As Introduced

131st General Assembly

Regular Session 2015-2016

H. B. No. 81

Representative Hambley
Cosponsors: Representatives Becker, Blessing, Brown, Hood, Koehler, Rezabek,
Thompson

A BILL

То	amend sections 3501.01, 3501.17, 5705.194,	1
	5739.021, and 5739.026 of the Revised Code to	2
	eliminate the ability to conduct special	3
	elections in February and to require a political	4
	subdivision to prepay sixty-five per cent of the	5
	estimated cost of a special election.	6

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

Section 1. That sections 3501.01, 3501.17, 5705.194,	7
5739.021, and 5739.026 of the Revised Code be amended to read as	8
follows:	9
Sec. 3501.01. As used in the sections of the Revised Code	10
relating to elections and political communications:	11
(A) "General election" means the election held on the	12
first Tuesday after the first Monday in each November.	13
(B) "Regular municipal election" means the election held	14
on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November in each	15
odd-numbered year.	16
(C) "Regular state election" means the election held on	17

the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November in each

even-numbered year.

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- (D) "Special election" means any election other than those 20 elections defined in other divisions of this section. A special 21 election may be held only on the first Tuesday after the first 22 Monday in February, May, August, or November, or on the day 23 authorized by a particular municipal or county charter for the 24 holding of a primary election, except that in any year in which 25 a presidential primary election is held, no special election 26 shall be held in February or May, except as authorized by a 27 municipal or county charter, but may be held on the first 28 Tuesday after the first Monday in March. 29
- (E)(1) "Primary" or "primary election" means an election 30 held for the purpose of nominating persons as candidates of 31 political parties for election to offices, and for the purpose 32 of electing persons as members of the controlling committees of 33 political parties and as delegates and alternates to the 34 conventions of political parties. Primary elections shall be 35 held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in May of each 36 year except in years in which a presidential primary election is 37 held. 38
- (2) "Presidential primary election" means a primary 39 election as defined by division (E)(1) of this section at which 40 an election is held for the purpose of choosing delegates and 41 alternates to the national conventions of the major political 42 parties pursuant to section 3513.12 of the Revised Code. Unless 43 otherwise specified, presidential primary elections are included 44 in references to primary elections. In years in which a 45 presidential primary election is held, all primary elections 46 shall be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in 47

March except as otherwise authorized by a municipal or county	48
charter.	49
(F) "Political party" means any group of voters meeting	50
the requirements set forth in section 3517.01 of the Revised	51
Code for the formation and existence of a political party.	52
(1) "Major political party" means any political party	53
organized under the laws of this state whose candidate for	54
governor or nominees for presidential electors received not less	55
than twenty per cent of the total vote cast for such office at	56
the most recent regular state election.	57
(2) "Minor political party" means any political party	58
organized under the laws of this state that meets either of the	59
following requirements:	60
(a) Except as otherwise provided in this division, the	61
political party's candidate for governor or nominees for	62
presidential electors received less than twenty per cent but not	63
less than three per cent of the total vote cast for such office	64
at the most recent regular state election. A political party	65
that meets the requirements of this division remains a political	66
party for a period of four years after meeting those	67
requirements.	68
(b) The political party has filed with the secretary of	69
state, subsequent to its failure to meet the requirements of	70
division (F)(2)(a) of this section, a petition that meets the	71
requirements of section 3517.01 of the Revised Code.	72
A newly formed political party shall be known as a minor	73
political party until the time of the first election for	74
governor or president which occurs not less than twelve months	75
subsequent to the formation of such party, after which election	76

the status of such party shall be determined by the vote for the office of governor or president.

- (G) "Dominant party in a precinct" or "dominant political 79 party in a precinct" means that political party whose candidate 80 for election to the office of governor at the most recent 81 regular state election at which a governor was elected received 82 more votes than any other person received for election to that 83 office in such precinct at such election. 84
- (H) "Candidate" means any qualified person certified in accordance with the provisions of the Revised Code for placement on the official ballot of a primary, general, or special election to be held in this state, or any qualified person who claims to be a write-in candidate, or who knowingly assents to being represented as a write-in candidate by another at either a primary, general, or special election to be held in this state.
- (I) "Independent candidate" means any candidate who claims 92 not to be affiliated with a political party, and whose name has 93 been certified on the office-type ballot at a general or special 94 election through the filing of a statement of candidacy and 95 nominating petition, as prescribed in section 3513.257 of the 96 Revised Code.
- (J) "Nonpartisan candidate" means any candidate whose name is required, pursuant to section 3505.04 of the Revised Code, to be listed on the nonpartisan ballot, including all candidates for judicial office, for member of any board of education, for municipal or township offices in which primary elections are not held for nominating candidates by political parties, and for offices of municipal corporations having charters that provide for separate ballots for elections for these offices.

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(K) "Party candidate" means any candidate who claims to be	106
a member of a political party and who has been certified to	107
appear on the office-type ballot at a general or special	108
election as the nominee of a political party because the	109
candidate has won the primary election of the candidate's party	110
for the public office the candidate seeks, has been nominated	111
under section 3517.012, or is selected by party committee in	112
accordance with section 3513.31 of the Revised Code.	113
(L) "Officer of a political party" includes, but is not	114
limited to, any member, elected or appointed, of a controlling	115
committee, whether representing the territory of the state, a	116
district therein, a county, township, a city, a ward, a	117
precinct, or other territory, of a major or minor political	118
party.	119
(M) "Question or issue" means any question or issue	120
certified in accordance with the Revised Code for placement on	121
an official ballot at a general or special election to be held	122
in this state.	123
(N) "Elector" or "qualified elector" means a person having	124
the qualifications provided by law to be entitled to vote.	125
(O) "Voter" means an elector who votes at an election.	126
(P) "Voting residence" means that place of residence of an	127
elector which shall determine the precinct in which the elector	128
may vote.	129
(Q) "Precinct" means a district within a county	130
established by the board of elections of such county within	131
which all qualified electors having a voting residence therein	132
may vote at the same polling place.	133

