 cash in fiscal year 40 2022 and \$3,000,000 cash in fiscal year 2023 from the State 41 Insurance Fund to the state treasury to the credit of the Safety 42 and Hygiene Fund (Fund 8260). These amounts shall be used under 43 appropriation item 855611, Health and Safety Initiative, for the 44 purpose of creating and operating a health and wellness program. 45

#### SAFETY CAMPAIGN

Notwithstanding section 4121.37 of the Revised Code, the Treasurer of State shall remit \$1,500,000 cash in fiscal year 2022 and \$1,500,000 cash in fiscal year 2023 from the State Insurance Fund to the state treasury to the credit of the Safety and Hygiene Fund (Fund 8260). These amounts shall be used under appropriation item 855612, Safety Campaign, for the purpose of creating and operating a statewide safety awareness and education campaign.

#### FEDERAL GRANT PROGRAMS

The foregoing appropriation item 855609, Safety and56Hygiene Operating, may be used to provide the state match for57federal grant funding received by the Division of Safety and58

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Hygiene.	59
VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION	60
The Bureau of Workers' Compensation and the Opportunities	61
for Ohioans with Disabilities Agency may enter into an	62
interagency agreement for the provision of vocational	63
rehabilitation services and staff to mutually eligible clients.	64
The Bureau may provide funds from the State Insurance Fund to	65
fund vocational rehabilitation services and staff in accordance	66
with the interagency agreement.	67
RESEARCH GRANTS	68
Notwithstanding section 4121.37 of the Revised Code, the	69
Treasurer of State shall remit \$3,000,000 cash in fiscal year	70
2022 and \$1,000,000 cash in fiscal year 2023 from the State	71
Insurance Fund to the state treasury to the credit of the Safety	72
and Hygiene Fund (Fund 8260). These amounts shall be used under	73
appropriation item 855613, Research Grants, for the purpose of	74
creating and operating the occupational safety and health	75
research program.	76
SUBSTANCE USE RECOVERY AND WORKPLACE SAFETY PROGRAM	77
Notwithstanding section 4121.37 of the Revised Code, the	78
Treasurer of State shall remit \$3,500,000 cash in fiscal year	79
2022 and \$4,000,000 cash in fiscal year 2023 from the State	80
Insurance Fund to the state treasury to the credit of the Safety	81
and Hygiene Fund (Fund 8260). These amounts shall be used under	82
appropriation item 855618, Substance Use Recovery and Workplace	83
Safety Program, for the purpose of creating and operating the	84
opioid workplace safety program.	85

SAFETY AND HEALTH CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

Notwithstanding section 4121.37 of the Revised Code, the	87
Treasurer of State shall remit \$15,000,000 cash in fiscal year	88
2022 and \$15,000,000 cash in fiscal year 2023 from the State	89
Insurance Fund to the state treasury to the credit of the Safety	90
and Hygiene Fund (Fund 8260). These amounts shall be used under	91
appropriation item 855619, Safety and Health Center of	92
Excellence, for the purpose of creating a center of excellence	93
at the Ohio Center of Occupational Safety and Health.	94
ADMINISTRATIVE COST FUND	95
Notwithstanding section 4123.341 of the Revised Code, the	96
Treasurer of State shall remit up to \$25,000,000 cash in fiscal	97
year 2022 and \$25,000,000 cash in fiscal year 2023 from the	98
State Insurance Fund to the state treasury to the credit of the	99
Workers' Compensation Fund (Fund 7023).	100
Section 2. DEPUTY INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR BWC AND OIC	100 101
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Section 2. DEPUTY INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR BWC AND OIC FUNDING	101 102
Section 2. DEPUTY INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR BWC AND OIC FUNDING To pay for the FY 2022 costs related to the Deputy	101 102 103
Section 2. DEPUTY INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR BWC AND OIC FUNDING To pay for the FY 2022 costs related to the Deputy Inspector General for the Bureau of Workers' Compensation and	101 102 103 104
Section 2. DEPUTY INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR BWC AND OIC FUNDING To pay for the FY 2022 costs related to the Deputy Inspector General for the Bureau of Workers' Compensation and Industrial Commission, on July 1, 2021, and January 1, 2022, or	101 102 103 104 105
Section 2. DEPUTY INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR BWC AND OIC FUNDING To pay for the FY 2022 costs related to the Deputy Inspector General for the Bureau of Workers' Compensation and Industrial Commission, on July 1, 2021, and January 1, 2022, or as soon as possible thereafter, the Director of Budget and	101 102 103 104 105 106
Section 2. DEPUTY INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR BWC AND OIC FUNDING To pay for the FY 2022 costs related to the Deputy Inspector General for the Bureau of Workers' Compensation and Industrial Commission, on July 1, 2021, and January 1, 2022, or as soon as possible thereafter, the Director of Budget and Management shall transfer \$212,500 cash from the Workers'	101 102 103 104 105 106 107
Section 2. DEPUTY INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR BWC AND OIC FUNDING To pay for the FY 2022 costs related to the Deputy Inspector General for the Bureau of Workers' Compensation and Industrial Commission, on July 1, 2021, and January 1, 2022, or as soon as possible thereafter, the Director of Budget and Management shall transfer \$212,500 cash from the Workers' Compensation Fund (Fund 7023) to the Deputy Inspector General	101 102 103 104 105 106 107 108
Section 2. DEPUTY INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR BWC AND OIC FUNDING To pay for the FY 2022 costs related to the Deputy Inspector General for the Bureau of Workers' Compensation and Industrial Commission, on July 1, 2021, and January 1, 2022, or as soon as possible thereafter, the Director of Budget and Management shall transfer \$212,500 cash from the Workers' Compensation Fund (Fund 7023) to the Deputy Inspector General for the Bureau of Workers' Compensation and Industrial	101 102 103 104 105 106 107 108 109

Industrial Commission, on July 1, 2022, and January 1, 2023, or 113 as soon as possible thereafter, the Director of Budget and 114 Management shall transfer \$212,500 cash from the Workers' 115

Compensation Fund (Fund 7023) to the Deputy Inspector General116for the Bureau of Workers' Compensation and Industrial117Commission Fund (Fund 5FT0).118

If additional amounts are needed, the Inspector General119may seek Controlling Board approval for additional transfers of120cash and to increase the amount appropriated in appropriation121item 965604, Deputy Inspector General for the Bureau of Workers'122Compensation and Industrial Commission.123

Section 3. Law contained in the Main Operating124Appropriations Act of the 134th General Assembly that applies125generally to the appropriations made in that act also applies126generally to the appropriations made in this act.127

Section 4. The provisions of law contained in this act, 128 and their applications, are severable. If any provision of law 129 contained in this act, or if any application of any provision of 130 law contained in this act, is held invalid, the invalidity does 131 not affect other provisions of law contained in this act and 132 their applications that can be given effect without the invalid 133 provision or application. 134

Section 5. Sections 1 to 5 of this act are exempt from the referendum under Ohio Constitution, Article II, Section 1d and section 1.471 of the Revised Code and therefore take effect immediately when this act becomes law.

