

As Introduced

135th General Assembly

Regular Session

2023-2024

S. B. No. 21

Senators McColley, Reynolds

Cosponsors: Senators Schuring, Gavarone

A BILL

To amend sections 109.02, 119.12, 124.34, 956.11,	1
956.15, 1901.02, 1901.021, 1901.041, 2301.03,	2
3794.09, 3901.321, 3913.13, 3913.23, 5101.35,	3
and 5164.38 and to enact sections 101.55,	4
107.13, 303.65, 519.26, and 713.16 of the	5
Revised Code to generally change the venue in	6
which appeal from an agency order is proper to	7
the local court of common pleas, to revise the	8
law governing claim preclusion in zoning	9
appeals, to revise the law governing the	10
referral of cases to the Hamilton County Drug	11
Court, to transfer Perry Township in Wood County	12
from the territorial jurisdiction of the Tiffin-	13
Fostoria Municipal Court to the territorial	14
jurisdiction of the Bowling Green Municipal	15
Court, to allow the General Assembly to	16
intervene in certain actions, and to allow the	17
General Assembly and the Governor to retain	18
special counsel.	19

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

Section 1. That sections 109.02, 119.12, 124.34, 956.11, 20
956.15, 1901.02, 1901.021, 1901.041, 2301.03, 3794.09, 3901.321, 21
3913.13, 3913.23, 5101.35, and 5164.38 be amended and sections 22
101.55, 107.13, 303.65, 519.26, and 713.16 of the Revised Code 23
be enacted to read as follows: 24

Sec. 101.55. (A) (1) The speaker of the house of 25
representatives, in the speaker's official capacity as the 26
presiding officer of the house of representatives, may retain 27
legal counsel other than from the attorney general for either of 28
the following purposes: 29

(a) To represent, and intervene on behalf of, the house in 30
any judicial proceeding that involves a challenge to the 31
constitution or laws of this state and that is an important 32
matter of statewide concern. The house may intervene in any such 33
judicial proceeding at any time as a matter of right. 34
Intervention under this division is perfected upon the filing of 35
a notice of intervention of right as a necessary party with the 36
court in which the matter is pending. 37

(b) To provide advice and counsel to the speaker on 38
matters that affect the official business of the house. 39

(2) The speaker shall approve all terms of representation 40
and authorize payment for all financial costs incurred under 41
division (A) (1) of this section. 42

(3) The house of representatives may rescind the retention 43
of a particular legal counsel in a particular matter under 44
division (A) (1) of this section by a resolution adopted by the 45
affirmative vote of a majority of the members elected to the 46
house. 47

(B) (1) The president of the senate, in the president's 48

official capacity as the presiding officer of the senate, may 49
retain legal counsel other than from the attorney general for 50
either of the following purposes: 51

(a) To represent, and intervene on behalf of, the senate 52
in any judicial proceeding that involves a challenge to the 53
constitution or laws of this state and that is an important 54
matter of statewide concern. The senate may intervene in any 55
such judicial proceeding at any time as a matter of right. 56
Intervention under this division is perfected upon the filing of 57
a notice of intervention of right as a necessary party with the 58
court in which the matter is pending. 59

(b) To provide advice and counsel to the president on 60
matters that affect the official business of the senate. 61

(2) The president shall approve all terms of 62
representation and authorize payment for all financial costs 63
incurred under division (B)(1) of this section. 64

(3) The senate may rescind the retention of a particular 65
legal counsel in a particular matter under division (B)(1) of 66
this section by a resolution adopted by the affirmative vote of 67
a majority of the members elected to the senate. 68

(C)(1) The speaker of the house of representatives and the 69
president of the senate, acting jointly in their official 70
capacities as the presiding officers of the houses of the 71
general assembly, may retain legal counsel other than from the 72
attorney general for either of the following purposes: 73

(a) To represent, and intervene on behalf of, the general 74
assembly in any judicial proceeding that involves a challenge to 75
the constitution or laws of this state and that is an important 76
matter of statewide concern. The general assembly may intervene 77

in any such judicial proceeding at any time as a matter of 78
right. Intervention under this division is perfected upon the 79
filing of a notice of intervention of right as a necessary party 80
with the court in which the matter is pending. 81

(b) To provide advice and counsel to the speaker and the 82
president, jointly, on matters that affect the official business 83
of the general assembly. 84

(2) The speaker and the president shall jointly approve 85
all terms of representation and authorize payment for all 86
financial costs incurred under division (C) (1) of this section. 87

(3) The general assembly may rescind the retention of a 88
particular legal counsel in a particular matter under division 89
(C) (1) of this section by a concurrent resolution adopted by the 90
affirmative vote of a majority of the members elected to each 91
house of the general assembly. 92

(D) Notwithstanding any contrary provision of law, nothing 93
in this section shall be construed to do either of the 94
following: 95

(1) Constitute a waiver of the legislative immunity or 96
legislative privilege of the speaker, the president, or any 97
member, officer, or staff of either house of the general 98
assembly; 99

(2) Permit any violation of section 9.58 of the Revised 100
Code. 101

Sec. 107.13. (A) The governor, in the governor's official 102
capacity as the supreme executive of this state, may retain 103
legal counsel other than from the attorney general for either of 104
the following purposes: 105

(1) To represent, and intervene on behalf of, the governor 106
in any judicial proceeding that involves a challenge to the 107
constitution or laws of this state and that is an important 108
matter of statewide concern. The governor may intervene in any 109
such judicial proceeding at any time as a matter of right. 110
Intervention under this division is perfected upon the filing of 111
a notice of intervention of right as a necessary party with the 112
court in which the matter is pending. 113

(2) To provide advice and counsel to the governor on 114
matters that affect the official business of the office of the 115
governor. 116

(B) The governor shall approve all terms of representation 117
and authorize payment for all financial costs incurred under 118
division (A) of this section. The requirements of sections 119
125.05 and 127.16 of the Revised Code do not apply to a 120
representation agreement entered into under division (A) of this 121
section. 122

(C) Notwithstanding any contrary provision of law, nothing 123
in this section shall be construed to do either of the 124
following: 125

(1) Constitute a waiver of any executive privilege of the 126
governor or any executive officer or staff; 127

(2) Permit any violation of section 9.58 of the Revised 128
Code. 129

Sec. 109.02. The attorney general is the chief law officer 130
for the state and all its departments and shall be provided with 131
adequate office space in Columbus. Except as provided in 132
division (E) of section 120.06 and in sections 101.55, 107.13, 133
and 3517.152 to 3517.157 of the Revised Code, no state officer 134

or board, or head of a department or institution of the state 135
shall employ, or be represented by, other counsel or attorneys 136
at law. The attorney general shall appear for the state in the 137
trial and argument of all civil and criminal causes in the 138
supreme court in which the state is directly or indirectly 139
interested. When required by the governor or the general 140
assembly, the attorney general shall appear for the state in any 141
court or tribunal in a cause in which the state is a party, or 142
in which the state is directly interested. Upon the written 143
request of the governor, the attorney general shall prosecute 144
any person indicted for a crime. 145

Sec. 119.12. ~~(A) (1) Except as provided in division (A) (2) or (3) of this section, any (A) Any party adversely affected by~~ 146
any order of an agency issued pursuant to an adjudication 147
~~denying an applicant admission to an examination, or denying the~~ 148
~~issuance or renewal of a license or registration of a licensee,~~ 149
~~or revoking or suspending a license, or allowing the payment of~~ 150
~~a forfeiture under section 4301.252 of the Revised Code may~~ 151
appeal from the order of the agency to the court of common pleas 152
of the county in which the place of business of the licensee is 153
located or the county in which the licensee is a 154
resident designated in division (B) of this section. 155
156

~~(2) (B) An appeal from an order described in division (A)~~ 157
~~(1) (A) of this section shall be filed in the county designated~~ 158
as follows: 159

(1) Except as otherwise provided in division (B) (2) of 160
this section, an appeal from an order of an agency issued 161
pursuant to an adjudication denying an applicant admission to an 162
examination, denying the issuance or renewal of a license or 163
registration of a licensee, revoking or suspending a license, or 164

allowing the payment of a forfeiture under section 4301.252 of 165
the Revised Code shall be filed in the county in which the place 166
of business of the licensee is located or the county in which 167
the licensee is a resident. 168

(2) An appeal from an order issued by any of the following 169
agencies shall be made to the court of common pleas of Franklin 170
county or the court of common pleas in the county in which the 171
place of business of the licensee is located or the county in 172
which the licensee is a resident: 173

(a) The liquor control commission; 174

(b) The Ohio casino control commission~~ti~~ 175

(c) The state medical board; 176

~~(e) The~~ (d) The state chiropractic board; 177

~~(d) The~~ (e) The board of nursing; 178

~~(e) The~~ (f) The bureau of workers' compensation regarding 179
participation in the health partnership program created in 180
sections 4121.44 and 4121.441 of the Revised Code. 181

~~(3) If any party appealing from an order described in~~ 182
~~division (A) (1) of this section is not a resident of and has no~~ 183
~~place of business in this state, the party may appeal to the~~ 184
~~court of common pleas of Franklin county.~~ 185

~~(B) Any party adversely affected by any order of an agency~~ 186
~~issued pursuant to any other adjudication may appeal to the~~ 187
~~court of common pleas of Franklin county, except that appeals~~ 188

Appeals from orders of the fire marshal issued under 189
Chapter 3737. of the Revised Code ~~may~~ shall be to the court of 190
common pleas of the county in which the building of the 191

aggrieved person is located ~~and except that appeals.~~ 192

(4) Appeals under division (B) of section 124.34 of the 193
Revised Code from a decision of the state personnel board of 194
review or a municipal or civil service township civil service 195
commission shall be taken to the court of common pleas of the 196
county in which the appointing authority is located or, in the 197
case of an appeal by the department of rehabilitation and 198
correction, to the court of common pleas of Franklin county. 199

(5) If any party appealing from an order described in 200
division (B) (1), (2), or (6) of this section is not a resident 201
of and has no place of business in this state, the party shall 202
appeal to the court of common pleas of Franklin county. 203

(6) Any party adversely affected by any order of an agency 204
issued pursuant to any other adjudication may appeal to the 205
court of common pleas of Franklin county or the court of common 206
pleas of the county in which the business of the party is 207
located or in which the party is a resident. 208

(C) This section does not apply to appeals from the 209
department of taxation. 210

(D) Any party desiring to appeal shall file a notice of 211
appeal with the agency setting forth the order appealed from and 212
stating that the agency's order is not supported by reliable, 213
probative, and substantial evidence and is not in accordance 214
with law. The notice of appeal may, but need not, set forth the 215
specific grounds of the party's appeal beyond the statement that 216
the agency's order is not supported by reliable, probative, and 217
substantial evidence and is not in accordance with law. The 218
notice of appeal shall also be filed by the appellant with the 219
court. In filing a notice of appeal with the agency or court, 220

the notice that is filed may be either the original notice or a 221
copy of the original notice. Unless otherwise provided by law 222
relating to a particular agency, notices of appeal shall be 223
filed within fifteen days after the mailing of the notice of the 224
agency's order as provided in this section. For purposes of this 225
paragraph, an order includes a determination appealed pursuant 226
to division (C) of section 119.092 of the Revised Code. The 227
amendments made to this paragraph by Sub. H.B. 215 of the 128th 228
general assembly are procedural, and this paragraph as amended 229
by those amendments shall be applied retrospectively to all 230
appeals pursuant to this paragraph filed before September 13, 231
2010, but not earlier than May 7, 2009, which was the date the 232
supreme court of Ohio released its opinion and judgment in 233
Medcorp, Inc. v. Ohio Dep't. of Job and Family Servs. (2009), 234
121 Ohio St.3d 622. 235

(E) The filing of a notice of appeal shall not 236
automatically operate as a suspension of the order of an agency. 237
If it appears to the court that an unusual hardship to the 238
appellant will result from the execution of the agency's order 239
pending determination of the appeal, the court may grant a 240
suspension and fix its terms. If an appeal is taken from the 241
judgment of the court and the court has previously granted a 242
suspension of the agency's order as provided in this section, 243
the suspension of the agency's order shall not be vacated and 244
shall be given full force and effect until the matter is finally 245
adjudicated. No renewal of a license or permit shall be denied 246
by reason of the suspended order during the period of the appeal 247
from the decision of the court of common pleas. In the case of 248
an appeal from the Ohio casino control commission, the state 249
medical board, or the state chiropractic board, the court may 250
grant a suspension and fix its terms if it appears to the court 251

that an unusual hardship to the appellant will result from the 252
execution of the agency's order pending determination of the 253
appeal and the health, safety, and welfare of the public will 254
not be threatened by suspension of the order. This provision 255
shall not be construed to limit the factors the court may 256
consider in determining whether to suspend an order of any other 257
agency pending determination of an appeal. 258

(F) The final order of adjudication may apply to any 259
renewal of a license or permit which has been granted during the 260
period of the appeal. 261

(G) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, 262
any order issued by a court of common pleas or a court of 263
appeals suspending the effect of an order of the liquor control 264
commission issued pursuant to Chapter 4301. or 4303. of the 265
Revised Code that suspends, revokes, or cancels a permit issued 266
under Chapter 4303. of the Revised Code or that allows the 267
payment of a forfeiture under section 4301.252 of the Revised 268
Code shall terminate not more than six months after the date of 269
the filing of the record of the liquor control commission with 270
the clerk of the court of common pleas and shall not be 271
extended. The court of common pleas, or the court of appeals on 272
appeal, shall render a judgment in that matter within six months 273
after the date of the filing of the record of the liquor control 274
commission with the clerk of the court of common pleas. A court 275
of appeals shall not issue an order suspending the effect of an 276
order of the liquor control commission that extends beyond six 277
months after the date on which the record of the liquor control 278
commission is filed with a court of common pleas. 279

(H) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, 280
any order issued by a court of common pleas or a court of 281

appeals suspending the effect of an order of the Ohio casino 282
control commission issued under Chapter 3772. of the Revised 283
Code that limits, conditions, restricts, suspends, revokes, 284
denies, not renews, fines, or otherwise penalizes an applicant, 285
licensee, or person excluded or ejected from a casino facility 286
in accordance with section 3772.031 of the Revised Code shall 287
terminate not more than six months after the date of the filing 288
of the record of the Ohio casino control commission with the 289
clerk of the court of common pleas and shall not be extended. 290
The court of common pleas, or the court of appeals on appeal, 291
shall render a judgment in that matter within six months after 292
the date of the filing of the record of the Ohio casino control 293
commission with the clerk of the court of common pleas. A court 294
of appeals shall not issue an order suspending the effect of an 295
order of the Ohio casino control commission that extends beyond 296
six months after the date on which the record of the Ohio casino 297
control commission is filed with the clerk of a court of common 298
pleas. 299

