As Introduced

131st General Assembly Regular Session 2015-2016

S. B. No. 206

Senator LaRose Cosponsors: Senators Gardner, Hite, Coley, Lehner, Tavares

A BILL

То	amend sections 3517.10, 3517.105, 3517.106,	1
	3517.1011, and 3517.11 of the Revised Code to	2
	require certain campaign committees and other	3
	entities to file campaign finance statements	4
	electronically and to require the Secretary of	5
	State to make the information in those	6
	statements available online.	7

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

Section 1. That sections 3517.10, 3517.105, 3517.106,	8
3517.1011, and 3517.11 of the Revised Code be amended to read as	9
follows:	10
Sec. 3517.10. (A) Except as otherwise provided in this	11
division, every campaign committee, political action committee,	12
legislative campaign fund, political party, and political	13
contributing entity that made or received a contribution or made	14
an expenditure in connection with the nomination or election of	15
any candidate or in connection with any ballot issue or question	16
at any election held or to be held in this state shall file, on	17
a form prescribed under this section or by electronic means of	18
transmission as provided in this section and section 3517.106 of	19

the Revised Code, a full, true, and itemized statement, made	20
under penalty of election falsification, setting forth in detail	21
the contributions and expenditures, not later than four p.m. of	22
the following dates:	23
(1) The twelfth day before the election to reflect	24
contributions received and expenditures made from the close of	25
business on the last day reflected in the last previously filed	26
statement, if any, to the close of business on the twentieth day	27
before the election;	28
(2) The thirty-eighth day after the election to reflect	29
the contributions received and expenditures made from the close	30
of business on the last day reflected in the last previously	31
filed statement, if any, to the close of business on the seventh	32
day before the filing of the statement;	33
(3) The last business day of January of every year to	34
reflect the contributions received and expenditures made from	35
the close of business on the last day reflected in the last	36
previously filed statement, if any, to the close of business on	37
the last day of December of the previous year;	38
(4) The last business day of July of every year to reflect	39
the contributions received and expenditures made from the close	40
of business on the last day reflected in the last previously	41
filed statement, if any, to the close of business on the last	42
day of June of that year.	43
A campaign committee shall only be required to file the	44
statements prescribed under divisions (A)(1) and (2) of this	45
section in connection with the nomination or election of the	46
committee's candidate.	47
The statement required under division (A)(1) of this	48

section shall not be required of any campaign committee,	49
political action committee, legislative campaign fund, political	50
party, or political contributing entity that has received	51
contributions of less than one thousand dollars and has made	52
expenditures of less than one thousand dollars at the close of	53
business on the twentieth day before the election. Those	54
contributions and expenditures shall be reported in the	55
statement required under division (A)(2) of this section.	56

If an election to select candidates to appear on the 57 general election ballot is held within sixty days before a 58 general election, the campaign committee of a successful 59 candidate in the earlier election may file the statement 60 required by division (A)(1) of this section for the general 61 election instead of the statement required by division (A)(2) of 62 this section for the earlier election if the pregeneral election 63 statement reflects the status of contributions and expenditures 64 for the period twenty days before the earlier election to twenty 65 days before the general election. 66

If a person becomes a candidate less than twenty days

before an election, the candidate's campaign committee is not

required to file the statement required by division (A)(1) of

this section.

No statement under division (A)(3) of this section shall 71 be required for any year in which a campaign committee, 72 political action committee, legislative campaign fund, political 73 74 party, or political contributing entity is required to file a postgeneral election statement under division (A)(2) of this 75 section. However, a statement under division (A)(3) of this 76 section may be filed, at the option of the campaign committee, 77 political action committee, legislative campaign fund, political 78

party, c	or political	contributing	entity.	7 9
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No campaign committee of a candidate for the office of

chief justice or justice of the supreme court, and no campaign

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committee of a candidate for the office of judge of any court in

this state, shall be required to file a statement under division

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(A) (4) of this section.

Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph and in the 85 next paragraph of this section, the only campaign committees 86 required to file a statement under division (A)(4) of this 87 section are the campaign committee of a statewide candidate and 88 the campaign committee of a candidate for county office. The 89 campaign committee of a candidate for any other nonjudicial 90 office is required to file a statement under division (A)(4) of 91 this section if that campaign committee receives, during that 92 period, contributions exceeding ten thousand dollars. 93

No statement under division (A)(4) of this section shall 94 be required of a campaign committee, a political action 95 committee, a legislative campaign fund, a political party, or a 96 political contributing entity for any year in which the campaign 97 committee, political action committee, legislative campaign 98 fund, political party, or political contributing entity is 99 required to file a postprimary election statement under division 100 (A) (2) of this section. However, a statement under division (A) 101 (4) of this section may be filed at the option of the campaign 102 committee, political action committee, legislative campaign 103 fund, political party, or political contributing entity. 104

No statement under division (A)(3) or (4) of this section 105 shall be required if the campaign committee, political action 106 committee, legislative campaign fund, political party, or 107 political contributing entity has no contributions that it has 108

received and no expenditures that it has made since the last	109
date reflected in its last previously filed statement. However,	110
the campaign committee, political action committee, legislative	111
campaign fund, political party, or political contributing entity	112
shall file a statement to that effect, on a form prescribed	113
under this section and made under penalty of election	114
falsification, on the date required in division (A)(3) or (4) of	115
this section, as applicable.	116

The campaign committee of a statewide candidate shall file 117 a monthly statement of contributions received during each of the 118 months of July, August, and September in the year of the general 119 election in which the candidate seeks office. The campaign 120 committee of a statewide candidate shall file the monthly 121 statement not later than three business days after the last day 122 of the month covered by the statement. During the period 123 beginning on the nineteenth day before the general election in 124 which a statewide candidate seeks election to office and 125 extending through the day of that general election, each time 126 the campaign committee of the joint candidates for the offices 127 of governor and lieutenant governor or of a candidate for the 128 office of secretary of state, auditor of state, treasurer of 129 state, or attorney general receives a contribution from a 130 contributor that causes the aggregate amount of contributions 131 received from that contributor during that period to equal or 132 exceed ten thousand dollars and each time the campaign committee 133 of a candidate for the office of chief justice or justice of the 134 supreme court receives a contribution from a contributor that 135 causes the aggregate amount of contributions received from that 136 contributor during that period to exceed ten thousand dollars, 137 the campaign committee shall file a two-business-day statement 138 reflecting that contribution. Contributions reported on a two-139

business-day statement required to be filed by a campaign	140
committee of a statewide candidate in a primary election shall	141
also be included in the postprimary election statement required	142
to be filed by that campaign committee under division (A)(2) of	143
this section. A two-business-day statement required by this	144
paragraph shall be filed not later than two business days after	145
receipt of the contribution. The statements required by this	146
paragraph shall be filed in addition to any other statements	147
required by this section.	148

Subject to the secretary of state having implemented, 149 tested, and verified the successful operation of any system the 150 secretary of state prescribes pursuant to divisions (C)(6)(b) 151 and (D)(6) of this section and division $\frac{(H)}{(F)}(F)(1)$ of section 152 3517.106 of the Revised Code for the filing of campaign finance 153 statements by electronic means of transmission, a campaign 154 committee of a statewide candidate shall file a two-business-day 155 statement under the preceding paragraph by electronic means of 156 transmission if the campaign committee is required to file a 157 pre-election, postelection, or monthly statement of 158 contributions and expenditures by electronic means of 159 transmission under this section or section 3517.106 of the 160 Revised Code. 161

If a campaign committee or political action committee has 162 no balance on hand and no outstanding obligations and desires to 163 terminate itself, it shall file a statement to that effect, on a 164 form prescribed under this section and made under penalty of 165 election falsification, with the official with whom it files a 166 statement under division (A) of this section after filing a 167 final statement of contributions and a final statement of 168 expenditures, if contributions have been received or 169 expenditures made since the period reflected in its last 170

previously filed statement.	171
(B) Except as otherwise provided in division (C)(7) of	172
this section, each statement required by division (A) of this	173
section shall contain the following information:	174
(1) The full name and address of each campaign committee,	175
political action committee, legislative campaign fund, political	176
party, or political contributing entity, including any treasurer	177
of the committee, fund, party, or entity, filing a contribution	178
and expenditure statement;	179
(2)(a) In the case of a campaign committee, the	180
candidate's full name and address;	181
(b) In the case of a political action committee, the	182
registration number assigned to the committee under division (D)	183
(1) of this section.	184
(3) The date of the election and whether it was or will be	185
a general, primary, or special election;	186
(4) A statement of contributions received, which shall	187
include the following information:	188
(a) The month, day, and year of the contribution;	189
(b)(i) The full name and address of each person, political	190
party, campaign committee, legislative campaign fund, political	191
action committee, or political contributing entity from whom	192
contributions are received and the registration number assigned	193
to the political action committee under division (D)(1) of this	194
section. The requirement of filing the full address does not	195
apply to any statement filed by a state or local committee of a	196
political party, to a finance committee of such committee, or to	197
a committee recognized by a state or local committee as its	198

fund-raising auxiliary. Notwithstanding division (F) of this	199
section, the requirement of filing the full address shall be	200
considered as being met if the address filed is the same address	201
the contributor provided under division (E)(1) of this section.	202
(ii) If a political action committee, political	203
contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or political	204
party that is required to file campaign finance statements by	205
electronic means of transmission under section 3517.106 of the	206
Revised Code or a campaign committee of a statewide candidate or	207
candidate for the office of member of the general assembly	208
receives a contribution from an individual that exceeds one	209
hundred dollars, the name of the individual's current employer,	210
if any, or, if the individual is self-employed, the individual's	211
occupation and the name of the individual's business, if any;	212
(iii) If a campaign committee of a statewide candidate or	213
candidate for the office of member of the general assembly	214
receives a contribution transmitted pursuant to section 3599.031	215
of the Revised Code from amounts deducted from the wages and	216
salaries of two or more employees that exceeds in the aggregate	217
one hundred dollars during any one filing period under division	218
(A) (1) , (2) , (3) , or (4) of this section, the full name of the	219
employees' employer and the full name of the labor organization	220
of which the employees are members, if any.	221
(c) A description of the contribution received, if other	222
than money;	223
(d) The value in dollars and cents of the contribution;	224
(e) A separately itemized account of all contributions and	225
expenditures regardless of the amount, except a receipt of a	226
contribution from a person in the sum of twenty-five dollars or	227

less at one social or fund-raising activity and a receipt of a	228
contribution transmitted pursuant to section 3599.031 of the	229
Revised Code from amounts deducted from the wages and salaries	230
of employees if the contribution from the amount deducted from	231
the wages and salary of any one employee is twenty-five dollars	232
or less aggregated in a calendar year. An account of the total	233
contributions from each social or fund-raising activity shall	234
include a description of and the value of each in-kind	235
contribution received at that activity from any person who made	236
one or more such contributions whose aggregate value exceeded	237
two hundred fifty dollars and shall be listed separately,	238
together with the expenses incurred and paid in connection with	239
that activity. A campaign committee, political action committee,	240
legislative campaign fund, political party, or political	241
contributing entity shall keep records of contributions from	242
each person in the amount of twenty-five dollars or less at one	243
social or fund-raising activity and contributions from amounts	244
deducted under section 3599.031 of the Revised Code from the	245
wages and salary of each employee in the amount of twenty-five	246
dollars or less aggregated in a calendar year. No continuing	247
association that is recognized by a state or local committee of	248
a political party as an auxiliary of the party and that makes a	249
contribution from funds derived solely from regular dues paid by	250
members of the auxiliary shall be required to list the name or	251
address of any members who paid those dues.	252
Contributions that are other income shall be itemized	253

separately from all other contributions. The information required under division (B)(4) of this section shall be provided for all other income itemized. As used in this paragraph, "other income" means a loan, investment income, or interest income.

(f) In the case of a campaign committee of a state elected

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officer, if a person doing business with the state elected	259
officer in the officer's official capacity makes a contribution	260
to the campaign committee of that officer, the information	261
required under division (B)(4) of this section in regard to that	262
contribution, which shall be filed together with and considered	263
a part of the committee's statement of contributions as required	264
under division (A) of this section but shall be filed on a	265
separate form provided by the secretary of state. As used in	266
this division:	267
(i) "State elected officer" has the same meaning as in	268
section 3517.092 of the Revised Code.	269
(ii) "Person doing business" means a person or an officer	270
of an entity who enters into one or more contracts with a state	271
elected officer or anyone authorized to enter into contracts on	272
behalf of that officer to receive payments for goods or	273
services, if the payments total, in the aggregate, more than	274
five thousand dollars during a calendar year.	275
(5) A statement of expenditures which shall include the	276
following information:	277
(a) The month, day, and year of the expenditure;	278
(b) The full name and address of each person, political	279
party, campaign committee, legislative campaign fund, political	280
action committee, or political contributing entity to whom the	281
expenditure was made and the registration number assigned to the	282
political action committee under division (D)(1) of this	283
section;	284
(c) The object or purpose for which the expenditure was	285
made;	286

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(d) The amount of each expenditure.