 Section 6. That sections 4121.43, 4123.57, 4123.58,
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 4123.85, 4123.88, 4133.03, 4133.07, and 4133.08 of the Revised
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 Code be amended to read as follows:
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Sec. 4121.43. The administrator of workers' compensation 142 shall: 143

(A) Adopt rules to ensure that all compensation payments 144

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are accompanied by information which clearly indicates the 145 source of payment, type of payment, method of computation, 146 inclusive days of payment, reason for changes in payment, and 147 telephone number or address for inquiries; 148 (B) Adopt rules to govern the method of issuing and 149 delivering checks, including time limits for issuance of checks; 150 (C) Set standards and inform claimant of procedure for 151 attorney or other representative pick-up of compensation payment 152 check, and ensure that claimant has recently executed a proper 153 authorization to pick up the check; 154 (D) Prohibit any power of attorney allowing an attorney or 155 employee to cash or endorse a check on behalf of claimant; 156 (E) Implement a written procedure for effectively 157 obtaining notices of death of claimant and terminating 158 compensation payments; 159 (F) (E) Adopt rules to require that a claimant of whom 160 medical examinations have been requested by histhe claimant's 161 employer shall submit to such examinations and shall be 162 reimbursed by histhe employer for reasonable expenses incurred 163 in submitting to the examination and provide that the claimant 164 shall be reimbursed by histhe employer in an amount equal to the 165 wages lost during the time required to attend any such 166 examination, in the event said claimant sustains lost wages as a 167 result of any such examination. 168 Sec. 4123.57. Partial disability compensation shall be 169 paid as follows. 170 Except as provided in this section, not earlier than 171twenty-six weeks after the date of termination of the latest 172 period of payments under section 4123.56 of the Revised Code or 173

twenty-six weeks after the termination of wages in lieu of those	174
payments, or not earlier than twenty-six weeks after the date of	175
the injury or contraction of an occupational disease in the	176
absence of payments under section 4123.56 of the Revised Code <u>or</u>	177
wages in lieu of those payments, the employee may file an	178
application with the bureau of workers' compensation for the	179
determination of the percentage of the employee's permanent	180
partial disability resulting from an injury or occupational	181
disease.	182
Whenever the application is filed, the bureau shall send a	183
copy of the application to the employee's employer or the	184
employer's representative and shall schedule the employee for a	185
medical examination by the bureau medical section. The bureau	186
shall send a copy of the report of the medical examination to	187
the employee, the employer, and their representatives.	188
Thereafter, the administrator of workers' compensation shall	189
review the employee's claim file and make a tentative order as	190
the evidence before the administrator at the time of the making	191
of the order warrants. If the administrator determines that	192

of the order warrants. If the administrator determines that192there is a conflict of evidence, the administrator shall send193the application, along with the claimant's file, to the district194hearing officer who shall set the application for a hearing.195

If an employee fails to respond to an attempt to schedule 196 a medical examination by the bureau medical section, or fails to 197 attend a medical examination scheduled under this section 198 without notice or explanation, the employee's application for a 199 finding shall be dismissed without prejudice. The employee may 200 refile the application. A dismissed application does not toll 201 the continuing jurisdiction of the industrial commission under 202 section 4123.52 of the Revised Code. The administrator shall 203 adopt rules addressing the manner in which an employee will be 204

notified of a possible dismissal and how an employee may refile 205 an application for a determination. 206

The administrator shall notify the employee, the employer, 207 and their representatives, in writing, of the tentative order 208 and of the parties' right to request a hearing. Unless the 209 employee, the employer, or their representative notifies the 210 administrator, in writing, of an objection to the tentative 211 order within twenty days after receipt of the notice thereof, 212 the tentative order shall go into effect and the employee shall 213 receive the compensation provided in the order. In no event 214 shall there be a reconsideration of a tentative order issued 215 under this division. 216

If the employee, the employer, or their representatives timely notify the administrator of an objection to the tentative order, the matter shall be referred to a district hearing officer who shall set the application for hearing with written notices to all interested persons. Upon referral to a district hearing officer, the employer may obtain a medical examination of the employee, pursuant to rules of the industrial commission.

(A) The district hearing officer, upon the application, 224 shall determine the percentage of the employee's permanent 225 disability, except as is subject to division (B) of this 226 section, based upon that condition of the employee resulting 227 from the injury or occupational disease and causing permanent 228 impairment evidenced by medical or clinical findings reasonably 229 demonstrable. The employee shall receive sixty-six and two-230 thirds per cent of the employee's average weekly wage, but not 231 more than a maximum of thirty-three and one-third per cent of 232 the statewide average weekly wage as defined in division (C) of 233 section 4123.62 of the Revised Code, per week regardless of the 234

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average weekly wage, for the number of weeks which equals the 235 percentage of two hundred weeks. Except on application for 236 reconsideration, review, or modification, which is filed within 237 ten days after the date of receipt of the decision of the 238 district hearing officer, in no instance shall the former award 239 be modified unless it is found from medical or clinical findings 240 that the condition of the claimant resulting from the injury has 241 so progressed as to have increased the percentage of permanent 242 partial disability. A staff hearing officer shall hear an 243 application for reconsideration filed and the staff hearing 244 officer's decision is final. An employee may file an application 245 for a subsequent determination of the percentage of the 246 employee's permanent disability. If such an application is 247 filed, the bureau shall send a copy of the application to the 248 employer or the employer's representative. No sooner than sixty 249 days from the date of the mailing of the application to the 250 employer or the employer's representative, the administrator 251 shall review the application. The administrator may require a 2.52 medical examination or medical review of the employee. The 253 administrator shall issue a tentative order based upon the 254 evidence before the administrator, provided that if the 255 administrator requires a medical examination or medical review, 256 the administrator shall not issue the tentative order until the 257 completion of the examination or review. 258