(I) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, 300
any order issued by a court of common pleas suspending the 301
effect of an order of the state medical board or state 302
chiropractic board that limits, revokes, suspends, places on 303
probation, or refuses to register or reinstate a certificate 304
issued by the board or reprimands the holder of the certificate 305
shall terminate not more than fifteen months after the date of 306
the filing of a notice of appeal in the court of common pleas, 307
or upon the rendering of a final decision or order in the appeal 308
by the court of common pleas, whichever occurs first. 309

~~(I)~~ (J) Within thirty days after receipt of a notice of 310
appeal from an order in any case in which a hearing is required 311
by sections 119.01 to 119.13 of the Revised Code, the agency 312

shall prepare and certify to the court a complete record of the 313
proceedings in the case. Failure of the agency to comply within 314
the time allowed, upon motion, shall cause the court to enter a 315
finding in favor of the party adversely affected. Additional 316
time, however, may be granted by the court, not to exceed thirty 317
days, when it is shown that the agency has made substantial 318
effort to comply. The record shall be prepared and transcribed, 319
and the expense of it shall be taxed as a part of the costs on 320
the appeal. The appellant shall provide security for costs 321
satisfactory to the court of common pleas. Upon demand by any 322
interested party, the agency shall furnish at the cost of the 323
party requesting it a copy of the stenographic report of 324
testimony offered and evidence submitted at any hearing and a 325
copy of the complete record. 326

~~(J)~~ (K) Notwithstanding any other provision of this 327
section, any party desiring to appeal an order or decision of 328
the state personnel board of review shall, at the time of filing 329
a notice of appeal with the board, provide a security deposit in 330
an amount and manner prescribed in rules that the board shall 331
adopt in accordance with this chapter. In addition, the board is 332
not required to prepare or transcribe the record of any of its 333
proceedings unless the appellant has provided the deposit 334
described above. The failure of the board to prepare or 335
transcribe a record for an appellant who has not provided a 336
security deposit shall not cause a court to enter a finding 337
adverse to the board. 338

~~(K)~~ (L) Unless otherwise provided by law, in the hearing 339
of the appeal, the court is confined to the record as certified 340
to it by the agency. Unless otherwise provided by law, the court 341
may grant a request for the admission of additional evidence 342
when satisfied that the additional evidence is newly discovered 343

and could not with reasonable diligence have been ascertained 344
prior to the hearing before the agency. 345

~~(L)~~ (M) The court shall conduct a hearing on the appeal 346
and shall give preference to all proceedings under sections 347
119.01 to 119.13 of the Revised Code, over all other civil 348
cases, irrespective of the position of the proceedings on the 349
calendar of the court. An appeal from an order of the state 350
medical board issued pursuant to division (G) of either section 351
4730.25 or 4731.22 of the Revised Code, the state chiropractic 352
board issued pursuant to section 4734.37 of the Revised Code, 353
the liquor control commission issued pursuant to Chapter 4301. 354
or 4303. of the Revised Code, or the Ohio casino control 355
commission issued pursuant to Chapter 3772. of the Revised Code 356
shall be set down for hearing at the earliest possible time and 357
takes precedence over all other actions. The hearing in the 358
court of common pleas shall proceed as in the trial of a civil 359
action, and the court shall determine the rights of the parties 360
in accordance with the laws applicable to a civil action. At the 361
hearing, counsel may be heard on oral argument, briefs may be 362
submitted, and evidence may be introduced if the court has 363
granted a request for the presentation of additional evidence. 364

~~(M)~~ (N) The court may affirm the order of the agency 365
complained of in the appeal if it finds, upon consideration of 366
the entire record and any additional evidence the court has 367
admitted, that the order is supported by reliable, probative, 368
and substantial evidence and is in accordance with law. In the 369
absence of this finding, it may reverse, vacate, or modify the 370
order or make such other ruling as is supported by reliable, 371
probative, and substantial evidence and is in accordance with 372
law. The court shall award compensation for fees in accordance 373
with section 2335.39 of the Revised Code to a prevailing party, 374

other than an agency, in an appeal filed pursuant to this 375
section. 376

~~(N)~~ (O) The judgment of the court shall be final and 377
conclusive unless reversed, vacated, or modified on appeal. 378
These appeals may be taken either by the party or the agency, 379
shall proceed as in the case of appeals in civil actions, and 380
shall be pursuant to the Rules of Appellate Procedure and, to 381
the extent not in conflict with those rules, Chapter 2505. of 382
the Revised Code. An appeal by the agency shall be taken on 383
questions of law relating to the constitutionality, 384
construction, or interpretation of statutes and rules of the 385
agency, and, in the appeal, the court may also review and 386
determine the correctness of the judgment of the court of common 387
pleas that the order of the agency is not supported by any 388
reliable, probative, and substantial evidence in the entire 389
record. 390

The court shall certify its judgment to the agency or take 391
any other action necessary to give its judgment effect. 392

Sec. 124.34. (A) The tenure of every officer or employee 393
in the classified service of the state and the counties, civil 394
service townships, cities, city health districts, general health 395
districts, and city school districts of the state, holding a 396
position under this chapter, shall be during good behavior and 397
efficient service. No officer or employee shall be reduced in 398
pay or position, fined, suspended, or removed, or have the 399
officer's or employee's longevity reduced or eliminated, except 400
as provided in section 124.32 of the Revised Code, and for 401
incompetency, inefficiency, unsatisfactory performance, 402
dishonesty, drunkenness, immoral conduct, insubordination, 403
discourteous treatment of the public, neglect of duty, violation 404

of any policy or work rule of the officer's or employee's 405
appointing authority, violation of this chapter or the rules of 406
the director of administrative services or the commission, any 407
other failure of good behavior, any other acts of misfeasance, 408
malfeasance, or nonfeasance in office, or conviction of a felony 409
while employed in the civil service. The denial of a one-time 410
pay supplement or a bonus to an officer or employee is not a 411
reduction in pay for purposes of this section. 412

This section does not apply to any modifications or 413
reductions in pay or work week authorized by section 124.392, 414
124.393, or 124.394 of the Revised Code. 415

An appointing authority may require an employee who is 416
suspended to report to work to serve the suspension. An employee 417
serving a suspension in this manner shall continue to be 418
compensated at the employee's regular rate of pay for hours 419
worked. The disciplinary action shall be recorded in the 420
employee's personnel file in the same manner as other 421
disciplinary actions and has the same effect as a suspension 422
without pay for the purpose of recording disciplinary actions. 423

A finding by the appropriate ethics commission, based upon 424
a preponderance of the evidence, that the facts alleged in a 425
complaint under section 102.06 of the Revised Code constitute a 426
violation of Chapter 102., section 2921.42, or section 2921.43 427
of the Revised Code may constitute grounds for dismissal. 428
Failure to file a statement or falsely filing a statement 429
required by section 102.02 of the Revised Code may also 430
constitute grounds for dismissal. The tenure of an employee in 431
the career professional service of the department of 432
transportation is subject to section 5501.20 of the Revised 433
Code. 434

Conviction of a felony while employed in the civil service 435
is a separate basis for reducing in pay or position, suspending, 436
or removing an officer or employee, even if the officer or 437
employee has already been reduced in pay or position, suspended, 438
or removed for the same conduct that is the basis of the felony. 439
An officer or employee may not appeal to the state personnel 440
board of review or the commission any disciplinary action taken 441
by an appointing authority as a result of the officer's or 442
employee's conviction of a felony. If an officer or employee 443
removed under this section is reinstated as a result of an 444
appeal of the removal, any conviction of a felony that occurs 445
during the pendency of the appeal is a basis for further 446
disciplinary action under this section upon the officer's or 447
employee's reinstatement. 448

A person convicted of a felony while employed in the civil 449
service immediately forfeits the person's status as a classified 450
employee in any public employment on and after the date of the 451
conviction for the felony. If an officer or employee is removed 452
under this section as a result of being convicted of a felony or 453
is subsequently convicted of a felony that involves the same 454
conduct that was the basis for the removal, the officer or 455
employee is barred from receiving any compensation after the 456
removal notwithstanding any modification or disaffirmance of the 457
removal, unless the conviction for the felony is subsequently 458
reversed or annulled. 459

Any person removed for conviction of a felony is entitled 460
to a cash payment for any accrued but unused sick, personal, and 461
vacation leave as authorized by law. If subsequently reemployed 462
in the public sector, the person shall qualify for and accrue 463
these forms of leave in the manner specified by law for a newly 464
appointed employee and shall not be credited with prior public 465

service for the purpose of receiving these forms of leave. 466

As used in this division, "felony" means any of the 467
following: 468

(1) A felony that is an offense of violence as defined in 469
section 2901.01 of the Revised Code; 470

(2) A felony that is a felony drug abuse offense as 471
defined in section 2925.01 of the Revised Code; 472

(3) A felony under the laws of this or any other state or 473
the United States that is a crime of moral turpitude; 474

(4) A felony involving dishonesty, fraud, or theft; 475

(5) A felony that is a violation of section 2921.05, 476
2921.32, or 2921.42 of the Revised Code. 477

(B) In case of a reduction, a suspension of more than 478
forty work hours in the case of an employee exempt from the 479
payment of overtime compensation, a suspension of more than 480
twenty-four work hours in the case of an employee required to be 481
paid overtime compensation, a fine of more than forty hours' pay 482
in the case of an employee exempt from the payment of overtime 483
compensation, a fine of more than twenty-four hours' pay in the 484
case of an employee required to be paid overtime compensation, 485
or removal, except for the reduction or removal of a 486
probationary employee, the appointing authority shall serve the 487
employee with a copy of the order of reduction, fine, 488
suspension, or removal, which order shall state the reasons for 489
the action. 490

Within ten days following the date on which the order is 491
served or, in the case of an employee in the career professional 492
service of the department of transportation, within ten days 493

following the filing of a removal order, the employee, except as 494
otherwise provided in this section, may file an appeal of the 495
order in writing with the state personnel board of review or the 496
commission. For purposes of this section, the date on which an 497
order is served is the date of hand delivery of the order or the 498
date of delivery of the order by certified United States mail, 499
whichever occurs first. If an appeal is filed, the board or 500
commission shall forthwith notify the appointing authority and 501
shall hear, or appoint a trial board to hear, the appeal within 502
thirty days from and after its filing with the board or 503
commission. The board, commission, or trial board may affirm, 504
disaffirm, or modify the judgment of the appointing authority. 505
However, in an appeal of a removal order based upon a violation 506
of a last chance agreement, the board, commission, or trial 507
board may only determine if the employee violated the agreement 508
and thus affirm or disaffirm the judgment of the appointing 509
authority. 510

In cases of removal or reduction in pay for disciplinary 511
reasons, either the appointing authority or the officer or 512
employee may appeal from the decision of the state personnel 513
board of review or the commission, and any such appeal shall be 514
to the court of common pleas ~~of the county in which the~~ 515
~~appointing authority is located, or to the court of common pleas~~ 516
~~of Franklin county, as provided by section 119.12 of the Revised~~ 517
~~Code in accordance with section 119.12 of the Revised Code.~~ 518

(C) In the case of the suspension for any period of time, 519
or a fine, demotion, or removal, of a chief of police, a chief 520
of a fire department, or any member of the police or fire 521
department of a city or civil service township, who is in the 522
classified civil service, the appointing authority shall furnish 523
the chief or member with a copy of the order of suspension, 524

fine, demotion, or removal, which order shall state the reasons 525
for the action. The order shall be filed with the municipal or 526
civil service township civil service commission. Within ten days 527
following the filing of the order, the chief or member may file 528
an appeal, in writing, with the commission. If an appeal is 529
filed, the commission shall forthwith notify the appointing 530
authority and shall hear, or appoint a trial board to hear, the 531
appeal within thirty days from and after its filing with the 532
commission, and it may affirm, disaffirm, or modify the judgment 533
of the appointing authority. An appeal on questions of law and 534
fact may be had from the decision of the commission to the court 535
of common pleas in the county in which the city or civil service 536
township is situated. The appeal shall be taken within thirty 537
days from the finding of the commission. 538

(D) A violation of division (A) (7) of section 2907.03 of 539
the Revised Code is grounds for termination of employment of a 540
nonteaching employee under this section. 541

(E) The director shall adopt a rule in accordance with 542
Chapter 119. of the Revised Code to define the term 543
"unsatisfactory performance" as it is used in this section with 544
regard to employees in the service of the state. 545

(F) As used in this section, "last chance agreement" means 546
an agreement signed by both an appointing authority and an 547
officer or employee of the appointing authority that describes 548
the type of behavior or circumstances that, if it occurs, will 549
automatically lead to removal of the officer or employee without 550
the right of appeal to the state personnel board of review or 551
the appropriate commission. 552

Sec. 303.65. A final judgment on the merits issued by a 553
court of competent jurisdiction pursuant to its power of review 554

under Chapter 2506. of the Revised Code, on claims brought under 555
this chapter, does not preclude later claims for damages, 556
including claims brought under 42 U.S.C. 1983, even if the 557
common law doctrine of res judicata would otherwise bar the 558
claim. 559

The general assembly intends that this section be 560
construed to override the federal sixth circuit court of 561
appeals's decision in the case *Lavon Moore v. Hiram Twp.*, 988 562
F.3d 353 (6th Cir. 2021). 563

Sec. 519.26. A final judgment on the merits issued by a 564
court of competent jurisdiction pursuant to its power of review 565
under Chapter 2506. of the Revised Code, on claims brought under 566
this chapter, does not preclude later claims for damages, 567
including claims brought under 42 U.S.C. 1983, even if the 568
common law doctrine of res judicata would otherwise bar the 569
claim. 570

The general assembly intends that this section be 571
construed to override the federal sixth circuit court of 572
appeals's decision in the case *Lavon Moore v. Hiram Twp.*, 988 573
F.3d 353 (6th Cir. 2021). 574

Sec. 713.16. A final judgment on the merits issued by a 575
court of competent jurisdiction pursuant to its power of review 576
under Chapter 2506. of the Revised Code, on claims brought under 577
this chapter, does not preclude later claims for damages, 578
including claims brought under 42 U.S.C. 1983, even if the 579
common law doctrine of res judicata would otherwise bar the 580
claim. 581

The general assembly intends that this section be 582
construed to override the federal sixth circuit court of 583

appeals's decision in the case *Lavon Moore v. Hiram Twp.*, 988 584
F.3d 353 (6th Cir. 2021). 585

Sec. 956.11. (A) The director of agriculture may enter 586
into contracts or agreements with an animal rescue for dogs, an 587
animal shelter for dogs, a boarding kennel, a veterinarian, a 588
board of county commissioners, or a humane society for the 589
purposes of this section. 590

(B) (1) If the director or the director's authorized 591
representative determines that a dog is being kept by a high 592
volume breeder or dog broker in a manner that materially 593
violates this chapter or rules adopted under it, the director 594
may impound the dog and order it to be seized by an animal 595
rescue for dogs, an animal shelter for dogs, a boarding kennel, 596
a veterinarian, a board of county commissioners, or a humane 597
society with which the director has entered into a contract or 598
agreement under division (A) of this section. Upon receiving the 599
order from the director, the animal rescue for dogs, animal 600
shelter for dogs, boarding kennel, veterinarian, board of county 601
commissioners, or humane society shall seize the dog and keep, 602
house, and maintain it. 603

(2) The director or the director's authorized 604
representative shall give written notice of the impoundment by 605
posting a notice on the door of the premises from which the dog 606
was taken or by otherwise posting the notice in a conspicuous 607
place at the premises from which the dog was taken. The notice 608
shall provide a date for an adjudication hearing, which shall 609
take place not later than five business days after the dog is 610
taken and at which the director shall determine if the dog 611
should be permanently relinquished to the custody of the 612
director. 613

(C) The owner or operator of the applicable high volume breeder or the person acting as or performing the functions of a dog broker may appeal the determination made at the adjudication hearing in accordance with section 119.12 of the Revised Code, ~~except that the appeal may be made only to the environmental division of the Franklin county municipal court.~~

(D) If, after the final disposition of an adjudication hearing and any appeals from that adjudication hearing, it is determined that a dog shall be permanently relinquished to the custody of the director, the dog may be adopted directly from the animal rescue for dogs, animal shelter for dogs, boarding kennel, veterinarian, county dog pound, or humane society where it is being kept, housed, and maintained, provided that the dog has been spayed or neutered unless there are medical reasons against spaying or neutering as determined by a veterinarian. The animal rescue for dogs, animal shelter for dogs, boarding kennel, veterinarian, county dog pound, or humane society may charge a reasonable adoption fee. The fee shall be at least sufficient to cover the costs of spaying or neutering the dog unless it is medically contraindicated. Impounded dogs shall be returned to persons acquitted of any alleged violations.