(C)(1) The statement of contributions and expenditures	288
shall be signed by the person completing the form. If a	289
statement of contributions and expenditures is filed by	290
electronic means of transmission pursuant to this section or	291
section 3517.106 of the Revised Code, the electronic signature	292
of the person who executes the statement and transmits the	293
statement by electronic means of transmission, as provided in	294
division $\frac{\text{(H)}_{\text{(F)}}}{\text{(F)}}$ of section 3517.106 of the Revised Code, shall	295
be attached to or associated with the statement and shall be	296
binding on all persons and for all purposes under the campaign	297
finance reporting law as if the signature had been handwritten	298
in ink on a printed form.	299
(2) The person filing the statement, under penalty of	300
election falsification, shall include with it a list of each	301
anonymous contribution, the circumstances under which it was	302
received, and the reason it cannot be attributed to a specific	303
donor.	304
(3) Each statement of a campaign committee of a candidate	305
who holds public office shall contain a designation of each	306
contributor who is an employee in any unit or department under	307
the candidate's direct supervision and control. In a space	308
provided in the statement, the person filing the statement shall	309
affirm that each such contribution was voluntarily made.	310
(4) A campaign committee that did not receive	311
contributions or make expenditures in connection with the	312
nomination or election of its candidate shall file a statement	313
to that effect, on a form prescribed under this section and made	314
under penalty of election falsification, on the date required in	315
division $(A)(2)$ of this section	316

(5) The campaign committee of any person who attempts to

become a candidate and who, for any reason, does not become	318
certified in accordance with Title XXXV of the Revised Code for	319
placement on the official ballot of a primary, general, or	320
special election to be held in this state, and who, at any time	321
prior to or after an election, receives contributions or makes	322
expenditures, or has given consent for another to receive	323
contributions or make expenditures, for the purpose of bringing	324
about the person's nomination or election to public office,	325
shall file the statement or statements prescribed by this	326
section and a termination statement, if applicable. Division (C)	327
(5) of this section does not apply to any person with respect to	328
an election to the offices of member of a county or state	329
central committee, presidential elector, or delegate to a	330
national convention or conference of a political party.	331

- (6) (a) The statements required to be filed under this

 section shall specify the balance in the hands of the campaign

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 committee, political action committee, legislative campaign

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 fund, political party, or political contributing entity and the

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 disposition intended to be made of that balance.

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- (b) The secretary of state shall prescribe the form for 337 all statements required to be filed under this section and shall 338 furnish the forms to the boards of elections in the several 339 counties. The boards of elections shall supply printed copies of 340 those forms without charge. The secretary of state shall 341 prescribe the appropriate methodology, protocol, and data file 342 structure for statements required or permitted to be filed by 343 electronic means of transmission to the secretary of state or a 344 board of elections under division (A) of this section, divisions 345 division (E), (F), and (G) of section 3517.106, division (D) of 346 section 3517.1011, division (B) of section 3517.1012, division 347 (C) of section 3517.1013, and divisions (D) and (I) of section 348

S. B. No. 206
Page 13
As Introduced

3517.1014 of the Revised Code. Subject to division (A) of this	349
section, division division (E), (F), and (G) of section	350
3517.106, division (D) of section 3517.1011, division (B) of	351
section 3517.1012, division (C) of section 3517.1013, and	352
divisions (D) and (I) of section 3517.1014 of the Revised Code,	353
the statements required to be stored on computer by the	354
secretary of state under division (B) of section 3517.106 of the	355
Revised Code shall be filed in whatever format the secretary of	356
state considers necessary to enable the secretary of state to	357
store the information contained in the statements on computer.	358
Any such format shall be of a type and nature that is readily	359
available to whoever is required to file the statements in that	360
format.	361

(c) The secretary of state shall assess the need for 362 training regarding the filing of campaign finance statements by 363 electronic means of transmission and regarding associated 364 technologies for candidates, campaign committees, political 365 action committees, legislative campaign funds, political 366 parties, or political contributing entities, for individuals, 367 partnerships, or other entities, for persons making 368 disbursements to pay the direct costs of producing or airing 369 electioneering communications, or for treasurers of transition 370 funds, required or permitted to file statements by electronic 371 means of transmission under this section or section 3517.105, 372 3517.106, 3517.1011, 3517.1012, 3517.1013, or 3517.1014 of the 373 Revised Code. If, in the opinion of the secretary of state, 374 training in these areas is necessary, the secretary of state 375 shall arrange for the provision of voluntary training programs 376 for candidates, campaign committees, political action 377 committees, legislative campaign funds, political parties, or 378 political contributing entities, for individuals, partnerships, 379

and other entities, for persons making disbursements to pay the	380
direct costs of producing or airing electioneering	381
communications, or for treasurers of transition funds, as	382
appropriate.	383
(7) Each monthly statement and each two-business-day	384
statement required by division (A) of this section shall contain	385
the information required by divisions (B)(1) to (4), (C)(2),	386
and, if appropriate, (C)(3) of this section. Each statement	387
shall be signed as required by division (C)(1) of this section.	388
(D)(1) Prior to receiving a contribution or making an	389
expenditure, every campaign committee, political action	390
committee, legislative campaign fund, political party, or	391
political contributing entity shall appoint a treasurer and	392
shall file, on a form prescribed by the secretary of state, a	393
designation of that appointment, including the full name and	394
address of the treasurer and of the campaign committee,	395
political action committee, legislative campaign fund, political	396
party, or political contributing entity. That designation shall	397
be filed with the official with whom the campaign committee,	398
political action committee, legislative campaign fund, political	399
party, or political contributing entity is required to file	400
statements under section 3517.11 of the Revised Code. The name	401
of a campaign committee shall include at least the last name of	402
the campaign committee's candidate. If two or more candidates	403
are the beneficiaries of a single campaign committee under	404
division (B) of section 3517.081 of the Revised Code, the name	405
of the campaign committee shall include at least the last name	406
of each candidate who is a beneficiary of that campaign	407
committee. The secretary of state shall assign a registration	408
number to each political action committee that files a	409

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designation of the appointment of a treasurer under this

division if the political action committee is required by	411
division (A)(1) of section 3517.11 of the Revised Code to file	412
the statements prescribed by this section with the secretary of	413
state.	414
(2) The treasurer appointed under division (D)(1) of this	415
section shall keep a strict account of all contributions, from	416
whom received and the purpose for which they were disbursed.	417
(3)(a) Except as otherwise provided in section 3517.108 of	418
the Revised Code, a campaign committee shall deposit all	419
monetary contributions received by the committee into an account	420
separate from a personal or business account of the candidate or	421
campaign committee.	422
(b) A political action committee shall deposit all	423
monetary contributions received by the committee into an account	424
separate from all other funds.	425
(c) A state or county political party may establish a	426
state candidate fund that is separate from an account that	427
contains the public moneys received from the Ohio political	428
party fund under section 3517.17 of the Revised Code and from	429
all other funds. A state or county political party may deposit	430
into its state candidate fund any amounts of monetary	431
contributions that are made to or accepted by the political	432
party subject to the applicable limitations, if any, prescribed	433
in section 3517.102 of the Revised Code. A state or county	434
political party shall deposit all other monetary contributions	435
received by the party into one or more accounts that are	436
separate from its state candidate fund and from its account that	437
contains the public moneys received from the Ohio political	438
party fund under section 3517.17 of the Revised Code.	439

(d) Each state political party shall have only one	440
legislative campaign fund for each house of the general	441
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assembly. Each such fund shall be separate from any other funds	
or accounts of that state party. A legislative campaign fund is	443
authorized to receive contributions and make expenditures for	444
the primary purpose of furthering the election of candidates who	445
are members of that political party to the house of the general	446
assembly with which that legislative campaign fund is	447
associated. Each legislative campaign fund shall be administered	448
and controlled in a manner designated by the caucus. As used in	449
this division, "caucus" has the same meaning as in section	450
3517.01 of the Revised Code and includes, as an ex officio	451
member, the chairperson of the state political party with which	452
the caucus is associated or that chairperson's designee.	453
	4.5.4
(4) Every expenditure in excess of twenty-five dollars	454
shall be vouched for by a receipted bill, stating the purpose of	455
the expenditure, that shall be filed with the statement of	456
expenditures. A canceled check with a notation of the purpose of	457
the expenditure is a receipted bill for purposes of division (D)	458
(4) of this section.	459
(5) The secretary of state or the board of elections, as	460
the case may be, shall issue a receipt for each statement filed	461
under this section and shall preserve a copy of the receipt for	462
a period of at least six years. All statements filed under this	463
section shall be open to public inspection in the office where	464
they are filed and shall be carefully preserved for a period of	465
at least six years after the year in which they are filed.	466
(6) The secretary of state, by rule adopted pursuant to	467
section 3517.23 of the Revised Code, shall prescribe both of the	468
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following:

(a) The manner of immediately acknowledging, with date and	470
time received, and preserving the receipt of statements that are	471
transmitted by electronic means of transmission to the secretary	472
of state or a board of elections pursuant to this section or	473
section 3517.106, 3517.1011, 3517.1012, 3517.1013, or 3517.1014	474
of the Revised Code;	475
(b) The manner of preserving the contribution and	476
expenditure, contribution and disbursement, deposit and	477
disbursement, gift and disbursement, or donation and	478
disbursement information in the statements described in division	479
(D)(6)(a) of this section. The secretary of state shall preserve	480
the contribution and expenditure, contribution and disbursement,	481
deposit and disbursement, gift and disbursement, or donation and	482
disbursement information in those statements for at least ten	483
years after the year in which they are filed by electronic means	484
of transmission.	485
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(7) (a) The secretary of state, pursuant to division (I)	486
(G) of section 3517.106 of the Revised Code, shall make	487
available online to the public through the internet the	488
contribution and expenditure, contribution and disbursement,	489
deposit and disbursement, gift and disbursement, or donation and	490
disbursement information in all of the following documents:	491
(i) All statements, all addenda, amendments, or other	492
corrections to statements, and all amended statements filed with	493
the secretary of state by electronic or other means of	494
transmission under this section, division (B)(2)(b) or (C)(2)(b)	495
of section 3517.105, or section 3517.106, 3517.1011, 3517.1012,	496
3517.1013, 3517.1014, or 3517.11 of the Revised Code;	497
(ii) All statements filed with a board of elections by	498
electronic means of transmission, and all addenda, amendments,	499

corrections, and amended versions of those statements, filed	500
with the board under this section, division (B)(2)(b) or (C)(2)	501
(b) of section 3517.105, or section 3517.106, 3517.1012, or	502
3517.11 of the Revised Code. The	503
(b) The secretary of state may remove the information from	504
the internet after a reasonable period of time.	505
(E) (1) Any person, political party, campaign committee,	506
legislative campaign fund, political action committee, or	507
political contributing entity that makes a contribution in	508
connection with the nomination or election of any candidate or	509
in connection with any ballot issue or question at any election	510
held or to be held in this state shall provide its full name and	511
address to the recipient of the contribution at the time the	512
contribution is made. The political action committee also shall	513
provide the registration number assigned to the committee under	514
division (D)(1) of this section to the recipient of the	515
contribution at the time the contribution is made.	516
(2) Any individual who makes a contribution that exceeds	517
one hundred dollars to a political action committee, political	518
contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or political	519
party or to a campaign committee of a statewide candidate or	520
candidate for the office of member of the general assembly shall	521
provide the name of the individual's current employer, if any,	522
or, if the individual is self-employed, the individual's	523
occupation and the name of the individual's business, if any, to	524
the recipient of the contribution at the time the contribution	525
is made. Sections 3599.39 and 3599.40 of the Revised Code do not	526
apply to division (E)(2) of this section.	527
(3) If a campaign committee shows that it has exercised	528

