## As Introduced

135th General Assembly Regular Session 2023-2024

S. B. No. 25

**Senator Hackett** 

# A BILL

To amend sections 323.28, 2329.01, 2329.151,	1
2329.152, 2329.153, 2329.17, 2329.18, 2329.19,	2
2329.20, 2329.211, 2329.26, 2329.27, 2329.312,	3
2329.51, and 2329.52 of the Revised Code	4
relating to real property foreclosures.	5

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

Section 1. That sections 323.28, 2329.01, 2329.151,	6
2329.152, 2329.153, 2329.17, 2329.18, 2329.19, 2329.20,	7
2329.211, 2329.26, 2329.27, 2329.312, 2329.51, and 2329.52 of	8
the Revised Code be amended to read as follows:	9
Sec. 323.28. (A) A finding shall be entered in a	10
proceeding under section 323.25 of the Revised Code for taxes,	11
assessments, penalties, interest, and charges due and payable at	12
the time the deed of real property sold or transferred under	13
this section is transferred to the purchaser or transferee, plus	14
the cost of the proceeding. For purposes of determining such	15
amount, the county treasurer may estimate the amount of taxes,	16
assessments, interest, penalties, charges, and costs that will	17
be payable at the time the deed of the property is transferred	18
to the purchaser or transferee.	19

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The court of common pleas, a municipal court with20jurisdiction, or the county board of revision with jurisdiction21pursuant to section 323.66 of the Revised Code shall order such22premises to be transferred pursuant to division (E) of this23section or shall order such premises to be sold for payment of24the finding, but for not less than either of the following,25unless the county treasurer applies for an appraisal:26

The total amount of such finding;

(2) The fair market value of the premises, as determined by the county auditor, plus the cost of the proceeding.

If <u>Alternatively</u>, the county treasurer applies for an appraisal, the premises shall be appraised in the manner provided by section 2329.17 of the Revised Code, and <u>may move to</u> sell the premises using the most recent appraised value for the premises as shown on the records of the county auditor, in which <u>case the premises</u> shall be sold for at least two-thirds of the appraised value.

Notwithstanding the minimum sales price provisions of 37 divisions (A)(1) and (2) of this section to the contrary, a 38 parcel sold pursuant to this section shall not be sold for less 39 than the amount described in division (A)(1) of this section if 40 the highest bidder is the owner of record of the parcel 41 immediately prior to the judgment of foreclosure or a member of 42 the following class of parties connected to that owner: a member 43 of that owner's immediate family, a person with a power of 44 attorney appointed by that owner who subsequently transfers the 45 parcel to the owner, a sole proprietorship owned by that owner 46 or a member of the owner's immediate family, or partnership, 47 trust, business trust, corporation, or association in which the 48 owner or a member of the owner's immediate family owns or 49

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controls directly or indirectly more than fifty per cent. If a 50 parcel sells for less than the amount described in division (A) 51 (1) of this section, the officer conducting the sale shall 52 require the buyer to complete an affidavit stating that the 53 buyer is not the owner of record immediately prior to the 54 judgment of foreclosure or a member of the specified class of 55 parties connected to that owner, and the affidavit shall become 56 part of the court records of the proceeding. If the county 57 auditor discovers within three years after the date of the sale 58 that a parcel was sold to that owner or a member of the 59 specified class of parties connected to that owner for a price 60 less than the amount so described, and if the parcel is still 61 owned by that owner or a member of the specified class of 62 parties connected to that owner, the auditor within thirty days 63 after such discovery shall add the difference between that 64 amount and the sale price to the amount of taxes that then stand 65 charged against the parcel and is payable at the next succeeding 66 date for payment of real property taxes. As used in this 67 paragraph, "immediate family" means a spouse who resides in the 68 same household and children. 69

(B) From the proceeds of the sale the costs shall be first 70 paid, next the amount found due for taxes, then the amount of 71 any taxes accruing after the entry of the finding and before the 72 73 deed of the property is transferred to the purchaser following the sale, all of which taxes shall be deemed satisfied, though 74 the amount applicable to them is deficient, and any balance 75 shall be distributed according to section 5721.20 of the Revised 76 Code. No statute of limitations shall apply to such action. Upon 77 sale, all liens for taxes due at the time the deed of the 78 property is transferred to the purchaser following the sale, and 79 liens subordinate to liens for taxes, shall be deemed satisfied 80 and discharged unless otherwise provided by the order of sale.

(C) If the county treasurer's estimate of the amount of 82 the finding under division (A) of this section exceeds the 83 amount of taxes, assessments, interest, penalties, and costs 84 actually payable when the deed is transferred to the purchaser, 85 the officer who conducted the sale shall refund to the purchaser 86 the difference between the estimate and the amount actually 87 payable. If the amount of taxes, assessments, interest, 88 89 penalties, and costs actually payable when the deed is transferred to the purchaser exceeds the county treasurer's 90 estimate, the officer shall certify the amount of the excess to 91 the treasurer, who shall enter that amount on the real and 92 public utility property tax duplicate opposite the property; the 93 amount of the excess shall be payable at the next succeeding 94 date prescribed for payment of taxes in section 323.12 of the 95 Revised Code, and shall not be deemed satisfied and discharged 96 pursuant to division (B) of this section. 97

