As Passed by the Senate

134th General Assembly

Regular Session 2021-2022

Sub. H. B. No. 75

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

| То | 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 appropriated10out of any moneys in the state treasury to the credit of the11designated fund. For all appropriations made in this act, those12in the first column are for fiscal year 2022, and those in the13second column are for fiscal year 2023. The appropriations made14in this act are in addition to any other appropriations made for15

| the biennium beginning July 1, 2021, and ending June 30, 2023. | | | | | 16 | |
|--|--------|-----------|--|--------------------|--------------------|----|
| | | | | | _ | 17 |
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | |
| A | | | BWC BUREAU OF WORKERS' | COMPENSATION | | |
| В | Dedica | ited 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 | |
| Ε | 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 , 273 | \$79 , 276 | |
| I | 8250 | 855605 | Disabled Workers Relief Fund | \$197 , 612 | \$197 , 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 | |
| т. | 8260 | 855611 | Health and Safety | \$3,000,000 | \$3,000,000 | |

L 8260 855611 Health and Safety \$3,000,000 \$3,000,000 Initiative

| М | 8260 | 855612 | Safety Campaign | \$1,500,000 | \$1,500,000 | |
|----|---------|-----------|---|---------------------------------------|--------------------|----|
| N | 8260 | 855613 | Research Grants | \$3,000,000 | \$1,000,000 | |
| 0 | 8260 | 855618 | Substance Use Recovery and Workplace Safety Program | \$3,500,000 | \$4,000,000 | |
| Ρ | 8260 | 855619 | Safety and Health Center of Excellence | \$15,000,000 | \$15,000,000 | |
| Q | TOTAL | DPF Dedi | cated Purpose Fund Group | \$351,158,545 | \$359,835,201 | |
| R | Federa | l Fund G | roup | | | |
| S | 3490 | 855601 | OSHA Enforcement | \$1,869,212 | \$1,876,338 | |
| Т | 3FW0 | 855614 | BLS SOII Grant | \$195,104 | \$195 , 104 | |
| U | TOTAL | FED Fede | ral Fund Group | \$2,064,316 | \$2,071,442 | |
| V | TOTAL . | ALL BUDG | ET FUND GROUPS | \$353,222,861 | \$361,906,643 | |
| | WOR | KERS' CO | MPENSATION FRAUD UNIT | | | 18 |
| | Of | the fore | going appropriation item 8 | 55410, Attorney | | 19 |
| Ge | neral P | ayments, | \$828,200 in each fiscal y | vear shall be used | l to | 20 |
| fu | nd the | expenses | of the Workers' Compensat | ion Fraud Unit wi | thin | 21 |
| th | e Attor | ney Gene | ral's Office. These paymer | nts shall be proce | essed | 22 |
| at | the be | ginning | of each quarter of each fi | scal year and | | 23 |
| de | posited | l into th | e Workers' Compensation Se | ection Fund (Fund | | 24 |
| 19 | 50) use | d by the | Attorney General. | 1950) used by the Attorney General. 2 | | |

SAFETY AND HYGIENE

Notwithstanding section 4121.37 of the Revised Code, the

Treasurer of State shall remit \$25,343,000 cash in fiscal year282022 and \$25,085,000 cash in fiscal year 2023 from the State29Insurance Fund to the state treasury to the credit of the Safety30and Hygiene Fund (Fund 8260).31

SAFETY GRANTS

Notwithstanding section 4121.37 of the Revised Code, the Treasurer of State shall remit \$35,000,000 cash in fiscal year 2022 and \$35,000,000 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) to be used for Safety Grants.

HEALTH AND SAFETY INITIATIVE

Notwithstanding section 4121.37 of Revised Code, the Treasurer of State shall remit \$3,000,000 cash in fiscal year 2022 and \$3,000,000 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 855611, Health and Safety Initiative, for the purpose of creating and operating a health and wellness program.

SAFETY CAMPAIGN

Notwithstanding section 4121.37 of the Revised Code, the 47 Treasurer of State shall remit \$1,500,000 cash in fiscal year 48 2022 and \$1,500,000 cash in fiscal year 2023 from the State 49 Insurance Fund to the state treasury to the credit of the Safety 50 and Hygiene Fund (Fund 8260). These amounts shall be used under 51 appropriation item 855612, Safety Campaign, for the purpose of 52 creating and operating a statewide safety awareness and 53 education campaign. 54

FEDERAL GRANT PROGRAMS

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The foregoing appropriation item 855609, Safety and Hygiene Operating, may be used to provide the state match for federal grant funding received by the Division of Safety and Hygiene.