its best efforts to obtain, maintain, and submit the information

required under divisions (B)(4)(b)(ii) and (iii) of this	530
section, that committee is considered to have met the	531
requirements of those divisions. A campaign committee shall not	532
be considered to have exercised its best efforts unless, in	533
connection with written solicitations, it regularly includes a	534
written request for the information required under division (B)	535
(4)(b)(ii) of this section from the contributor or the	536
information required under division (B)(4)(b)(iii) of this	537
section from whoever transmits the contribution.	538
(4) Any check that a political action committee uses to	539
make a contribution or an expenditure shall contain the full	540
name and address of the committee and the registration number	541
assigned to the committee under division (D)(1) of this section.	542
(F) As used in this section:	543
(1)(a) Except as otherwise provided in division (F)(1) of	544
this section, "address" means all of the following if they	545
exist: apartment number, street, road, or highway name and	546
number, rural delivery route number, city or village, state, and	547
zip code as used in a person's post-office address, but not	548
post-office box.	549
(b) Except as otherwise provided in division (F)(1) of	550
this section, if an address is required in this section, a post-	551
office box and office, room, or suite number may be included in	552
addition to, but not in lieu of, an apartment, street, road, or	553
highway name and number.	554
(c) If an address is required in this section, a campaign	555
committee, political action committee, legislative campaign	556
fund, political party, or political contributing entity may use	557

the business or residence address of its treasurer or deputy

treasurer. The post-office box number of the campaign committee,	559
political action committee, legislative campaign fund, political	560
party, or political contributing entity may be used in addition	561
to that address.	562
(d) For the sole purpose of a campaign committee's	563
reporting of contributions on a statement of contributions	564
received under division (B)(4) of this section, "address" has	565
one of the following meanings at the option of the campaign	566
committee:	567
(i) The same meaning as in division (F)(1)(a) of this	568
section;	569
(ii) All of the following, if they exist: the	570
contributor's post-office box number and city or village, state,	571
and zip code as used in the contributor's post-office address.	572
(e) As used with regard to the reporting under this	573
section of any expenditure, "address" means all of the following	574
if they exist: apartment number, street, road, or highway name	575
and number, rural delivery route number, city or village, state,	576
and zip code as used in a person's post-office address, or post-	577
office box. If an address concerning any expenditure is required	578
in this section, a campaign committee, political action	579
committee, legislative campaign fund, political party, or	580
political contributing entity may use the business or residence	581
address of its treasurer or deputy treasurer or its post-office	582
box number.	583
(2) "Statewide candidate" means the joint candidates for	584
the offices of governor and lieutenant governor or a candidate	585
for the office of secretary of state, auditor of state,	586
treasurer of state, attorney general, member of the state board	587

of education, chief justice of the supreme court, or justice of	588
the supreme court.	589
(3) "Candidate for county office" means a candidate for	590
the office of county auditor, county treasurer, clerk of the	591
court of common pleas, judge of the court of common pleas,	592
sheriff, county recorder, county engineer, county commissioner,	593
prosecuting attorney, or coroner.	594
(G) An independent expenditure shall be reported whenever	595
and in the same manner that an expenditure is required to be	596
reported under this section and shall be reported pursuant to	597
division (B)(2)(a) or (C)(2)(a) of section 3517.105 of the	598
Revised Code.	599
(H)(1) Except as otherwise provided in division (H)(2) of	600
this section, if, during the combined pre-election and	601
postelection reporting periods for an election, a campaign	602
committee has received contributions of five hundred dollars or	603
less and has made expenditures in the total amount of five	604
hundred dollars or less, it may file a statement to that effect,	605
under penalty of election falsification, in lieu of the	606
statement required by division (A)(2) of this section. The	607
statement shall indicate the total amount of contributions	608
received and the total amount of expenditures made during those	609
combined reporting periods.	610
(2) In the case of a successful candidate at a primary	611
election, if either the total contributions received by or the	612
total expenditures made by the candidate's campaign committee	613
during the preprimary, postprimary, pregeneral, and postgeneral	614
election periods combined equal more than five hundred dollars,	615

the campaign committee may file the statement under division (H)

(1) of this section only for the primary election. The first

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statement that the campaign committee files in regard to the	618
general election shall reflect all contributions received and	619
all expenditures made during the preprimary and postprimary	620
election periods.	621
(3) Divisions (H)(1) and (2) of this section do not apply	622
if a campaign committee receives contributions or makes	623
expenditures prior to the first day of January of the year of	624
the election at which the candidate seeks nomination or election	625
to office or if the campaign committee does not file a	626
termination statement with its postprimary election statement in	627
the case of an unsuccessful primary election candidate or with	628
its postgeneral election statement in the case of other	629
candidates.	630
(I) In the case of a contribution made by a partner of a	631
partnership or an owner or a member of another unincorporated	632
business from any funds of the partnership or other	633
unincorporated business, all of the following apply:	634
(1) The recipient of the contribution shall report the	635
contribution by listing both the partnership or other	636
unincorporated business and the name of the partner, owner, or	637
member making the contribution.	638
(2) In reporting the contribution, the recipient of the	639
contribution shall be entitled to conclusively rely upon the	640
information provided by the partnership or other unincorporated	641
business, provided that the information includes one of the	642
following:	643
(a) The name of each partner, owner, or member as of the	644
date of the contribution or contributions, and a statement that	645
the total contributions are to be allocated equally among all of	646

the partners, owners, or members; or	647
(b) The name of each partner, owner, or member as of the	648
date of the contribution or contributions who is participating	649
in the contribution or contributions, and a statement that the	650
contribution or contributions are to be allocated to those	651
individuals in accordance with the information provided by the	652
partnership or other unincorporated business to the recipient of	653
the contribution.	654
(3) For purposes of section 3517.102 of the Revised Code,	655
the contribution shall be considered to have been made by the	656
partner, owner, or member reported under division (I)(1) of this	657
section.	658
(4) No contribution from a partner of a partnership or an	659
owner or a member of another unincorporated business shall be	660
accepted from any funds of the partnership or other	661
unincorporated business unless the recipient reports the	662
contribution under division (I)(1) of this section together with	663
the information provided under division $(I)(2)$ of this section.	664
(5) No partnership or other unincorporated business shall	665
make a contribution or contributions solely in the name of the	666
partnership or other unincorporated business.	667
(6) As used in division (I) of this section, "partnership	668
or other unincorporated business" includes, but is not limited	669
to, a cooperative, a sole proprietorship, a general partnership,	670
a limited partnership, a limited partnership association, a	671
limited liability partnership, and a limited liability company.	672
(J) A candidate shall have only one campaign committee at	673
any given time for all of the offices for which the person is a	674
candidate or holds office.	675

(K)(1) In addition to filing a designation of appointment	676
of a treasurer under division (D)(1) of this section, the	677
campaign committee of any candidate for an elected municipal	678
office that pays an annual amount of compensation of five	679
thousand dollars or less, the campaign committee of any	680
candidate for member of a board of education except member of	681
the state board of education, or the campaign committee of any	682
candidate for township trustee or township fiscal officer may	683
sign, under penalty of election falsification, a certificate	684
attesting that the committee will not accept contributions	685
during an election period that exceed in the aggregate two	686
thousand dollars from all contributors and one hundred dollars	687
from any one individual, and that the campaign committee will	688
not make expenditures during an election period that exceed in	689
the aggregate two thousand dollars.	690

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The certificate shall be on a form prescribed by the secretary of state and shall be filed not later than ten days after the candidate files a declaration of candidacy and petition, a nominating petition, or a declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate.

- (2) Except as otherwise provided in division (K)(3) of this section, a campaign committee that files a certificate under division (K)(1) of this section is not required to file the statements required by division (A) of this section.
- (3) If, after filing a certificate under division (K)(1)

 of this section, a campaign committee exceeds any of the

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 limitations described in that division during an election

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 period, the certificate is void and thereafter the campaign

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 committee shall file the statements required by division (A) of

 this section. If the campaign committee has not previously filed

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S. B. No. 206 Page 25
As Introduced

a statement, then on the first statement the campaign committee 706 is required to file under division (A) of this section after the 707 committee's certificate is void, the committee shall report all 708 contributions received and expenditures made from the time the 709 candidate filed the candidate's declaration of candidacy and 710 petition, nominating petition, or declaration of intent to be a 711 write-in candidate.

- (4) As used in division (K) of this section, "election 713 period" means the period of time beginning on the day a person 714 files a declaration of candidacy and petition, nominating 715 petition, or declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate 716 through the day of the election at which the person seeks 717 nomination to office if the person is not elected to office, or, 718 if the candidate was nominated in a primary election, the day of 719 the election at which the candidate seeks office. 720
- (L) A political contributing entity that receives 721 contributions from the dues, membership fees, or other 722 assessments of its members or from its officers, shareholders, 723 and employees may report the aggregate amount of contributions 724 received from those contributors and the number of individuals 725 making those contributions, for each filing period under 726 727 divisions (A)(1), (2), (3), and (4) of this section, rather than reporting information as required under division (B)(4) of this 728 section, including, when applicable, the name of the current 729 employer, if any, of a contributor whose contribution exceeds 730 one hundred dollars or, if such a contributor is self-employed, 731 the contributor's occupation and the name of the contributor's 732 business, if any. Division (B)(4) of this section applies to a 733 political contributing entity with regard to contributions it 734 receives from all other contributors. 735

Sec. 3517.105. (A)(1) As used in this section, "public	736
political advertising" means advertising to the general public	737
through a broadcasting station, newspaper, magazine, poster,	738
yard sign, or outdoor advertising facility, by direct mail, or	739
by any other means of advertising to the general public.	740
(2) For purposes of this section and section 3517.20 of	741
the Revised Code, a person is a member of a political action	742
committee if the person makes one or more contributions to that	743
political action committee, and a person is a member of a	744
political contributing entity if the person makes one or more	745
contributions to, or pays dues, membership fees, or other	746
assessments to, that political contributing entity.	747
(B)(1) Whenever a candidate, a campaign committee, a	748
political action committee or political contributing entity with	749
ten or more members, or a legislative campaign fund makes an	750
independent expenditure, or whenever a political action	751
committee or political contributing entity with fewer than ten	752
members makes an independent expenditure in excess of one	753
hundred dollars for a local candidate, in excess of two hundred	754
fifty dollars for a candidate for the office of member of the	755
general assembly, or in excess of five hundred dollars for a	756
statewide candidate, for the purpose of financing communications	757
advocating the election or defeat of an identified candidate or	758
solicits without the candidate's express consent a contribution	759
for or against an identified candidate through public political	760
advertising, a statement shall appear or be presented in a clear	761
and conspicuous manner in the advertising that does both of the	762
following:	763

(a) Clearly indicates that the communication or public

political advertising is not authorized by the candidate or the

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candidate's campaign committee;

(b) Clearly identifies the candidate, campaign committee, 767
political action committee, political contributing entity, or 768
legislative campaign fund that has paid for the communication or 769
public political advertising in accordance with section 3517.20 770
of the Revised Code. 771

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- (2) (a) Whenever any campaign committee, legislative campaign fund, political action committee, political contributing entity, or political party makes an independent expenditure in support of or opposition to any candidate, the committee, entity, fund, or party shall report the independent expenditure and identify the candidate on a statement prescribed by the secretary of state and filed by the committee, entity, fund, or party as part of its statement of contributions and expenditures pursuant to division (A) of section 3517.10 and division (A) of section 3517.11 of the Revised Code.
- (b) Whenever any individual, partnership, or other entity, 782 except a corporation, labor organization, campaign committee, 783 legislative campaign fund, political action committee, political 784 contributing entity, or political party, makes one or more 785 independent expenditures in support of or opposition to any 786 candidate, the individual, partnership, or other entity shall 787 file with the secretary of state in the case of a statewide 788 candidate, or with the board of elections in the county in which 789 the candidate files the candidate's petitions for nomination or 790 election for district or local office, not later than the dates 791 specified in divisions (A)(1), (2), (3), and (4) of section 792 3517.10 of the Revised Code, and, except as otherwise provided 793 in that section, a statement itemizing all independent 794 expenditures made during the period since the close of business 795

on the last day reflected in the last previously filed such	796
statement, if any. The statement shall be made on a form	797
prescribed by the secretary of state or shall be filed by	798
electronic means of transmission pursuant to division $\frac{(G)}{(E)}$ of	799
section 3517.106 of the Revised Code as authorized or required	800
by that division. The statement shall indicate the date and the	801
amount of each independent expenditure and the candidate on	802
whose behalf it was made and shall be made under penalty of	803
election falsification.	804
(C)(1) Whenever a corporation, labor organization,	805
campaign committee, political action committee with ten or more	806
members, or legislative campaign fund makes an independent	807
expenditure, or whenever a political action committee with fewer	808
than ten members makes an independent expenditure in excess of	809
one hundred dollars for a local ballot issue or question, or in	810
excess of five hundred dollars for a statewide ballot issue or	811
question, for the purpose of financing communications advocating	812
support of or opposition to an identified ballot issue or	813
question or solicits without the express consent of the ballot	814
issue committee a contribution for or against an identified	815
ballot issue or question through public political advertising, a	816
statement shall appear or be presented in a clear and	817
conspicuous manner in the advertising that does both of the	818
following:	819
(a) Clearly indicates that the communication or public	820
political advertising is not authorized by the identified ballot	821
issue committee;	822