(R) "Polling place" means that place provided for each

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precinct at which the electors having a voting residence in such precinct may vote.	135 136
(S) "Board" or "board of elections" means the board of	137
elections appointed in a county pursuant to section 3501.06 of	138
the Revised Code.	139
	1.40
(T) "Political subdivision" means a county, township,	140
city, village, or school district.	141
(U) "Election officer" or "election official" means any of	142
the following:	143
(1) Secretary of state;	144
(2) Employees of the secretary of state serving the	145
division of elections in the capacity of attorney,	146
administrative officer, administrative assistant, elections	147
administrator, office manager, or clerical supervisor;	148
(3) Director of a board of elections;	149
(4) Deputy director of a board of elections;	150
(5) Member of a board of elections;	151
(6) Employees of a board of elections;	152
(7) Precinct election officials;	153
(8) Employees appointed by the boards of elections on a	154
temporary or part-time basis.	155
(V) "Acknowledgment notice" means a notice sent by a board	156
of elections, on a form prescribed by the secretary of state,	157
informing a voter registration applicant or an applicant who	158
wishes to change the applicant's residence or name of the status	159
of the application; the information necessary to complete or	160
update the application, if any; and if the application is	161

complete, the precinct in which the applicant is to vote.	162
(W) "Confirmation notice" means a notice sent by a board	163
of elections, on a form prescribed by the secretary of state, to	164
a registered elector to confirm the registered elector's current	165
address.	166
(X) "Designated agency" means an office or agency in the	167
state that provides public assistance or that provides state-	168
funded programs primarily engaged in providing services to	169
persons with disabilities and that is required by the National	170
Voter Registration Act of 1993 to implement a program designed	171
and administered by the secretary of state for registering	172
voters, or any other public or government office or agency that	173
implements a program designed and administered by the secretary	174
of state for registering voters, including the department of job	175
and family services, the program administered under section	176
3701.132 of the Revised Code by the department of health, the	177
department of mental health and addiction services, the	178
department of developmental disabilities, the opportunities for	179
Ohioans with disabilities agency, and any other agency the	180
secretary of state designates. "Designated agency" does not	181
include public high schools and vocational schools, public	182
libraries, or the office of a county treasurer.	183
(Y) "National Voter Registration Act of 1993" means the	184
"National Voter Registration Act of 1993," 107 Stat. 77, 42	185
U.S.C.A. 1973gg.	186
(Z) "Voting Rights Act of 1965" means the "Voting Rights	187
Act of 1965," 79 Stat. 437, 42 U.S.C.A. 1973, as amended.	188
(AA) "Photo identification" means a document that meets	189
each of the following requirements:	190

(1) It shows the name of the individual to whom it was	191
issued, which shall conform to the name in the poll list or	192
signature pollbook.	193
(2) It shows the current address of the individual to whom	194
it was issued, which shall conform to the address in the poll	195
list or signature pollbook, except for a driver's license or a	196
state identification card issued under section 4507.50 of the	197
Revised Code, which may show either the current or former	198
address of the individual to whom it was issued, regardless of	199
whether that address conforms to the address in the poll list or	200
signature pollbook.	201
(3) It shows a photograph of the individual to whom it was	202
issued.	
issuea.	203
(4) It includes an expiration date that has not passed.	204
(5) It was issued by the government of the United States	205
or this state.	206
Sec. 3501.17. (A) The expenses of the board of elections	207
shall be paid from the county treasury, in pursuance of	208
appropriations by the board of county commissioners, in the same	209
manner as other county expenses are paid. If the board of county	210
commissioners fails to appropriate an amount sufficient to	211
provide for the necessary and proper expenses of the board of	212
elections pertaining to the conduct of elections, the board of	213
elections may apply to the court of common pleas within the	214
county, which shall fix the amount necessary to be appropriated	215
and the amount shall be appropriated. Payments shall be made	216
upon vouchers of the board of elections certified to by its	217
chairperson or acting chairperson and the director or deputy	218
director, upon warrants of the county auditor.	219

The board of elections shall not incur any obligation	220
involving the expenditure of money unless there are moneys	221
sufficient in the funds appropriated therefor to meet the	222
obligation. If the board of elections requests a transfer of	223
funds from one of its appropriation items to another, the board	224
of county commissioners shall adopt a resolution providing for	225
the transfer except as otherwise provided in section 5705.40 of	226
the Revised Code. The expenses of the board of elections shall	227
be apportioned among the county and the various subdivisions as	228
provided in this section, and the amount chargeable to each	229
subdivision shall be <u>paid as provided in division (J) of this</u>	230
section or withheld by the county auditor from the moneys	231
payable thereto at the time of the next tax settlement. At the	232
time of submitting budget estimates in each year, the board of	233
elections shall submit to the taxing authority of each	234
subdivision, upon the request of the subdivision, an estimate of	235
the amount to be <u>paid or</u> withheld from the subdivision during	236
the <u>current or</u> next fiscal year.	237

A board of township trustees may, by resolution, request that the county auditor withhold expenses charged to the township from a specified township fund that is to be credited with revenue at a tax settlement. The resolution shall specify the tax levy ballot issue, the date of the election on the levy issue, and the township fund from which the expenses the board of elections incurs related to that ballot issue shall be withheld.

(B) Except as otherwise provided in division (F) of this 246 section, the compensation of the members of the board of 247 elections and of the director, deputy director, and regular 248 employees in the board's offices, other than compensation for 249 overtime worked; the expenditures for the rental, furnishing, 250

and equipping of the office of the board and for the necessary 251 office supplies for the use of the board; the expenditures for 252 the acquisition, repair, care, and custody of the polling 253 places, booths, quardrails, and other equipment for polling 254 places; the cost of tally sheets, maps, flags, ballot boxes, and 2.5.5 all other permanent records and equipment; the cost of all 256 elections held in and for the state and county; and all other 257 expenses of the board which are not chargeable to a political 258 subdivision in accordance with this section shall be paid in the 259 same manner as other county expenses are paid. 260

(C) The compensation of precinct election officials and 261 intermittent employees in the board's offices; the cost of 262 renting, moving, heating, and lighting polling places and of 263 placing and removing ballot boxes and other fixtures and 264 equipment thereof, including voting machines, marking devices, 265 and automatic tabulating equipment; the cost of printing and 266 delivering ballots, cards of instructions, registration lists 267 required under section 3503.23 of the Revised Code, and other 268 election supplies, including the supplies required to comply 269 with division (H) of section 3506.01 of the Revised Code; the 270 271 cost of contractors engaged by the board to prepare, program, test, and operate voting machines, marking devices, and 272 automatic tabulating equipment; and all other expenses of 273 conducting primaries and elections in the odd-numbered years 274 shall be charged to the subdivisions in and for which such 275 primaries or elections are held. The charge for each primary or 276 general election in odd-numbered years for each subdivision 277 shall be determined in the following manner: first, the total 278 cost of all chargeable items used in conducting such elections 279 shall be ascertained; second, the total charge shall be divided 280 by the number of precincts participating in such election, in 281

order to fix the cost per precinct; third, the cost per precinct

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shall be prorated by the board of elections to the subdivisions

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conducting elections for the nomination or election of offices

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in such precinct; fourth, the total cost for each subdivision

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shall be determined by adding the charges prorated to it in each

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precinct within the subdivision.