(D) Premises ordered to be sold under this section but 98 remaining unsold for want of bidders after being offered for 99 sale on two separate occasions, not less than two weeks apart, 100 or after being offered for sale on one occasion in the case of 101 abandoned land as defined in section 323.65 of the Revised Code, 102 shall be forfeited to the state or to a political subdivision, 103 school district, or county land reutilization corporation 104 pursuant to Chapter 5722. or section 5723.01 of the Revised 105 Code, and shall be disposed of pursuant to Chapter 5722. or 106 5723. of the Revised Code. 107

(E) Notwithstanding section 5722.03 of the Revised Code,
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if the complaint alleges that the property is delinquent vacant
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land as defined in section 5721.01 of the Revised Code,
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abandoned lands as defined in section 323.65 of the Revised 111 Code, or lands described in division (F) of section 5722.01 of 112 the Revised Code, and the value of the taxes, assessments, 113 penalties, interest, and all other charges and costs of the 114 action exceed the auditor's fair market value of the parcel, 115 then the court or board of revision having jurisdiction over the 116 matter on motion of the plaintiff, or on the court's or board's 117 own motion, shall, upon any adjudication of foreclosure, order, 118 without appraisal and without sale, the fee simple title of the 119 property to be transferred to and vested in an electing 120 subdivision as defined in division (A) of section 5722.01 of the 121 Revised Code. For purposes of determining whether the taxes, 122 assessments, penalties, interest, and all other charges and 123 costs of the action exceed the actual fair market value of the 124 parcel, the auditor's most current valuation shall be rebuttably 125 presumed to be, and constitute prima-facie evidence of, the fair 126 market value of the parcel. In such case, the filing for 127 journalization of a decree of foreclosure ordering that direct 128 transfer without appraisal or sale shall constitute confirmation 129 of the transfer and thereby terminate any further statutory or 130 common law right of redemption. 131

(F) Whenever the officer charged to conduct the sale 132 offers any parcel for sale, the officer first shall read aloud a 133 complete legal description of the parcel, or in the alternative, 134 may read aloud only a summary description and a parcel number if 135 the county has adopted a permanent parcel number system and if 136 the advertising notice published prior to the sale includes a 137 complete legal description or indicates where the complete legal 138 description may be obtained. 139

Sec. 2329.01. (A) Lands and tenements, including vested 140 legal interests therein, permanent leasehold estates renewable 141

forever, and goods and chattels, not exempt by law, shall be 142 subject to the payment of debts, and liable to be taken on 143 execution and sold as provided in sections 2329.02 to 2329.61 of 144 the Revised Code. 145 (B) As used in sections 2329.02 to 2329.61 of the Revised 146 Code: 147 (1) "Commercial property" means any property that is not 148 residential property. 149 (2) "Private selling officer" means a resident of this 150 state licensed as both an auctioneer under Chapter 4707. of the 151 Revised Code and as a real estate broker or real estate 152 salesperson under Chapter 4735. of the Revised Code. 153 (3) "Residential mortgage loan" and "residential property" 154 have the same meanings as in section 2308.01 of the Revised 155 Code. 156 (4) "Sale date" means the day on which an auction for real 157 estate concludes. 158 (5) "Start date" means the first day an auction for real 159 estate is open for bidding to the public. 160 161 Sec. 2329.151. Except as provided in sections 2329.152 to 2329.154 of the Revised Code, all public auctions of goods, 162 chattels, or lands levied upon by execution shall be conducted 163 personally by one of the following: 164 (A) An officer of the court; 165 (B) For the public auction of goods and chattels, a 166 resident of this state licensed as an auctioneer under Chapter 167 4707. of the Revised Code: 168

<del>(C)<u>(</u>C)(1)</del> For the public auction of lands, a private	169
selling officer who is not affiliated with or employed by either	170
of the following:	171
<u>(a) A mortgagee or mortgage servicer;</u>	172
(b) A subsidiary of a mortgagee or mortgage servicer.	173
(2) As used in division (C)(1) of this section,	174
"affiliated with" a mortgagee or mortgage servicer means a	175
person that, directly or indirectly, through one or more	176
intermediaries, controls, is controlled by, or is under common	177
control with, the specified mortgagee or mortgage servicer.	178
(3) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit	179
<u>a mortgagee or mortgage servicer from engaging in a regular</u>	180
course of business with an independent private selling officer.	181
Sec. 2329.152. (A) In every action demanding the judicial_	182
or execution sale of real estate in which the debtor has failed	183
to plead or otherwise defend as provided by the Rules of Civil	184
Procedure, the judgment creditor may elect that the real estate	185
be sold at a public auction by a private selling officer. If the	186
judgment creditor elects to have the real estate sold by the	187
private selling officer, the judgment creditor shall file with	188
the clerk of the court a praecipe directing the issuance of an	189
order of sale to the private selling officer. A judgment	190
creditor may specify multiple private selling officers in the	191
praecipe, any of which may conduct the sale.	192
praecipe, any of which may conduct the sale. In every <u>other</u> action demanding the judicial or execution	192 193

estate at a public auction, unless the judgment creditor files a195motion with the court for an order authorizing a specified196private selling officer to sell the real estate at a public197

auction. If the court authorizes a private selling officer to 198 sell the real estate, the judgment creditor may seek to have the 199 property sold by the private selling officer authorized by the 200 court or by the county sheriff. If the judgment creditor elects 201 to have the property sold by the private selling officer 202 authorized by the court, the judgment creditor shall file with 203 204 the clerk of the court a praecipe requesting the issuance of an order of appraisal to the sheriff and an order of sale to the 205 206 private selling officer authorized by the court. Upon-