Sec. 956.15. (A) The director of agriculture shall deny an application for a license that is submitted under section 956.04 or 956.05 of the Revised Code for either of the following reasons:

(1) The applicant for the license has violated any provision of this chapter or a rule adopted under it if the violation materially threatens the health or welfare of a dog.

(2) The applicant has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to a disqualifying offense as determined in accordance with

section 9.79 of the Revised Code. 644

(B) The director may suspend or revoke a license issued 645
under this chapter for violation of any provision of this 646
chapter or a rule adopted or order issued under it if the 647
violation materially threatens the health and welfare of a dog. 648

(C) An application or a license shall not be denied, 649
suspended, or revoked under this section without a written order 650
of the director stating the findings on which the denial, 651
suspension, or revocation is based. A copy of the order shall be 652
sent to the applicant or license holder by certified mail or may 653
be provided to the applicant or license holder by personal 654
service. In addition, the person to whom a denial, suspension, 655
or revocation applies may request an adjudication hearing under 656
Chapter 119. of the Revised Code. The director shall comply with 657
such a request. The determination of the director at an 658
adjudication hearing may be appealed in accordance with section 659
119.12 of the Revised Code, ~~except that the determination may be~~ 660
~~appealed only to the environmental division of the Franklin-~~ 661
~~county municipal court.~~ 662

Sec. 1901.02. (A) The municipal courts established by 663
section 1901.01 of the Revised Code have jurisdiction within the 664
corporate limits of their respective municipal corporations, or, 665
for the Clermont county municipal court, and, effective January 666
1, 2008, the Erie county municipal court, within the municipal 667
corporation or unincorporated territory in which they are 668
established, and are courts of record. Each of the courts shall 669
be styled "_____ municipal court," 670
inserting the name of the municipal corporation, except the 671
following courts, which shall be styled as set forth below: 672

(1) The municipal court established in Chesapeake that 673

shall be styled and known as the "Lawrence county municipal
court";

(2) The municipal court established in Cincinnati that
shall be styled and known as the "Hamilton county municipal
court";

(3) The municipal court established in Ravenna that shall
be styled and known as the "Portage county municipal court";

(4) The municipal court established in Athens that shall
be styled and known as the "Athens county municipal court";

(5) The municipal court established in Columbus that shall
be styled and known as the "Franklin county municipal court";

(6) The municipal court established in London that shall
be styled and known as the "Madison county municipal court";

(7) The municipal court established in Newark that shall
be styled and known as the "Licking county municipal court";

(8) The municipal court established in Wooster that shall
be styled and known as the "Wayne county municipal court";

(9) The municipal court established in Wapakoneta that
shall be styled and known as the "Auglaize county municipal
court";

(10) The municipal court established in Troy that shall be
styled and known as the "Miami county municipal court";

(11) The municipal court established in Bucyrus that shall
be styled and known as the "Crawford county municipal court";

(12) The municipal court established in Logan that shall
be styled and known as the "Hocking county municipal court";

(13) The municipal court established in Urbana that shall

be styled and known as the "Champaign county municipal court"; 701

(14) The municipal court established in Jackson that shall 702
be styled and known as the "Jackson county municipal court"; 703

(15) The municipal court established in Springfield that 704
shall be styled and known as the "Clark county municipal court"; 705

(16) The municipal court established in Kenton that shall 706
be styled and known as the "Hardin county municipal court"; 707

(17) The municipal court established within Clermont 708
county in Batavia or in any other municipal corporation or 709
unincorporated territory within Clermont county that is selected 710
by the legislative authority of that court that shall be styled 711
and known as the "Clermont county municipal court"; 712

(18) The municipal court established in Wilmington that, 713
beginning July 1, 1992, shall be styled and known as the 714
"Clinton county municipal court"; 715

(19) The municipal court established in Port Clinton that 716
shall be styled and known as the "Ottawa county municipal 717
court"; 718

(20) The municipal court established in Lancaster that, 719
beginning January 2, 2000, shall be styled and known as the 720
"Fairfield county municipal court"; 721

(21) The municipal court established within Columbiana 722
county in Lisbon or in any other municipal corporation or 723
unincorporated territory selected pursuant to division (I) of 724
section 1901.021 of the Revised Code, that shall be styled and 725
known as the "Columbiana county municipal court"; 726

(22) The municipal court established in Georgetown that, 727
beginning February 9, 2003, shall be styled and known as the 728

"Brown county municipal court"; 729

(23) The municipal court established in Mount Gilead that, 730
beginning January 1, 2003, shall be styled and known as the 731
"Morrow county municipal court"; 732

(24) The municipal court established in Greenville that, 733
beginning January 1, 2005, shall be styled and known as the 734
"Darke county municipal court"; 735

(25) The municipal court established in Millersburg that, 736
beginning January 1, 2007, shall be styled and known as the 737
"Holmes county municipal court"; 738

(26) The municipal court established in Carrollton that, 739
beginning January 1, 2007, shall be styled and known as the 740
"Carroll county municipal court"; 741

(27) The municipal court established within Erie county in 742
Milan or established in any other municipal corporation or 743
unincorporated territory that is within Erie county, is within 744
the territorial jurisdiction of that court, and is selected by 745
the legislative authority of that court that, beginning January 746
1, 2008, shall be styled and known as the "Erie county municipal 747
court"; 748

(28) The municipal court established in Ottawa that, 749
beginning January 1, 2011, shall be styled and known as the 750
"Putnam county municipal court"; 751

(29) The municipal court established within Montgomery 752
county in any municipal corporation or unincorporated territory 753
within Montgomery county, except the municipal corporations of 754
Centerville, Clayton, Dayton, Englewood, Germantown, Kettering, 755
Miamisburg, Moraine, Oakwood, Union, Vandalia, and West 756
Carrollton and Butler, German, Harrison, Miami, and Washington 757

townships, that is selected by the legislative authority of that 758
court and that, beginning July 1, 2010, shall be styled and 759
known as the "Montgomery county municipal court"; 760

(30) The municipal court established within Sandusky 761
county in any municipal corporation or unincorporated territory 762
within Sandusky county, except the municipal corporations of 763
Bellevue and Fremont and Ballville, Sandusky, and York 764
townships, that is selected by the legislative authority of that 765
court and that, beginning January 1, 2013, shall be styled and 766
known as the "Sandusky county municipal court"; 767

(31) The municipal court established in Tiffin that, 768
beginning January 1, 2014, shall be styled and known as the 769
"Tiffin-Fostoria municipal court"; 770

(32) The municipal court established in New Lexington 771
that, beginning January 1, 2018, shall be styled and known as 772
the "Perry county municipal court"; 773

(33) The municipal court established in Paulding that, 774
beginning January 1, 2020, shall be styled and known as the 775
"Paulding county municipal court"; 776

(34) The municipal court established in Wauseon that, 777
beginning January 1, 2024, shall be styled and known as the 778
"Fulton county municipal court." 779

(B) In addition to the jurisdiction set forth in division 780
(A) of this section, the municipal courts established by section 781
1901.01 of the Revised Code have jurisdiction as follows: 782

The Akron municipal court has jurisdiction within Bath, 783
Richfield, and Springfield townships, and within the municipal 784
corporations of Fairlawn, Lakemore, and Mogadore, in Summit 785
county. 786

The Alliance municipal court has jurisdiction within	787
Lexington, Marlboro, Paris, and Washington townships in Stark	788
county.	789
The Ashland municipal court has jurisdiction within	790
Ashland county.	791
The Ashtabula municipal court has jurisdiction within	792
Ashtabula, Plymouth, and Saybrook townships in Ashtabula county.	793
The Athens county municipal court has jurisdiction within	794
Athens county.	795
The Auglaize county municipal court has jurisdiction	796
within Auglaize county.	797
The Avon Lake municipal court has jurisdiction within the	798
municipal corporations of Avon and Sheffield in Lorain county.	799
The Barberton municipal court has jurisdiction within	800
Coventry, Franklin, and Green townships, within all of Copley	801
township except within the municipal corporation of Fairlawn,	802
and within the municipal corporations of Clinton and Norton, in	803
Summit county.	804
The Bedford municipal court has jurisdiction within the	805
municipal corporations of Bedford Heights, Oakwood, Glenwillow,	806
Solon, Bentleyville, Chagrin Falls, Moreland Hills, Orange,	807
Warrensville Heights, North Randall, and Woodmere, and within	808
Warrensville and Chagrin Falls townships, in Cuyahoga county.	809
The Bellefontaine municipal court has jurisdiction within	810
Logan county.	811
The Bellevue municipal court has jurisdiction within Lyme	812
and Sherman townships in Huron county and within York township	813
in Sandusky county.	814

The Berea municipal court has jurisdiction within the 815
municipal corporations of Strongsville, Middleburgh Heights, 816
Brook Park, Westview, and Olmsted Falls, and within Olmsted 817
township, in Cuyahoga county. 818

The Bowling Green municipal court has jurisdiction within 819
the municipal corporations of Bairdstown, Bloomdale, Bradner, 820
Custar, Cygnet, Grand Rapids, Haskins, Hoytville, Jerry City, 821
Milton Center, North Baltimore, Pemberville, Portage, Rising 822
Sun, Tontogany, Wayne, West Millgrove, and Weston, and within 823
Bloom, Center, Freedom, Grand Rapids, Henry, Jackson, Liberty, 824
Middleton, Milton, Montgomery, Perry, Plain, Portage, 825
Washington, Webster, and Weston townships in Wood county. 826

Beginning February 9, 2003, the Brown county municipal 827
court has jurisdiction within Brown county. 828

The Bryan municipal court has jurisdiction within Williams 829
county. 830

The Cambridge municipal court has jurisdiction within 831
Guernsey county. 832

The Campbell municipal court has jurisdiction within 833
Coitsville township in Mahoning county. 834

The Canton municipal court has jurisdiction within Canton, 835
Lake, Nimishillen, Osnaburg, Pike, Plain, and Sandy townships in 836
Stark county. 837

The Carroll county municipal court has jurisdiction within 838
Carroll county. 839

The Celina municipal court has jurisdiction within Mercer 840
county. 841

The Champaign county municipal court has jurisdiction 842

within Champaign county. 843

The Chardon municipal court has jurisdiction within Geauga 844
county. 845

The Chillicothe municipal court has jurisdiction within 846
Ross county. 847

The Circleville municipal court has jurisdiction within 848
Pickaway county. 849

The Clark county municipal court has jurisdiction within 850
Clark county. 851

The Clermont county municipal court has jurisdiction 852
within Clermont county. 853

The Cleveland municipal court has jurisdiction within the 854
municipal corporation of Bratenahl in Cuyahoga county. 855

Beginning July 1, 1992, the Clinton county municipal court 856
has jurisdiction within Clinton county. 857

The Columbiana county municipal court has jurisdiction 858
within Columbiana county. 859

The Coshocton municipal court has jurisdiction within 860
Coshocton county. 861

The Crawford county municipal court has jurisdiction 862
within Crawford county. 863

Until December 31, 2008, the Cuyahoga Falls municipal 864
court has jurisdiction within Boston, Hudson, Northfield Center, 865
Sagamore Hills, and Twinsburg townships, and within the 866
municipal corporations of Boston Heights, Hudson, Munroe Falls, 867
Northfield, Peninsula, Reminderville, Silver Lake, Stow, 868
Tallmadge, Twinsburg, and Macedonia, in Summit county. 869

Beginning January 1, 2005, the Darke county municipal 870
court has jurisdiction within Darke county except within the 871
municipal corporation of Bradford. 872

The Defiance municipal court has jurisdiction within 873
Defiance county. 874

The Delaware municipal court has jurisdiction within 875
Delaware county. 876

The Eaton municipal court has jurisdiction within Preble 877
county. 878

The Elyria municipal court has jurisdiction within the 879
municipal corporations of Grafton, LaGrange, and North 880
Ridgeville, and within Elyria, Carlisle, Eaton, Columbia, 881
Grafton, and LaGrange townships, in Lorain county. 882

Beginning January 1, 2008, the Erie county municipal court 883
has jurisdiction within Erie county except within the townships 884
of Florence, Huron, Perkins, and Vermilion and the municipal 885
corporations of Bay View, Castalia, Huron, Sandusky, and 886
Vermilion. 887

The Fairborn municipal court has jurisdiction within the 888
municipal corporation of Beaver creek and within Bath and 889
Beaver creek townships in Greene county. 890

Beginning January 2, 2000, the Fairfield county municipal 891
court has jurisdiction within Fairfield county. 892

The Findlay municipal court has jurisdiction within all of 893
Hancock county except within Washington township. 894

The Franklin municipal court has jurisdiction within 895
Franklin township in Warren county. 896