The employer may obtain a medical examination of the259employee and may submit medical evidence at any stage of the260process up to a hearing before the district hearing officer,261pursuant to rules of the commission. The administrator shall262notify the employee, the employer, and their representatives, in263writing, of the nature and amount of any tentative order issued264on an application requesting a subsequent determination of the265

percentage of an employee's permanent disability. An employee, 266 employer, or their representatives may object to the tentative 267 order within twenty days after the receipt of the notice 268 thereof. If no timely objection is made, the tentative order 269 shall go into effect. In no event shall there be a 270 reconsideration of a tentative order issued under this division. 271 If an objection is timely made, the application for a subsequent 272 determination shall be referred to a district hearing officer 273 who shall set the application for a hearing with written notice 274 to all interested persons. No application for subsequent 275 percentage determinations on the same claim for injury or 276 occupational disease shall be accepted for review by the 277 district hearing officer unless supported by substantial 278 evidence of new and changed circumstances developing since the 279 time of the hearing on the original or last determination. 280

No award shall be made under this division based upon a 281 percentage of disability which, when taken with all other 282 percentages of permanent disability, exceeds one hundred per 283 cent. If the percentage of the permanent disability of the 284 employee equals or exceeds ninety per cent, compensation for 285 permanent partial disability shall be paid for two hundred 286 weeks. 287

Compensation payable under this division accrues and is288payable to the employee from the date of last payment of289compensation, or, in cases where no previous compensation has290been paid, from the date of the injury or the date of the291diagnosis of the occupational disease.292

When an award under this division has been made prior to293the death of an employee, all unpaid installments accrued or to294accrue under the provisions of the award are payable to the295

surviving spouse, or if there is no surviving spouse, to the 296 dependent children of the employee, and if there are no children 297 surviving, then to other dependents as the administrator 298 determines. 299

(B) For purposes of this division, "payable per week"
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means the seven-consecutive-day period in which compensation is
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paid in installments according to the schedule associated with
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the applicable injury as set forth in this division.

Compensation paid in weekly installments according to the304schedule described in this division may only be commuted to one305or more lump sum payments pursuant to the procedure set forth in306section 4123.64 of the Revised Code.307

In cases included in the following schedule the 308 compensation payable per week to the employee is the statewide 309 average weekly wage as defined in division (C) of section 310 4123.62 of the Revised Code per week and shall be paid in 311 installments according to the following schedule: 312

For the loss of a first finger, commonly known as a thumb, 313 sixty weeks. 314

For the loss of a second finger, commonly called index315finger, thirty-five weeks.316

For the loss of a third finger, thirty weeks. 317

For the loss of a fourth finger, twenty weeks.

For the loss of a fifth finger, commonly known as the319little finger, fifteen weeks.320

The loss of a second, or distal, phalange of the thumb is321considered equal to the loss of one half of such thumb; the loss322of more than one half of such thumb is considered equal to the323

loss of the whole thumb.

	The loss	of th	he tł	hird,	or	dis	tal,	phala	nge	of	any	finger	325
is co	onsidered	equal	to	the 1	loss	of	one-	third	of	the	fing	ger.	326

The loss of the middle, or second, phalange of any finger is considered equal to the loss of two-thirds of the finger.

The loss of more than the middle and distal phalanges of329any finger is considered equal to the loss of the whole finger.330In no case shall the amount received for more than one finger331exceed the amount provided in this schedule for the loss of a332hand.333

For the loss of the metacarpal bone (bones of the palm)334for the corresponding thumb, or fingers, add ten weeks to the335number of weeks under this division.336

For ankylosis (total stiffness of) or contractures (due to337scars or injuries) which makes any of the fingers, thumbs, or338parts of either useless, the same number of weeks apply to the339members or parts thereof as given for the loss thereof.340

If the claimant has suffered the loss of two or more 341 fingers by amputation or ankylosis and the nature of the 342 claimant's employment in the course of which the claimant was 343 working at the time of the injury or occupational disease is 344 such that the handicap or disability resulting from the loss of 345 fingers, or loss of use of fingers, exceeds the normal handicap 346 or disability resulting from the loss of fingers, or loss of use 347 of fingers, the administrator may take that fact into 348 consideration and increase the award of compensation 349 accordingly, but the award made shall not exceed the amount of 350 compensation for loss of a hand. 351

For the loss of a hand, one hundred seventy-five weeks. 352

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ear.

For the loss of an arm, two hundred twenty-five weeks.	353
For the loss of a great toe, thirty weeks.	354
For the loss of one of the toes other than the great toe, ten weeks.	355 356
The loss of more than two-thirds of any toe is considered equal to the loss of the whole toe.	357 358
The loss of less than two-thirds of any toe is considered no loss, except as to the great toe; the loss of the great toe up to the interphalangeal joint is co-equal to the loss of one- half of the great toe; the loss of the great toe beyond the interphalangeal joint is considered equal to the loss of the whole great toe.	359 360 361 362 363 364
For the loss of a foot, one hundred fifty weeks.	365
For the loss of a leg, two hundred weeks. For the loss of the sight of an eye, one hundred twenty-	366 367 368
For the loss of the sight of an eye, one hundred twenty- five weeks. For the permanent partial loss of sight of an eye, the portion of one hundred twenty-five weeks as the administrator in each case determines, based upon the percentage of vision actually lost as a result of the injury or occupational disease, but, in no case shall an award of compensation be made for less than twenty-five per cent loss of uncorrected vision. "Loss of	367 368 369 370 371 372 373 374
For the loss of the sight of an eye, one hundred twenty- five weeks. For the permanent partial loss of sight of an eye, the portion of one hundred twenty-five weeks as the administrator in each case determines, based upon the percentage of vision actually lost as a result of the injury or occupational disease, but, in no case shall an award of compensation be made for less	367 368 369 370 371 372 373