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(b) Clearly identifies the corporation, labor

organization, campaign committee, legislative campaign fund, or

political action committee that has paid for the communication

S. B. No. 206 Page 29
As Introduced

or public political advertising in accordance with section 826 3517.20 of the Revised Code. 827

- (2) (a) Whenever any corporation, labor organization, 828 campaign committee, legislative campaign fund, political party, 829 or political action committee makes an independent expenditure 830 in support of or opposition to any ballot issue or question, the 831 corporation or labor organization shall report the independent 832 expenditure in accordance with division (C) of section 3599.03 833 of the Revised Code, and the campaign committee, legislative 834 835 campaign fund, political party, or political action committee shall report the independent expenditure and identify the ballot 836 issue or question on a statement prescribed by the secretary of 837 state and filed by the committee, fund, or party as part of its 838 statement of contributions and expenditures pursuant to division 839 (A) of section 3517.10 and division (A) of section 3517.11 of 840 the Revised Code. 841
- (b) Whenever any individual, partnership, or other entity, 842 except a corporation, labor organization, campaign committee, 843 legislative campaign fund, political action committee, or 844 political party, makes one or more independent expenditures in 845 excess of one hundred dollars in support of or opposition to any 846 ballot issue or question, the individual, partnership, or other 847 entity shall file with the secretary of state in the case of a 848 statewide ballot issue or question, or with the board of 849 elections in the county that certifies the issue or question for 850 placement on the ballot in the case of a district or local issue 851 or question, not later than the dates specified in divisions (A) 852 (1), (2), (3), and (4) of section 3517.10 of the Revised Code, 853 and, except as otherwise provided in that section, a statement 854 itemizing all independent expenditures made during the period 855 since the close of business on the last day reflected in the 856

last previously filed such statement, if any. The statement	857
shall be made on a form prescribed by the secretary of state or	858
shall be filed by electronic means of transmission pursuant to	859
division $\frac{(G)-(E)}{(E)}$ of section 3517.106 of the Revised Code as	860
authorized or required by that division. The statement shall	861
indicate the date and the amount of each independent expenditure	862
and the ballot issue or question in support of or opposition to	863
which it was made and shall be made under penalty of election	864
falsification.	865

- (3) No person, campaign committee, legislative campaign 866 fund, political action committee, corporation, labor 867 organization, or other organization or association shall use or 868 cause to be used a false or fictitious name in making an 869 independent expenditure in support of or opposition to any 870 candidate or any ballot issue or question. A name is false or 871 fictitious if the person, campaign committee, legislative 872 campaign fund, political action committee, corporation, labor 873 organization, or other organization or association does not 874 actually exist or operate, if the corporation, labor 875 organization, or other organization or association has failed to 876 file a fictitious name or other registration with the secretary 877 of state, if it is required to do so, or if the person, campaign 878 committee, legislative campaign fund, or political action 879 committee has failed to file a designation of the appointment of 880 a treasurer, if it is required to do so by division (D)(1) of 881 section 3517.10 of the Revised Code. 882
- (D) Any expenditure by a political party for the purpose 883 of financing communications advocating the election or defeat of 884 a candidate for judicial office shall be deemed to be an 885 independent expenditure subject to the provisions of this 886 section.

Sec. 3517.106. (A) As used in this section:	888
(1) "Statewide office" means any of the offices of	889
governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, auditor of	890
state, treasurer of state, attorney general, member of the state	891
board of education, chief justice of the supreme court, and	892
justice of the supreme court.	893
(2) "Addendum to a statement" includes an amendment or	894
other correction to that statement.	895
(B) (1) The secretary of state shall store all of the	896
following information on computer the :	897
(1) The information contained in statements of	898
contributions and expenditures and monthly statements required	899
to be filed under section 3517.10 of the Revised Code and in	900
statements of independent expenditures required to be filed	901
under section 3517.105 of the Revised Code by any of the	902
following:	903
(a) The campaign committees of candidates for statewide	904
office;	905
(b) The political action committees and political	906
contributing entities described in division (A)(1) of section-	907
3517.11 of the Revised Code;	908
(c) Legislative campaign funds;	909
(d) State political parties;	910
(e) Individuals, partnerships, corporations, labor	911
organizations, or other entities that make independent	912
expenditures in support of or opposition to a statewide-	913
candidate or a statewide ballot issue or question;	914

(f) The campaign committees of candidates for the office	915
of member of the general assembly;	916
(g) County political parties, with respect to their state	917
candidate funds. with the secretary of state and the information	918
transmitted to the secretary of state by boards of elections	919
under division (E) (2) of this section;	920
(2) The secretary of state shall store on computer the	921
information contained in disclosure of electioneering	922
communications statements required to be filed under section	923
3517.1011 of the Revised Code-;	924
(3) The secretary of state shall store on computer the	925
information contained in deposit and disbursement statements	926
required to be filed with the office of the secretary of state	927
under section 3517.1012 of the Revised Code-;	928
(4) The secretary of state shall store on computer the	929
gift and disbursement information contained in statements	930
required to be filed with the office of the secretary of state	931
under section 3517.1013 of the Revised Code \pm :	932
(5) The secretary of state shall store on computer the	933
information contained in donation and disbursement statements	934
required to be filed with the office of the secretary of state	935
under section 3517.1014 of the Revised Code.	936
(C)(1) The secretary of state shall make available to the	937
campaign committees, political action committees, political	938
contributing entities, legislative campaign funds, political	939
parties, individuals, partnerships, corporations, labor	940
organizations, treasurers of transition funds, and other	941
entities-described in division (B) of this section that are	942
permitted or required to file statements by electronic means of	943

transmission, and to members of the news media and other	944
interested persons, for a reasonable fee, computer programs that	945
are compatible with the secretary of state's method of storing	946
the information contained in the statements.	947
(2) The secretary of state shall make the information	948
required to be stored under division (B) of this section	949
available on computer at the secretary of state's office so	950
that, to the maximum extent feasible, individuals may obtain at	951
the secretary of state's office any part or all of that	952
information for any given year, subject to the limitation	953
expressed in division (D) of this section.	954
(D) The secretary of state shall keep the information	955
stored on computer under division (B) of this section for at	956
least six years.	957
(E)(1) Subject to division $\frac{\text{(L)}}{\text{(J)}}$ of this section and	958
subject to the secretary of state having implemented, tested,	959
and verified the successful operation of any system the	960
secretary of state prescribes pursuant to division $\frac{(H)(F)}{(I)}(1)$ of	961
this section and divisions (C)(6)(b) and (D)(6) of section	962
3517.10 of the Revised Code for the filing of campaign finance	963
statements by electronic means of transmission, the each of the	964
following entities shall be permitted or required to file	965
statements by electronic means of transmission, as applicable:	966
(a) The campaign committee of each candidate for statewide	967
office may file the statements prescribed by section 3517.10 of	968
the Revised Code by electronic means of transmission or, if the	969
total amount of the contributions received or the total amount	970
of the expenditures made by the campaign committee for the	971
applicable reporting period as specified in division (A) of	972

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section 3517.10 of the Revised Code exceeds ten thousand

dollars, shall file those statements by electronic means of	974
transmission.	975
(b) A campaign committee of a candidate for the office of	976
member of the general assembly or a campaign committee of a	977
candidate for the office of judge of a court of appeals may file	978
the statements prescribed by section 3517.10 of the Revised Code	979
in accordance with division (A)(2) of section 3517.11 of the	980
Revised Code or by electronic means of transmission to the	981
office of the secretary of state or, if the total amount of the	982
contributions received by the campaign committee for the	983
applicable reporting period as specified in division (A) of	984
section 3517.10 of the Revised Code exceeds ten thousand	985
dollars, shall file those statements by electronic means of	986
transmission to the office of the secretary of state.	987
(c) A campaign committee of a candidate for an office	988
other than a statewide office, the office of member of the	989
general assembly, or the office of judge of a court of appeals	990
may file the statements prescribed by section 3517.10 of the	991
Revised Code by electronic means of transmission to the board of	992
elections. If the total amount of the contributions received by	993
the campaign committee for the applicable reporting period as	994
specified in division (A) of section 3517.10 of the Revised Code	995
exceeds two thousand dollars, the campaign committee shall file	996
those statements by electronic means of transmission to the	997
board of elections.	998
(d) A political action committee and a political	999
contributing entity described in division (A)(1) of section	1000
3517.11 of the Revised Code, a legislative campaign fund, and a	1001
state political party may file the statements prescribed by	1002
section 3517.10 of the Revised Code by electronic means of	1003

transmission or, if the total amount of the contributions	1004
received or the total amount of the expenditures made by the	1005
political action committee, political contributing entity,	1006
legislative campaign fund, or state political party for the	1007
applicable reporting period as specified in division (A) of	1008
section 3517.10 of the Revised Code exceeds ten thousand	1009
dollars, shall file those statements by electronic means of	1010
transmission.	1011
(e) A county political party shall file the statements	1012
prescribed by section 3517.10 of the Revised Code with respect	1013
to its state candidate fund by electronic means of transmission	1014
to the office of the secretary of state.	1015
(f) A county political party may file all other statements	1016
prescribed by section 3517.10 of the Revised Code by electronic	1017
means of transmission to the board of elections. If the total	1018
amount of contributions received or the total amount of the	1019
expenditures made by the county political party reflected on	1020
those statements for the applicable reporting period as	1021
specified in division (A) of section 3517.10 of the Revised Code	1022
exceeds two thousand dollars, the county political party shall	1023
file those statements by electronic means of transmission to the	1024
board of elections.	1025
(g) A political action committee or political contributing	1026
entity described in division (A)(3) of section 3517.11 of the	1027
Revised Code may file the statements prescribed by section	1028
3517.10 of the Revised Code by electronic means of transmission	1029
to the board of elections. If the total amount of the	1030
contributions received or the total amount of the expenditures	1031
made by the political action committee or political contributing	1032
entity for the applicable reporting period as specified in	1033

division (A) of section 3517.10 of the Revised Code exceeds two	1034
thousand dollars, the political action committee or political	1035
contributing entity shall file those statements by electronic	1036
means of transmission.	1037
(h) Any individual, partnership, or other entity that	1038
makes independent expenditures in support of or opposition to a	1039
statewide candidate or a statewide ballot issue or question as	1040
provided in division (B)(2)(b) or (C)(2)(b) of section 3517.105	1041
of the Revised Code may file the statement specified in that	1042
division by electronic means of transmission or, if the total	1043
amount of independent expenditures made during the reporting	1044
period under that division exceeds ten thousand dollars, shall	1045
file the statement specified in that division by electronic	1046
means of transmission.	1047
(i) Any individual, partnership, or other entity that	1048
makes independent expenditures in support of or opposition to a	1049
candidate or ballot issue other than a statewide candidate or a	1050
statewide ballot issue as provided in division (B)(2)(b) or (C)	1051
(2) (b) of section 3517.105 of the Revised Code may file the	1052
statement specified in that division by electronic means of	1053
transmission to the board of elections. If the total amount of	1054
expenditures reflected on that statement exceeds two thousand	1055
dollars, the entity shall file the statement specified in that	1056
division by electronic means of transmission.	1057
(2) A board of elections that receives a statement by	1058
electronic means of transmission shall transmit that statement	1059
to the secretary of state within five business days after	1060
receiving the statement. If the board receives an addendum or an	1061
amended statement from an entity that filed a statement with the	1062
board by electronic means of transmission, the board shall	1063