<u>Upon</u> the filing of <u>that</u> the practipe, the clerk of the 207 court shall immediately issue both of the following: 208

(1) An order of appraisal to the sheriff, who shall obtain209an appraisal of the real estate in conformity with sections2102329.17 and 2329.18 of the Revised Code;211

(2) An <u>an</u> order of sale to the private selling officer, who, after the return or determination of the appraisal, shall advertise and sell the real estate in conformity with applicable provisions of sections 2329.01 to 2329.61 of the Revised Code <u>using the appraised value established under section 2329.17 of</u> <u>the Revised Code</u>.

Within ten days after the issuance of an order of sale to 218 a private selling officer, any lienholder who is a party to the 219 action may file a motion with the court objecting to the use of 220 the private selling officer. If such motion is filed within ten 221 days after the issuance of the order of sale and the court 222 determines there is good and reasonable cause, as defined in 223 this division, the court may order that the sale be reset, 224 republished, and conducted by the county sheriff. 225

As used in this division, "good and reasonable cause"\_\_\_\_

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means that the lienholder is more likely to have its lien 227 satisfied, in whole or in part, if the sale is conducted by the 228 county sheriff. 229 (B) (1) As used in this division: 230 (a) "Business day" means a calendar day that is not a 231 Saturday or Sunday or a legal holiday as defined in section 1.14 232 of the Revised Code. 233 (b) "Remote bid" means a bid submitted in writing via 234 facsimile, electronic mail, or overnight delivery or courier. 235 (2) If the sale of the real estate is conducted at a 236 physical location and not online, then each judgment creditor 237 and lienholder who was a party to the action may submit a remote 238 bid to the sheriff or the private selling officer. Each sheriff 239 and private selling officer shall establish and maintain a 240 facsimile number or an electronic mail address for use by 241 judgment creditors and lienholders in submitting remote bids. 242 Each remote bid shall be of a fixed maximum amount and shall be 243 delivered to the sheriff or private selling officer on or before 244 four-thirty p.m. on the business day immediately preceding the 245 246 date of the sale date. (3) Before the sale, the sheriff or the private selling 247 officer shall confirm receipt of the remote bid by sending 248 notice of such receipt via facsimile or electronic mail to the 249 judgment creditor or lienholder who submitted the remote bid. 250 During the sale, the sheriff or the private selling officer 251 shall place the remote bid on behalf of the judgment creditor or 252

shall place the remote bid on behalf of the judgment creditor or252lienholder who submitted the remote bid. After the sale, the253sheriff or the private selling officer shall provide notice of254the results of the sale not later than the close of business on255

the day of the sale to all judgment creditors and lienholders256who submitted remote bids. Such notice shall be sent via257facsimile or electronic mail to the judgment creditor or258lienholder or by posting the results of the sale on a public web259site.260

(4) If a sheriff or private selling officer fails to place a remote bid on behalf of a judgment creditor or lienholder to the prejudice of the judgment creditor or lienholder, then, upon the filing of a motion to vacate the sale within ten business days after the sale date, the sale shall be vacated.

(C) (1) A judgment creditor that obtains a court order 266 authorizing a specified private selling officer to sell the real 267 estate at a public auction pursuant to division (A) of this 268 section may instruct the private selling officer to postpone the 269 sale of the real estate one or more times, provided, however 270 that all rescheduled sale dates shall be within one hundred 271 eighty days of the initial sale date. Upon receiving this 272 instruction, the private selling officer shall postpone the sale 273 of the real estate by announcing that the sale is postponed. If 274 the sale is at a physical location, this announcement shall be 275 made at the sale and shall include the date, time, and place of 276 the rescheduled sale of the real estate. If the sale is online, 277 this announcement shall be made on the auction web site and 278 shall include the date of the rescheduled sale of real estate. 279 Each such announcement shall be deemed to meet the notice 280 requirement in section 2329.26 of the Revised Code. 281

(2) If the judgment creditor does not wish to postpone the
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sale of the real estate, the judgment creditor may instruct the
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private selling officer to cancel the sale of the real estate.
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Upon receiving this instruction, the private selling officer
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shall cancel the sale of the real estate by announcing that the286sale is canceled. If the sale is at a physical location, this287announcement shall be made at the sale. If the sale is online,288this announcement shall be made on the auction web site and289shall remain posted there until at least the end of the seven-290calendar-day three-calendar-day bidding period described in291division (E)(1)(a) of this section 2329.152 of the Revised Code.292

(3) If the sale of the real estate is postponed or
canceled as described in divisions (C) (1) and (2) of this
section, all bids made on the real estate prior to the
postponement or cancellation of the sale shall be void.