For the permanent and total loss of hearing, one hundred381twenty-five weeks; but, except pursuant to the next preceding382paragraph, in no case shall an award of compensation be made for383less than permanent and total loss of hearing.384

In case an injury or occupational disease results in 385 serious facial or head disfigurement which either impairs or may 386 in the future impair the opportunities to secure or retain 387 employment, the administrator shall make an award of 388 compensation as it deems proper and equitable, in view of the 389 390 nature of the disfigurement, and not to exceed the sum of ten thousand dollars. For the purpose of making the award, it is not 391 material whether the employee is gainfully employed in any 392 occupation or trade at the time of the administrator's 393 determination. 394

When an award under this division has been made prior to the death of an employee all unpaid installments accrued or to accrue under the provisions of the award shall be payable to the surviving spouse, or if there is no surviving spouse, to the dependent children of the employee and if there are no such children, then to such dependents as the administrator determines.

When an employee has sustained the loss of a member by 402 severance, but no award has been made on account thereof prior 403 to the employee's death, the administrator shall make an award 404 in accordance with this division for the loss which shall be 405 payable to the surviving spouse, or if there is no surviving 406 spouse, to the dependent children of the employee and if there 407 are no such children, then to such dependents as the 408 administrator determines. 409

(C) Compensation for partial impairment under divisions 410

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(A) and (B) of this section is in addition to the compensation
paid the employee pursuant to section 4123.56 of the Revised
Code. A claimant may receive compensation under divisions (A)
and (B) of this section.

In all cases arising under division (B) of this section, 415 if it is determined by any one of the following: (1) the amputee 416 clinic at University hospital, Ohio state university; (2) the 417 opportunities for Ohioans with disabilities agency; (3) an 418 amputee clinic or prescribing physician approved by the 419 420 administrator or the administrator's designee, that an injured or disabled employee is in need of an artificial appliance, or 421 in need of a repair thereof, regardless of whether the appliance 422 423 or its repair will be serviceable in the vocational rehabilitation of the injured employee, and regardless of 424 whether the employee has returned to or can ever again return to 425 any gainful employment, the bureau shall pay the cost of the 426 artificial appliance or its repair out of the surplus created by 427 division (B) of section 4123.34 of the Revised Code. 428

In those cases where an opportunities for Ohioans with 429 disabilities agency's recommendation that an injured or disabled 430 employee is in need of an artificial appliance would conflict 431 with their state plan, adopted pursuant to the "Rehabilitation 432 Act of 1973," 87 Stat. 355, 29 U.S.C.A. 701, the administrator 433 or the administrator's designee or the bureau may obtain a 434 recommendation from an amputee clinic or prescribing physician 435 that they determine appropriate. 436

(D) If an employee of a state fund employer makes
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application for a finding and the administrator finds that the
employee has contracted silicosis as defined in division (Y), or
coal miners' pneumoconiosis as defined in division (Z), or
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asbestosis as defined in division (BB) of section 4123.68 of the 441 Revised Code, and that a change of such employee's occupation is 442 medically advisable in order to decrease substantially further 443 exposure to silica dust, asbestos, or coal dust and if the 444 employee, after the finding, has changed or shall change the 445 employee's occupation to an occupation in which the exposure to 446 silica dust, asbestos, or coal dust is substantially decreased, 447 the administrator shall allow to the employee an amount equal to 448 fifty per cent of the statewide average weekly wage per week for 449 a period of thirty weeks, commencing as of the date of the 450 discontinuance or change, and for a period of one hundred weeks 451 immediately following the expiration of the period of thirty 452 weeks, the employee shall receive sixty-six and two-thirds per 453 cent of the loss of wages resulting directly and solely from the 454 change of occupation but not to exceed a maximum of an amount 455 equal to fifty per cent of the statewide average weekly wage per 456 week. No such employee is entitled to receive more than one 457 allowance on account of discontinuance of employment or change 4.5.8 of occupation and benefits shall cease for any period during 459 which the employee is employed in an occupation in which the 460 exposure to silica dust, asbestos, or coal dust is not 461 substantially less than the exposure in the occupation in which 462 the employee was formerly employed or for any period during 463 which the employee may be entitled to receive compensation or 464 benefits under section 4123.68 of the Revised Code on account of 465 disability from silicosis, asbestosis, or coal miners' 466 pneumoconiosis. An award for change of occupation for a coal 467 miner who has contracted coal miners' pneumoconiosis may be 468 granted under this division even though the coal miner continues 469 employment with the same employer, so long as the coal miner's 470 employment subsequent to the change is such that the coal 471 miner's exposure to coal dust is substantially decreased and a 472

change of occupation is certified by the claimant as permanent.473The administrator may accord to the employee medical and other474benefits in accordance with section 4123.66 of the Revised Code.475

(E) If a firefighter or police officer makes application 476 for a finding and the administrator finds that the firefighter 477 or police officer has contracted a cardiovascular and pulmonary 478 disease as defined in division (W) of section 4123.68 of the 479 Revised Code, and that a change of the firefighter's or police 480 officer's occupation is medically advisable in order to decrease 481 482 substantially further exposure to smoke, toxic gases, chemical fumes, and other toxic vapors, and if the firefighter, or police 483 officer, after the finding, has changed or changes occupation to 484 an occupation in which the exposure to smoke, toxic gases, 485 chemical fumes, and other toxic vapors is substantially 486 decreased, the administrator shall allow to the firefighter or 487 police officer an amount equal to fifty per cent of the 488 statewide average weekly wage per week for a period of thirty 489 weeks, commencing as of the date of the discontinuance or 490 change, and for a period of seventy-five weeks immediately 491 following the expiration of the period of thirty weeks the 492 administrator shall allow the firefighter or police officer 493 sixty-six and two-thirds per cent of the loss of wages resulting 494 directly and solely from the change of occupation but not to 495 exceed a maximum of an amount equal to fifty per cent of the 496 statewide average weekly wage per week. No such firefighter or 497 police officer is entitled to receive more than one allowance on 498 account of discontinuance of employment or change of occupation 499 and benefits shall cease for any period during which the 500 firefighter or police officer is employed in an occupation in 501 which the exposure to smoke, toxic gases, chemical fumes, and 502 other toxic vapors is not substantially less than the exposure 503

in the occupation in which the firefighter or police officer was 504 formerly employed or for any period during which the firefighter 505 or police officer may be entitled to receive compensation or 506 benefits under section 4123.68 of the Revised Code on account of 507 disability from a cardiovascular and pulmonary disease. The 508 administrator may accord to the firefighter or police officer 509 medical and other benefits in accordance with section 4123.66 of 510 the Revised Code. 511