transmit the addendum or amended statement to the secretary of	1064
state not later than the close of business on the day the board	1065
received the addendum or amended statement.	1066
(3)(a) Except as otherwise provided in this division (E)	1067
(3) (b) of this section, within five business days after a	1068
statement filed by a campaign committee of a candidate for	1069
statewide office under division (E)(1) of this section is	1070
received by the secretary of state by electronic or other means	1071
of transmission, the secretary of state shall make available	1072
online to the public through the internet, as provided in	1073
division $\frac{\text{(I)} - \text{(G)}}{\text{(G)}}$ of this section, the contribution and	1074
expenditure information in that statement. The	1075
(b) The secretary of state shall not make available online	1076
to the public through the internet any contribution or	1077
expenditure information contained in a statement for any	1078
candidate until the secretary of state is able to make available	1079
online to the public through the internet the contribution and	1080
expenditure information for all candidates for a particular	1081
office, or until the applicable filing deadline for that	1082
statement has passed, whichever is sooner. As soon as the	1083
secretary of state has available all of the contribution and	1084
expenditure information for all candidates for a particular	1085
office, or as soon as the applicable filing deadline for a	1086
statement has passed, whichever is sooner, the secretary of	1087
state shall simultaneously make available online to the public	1088
through the internet the information for all candidates for that	1089
office.	1090
(4)(a) If a statement filed by electronic means of	1091
transmission is found to be incomplete or inaccurate after the	1092
examination of the statement for completeness and accuracy	1093

pursuant to division (B)(3)(a) of section 3517.11 of the Revised	1094
Code, the campaign committee <u>entity</u> that filed the statement	1095
shall file by electronic means of transmission any addendum to	1096
the statement that provides the information necessary to	1097
complete or correct the statement or, if required by the	1098
secretary of state under that division, an amended statement.	1099
(b) Within five business days after the secretary of state	1100
receives from a campaign committee of a candidate for statewide	1101
office an addendum to the statement or an amended statement by	1102
electronic or other means of transmission under this division or	1103
division (B)(3)(a) of section 3517.11 of the Revised Code, the	1104
secretary of state shall make the contribution and expenditure	1105
information in the addendum or amended statement available	1106
online to the public through the internet as provided in	1107
division $\frac{(I)}{(G)}$ of this section.	1108
(2) Subject to the secretary of state having implemented,	1109
tested, and verified the successful operation of any system the	1110
secretary of state prescribes pursuant to division (H)(1) of	1111
this section and divisions (C)(6)(b) and (D)(6) of section-	1112
3517.10 of the Revised Code for the filing of campaign finance	1113
statements by electronic means of transmission, a political	1114
action committee and a political contributing entity described	1115
in division (B)(1)(b) of this section, a legislative campaign	1116
fund, and a state political party may file the statements	1117
prescribed by section 3517.10 of the Revised Code by electronic	1118
means of transmission or, if the total amount of the	1119
contributions received or the total amount of the expenditures	1120
made by the political action committee, political contributing	1121
entity, legislative campaign fund, or state political party for-	1122
the applicable reporting period as specified in division (A) of	1123
section 3517.10 of the Revised Code exceeds ten thousand	1124

dollars, shall file those statements by electronic means of	1125
transmission.	1126
Within five business days after a statement filed by a	1127
political action committee or a political contributing entity	1128
described in division (B)(1)(b) of this section, a legislative-	1129
campaign fund, or a state political party is received by the	1130
secretary of state by electronic or other means of transmission,	1131
the secretary of state shall make available online to the public-	1132
through the internet, as provided in division (I) of this	1133
section, the contribution and expenditure information in that	1134
statement.	1135
If a statement filed by electronic means of transmission	1136
is found to be incomplete or inaccurate after the examination of	1137
the statement for completeness and accuracy pursuant to division	1138
(B)(3)(a) of section 3517.11 of the Revised Code, the political	1139
action committee, political contributing entity, legislative	1140
campaign fund, or state political party shall file by electronic	1141
means of transmission any addendum to the statement that	1142
provides the information necessary to complete or correct the	1143
statement or, if required by the secretary of state under that	1144
division, an amended statement.	1145
Within five business days after the secretary of state	1146
receives from a political action committee or a political	1147
contributing entity described in division (B)(1)(b) of this-	1148
section, a legislative campaign fund, or a state political party	1149
an addendum to the statement or an amended statement by	1150
electronic or other means of transmission under this division or	1151
division (B)(3)(a) of section 3517.11 of the Revised Code, the	1152
secretary of state shall make the contribution and expenditure	1153
information in the addendum or amended statement available—	1154

online to the public through the internet as provided in	1155
division (I) of this section.	1156
(3) Subject to the secretary of state having implemented,	1157
tested, and verified the successful operation of any system the	1158
secretary of state prescribes pursuant to division (H) (1) of	1159
this section and divisions (C) (6) (b) and (D) (6) of section	1160
3517.10 of the Revised Code for the filing of campaign finance	1161
statements by electronic means of transmission, a county	1162
political party shall file the statements prescribed by section	1163
3517.10 of the Revised Code with respect to its state candidate	1164
fund by electronic means of transmission to the office of the	1165
secretary of state.	1166
Within five business days after a statement filed by a	1167
county political party with respect to its state candidate fund-	1168
is received by the secretary of state by electronic means of	1169
transmission, the secretary of state shall make available online	1170
to the public through the internet, as provided in division (I)	1171
of this section, the contribution and expenditure information in	1172
that statement.	1173
If a statement is found to be incomplete or inaccurate	1174
after the examination of the statement for completeness and	1175
accuracy pursuant to division (B)(3)(a) of section 3517.11 of	1176
the Revised Code, a county political party shall file by	1177
electronic means of transmission any addendum to the statement	1178
that provides the information necessary to complete or correct	1179
the statement or, if required by the secretary of state under-	1180
that division, an amended statement.	1181
Within five business days after the secretary of state	1182
receives from a county political party an addendum to the	1183
statement or an amended statement by electronic means of	1184

transmission under this division or division (B)(3)(a) of	1185
section 3517.11 of the Revised Code, the secretary of state	1186
shall make the contribution and expenditure information in the	1187
addendum or amended statement available online to the public-	1188
through the internet as provided in division (I) of this-	1189
section.	1190
(F)(1) Subject to division (L) of this section and subject	1191
to the secretary of state having implemented, tested, and	1192
verified the successful operation of any system the secretary of	1193
state prescribes pursuant to division (H)(1) of this section and	1194
divisions (C)(6)(b) and (D)(6) of section 3517.10 of the Revised	1195
Code for the filing of campaign finance statements by electronic-	1196
means of transmission, a campaign committee of a candidate for	1197
the office of member of the general assembly or a campaign-	1198
committee of a candidate for the office of judge of a court of	1199
appeals may file the statements prescribed by section 3517.10 of	1200
the Revised Code in accordance with division (A) (2) of section-	1201
3517.11 of the Revised Code or by electronic means of	1202
transmission to the office of the secretary of state or, if the-	1203
total amount of the contributions received by the campaign-	1204
committee for the applicable reporting period as specified in	1205
division (A) of section 3517.10 of the Revised Code exceeds ten-	1206
thousand dollars, shall file those statements by electronic	1207
means of transmission to the office of the secretary of state.	1208
Except as otherwise provided in this division, within five	1209
business days after a statement filed by a campaign committee of	1210
a candidate for the office of member of the general assembly or	1211
a campaign committee of a candidate for the office of judge of a	1212
court of appeals is received by the secretary of state by	1213
electronic or other means of transmission, the secretary of	1214
state shall make available online to the public through the	1215

internet, as provided in division (I) of this section, the	1216
contribution and expenditure information in that statement. The-	1217
secretary of state shall not make available online to the public-	1218
through the internet any contribution or expenditure information	1219
contained in a statement for any candidate until the secretary	1220
of state is able to make available online to the public through	1221
the internet the contribution and expenditure information for	1222
all candidates for a particular office, or until the applicable-	1223
filing deadline for that statement has passed, whichever is	1224
sooner. As soon as the secretary of state has available all of-	1225
the contribution and expenditure information for all candidates-	1226
for a particular office, or as soon as the applicable filing	1227
deadline for a statement has passed, whichever is sooner, the	1228
secretary of state shall simultaneously make available online to	1229
the public through the internet the information for all	1230
candidates for that office.	1231
If a statement filed by electronic means of transmission	1232
is found to be incomplete or inaccurate after the examination of	1233
the statement for completeness and accuracy pursuant to division	1234
(B) (3) (a) of section 3517.11 of the Revised Code, the campaign	1235
committee shall file by electronic means of transmission to the	1236
office of the secretary of state any addendum to the statement	1237
-	
that provides the information necessary to complete or correct	1238
the statement or, if required by the secretary of state under	1239
that division, an amended statement.	1240
Within five business days after the secretary of state	1241
receives from a campaign committee of a candidate for the office	1242
receives from a campaign committee of a candidate for the office of member of the general assembly or a campaign committee of a	1242 1243

or other means of transmission under this division or division-

(b) (3) (a) or section 3317.11 or the Revised Code, the secretary	124/
of state shall make the contribution and expenditure information	1248
in the addendum or amended statement available online to the	1249
public through the internet as provided in division (I) of this	1250
section.	1251
(2) (5) If a campaign committee for the office of member	1252
of the general assembly or a campaign committee of a candidate	1253
for the office of judge of a court of appeals files a statement,	1254
addendum, or amended statement is not filed by electronic means	1255
of transmission to the office of the secretary of state but is	1256
filed by printed version only under division (A)(2) of section	1257
3517.11 of the Revised Code with the appropriate board of	1258
elections, the campaign committee of a candidate for the office	1259
of member of the general assembly or a campaign committee of a	1260
candidate for the office of judge of a court of appeals shall	1261
file two copies of the printed version of the statement,	1262
addendum, or amended statement with the board of elections. The	1263
board of elections shall send one of those copies by certified	1264
mail or an electronic copy to the secretary of state before the	1265
close of business on the day the board of elections receives the	1266
statement, addendum, or amended statement.	1267
(G) Subject to the secretary of state having implemented,	1268
tested, and verified the successful operation of any system the	1269
secretary of state prescribes pursuant to division (H) (1) of	1270
this section and divisions (C)(6)(b) and (D)(6) of section-	1271
3517.10 of the Revised Code for the filing of campaign finance	1272
statements by electronic means of transmission, any individual,	1273
partnership, or other entity that makes independent expenditures	1274
in support of or opposition to a statewide candidate or a	1275
statewide ballot issue or question as provided in division (B)	1276
(2) (b) or (C) (2) (b) of section 3517.105 of the Revised Code may	1277

file the statement specified in that division by electronic-	1278
means of transmission or, if the total amount of independent	1279
expenditures made during the reporting period under that-	1280
division exceeds ten thousand dollars, shall file the statement	1281
specified in that division by electronic means of transmission.	1282
Within five business days after a statement filed by an-	1283
individual, partnership, or other entity is received by the	1284
secretary of state by electronic or other means of transmission,	1285
the secretary of state shall make available online to the public-	1286
through the internet, as provided in division (I) of this-	1287
section, the expenditure information in that statement.	1288
If a statement filed by electronic means of transmission-	1289
is found to be incomplete or inaccurate after the examination of	1290
the statement for completeness and accuracy pursuant to division-	1291
(B) (3) (a) of section 3517.11 of the Revised Code, the	1292
individual, partnership, or other entity shall file by	1293
electronic means of transmission any addendum to the statement	1294
that provides the information necessary to complete or correct	1295
the statement or, if required by the secretary of state under-	1296
that division, an amended statement.	1297
Within five business days after the secretary of state-	1298
receives from an individual, partnership, or other entity	1299
described in division (B)(2)(b) or (C)(2)(b) of section 3517.105	1300
of the Revised Code an addendum to the statement or an amended	1301
statement by electronic or other means of transmission under-	1302
this division or division (B)(3)(a) of section 3517.11 of the	1303
Revised Code, the secretary of state shall make the expenditure	1304
information in the addendum or amended statement available	1305
online to the public through the internet as provided in-	1306
division (I) of this section.	1307

$\frac{(H)(F)}{(F)}(1)$ The secretary of state, by rule adopted pursuant	1308
to section 3517.23 of the Revised Code, shall prescribe one or	1309
more techniques by which a person who executes and transmits to	1310
the secretary of state or a board of elections by electronic	1311
means a statement of contributions and expenditures, a statement	1312
of independent expenditures, a disclosure of electioneering	1313
communications statement, a deposit and disbursement statement,	1314
a gift and disbursement statement, or a donation and	1315
disbursement statement, an addendum to any of those statements,	1316
an amended statement of contributions and expenditures, an	1317
amended statement of independent expenditures, an amended	1318
disclosure of electioneering communications statement, an	1319
amended deposit and disbursement statement, an amended gift and	1320
disbursement statement, or an amended donation and disbursement	1321
statement, under this section or section 3517.10, 3517.105,	1322
3517.1011, 3517.1012, 3517.1013, or 3517.1014 of the Revised	1323
Code shall electronically sign the statement, addendum, or	1324
amended statement. Any technique prescribed by the secretary of	1325
state pursuant to this division shall create an electronic	1326
signature that satisfies all of the following:	1327
(a) It is unique to the signer.	1328
(b) It objectively identifies the signer.	1329
(c) It involves the use of a signature device or other	1330
means or method that is under the sole control of the signer and	1331
that cannot be readily duplicated or compromised.	1332
(d) It is created and linked to the electronic record to	1333
which it relates in a manner that, if the record or signature is	1334
intentionally or unintentionally changed after signing, the	1335

1336

electronic signature is invalidated.