The Franklin county municipal court has jurisdiction	897
within Franklin county.	898
The Fremont municipal court has jurisdiction within	899
Ballville and Sandusky townships in Sandusky county.	900
Beginning January 1, 2024, the Fulton county municipal	901
court has jurisdiction within Fulton county.	902
The Gallipolis municipal court has jurisdiction within	903
Gallia county.	904
The Garfield Heights municipal court has jurisdiction	905
within the municipal corporations of Maple Heights, Walton	906
Hills, Valley View, Cuyahoga Heights, Newburgh Heights,	907
Independence, and Brecksville in Cuyahoga county.	908
The Girard municipal court has jurisdiction within	909
Liberty, Vienna, and Hubbard townships in Trumbull county.	910
The Hamilton municipal court has jurisdiction within Ross	911
and St. Clair townships in Butler county.	912
The Hamilton county municipal court has jurisdiction	913
within Hamilton county.	914
The Hardin county municipal court has jurisdiction within	915
Hardin county.	916
The Hillsboro municipal court has jurisdiction within all	917
of Highland county except within Madison township.	918
The Hocking county municipal court has jurisdiction within	919
Hocking county.	920
The Holmes county municipal court has jurisdiction within	921
Holmes county.	922
The Huron municipal court has jurisdiction within all of	923

Huron township in Erie county except within the municipal corporation of Sandusky.	924 925
The Ironton municipal court has jurisdiction within Aid, Decatur, Elizabeth, Hamilton, Lawrence, Upper, and Washington townships in Lawrence county.	926 927 928
The Jackson county municipal court has jurisdiction within Jackson county.	929 930
The Kettering municipal court has jurisdiction within the municipal corporations of Centerville and Moraine, and within Washington township, in Montgomery county.	931 932 933
Until January 2, 2000, the Lancaster municipal court has jurisdiction within Fairfield county.	934 935
The Lawrence county municipal court has jurisdiction within the townships of Fayette, Mason, Perry, Rome, Symmes, Union, and Windsor in Lawrence county.	936 937 938
The Lebanon municipal court has jurisdiction within Turtlecreek township in Warren county.	939 940
The Licking county municipal court has jurisdiction within Licking county.	941 942
The Lima municipal court has jurisdiction within Allen county.	943 944
The Lorain municipal court has jurisdiction within the municipal corporation of Sheffield Lake, and within Sheffield township, in Lorain county.	945 946 947
The Lyndhurst municipal court has jurisdiction within the municipal corporations of Mayfield Heights, Gates Mills, Mayfield, Highland Heights, and Richmond Heights in Cuyahoga	948 949 950

county. 951

The Madison county municipal court has jurisdiction within 952
Madison county. 953

The Mansfield municipal court has jurisdiction within 954
Madison, Springfield, Sandusky, Franklin, Weller, Mifflin, Troy, 955
Washington, Monroe, Perry, Jefferson, and Worthington townships, 956
and within sections 35-36-31 and 32 of Butler township, in 957
Richland county. 958

The Marietta municipal court has jurisdiction within 959
Washington county. 960

The Marion municipal court has jurisdiction within Marion 961
county. 962

The Marysville municipal court has jurisdiction within 963
Union county. 964

The Mason municipal court has jurisdiction within 965
Deerfield township in Warren county. 966

The Massillon municipal court has jurisdiction within 967
Bethlehem, Perry, Sugar Creek, Tuscarawas, Lawrence, and Jackson 968
townships in Stark county. 969

The Maumee municipal court has jurisdiction within the 970
municipal corporations of Waterville and Whitehouse, within 971
Waterville and Providence townships, and within those portions 972
of Springfield, Monclova, and Swanton townships lying south of 973
the northerly boundary line of the Ohio turnpike, in Lucas 974
county. 975

The Medina municipal court has jurisdiction within the 976
municipal corporations of Briarwood Beach, Brunswick, Chippewa- 977
on-the-Lake, and Spencer and within the townships of Brunswick 978

Hills, Chatham, Granger, Hinckley, Lafayette, Litchfield, 979
Liverpool, Medina, Montville, Spencer, and York townships, in 980
Medina county. 981

The Mentor municipal court has jurisdiction within the 982
municipal corporation of Mentor-on-the-Lake in Lake county. 983

The Miami county municipal court has jurisdiction within 984
Miami county and within the part of the municipal corporation of 985
Bradford that is located in Darke county. 986

The Miamisburg municipal court has jurisdiction within the 987
municipal corporations of Germantown and West Carrollton, and 988
within German and Miami townships in Montgomery county. 989

The Middletown municipal court has jurisdiction within 990
Madison township, and within all of Lemon township, except 991
within the municipal corporation of Monroe, in Butler county. 992

Beginning July 1, 2010, the Montgomery county municipal 993
court has jurisdiction within all of Montgomery county except 994
for the municipal corporations of Centerville, Clayton, Dayton, 995
Englewood, Germantown, Kettering, Miamisburg, Moraine, Oakwood, 996
Union, Vandalia, and West Carrollton and Butler, German, 997
Harrison, Miami, and Washington townships. 998

Beginning January 1, 2003, the Morrow county municipal 999
court has jurisdiction within Morrow county. 1000

The Mount Vernon municipal court has jurisdiction within 1001
Knox county. 1002

The Napoleon municipal court has jurisdiction within Henry 1003
county. 1004

The New Philadelphia municipal court has jurisdiction 1005
within the municipal corporation of Dover, and within Auburn, 1006

Bucks, Fairfield, Goshen, Jefferson, Warren, York, Dover, 1007
Franklin, Lawrence, Sandy, Sugarcreek, and Wayne townships in 1008
Tuscarawas county. 1009

The Newton Falls municipal court has jurisdiction within 1010
Bristol, Bloomfield, Lordstown, Newton, Braceville, Southington, 1011
Farmington, and Mesopotamia townships in Trumbull county. 1012

The Niles municipal court has jurisdiction within the 1013
municipal corporation of McDonald, and within Weathersfield 1014
township in Trumbull county. 1015

The Norwalk municipal court has jurisdiction within all of 1016
Huron county except within the municipal corporation of Bellevue 1017
and except within Lyme and Sherman townships. 1018

The Oberlin municipal court has jurisdiction within the 1019
municipal corporations of Amherst, Kipton, Rochester, South 1020
Amherst, and Wellington, and within Henrietta, Russia, Camden, 1021
Pittsfield, Brighton, Wellington, Penfield, Rochester, and 1022
Huntington townships, and within all of Amherst township except 1023
within the municipal corporation of Lorain, in Lorain county. 1024

The Oregon municipal court has jurisdiction within the 1025
municipal corporation of Harbor View, and within Jerusalem 1026
township, in Lucas county, and north within Maumee Bay and Lake 1027
Erie to the boundary line between Ohio and Michigan between the 1028
easterly boundary of the court and the easterly boundary of the 1029
Toledo municipal court. 1030

The Ottawa county municipal court has jurisdiction within 1031
Ottawa county. 1032

The Painesville municipal court has jurisdiction within 1033
Painesville, Perry, Leroy, Concord, and Madison townships in 1034
Lake county. 1035

The Parma municipal court has jurisdiction within the 1036
municipal corporations of Parma Heights, Brooklyn, Linndale, 1037
North Royalton, Broadview Heights, Seven Hills, and Brooklyn 1038
Heights in Cuyahoga county. 1039

Beginning January 1, 2018, the Perry county municipal 1040
court has jurisdiction within Perry county. 1041

Beginning January 1, 2020, the Paulding county municipal 1042
court has jurisdiction within Paulding county. 1043

The Perrysburg municipal court has jurisdiction within the 1044
municipal corporations of Luckey, Millbury, Northwood, Rossford, 1045
and Walbridge, and within Perrysburg, Lake, and Troy townships, 1046
in Wood county. 1047

The Portage county municipal court has jurisdiction within 1048
Portage county. 1049

The Portsmouth municipal court has jurisdiction within 1050
Scioto county. 1051

The Putnam county municipal court has jurisdiction within 1052
Putnam county. 1053

The Rocky River municipal court has jurisdiction within 1054
the municipal corporations of Bay Village, Westlake, Fairview 1055
Park, and North Olmsted, and within Riveredge township, in 1056
Cuyahoga county. 1057

The Sandusky municipal court has jurisdiction within the 1058
municipal corporations of Castalia and Bay View, and within 1059
Perkins township, in Erie county. 1060

Beginning January 1, 2013, the Sandusky county municipal 1061
court has jurisdiction within all of Sandusky county except 1062
within the municipal corporations of Bellevue and Fremont and 1063

Ballville, Sandusky, and York townships. 1064

The Shaker Heights municipal court has jurisdiction within 1065
the municipal corporations of University Heights, Beachwood, 1066
Pepper Pike, and Hunting Valley in Cuyahoga county. 1067

The Shelby municipal court has jurisdiction within Sharon, 1068
Jackson, Cass, Plymouth, and Blooming Grove townships, and 1069
within all of Butler township except sections 35-36-31 and 32, 1070
in Richland county. 1071

The Sidney municipal court has jurisdiction within Shelby 1072
county. 1073

Beginning January 1, 2009, the Stow municipal court has 1074
jurisdiction within Boston, Hudson, Northfield Center, Sagamore 1075
Hills, and Twinsburg townships, and within the municipal 1076
corporations of Boston Heights, Cuyahoga Falls, Hudson, Munroe 1077
Falls, Northfield, Peninsula, Reminderville, Silver Lake, Stow, 1078
Tallmadge, Twinsburg, and Macedonia, in Summit county. 1079

The Struthers municipal court has jurisdiction within the 1080
municipal corporations of Lowellville, New Middleton, and 1081
Poland, and within Poland and Springfield townships in Mahoning 1082
county. 1083

The Sylvania municipal court has jurisdiction within the 1084
municipal corporations of Berkey and Holland, and within 1085
Sylvania, Richfield, Spencer, and Harding townships, and within 1086
those portions of Swanton, Monclova, and Springfield townships 1087
lying north of the northerly boundary line of the Ohio turnpike, 1088
in Lucas county. 1089

Beginning January 1, 2014, the Tiffin-Fostoria municipal 1090
court has jurisdiction within Adams, Big Spring, Bloom, Clinton, 1091
Eden, Hopewell, Jackson, Liberty, Loudon, Pleasant, Reed, 1092

Scipio, Seneca, Thompson, and Venice townships in Seneca county,— 1093
and within Washington township in Hancock county,—~~and within~~ 1094
~~Perry township, except within the municipal corporation of West~~ 1095
~~Millgrove, in Wood county.~~ 1096

The Toledo municipal court has jurisdiction within 1097
Washington township, and within the municipal corporation of 1098
Ottawa Hills, in Lucas county. 1099

The Upper Sandusky municipal court has jurisdiction within 1100
Wyandot county. 1101

The Vandalia municipal court has jurisdiction within the 1102
municipal corporations of Clayton, Englewood, and Union, and 1103
within Butler, Harrison, and Randolph townships, in Montgomery 1104
county. 1105

The Van Wert municipal court has jurisdiction within Van 1106
Wert county. 1107

The Vermilion municipal court has jurisdiction within the 1108
townships of Vermilion and Florence in Erie county and within 1109
all of Brownhelm township except within the municipal 1110
corporation of Lorain, in Lorain county. 1111

The Wadsworth municipal court has jurisdiction within the 1112
municipal corporations of Gloria Glens Park, Lodi, Seville, and 1113
Westfield Center, and within Guilford, Harrisville, Homer, 1114
Sharon, Wadsworth, and Westfield townships in Medina county. 1115

The Warren municipal court has jurisdiction within Warren 1116
and Champion townships, and within all of Howland township 1117
except within the municipal corporation of Niles, in Trumbull 1118
county. 1119

The Washington Court House municipal court has 1120

jurisdiction within Fayette county. 1121

The Wayne county municipal court has jurisdiction within 1122
Wayne county. 1123

The Willoughby municipal court has jurisdiction within the 1124
municipal corporations of Eastlake, Wickliffe, Willowick, 1125
Willoughby Hills, Kirtland, Kirtland Hills, Waite Hill, 1126
Timberlake, and Lakeline, and within Kirtland township, in Lake 1127
county. 1128

Through June 30, 1992, the Wilmington municipal court has 1129
jurisdiction within Clinton county. 1130

The Xenia municipal court has jurisdiction within 1131
Caesarcreek, Cedarville, Jefferson, Miami, New Jasper, Ross, 1132
Silvercreek, Spring Valley, Sugarcreek, and Xenia townships in 1133
Greene county. 1134

(C) As used in this section: 1135

(1) "Within a township" includes all land, including, but 1136
not limited to, any part of any municipal corporation, that is 1137
physically located within the territorial boundaries of that 1138
township, whether or not that land or municipal corporation is 1139
governmentally a part of the township. 1140

(2) "Within a municipal corporation" includes all land 1141
within the territorial boundaries of the municipal corporation 1142
and any townships that are coextensive with the municipal 1143
corporation. 1144

Sec. 1901.021. (A) Except as otherwise provided in 1145
division (M) of this section, the judge or judges of any 1146
municipal court established under division (A) of section 1147
1901.01 of the Revised Code having territorial jurisdiction 1148

outside the corporate limits of the municipal corporation in 1149
which it is located may sit outside the corporate limits of the 1150
municipal corporation within the area of its territorial 1151
jurisdiction. 1152

(B) Two or more of the judges of the Hamilton county 1153
municipal court may be assigned by the presiding judge of the 1154
court to sit outside the municipal corporation of Cincinnati. 1155

(C) Two of the judges of the Portage county municipal 1156
court shall sit within the municipal corporation of Ravenna, and 1157
one of the judges shall sit within the municipal corporation of 1158
Kent. The judges may sit in other incorporated areas of Portage 1159
county. 1160

(D) The judges of the Wayne county municipal court shall 1161
sit within the municipal corporation of Wooster and may sit in 1162
other incorporated areas of Wayne county. 1163

(E) The judge of the Auglaize county municipal court shall 1164
sit within the municipal corporations of Wapakoneta and St. 1165
Marys and may sit in other incorporated areas in Auglaize 1166
county. 1167

(F) At least one of the judges of the Miami county 1168
municipal court shall sit within the municipal corporations of 1169
Troy, Piqua, and Tipp City, and the judges may sit in other 1170
incorporated areas of Miami county. 1171

(G) The judge of the Crawford county municipal court shall 1172
sit within the municipal corporations of Bucyrus and Galion and 1173
may sit in other incorporated areas in Crawford county. 1174

(H) The judge of the Jackson county municipal court shall 1175
sit within the municipal corporations of Jackson and Wellston 1176
and may sit in other incorporated areas in Jackson county. 1177