(F) An order issued under this section is appealable
pursuant to section 4123.511 of the Revised Code but is not
appealable to court under section 4123.512 of the Revised Code.
514

Sec. 4123.58. (A) In cases of permanent total disability, 515 the employee shall receive an award to continue until the 516 employee's death in the amount of sixty-six and two-thirds per 517 cent of the employee's average weekly wage, but, except as 518 otherwise provided in division (B) of this section, not more 519 than a maximum amount of weekly compensation which is equal to 520 sixty-six and two-thirds per cent of the statewide average 521 weekly wage as defined in division (C) of section 4123.62 of the 522 Revised Code in effect on the date of injury or on the date the 523 disability due to the occupational disease begins, nor not less 524 525 than a minimum amount of weekly compensation which is equal to fifty per cent of the statewide average weekly wage as defined 526 in division (C) of section 4123.62 of the Revised Code in effect 527 on the date of injury or on the date the disability due to the 528 occupational disease begins, unless the employee's average 529 weekly wage is less than fifty per cent of the statewide average 530 weekly wage at the time of the injury, in which event the 531 employee shall receive compensation in an amount equal to the 532 employee's average weekly wage. 533

(B) In the event the weekly workers' compensation amount 534 when combined with disability benefits received pursuant to the 535 Social Security Act is less than the statewide average weekly 536 wage as defined in division (C) of section 4123.62 of the 537 Revised Code, then the maximum amount of weekly compensation 538 shall be the statewide average weekly wage as defined in 539 division (C) of section 4123.62 of the Revised Code. At any time 540 that social security disability benefits terminate or are 541 reduced, the workers' compensation award shall be recomputed to 542 pay the maximum amount permitted under this division. 543

(C) Permanent total disability shall be compensated
 544
 according to this section only when at least one of the
 545
 following applies to the claimant:
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(1) The claimant has lost, or lost the use of both hands
or both arms, or both feet or both legs, or both eyes, or of any
two thereof; however, the loss or loss of use of one limb does
549
not constitute the loss or loss of use of two body parts;
550

(2) The impairment resulting from the employee's injury or
occupational disease prevents the employee from engaging in
sustained remunerative employment utilizing the employment
skills that the employee has or may reasonably be expected to
554
develop.

(D) Permanent total disability shall not be compensated
 when the reason the employee is unable to engage in sustained
 remunerative employment is due to any of the following reasons,
 whether individually or in combination:

(1) Impairments of the employee that are not the result ofan allowed injury or occupational disease;561

(2) Solely the employee's age or aging; 562

(3) The employee retired or otherwise is not working forreasons unrelated to the allowed injury or occupational disease.564

(4) The employee has not engaged in educational or
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rehabilitative efforts to enhance the employee's employability,
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unless such efforts are determined to be in vain.
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(E) Compensation payable under this section for permanent
total disability is in addition to benefits payable under
division (B) of section 4123.57 of the Revised Code.
570

(F) If an employee is awarded compensation for permanent 571 total disability under this section because the employee 572 sustained a traumatic brain injury, the employee is entitled to 573 that compensation regardless of the employee's employment in a 574 sheltered workshop subsequent to the award, on the condition 575 that the employee does not receive income, compensation, or 576 remuneration from that employment in excess of two thousand 577 dollars in any calendar guarter. As used in this division, 578 "sheltered workshop" means a state agency or nonprofit 579 organization established to carry out a program of 580 rehabilitation for handicapped individuals or to provide these 581 individuals with remunerative employment or other occupational 582 rehabilitating activity. 583

(G) If the industrial commission has adjudicated a 584 claimant's application for compensation payable under this 585 section for permanent total disability and issued a final order 586 denying compensation for that application, the claimant shall 587 present evidence of new and changed circumstances before the 588 industrial commission may consider a subsequent application 589 filed by the claimant for compensation under this section for 590 the same injury or occupational disease identified in the 591 previous application. 592

Sec. 4123.85. In all cases of occupational disease, or 593 death resulting from occupational disease, claims for 594 compensation or benefits are forever barred unless, within two-595 vears one year after the disability due to the disease began, or 596 within such longer period as does not exceed six months after 597 diagnosis of the occupational disease by a licensed physician or 598 within two years one year after death occurs, application is 599 made to the industrial commission or the bureau of workers' 600 compensation or to the employer if the employer is a self-601 602 insuring employer.

Sec. 4123.88. (A) No person shall orally or in writing, 603 directly or indirectly, or through any agent or other person 604 fraudulently hold the person's self out or represent the 605 person's self or any of the person's partners or associates as 606 authorized by a claimant or employer to take charge of, or 607 represent the claimant or employer in respect of, any claim or 608 matter in connection therewith before the bureau of workers' 609 compensation or the industrial commission or its district or 610 staff hearing officers. No person shall directly or indirectly 611 solicit authority, or pay or give anything of value to another 612 person to solicit authority, or accept or receive pay or 613 anything of value from another person for soliciting authority, 614 from a claimant or employer to take charge of, or represent the 615 claimant or employer in respect of, any claim or appeal which is 616 or may be filed with the bureau or commission. No person shall, 617 without prior authority from the bureau, a member of the 618 commission, the claimant, or the employer, examine or directly 619 or indirectly cause or employ another person to examine any 620 claim file or any other file pertaining thereto. No person shall 621 forge an authorization for the purpose of examining or cause 622 another person to examine any such file. No district or staff 623

hearing officer or other employee of the bureau or commission, 624 notwithstanding the provisions of section 4123.27 of the Revised 625 Code, shall divulge any information in respect of any claim or 626 appeal which is or may be filed with a district or staff hearing 627 officer, the bureau, or commission to any person other than 62.8 members of the commission or to the superior of the employee 629 except upon authorization of the administrator of workers' 630 compensation or a member of the commission or upon authorization 631 of the claimant or employer. 632