S. B. No. 206
As Introduced

(2) An electronic signature prescribed by the secretary of	1337
state under division $\frac{(H)(F)}{(I)}(1)$ of this section shall be attached	1338
to or associated with the statement of contributions and	1339
expenditures, the statement of independent expenditures, the	1340
disclosure of electioneering communications statement, the	1341
deposit and disbursement statement, the gift and disbursement	1342
statement, or the donation and disbursement statement, the	1343
addendum to any of those statements, the amended statement of	1344
contributions and expenditures, the amended statement of	1345
independent expenditures, the amended disclosure of	1346
electioneering communications statement, the amended deposit and	1347
disbursement statement, the amended gift and disbursement	1348
statement, or the amended donation and disbursement statement	1349
that is executed and transmitted by electronic means by the	1350
person to whom the electronic signature is attributed. The	1351
electronic signature that is attached to or associated with the	1352
statement, addendum, or amended statement under this division	1353
shall be binding on all persons and for all purposes under the	1354
campaign finance reporting law as if the signature had been	1355
handwritten in ink on a printed form.	1356
$\frac{(I)}{(G)}$ The secretary of state shall make <u>all of</u> the	1357
following information available online to the public by any	1358
means that are searchable, viewable, and accessible through the	1359
<pre>internet:</pre>	1360
(1) The contribution and expenditure, the contribution and	1361
disbursement, the deposit and disbursement, the gift and	1362
disbursement, or the donation and disbursement information in	1363
all statements, all addenda to the statements, and all amended	1364
statements that are filed with the secretary of state by	1365
electronic or other means of transmission under this section or	1366
section 3517.10, 3517.105, 3517.1011, 3517.1012, 3517.1013,	1367

3517.1014, or 3517.11 of the Revised Code-available online to	1368
the public by any means that are searchable, viewable, and	1369
accessible through the internet;	1370
(2) The contribution and expenditure or the deposit and	1371
disbursement information in all statements that are filed with a	1372
board of elections by electronic means of transmission, and in	1373
all addenda to those statements and all amended versions of	1374
those statements, under this section or section 3517.10,	1375
3517.105, 3517.1012, or 3517.11 of the Revised Code.	1376
$\frac{(J)(H)}{(H)}$ (1) As used in this division, "library" means a	1377
library that is open to the public and that is one of the	1378
following:	1379
(a) A library that is maintained and regulated under	1380
section 715.13 of the Revised Code;	1381
(b) A library that is created, maintained, and regulated	1382
under Chapter 3375. of the Revised Code.	1383
(2) The secretary of state shall notify all libraries of	1384
the location on the internet at which the contribution and	1385
expenditure, contribution and disbursement, deposit and	1386
disbursement, gift and disbursement, or donation and	1387
disbursement information in campaign finance statements required	1388
to be made available online to the public through the internet	1389
pursuant to division $\frac{\text{(I)}}{\text{(G)}}$ of this section may be accessed.	1390
If that location is part of the world wide web and if the	1391
secretary of state has notified a library of that world wide web	1392
location as required by this division, the library shall include	1393
a link to that world wide web location on each internet-	1394
connected computer it maintains that is accessible to the	1395
public.	1396

(3) If the system the secretary of state prescribes for	1397
the filing of campaign finance statements by electronic means of	1398
transmission pursuant to division $\frac{(H)(F)}{(I)}(1)$ of this section and	1399
divisions (C)(6)(b) and (D)(6) of section 3517.10 of the Revised	1400
Code includes filing those statements through the internet via	1401
the world wide web, the secretary of state shall notify all	1402
libraries of the world wide web location at which those	1403
statements may be filed.	1404

If those statements may be filed through the internet via 1405 the world wide web and if the secretary of state has notified a 1406 library of that world wide web location as required by this 1407 division, the library shall include a link to that world wide 1408 web location on each internet-connected computer it maintains 1409 that is accessible to the public. 1410

(K) (I) It is an affirmative defense to a complaint or 1411 charge brought against any campaign committee, political action 1412 committee, political contributing entity, legislative campaign 1413 fund, or political party, any individual, partnership, or other 1414 entity, any person making disbursements to pay the direct costs 1415 of producing or airing electioneering communications, or any 1416 treasurer of a transition fund, for the failure to file by 1417 electronic means of transmission a campaign finance statement as 1418 required by this section or section 3517.10, 3517.105, 1419 3517.1011, 3517.1012, 3517.1013, or 3517.1014 of the Revised 1420 Code that all of the following apply to the campaign committee, 1421 political action committee, political contributing entity, 1422 legislative campaign fund, or political party, the individual, 1423 partnership, or other entity, the person making disbursements to 1424 pay the direct costs of producing or airing electioneering 1425 communications, or the treasurer of a transition fund that 1426 failed to so file: 1427

S. B. No. 206
As Introduced

(1) The campaign committee, political action committee,	1428
political contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or	1429
political party, the individual, partnership, or other entity,	1430
the person making disbursements to pay the direct costs of	1431
producing or airing electioneering communications, or the	1432
treasurer of a transition fund attempted to file by electronic	1433
means of transmission the required statement prior to the	1434
deadline set forth in the applicable section.	1435
(2) The campaign committee, political action committee,	1436
political contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or	1437
political party, the individual, partnership, or other entity,	1438
the person making disbursements to pay the direct costs of	1439
producing or airing electioneering communications, or the	1440
treasurer of a transition fund was unable to file by electronic	1441
means of transmission due to an expected or unexpected shutdown	1442
of the whole or part of the electronic campaign finance	1443
statement-filing system, such as for maintenance or because of	1444
hardware, software, or network connection failure.	1445
(3) The campaign committee, political action committee,	1446
political contributing entity, legislative campaign fund, or	1447
political party, the individual, partnership, or other entity,	1448
the person making disbursements to pay the direct costs of	1449
producing or airing electioneering communications, or the	1450
treasurer of a transition fund filed by electronic means of	1451
transmission the required statement within a reasonable period	1452
of time after being unable to so file it under the circumstance	1453
described in division $\frac{(K)}{(I)}(2)$ of this section.	1454
$\frac{(L)}{(J)}(1)$ The secretary of state shall adopt rules	1455
pursuant to Chapter 119. of the Revised Code to permit a	1456

campaign committee of a candidate for statewide office that

makes expenditures of less than twenty-five thousand dollars	1458
during the filing period or a campaign committee for the office	1459
of member of the general assembly or the office of judge of a	1460
court of appeals that would otherwise be required to file	1461
campaign finance statements by electronic means of transmission	1462
under division (E) $\frac{\text{or}}{\text{(F)}}$ of this section to file those	1463
statements by paper with the office of the secretary of state.	1464
Those rules shall provide for all of the following:	1465
(a) An eligible campaign committee that wishes to file a	1466
campaign finance statement by paper instead of by electronic	1467
means of transmission shall file the statement on paper with the	1468
office of the secretary of state not sooner than twenty-four	1469
hours after the end of the filing period set forth in section	1470
3517.10 of the Revised Code that is covered by the applicable	1471
statement.	1472
(b) The statement shall be accompanied by a fee, the	1473
amount of which the secretary of state shall determine by rule.	1474
The amount of the fee established under this division shall not	1475
exceed the data entry and data verification costs the secretary	1476
of state will incur to convert the information on the statement	1477
to an electronic format as required under division $\frac{\text{(I)} - \text{(G)}}{\text{(G)}}$ of	1478
this section.	1479
(c) The secretary of state shall arrange for the	1480
information in campaign finance statements filed pursuant to	1481
division $\frac{(L)-(J)}{(J)}$ of this section to be made available online to	1482
the public through the internet in the same manner, and at the	1483
same times, as information is made available under divisions	1484
(E), (F) , and (I) of this section for candidates whose	1485
campaign committees file those statements by electronic means of	1486

1487

transmission.

(d) The candidate of an eligible campaign committee that	1488
intends to file a campaign finance statement pursuant to	1489
division $\frac{(L)-(J)}{(J)}$ of this section shall file a notice indicating	1490
that the candidate's campaign committee intends to so file and	1491
stating that filing the statement by electronic means of	1492
transmission would constitute a hardship for the candidate or	1493
for the eligible campaign committee.	1494
(e) An eligible campaign committee that files a campaign	1495
finance statement on paper pursuant to division $\frac{(L)-(J)}{(J)}$ of this	1496

- (e) An eligible campaign committee that files a campaign 1495 finance statement on paper pursuant to division (L)—(J) of this 1496 section shall review the contribution and information made 1497 available online by the secretary of state with respect to that 1498 paper filing and shall notify the secretary of state of any 1499 errors with respect to that filing that appear in the data made 1500 available on that web site.
- (f) If an eligible campaign committee whose candidate has 1502 filed a notice in accordance with rules adopted under division 1503 $\frac{\text{(L)}}{\text{(J)}}$ (1) (d) of this section subsequently fails to file that 1504 statement on paper by the applicable deadline established in 1505 rules adopted under division $\frac{(L)}{(J)}(1)$ (a) of this section, 1506 penalties for the late filing of the campaign finance statement 1507 shall apply to that campaign committee for each day after that 1508 paper filing deadline, as if the campaign committee had filed 1509 the statement after the applicable deadline set forth in 1510 division (A) of section 3517.10 of the Revised Code. 1511
- (2) The process for permitting campaign committees that 1512 would otherwise be required to file campaign finance statements 1513 by electronic means of transmission to file those statements on 1514 paper with the office of the secretary of state that is required 1515 to be developed under division $\frac{\text{(L)}(\text{J})}{\text{(I)}}$ of this section shall 1516 be in effect and available for use by eligible campaign 1517

committees for all campaign finance statements that are required	1518
to be filed on or after June 30, 2005. Notwithstanding any	1519
provision of the Revised Code to the contrary, if the process	1520
the secretary of state is required to develop under division (L)	1521
(1) of this section is not in effect and available for use on	1522
and after June 30, 2005, all penalties for the failure of	1523
campaign committees to file campaign finance statements by	1524
electronic means of transmission shall be suspended until such	1525
time as that process is in effect and available for use.	1526
(3) Notwithstanding any provision of the Revised Code to	1527
the contrary, any eligible campaign committee that files	1528
campaign finance statements on paper with the office of the	1529
secretary of state pursuant to division $\frac{(L)}{(J)}(1)$ of this	1530
section shall be deemed to have filed those campaign finance	1531
statements by electronic means of transmission to the office of	1532
the secretary of state.	1533
Sec. 3517.1011. (A) As used in this section:	1534
(1) "Address" has the same meaning as in section 3517.10	1535
of the Revised Code.	1536
(2) "Broadcast, cable, or satellite communication" means a	1537
communication that is publicly distributed by a television	1538
station, radio station, cable television system, or satellite	1539
system.	1540
(3) "Candidate" has the same meaning as in section 3501.01	1541
of the Revised Code;.	1542
(4) "Contribution" means any loan, gift, deposit,	1543
forgiveness of indebtedness, donation, advance, payment, or	1544
transfer of funds or of anything of value, including a transfer	1545
of funds from an inter vivos or testamentary trust or decedent's	1546