(I) Each judge of the Columbiana county municipal court 1178
may sit within the municipal corporation of Lisbon, Salem, or 1179
East Palestine until the judges jointly select a central 1180
location within the territorial jurisdiction of the court. When 1181
the judges select a central location, the judges shall sit at 1182
that location. 1183

(J) In any municipal court, other than the Hamilton county 1184
municipal court and the Montgomery county municipal court, that 1185
has more than one judge, the decision for one or more judges to 1186
sit outside the corporate limits of the municipal corporation 1187
shall be made by rule of the court as provided in division (C) 1188
of sections 1901.14 and 1901.16 of the Revised Code. 1189

(K) The assignment of a judge to sit in a municipal 1190
corporation other than that in which the court is located does 1191
not affect the jurisdiction of the mayor except as provided in 1192
section 1905.01 of the Revised Code. 1193

(L) The judges of the Clermont county municipal court may 1194
sit in any municipal corporation or unincorporated territory 1195
within Clermont county. 1196

(M) Beginning July 1, 2010, the judges of the Montgomery 1197
county municipal court shall sit in the same locations as the 1198
judges of the Montgomery county county court sat before the 1199
county court was abolished on that date. The legislative 1200
authority of the Montgomery county municipal court may determine 1201
after that date that the judges of the Montgomery county 1202
municipal court shall sit in any municipal corporation or 1203
unincorporated territory within Montgomery county. 1204

(N) The judge of the Tiffin-Fostoria municipal court shall 1205
sit within each of the municipal corporations of Tiffin and 1206

Fostoria on a weekly basis. Cases that arise within the 1207
municipal corporation of Tiffin and within Adams, Big Spring, 1208
Bloom, Clinton, Eden, Hopewell, Liberty, Pleasant, Reed, Scioto, 1209
Seneca, Thompson, and Venice townships in Seneca county shall be 1210
filed in the office of the clerk of the court located in the 1211
municipal corporation of Tiffin. Cases that arise in the 1212
municipal corporation of Fostoria~~and, within Loudon and~~ 1213
Jackson townships in Seneca county, and within Washington 1214
township in Hancock county, ~~and within Perry township, except~~ 1215
~~within the municipal corporation of West Millgrove, in Wood~~ 1216
~~county,~~ shall be filed in the office of the special deputy clerk 1217
located in the municipal corporation of Fostoria. 1218

(O) The judge of the Fulton county municipal court shall 1219
sit within each of the municipal corporations of Wauseon and 1220
Swanton on a weekly basis. Cases that arise within the municipal 1221
corporation of Wauseon and within Chesterfield, Clinton, Dover, 1222
Franklin, German, and Gorham townships in Fulton county shall be 1223
filed in the office of the clerk of the court located in the 1224
municipal corporation of Wauseon. Cases that arise in the 1225
municipal corporation of Swanton and within Amboy, Fulton, Pike, 1226
Swan Creek, Royalton, and York townships shall be filed in the 1227
office of the special deputy clerk located in the municipal 1228
corporation of Swanton. 1229

Sec. 1901.041. (A) Except as authorized by or provided in 1230
division (B) of section 1901.181 of the Revised Code, all cases 1231
filed after the institution of a housing or environmental 1232
division of a municipal court and over which the division has 1233
jurisdiction shall be assigned by the administrative judge of 1234
the municipal court to the judge of the division. Any cases 1235
pending in the municipal court at the time the division is 1236
instituted and over which the division has jurisdiction shall be 1237

reassigned to the judge of the division, if the administrative 1238
judge determines that reassignment will not delay the trial of 1239
the case and that reassignment is in the best interests of the 1240
parties. 1241

(B) The Hamilton county municipal court may refer a case 1242
~~of the type described in division (B) (3) of section 2301.03 of~~ 1243
~~the Revised Code~~ to the drug court judge of the court of common 1244
~~pleas of Hamilton county pursuant to that division if the case~~ 1245
is of a type that is eligible for admission into the drug court 1246
under the local rule adopted by the court of common pleas under 1247
division (B) (3) of section 2301.03 of the Revised Code. 1248

Sec. 2301.03. (A) In Franklin county, the judges of the 1249
court of common pleas whose terms begin on January 1, 1953, 1250
January 2, 1953, January 5, 1969, January 5, 1977, January 2, 1251
1997, January 9, 2019, and January 3, 2021, and successors, 1252
shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1253
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges 1254
of the court of common pleas of Franklin county and shall be 1255
elected and designated as judges of the court of common pleas, 1256
division of domestic relations. They shall have all the powers 1257
relating to juvenile courts, and all cases under Chapters 2151. 1258
and 2152. of the Revised Code, all parentage proceedings under 1259
Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code over which the juvenile court 1260
has jurisdiction, and all divorce, dissolution of marriage, 1261
legal separation, and annulment cases shall be assigned to them. 1262
In addition to the judge's regular duties, the judge who is 1263
senior in point of service shall serve on the children services 1264
board and the county advisory board and shall be the 1265
administrator of the domestic relations division and its 1266
subdivisions and departments. 1267

(B) In Hamilton county: 1268

(1) The judge of the court of common pleas, whose term 1269
begins on January 1, 1957, and successors, and the judge of the 1270
court of common pleas, whose term begins on February 14, 1967, 1271
and successors, shall be the juvenile judges as provided in 1272
Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code, with the powers 1273
and jurisdiction conferred by those chapters. 1274

(2) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms 1275
begin on January 5, 1957, January 16, 1981, and July 1, 1991, 1276
and successors, shall be elected and designated as judges of the 1277
court of common pleas, division of domestic relations, and shall 1278
have assigned to them all divorce, dissolution of marriage, 1279
legal separation, and annulment cases coming before the court. 1280
On or after the first day of July and before the first day of 1281
August of 1991 and each year thereafter, a majority of the 1282
judges of the division of domestic relations shall elect one of 1283
the judges of the division as administrative judge of that 1284
division. If a majority of the judges of the division of 1285
domestic relations are unable for any reason to elect an 1286
administrative judge for the division before the first day of 1287
August, a majority of the judges of the Hamilton county court of 1288
common pleas, as soon as possible after that date, shall elect 1289
one of the judges of the division of domestic relations as 1290
administrative judge of that division. The term of the 1291
administrative judge shall begin on the earlier of the first day 1292
of August of the year in which the administrative judge is 1293
elected or the date on which the administrative judge is elected 1294
by a majority of the judges of the Hamilton county court of 1295
common pleas and shall terminate on the date on which the 1296
administrative judge's successor is elected in the following 1297
year. 1298

In addition to the judge's regular duties, the 1299
administrative judge of the division of domestic relations shall 1300
be the administrator of the domestic relations division and its 1301
subdivisions and departments and shall have charge of the 1302
employment, assignment, and supervision of the personnel of the 1303
division engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating 1304
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 1305
annulment cases, including any referees considered necessary by 1306
the judges in the discharge of their various duties. 1307

The administrative judge of the division of domestic 1308
relations also shall designate the title, compensation, expense 1309
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 1310
personnel of the division, and shall fix the duties of its 1311
personnel. The duties of the personnel, in addition to those 1312
provided for in other sections of the Revised Code, shall 1313
include the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, 1314
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases 1315
and counseling and conciliation services that may be made 1316
available to persons requesting them, whether or not the persons 1317
are parties to an action pending in the division. 1318

The board of county commissioners shall appropriate the 1319
sum of money each year as will meet all the administrative 1320
expenses of the division of domestic relations, including 1321
reasonable expenses of the domestic relations judges and the 1322
division counselors and other employees designated to conduct 1323
the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, 1324
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, 1325
conciliation and counseling, and all matters relating to those 1326
cases and counseling, and the expenses involved in the 1327
attendance of division personnel at domestic relations and 1328
welfare conferences designated by the division, and the further 1329

sum each year as will provide for the adequate operation of the 1330
division of domestic relations. 1331

The compensation and expenses of all employees and the 1332
salary and expenses of the judges shall be paid by the county 1333
treasurer from the money appropriated for the operation of the 1334
division, upon the warrant of the county auditor, certified to 1335
by the administrative judge of the division of domestic 1336
relations. 1337

The summonses, warrants, citations, subpoenas, and other 1338
writs of the division may issue to a bailiff, constable, or 1339
staff investigator of the division or to the sheriff of any 1340
county or any marshal, constable, or police officer, and the 1341
provisions of law relating to the subpoenaing of witnesses in 1342
other cases shall apply insofar as they are applicable. When a 1343
summons, warrant, citation, subpoena, or other writ is issued to 1344
an officer, other than a bailiff, constable, or staff 1345
investigator of the division, the expense of serving it shall be 1346
assessed as a part of the costs in the case involved. 1347

(3) The judge of the court of common pleas of Hamilton 1348
county whose term begins on January 3, 1997, and the successors 1349
to that judge shall each be elected and designated as the drug 1350
court judge of the court of common pleas of Hamilton county. ~~The~~ 1351
~~drug court judge may accept or reject any case referred to the~~ 1352
~~drug court judge under division (B) (3) of this section. After~~ 1353
~~the drug court judge accepts a referred case, the drug court~~ 1354
~~judge has full authority over the case, including the authority~~ 1355
~~to conduct arraignment, accept pleas, enter findings and~~ 1356
~~dispositions, conduct trials, order treatment, and if treatment~~ 1357
~~is not successfully completed pronounce and enter sentence.~~ 1358

~~A judge of the general division of the court of common~~ 1359

~~pleas of Hamilton county and a judge of the Hamilton county~~ 1360
~~municipal court may refer to the drug court judge any case, and~~ 1361
~~any companion cases, the judge determines meet the criteria~~ 1362
~~described under divisions (B) (3) (a) and (b) of this section. If~~ 1363
~~the drug court judge accepts referral of a referred case, the~~ 1364
~~case, and any companion cases, shall be transferred to the drug~~ 1365
~~court judge. A judge may refer a case meeting the criteria~~ 1366
~~described in divisions (B) (3) (a) and (b) of this section that~~ 1367
~~involves a violation of a condition of a community control~~ 1368
~~sanction to the drug court judge, and, if the drug court judge~~ 1369
~~accepts the referral, the referring judge and the drug court~~ 1370
~~judge have concurrent jurisdiction over the case.~~ 1371

~~A judge of the general division of the court of common~~ 1372
~~pleas of Hamilton county and a judge of the Hamilton county~~ 1373
~~municipal court may refer a case to the drug court judge under~~ 1374
~~division (B) (3) of this section if the judge determines that~~ 1375
~~both of the following apply:~~ 1376

~~(a) One of the following applies:~~ 1377

~~(i) The case involves a drug abuse offense, as defined in~~ 1378
~~section 2925.01 of the Revised Code, that is a felony of the~~ 1379
~~third or fourth degree if the offense is committed prior to July~~ 1380
~~1, 1996, a felony of the third, fourth, or fifth degree if the~~ 1381
~~offense is committed on or after July 1, 1996, or a misdemeanor.~~ 1382

~~(ii) The case involves a theft offense, as defined in~~ 1383
~~section 2913.01 of the Revised Code, that is a felony of the~~ 1384
~~third or fourth degree if the offense is committed prior to July~~ 1385
~~1, 1996, a felony of the third, fourth, or fifth degree if the~~ 1386
~~offense is committed on or after July 1, 1996, or a misdemeanor,~~ 1387
~~and the defendant is drug or alcohol dependent or in danger of~~ 1388
~~becoming drug or alcohol dependent and would benefit from~~ 1389

~~treatment.~~ 1390

~~(b) All of the following apply:~~ 1391

~~(i) The case involves an offense for which a community control sanction may be imposed or is a case in which a mandatory prison term or a mandatory jail term is not required to be imposed.~~ 1392
1393
1394
1395

~~(ii) The defendant has no history of violent behavior.~~ 1396

~~(iii) The defendant has no history of mental illness.~~ 1397

~~(iv) The defendant's current or past behavior, or both, is drug or alcohol driven.~~ 1398
1399

~~(v) The defendant demonstrates a sincere willingness to participate in a fifteen-month treatment process.~~ 1400
1401

~~(vi) The defendant has no acute health condition.~~ 1402

~~(vii) If the defendant is incarcerated, the county prosecutor approves of the referral~~ 1403
Eligibility for admission of 1404
a case into the drug court shall be set forth in a local rule 1405
adopted by the court of common pleas of Hamilton county. The 1406
local rule specifying eligibility shall not permit referral to 1407
the drug court of a case that involves a felony of the first or 1408
second degree, a violation of any prohibition contained in 1409
Chapter 2907. of the Revised Code that is a felony of the third 1410
degree, or a violation of section 2903.01 or 2903.02 of the 1411
Revised Code. 1412

(4) If the administrative judge of the court of common 1413
pleas of Hamilton county determines that the volume of cases 1414
pending before the drug court judge does not constitute a 1415
sufficient caseload for the drug court judge, the administrative 1416
judge, in accordance with the Rules of Superintendence for 1417

Courts of Common Pleas, shall assign individual cases to the 1418
drug court judge from the general docket of the court. If the 1419
assignments so occur, the administrative judge shall cease the 1420
assignments when the administrative judge determines that the 1421
volume of cases pending before the drug court judge constitutes 1422
a sufficient caseload for the drug court judge. 1423

~~(5) As used in division (B) of this section, "community 1424~~
~~control sanction," "mandatory prison term," and "mandatory jail 1425~~
~~term" have the same meanings as in section 2929.01 of the 1426~~
~~Revised Code.— 1427~~

(C) (1) In Lorain county: 1428

(a) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms 1429
begin on January 3, 1959, January 4, 1989, and January 2, 1999, 1430
and successors, and the judge of the court of common pleas whose 1431
term begins on February 9, 2009, shall have the same 1432
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 1433
receive the same compensation as the other judges of the court 1434
of common pleas of Lorain county and shall be elected and 1435
designated as the judges of the court of common pleas, division 1436
of domestic relations. The judges of the court of common pleas 1437
whose terms begin on January 3, 1959, January 4, 1989, and 1438
January 2, 1999, and successors, shall have all of the powers 1439
relating to juvenile courts, and all cases under Chapters 2151. 1440
and 2152. of the Revised Code, all parentage proceedings over 1441
which the juvenile court has jurisdiction, and all divorce, 1442
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases 1443
shall be assigned to them, except cases that for some special 1444
reason are assigned to some other judge of the court of common 1445
pleas. From February 9, 2009, through September 28, 2009, the 1446
judge of the court of common pleas whose term begins on February 1447

9, 2009, shall have all the powers relating to juvenile courts, 1448
and cases under Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code, 1449
parentage proceedings over which the juvenile court has 1450
jurisdiction, and divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 1451
separation, and annulment cases shall be assigned to that judge, 1452
except cases that for some special reason are assigned to some 1453
other judge of the court of common pleas. 1454