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

The Bureau of Workers' Compensation and the Opportunities61for Ohioans with Disabilities Agency may enter into an62interagency agreement for the provision of vocational63rehabilitation services and staff to mutually eligible clients.64The Bureau may provide funds from the State Insurance Fund to65fund vocational rehabilitation services and staff in accordance66with the interagency agreement.67

RESEARCH GRANTS

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 76 research program.

SUBSTANCE USE RECOVERY AND WORKPLACE SAFETY PROGRAM

Notwithstanding section 4121.37 of the Revised Code, the78Treasurer of State shall remit \$3,500,000 cash in fiscal year792022 and \$4,000,000 cash in fiscal year 2023 from the State80Insurance Fund to the state treasury to the credit of the Safety81and Hygiene Fund (Fund 8260). These amounts shall be used under82appropriation item 855618, Substance Use Recovery and Workplace83Safety Program, for the purpose of creating and operating the84

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opioid workplace safety program. 85 SAFETY AND HEALTH CENTER OF EXCELLENCE 86 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 101 FUNDING 102

To pay for the FY 2022 costs related to the Deputy 103 Inspector General for the Bureau of Workers' Compensation and 104 Industrial Commission, on July 1, 2021, and January 1, 2022, or 105 as soon as possible thereafter, the Director of Budget and 106 Management shall transfer \$212,500 cash from the Workers' 107 Compensation Fund (Fund 7023) to the Deputy Inspector General 108 for the Bureau of Workers' Compensation and Industrial 109 Commission Fund (Fund 5FT0). 110

To pay for the FY 2023 costs related to the Deputy111Inspector General for the Bureau of Workers' Compensation and112Industrial Commission, on July 1, 2022, and January 1, 2023, or113

as soon as possible thereafter, the Director of Budget and114Management shall transfer \$212,500 cash from the Workers'115Compensation 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

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Page 8

| shall: | 143 |
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| (A) Adopt rules to ensure that all compensation payments | 144 |
| 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 <u>histhe</u> employer for reasonable expenses incurred | 163 |
| in submitting to the examination and provide that the claimant | 164 |
| shall be reimbursed by <u>histhe</u> 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 171 twenty-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_or_ 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 there is a conflict of evidence, the administrator shall send 193 the application, along with the claimant's file, to the district 194 hearing officer who shall set the application for a hearing. 195

If an employee fails to respond to an attempt to schedule196a medical examination by the bureau medical section, or fails to197attend a medical examination scheduled under this section198without notice or explanation, the employee's application for a199finding shall be dismissed without prejudice. The employee may200refile the application. A dismissed application does not toll201

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the continuing jurisdiction of the industrial commission under202section 4123.52 of the Revised Code. The administrator shall203adopt rules addressing the manner in which an employee will be204notified of a possible dismissal and how an employee may refile205an 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

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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 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 252 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 shall262

notify the employee, the employer, and their representatives, in 263 writing, of the nature and amount of any tentative order issued 264 on an application requesting a subsequent determination of the 265 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 the295surviving spouse, or if there is no surviving spouse, to the296dependent children of the employee, and if there are no children297surviving, then to other dependents as the administrator298determines.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 index 315 finger, thirty-five weeks. 316

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

For the loss of a fourth finger, twenty weeks. 318

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 is 321 considered equal to the loss of one half of such thumb; the loss 322 of more than one half of such thumb is considered equal to the 323 loss of the whole thumb. 324

The loss of the third, or distal, phalange of any finger is considered equal to the loss of one-third of the finger.