- (D) The entire cost of special elections held on a day 288 other than the day of a primary or general election, both in 289 odd-numbered or in even-numbered years, shall be charged to the 290 291 subdivision. Where a special election is held on the same day as 292 a primary or general election in an even-numbered year, the subdivision submitting the special election shall be charged 293 only for the cost of ballots and advertising. Where a special 294 election is held on the same day as a primary or general 295 election in an odd-numbered year, the subdivision submitting the 296 special election shall be charged for the cost of ballots and 297 advertising for such special election, in addition to the 298 charges prorated to such subdivision for the election or 299 nomination of candidates in each precinct within the 300 subdivision, as set forth in the preceding paragraph. 301
- (E) Where a special election is held on the day specified 302 by division (E) of section 3501.01 of the Revised Code for the 303 holding of a primary election, for the purpose of submitting to 304 the voters of the state constitutional amendments proposed by 305 the general assembly, and a subdivision conducts a special 306 election on the same day, the entire cost of the special 307 election shall be divided proportionally between the state and 308 the subdivision based upon a ratio determined by the number of 309 issues placed on the ballot by each, except as otherwise 310 provided in division (G) of this section. Such proportional 311 division of cost shall be made only to the extent funds are 312

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available for such purpose from amounts appropriated by the	313
general assembly to the secretary of state. If a primary	314
election is also being conducted in the subdivision, the costs	315
shall be apportioned as otherwise provided in this section.	316
(F) When a precinct is open during a general, primary, or	317
special election solely for the purpose of submitting to the	318
voters a statewide ballot issue, the state shall bear the entire	319
cost of the election in that precinct and shall reimburse the	320
county for all expenses incurred in opening the precinct.	321
(G)(1) The state shall bear the entire cost of advertising	322
in newspapers statewide ballot issues, explanations of those	323
issues, and arguments for or against those issues, as required	324
by Section 1g of Article II and Section 1 of Article XVI, Ohio	325
Constitution, and any other section of law. Appropriations made	326
to the controlling board shall be used to reimburse the	327
secretary of state for all expenses the secretary of state	328
incurs for such advertising under division (G) of section	329
3505.062 of the Revised Code.	330
(2) There is hereby created in the state treasury the	331
statewide ballot advertising fund. The fund shall receive	332
transfers approved by the controlling board, and shall be used	333
by the secretary of state to pay the costs of advertising state	334
ballot issues as required under division (G)(1) of this section.	335
Any such transfers may be requested from and approved by the	336
controlling board prior to placing the advertising, in order to	337
facilitate timely provision of the required advertising.	338
(H) The cost of renting, heating, and lighting	339
registration places; the cost of the necessary books, forms, and	340
supplies for the conduct of registration; and the cost of	341

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printing and posting precinct registration lists shall be

charged to the subdivision in which such registration is held. 343 (I) At the request of a majority of the members of the 344 board of elections, the board of county commissioners may, by 345 resolution, establish an elections revenue fund. Except as 346 otherwise provided in this division, the purpose of the fund 347 shall be to accumulate revenue withheld by or paid to the county 348 under this section for the payment of any expense related to the 349 duties of the board of elections specified in section 3501.11 of 350 the Revised Code, upon approval of a majority of the members of 351 the board of elections. The fund shall not accumulate any 352 revenue withheld by or paid to the county under this section for 353 the compensation of the members of the board of elections or of 354 the director, deputy director, or other regular employees in the 355 board's offices, other than compensation for overtime worked. 356 Notwithstanding sections 5705.14, 5705.15, and 5705.16 of 357 the Revised Code, the board of county commissioners may, by 358 resolution, transfer money to the elections revenue fund from 359 any other fund of the political subdivision from which such 360 payments lawfully may be made. Following an affirmative vote of 361 a majority of the members of the board of elections, the board 362 of county commissioners may, by resolution, rescind an elections 363 revenue fund established under this division. If an elections 364 revenue fund is rescinded, money that has accumulated in the 365 fund shall be transferred to the county general fund. 366 (J) (1) Not less than fifteen business days before the 367 deadline for submitting a question or issue for placement on the 368 ballot at a special election, the board of elections shall 369 prepare and file with the board of county commissioners and the 370

office of the secretary of state the estimated cost, based on

the factors enumerated in this section, for preparing for and

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conducting an election on one question or issue, one nomination	373
for office, or one election to office in each precinct in the	374
county at that special election and shall divide that cost by	375
the number of registered voters in the county.	376
(2) The board of elections shall provide to a political	377
subdivision seeking to submit a question or issue, a nomination	378
for office, or an election to office for placement on the ballot	379
at a special election with the estimated cost for preparing for	380
and conducting that election, which shall be calculated either	381
by multiplying the number of registered voters in the political	382
subdivision with the cost calculated under division (J)(1) of	383
this section or by multiplying the cost per precinct with the	384
number or precincts in the political subdivision. A political	385
subdivision submitting a question or issue, a nomination for	386
office, or an election to office for placement on the ballot at	387
that special election shall pay to the county elections revenue	388
fund sixty-five per cent of the estimated cost of the election	389
not less than ten business days after the deadline for	390
submitting a question or issue for placement on the ballot for	391
that special election.	392
(3) Not later than sixty days after the date of a special	393
election, the board of elections shall provide to each political	394
subdivision the true and accurate cost for the question or	395
issue, nomination for office, or election to office that the	396
subdivision submitted to the voters on the special election	397
ballots. If the board of elections determines that a subdivision	398
paid less for the cost of preparing and conducting a special	399
election under division (J)(2) of this section than the actual	400
cost calculated under this division, the subdivision shall remit	401
to the county elections revenue fund the difference between the	402
payment made under division (J)(2) of this section and the final_	403