(B) The records described or referred to in division (A) 633 of this section are not public records as defined in division 634 (A) (1) of section 149.43 of the Revised Code. Any information 635 directly or indirectly identifying the name, address, or 636 telephone number of a claimant, regardless of whether the 637 claimant's claim is active or closed, is not a public record. No 638 person shall solicit or obtain any such information from any 639 such employee without first having obtained an authorization 640 therefor as provided in this section. 641

(C) Except as otherwise specified in division (D) of this 642 643 section, information kept by the commission or the bureau pursuant to this section is for the exclusive use and 644 information of the commission and the bureau in the discharge of 645 their official duties, and shall not be open to the public nor 646 be used in any court in any action or proceeding pending 647 therein, unless the commission or the bureau is a party to the 648 action or proceeding. The information, however, may be tabulated 649 and published by the commission or the bureau in statistical 650 form for the use and information of other state agencies and the 651 public. 652

(D)(1) Upon Except as provided in division (G) of this

Page 24

<u>section, upon</u> receiving a written request made and signed by an
 individual whose primary occupation is as a journalist, the
 commission or the bureau shall disclose to the individual the
 656
 name or names, address or addresses, and telephone number or
 657
 numbers of claimants, regardless of whether their claims are
 658
 active or closed.

(2) An individual described in division (D) (1) of this
section is permitted to request the information described in
that division for multiple claimants in one written request.

(3) An individual described in division (D) (1) of this
 section shall include all of the following in the written
 664
 request:
 665

(a) The individual's name, title, and signature; 666

(b) The name and title of the individual's employer; 667

(c) A statement that the disclosure of the informationsought is in the public interest;669

(d) A statement that the individual acknowledges that the670information is not a public record and that the individual will671not disclose the information to any other person for any reason672unrelated to journalism.673

(4) Neither the commission nor the bureau may inquire as
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(E) No person who receives information under division (D)678of this section shall recklessly disclose the information to any679other person for any reason unrelated to journalism.680

(F) No person who obtains or receives records in violation 681

of this section shall recklessly use that information to	682
solicit, directly or indirectly, authority from a claimant or	683
employer to take charge of, or represent the claimant or	684
employer in respect of, any claim or appeal that is or may be	685
filed with the bureau or commission.	686
(G) Neither the commission nor the bureau shall disclose	687
to an individual described in division (D)(1) of this section	688
the name, address, or telephone number of a claimant if the	689
disclosure would reveal that the claim is for a condition that	690
arose from sexual conduct in which the claimant was forced by	691
threat of physical harm to engage or participate.	692
(H) As used in this section, "journalist" has the same	693
meaning as in division (B)(9) of section 149.43 of the Revised	694
Code.	695
Sec. 4133.03. (A) The alternate employer organization with	696
Sec. 4133.03. (A) The alternate employer organization with whom a worksite employee is employed shall do all of the	696 697
whom a worksite employee is employed shall do all of the	697
whom a worksite employee is employed shall do all of the following:	697 698
<pre>whom a worksite employee is employed shall do all of the following: (1) Process and pay all wages and applicable state and</pre>	697 698 699
<pre>whom a worksite employee is employed shall do all of the following:</pre>	697 698 699 700
<pre>whom a worksite employee is employed shall do all of the following:     (1) Process and pay all wages and applicable state and federal payroll taxes associated with the worksite employee, irrespective of payments made by the client employer, pursuant</pre>	697 698 699 700 701
<pre>whom a worksite employee is employed shall do all of the following:</pre>	697 698 699 700 701 702
<pre>whom a worksite employee is employed shall do all of the following:</pre>	697 698 699 700 701 702 703
<pre>whom a worksite employee is employed shall do all of the following:</pre>	697 698 699 700 701 702 703 704
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<pre>whom a worksite employee is employed shall do all of the following:</pre>	697 698 699 700 701 702 703 704 705 706 707

(3) Maintain workers' compensation coverage, pay all 710

workers' compensation premiums, and manage all workers' 711 compensation claims, filings, and related procedures associated 712 with a worksite employee in compliance with Chapters 4121. and 713 4123. of the Revised Code, except that when worksite employees 714 include family farm officers, ordained ministers, or corporate 715 officers of the client employer, payroll reports shall include 716 the entire amount of payroll associated with those persons; 717

(4) Annually provide written notice to each worksite
employee it assigns to perform services to a client employer of
the relationship between and the responsibilities of the
alternate employer organization and the client employer;

(5) Maintain complete records separately listing the
 722
 manual classifications of each client employer and the payroll
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 reported to each manual classification for each client employer
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 for each payroll reporting period during the time period covered
 725
 in the alternate employer organization agreement;

(6) Maintain a record of workers' compensation claims for727each client employer;728

(7) Make periodic reports, as determined by the
administrator of workers' compensation, of client employers and
total workforce to the administrator;
731

(8) Report individual client employer payroll, claims, and
 732
 classification data under a separate and unique subaccount to
 733
 the administrator;
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(9) Within fourteen days after receiving notice from the 735 bureau of workers' compensation that a refund or rebate will be 736 applied to workers' compensation premiums, provide a copy of 737 that notice to any client employer to whom that notice is 738 relevant; 739

(10) Annually certify to the administrator that all client
employer federal payroll taxes have been timely and
appropriately paid, and on request of the administrator, provide
742
proof of payment.

(B) In any alternate employer organization agreement
between an alternate employer organization and a client
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employer, the client employer shall be listed as the employer on
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the W-2 forms of the worksite employees, but the alternate
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employer organization remains jointly and severally liable for
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all applicable local, state, and federal withholding and
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employer-paid taxes with respect to the worksite employees.