The loss of the middle, or second, phalange of any finger327is considered equal to the loss of two-thirds of the finger.328

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 341 342 fingers by amputation or ankylosis and the nature of the 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

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| accordingly, but the award made shall not exceed the amount of | 350 |
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| compensation for loss of a hand. | 351 |
| For the loss of a hand, one hundred seventy-five weeks. | 352 |
| 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, | 355 |
| ten weeks. | 356 |
| The loss of more than two-thirds of any toe is considered | 357 |
| equal to the loss of the whole toe. | 358 |
| The loss of less than two-thirds of any toe is considered | 359 |
| no loss, except as to the great toe; the loss of the great toe | 360 |
| up to the interphalangeal joint is co-equal to the loss of one- | 361 |
| half of the great toe; the loss of the great toe beyond the | 362 |
| interphalangeal joint is considered equal to the loss of the | 363 |
| whole great toe. | 364 |
| For the loss of a foot, one hundred fifty weeks. | 365 |
| For the loss of a leg, two hundred weeks. | 366 |
| For the loss of the sight of an eye, one hundred twenty- | 367 |
| five weeks. | 368 |
| For the permanent partial loss of sight of an eye, the | 369 |
| portion of one hundred twenty-five weeks as the administrator in | 370 |
| each case determines, based upon the percentage of vision | 371 |
| actually lost as a result of the injury or occupational disease, | 372 |
| but, in no case shall an award of compensation be made for less | 373 |
| than twenty-five per cent loss of uncorrected vision. "Loss of | 374 |
| uncorrected vision" means the percentage of vision actually lost | 375 |
| as the result of the injury or occupational disease. | 376 |

For the permanent and total loss of hearing of one ear,377twenty-five weeks; but in no case shall an award of compensation378be made for less than permanent and total loss of hearing of one379ear.380

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

385 In case an injury or occupational disease results in serious facial or head disfigurement which either impairs or may 386 in the future impair the opportunities to secure or retain 387 388 employment, the administrator shall make an award of compensation as it deems proper and equitable, in view of the 389 nature of the disfigurement, and not to exceed the sum of ten 390 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 to395the death of an employee all unpaid installments accrued or to396accrue under the provisions of the award shall be payable to the397surviving spouse, or if there is no surviving spouse, to the398dependent children of the employee and if there are no such399children, then to such dependents as the administrator400determines.401

When an employee has sustained the loss of a member by402severance, but no award has been made on account thereof prior403to the employee's death, the administrator shall make an award404in accordance with this division for the loss which shall be405payable to the surviving spouse, or if there is no surviving406

spouse, to the dependent children of the employee and if there407are no such children, then to such dependents as the408administrator determines.409

(C) Compensation for partial impairment under divisions
(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.

415 In all cases arising under division (B) of this section, 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 administrator or the administrator's designee, that an injured 420 or disabled employee is in need of an artificial appliance, or 421 in need of a repair thereof, regardless of whether the appliance 422 or its repair will be serviceable in the vocational 423 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 437 application for a finding and the administrator finds that the 438 employee has contracted silicosis as defined in division (Y), or 439 coal miners' pneumoconiosis as defined in division (Z), or 440 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 458 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 continues469employment with the same employer, so long as the coal miner's470employment subsequent to the change is such that the coal471miner's exposure to coal dust is substantially decreased and a472change 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 substantially further exposure to smoke, toxic gases, chemical 482 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.
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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 than a minimum amount of weekly compensation which is equal to 525 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
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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
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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:

an allowed injury or occupational disease;

| (2) Solely the employee's age or aging; | 562 |
|--|-----|
| (3) The employee retired or otherwise is not working for | 563 |
| reasons unrelated to the allowed injury or occupational disease. | 564 |
| (4) The employee has not engaged in educational or | 565 |
| rehabilitative efforts to enhance the employee's employability, | 566 |
| unless such efforts are determined to be in vain. | 567 |
| (E) Compensation payable under this section for permanent | 568 |
| total disability is in addition to benefits payable under | 569 |
| 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 quarter. 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 |
| | |

(1) Impairments of the employee that are not the result of

present evidence of new and changed circumstances before the 588

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| industrial commission may consider a subsequent application | 589 |
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| 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 $rac{two}{two}$ | 595 |
| years <u>one year</u> 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 <u>one</u> year after death occurs, application is | 599 |
| made to the industrial commission or the bureau of workers' | 600 |
| compensation or to the employer if he the employer is a self- | 601 |
| insuring employer. | 602 |
| 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 612 613 person to solicit authority, or accept or receive pay or 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 62.5 626 Code, shall divulge any information in respect of any claim or appeal which is or may be filed with a district or staff hearing 627 628 officer, the bureau, or commission to any person other than 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 address or telephone 636 number of a claimant, regardless of whether the claimant's claim 637 is active or closed, is not a public record. No person shall 638 solicit or obtain any such information from any such employee 639 without first having obtained an authorization therefor as 640 provided in this section. 641