(b) From January 1, 2006, through September 28, 2009, the 1455
judges of the court of common pleas, division of domestic 1456
relations, in addition to the powers and jurisdiction set forth 1457
in division (C) (1) (a) of this section, shall have jurisdiction 1458
over matters that are within the jurisdiction of the probate 1459
court under Chapter 2101. and other provisions of the Revised 1460
Code. 1461

(c) The judge of the court of common pleas, division of 1462
domestic relations, whose term begins on February 9, 2009, is 1463
the successor to the probate judge who was elected in 2002 for a 1464
term that began on February 9, 2003. After September 28, 2009, 1465
the judge of the court of common pleas, division of domestic 1466
relations, whose term begins on February 9, 2009, shall be the 1467
probate judge. 1468

(2) (a) From February 9, 2009, through September 28, 2009, 1469
with respect to Lorain county, all references in law to the 1470
probate court shall be construed as references to the court of 1471
common pleas, division of domestic relations, and all references 1472
to the probate judge shall be construed as references to the 1473
judges of the court of common pleas, division of domestic 1474
relations. 1475

(b) From February 9, 2009, through September 28, 2009, 1476
with respect to Lorain county, all references in law to the 1477

clerk of the probate court shall be construed as references to 1478
the judge who is serving pursuant to Rule 4 of the Rules of 1479
Superintendence for the Courts of Ohio as the administrative 1480
judge of the court of common pleas, division of domestic 1481
relations. 1482

(D) In Lucas county: 1483

(1) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms 1484
begin on January 1, 1955, and January 3, 1965, and successors, 1485
shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1486
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges 1487
of the court of common pleas of Lucas county and shall be 1488
elected and designated as judges of the court of common pleas, 1489
division of domestic relations. All divorce, dissolution of 1490
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases shall be 1491
assigned to them. 1492

The judge of the division of domestic relations, senior in 1493
point of service, shall be considered as the presiding judge of 1494
the court of common pleas, division of domestic relations, and 1495
shall be charged exclusively with the assignment and division of 1496
the work of the division and the employment and supervision of 1497
all other personnel of the domestic relations division. 1498

(2) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms 1499
begin on January 5, 1977, and January 2, 1991, and successors 1500
shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1501
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges 1502
of the court of common pleas of Lucas county, shall be elected 1503
and designated as judges of the court of common pleas, juvenile 1504
division, and shall be the juvenile judges as provided in 1505
Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code with the powers and 1506
jurisdictions conferred by those chapters. In addition to the 1507

judge's regular duties, the judge of the court of common pleas, 1508
juvenile division, senior in point of service, shall be the 1509
administrator of the juvenile division and its subdivisions and 1510
departments and shall have charge of the employment, assignment, 1511
and supervision of the personnel of the division engaged in 1512
handling, servicing, or investigating juvenile cases, including 1513
any referees considered necessary by the judges of the division 1514
in the discharge of their various duties. 1515

The judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, 1516
senior in point of service, also shall designate the title, 1517
compensation, expense allowance, hours, leaves of absence, and 1518
vacation of the personnel of the division and shall fix the 1519
duties of the personnel of the division. The duties of the 1520
personnel, in addition to other statutory duties include the 1521
handling, servicing, and investigation of juvenile cases and 1522
counseling and conciliation services that may be made available 1523
to persons requesting them, whether or not the persons are 1524
parties to an action pending in the division. 1525

(3) If one of the judges of the court of common pleas, 1526
division of domestic relations, or one of the judges of the 1527
juvenile division is sick, absent, or unable to perform that 1528
judge's judicial duties or the volume of cases pending in that 1529
judge's division necessitates it, the duties shall be performed 1530
by the judges of the other of those divisions. 1531

(E) In Mahoning county: 1532

(1) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term 1533
began on January 1, 1955, and successors, shall have the same 1534
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 1535
receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of 1536
common pleas of Mahoning county, shall be elected and designated 1537

as judge of the court of common pleas, division of domestic 1538
relations, and shall be assigned all the divorce, dissolution of 1539
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases coming before 1540
the court. In addition to the judge's regular duties, the judge 1541
of the court of common pleas, division of domestic relations, 1542
shall be the administrator of the domestic relations division 1543
and its subdivisions and departments and shall have charge of 1544
the employment, assignment, and supervision of the personnel of 1545
the division engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating 1546
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 1547
annulment cases, including any referees considered necessary in 1548
the discharge of the various duties of the judge's office. 1549

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 1550
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of 1551
the personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 1552
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel, in 1553
addition to other statutory duties, include the handling, 1554
servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution of 1555
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases and counseling 1556
and conciliation services that may be made available to persons 1557
requesting them, whether or not the persons are parties to an 1558
action pending in the division. 1559

(2) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term 1560
began on January 2, 1969, and successors, shall have the same 1561
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 1562
receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of 1563
common pleas of Mahoning county, shall be elected and designated 1564
as judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, and 1565
shall be the juvenile judge as provided in Chapters 2151. and 1566
2152. of the Revised Code, with the powers and jurisdictions 1567
conferred by those chapters. In addition to the judge's regular 1568

duties, the judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile 1569
division, shall be the administrator of the juvenile division 1570
and its subdivisions and departments and shall have charge of 1571
the employment, assignment, and supervision of the personnel of 1572
the division engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating 1573
juvenile cases, including any referees considered necessary by 1574
the judge in the discharge of the judge's various duties. 1575

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 1576
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacation of 1577
the personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 1578
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel, in 1579
addition to other statutory duties, include the handling, 1580
servicing, and investigation of juvenile cases and counseling 1581
and conciliation services that may be made available to persons 1582
requesting them, whether or not the persons are parties to an 1583
action pending in the division. 1584

(3) If a judge of the court of common pleas, division of 1585
domestic relations or juvenile division, is sick, absent, or 1586
unable to perform that judge's judicial duties, or the volume of 1587
cases pending in that judge's division necessitates it, that 1588
judge's duties shall be performed by another judge of the court 1589
of common pleas. 1590

(F) In Montgomery county: 1591

(1) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms 1592
begin on January 2, 1953, and January 4, 1977, and successors, 1593
shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1594
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges 1595
of the court of common pleas of Montgomery county and shall be 1596
elected and designated as judges of the court of common pleas, 1597
division of domestic relations. These judges shall have assigned 1598

to them all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, 1599
and annulment cases. 1600

The judge of the division of domestic relations, senior in 1601
point of service, shall be charged exclusively with the 1602
assignment and division of the work of the division and shall 1603
have charge of the employment and supervision of the personnel 1604
of the division engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating 1605
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 1606
annulment cases, including any necessary referees, except those 1607
employees who may be appointed by the judge, junior in point of 1608
service, under this section and sections 2301.12 and 2301.18 of 1609
the Revised Code. The judge of the division of domestic 1610
relations, senior in point of service, also shall designate the 1611
title, compensation, expense allowances, hours, leaves of 1612
absence, and vacation of the personnel of the division and shall 1613
fix their duties. 1614

(2) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms 1615
begin on January 1, 1953, and January 1, 1993, and successors, 1616
shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1617
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges 1618
of the court of common pleas of Montgomery county, shall be 1619
elected and designated as judges of the court of common pleas, 1620
juvenile division, and shall be, and have the powers and 1621
jurisdiction of, the juvenile judge as provided in Chapters 1622
2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code. 1623

In addition to the judge's regular duties, the judge of 1624
the court of common pleas, juvenile division, senior in point of 1625
service, shall be the administrator of the juvenile division and 1626
its subdivisions and departments and shall have charge of the 1627
employment, assignment, and supervision of the personnel of the 1628

juvenile division, including any necessary referees, who are 1629
engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating juvenile cases. 1630
The judge, senior in point of service, also shall designate the 1631
title, compensation, expense allowances, hours, leaves of 1632
absence, and vacation of the personnel of the division and shall 1633
fix their duties. The duties of the personnel, in addition to 1634
other statutory duties, shall include the handling, servicing, 1635
and investigation of juvenile cases and of any counseling and 1636
conciliation services that are available upon request to 1637
persons, whether or not they are parties to an action pending in 1638
the division. 1639

If one of the judges of the court of common pleas, 1640
division of domestic relations, or one of the judges of the 1641
court of common pleas, juvenile division, is sick, absent, or 1642
unable to perform that judge's duties or the volume of cases 1643
pending in that judge's division necessitates it, the duties of 1644
that judge may be performed by the judge or judges of the other 1645
of those divisions. 1646

(G) In Richland county: 1647

(1) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term 1648
begins on January 1, 1957, and successors, shall have the same 1649
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 1650
receive the same compensation as the other judges of the court 1651
of common pleas of Richland county and shall be elected and 1652
designated as judge of the court of common pleas, division of 1653
domestic relations. That judge shall be assigned and hear all 1654
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 1655
annulment cases, all domestic violence cases arising under 1656
section 3113.31 of the Revised Code, and all post-decree 1657
proceedings arising from any case pertaining to any of those 1658

1659 matters. The division of domestic relations has concurrent
1660 jurisdiction with the juvenile division of the court of common
1661 pleas of Richland county to determine the care, custody, or
1662 control of any child not a ward of another court of this state,
1663 and to hear and determine a request for an order for the support
1664 of any child if the request is not ancillary to an action for
1665 divorce, dissolution of marriage, annulment, or legal
1666 separation, a criminal or civil action involving an allegation
1667 of domestic violence, or an action for support brought under
1668 Chapter 3115. of the Revised Code. Except in cases that are
1669 subject to the exclusive original jurisdiction of the juvenile
1670 court, the judge of the division of domestic relations shall be
1671 assigned and hear all cases pertaining to paternity or
1672 parentage, the care, custody, or control of children, parenting
1673 time or visitation, child support, or the allocation of parental
1674 rights and responsibilities for the care of children, all
1675 proceedings arising under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, all
1676 proceedings arising under the uniform interstate family support
1677 act contained in Chapter 3115. of the Revised Code, and all
1678 post-decree proceedings arising from any case pertaining to any
1679 of those matters.

1680 In addition to the judge's regular duties, the judge of
1681 the court of common pleas, division of domestic relations, shall
1682 be the administrator of the domestic relations division and its
1683 subdivisions and departments. The judge shall have charge of the
1684 employment, assignment, and supervision of the personnel of the
1685 domestic relations division, including any magistrates the judge
1686 considers necessary for the discharge of the judge's duties. The
1687 judge shall also designate the title, compensation, expense
1688 allowances, hours, leaves of absence, vacation, and other
1689 employment-related matters of the personnel of the division and

shall fix their duties. 1690

(2) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term 1691
begins on January 3, 2005, and successors, shall have the same 1692
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 1693
receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of 1694
common pleas of Richland county, shall be elected and designated 1695
as judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, and 1696
shall be, and have the powers and jurisdiction of, the juvenile 1697
judge as provided in Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised 1698
Code. Except in cases that are subject to the exclusive original 1699
jurisdiction of the juvenile court, the judge of the juvenile 1700
division shall not have jurisdiction or the power to hear, and 1701
shall not be assigned, any case pertaining to paternity or 1702
parentage, the care, custody, or control of children, parenting 1703
time or visitation, child support, or the allocation of parental 1704
rights and responsibilities for the care of children or any 1705
post-decree proceeding arising from any case pertaining to any 1706
of those matters. The judge of the juvenile division shall not 1707
have jurisdiction or the power to hear, and shall not be 1708
assigned, any proceeding under the uniform interstate family 1709
support act contained in Chapter 3115. of the Revised Code. 1710

In addition to the judge's regular duties, the judge of 1711
the juvenile division shall be the administrator of the juvenile 1712
division and its subdivisions and departments. The judge shall 1713
have charge of the employment, assignment, and supervision of 1714
the personnel of the juvenile division who are engaged in 1715
handling, servicing, or investigating juvenile cases, including 1716
any magistrates whom the judge considers necessary for the 1717
discharge of the judge's various duties. 1718

The judge of the juvenile division also shall designate 1719

the title, compensation, expense allowances, hours, leaves of 1720
absence, and vacation of the personnel of the division and shall 1721
fix their duties. The duties of the personnel, in addition to 1722
other statutory duties, include the handling, servicing, and 1723
investigation of juvenile cases and providing any counseling, 1724
conciliation, and mediation services that the court makes 1725
available to persons, whether or not the persons are parties to 1726
an action pending in the court, who request the services. 1727

(H) (1) In Stark county, the judges of the court of common 1728
pleas whose terms begin on January 1, 1953, January 2, 1959, and 1729
January 1, 1993, and successors, shall have the same 1730
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 1731
receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of 1732
common pleas of Stark county and shall be elected and designated 1733
as judges of the court of common pleas, family court division. 1734
They shall have all the powers relating to juvenile courts, and 1735
all cases under Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code, 1736
all parentage proceedings over which the juvenile court has 1737
jurisdiction, and all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 1738
separation, and annulment cases, except cases that are assigned 1739
to some other judge of the court of common pleas for some 1740
special reason, shall be assigned to the judges. 1741

(2) The judge of the family court division, second most 1742
senior in point of service, shall have charge of the employment 1743
and supervision of the personnel of the division engaged in 1744
handling, servicing, or investigating divorce, dissolution of 1745
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, and necessary 1746
referees required for the judge's respective court. 1747

(3) The judge of the family court division, senior in 1748
point of service, shall be charged exclusively with the 1749

administration of sections 2151.13, 2151.16, 2151.17, and 1750
2152.71 of the Revised Code and with the assignment and division 1751
of the work of the division and the employment and supervision 1752
of all other personnel of the division, including, but not 1753
limited to, that judge's necessary referees, but excepting those 1754
employees who may be appointed by the judge second most senior 1755
in point of service. The senior judge further shall serve in 1756
every other position in which the statutes permit or require a 1757
juvenile judge to serve. 1758

(4) On and after September 29, 2015, all references in law 1759
to "the division of domestic relations," "the domestic relations 1760
division," "the domestic relations court," "the judge of the 1761
division of domestic relations," or "the judge of the domestic 1762
relations division" shall be construed, with respect to Stark 1763
county, as being references to "the family court division" or 1764
"the judge of the family court division." 1765