(C) An alternate employer organization shall file federal 751 payroll taxes entirely under the tax identification number of 752 the client employer, but shall remain jointly and severally 753 liable for all wages and payroll taxes associated with worksite 754 employees. In addition, if any of the alternate employer 755 organization's clients fail to transmit payment to the alternate 756 employer organization sufficient to cover payment of all wages 757 and employer-paid taxes, the alternate employer organization 758 shall keep a record of the nonpayment or underpayment and a 759 record that the alternate employer organization nonetheless paid 760 761 the wages and taxes owed.

(D) An alternate employer organization may not provide 762 partial or split workers' compensation coverage for worksite 763 employees in which the client employer provides that coverage 764 for some, but not all, of the client employer's worksite 765 employees. On entering into an alternate employer organization 766 agreement, all worksite employees shall be covered under the 767 workers' compensation policy of the alternate employer 768 organization. 769

(E) The alternate employer organization with whom a	770
worksite employee is employed shall provide a list of all of the	771
following information to the client employer on the written	772
request of the client employer:	773
(1) All workers' compensation claims, premiums, and	774
payroll associated with that client employer;	775
(2) Compensation and benefits paid and reserves	776
established for each claim listed under division (E)(1) of this	777
section;	778
(3) Any other information available to the alternate	779
employer organization from the bureau of workers' compensation	780
regarding that client employer.	781
(F)(1) An alternate employer organization shall provide	782
the information required under division (E) of this section in	783
writing to the requesting client employer within forty-five days	784
after receiving a written request from the client employer.	785
(2) For purposes of division (F) of this section, an	786
alternate employer organization has provided the required	787
information to the client employer when the information is	788
received by the United States postal service or when the	789
information is personally delivered, in writing, directly to the	790
client employer.	791
(G) Except as provided in section 4133.11 of the Revised	792
Code and unless otherwise agreed to in the alternate employer	793
organization agreement, the alternate employer organization with	794
whom a worksite employee is employed has a right of direction	795
and control over each worksite employee assigned to a client	796
employer's location. However, a client employer shall retain	797

sufficient direction and control over a worksite employee as is

Page 29

necessary to do any of the following:	799
(1) Conduct the client employer's business, including	800
training and supervising worksite employees;	801
(2) Ensure the quality, adequacy, and safety of the goods	802
or services produced or sold in the client employer's business;	803
(3) Discharge any fiduciary responsibility that the client	804
employer may have;	805
(4) Comply with any applicable licensure, regulatory, or	806
statutory requirement of the client employer.	807
(H) Unless otherwise agreed to in the alternate employer	808
organization agreement, liability for acts, errors, and	809
omissions shall be determined as follows:	810
(1) An alternate employer organization shall not be liable	811
for the acts, errors, and omissions of a client employer or a	812
worksite employee when those acts, errors, and omissions occur	813
under the direction and control of the client employer.	814
(2) A client employer shall not be liable for the acts,	815
errors, and omissions of an alternate employer organization or a	816
worksite employee when those acts, errors, and omissions occur	817
under the direction and control of the alternate employer	818
organization.	819
(I) Nothing in divisions (G) and (H) of this section shall	820
be construed to limit any liability or obligation specifically	821
agreed to in the alternate employer organization agreement.	822
(J) An alternate employer organization is not, and shall	823
not be considered, a professional employer organization, as	824
defined in section 4125.01 of the Revised Code. An Beginning on	825
and after January 1, 2022, an alternate employer organization	826

Page 30

may not hold itself out, advertise, or otherwise identify itself 827 in any way as a professional employer organization. 828 (K) In an alternate employer organization agreement, both 829 the client employer and alternate employer organization are 830 jointly and severally liable for the payment of employee wages 831 and taxes. The alternate employer organization and client 832 employer share in the employer responsibilities and liabilities 833 with respect to a worksite employee, pursuant to the alternate 834 employer organization agreement. 835 (L) The use of a client employer's tax identification 836 number for federal payroll tax purposes as required under 837 division (C) of this section shall not be construed to absolve 838 the alternate employer organization of any responsibilities or 839 liabilities applicable to an alternative alternate employer 840 organization, including those under federal law. 841 Sec. 4133.07. (A) Not later than thirty days after its 842 formation, an alternate employer organization operating in this 843 state shall register with the administrator of workers' 844 compensation on forms provided by the administrator. Following 845 initial registration, each alternate employer organization shall 846 register with the administrator annually on or before the 847 thirty-first day of December. 848

(B) Initial registration and each annual registration849renewal shall include all of the following:850

(1) A list of each of the alternate employer
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organization's client employers current as of the date of
registration for purposes of initial registration or current as
of the date of annual registration renewal, or within fourteen
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days of adding or releasing a client, that includes the client
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employer's name, address, federal tax identification number, and	856
bureau of workers' compensation risk number;	857
(2) A fee as determined by the administrator;	858
(3) The name or names under which the alternate employer	859
organization conducts business;	860
(4) The address of the alternate employer organization's	861
principal place of business and the address of each office it	862
maintains in this state;	863
(5) The alternate employer organization's taxpayer or	864
employer identification number;	865
(6) A list of each state in which the alternate employer	866
organization has operated in the preceding five years, and the	867
name, corresponding with each state, under which the alternate	868
employer organization operated in each state, including any	869
alternative names, names of predecessors, and if known,	870
successor business entities;	871
(7) The most recent financial statement prepared and	872
audited pursuant to division (B) of section 4133.08 of the	873
Revised Code;	874
(8) A <del>bond or</del> letter of credit in accordance with division	875
(D)(1) of this section;	876
(9) An attestation of the accuracy of the data submissions	877
from the chief executive officer, president, or other individual	878
who serves as the controlling person of the alternate employer	879
organization.	880
(C) Upon terms and for periods that the administrator	881
considers appropriate, the administrator may issue a limited	882
registration to an alternate employer organization that provides	883

all of the following items:

(1) A properly executed request for limited registration
on a form provided by the administrator;
(2) All information and materials required for
registration in divisions (B) (1) to (6) of this section;
(3) Information and documentation necessary to show that
the alternate employer organization satisfies all of the
following criteria:

(a) It is domiciled outside of this state.
(b) It is licensed or registered as an alternate employer
organization in another state.
(c) It does not maintain an office in this state.
(d) It does not participate in direct solicitations for
client employers located or domiciled in this state.
(e) It has fifty or fewer worksite employees employed or
domiciled in this state on any given day.