(C) Except as otherwise specified in division (D) of this 642 section, information kept by the commission or the bureau 643 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 receiving a written request made and signed by 653 an individual whose primary occupation is as a journalist, the 654 commission or the bureau shall disclose to the individual the 655 address or addresses and telephone number or numbers of 656 claimants, regardless of whether their claims are active or 657 closed, and the dependents of those claimants._ 658 The commission or the bureau shall not disclose the name 659 or names of claimants to a journalist under this division. It is 660 the intent of the general assembly to supersede the amendments 661 made to this section by S.B. 4 of the 134th general assembly 662 regarding the release of the name or names of claimants. 663 (2) An individual described in division (D) (1) of this 664 section is permitted to request the information described in 665 666 that division for multiple workers or dependents claimants in one written request. 667 (3) An individual described in division (D)(1) of this 668 section shall include all of the following in the written 669 670 request: (a) The individual's name, title, and signature; 671 (b) The name and title of the individual's employer; 672 (c) A statement that the disclosure of the information 673 sought is in the public interest; 674 (d) A statement that the individual acknowledges that the 675 information is not a public record and that the individual will 676 not disclose the information to any other person for any reason 677

unrelated to journalism.

(4) Neither the commission nor the bureau may inquire as
(4) Neither the commission nor the bureau may inquire as
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(E) Except upon authorization as provided in division (A) 683 of this section, no person other than an individual described in 684 division (D)(1) of this section shall recklessly possess or 685 obtain records described or referred to in division (A) of this 686 section that are not public records as defined in division (A) 687 (1) of section 149.43 of the Revised Code, including the address 688 or addresses and telephone number or numbers of claimants 689 obtained by an individual described in division (D)(1) of this 690 691 section.

(F) As used in this section, "journalist" has the same meaning as in division (B)(9) of section 149.43 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 4133.03. (A) The alternate employer organization with 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
to the terms and conditions of compensation in the alternate
mployer organization agreement between the alternate employer
organization and the client employer;

(2) Pay all related payroll taxes associated with a
worksite employee independent of the terms and conditions
contained in the alternate employer organization agreement
between the alternate employer organization and the client
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Page 27

| employer; | 708 |
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| (3) Maintain workers' compensation coverage, pay all | 709 |
| workers' compensation premiums, and manage all workers' | 710 |
| compensation claims, filings, and related procedures associated | 711 |
| with a worksite employee in compliance with Chapters 4121. and | 712 |
| 4123. of the Revised Code, except that when worksite employees | 713 |
| include family farm officers, ordained ministers, or corporate | 714 |
| officers of the client employer, payroll reports shall include | 715 |
| the entire amount of payroll associated with those persons; | 716 |
| (4) Annually provide written notice to each worksite | 717 |
| employee it assigns to perform services to a client employer of | 718 |
| the relationship between and the responsibilities of the | 719 |
| alternate employer organization and the client employer; | 720 |
| (5) Maintain complete records separately listing the | 721 |
| manual classifications of each client employer and the payroll | 722 |
| reported to each manual classification for each client employer | 723 |
| for each payroll reporting period during the time period covered | 724 |
| in the alternate employer organization agreement; | 725 |
| (6) Maintain a record of workers' compensation claims for | 726 |
| each client employer; | 727 |
| (7) Make periodic reports, as determined by the | 728 |
| administrator of workers' compensation, of client employers and | 729 |
| total workforce to the administrator; | 730 |
| (8) Report individual client employer payroll, claims, and | 731 |
| classification data under a separate and unique subaccount to | 732 |
| the administrator; | 733 |
| (9) Within fourteen days after receiving notice from the | 734 |
| bureau of workers' compensation that a refund or rebate will be | 735 |
| applied to workers' compensation premiums, provide a copy of | 736 |
| | |