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cost calculated under this division within thirty days after	404
being notified of the final cost. If the board of elections	405
determines that a subdivision paid more for the cost of	406
preparing and conducting a special election under division (J)	407
(2) of this section than the actual cost calculated under this	408
division, the board of elections promptly shall notify the board	409
of county commissioners of that difference. The board of county	410
commissioners shall remit from the county elections revenue fund	411
to the political subdivision the difference between the payment	412
made under division (J)(2) of this section and the final cost	413
calculated under this division within thirty days after	414
receiving that notification.	415
(K) As used in this section:	416
(1) "Political subdivision" and "subdivision" mean any	417
board of county commissioners, board of township trustees,	418
legislative authority of a municipal corporation, board of	419
education, or any other board, commission, district, or	420
authority that is empowered to levy taxes or permitted to	421
receive the proceeds of a tax levy, regardless of whether the	422
entity receives tax settlement moneys as described in division	423
(A) of this section;	424
(2) "Statewide ballot issue" means any ballot issue,	425
whether proposed by the general assembly or by initiative or	426
referendum, that is submitted to the voters throughout the	427
state.	428
Sec. 5705.194. The board of education of any city, local,	429
exempted village, cooperative education, or joint vocational	430
school district at any time may declare by resolution that the	431
revenue that will be raised by all tax levies which the district	432
is authorized to impose, when combined with state and federal	433

revenues, will be insufficient to provide for the emergency	434
requirements of the school district or to avoid an operating	435
deficit, and that it is therefore necessary to levy an	436
additional tax in excess of the ten-mill limitation. The	437
resolution shall be confined to a single purpose and shall	438
specify that purpose. If the levy is proposed to renew all or a	439
portion of the proceeds derived from one or more existing levies	440
imposed pursuant to this section, it shall be called a renewal	441
levy and shall be so designated on the ballot. If two or more	442
existing levies are to be included in a single renewal levy but	443
are not scheduled to expire in the same year, the resolution	444
shall specify that the existing levies to be renewed shall not	445
be levied after the year preceding the year in which the renewal	446
levy is first imposed. Notwithstanding the original purpose of	447
any one or more existing levies that are to be in any single	448
renewal levy, the purpose of the renewal levy may be either to	449
avoid an operating deficit or to provide for the emergency	450
requirements of the school district. The resolution shall	451
further specify the amount of money it is necessary to raise for	452
the specified purpose for each calendar year the millage is to	453
be imposed; if a renewal levy, whether the levy is to renew all,	454
or a portion of, the proceeds derived from one or more existing	455
levies; and the number of years in which the millage is to be in	456
effect, which may include a levy upon the current year's tax	457
list. The number of years may be any number not exceeding ten.	458
The question shall be submitted at a special election on a	459
date specified in the resolution. The date shall not be earlier	460
than eighty days after the adoption and certification of the	461
resolution to the county auditor and shall be consistent with	462
the requirements of section 3501.01 of the Revised Code. A	463

resolution for a renewal levy shall not be placed on the ballot

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unless the question is submitted on a date on which a special	465
election may be held under division (D) of section 3501.01 of	466
the Revised Code, except for the first Tuesday after the first	467
Monday in February and August, during the last year the levy to	468
be renewed may be extended on the real and public utility	469
property tax list and duplicate, or at any election held in the	470
ensuing year, except that if the resolution proposes renewing	471
two or more existing levies, the question shall be submitted on	472
the date of the general or primary election held during the last	473
year at least one of the levies to be renewed may be extended on	474
that list and duplicate, or at any election held during the	475
ensuing year. For purposes of this section, a levy shall be	476
considered to be an "existing levy" through the year following	477
the last year it can be placed on the real and public utility	478
property tax list and duplicate.	479

The submission of questions to the electors under this
section is subject to the limitation on the number of election
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dates established by section 5705.214 of the Revised Code.
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The resolution shall go into immediate effect upon its 483 passage, and no publication of the resolution shall be necessary 484 other than that provided for in the notice of election. A copy 485 of the resolution shall immediately after its passing be 486 certified to the county auditor of the proper county. Section 487 5705.195 of the Revised Code shall govern the arrangements for 488 the submission of questions to the electors under this section 489 and other matters concerning the election. Publication of notice 490 of the election shall be made in one newspaper of general 491 circulation in the county once a week for two consecutive weeks, 492 or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code, prior to the 493 election. If the board of elections operates and maintains a web 494 site, the board of elections shall post notice of the election 495

on its web site for thirty days prior to the election. If a	496
majority of the electors voting on the question submitted in an	497
election vote in favor of the levy, the board of education of	498
the school district may make the additional levy necessary to	499
raise the amount specified in the resolution for the purpose	500
stated in the resolution. The tax levy shall be included in the	501
next tax budget that is certified to the county budget	502
commission.	503

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After the approval of the levy and prior to the time when the first tax collection from the levy can be made, the board of education may anticipate a fraction of the proceeds of the levy and issue anticipation notes in an amount not exceeding the total estimated proceeds of the levy to be collected during the first year of the levy.

The notes shall be issued as provided in section 133.24 of 510 the Revised Code, shall have principal payments during each year 511 after the year of their issuance over a period not to exceed 512 five years, and may have principal payment in the year of their 513 issuance.