(D) (1) If the judgment creditor obtains a court order to 297have the real estate sold by a private selling officer, then: 298

# (a) The cost of the appraisal required by section 2329.17 299 of the Revised Code shall be taxed as costs in the case. 300

(b)The cost of the advertisement required by section3012329.26 of the Revised Code shall be taxed as costs in the case.302

(c) (b) The fee charged by the private selling officer and 303 all costs incurred by the private selling officer other than the 304 costs described in divisions division (D) (1) (a) and (b) of this 305 section shall be taxed as costs in the case up to an amount 306 equal to one and one-half per cent of the sale price of the real 307 estate. To the extent the fees and costs described in division 308  $\frac{(D)(1)(c)}{(D)(1)(b)}$  of this section exceed one and one-half per 309 cent of the sale price of the real estate, they shall not be 310 included in the amount necessary to redeem real estate under 311 section 2329.33 of the Revised Code or in the calculation of any 312 deficiency judgment under section 2329.08 of the Revised Code 313 but rather. Rather, the fees and costs shall be paid by the 314

buyer of the property, the judgment creditor, or from the	315
judgment creditor's portion of the proceeds of the sale <u>in an</u>	316
amount not exceeding ten per cent of the sale price of the real	317
<u>estate</u> .	318
(2) The private selling officer shall file with the court	319
that issued the order of sale an itemized report of all	320
appraisal, publication, marketing, and other expenses of a sale	321
conducted under this section and all fees charged by the private	322
selling officer for marketing the real estate or conducting the	323
sale of the real estate, including the fee charged by the title	324
agent or title insurance company for administrative services, if	325
applicable, and title, escrow, and closing services. Each filing	326
of such itemized report shall be deemed to meet the writ of	327
execution requirement in section 2329.28 of the Revised Code.	328
(E)(1) The private selling officer who conducts a sale	329
under this section may do any of the following:	330
(a) Market the real estate and conduct the public auction	331
of the real estate online or at any physical location in the	332
county in which the real estate is situated. If the auction	333
occurs online, the auction shall be open for bidding for a	334
minimum of seven three calendar days, counted by excluding the	335
day the auction is first open for bidding and, notwithstanding	336
section 1.14 of the Revised Code, including all subsequent days.	337
The online auction shall be conducted in a manner so that all	338
bids are publicly displayed upon entry by the bidder throughout	339
the bidding period described in division (E)(1)(a) of this	340
section.	341
(b) Time a title incompany exact lineared under Charles	240

(b) Hire a title insurance agent licensed under Chapter
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3953. of the Revised Code or title insurance company authorized
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to do business under that chapter to assist the private selling
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order.

<ul> <li>(c) Execute to the purchaser, or to the purchaser's legal</li> <li>representatives, a deed of conveyance of the real estate sold;</li> <li>(d) Record on behalf of the purchaser the deed conveying</li> <li>348</li> </ul>
(d) Record on behalf of the purchaser the deed conveying 348
title to the real estate sold, notwithstanding that the deed may 349
not actually have been delivered to the purchaser prior to its 350
recording. 351
(2) By placing a bid at a sale conducted pursuant to this 352
section, a purchaser appoints the private selling officer who 353
conducts the sale as agent of the purchaser for the sole purpose 354
of accepting delivery of the deed. 355
(3) The private selling officer who conducts the sale 356
shall hire a title insurance agent licensed under Chapter 3953. 357
of the Revised Code or title insurance company authorized to do 358
business under that chapter to perform title, escrow, and 359
closing services related to the sale of the real estate. 360
(F) The fee charged by the title agent or title insurance 361
company for services provided under divisions (E)(1)(b) and (3) 362
of this section shall be taxed as costs in the case provided 363
they are reasonable. Fees less than or equal to five hundred 364
dollars are presumed to be reasonable. Fees exceeding five 365
hundred dollars shall be paid only if authorized by a court 366

Sec. 2329.153. (A) Not later than ninety days after368effective date of this section September 28, 2016, the369department of administrative services shall solicit competitive370sealed proposals for the creation, operation, and maintenance of371the official public sheriff sale web site and an integrated372auction management system. The official public sheriff sale web373

site and integrated auction management system shall be a single 374 statewide system for use by all county sheriffs in accordance 375 with the requirements of this section. 376 (B) The official public sheriff sale web site shall meet 377 the following minimum requirements: 378 (1) The web site shall have a domain name relevant to the 379 judicial sale of real property. 380 (2) The web site shall be limited to the judicial sale of 381 real property located in this state. 382 383 (3) The web site shall not charge a fee for members of the public to view properties for sale. 384 (4) The web site shall allow each county sheriff to add 385 text, images, or graphics to the web site for the purpose of 386 identifying the county or sheriff conducting the sale. 387 (5) The web site shall include industry-standard features 388 and functionality, including user guides, online financial 389 transaction device payments, anti-snipe functionality, watch 390 lists, electronic mail notifications, maximum bid limits, 391 automatic incremental bidding, and search and map features that 392 allow users to search by county, zip code, address, parcel 393 number, appraised value, party name, case number, and other 394 variables relevant to the judicial sale of real property. As 395 used in this section, "financial transaction device" has the 396 same meaning as in section 301.28 of the Revised Code. 397