that notice to any client employer to whom that notice is 737 relevant; 738 (10) Annually certify to the administrator that all client 739 employer federal payroll taxes have been timely and 740 appropriately paid, and on request of the administrator, provide 741 proof of payment. 742 (B) In any alternate employer organization agreement 743 744 between an alternate employer organization and a client employer, the client employer shall be listed as the employer on 745 the W-2 forms of the worksite employees, but the alternate 746 employer organization remains jointly and severally liable for 747 all applicable local, state, and federal withholding and 748 employer-paid taxes with respect to the worksite employees. 749 (C) An alternate employer organization shall file federal 750 payroll taxes entirely under the tax identification number of 751 the client employer, but shall remain jointly and severally 752 liable for all wages and payroll taxes associated with worksite 753 employees. In addition, if any of the alternate employer 754

organization's clients fail to transmit payment to the alternate755employer organization sufficient to cover payment of all wages756and employer-paid taxes, the alternate employer organization757shall keep a record of the nonpayment or underpayment and a758record that the alternate employer organization nonetheless paid759the wages and taxes owed.760

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

| workers' compensation policy of the alternate employer | 767 |
|--|-----|
| organization. | 768 |
| (E) The alternate employer organization with whom a | 769 |
| worksite employee is employed shall provide a list of all of the | 770 |
| following information to the client employer on the written | 771 |
| request of the client employer: | 772 |
| (1) All workers' compensation claims, premiums, and | 773 |
| payroll associated with that client employer; | 774 |
| (2) Compensation and benefits paid and reserves | 775 |
| established for each claim listed under division (E)(1) of this | 776 |
| section; | 777 |
| (3) Any other information available to the alternate | 778 |
| employer organization from the bureau of workers' compensation | 779 |
| regarding that client employer. | 780 |
| (F)(1) An alternate employer organization shall provide | 781 |
| the information required under division (E) of this section in | 782 |
| writing to the requesting client employer within forty-five days | 783 |
| after receiving a written request from the client employer. | 784 |
| (2) For purposes of division (F) of this section, an | 785 |
| alternate employer organization has provided the required | 786 |
| information to the client employer when the information is | 787 |
| received by the United States postal service or when the | 788 |
| information is personally delivered, in writing, directly to the | 789 |
| client employer. | 790 |
| (G) Except as provided in section 4133.11 of the Revised | 791 |
| Code and unless otherwise agreed to in the alternate employer | 792 |
| organization agreement, the alternate employer organization with | 793 |
| whom a worksite employee is employed has a right of direction | 794 |
| and control over each worksite employee assigned to a client | 795 |

sufficient direction and control over a worksite employee as is 797 necessary to do any of the following: 798 (1) Conduct the client employer's business, including 799 training and supervising worksite employees; 800 (2) Ensure the quality, adequacy, and safety of the goods 801 or services produced or sold in the client employer's business; 802 (3) Discharge any fiduciary responsibility that the client 803 employer may have; 804 (4) Comply with any applicable licensure, regulatory, or 805 statutory requirement of the client employer. 806 (H) Unless otherwise agreed to in the alternate employer 807 organization agreement, liability for acts, errors, and 808 omissions shall be determined as follows: 809 (1) An alternate employer organization shall not be liable 810 for the acts, errors, and omissions of a client employer or a 811 worksite employee when those acts, errors, and omissions occur 812 under the direction and control of the client employer. 813 (2) A client employer shall not be liable for the acts, 814 errors, and omissions of an alternate employer organization or a 815 worksite employee when those acts, errors, and omissions occur 816 under the direction and control of the alternate employer 817 organization. 818 (I) Nothing in divisions (G) and (H) of this section shall 819 be construed to limit any liability or obligation specifically 820 agreed to in the alternate employer organization agreement. 821

employer's location. However, a client employer shall retain

(J) An alternate employer organization is not, and shall822not be considered, a professional employer organization, as823

defined in section 4125.01 of the Revised Code. An Beginning on824and after January 1, 2022, an alternate employer organization825may not hold itself out, advertise, or otherwise identify itself826in any way as a professional employer organization.827

(K) In an alternate employer organization agreement, both 828 the client employer and alternate employer organization are 829 jointly and severally liable for the payment of employee wages 830 and taxes. The alternate employer organization and client 831 employer share in the employer responsibilities and liabilities 832 with respect to a worksite employee, pursuant to the alternate 833 employer organization agreement. 834

(L) The use of a client employer's tax identification
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number for federal payroll tax purposes as required under
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division (C) of this section shall not be construed to absolve
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the alternate employer organization of any responsibilities or
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liabilities applicable to an alternative alternate employer
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organization, including those under federal law.