estate, and the payment by any person other than the person to	1547
whom the services are rendered for the personal services of	1548
another person, that is made, received, or used to pay the	1549
direct costs of producing or airing electioneering	1550
communications.	1551
(5)(a) "Coordinated electioneering communication" means	1552
any electioneering communication that is made pursuant to any	1553
arrangement, coordination, or direction by a candidate or a	1554
candidate's campaign committee, by an officer, agent, employee,	1555
or consultant of a candidate or a candidate's campaign	1556
committee, or by a former officer, former agent, former	1557
employee, or former consultant of a candidate or a candidate's	1558
campaign committee prior to the airing, broadcasting, or	1559
cablecasting of the communication. An electioneering	1560
communication is presumed to be a "coordinated electioneering	1561
communication" when it is either of the following:	1562
(i) Based on information about a candidate's plans,	1563
projects, or needs provided to the person making the	1564
disbursement by the candidate or the candidate's campaign	1565
committee, by an officer, agent, employee, or consultant of the	1566
candidate or the candidate's campaign committee, or by a former	1567
officer, former agent, former employee, or former consultant of	1568
the candidate or the candidate's campaign committee, with a view	1569
toward having the communication made;	1570
(ii) Made by or through any person who is, or has been,	1571
authorized to raise or expend funds on behalf of a candidate or	1572
the candidate's campaign committee, who is, or has been, an	1573
officer, agent, employee, or consultant of the candidate or of	1574
the candidate's campaign committee, or who is, or has been,	1575
receiving any form of compensation or reimbursement from the	1576

candidate or the candidate's campaign committee or from an	1577
officer, agent, employee, or consultant of the candidate or of	1578
the candidate's campaign committee.	1579
(b) An electioneering communication shall not be presumed	1580
to be a "coordinated electioneering communication" under	1581
division (A)(5)(a)(ii) of this section if the communication is	1582
made through any person who provides a service that does not	1583
affect the content of the communication, such as communications	1584
placed through the efforts of a media buyer, unless that person	1585
also affects the content of the communication.	1586
(6) "Disclosure date" means both of the following:	1587
(a) The first date during any calendar year by which a	1588
person makes disbursements for the direct costs of producing or	1589
airing electioneering communications aggregating in excess of	1590
ten thousand dollars;	1591
(b) The same day of the week of each remaining week in the	1592
same calendar year as the day of the week of the initial	1593
disclosure date established under division (A)(6)(a) of this	1594
section, if, during that remaining week, the person makes	1595
disbursements for the direct costs of producing or airing	1596
electioneering communications aggregating in excess of one	1597
dollar.	1598
(7)(a) "Electioneering communication" means any broadcast,	1599
cable, or satellite communication that refers to a clearly	1600
identified candidate and that is made during either of the	1601
following periods of time:	1602
(i) If the person becomes a candidate before the day of	1603
the primary election at which candidates will be nominated for	1604
election to that office, between the date that the person	1605

S. B. No. 206
As Introduced

becomes a candidate and the thirtieth day prior to that primary	1606
election, and between the date of the primary election and the	1607
thirtieth day prior to the general election at which a candidate	1608
will be elected to that office;	1609
(ii) If the person becomes a candidate after the day of	1610
the primary election at which candidates were nominated for	1611
election to that office, between the date of the primary	1612
election and the thirtieth day prior to the general election at	1613
which a candidate will be elected to that office.	1614
(b) "Electioneering communication" does not include any of	1615
the following:	1616
(i) A communication that is publicly disseminated through	1617
a means of communication other than a broadcast, cable, or	1618
satellite television or radio station. For example,	1619
"electioneering communication" does not include communications	1620
appearing in print media, including a newspaper or magazine,	1621
handbill, brochure, bumper sticker, yard sign, poster,	1622
billboard, and other written materials, including mailings;	1623
communications over the internet, including electronic mail; or	1624
telephone communications.	1625
(ii) A communication that appears in a news story,	1626
commentary, public service announcement, bona fide news	1627
programming, or editorial distributed through the facilities of	1628
any broadcast, cable, or satellite television or radio station,	1629
unless those facilities are owned or controlled by any political	1630
party, political committee, or candidate;	1631
(iii) A communication that constitutes an expenditure or	1632
an independent expenditure under section 3517.01 of the Revised	1633
Code;	1634

(iv) A communication that constitutes a candidate debate	1635
or forum or that solely promotes a candidate debate or forum and	1636
is made by or on behalf of the person sponsoring the debate or	1637
forum.	1638
(8) "Filing date" has the same meaning as in section	1639
3517.109 of the Revised Code.	1640
(9) "Immigration and Nationality Act" means the	1641
Immigration and Nationality Act, 110 Stat. 309 (1996), 8 U.S.C.	1642
1101 et seq., as amended.	1643
(10) "Person" has the same meaning as in section 1.59 of	1644
the Revised Code and includes any political organization	1645
considered exempt from income taxation under section 527 of the	1646
Internal Revenue Code.	1647
(11) "Political committee" means any of the following:	1648
(a) Any committee, club, association, or other group of	1649
persons that receives contributions aggregating in excess of one	1650
thousand dollars during a calendar year or that makes	1651
expenditures aggregating in excess of one thousand dollars	1652
during a calendar year;	1653
(b) Any separate segregated fund;	1654
(c) Any state, county, or local committee of a political	1655
party that does any of the following:	1656
(i) Receives contributions aggregating in excess of five	1657
thousand dollars during a calendar year;	1658
(ii) Makes payments that do not constitute contributions	1659
or expenditures aggregating in excess of five thousand dollars	1660
during a calendar year;	1661

(iii) Makes contributions or expenditures aggregating in	1662
excess of one thousand dollars during a calendar year.	1663
(12) "Publicly distributed" means aired, broadcast,	1664
cablecast, or otherwise disseminated for a fee.	1665
(13) "Refers to a clearly identified candidate" means that	1666
the candidate's name, nickname, photograph, or drawing appears,	1667
or the identity of the candidate is otherwise apparent through	1668
an unambiguous reference to the person such as "the chief	1669
justice," "the governor," "member of the Ohio senate," "member	1670
of the Ohio house of representatives," "county auditor,"	1671
"mayor," or "township trustee" or through an unambiguous	1672
reference to the person's status as a candidate.	1673
(B) For the purposes of this section, a person shall be	1674
considered to have made a disbursement if the person has entered	1675
into a contract to make the disbursement.	1676
(C) Any person intending to make a disbursement or	1677
disbursements for the direct costs of producing or airing	1678
electioneering communications, prior to making the first	1679
disbursement for the direct costs of producing or airing an	1680
electioneering communication, shall file a notice with the	1681
office of the secretary of state that the person is intending to	1682
make such disbursements.	1683
(D)(1) Every person that makes a disbursement or	1684
disbursements for the direct costs of producing and airing	1685
electioneering communications aggregating in excess of ten	1686
thousand dollars during any calendar year shall file, within	1687
twenty-four hours of each disclosure date, a disclosure of	1688
electioneering communications statement containing the following	1689
information:	1690

disbursement, of any person sharing or exercising direction or 16	692
control over the activities of the person making the	693
disbursement, and of the custodian of the books and accounts of	694
the person making the disbursement;	695
(b) The principal place of business of the person making 16	696
the disbursement, if not an individual;	697
(c) The amount of each disbursement of more than one 16	698
dollar during the period covered by the statement and the	599
identity of the person to whom the disbursement was made; 17	700
(d) The nominations or elections to which the	701
electioneering communications pertain and the names, if known, 17	702
of the candidates identified or to be identified; 17	703
(e) If the disbursements were paid out of a segregated 17	704
bank account that consists of funds contributed solely by 17	705
individuals who are United States citizens or nationals or 17	706
lawfully admitted for permanent residence as defined in section 17	707
101(a)(20) of the Immigration and Nationality Act directly to 17	708
the account for electioneering communications, the information 17	709
specified in division (D)(2) of this section for all	710
contributors who contributed an aggregate amount of two hundred 17	711
dollars or more to the segregated bank account and whose 17	712
contributions were used for making the disbursement or 17	713
disbursements required to be reported under division (D) of this	714
section during the period covered by the statement. Nothing in 17	715
this division prohibits or shall be construed to prohibit the 17	716
use of funds in such a segregated bank account for a purpose 17	717
other than electioneering communications.	718

(f) If the disbursements were paid out of funds not

described in division (D)(1)(e) of this section, the information	1720
specified in division (D)(2) of this section for all	1721
contributors who contributed an aggregate amount of two hundred	1722
dollars or more to the person making the disbursement and whose	1723
contributions were used for making the disbursement or	1724
disbursements required to be reported under division (D) of this	1725
section during the period covered by the statement.	1726
(2) For each contributor for which information is required	1727
to be reported under division (D)(1)(e) or (f) of this section,	1728
all of the following shall be reported:	1729
(a) The month, day, and year that the contributor made the	1730
contribution or contributions aggregating two hundred dollars or	1731
more;	1732
(b)(i) The full name and address of the contributor, and,	1733
if the contributor is a political action committee, the	1734
registration number assigned to the political action committee	1735
under division (D)(1) of section 3517.10 of the Revised Code;	1736
(ii) If the contributor is an individual, the name of the	1737
individual's current employer, if any, or, if the individual is	1738
self-employed, the individual's occupation and the name of the	1739
<pre>individual's business, if any;</pre>	1740
(iii) If the contribution is transmitted pursuant to	1741
section 3599.031 of the Revised Code from amounts deducted from	1742
the wages and salaries of two or more employees that exceed in	1743
the aggregate one hundred dollars during the period specified in	1744
division (D)(1)(e) or (f) of this section, as applicable, the	1745
full name of the employees' employer and the full name of the	1746
labor organization of which the employees are members, if any.	1747
(c) A description of the contribution, if other than	1748

money;	1749
(d) The value in dollars and cents of the contribution.	1750
(3) Subject to the secretary of state having implemented,	1751
tested, and verified the successful operation of any system the	1752
secretary of state prescribes pursuant to divisions (C)(6)(b)	1753
and (D)(6) of section 3517.10 and division $\frac{\text{(H)}(\text{F})}{\text{(I)}}$ (1) of section	1754
3517.106 of the Revised Code for the filing of campaign finance	1755
statements by electronic means of transmission, a person shall	1756
file the disclosure of electioneering communications statement	1757
prescribed under divisions (D)(1) and (2) of this section by	1758
electronic means of transmission to the office of the secretary	1759
of state.	1760
Within five business days after the secretary of state	1761
receives a disclosure of electioneering communications statement	1762
under this division, the secretary of state shall make available	1763
online to the public through the internet, as provided in	1764
division $\frac{\text{(I)}-\text{(G)}}{\text{(G)}}$ of section 3517.106 of the Revised Code, the	1765
contribution and disbursement information in that statement.	1766
If a filed disclosure of electioneering communications	1767
statement is found to be incomplete or inaccurate after its	1768
examination for completeness and accuracy pursuant to division	1769
(B)(3)(a) of section 3517.11 of the Revised Code, the person	1770
shall file by electronic means of transmission to the office of	1771
the secretary of state any addendum, amendment, or other	1772
correction to the statement that provides the information	1773
necessary to complete or correct the statement or, if required	1774
by the secretary of state under that division, an amended	1775
statement.	1776
Within five business days after the secretary of state	1777

receives an addendum, amendment, or other correction to a	1778							
disclosure of electioneering communications statement or an								
amended statement by electronic means of transmission under this								
division or division (B)(3)(a) of section 3517.11 of the Revised	1781							
Code, the secretary of state shall make the contribution and	1782							
disbursement information in the addendum, amendment, or other								
correction to the statement or amended statement available								
online to the public through the internet as provided in	1785							
division $\frac{\text{(I)} - \text{(G)}}{\text{(G)}}$ of section 3517.106 of the Revised Code.	1786							
(E)(1) Any person who makes a contribution for the purpose	1787							
of funding the direct costs of producing or airing an	1788							
electioneering communication under this section shall provide	1789							
the person's full name and address to the recipient of the	1790							
contribution at the time the contribution is made.	1791							
(2) Any individual who makes a contribution or	1792							
contributions aggregating two hundred dollars or more for the	1793							
purpose of funding the direct costs of producing or airing an	1794							
electioneering communication under this section shall provide	1795							
the name of the individual's current employer, if any, or, if	1796							
the individual is self-employed, the individual's occupation and	1797							
the name of the individual's business, if any, to the recipient	1798							
of the contribution at the time the contribution is made.	1799							
(F) In each electioneering communication, a statement	1799 1800							
(F) In each electioneering communication, a statement	1800							
(F) In each electioneering communication, a statement shall appear or be presented in a clear and conspicuous manner	1800 1801							
(F) In each electioneering communication, a statement shall appear or be presented in a clear and conspicuous manner that does both of the following:	1800 1801 1802							

(2) Clearly identifies the person making the disbursement

for the electioneering communication in accordance with section 1807 3517.20 of the Revised Code. 1808