(D) (1) An alternate employer organization shall provide security in the form of a bond or letter of credit assignable to the Ohio bureau of workers' compensation in an amount necessary to meet the financial obligations of the alternate employer organization pursuant to this chapter and Chapters 4121. and 4123. of the Revised Code. The administrator shall determine the amount of the bond-letter of credit required under this division for each registrant, which shall be at least one million dollars. 

(2) An alternate employer organization may appeal the909amount of the security required pursuant to rules adopted under910

division (D) (1) of this section in accordance with section9114123.291 of the Revised Code.912(3) An alternate employer organization shall pay premiums913

and assessments for purposes of Chapters 4121. and 4123. of the914Revised Code on a monthly basis pursuant to division (A) of915section 4123.35 of the Revised Code.916

(E) Notwithstanding division (D) of this section, an 917 alternate employer organization that qualifies for self-918 919 insurance or retrospective rating under section 4123.29 or 4123.35 of the Revised Code shall abide by the financial 920 disclosure and security requirements pursuant to those sections 921 and the rules adopted under those sections in place of the 922 requirements specified in division (D) of this section or 923 specified in rules adopted pursuant to that division. 924

(F) Except to the extent necessary for the administrator 925 to administer the statutory duties of the administrator and for 926 employees of the state to perform their official duties, all 927 records, reports, client lists, and other information obtained 928 from an alternate employer organization under divisions (A), 929 (B), and (C) of this section are confidential and shall be 930 considered trade secrets and shall not be published or open to 931 public inspection. 932

(G) The list described in division (B) (1) of this section933shall be considered a trade secret.934

(H) The administrator shall establish the fee described in
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division (B)(2) of this section in an amount that does not
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exceed the cost of the administration of the initial and renewal
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registration process.
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(I) A financial statement required under division (B)(7)

of this section for initial registration shall be the most 940 recent financial statement of the alternate employer 941 organization and shall not be older than thirteen months. For 942 each registration renewal, the alternate employer organization 943 shall file the required financial statement within one hundred 944 eighty days after the end of the alternate employer 945 organization's entity's fiscal year. An alternate employer 946 organization may apply to the administrator for an extension 947 beyond that time if the alternate employer organization provides 948 the administrator with a letter from the alternate employer 949 organization's auditor stating the reason for delay and the 950 anticipated completion date. 951 952 (J) Multiple, unrelated alternate employer organizations shall not combine together for purposes of obtaining workers' 953 compensation coverage or for forming any type of self-insurance 954 arrangement available under this chapter. 955 (K) An alternate employer organization may not own or co-956 own an affiliated professional employer organization or 957 alternate employer organization. 958 (L) The administrator shall maintain a list of alternate 959 employer organizations registered under this section that is 960 readily available to the public by electronic or other means. 961

(M) (1) An alternate employer organization may assist a
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client employer in procuring a health benefit plan as a broker
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or otherwise, but shall not act as the employer or sponsor of a
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health benefit plan.

(2) As used in this division:

(a) "Health benefit plan" means a policy, contract,967certificate, agreement, or other program offered to provide,968

deliver, arrange for, pay for, or reimburse any of the costs of969health care services, including benefit plans marketed in the970individual or group market by all associations, whether bona971fide or non-bona fide. "Health benefit plan" also means a972limited benefit plan.973

(b) "Health care services" has the same meaning as in section 3922.01 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 4133.08. (A) An alternate employer organization shall 976 977 maintain positive working capital at initial or annual registration, as reflected in the financial statements submitted 978 to the bureau of workers' compensation. If a deficit in working 979 capital is reflected in the financial statements submitted to 980 the bureau, the alternate employer organization shall submit to 981 the administrator of workers' compensation a quarterly financial 982 statement for each calendar quarter during which there is a 983 deficit in working capital, accompanied by an attestation of the 984 chief executive officer, president, or other individual who 985 serves as the controlling person of the alternate employer 986 organization that all wages, taxes, workers' compensation 987 premiums, and employee benefits have been paid by the alternate 988 employer organization. The bond or letter of credit required 989 under division (D)(1) of section 4133.07 of the Revised Code 990 shall be held by a depository designated by the administrator 991 and shall secure payment by the alternate employer organization 992 of all taxes, wages, benefits, or other entitlements due or 993 otherwise pertaining to worksite employees, if the alternate 994 employer organization does not make those payments when due. 995

(B) An alternate employer organization shall prepare
 996
 financial statements in accordance with generally accepted
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 accounting principles and submit them for registration and
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registration renewal under section 4133.07 of the Revised Code. 999 The financial statements shall be audited by an independent 1000 alternate public accountant authorized to practice in the 1001 jurisdiction in which that accountant is located. 1002 (1) The resulting report of the auditor shall not include 1003 either of the following: 1004 (a) A qualification or disclaimer of opinion as to 1005 adherence to generally accepted accounting principles; 1006 (b) A statement expressing substantial doubt about the 1007 ability of the alternate employer organization to continue as a 1008 1009 going concern. (2) However, if an alternate employer organization does 1010 not have at least twelve months of operating history on which to 1011 base financial statements, the financial statements shall be 1012 reviewed by a certified public accountant. 1013 (3) Notwithstanding division (B) (1) (a) of this section, if 1014 an alternate employer organization is a subsidiary or is related 1015 to a variable interest entity, the alternate employer 1016 organization or alternate employer organization entity may 1017 submit financial statements of the alternate employer 1018 1019 organization. (C) The bureau shall deny initial or annual registration 1020

to an applicant that does not meet the requirements of this 1020 section. 1022

Section 7. That existing sections 4121.43, 4123.57,10234123.58, 4123.85, 4123.88, 4133.03, 4133.07, and 4133.08 of the1024Revised Code are hereby repealed.1025

Section 8. Section 4123.85 of the Revised Code, as amended 1026

by this act, applies to all claims pursuant to Chapters 4121.,	1027
4123., 4127., and 4131. of the Revised Code arising on or after	1028
the effective date of this section.	1029
Sections 4123.57 and 4123.58 of the Revised Code, as	1030

amended by this act, apply to claims pending on or arising on or1031after the effective date of this section.1032