Sec. 4133.07. (A) Not later than thirty days after its 841 formation, an alternate employer organization operating in this 842 state shall register with the administrator of workers' 843 compensation on forms provided by the administrator. Following 844 initial registration, each alternate employer organization shall 845 register with the administrator annually on or before the 846 thirty-first day of December. 847

(B) Initial registration and each annual registration848renewal shall include all of the following:849

(1) A list of each of the alternate employer
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organization's client employers current as of the date of
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registration for purposes of initial registration or current as
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of the date of annual registration renewal, or within fourteen 853 days of adding or releasing a client, that includes the client 854 employer's name, address, federal tax identification number, and 855 bureau of workers' compensation risk number; 856 (2) A fee as determined by the administrator; 857 (3) The name or names under which the alternate employer 858 organization conducts business; 859 860 (4) The address of the alternate employer organization's principal place of business and the address of each office it 861 maintains in this state; 862 (5) The alternate employer organization's taxpayer or 863 employer identification number; 864 (6) A list of each state in which the alternate employer 865 organization has operated in the preceding five years, and the 866 name, corresponding with each state, under which the alternate 867 employer organization operated in each state, including any 868 alternative names, names of predecessors, and if known, 869 successor business entities; 870 (7) The most recent financial statement prepared and 871 audited pursuant to division (B) of section 4133.08 of the 872 Revised Code; 873 (8) A bond or letter of credit in accordance with division 874

(D)(1) of this section;

(9) An attestation of the accuracy of the data submissions
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from the chief executive officer, president, or other individual
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who serves as the controlling person of the alternate employer
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organization.

(C) Upon terms and for periods that the administrator

considers appropriate, the administrator may issue a limited 881 registration to an alternate employer organization that provides 882 all of the following items: 883 (1) A properly executed request for limited registration 884 on a form provided by the administrator; 885 (2) All information and materials required for 886 registration in divisions (B)(1) to (6) of this section; 887 888 (3) Information and documentation necessary to show that the alternate employer organization satisfies all of the 889 following criteria: 890 (a) It is domiciled outside of this state. 891 (b) It is licensed or registered as an alternate employer 892 organization in another state. 893 (c) It does not maintain an office in this state. 894 (d) It does not participate in direct solicitations for 895 client employers located or domiciled in this state. 896 (e) It has fifty or fewer worksite employees employed or 897 domiciled in this state on any given day. 898 (D) (1) An alternate employer organization shall provide 899 security in the form of a bond or letter of credit assignable to 900 the Ohio bureau of workers' compensation in an amount necessary 901 to meet the financial obligations of the alternate employer 902 organization pursuant to this chapter and Chapters 4121. and 903 4123. of the Revised Code. The administrator shall determine the 904 amount of the bond-letter of credit required under this division 905 for each registrant, which shall be at least one million 906 dollars. 907

(2) An alternate employer organization may appeal the
amount of the security required pursuant to rules adopted under
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division (D) (1) of this section in accordance with section
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4123.291 of the Revised Code.
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(3) An alternate employer organization shall pay premiums
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and assessments for purposes of Chapters 4121. and 4123. of the
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Revised Code on a monthly basis pursuant to division (A) of
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section 4123.35 of the Revised Code.
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916 (E) Notwithstanding division (D) of this section, an alternate employer organization that qualifies for self-917 insurance or retrospective rating under section 4123.29 or 918 4123.35 of the Revised Code shall abide by the financial 919 disclosure and security requirements pursuant to those sections 920 and the rules adopted under those sections in place of the 921 requirements specified in division (D) of this section or 922 specified in rules adopted pursuant to that division. 923

(F) Except to the extent necessary for the administrator 924 to administer the statutory duties of the administrator and for 925 employees of the state to perform their official duties, all 926 records, reports, client lists, and other information obtained 927 from an alternate employer organization under divisions (A), 928 (B), and (C) of this section are confidential and shall be 929 considered trade secrets and shall not be published or open to 930 public inspection. 931

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

(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.