- (G) Any coordinated electioneering communication is an inkind contribution, subject to the applicable contribution limits

 1810
 prescribed in section 3517.102 of the Revised Code, to the
 candidate by the person making disbursements to pay the direct
 1812
 costs of producing or airing the communication.
 1813
- (H) No person shall make, during the thirty days preceding 1814 a primary election or during the thirty days preceding a general 1815 election, any broadcast, cable, or satellite communication that 1816 refers to a clearly identified candidate using any contributions 1817 received from a corporation or labor organization. 1818

Sec. 3517.11. (A) (1) Campaign committees of candidates for 1819 statewide office or the state board of education, political 1820 action committees or political contributing entities that make 1821 contributions to campaign committees of candidates that are 1822 required to file the statements prescribed by section 3517.10 of 1823 the Revised Code with the secretary of state, political action 1824 committees or political contributing entities that make 1825 contributions to campaign committees of candidates for member of 1826 the general assembly, political action committees or political 1827 contributing entities that make contributions to state and 1828 national political parties and to legislative campaign funds, 1829 political action committees or political contributing entities 1830 that receive contributions or make expenditures in connection 1831 with a statewide ballot issue, political action committees or 1832 political contributing entities that make contributions to other 1833 political action committees or political contributing entities, 1834 political parties, and campaign committees, except as set forth 1835 in division (A)(3) of this section, legislative campaign funds, 1836 and state and national political parties shall file the 1837 statements prescribed by section 3517.10 of the Revised Code 1838 with the secretary of state. 1839

- (2) (a) Except as otherwise provided in division (F) (E) of 1840 section 3517.106 of the Revised Code, campaign committees of 1841 candidates for all other offices shall file the statements 1842 prescribed by section 3517.10 of the Revised Code with the board 1843 of elections where their candidates are required to file their 1844 petitions or other papers for nomination or election. 1845
- (b) A campaign committee of a candidate for office of 1846 member of the general assembly or a campaign committee of a 1847 candidate for the office of judge of a court of appeals shall 1848 file two copies of the printed version of any statement, 1849 addendum, or amended statement if the committee does not file 1850 pursuant to division (F)(1) (E) or (L) of section 3517.106 1851 of the Revised Code but files by printed version only with the 1852 appropriate board of elections. The board of elections shall 1853 send one of those copies by certified mail or an electronic copy 1854 to the secretary of state before the close of business on the 1855 day the board of elections receives the statement, addendum, or 1856 amended statement. 1857
- (3) Political action committees or political contributing 1858 entities that only contribute to a county political party, 1859 contribute to campaign committees of candidates whose nomination 1860 or election is to be submitted only to electors within a county, 1861 subdivision, or district, excluding candidates for member of the 1862 general assembly, and receive contributions or make expenditures 1863 in connection with ballot questions or issues to be submitted 1864 only to electors within a county, subdivision, or district shall 1865 file the statements prescribed by section 3517.10 of the Revised 1866

Code with the board of elections in that county or in the county

contained in whole or part within the subdivision or district

having a population greater than that of any other county

contained in whole or part within that subdivision or district,

as the case may be.

1867

1870

- (4) Except as otherwise provided in division (E) (3)—(1) (e) 1872 of section 3517.106 of the Revised Code with respect to state 1873 candidate funds, county political parties shall file the 1874 statements prescribed by section 3517.10 of the Revised Code 1875 with the board of elections of their respective counties. 1876
- (B) (1) The official with whom petitions and other papers 1877 for nomination or election to public office are filed shall 1878 furnish each candidate at the time of that filing a copy of 1879 sections 3517.01, 3517.08 to 3517.11, 3517.13 to 3517.993, 1880 3599.03, and 3599.031 of the Revised Code and any other 1881 materials that the secretary of state may require. Each 1882 candidate receiving the materials shall acknowledge their 1883 receipt in writing. 1884
- (2) On or before the tenth day before the dates on which 1885 statements are required to be filed by section 3517.10 of the 1886 Revised Code, every candidate subject to the provisions of this 1887 section and sections 3517.10 and 3517.106 of the Revised Code 1888 shall be notified of the requirements and applicable penalties 1889 of those sections. The secretary of state, by certified mail, 1890 return receipt requested, shall notify all candidates required 1891 to file those statements with the secretary of state's office. 1892 The board of elections of every county shall notify by first 1893 class mail any candidate who has personally appeared at the 1894 office of the board on or before the tenth day before the 1895 statements are required to be filed and signed a form, to be 1896

provided by the secretary of state, attesting that the candidate 1897 has been notified of the candidate's obligations under the 1898 campaign finance law. The board shall forward the completed form 1899 to the secretary of state. The board shall use certified mail, 1900 return receipt requested, to notify all other candidates 1901 required to file those statements with it.

(3) (a) Any statement required to be filed under sections 1903 3517.081 to 3517.17 of the Revised Code that is found to be 1904 incomplete or inaccurate by the officer to whom it is submitted 1905 1906 shall be accepted on a conditional basis, and the person who filed it shall be notified by certified mail as to the 1907 incomplete or inaccurate nature of the statement. The secretary 1908 of state may examine statements filed for candidates for the 1909 office of member of the general assembly and candidates for the 1910 office of judge of a court of appeals for completeness and 1911 accuracy. The secretary of state shall examine for completeness 1912 and accuracy statements that campaign committees of candidates 1913 for the office of member of the general assembly and campaign 1914 committees of candidates for the office of judge of a court of 1915 appeals file pursuant to division (F) (E) or (L) (J) of section 1916 3517.106 of the Revised Code. If an officer at the board of 1917 elections where a statement filed for a candidate for the office 1918 of member of the general assembly or for a candidate for the 1919 office of judge of a court of appeals was submitted finds the 1920 statement to be incomplete or inaccurate, the officer shall 1921 immediately notify the secretary of state of its incomplete or 1922 inaccurate nature. If either an officer at the board of 1923 elections or the secretary of state finds a statement filed for 1924 a candidate for the office of member of the general assembly or 1925 for a candidate for the office of judge of a court of appeals to 1926 be incomplete or inaccurate, only the secretary of state shall 1927

send the notification as to the incomplete or inaccurate nature	1928
of the statement.	1929
Within twenty-one days after receipt of the notice, in the	1930
case of a pre-election statement, a postelection statement, a	1931
monthly statement, an annual statement, or a semiannual	1932
statement prescribed by section 3517.10, an annual statement	1933
prescribed by section 3517.101, or a statement prescribed by	1934
division (B)(2)(b) or (C)(2)(b) of section 3517.105 or section	1935
3517.107 of the Revised Code, the recipient shall file an	1936
addendum, amendment, or other correction to the statement	1937
providing the information necessary to complete or correct the	1938
statement. The secretary of state may require that, in lieu of	1939
filing an addendum, amendment, or other correction to a	1940
statement that is filed by electronic means of transmission to	1941
the office of the secretary of state or a board of elections	1942
pursuant to section 3517.106 of the Revised Code, the recipient	1943
of the notice described in this division file by electronic	1944
means of transmission an amended statement that incorporates the	1945
information necessary to complete or correct the statement.	1946
The secretary of state shall determine by rule when an	1947
addendum, amendment, or other correction to any of the following	1948
or when an amended statement of any of the following shall be	1949
filed:	1950
(i) A two-business-day statement prescribed by section	1951
3517.10 of the Revised Code;	1952
(ii) A disclosure of electioneering communications	1953
statement prescribed by division (D) of section 3517.1011 of the	1954
Revised Code;	1955
(iii) A deposit and disbursement statement prescribed	1956

under division (B) of section 3517.1012 of the Revised Code;	1957
(iv) A gift and disbursement statement prescribed under	1958
section 3517.1013 of the Revised Code;	1959
(v) A donation and disbursement statement prescribed under	1960
section 3517.1014 of the Revised Code.	1961
An addendum, amendment, or other correction to a statement	1962
that is filed by electronic means of transmission pursuant to	1963
section 3517.106 of the Revised Code shall be filed in the same	1964
manner as the statement.	1965
The provisions of sections 3517.10, 3517.106, 3517.1011,	1966
3517.1012, 3517.1013, and 3517.1014 of the Revised Code	1967
pertaining to the filing of statements of contributions and	1968
expenditures, statements of independent expenditures, disclosure	1969
of electioneering communications statements, deposit and	1970
disbursement statements, gift and disbursement statements, and	1971
donation and disbursement statements by electronic means of	1972
transmission apply to the filing of addenda, amendments, or	1973
other corrections to those statements by electronic means of	1974
transmission and the filing of amended statements by electronic	1975
means of transmission.	1976
(b) Within five business days after the secretary of state	1977
receives, by electronic or other means of transmission, an	1978
addendum, amendment, or other correction to a statement or an	1979
amended statement under division (B)(3)(a) of this section, the	1980
secretary of state, pursuant to divisions (E), (F) , and (G) , and	1981
$\overline{\text{(I)}}$ of section 3517.106 or division (D) of section 3517.1011 of	1982
the Revised Code, shall make the contribution and expenditure,	1983
contribution and disbursement, deposit and disbursement, gift	1984
and disbursement, or donation and disbursement information in	1985

that addendum, amendment, correction, or amended statement 1986 available online to the public through the internet. 1987 (4)(a) The secretary of state or the board of elections 1988 shall examine all statements for compliance with sections 1989 3517.08 to 3517.17 of the Revised Code. 1990 (b) The secretary of state may contract with an individual 1991 or entity not associated with the secretary of state and 1992 experienced in interpreting the campaign finance law of this 1993 state to conduct examinations of statements filed by any 1994 statewide candidate, as defined in section 3517.103 of the 1995 Revised Code. 1996 (c) The examination shall be conducted by a person or 1997 entity qualified to conduct it. The results of the examination 1998 shall be available to the public, and, when the examination is 1999 conducted by an individual or entity not associated with the 2000 secretary of state, the results of the examination shall be 2001 reported to the secretary of state. 2002 (C)(1) In the event of a failure to file or a late filing 2003 of a statement required to be filed under sections 3517.081 to 2004 3517.17 of the Revised Code, or if a filed statement or any 2005 addendum, amendment, or other correction to a statement or any 2006 amended statement, if an addendum, amendment, or other 2007 correction or an amended statement is required to be filed, is 2008 incomplete or inaccurate or appears to disclose a failure to 2009 comply with or a violation of law, the official whose duty it is 2010 to examine the statement shall promptly file a complaint with 2011 the Ohio elections commission under section 3517.153 of the 2012 Revised Code if the law is one over which the commission has 2013 jurisdiction to hear complaints, or the official shall promptly 2014

report the failure or violation to the board of elections and

the board shall promptly report it to the prosecuting attorney 2016 in accordance with division (J) of section 3501.11 of the 2017 Revised Code. If the official files a complaint with the 2018 commission, the commission shall proceed in accordance with 2019 sections 3517.154 to 3517.157 of the Revised Code. 2020 (2) For purposes of division (C)(1) of this section, a 2021 statement or an addendum, amendment, or other correction to a 2022 statement or an amended statement required to be filed under 2023 sections 3517.081 to 3517.17 of the Revised Code is incomplete 2024 or inaccurate under this section if the statement, addendum, 2025 amendment, other correction, or amended statement fails to 2026 disclose substantially all contributions, gifts, or donations 2027 that are received or deposits that are made that are required to 2028 be reported under sections 3517.10, 3517.107, 3517.108, 2029 3517.1011, 3517.1012, 3517.1013, and 3517.1014 of the Revised 2030 Code or if the statement, addendum, amendment, other correction, 2031 or amended statement fails to disclose at least ninety per cent 2032 of the total contributions, gifts, or donations received or 2033 deposits made or of the total expenditures or disbursements made 2034 2035 during the reporting period. (D) No certificate of nomination or election shall be 2036 issued to a person, and no person elected to an office shall 2037 enter upon the performance of the duties of that office, until 2038 that person or that person's campaign committee, as appropriate, 2039 has fully complied with this section and sections 3517.08, 2040 3517.081, 3517.10, and 3517.13 of the Revised Code. 2041 Section 2. That existing sections 3517.10, 3517.105, 2042 3517.106, 3517.1011, and 3517.11 of the Revised Code are hereby 2043 repealed. 2044

Section 3. This act shall take effect on the first day of

S. B. No. 206 As Introduced									Page 70			
January	that	occurs	at	least	one	hundred	eighty	days	after	the		2046

2047

act is filed with the Secretary of State.