Sec. 5739.021. (A) For the purpose of providing additional 515 general revenues for the county or supporting criminal and 516 administrative justice services in the county, or both, and to 517 pay the expenses of administering such levy, any county may levy 518 a tax at the rate of not more than one per cent at any multiple 519 of one-fourth of one per cent upon every retail sale made in the 520 county, except sales of watercraft and outboard motors required 521 to be titled pursuant to Chapter 1548. of the Revised Code and 522 sales of motor vehicles, and may increase the rate of an 523 existing tax to not more than one per cent at any multiple of 524 one-fourth of one per cent. 525

The tax shall be levied and the rate increased pursuant to	526
a resolution of the board of county commissioners. The	527
resolution shall state the purpose for which the tax is to be	528
levied and the number of years for which the tax is to be	529
levied, or that it is for a continuing period of time. If the	530
tax is to be levied for the purpose of providing additional	531
general revenues and for the purpose of supporting criminal and	532
administrative justice services, the resolution shall state the	533
rate or amount of the tax to be apportioned to each such	534
purpose. The rate or amount may be different for each year the	535
tax is to be levied, but the rates or amounts actually	536
apportioned each year shall not be different from that stated in	537
the resolution for that year. If the resolution is adopted as an	538
emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of	539
the public peace, health, or safety, it must receive an	540
affirmative vote of all of the members of the board of county	541
commissioners and shall state the reasons for such necessity.	542
The board shall deliver a certified copy of the resolution to	543
the tax commissioner, not later than the sixty-fifth day prior	544
to the date on which the tax is to become effective, which shall	545
be the first day of the calendar quarter.	546

Prior to the adoption of any resolution under this 547 section, the board of county commissioners shall conduct two 548 public hearings on the resolution, the second hearing to be not 549 less than three nor more than ten days after the first. Notice 550 of the date, time, and place of the hearings shall be given by 551 publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the county, 552 or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code, once a week 553 on the same day of the week for two consecutive weeks, the 554 second publication being not less than ten nor more than thirty 555 days prior to the first hearing. 556

Except as provided in division (B)(3) of this section, the 557 resolution shall be subject to a referendum as provided in 558 sections 305.31 to 305.41 of the Revised Code. 559

If a petition for a referendum is filed, the county 560 auditor with whom the petition was filed shall, within five 561 days, notify the board of county commissioners and the tax 562 commissioner of the filing of the petition by certified mail. If 563 the board of elections with which the petition was filed 564 declares the petition invalid, the board of elections, within 565 five days, shall notify the board of county commissioners and 566 the tax commissioner of that declaration by certified mail. If 567 the petition is declared to be invalid, the effective date of 568 the tax or increased rate of tax levied by this section shall be 569 the first day of a calendar quarter following the expiration of 570 sixty-five days from the date the commissioner receives notice 571 from the board of elections that the petition is invalid. 572

(B) (1) A resolution that is not adopted as an emergency 573 measure may direct the board of elections to submit the question 574 of levying the tax or increasing the rate of tax to the electors 575 of the county at a special election held on the date specified 576 by the board of county commissioners in the resolution, provided 577 that the election occurs not less than ninety days after a 578 certified copy of such resolution is transmitted to the board of 579 elections and the election is not held in February or August of 580 any year. Upon transmission of the resolution to the board of 581 elections, the board of county commissioners shall notify the 582 tax commissioner in writing of the levy question to be submitted 583 to the electors. No resolution adopted under this division shall 584 go into effect unless approved by a majority of those voting 585 upon it, and, except as provided in division (B)(3) of this 586 section, shall become effective on the first day of a calendar 587

quarter following the expiration of sixty-five days from the

date the tax commissioner receives notice from the board of

elections of the affirmative vote.

588

- (2) A resolution that is adopted as an emergency measure 591 shall go into effect as provided in division (A) of this 592 section, but may direct the board of elections to submit the 593 question of repealing the tax or increase in the rate of the tax 594 to the electors of the county at the next general election in 595 the county occurring not less than ninety days after a certified 596 copy of the resolution is transmitted to the board of elections. 597 Upon transmission of the resolution to the board of elections, 598 the board of county commissioners shall notify the tax 599 commissioner in writing of the levy question to be submitted to 600 the electors. The ballot question shall be the same as that 601 prescribed in section 5739.022 of the Revised Code. The board of 602 elections shall notify the board of county commissioners and the 603 tax commissioner of the result of the election immediately after 604 the result has been declared. If a majority of the qualified 605 electors voting on the question of repealing the tax or increase 606 in the rate of the tax vote for repeal of the tax or repeal of 607 the increase, the board of county commissioners, on the first 608 day of a calendar quarter following the expiration of sixty-five 609 days after the date the board and tax commissioner receive 610 notice of the result of the election, shall, in the case of a 611 repeal of the tax, cease to levy the tax, or, in the case of a 612 repeal of an increase in the rate of the tax, cease to levy the 613 increased rate and levy the tax at the rate at which it was 614 imposed immediately prior to the increase in rate. 615
- (3) If a vendor makes a sale in this state by printed 616 catalog and the consumer computed the tax on the sale based on 617 local rates published in the catalog, any tax levied or repealed 618

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or rate changed under this section shall not apply to such a	619
sale until the first day of a calendar quarter following the	620
expiration of one hundred twenty days from the date of notice by	621
the tax commissioner pursuant to division (H) of this section.	622
(C) If a resolution is rejected at a referendum or if a	623
resolution adopted after January 1, 1982, as an emergency	624
measure is repealed by the electors pursuant to division (B)(2)	625
of this section or section 5739.022 of the Revised Code, then	626
for one year after the date of the election at which the	627
resolution was rejected or repealed the board of county	628
commissioners may not adopt any resolution authorized by this	629
section as an emergency measure.	630
(D) The board of county commissioners, at any time while a	631
tax levied under this section is in effect, may by resolution	632
reduce the rate at which the tax is levied to a lower rate	633
authorized by this section. Any reduction in the rate at which	634
the tax is levied shall be made effective on the first day of a	635
calendar quarter next following the sixty-fifth day after a	636
certified copy of the resolution is delivered to the tax	637
commissioner.	638
(E) The tax on every retail sale subject to a tax levied	639
pursuant to this section shall be in addition to the tax levied	640
by section 5739.02 of the Revised Code and any tax levied	641
pursuant to section 5739.023 or 5739.026 of the Revised Code.	642
A county that levies a tax pursuant to this section shall	643
levy a tax at the same rate pursuant to section 5741.021 of the	644
Revised Code.	645
The additional tax levied by the county shall be collected	646