(6) The web site shall include features that allow for the
(6) The web site shall include features that allow for the
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(7) The web site shall provide a secure payment processing	402
system that accepts online payments for property sold via the	403
web site and, in an efficient and cost-effective manner,	404
transfers those payments to the appropriate county official or	405
account.	406
(8) The web site shall include the ability for an attorney	407
or law firm to enter a bid in a representative capacity.	408
(9) The web site shall be integrated with the auction	409
management system described in division (C) of this section.	410
(C) The auction management system shall meet the following	411
minimum requirements:	412
(1) The auction management system shall have a role-based	413
workflow engine to assist in conducting sales on the web site,	414
workflow engine to assist in conducting sales on the web site, capturing data, complying with all relevant laws, and managing	414 415
capturing data, complying with all relevant laws, and managing	415
capturing data, complying with all relevant laws, and managing administrative processes related to the judicial sale of real	415 416
capturing data, complying with all relevant laws, and managing administrative processes related to the judicial sale of real property in a timely, secure, and accurate manner.	415 416 417
<pre>capturing data, complying with all relevant laws, and managing administrative processes related to the judicial sale of real property in a timely, secure, and accurate manner. (2) The auction management system shall record the data</pre>	415 416 417 418
<pre>capturing data, complying with all relevant laws, and managing administrative processes related to the judicial sale of real property in a timely, secure, and accurate manner. (2) The auction management system shall record the data necessary to meet the reporting requirements of section 2329.312</pre>	415 416 417 418 419
<pre>capturing data, complying with all relevant laws, and managing administrative processes related to the judicial sale of real property in a timely, secure, and accurate manner. (2) The auction management system shall record the data necessary to meet the reporting requirements of section 2329.312 of the Revised Code.</pre>	415 416 417 418 419 420

(4) The auction management system shall be able to record
fees, costs, deposits, and other money items with the objective
of ensuring an accurate accounting of moneys received and
disbursed in each judicial sale of real property.

(5) The auction management system shall be integrated with428the web site described in division (B) of this section.429

(6) The auction management system shall conduct the sale	430
in a manner so that all bids are publicly displayed upon entry	431
by the bidder throughout the bidding period described in	432
division (E)(1) of this section.	433
(D) The license fee for the creation, operation, and	434
maintenance of the official public sheriff sale web site and	435
integrated auction management system shall be determined using a	436
per-transaction license fee model or a per-use license fee	437
model. The addition of a property to the official public sheriff	438
sale web site or the auction management system shall each be	439
deemed a transaction for purposes of determining the license	440
fee. The license fee applicable to each judicial sale of real	441
property shall be taxed as costs in the case. No additional	442
license fees shall be assessed to the county sheriff.	443
(E)(1) Not later than one year after the effective date of	444
this section September 28, 2016, in all cases in which the	445
sheriff is ordered to conduct a judicial sale of real property,	446
the following shall occur:	447
(a) For residential property, the sale may be conducted on	448
the official public sheriff sale web site for a five-year period	449
beginning on the date the online system is fully operational.	450
After this five-year period sales shall be conducted on the	451
official public sheriff sale web site.	452
(b) For commercial property, the sale may be conducted on	453
the official public sheriff sale web site.	454
All sales conducted on the official public sheriff sale	455
web site shall be open for bidding for at least <del>seven <u>three</u></del>	456
days.	457
(2) If the sale of the real property is to be conducted on	458
(2, 11 the sale of the fear property is to be conducted on	100

the official public sheriff sale web site, the judgment creditor 459 may instruct the sheriff to postpone the sale of the real 460 property one time for up to one hundred eighty days after the 461 initial sale date. Upon receiving such instruction for 462 postponement, the sheriff shall postpone the sale of the 463 property by announcing on the official public sheriff sale web 464 site that the sale is postponed and giving notice of the 465 rescheduled sale date. This announcement shall be deemed to meet 466 the notice requirement of section 2329.26 of the Revised Code. 467

(3) If the judgment creditor does not wish to postpone the 468 sale of the real property, the judgment creditor may instruct 469 the sheriff to cancel the sale of the property. Upon receiving 470 this instruction, the sheriff shall cancel the sale of the 471 property by announcing on the official public sheriff sale web 472 site that the sale is canceled. This announcement shall remain 473 posted on the official public sheriff sale web site until at 474 least the end of the seven-day three-day bidding period 475 described in division (E)(1) of this section. 476

(4) If the sale of the real property is postponed or
canceled according to divisions (E) (2) and (3) of this section,
all bids made on the real property prior to the postponement or
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cancellation of the sale shall be void.

(F) Pursuant to their authority in section 9.482 of the
Revised Code, counties may elect to enter into a shared services
agreement relating to the judicial sale of real property on the
official public sheriff sale web site. The shared services
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agreement may seek to improve efficiency and reduce costs in the
yudicial sale of real property by consolidating administrative
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Sec. 2329.17. (A) When execution is levied upon-lands and 488