(I) In Summit county: 1766

(1) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms 1767
begin on January 4, 1967, and January 6, 1993, and successors, 1768
shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1769
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges 1770
of the court of common pleas of Summit county and shall be 1771
elected and designated as judges of the court of common pleas, 1772
division of domestic relations. The judges of the division of 1773
domestic relations shall have assigned to them and hear all 1774
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 1775
annulment cases that come before the court. Except in cases that 1776
are subject to the exclusive original jurisdiction of the 1777
juvenile court, the judges of the division of domestic relations 1778
shall have assigned to them and hear all cases pertaining to 1779

paternity, custody, visitation, child support, or the allocation 1780
of parental rights and responsibilities for the care of children 1781
and all post-decree proceedings arising from any case pertaining 1782
to any of those matters. The judges of the division of domestic 1783
relations shall have assigned to them and hear all proceedings 1784
under the uniform interstate family support act contained in 1785
Chapter 3115. of the Revised Code. 1786

The judge of the division of domestic relations, senior in 1787
point of service, shall be the administrator of the domestic 1788
relations division and its subdivisions and departments and 1789
shall have charge of the employment, assignment, and supervision 1790
of the personnel of the division, including any necessary 1791
referees, who are engaged in handling, servicing, or 1792
investigating divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 1793
separation, and annulment cases. That judge also shall designate 1794
the title, compensation, expense allowances, hours, leaves of 1795
absence, and vacations of the personnel of the division and 1796
shall fix their duties. The duties of the personnel, in addition 1797
to other statutory duties, shall include the handling, 1798
servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution of 1799
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases and of any 1800
counseling and conciliation services that are available upon 1801
request to all persons, whether or not they are parties to an 1802
action pending in the division. 1803

(2) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term 1804
begins on January 1, 1955, and successors, shall have the same 1805
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 1806
receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of 1807
common pleas of Summit county, shall be elected and designated 1808
as judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, and 1809
shall be, and have the powers and jurisdiction of, the juvenile 1810

judge as provided in Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised 1811
Code. Except in cases that are subject to the exclusive original 1812
jurisdiction of the juvenile court, the judge of the juvenile 1813
division shall not have jurisdiction or the power to hear, and 1814
shall not be assigned, any case pertaining to paternity, 1815
custody, visitation, child support, or the allocation of 1816
parental rights and responsibilities for the care of children or 1817
any post-decree proceeding arising from any case pertaining to 1818
any of those matters. The judge of the juvenile division shall 1819
not have jurisdiction or the power to hear, and shall not be 1820
assigned, any proceeding under the uniform interstate family 1821
support act contained in Chapter 3115. of the Revised Code. 1822

The juvenile judge shall be the administrator of the 1823
juvenile division and its subdivisions and departments and shall 1824
have charge of the employment, assignment, and supervision of 1825
the personnel of the juvenile division, including any necessary 1826
referees, who are engaged in handling, servicing, or 1827
investigating juvenile cases. The judge also shall designate the 1828
title, compensation, expense allowances, hours, leaves of 1829
absence, and vacation of the personnel of the division and shall 1830
fix their duties. The duties of the personnel, in addition to 1831
other statutory duties, shall include the handling, servicing, 1832
and investigation of juvenile cases and of any counseling and 1833
conciliation services that are available upon request to 1834
persons, whether or not they are parties to an action pending in 1835
the division. 1836

(J) In Trumbull county, the judges of the court of common 1837
pleas whose terms begin on January 1, 1953, and January 2, 1977, 1838
and successors, shall have the same qualifications, exercise the 1839
same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation 1840
as other judges of the court of common pleas of Trumbull county 1841

and shall be elected and designated as judges of the court of 1842
common pleas, division of domestic relations. They shall have 1843
all the powers relating to juvenile courts, and all cases under 1844
Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code, all parentage 1845
proceedings over which the juvenile court has jurisdiction, and 1846
all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 1847
annulment cases shall be assigned to them, except cases that for 1848
some special reason are assigned to some other judge of the 1849
court of common pleas. 1850

(K) In Butler county: 1851

(1) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms 1852
begin on January 1, 1957, and January 4, 1993, and successors, 1853
shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1854
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges 1855
of the court of common pleas of Butler county and shall be 1856
elected and designated as judges of the court of common pleas, 1857
division of domestic relations. The judges of the division of 1858
domestic relations shall have assigned to them all divorce, 1859
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases 1860
coming before the court, except in cases that for some special 1861
reason are assigned to some other judge of the court of common 1862
pleas. The judges of the division of domestic relations also 1863
have concurrent jurisdiction with judges of the juvenile 1864
division of the court of common pleas of Butler county with 1865
respect to and may hear cases to determine the custody, support, 1866
or custody and support of a child who is born of issue of a 1867
marriage and who is not the ward of another court of this state, 1868
cases commenced by a party of the marriage to obtain an order 1869
requiring support of any child when the request for that order 1870
is not ancillary to an action for divorce, dissolution of 1871
marriage, annulment, or legal separation, a criminal or civil 1872

action involving an allegation of domestic violence, an action 1873
for support under Chapter 3115. of the Revised Code, or an 1874
action that is within the exclusive original jurisdiction of the 1875
juvenile division of the court of common pleas of Butler county 1876
and that involves an allegation that the child is an abused, 1877
neglected, or dependent child, and post-decree proceedings and 1878
matters arising from those types of cases. The judge senior in 1879
point of service shall be charged with the assignment and 1880
division of the work of the division and with the employment and 1881
supervision of all other personnel of the domestic relations 1882
division. 1883

The judge senior in point of service also shall designate 1884
the title, compensation, expense allowances, hours, leaves of 1885
absence, and vacations of the personnel of the division and 1886
shall fix their duties. The duties of the personnel, in addition 1887
to other statutory duties, shall include the handling, 1888
servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution of 1889
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases and providing 1890
any counseling and conciliation services that the division makes 1891
available to persons, whether or not the persons are parties to 1892
an action pending in the division, who request the services. 1893

(2) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms 1894
begin on January 3, 1987, and January 2, 2003, and successors, 1895
shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1896
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges 1897
of the court of common pleas of Butler county, shall be elected 1898
and designated as judges of the court of common pleas, juvenile 1899
division, and shall be the juvenile judges as provided in 1900
Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code, with the powers 1901
and jurisdictions conferred by those chapters. Except in cases 1902
that are subject to the exclusive original jurisdiction of the 1903

juvenile court, the judges of the juvenile division shall not 1904
have jurisdiction or the power to hear and shall not be 1905
assigned, but shall have the limited ability and authority to 1906
certify, any case commenced by a party of a marriage to 1907
determine the custody, support, or custody and support of a 1908
child who is born of issue of the marriage and who is not the 1909
ward of another court of this state when the request for the 1910
order in the case is not ancillary to an action for divorce, 1911
dissolution of marriage, annulment, or legal separation. The 1912
judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, who is 1913
senior in point of service, shall be the administrator of the 1914
juvenile division and its subdivisions and departments. The 1915
judge, senior in point of service, shall have charge of the 1916
employment, assignment, and supervision of the personnel of the 1917
juvenile division who are engaged in handling, servicing, or 1918
investigating juvenile cases, including any referees whom the 1919
judge considers necessary for the discharge of the judge's 1920
various duties. 1921

The judge, senior in point of service, also shall 1922
designate the title, compensation, expense allowances, hours, 1923
leaves of absence, and vacation of the personnel of the division 1924
and shall fix their duties. The duties of the personnel, in 1925
addition to other statutory duties, include the handling, 1926
servicing, and investigation of juvenile cases and providing any 1927
counseling and conciliation services that the division makes 1928
available to persons, whether or not the persons are parties to 1929
an action pending in the division, who request the services. 1930

(3) If a judge of the court of common pleas, division of 1931
domestic relations or juvenile division, is sick, absent, or 1932
unable to perform that judge's judicial duties or the volume of 1933
cases pending in the judge's division necessitates it, the 1934

duties of that judge shall be performed by the other judges of 1935
the domestic relations and juvenile divisions. 1936

(L) (1) In Cuyahoga county, the judges of the court of 1937
common pleas whose terms begin on January 8, 1961, January 9, 1938
1961, January 18, 1975, January 19, 1975, and January 13, 1987, 1939
and successors, shall have the same qualifications, exercise the 1940
same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation 1941
as other judges of the court of common pleas of Cuyahoga county 1942
and shall be elected and designated as judges of the court of 1943
common pleas, division of domestic relations. They shall have 1944
all the powers relating to all divorce, dissolution of marriage, 1945
legal separation, and annulment cases, except in cases that are 1946
assigned to some other judge of the court of common pleas for 1947
some special reason. 1948

(2) The administrative judge is administrator of the 1949
domestic relations division and its subdivisions and departments 1950
and has the following powers concerning division personnel: 1951

(a) Full charge of the employment, assignment, and 1952
supervision; 1953

(b) Sole determination of compensation, duties, expenses, 1954
allowances, hours, leaves, and vacations. 1955

(3) "Division personnel" include persons employed or 1956
referees engaged in hearing, servicing, investigating, 1957
counseling, or conciliating divorce, dissolution of marriage, 1958
legal separation and annulment matters. 1959

(M) In Lake county: 1960

(1) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term 1961
begins on January 2, 1961, and successors, shall have the same 1962
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 1963

receive the same compensation as the other judges of the court 1964
of common pleas of Lake county and shall be elected and 1965
designated as judge of the court of common pleas, division of 1966
domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all the divorce, 1967
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases 1968
coming before the court, except in cases that for some special 1969
reason are assigned to some other judge of the court of common 1970
pleas. The judge shall be charged with the assignment and 1971
division of the work of the division and with the employment and 1972
supervision of all other personnel of the domestic relations 1973
division. 1974

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 1975
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of 1976
the personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The 1977
duties of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, 1978
shall include the handling, servicing, and investigation of 1979
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 1980
annulment cases and providing any counseling and conciliation 1981
services that the division makes available to persons, whether 1982
or not the persons are parties to an action pending in the 1983
division, who request the services. 1984

(2) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term 1985
begins on January 4, 1979, and successors, shall have the same 1986
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 1987
receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of 1988
common pleas of Lake county, shall be elected and designated as 1989
judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, and shall 1990
be the juvenile judge as provided in Chapters 2151. and 2152. of 1991
the Revised Code, with the powers and jurisdictions conferred by 1992
those chapters. The judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile 1993
division, shall be the administrator of the juvenile division 1994

and its subdivisions and departments. The judge shall have 1995
charge of the employment, assignment, and supervision of the 1996
personnel of the juvenile division who are engaged in handling, 1997
servicing, or investigating juvenile cases, including any 1998
referees whom the judge considers necessary for the discharge of 1999
the judge's various duties. 2000

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 2001
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacation of 2002
the personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The 2003
duties of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, 2004
include the handling, servicing, and investigation of juvenile 2005
cases and providing any counseling and conciliation services 2006
that the division makes available to persons, whether or not the 2007
persons are parties to an action pending in the division, who 2008
request the services. 2009

(3) If a judge of the court of common pleas, division of 2010
domestic relations or juvenile division, is sick, absent, or 2011
unable to perform that judge's judicial duties or the volume of 2012
cases pending in the judge's division necessitates it, the 2013
duties of that judge shall be performed by the other judges of 2014
the domestic relations and juvenile divisions. 2015

(N) In Erie county: 2016

(1) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term 2017
begins on January 2, 1971, and the successors to that judge 2018
whose terms begin before January 2, 2007, shall have the same 2019
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 2020
receive the same compensation as the other judge of the court of 2021
common pleas of Erie county and shall be elected and designated 2022
as judge of the court of common pleas, division of domestic 2023
relations. The judge shall have all the powers relating to 2024

juvenile courts, and shall be assigned all cases under Chapters 2025
2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code, parentage proceedings over 2026
which the juvenile court has jurisdiction, and divorce, 2027
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, 2028
except cases that for some special reason are assigned to some 2029
other judge. 2030

On or after January 2, 2007, the judge of the court of 2031
common pleas who is elected in 2006 shall be the successor to 2032
the judge of the domestic relations division whose term expires 2033
on January 1, 2007, shall be designated as judge of the court of 2034
common pleas, juvenile division, and shall be the juvenile judge 2035
as provided in Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code with 2036
the powers and jurisdictions conferred by those chapters. 2037

(2) The judge of the court of common pleas, general 2038
division, whose term begins on January 1, 2005, and successors, 2039
the judge of the court of common pleas, general division whose 2040
term begins on January 2, 2005, and successors, and the judge of 2041
the court of common pleas, general division, whose term begins 2042
February 9, 2009, and successors, shall have assigned to them, 2043
in addition to all matters that are within the jurisdiction of 2044
the general division of the court of common pleas, all divorce, 2045
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases 2046
coming before the court, and all matters that are within the 2047
jurisdiction of the probate court under Chapter 2101., and other 2048
provisions, of the Revised Code. 2049

(O) In Greene county: 2050

(1) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term 2051
begins on January 1, 1961, and successors, shall have the same 2052
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 2053
receive the same compensation as the other judges of the court 2054

of common pleas of Greene county and shall be elected and 2055
designated as the judge of the court of common pleas, division 2056
of domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all divorce, 2057
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, annulment, uniform 2058
reciprocal support enforcement, and domestic violence cases and 2059
all other cases related to domestic relations, except cases that 2060
for some special reason are assigned to some other judge of the 2061
court of common pleas. 2062

The judge shall be charged with the assignment and 2063
division of the work of the division and with the employment and 2064
supervision of all other personnel of the division. The judge 2065
also shall designate the title, compensation, hours, leaves of 2066
absence, and vacations of the personnel of the division and 2067
shall fix their duties. The duties of the personnel of the 2068
division, in addition to other statutory duties, shall include 2069
the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, 2070
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases 2071
and the provision of counseling and conciliation services that 2072
the division considers necessary and makes available to persons 2073
who request the services, whether or not the persons are parties 2074
in an action pending in the division. The compensation for the 2075
personnel shall be paid from the overall court budget and shall 2076
be included in the appropriations for the existing judges of the 2077
general division of the court of common pleas. 2078

(2) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term 2079
begins on January 1, 1995, and successors, shall have the same 2080
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 2081
receive the same compensation as the other judges of the court 2082
of common pleas of Greene county, shall be elected and 2083
designated as judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile 2084
division, and, on or after January 1, 1995, shall be the 2085

juvenile judge as provided in Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the
Revised Code with the powers and jurisdiction conferred by those
chapters. The judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile
division, shall be the administrator of the juvenile division
and its subdivisions and departments. The judge shall have
charge of the employment, assignment, and supervision of the
personnel of the juvenile division who are engaged in handling,
servicing, or investigating juvenile cases, including any
referees whom the judge considers necessary for the discharge of
the judge's various duties.

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation,
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacation of
the personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The
duties of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties,
include the handling, servicing, and investigation of juvenile
cases and providing any counseling and conciliation services
that the court makes available to persons, whether or not the
persons are parties to an action pending in the court, who
request the services.