647

pursuant to section 5739.025 of the Revised Code. If the

additional tax or some portion thereof is levied for the purpose	648
of criminal and administrative justice services, the revenue	649
from the tax, or the amount or rate apportioned to that purpose,	650
shall be credited to a special fund created in the county	651
treasury for receipt of that revenue.	652
Any tax levied pursuant to this section is subject to the	653
exemptions provided in section 5739.02 of the Revised Code and	654
in addition shall not be applicable to sales not within the	655
taxing power of a county under the Constitution of the United	656
States or the Ohio Constitution.	657
(F) For purposes of this section, a copy of a resolution	658
is "certified" when it contains a written statement attesting	659
that the copy is a true and exact reproduction of the original	660
resolution.	661
(G) If a board of commissioners intends to adopt a	662
resolution to levy a tax in whole or in part for the purpose of	663
criminal and administrative justice services, the board shall	664
prepare and make available at the first public hearing at which	665
the resolution is considered a statement containing the	666
following information:	667
(1) For each of the two preceding fiscal years, the amount	668
of expenditures made by the county from the county general fund	669
for the purpose of criminal and administrative justice services;	670
(2) For the fiscal year in which the resolution is	671
adopted, the board's estimate of the amount of expenditures to	672
be made by the county from the county general fund for the	673
purpose of criminal and administrative justice services;	674
(3) For each of the two fiscal years after the fiscal year	675
in which the resolution is adopted, the board's preliminary plan	676

for expenditures to be made from the county general fund for the	677
purpose of criminal and administrative justice services, both	678
under the assumption that the tax will be imposed for that	679
purpose and under the assumption that the tax would not be	680
imposed for that purpose, and for expenditures to be made from	681
the special fund created under division (E) of this section	682
under the assumption that the tax will be imposed for that	683
purpose.	684

The board shall prepare the statement and the preliminary plan using the best information available to the board at the time the statement is prepared. Neither the statement nor the preliminary plan shall be used as a basis to challenge the validity of the tax in any court of competent jurisdiction, nor shall the statement or preliminary plan limit the authority of the board to appropriate, pursuant to section 5705.38 of the Revised Code, an amount different from that specified in the preliminary plan.

- (H) Upon receipt from a board of county commissioners of a certified copy of a resolution required by division (A) or (D) of this section, or from the board of elections of a notice of the results of an election required by division (A) or (B) (1) or (2) of this section, the tax commissioner shall provide notice of a tax rate change in a manner that is reasonably accessible to all affected vendors. The commissioner shall provide this notice at least sixty days prior to the effective date of the rate change. The commissioner, by rule, may establish the method by which notice will be provided.
- (I) As used in this section, "criminal and administrative 704 justice services" means the exercise by the county sheriff of 705 all powers and duties vested in that office by law; the exercise 706

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by the county prosecuting attorney of all powers and duties	707
vested in that office by law; the exercise by any court in the	708
county of all powers and duties vested in that court; the	709
exercise by the clerk of the court of common pleas, any clerk of	710
a municipal court having jurisdiction throughout the county, or	711
the clerk of any county court of all powers and duties vested in	712
the clerk by law except, in the case of the clerk of the court	713
of common pleas, the titling of motor vehicles or watercraft	714
pursuant to Chapter 1548. or 4505. of the Revised Code; the	715
exercise by the county coroner of all powers and duties vested	716
in that office by law; making payments to any other public	717
agency or a private, nonprofit agency, the purposes of which in	718
the county include the diversion, adjudication, detention, or	719
rehabilitation of criminals or juvenile offenders; the operation	720
and maintenance of any detention facility, as defined in section	721
2921.01 of the Revised Code; and the construction, acquisition,	722
equipping, or repair of such a detention facility, including the	723
payment of any debt charges incurred in the issuance of	724
securities pursuant to Chapter 133. of the Revised Code for the	725
purpose of constructing, acquiring, equipping, or repairing such	726
a facility.	727

Sec. 5739.026. (A) A board of county commissioners may 728 levy a tax of one-fourth or one-half of one per cent on every 729 retail sale in the county, except sales of watercraft and 730 731 outboard motors required to be titled pursuant to Chapter 1548. of the Revised Code and sales of motor vehicles, and may 732 increase an existing rate of one-fourth of one per cent to one-733 half of one per cent, to pay the expenses of administering the 734 tax and, except as provided in division (A)(6) of this section, 735 for any one or more of the following purposes provided that the 736 aggregate levy for all such purposes does not exceed one-half of 737

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one per cent:	738
(1) To provide additional revenues for the payment of	739
bonds or notes issued in anticipation of bonds issued by a	740
convention facilities authority established by the board of	741
county commissioners under Chapter 351. of the Revised Code and	742
to provide additional operating revenues for the convention	743
facilities authority;	744
(2) To provide additional revenues for a transit authority	745
operating in the county;	746
(3) To provide additional revenue for the county's general	747
fund;	748
(4) To provide additional revenue for permanent	749
improvements within the county to be distributed by the	750
community improvements board in accordance with section 307.283	751
and to pay principal, interest, and premium on bonds issued	752
under section 307.284 of the Revised Code;	753
(5) To provide additional revenue for the acquisition,	754
construction, equipping, or repair of any specific permanent	755
improvement or any class or group of permanent improvements,	756
which improvement or class or group of improvements shall be	757
enumerated in the resolution required by division (D) of this	758
section, and to pay principal, interest, premium, and other	759
costs associated with the issuance of bonds or notes in	760
anticipation of bonds issued pursuant to Chapter 133. of the	761
Revised Code for the acquisition, construction, equipping, or	762
repair of the specific permanent improvement or class or group	763
of permanent improvements;	764
(6) To provide revenue for the implementation and	765
operation of a 9-1-1 system in the county. If the tax is levied	766

or the rate increased exclusively for such purpose, the tax	767
shall not be levied or the rate increased for more than five	768
years. At the end of the last year the tax is levied or the rate	769
increased, any balance remaining in the special fund established	770
for such purpose shall remain in that fund and be used	771
exclusively for such purpose until the fund is completely	772
expended, and, notwithstanding section 5705.16 of the Revised	773
Code, the board of county commissioners shall not petition for	774
the transfer of money from such special fund, and the tax	775
commissioner shall not approve such a petition.	776
If the tax is levied or the rate increased for such	777
purpose for more than five years, the board of county	778
commissioners also shall levy the tax or increase the rate of	779
the tax for one or more of the purposes described in divisions	780
(A)(1) to (5) of this section and shall prescribe the method for	781
allocating the revenues from the tax each year in the manner	782
required by division (C) of this section.	783
(7) To provide additional revenue for the operation or	784
maintenance of a detention facility, as that term is defined	785
under division (F) of section 2921.01 of the Revised Code;	786
(8) To provide revenue to finance the construction or	787
renovation of a sports facility, but only if the tax is levied	788
for that purpose in the manner prescribed by section 5739.028 of	789
the Revised Code.	790
As used in division (A)(8) of this section:	791
(a) "Sports facility" means a facility intended to house	792
major league professional athletic teams.	793

(b) "Constructing" or "construction" includes providing

fixtures, furnishings, and equipment.