tenements real property, the sheriff shall call an inquest of 489 three disinterested freeholders, who are residents of, and real 490 property owners in, appraised value of the real property shall 491 be the most recent appraised value of the real property as shown 492 on the records of the county auditor of the county where the 493 lands real property taken in execution are is situated, who 494 495 shall appraise the property so levied upon, upon actual view. (B) If the property to be appraised is residential 496 property, the freeholders selected by the sheriff shall return 497 to the sheriff an estimate of the value of the property in money 498 within twenty-one calendar days of the issuance of the order of 499 appraisal by the clerk of the court. 500 If the court has ordered or the clerk of the court has 501 issued an order for a private selling officer to advertise and 502 503 sell the appraised property, the freeholders selected by the sheriff shall also deliver a copy of their appraisal to the 504 private selling officer contemporaneously with their delivery of 505 their appraisal to the sheriff. 506 (C) If the freeholders selected by the sheriff under-507 division (B) of this section do not deliver their appraisal 508 within twenty-one calendar days of the issuance of the order of 509 appraisal by the clerk of the court as required by division (B) 510 of this section, then all of the following shall occur: 511 (1) The cost of the appraisal by the freeholders shall not 512 be payable to the freeholders or taxed as costs in the case. 513 (2) The appraised value of the property shall be the most 514 recent appraised value of the property as shown on the records 515 of the county auditor, unless, for good cause shown, the court 516 517 authorizes a separate appraisal of the property.

(3) The advertisement and sale of the <u>real property</u> shall	518
proceed immediately in accordance with the order of	519
advertisement and sale issued by the clerk of the court.	520
If a separate appraisal of the property is obtained, the	521
cost of the appraisal shall be included as an expense of the	522
sale pursuant to division (D) of section 2329.152 of the Revised	523
<del>Code.</del>	524
(D) If the property to be appraised is commercial	525
property, the freeholders selected by the sheriff shall return-	526
to the sheriff an estimate of the value of the property in money-	527
in accordance with the timing or other requirements, if any,	528
that may be established for the sale.	529
$\frac{(E)}{(C)}$ The municipal corporation or township in which the	530
real property is situated may inspect prior to the judicial sale	531
any structures located on-lands subject to a writ of execution-	532
the real property.	533
Sec. 2329.18. (A) If a court has ordered or the clerk of a	534
court has issued an order for the sheriff to advertise and sell	535
the real estate for which the appraised value has been-	536
determined pursuant to section 2329.17 of the Revised Code, the	537
sheriff shall <del>deposit a copy of the appraisal with the clerk of</del>	538
	539
the court from which the writ was issued, and immediately	
the court from which the writ was issued, and immediately advertise and sell such the real estate in conformity with	540
	540 541
advertise and sell such the real estate in conformity with	
advertise and sell such the real estate in conformity with sections 2329.01 to 2329.61 of the Revised Code.	541
advertise and sell <u>such-the</u> real estate in conformity with sections 2329.01 to 2329.61 of the Revised Code. (B) If the court has ordered or the clerk of the court has	541 542

private selling officer shall immediately advertise and sell the 546

real estate in conformity with sections 2329.01 to 2329.61 of 547 the Revised Code. 548

Sec. 2329.19. Upon the determination of the appraised 549 value pursuant to section 2329.17 of the Revised Code, if If it 550 appears that two-thirds of the appraised value, as established 551 pursuant to section 2329.17 of the Revised Code, of the lands 552 and tenements real property levied upon is sufficient to satisfy 553 the execution, with costs, the judgment on which the execution 554 issued shall not operate as a lien on the residue of the 555 debtor's estate to the prejudice of any other judgment creditor. 556

Sec. 2329.20. Except as otherwise provided in this section 557 or sections 2329.51 and 2329.52 of the Revised Code, no tract of 558 land shall be sold for less than two-thirds the amount of the 559 appraised value as determined established pursuant to section 560 2329.17 of the Revised Code. In all cases in which a junior 561 mortgage or other junior lien is sought to be enforced against 562 real estate by an order, judgment, or decree of court, subject 563 to a prior lien thereon, and such prior lien, and the claims or 564 obligations secured thereby, are unaffected by such order, 565 judgment, or decree, the court making such order, judgment, or 566 decree, may determine the minimum amount for which such real 567 estate may be sold. In such a case, the minimum amount shall be 568 not less than two-thirds of the difference between the appraised 569 value of the real estate as determined established in that 570 section, and the amount remaining unpaid on the claims or 571 obligations secured by such prior lien. 572

Sec. 2329.211. (A) (1) In every action demanding the 573 judicial or execution sale of residential property, if the 574 judgment creditor is the purchaser at the sale, the purchaser 575 shall not be required to make a sale deposit. All other 576 purchasers shall make a sale deposit as follows:

(a) If the appraised value of the residential property is less than or equal to ten thousand dollars, the deposit shall be 579 two thousand dollars. 580

(b) If the appraised value of the residential property is greater than ten thousand dollars but less than or equal to two hundred thousand dollars, the deposit shall be five thousand dollars.

(c) If the appraised value of the residential property is 585 greater than two hundred thousand dollars, the deposit shall be 586 ten thousand dollars. 587

(2) The timing of the deposit and other payment 588 requirements shall be established by the court or the person 589 conducting the sale and included in the advertisement of the 590 sale. If the purchaser fails to meet the timing or other 591 requirements of the deposit, the sale shall be invalid and the 592 residential property may be brought to sale on the provisional 593 second sale any subsequent start date, if any, described in 594 division (B) of section 2329.52 of the Revised Code, and 595 596 included in the notice required by division (A)(1)(a)(i) of section 2329.26 of the Revised Code. 597

(3) If the sale is held online, the deposit may be made by 598 a financial transaction device as defined in section 301.28 of 599 the Revised Code.