(I) A financial statement required under division (B)(7) 938 of this section for initial registration shall be the most 939 recent financial statement of the alternate employer 940 organization and shall not be older than thirteen months. For 941 each registration renewal, the alternate employer organization 942 shall file the required financial statement within one hundred 943 eighty days after the end of the alternate employer 944 organization's entity's fiscal year. An alternate employer 945 946 organization may apply to the administrator for an extension beyond that time if the alternate employer organization provides 947 the administrator with a letter from the alternate employer 948 organization's auditor stating the reason for delay and the 949 anticipated completion date. 950

(J) Multiple, unrelated alternate employer organizations
 shall not combine together for purposes of obtaining workers'
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 compensation coverage or for forming any type of self-insurance
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 arrangement available under this chapter.

(K) An alternate employer organization may not own or co 955
 own an affiliated professional employer organization or
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 alternate employer organization.
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(L) The administrator shall maintain a list of alternate
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 employer organizations registered under this section that is
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 readily available to the public by electronic or other means.
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(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.
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(2) As used in this division:

Page 35

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(a) "Health benefit plan" means a policy, contract,
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certificate, agreement, or other program offered to provide,
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deliver, arrange for, pay for, or reimburse any of the costs of
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health care services, including benefit plans marketed in the
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individual or group market by all associations, whether bona
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fide or non-bona fide. "Health benefit plan" also means a
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limited benefit plan.

(b) "Health care services" has the same meaning as in973section 3922.01 of the Revised Code.974

Sec. 4133.08. (A) An alternate employer organization shall 975 maintain positive working capital at initial or annual 976 registration, as reflected in the financial statements submitted 977 to the bureau of workers' compensation. If a deficit in working 978 capital is reflected in the financial statements submitted to 979 the bureau, the alternate employer organization shall submit to 980 the administrator of workers' compensation a quarterly financial 981 statement for each calendar quarter during which there is a 982 deficit in working capital, accompanied by an attestation of the 983 chief executive officer, president, or other individual who 984 985 serves as the controlling person of the alternate employer organization that all wages, taxes, workers' compensation 986 premiums, and employee benefits have been paid by the alternate 987 employer organization. The bond or letter of credit required 988 under division (D)(1) of section 4133.07 of the Revised Code 989 shall be held by a depository designated by the administrator 990 and shall secure payment by the alternate employer organization 991 of all taxes, wages, benefits, or other entitlements due or 992 otherwise pertaining to worksite employees, if the alternate 993 employer organization does not make those payments when due. 994

(B) An alternate employer organization shall prepare

financial statements in accordance with generally accepted 996 accounting principles and submit them for registration and 997 registration renewal under section 4133.07 of the Revised Code. 998 The financial statements shall be audited by an independent 999 alternate public accountant authorized to practice in the 1000 jurisdiction in which that accountant is located. 1001 (1) The resulting report of the auditor shall not include 1002 either of the following: 1003 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 ability of the alternate employer organization to continue as a 1007 going concern. 1008 (2) However, if an alternate employer organization does 1009 not have at least twelve months of operating history on which to 1010 base financial statements, the financial statements shall be 1011 reviewed by a certified public accountant. 1012 (3) Notwithstanding division (B)(1)(a) of this section, if 1013 an alternate employer organization is a subsidiary or is related 1014 to a variable interest entity, the alternate employer 1015 organization or alternate employer organization entity may 1016 submit financial statements of the alternate employer 1017 organization. 1018 (C) The bureau shall deny initial or annual registration 1019 to an applicant that does not meet the requirements of this 1020 section. 1021

Section 7. That existing sections 4121.43, 4123.57,10224123.58, 4123.85, 4123.88, 4133.03, 4133.07, and 4133.08 of the1023Revised Code are hereby repealed.1024

| Section 8. Section 4123.85 of the Revised Code, as amended | 1025 |
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| by this act, applies to all claims pursuant to Chapters 4121., | 1026 |
| 4123., 4127., and 4131. of the Revised Code arising on or after | 1027 |
| the effective date of this section. | 1028 |
| Cratical (102 E7 and (102 E0 of the Deviced Cade | 1029 |
| Sections 4123.57 and 4123.58 of the Revised Code, as | 1029 |
| amended by this act, apply to claims pending on or arising on or | 1030 |
| after the effective date of this section. | 1031 |