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(9) To provide additional revenue for the acquisition of	796
agricultural easements, as defined in section 5301.67 of the	797
Revised Code; to pay principal, interest, and premium on bonds	798
issued under section 133.60 of the Revised Code; and for the	799
supervision and enforcement of agricultural easements held by	800
the county;	801
(10) To provide revenue for the provision of ambulance,	802
paramedic, or other emergency medical services;	803
(11) To provide revenue for the operation of a lake	804
	0.05
facilities authority and the remediation of an impacted	805
watershed by a lake facilities authority, as provided in Chapter	806
353. of the Revised Code.	807
Pursuant to section 755.171 of the Revised Code, a board	808
of county commissioners may pledge and contribute revenue from a	809
tax levied for the purpose of division (A)(5) of this section to	810

The rate of tax shall be a multiple of one-fourth of one per cent, unless a portion of the rate of an existing tax levied under section 5739.023 of the Revised Code has been reduced, and the rate of tax levied under this section has been increased, pursuant to section 5739.028 of the Revised Code, in which case the aggregate of the rates of tax levied under this section and section 5739.023 of the Revised Code shall be a multiple of one-fourth of one per cent. The tax shall be levied and the rate increased pursuant to a resolution adopted by a majority of the members of the board. The board shall deliver a certified copy of the resolution to the tax commissioner, not later than the sixty-fifth day prior to the date on which the tax is to become effective, which shall be the first day of a calendar quarter.

the payment of debt charges on bonds issued under section 755.17

of the Revised Code.

Prior to the adoption of any resolution to levy the tax or	826
to increase the rate of tax exclusively for the purpose set	827
forth in division (A)(3) of this section, the board of county	828
commissioners shall conduct two public hearings on the	829
resolution, the second hearing to be no fewer than three nor	830
more than ten days after the first. Notice of the date, time,	831
and place of the hearings shall be given by publication in a	832
newspaper of general circulation in the county, or as provided	833
in section 7.16 of the Revised Code, once a week on the same day	834
of the week for two consecutive weeks. The second publication	835
shall be no fewer than ten nor more than thirty days prior to	836
the first hearing. Except as provided in division (E) of this	837
section, the resolution shall be subject to a referendum as	838
provided in sections 305.31 to 305.41 of the Revised Code. If	839
the resolution is adopted as an emergency measure necessary for	840
the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or	841
safety, it must receive an affirmative vote of all of the	842
members of the board of county commissioners and shall state the	843
reasons for the necessity.	844

If the tax is for more than one of the purposes set forth

in divisions (A)(1) to (7), (9), and (10) of this section, or is

exclusively for one of the purposes set forth in division (A)

(1), (2), (4), (5), (6), (7), (9), or (10) of this section, the

resolution shall not go into effect unless it is approved by a

majority of the electors voting on the question of the tax.

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(B) The board of county commissioners shall adopt a 851 resolution under section 351.02 of the Revised Code creating the 852 convention facilities authority, or under section 307.283 of the 853 Revised Code creating the community improvements board, before 854 adopting a resolution levying a tax for the purpose of a 855 convention facilities authority under division (A)(1) of this 856

section or for the purpose of a community improvements board
under division (A)(4) of this section.

858

- (C)(1) If the tax is to be used for more than one of the 859 purposes set forth in divisions (A) (1) to (7), (9), and (10) of 860 this section, the board of county commissioners shall establish 861 the method that will be used to determine the amount or 862 proportion of the tax revenue received by the county during each 863 year that will be distributed for each of those purposes, 864 including, if applicable, provisions governing the reallocation 865 of a convention facilities authority's allocation if the 866 867 authority is dissolved while the tax is in effect. The allocation method may provide that different proportions or 868 amounts of the tax shall be distributed among the purposes in 869 different years, but it shall clearly describe the method that 870 will be used for each year. Except as otherwise provided in 871 division (C)(2) of this section, the allocation method 872 established by the board is not subject to amendment during the 873 life of the tax. 874
- (2) Subsequent to holding a public hearing on the proposed 875 amendment, the board of county commissioners may amend the 876 allocation method established under division (C)(1) of this 877 section for any year, if the amendment is approved by the 878 governing board of each entity whose allocation for the year 879 would be reduced by the proposed amendment. In the case of a tax 880 that is levied for a continuing period of time, the board may 881 not so amend the allocation method for any year before the sixth 882 year that the tax is in effect. 883
- (a) If the additional revenues provided to the convention 884 facilities authority are pledged by the authority for the 885 payment of convention facilities authority revenue bonds for as 886

long as such bonds are outstanding, no reduction of the 887 authority's allocation of the tax shall be made for any year 888 except to the extent that the reduced authority allocation, when 889 combined with the authority's other revenues pledged for that 890 purpose, is sufficient to meet the debt service requirements for 891 that year on such bonds.

- (b) If the additional revenues provided to the county are 893 pledged by the county for the payment of bonds or notes 894 described in division (A)(4) or (5) of this section, for as long 895 as such bonds or notes are outstanding, no reduction of the 896 county's or the community improvements board's allocation of the 897 tax shall be made for any year, except to the extent that the 898 reduced county or community improvements board allocation is 899 sufficient to meet the debt service requirements for that year 900 on such bonds or notes. 901
- (c) If the additional revenues provided to the transit 902 authority are pledged by the authority for the payment of 903 revenue bonds issued under section 306.37 of the Revised Code, 904 for as long as such bonds are outstanding, no reduction of the 905 authority's allocation of tax shall be made for any year, except 906 to the extent that the authority's reduced allocation, when 907 combined with the authority's other revenues pledged for that 908 purpose, is sufficient to meet the debt service requirements for 909 that year on such bonds. 910
- (d) If the additional revenues provided to the county are 911 pledged by the county for the payment of bonds or notes issued 912 under section 133.60 of the Revised Code, for so long as the 913 bonds or notes are outstanding, no reduction of the county's 914 allocation of the tax shall be made for any year, except to the 915 extent that the reduced county allocation is sufficient to meet 916

the debt service requirements for that year on the bonds or 917 notes.