(B) In every action demanding the judicial or execution 601 sale of commercial property, the purchaser at the sale shall 602 make a deposit pursuant to the requirements, if any, established 603 for the sale. 604

Sec. 2329.26. (A) Lands and tenements taken in execution

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shall not be sold until all of the following occur:

(1) (a) Except as otherwise provided in division (A) (1) (b)
of this section, the judgment creditor who seeks the sale of the
lands and tenements or the judgment creditor's attorney does
both of the following:

(i) Causes a written notice to be served in accordance 611 with divisions (A) and (B) of Civil Rule 5 upon the judgment 612 debtor and upon each other party to the action in which the 613 judgment giving rise to the execution was rendered. Such notice 614 shall include the start date, time, and place of the sale if the 615 sale is to be held at a physical location or the start date and 616 web site address of the sale if the sale is to be held online. 617 Such notice shall also include the provisional second sale any 618 subsequent start date described in division (B) of section 619 2329.52 of the Revised Code, if applicable. 620

(ii) At least seven calendar days prior to the <u>sale\_date</u> of the sale, files with the clerk of the court that rendered the judgment giving rise to the execution a copy of the written notice described in division (A)(1)(a)(i) of this section with proof of service endorsed on the copy in the form described in division (B) of Civil Rule 5.

(b) Service of the written notice described in division(A) (1) (a) (i) of this section is not required to be made upon any party who is in default for failure to appear in the action in which the judgment giving rise to the execution was rendered.

(2) One of the following applies:

(a) The officer taking the lands and tenements gives
public notice once a week for at least three consecutive weeks
before the day of sale if the sale is to be held at a physical
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location or the start date of the sale if the sale is to be-	635
conducted onlinedate. The last date of publication shall be four	636
or more calendar days prior to the sale date.	637
Such notice shall be by advertisement in a newspaper of	638
general circulation in the county. The newspaper shall meet the	639
requirements of section 7.12 of the Revised Code. The court	640
ordering the sale may designate in the order of sale the	641
newspaper in which this public notice shall be published.	642
The notice shall include all the following information:	643
(i) The date, time, and place of the sale if the sale is	644
to be held at a physical location;	645
(ii) The start date, the minimum duration, and web site	646
address of the sale if the sale is to be held online;	647
(iii) The deposit required by section 2329.211 of the	648
Revised Code;	649
(iv) That the purchaser shall be responsible for those	650
costs, allowances, and taxes that the proceeds of the sale are	651
insufficient to cover;	652
(v) The Information meeting the requirements of division	653
(A)(2)(a)(i) or (ii) of this section, as applicable to where the	654
<u>sale is to be held, for any subsequent provisional second</u> sale	655
date described in division (B) of section 2329.52 of the Revised	656
Code, if applicable; provided, however, that no sale shall be	657
invalid, nor shall the court vacate any sale, if the notice	658
described in division (A)(1)(a)(i) of this section or the public	659
notice described in division (A)(2) of this section fails to	660
include the provisional <u>sale date</u> for a second subsequent sale	661
of the property and the property is sold on the initial sale	662
date.	663

(b) <del>If Except as provided in division (B) of this section,</del>	664
if a private selling officer has been ordered to sell the lands	665
and tenements, the private selling officer shall give the public	666
notice described in division (A)(2)(a) of this section in the	667
newspaper designated by the court. If the court has not	668
designated a newspaper, the private selling officer shall give-	669
this public notice in the newspaper customarily used or	670
designated by the county sheriff. No sale that otherwise	671
complies with division (A)(2) of this section shall be invalid.	672
(B) Any officer taking lands and tenements in execution	673
that are advertised and offered for sale but unsold for want of	674
bidders may advertise any subsequent sale in any method the	675
officer finds suitable, which may include online advertisement	676
instead of print. Any such advertisement of a subsequent sale	677
shall be deemed to meet the notice requirement in division (A)	678
of this section.	679
(C) The officer taking the lands and tenements shall	680
collect the purchaser's information required by section 2329.271	681
of the Revised Code.	682
(C) (D) A sale of lands and tenements taken in execution	683
may be set aside in accordance with <del>division (A) or (B) of</del>	684
section 2329.27 of the Revised Code.	685
Sec. 2329.27. (A) When the public notice required by	686
division (A)(2) of section 2329.26 of the Revised Code is made	687
in a newspaper published weekly, it is sufficient to insert it	688
for three consecutive weeks. If both a daily and weekly edition-	689
of the paper are published and the circulation of the daily in-	690
the county exceeds that of the weekly in the county, or if the-	691
lands and tenements taken in execution are situated in a city,	692
both a daily and weekly edition of the paper are published, and	693

the circulation of the daily in that city exceeds the	694
circulation of the weekly in that city, it is sufficient to	695
publish the public notice in the daily once a week for three	696
consecutive weeks before the day of sale, each insertion to be-	697
on the same day of the week. The expense of that publication in	698
a daily shall not exceed the cost of publishing it in a weekly.	699
(B)(1) Subject Except as provided in division (B) of	700
section 2329.26 of the Revised Code and subject to divisions (B)	701
(2) (B) and $(3)$ (C) of this section, all sales of lands and	702
tenements taken in execution that are made without compliance	703
with the written notice requirements of division (A)(1)(a) of	704
section 2329.26 of the Revised Code, the public notice	705
requirements of division (A)(2) of that section, <u>and</u> the	706
purchaser information requirements of section 2329.271 of the	707
Revised Code <del>, and division (A) of this section</del> shall be set	708
aside, on motion by any interested party, by the court to which	709
the execution is returnable.	710
(2) (B) Proof of service endorsed upon a copy of the	711

written notice required by division (A) (1) (a) of section 2329.26712of the Revised Code shall be conclusive evidence of the service713of the written notice in compliance with the requirements of714that division, unless a party files a motion to set aside the715sale of the lands and tenements pursuant to division (B) (1) (A)716of this section and establishes by a preponderance of the717evidence that the proof of service is fraudulent.718

(3)-(C)If the court to which the execution is returnable719enters its order confirming the sale of the lands and tenements,720the order shall have both of the following effects:721

(a) (1) The order shall be deemed to constitute a judicial 722 finding as follows: 723

 $\frac{(i)}{(a)}$  That the sale of the lands and tenements complied 724 with the written notice requirements of division (A)(1)(a) of 725 section 2329.26 of the Revised Code and the public notice 726 requirements of division (A) (2) of that section and division (A) 727 of this section, or that compliance of that nature did not occur 728 but the failure to give a written notice to a party entitled to 729 notice under division (A)(1)(a) of section 2329.26 of the 730 731 Revised Code has not prejudiced that party;

(ii) (b)That all parties entitled to notice under732division (A) (1) (a) of section 2329.26 of the Revised Code733received adequate notice of the date, time, and place of the734sale of the lands and tenements;735

(iii) (c) That the purchaser has submitted the contact information required by section 2329.271 of the Revised Code.

(b) (2)The order bars the filing of any further motions738to set aside the sale of the lands and tenements.739

Sec. 2329.312. (A) All levying officers appointed or 740 authorized by a court under this chapter to conduct the judicial 741 or execution sale of residential property consisting of one to 742 743 four single-family units shall submit quarterly reports to the attorney general. The reports shall include data on each such 744 sale conducted by the officer, including data showing whether or 745 not the deadlines required under division (E) of section 746 2308.02, division (B) of section 2329.17, and sections 2329.30 747 and 2329.31 of the Revised Code are met. 748

(B) The attorney general shall make the information(B) The attorney general shall make the information(A) of this750section publicly available.751

Sec. 2329.51. When real estate taken on execution and 752

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appraised, is advertised, and offered for sale <u>but</u> is unsold for 753 want of bidders meeting the minimum bid requirements established 754 under this chapter, the court from which the execution issued, 755 on motion of the plaintiff, shall set aside such appraisement 756 and order a new appraisement to be made, or shall set aside the 757 758 levy and appraisement and award a new execution to issue. When such real estate or a part of it has been two times appraised 759 and thereafter advertised and offered for sale, and is unsold 760 for want of bidders, the court may direct the amount for which 761 it shall be sold. 762

Sec. 2329.52. (A) Except as otherwise provided in division (B) of this section, when premises are ordered to be sold, if said premises, or a part thereof, remain unsold for want of bidders <u>meeting the minimum bid requirements established under</u> <u>this chapter</u>, after having been once appraised, advertised, and offered for sale, the court from which the order of sale issued may, on motion of the plaintiff or defendant and from time to time until said premises are disposed of, order a new appraisement and sale or direct the amount for which said premises, or a part thereof, may be sold.

The court may order that the premises be sold as follows:773One third cash in hand, one third in nine months from the day of774sale\_date, and the remaining one third in eighteen months from775the day of sale\_date, the deferred payments to draw interest at776six per cent and be secured by a mortgage on the premises.777

(B) (1) When a residential property is ordered to be sold
pursuant to a residential mortgage loan foreclosure action, if
the property remains unsold after the first auction, then a
second subsequent auction shall be held and the property shall
be sold to the highest bidder without regard to the minimum bid
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requirement in section 2329.20 of the Revised Code, but subject	783
to section 2329.21 of the Revised Code relating to costs,	784
allowances, and real estate taxes, or disposed of in any other	785
manner pursuant to this chapter or any other provision of the	786
<u>Revised Code</u> . <del>This second Any subsequent</del> auction shall be held	787
not earlier than <del>seven <u>three</u> days and not later than thirty days</del>	788
after the first-previous auction start date. A residential	789
property that remains unsold after two auctions may be	790
subsequently offered for sale without regard to the minimum bid	791
requirement in section 2329.20 of the Revised Code, but subject	792
to section 2329.21 of the Revised Code relating to costs,	793
allowances, and real estate taxes, or disposed of in any other-	794
manner pursuant to this chapter or any other provision of the-	795
Revised Code.	796
(2) For purposes of division (B)(1) of this section, the	797
(2) FOI pulposes of division (b)(i) of this section, the	191
first day an online auction is open for bidding shall be	798
considered the <u>start</u> date of the auction.	799
Section 2. That existing sections 323.28, 2329.01,	800
	0.01
2329.151, 2329.152, 2329.153, 2329.17, 2329.18, 2329.19,	801
2329.20, 2329.211, 2329.26, 2329.27, 2329.312, 2329.51, and	802

2329.52 of the Revised Code are hereby repealed.

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