(D) (1) The resolution levying the tax or increasing the 919 rate of tax shall state the rate of the tax or the rate of the 920 increase; the purpose or purposes for which it is to be levied; 921 the number of years for which it is to be levied or that it is 922 for a continuing period of time; the allocation method required 923 by division (C) of this section; and if required to be submitted 924 to the electors of the county under division (A) of this 925 section, the date of the election at which the proposal shall be 926 submitted to the electors of the county, which shall be not less 927 than ninety days after the certification of a copy of the 928 resolution to the board of elections and, if the tax is to be 929 levied exclusively for the purpose set forth in division (A)(3) 930 of this section, shall not occur in February or August of any 931 year. Upon certification of the resolution to the board of 932 elections, the board of county commissioners shall notify the 933 tax commissioner in writing of the levy question to be submitted 934 to the electors. If approved by a majority of the electors, the 935 tax shall become effective on the first day of a calendar 936 quarter next following the sixty-fifth day following the date 937 the board of county commissioners and tax commissioner receive 938 from the board of elections the certification of the results of 939 the election, except as provided in division (E) of this 940 section. 941

(2) (a) A resolution specifying that the tax is to be used
exclusively for the purpose set forth in division (A) (3) of this
section that is not adopted as an emergency measure may direct
the board of elections to submit the question of levying the tax
or increasing the rate of the tax to the electors of the county
at a special election held on the date specified by the board of
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county commissioners in the resolution, provided that the 948 election occurs not less than ninety days after the resolution 949 is certified to the board of elections and the election is not 950 held in February or August of any year. Upon certification of 951 the resolution to the board of elections, the board of county 952 commissioners shall notify the tax commissioner in writing of 953 the levy question to be submitted to the electors. No resolution 954 adopted under division (D)(2)(a) of this section shall go into 955 effect unless approved by a majority of those voting upon it 956 and, except as provided in division (E) of this section, not 957 until the first day of a calendar quarter following the 958 expiration of sixty-five days from the date the tax commissioner 959 receives notice from the board of elections of the affirmative 960 vote. 961

(b) A resolution specifying that the tax is to be used 962 exclusively for the purpose set forth in division (A)(3) of this 963 section that is adopted as an emergency measure shall become 964 effective as provided in division (A) of this section, but may 965 direct the board of elections to submit the question of 966 repealing the tax or increase in the rate of the tax to the 967 electors of the county at the next general election in the 968 county occurring not less than ninety days after the resolution 969 is certified to the board of elections. Upon certification of 970 the resolution to the board of elections, the board of county 971 commissioners shall notify the tax commissioner in writing of 972 the levy question to be submitted to the electors. The ballot 973 question shall be the same as that prescribed in section 974 5739.022 of the Revised Code. The board of elections shall 975 notify the board of county commissioners and the tax 976 commissioner of the result of the election immediately after the 977 result has been declared. If a majority of the qualified 978

electors voting on the question of repealing the tax or increase 979 in the rate of the tax vote for repeal of the tax or repeal of 980 the increase, the board of county commissioners, on the first 981 day of a calendar quarter following the expiration of sixty-five 982 days after the date the board and tax commissioner received 983 notice of the result of the election, shall, in the case of a 984 repeal of the tax, cease to levy the tax, or, in the case of a 985 repeal of an increase in the rate of the tax, cease to levy the 986 increased rate and levy the tax at the rate at which it was 987 988 imposed immediately prior to the increase in rate.

(c) A board of county commissioners, by resolution, may

reduce the rate of a tax levied exclusively for the purpose set

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forth in division (A)(3) of this section to a lower rate

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authorized by this section. Any such reduction shall be made

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effective on the first day of the calendar quarter next

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following the sixty-fifth day after the tax commissioner

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receives a certified copy of the resolution from the board.

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- (E) If a vendor makes a sale in this state by printed catalog and the consumer computed the tax on the sale based on local rates published in the catalog, any tax levied or repealed or rate changed under this section shall not apply to such a sale until the first day of a calendar quarter following the expiration of one hundred twenty days from the date of notice by the tax commissioner pursuant to division (G) of this section.
- (F) The tax levied pursuant to this section shall be in 1003 addition to the tax levied by section 5739.02 of the Revised 1004 Code and any tax levied pursuant to section 5739.021 or 5739.023 1005 of the Revised Code.

A county that levies a tax pursuant to this section shall 1007 levy a tax at the same rate pursuant to section 5741.023 of the 1008

Revised Code.	1009
The additional tax levied by the county shall be collected	1010
pursuant to section 5739.025 of the Revised Code.	1011
Any tax levied pursuant to this section is subject to the	1012
exemptions provided in section 5739.02 of the Revised Code and	1013
in addition shall not be applicable to sales not within the	1014
taxing power of a county under the Constitution of the United	1015
States or the Ohio Constitution.	1016
(G) Upon receipt from a board of county commissioners of a	1017
certified copy of a resolution required by division (A) of this	1018
section, or from the board of elections a notice of the results	1019
of an election required by division (D)(1), (2)(a), (b), or (c)	1020
of this section, the tax commissioner shall provide notice of a	1021
tax rate change in a manner that is reasonably accessible to all	1022
affected vendors. The commissioner shall provide this notice at	1023
least sixty days prior to the effective date of the rate change.	1024
The commissioner, by rule, may establish the method by which	1025
notice will be provided.	1026
Section 2. That existing sections 3501.01, 3501.17,	1027
5705.194, 5739.021, and 5739.026 of the Revised Code are hereby	1028
repealed.	1029
Section 3. Section 3501.01 of the Revised Code is	1030
presented in this act as a composite of the section as amended	1031
by Am. Sub. H.B. 59, Am. Sub. S.B. 109, and Am. Sub. S.B. 193	1032
all of the 130th General Assembly. The General Assembly,	1033
applying the principle stated in division (B) of section 1.52 of	1034
the Revised Code that amendments are to be harmonized if	1035
reasonably capable of simultaneous operation, finds that the	1036
composite is the resulting version of the section in effect	1037

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prior to the effective date of the section as presented in this	1038
act.	1039