(3) If one of the judges of the court of common pleas,
general division, is sick, absent, or unable to perform that
judge's judicial duties or the volume of cases pending in the
general division necessitates it, the duties of that judge of
the general division shall be performed by the judge of the
division of domestic relations and the judge of the juvenile
division.

(P) In Portage county, the judge of the court of common
pleas, whose term begins January 2, 1987, and successors, shall
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other

judges of the court of common pleas of Portage county and shall 2116
be elected and designated as judge of the court of common pleas, 2117
division of domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all 2118
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 2119
annulment cases coming before the court, except in cases that 2120
for some special reason are assigned to some other judge of the 2121
court of common pleas. The judge shall be charged with the 2122
assignment and division of the work of the division and with the 2123
employment and supervision of all other personnel of the 2124
domestic relations division. 2125

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 2126
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of 2127
the personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The 2128
duties of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, 2129
shall include the handling, servicing, and investigation of 2130
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 2131
annulment cases and providing any counseling and conciliation 2132
services that the division makes available to persons, whether 2133
or not the persons are parties to an action pending in the 2134
division, who request the services. 2135

(Q) In Clermont county, the judge of the court of common 2136
pleas, whose term begins January 2, 1987, and successors, shall 2137
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 2138
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other 2139
judges of the court of common pleas of Clermont county and shall 2140
be elected and designated as judge of the court of common pleas, 2141
division of domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all 2142
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 2143
annulment cases coming before the court, except in cases that 2144
for some special reason are assigned to some other judge of the 2145
court of common pleas. The judge shall be charged with the 2146

assignment and division of the work of the division and with the 2147
employment and supervision of all other personnel of the 2148
domestic relations division. 2149

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 2150
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of 2151
the personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The 2152
duties of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, 2153
shall include the handling, servicing, and investigation of 2154
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 2155
annulment cases and providing any counseling and conciliation 2156
services that the division makes available to persons, whether 2157
or not the persons are parties to an action pending in the 2158
division, who request the services. 2159

(R) In Warren county, the judge of the court of common 2160
pleas, whose term begins January 1, 1987, and successors, shall 2161
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 2162
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other 2163
judges of the court of common pleas of Warren county and shall 2164
be elected and designated as judge of the court of common pleas, 2165
division of domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all 2166
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 2167
annulment cases coming before the court, except in cases that 2168
for some special reason are assigned to some other judge of the 2169
court of common pleas. The judge shall be charged with the 2170
assignment and division of the work of the division and with the 2171
employment and supervision of all other personnel of the 2172
domestic relations division. 2173

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 2174
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of 2175
the personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The 2176

duties of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, 2177
shall include the handling, servicing, and investigation of 2178
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 2179
annulment cases and providing any counseling and conciliation 2180
services that the division makes available to persons, whether 2181
or not the persons are parties to an action pending in the 2182
division, who request the services. 2183

(S) In Licking county, the judges of the court of common 2184
pleas, whose terms begin on January 1, 1991, and January 1, 2185
2005, and successors, shall have the same qualifications, 2186
exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same 2187
compensation as the other judges of the court of common pleas of 2188
Licking county and shall be elected and designated as judges of 2189
the court of common pleas, division of domestic relations. The 2190
judges shall be assigned all divorce, dissolution of marriage, 2191
legal separation, and annulment cases, all cases arising under 2192
Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, all proceedings involving 2193
child support, the allocation of parental rights and 2194
responsibilities for the care of children and the designation 2195
for the children of a place of residence and legal custodian, 2196
parenting time, and visitation, and all post-decree proceedings 2197
and matters arising from those cases and proceedings, except in 2198
cases that for some special reason are assigned to another judge 2199
of the court of common pleas. The administrative judge of the 2200
division of domestic relations shall be charged with the 2201
assignment and division of the work of the division and with the 2202
employment and supervision of the personnel of the division. 2203

The administrative judge of the division of domestic 2204
relations shall designate the title, compensation, expense 2205
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 2206
personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 2207

personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel of the 2208
division, in addition to other statutory duties, shall include 2209
the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, 2210
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, 2211
cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, and 2212
proceedings involving child support, the allocation of parental 2213
rights and responsibilities for the care of children and the 2214
designation for the children of a place of residence and legal 2215
custodian, parenting time, and visitation and providing any 2216
counseling and conciliation services that the division makes 2217
available to persons, whether or not the persons are parties to 2218
an action pending in the division, who request the services. 2219

(T) In Allen county, the judge of the court of common 2220
pleas, whose term begins January 1, 1993, and successors, shall 2221
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 2222
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other 2223
judges of the court of common pleas of Allen county and shall be 2224
elected and designated as judge of the court of common pleas, 2225
division of domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all 2226
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 2227
annulment cases, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the 2228
Revised Code, all proceedings involving child support, the 2229
allocation of parental rights and responsibilities for the care 2230
of children and the designation for the children of a place of 2231
residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and visitation, 2232
and all post-decree proceedings and matters arising from those 2233
cases and proceedings, except in cases that for some special 2234
reason are assigned to another judge of the court of common 2235
pleas. The judge shall be charged with the assignment and 2236
division of the work of the division and with the employment and 2237
supervision of the personnel of the division. 2238

The judge shall designate the title, compensation, expense 2239
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 2240
personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 2241
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel of the 2242
division, in addition to other statutory duties, shall include 2243
the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, 2244
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, 2245
cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, and 2246
proceedings involving child support, the allocation of parental 2247
rights and responsibilities for the care of children and the 2248
designation for the children of a place of residence and legal 2249
custodian, parenting time, and visitation, and providing any 2250
counseling and conciliation services that the division makes 2251
available to persons, whether or not the persons are parties to 2252
an action pending in the division, who request the services. 2253

(U) In Medina county, the judge of the court of common 2254
pleas whose term begins January 1, 1995, and successors, shall 2255
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 2256
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges 2257
of the court of common pleas of Medina county and shall be 2258
elected and designated as judge of the court of common pleas, 2259
division of domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all 2260
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 2261
annulment cases, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the 2262
Revised Code, all proceedings involving child support, the 2263
allocation of parental rights and responsibilities for the care 2264
of children and the designation for the children of a place of 2265
residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and visitation, 2266
and all post-decree proceedings and matters arising from those 2267
cases and proceedings, except in cases that for some special 2268
reason are assigned to another judge of the court of common 2269

pleas. The judge shall be charged with the assignment and 2270
division of the work of the division and with the employment and 2271
supervision of the personnel of the division. 2272

The judge shall designate the title, compensation, expense 2273
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 2274
personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 2275
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel, in 2276
addition to other statutory duties, include the handling, 2277
servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution of 2278
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, cases arising 2279
under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, and proceedings 2280
involving child support, the allocation of parental rights and 2281
responsibilities for the care of children and the designation 2282
for the children of a place of residence and legal custodian, 2283
parenting time, and visitation, and providing counseling and 2284
conciliation services that the division makes available to 2285
persons, whether or not the persons are parties to an action 2286
pending in the division, who request the services. 2287

(V) In Fairfield county, the judge of the court of common 2288
pleas whose term begins January 2, 1995, and successors, shall 2289
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 2290
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other 2291
judges of the court of common pleas of Fairfield county and 2292
shall be elected and designated as judge of the court of common 2293
pleas, division of domestic relations. The judge shall be 2294
assigned all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, 2295
and annulment cases, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of 2296
the Revised Code, all proceedings involving child support, the 2297
allocation of parental rights and responsibilities for the care 2298
of children and the designation for the children of a place of 2299
residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and visitation, 2300

and all post-decree proceedings and matters arising from those 2301
cases and proceedings, except in cases that for some special 2302
reason are assigned to another judge of the court of common 2303
pleas. The judge also has concurrent jurisdiction with the 2304
probate-juvenile division of the court of common pleas of 2305
Fairfield county with respect to and may hear cases to determine 2306
the custody of a child, as defined in section 2151.011 of the 2307
Revised Code, who is not the ward of another court of this 2308
state, cases that are commenced by a parent, guardian, or 2309
custodian of a child, as defined in section 2151.011 of the 2310
Revised Code, to obtain an order requiring a parent of the child 2311
to pay child support for that child when the request for that 2312
order is not ancillary to an action for divorce, dissolution of 2313
marriage, annulment, or legal separation, a criminal or civil 2314
action involving an allegation of domestic violence, an action 2315
for support under Chapter 3115. of the Revised Code, or an 2316
action that is within the exclusive original jurisdiction of the 2317
probate-juvenile division of the court of common pleas of 2318
Fairfield county and that involves an allegation that the child 2319
is an abused, neglected, or dependent child, and post-decree 2320
proceedings and matters arising from those types of cases. 2321

The judge of the domestic relations division shall be 2322
charged with the assignment and division of the work of the 2323
division and with the employment and supervision of the 2324
personnel of the division. 2325

The judge shall designate the title, compensation, expense 2326
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 2327
personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 2328
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel of the 2329
division, in addition to other statutory duties, shall include 2330
the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, 2331

dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, 2332
cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, and 2333
proceedings involving child support, the allocation of parental 2334
rights and responsibilities for the care of children and the 2335
designation for the children of a place of residence and legal 2336
custodian, parenting time, and visitation, and providing any 2337
counseling and conciliation services that the division makes 2338
available to persons, regardless of whether the persons are 2339
parties to an action pending in the division, who request the 2340
services. When the judge hears a case to determine the custody 2341
of a child, as defined in section 2151.011 of the Revised Code, 2342
who is not the ward of another court of this state or a case 2343
that is commenced by a parent, guardian, or custodian of a 2344
child, as defined in section 2151.011 of the Revised Code, to 2345
obtain an order requiring a parent of the child to pay child 2346
support for that child when the request for that order is not 2347
ancillary to an action for divorce, dissolution of marriage, 2348
annulment, or legal separation, a criminal or civil action 2349
involving an allegation of domestic violence, an action for 2350
support under Chapter 3115. of the Revised Code, or an action 2351
that is within the exclusive original jurisdiction of the 2352
probate-juvenile division of the court of common pleas of 2353
Fairfield county and that involves an allegation that the child 2354
is an abused, neglected, or dependent child, the duties of the 2355
personnel of the domestic relations division also include the 2356
handling, servicing, and investigation of those types of cases. 2357

(W) (1) In Clark county, the judge of the court of common 2358
pleas whose term begins on January 2, 1995, and successors, 2359
shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 2360
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges 2361
of the court of common pleas of Clark county and shall be 2362

elected and designated as judge of the court of common pleas, 2363
domestic relations division. The judge shall have all the powers 2364
relating to juvenile courts, and all cases under Chapters 2151. 2365
and 2152. of the Revised Code and all parentage proceedings 2366
under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code over which the juvenile 2367
court has jurisdiction shall be assigned to the judge of the 2368
division of domestic relations. All divorce, dissolution of 2369
marriage, legal separation, annulment, uniform reciprocal 2370
support enforcement, and other cases related to domestic 2371
relations shall be assigned to the domestic relations division, 2372
and the presiding judge of the court of common pleas shall 2373
assign the cases to the judge of the domestic relations division 2374
and the judges of the general division. 2375

(2) In addition to the judge's regular duties, the judge 2376
of the division of domestic relations shall serve on the 2377
children services board and the county advisory board. 2378

(3) If the judge of the court of common pleas of Clark 2379
county, division of domestic relations, is sick, absent, or 2380
unable to perform that judge's judicial duties or if the 2381
presiding judge of the court of common pleas of Clark county 2382
determines that the volume of cases pending in the division of 2383
domestic relations necessitates it, the duties of the judge of 2384
the division of domestic relations shall be performed by the 2385
judges of the general division or probate division of the court 2386
of common pleas of Clark county, as assigned for that purpose by 2387
the presiding judge of that court, and the judges so assigned 2388
shall act in conjunction with the judge of the division of 2389
domestic relations of that court. 2390

(X) In Scioto county, the judge of the court of common 2391
pleas whose term begins January 2, 1995, and successors, shall 2392

have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 2393
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges 2394
of the court of common pleas of Scioto county and shall be 2395
elected and designated as judge of the court of common pleas, 2396
division of domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all 2397
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 2398
annulment cases, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the 2399
Revised Code, all proceedings involving child support, the 2400
allocation of parental rights and responsibilities for the care 2401
of children and the designation for the children of a place of 2402
residence and legal custodian, parenting time, visitation, and 2403
all post-decree proceedings and matters arising from those cases 2404
and proceedings, except in cases that for some special reason 2405
are assigned to another judge of the court of common pleas. The 2406
judge shall be charged with the assignment and division of the 2407
work of the division and with the employment and supervision of 2408
the personnel of the division. 2409

The judge shall designate the title, compensation, expense 2410
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 2411
personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 2412
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel, in 2413
addition to other statutory duties, include the handling, 2414
servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution of 2415
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, cases arising 2416
under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, and proceedings 2417
involving child support, the allocation of parental rights and 2418
responsibilities for the care of children and the designation 2419
for the children of a place of residence and legal custodian, 2420
parenting time, and visitation, and providing counseling and 2421
conciliation services that the division makes available to 2422
persons, whether or not the persons are parties to an action 2423

pending in the division, who request the services. 2424

(Y) In Auglaize county, the judge of the probate and 2425
juvenile divisions of the Auglaize county court of common pleas 2426
also shall be the administrative judge of the domestic relations 2427
division of the court and shall be assigned all divorce, 2428
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases 2429
coming before the court. The judge shall have all powers as 2430
administrator of the domestic relations division and shall have 2431
charge of the personnel engaged in handling, servicing, or 2432
investigating divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 2433
separation, and annulment cases, including any referees 2434
considered necessary for the discharge of the judge's various 2435
duties. 2436

(Z) (1) In Marion county, the judge of the court of common 2437
pleas whose term begins on February 9, 1999, and the successors 2438
to that judge, shall have the same qualifications, exercise the 2439
same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation 2440
as the other judges of the court of common pleas of Marion 2441
county and shall be elected and designated as judge of the court 2442
of common pleas, domestic relations-juvenile-probate division. 2443
Except as otherwise specified in this division, that judge, and 2444
the successors to that judge, shall have all the powers relating 2445
to juvenile courts, and all cases under Chapters 2151. and 2152. 2446
of the Revised Code, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of 2447
the Revised Code, all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 2448
separation, and annulment cases, all proceedings involving child 2449
support, the allocation of parental rights and responsibilities 2450
for the care of children and the designation for the children of 2451
a place of residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and 2452
visitation, and all post-decree proceedings and matters arising 2453
from those cases and proceedings shall be assigned to that judge 2454

and the successors to that judge. Except as provided in division 2455
(Z) (2) of this section and notwithstanding any other provision 2456
of any section of the Revised Code, on and after February 9, 2457
2003, the judge of the court of common pleas of Marion county 2458
whose term begins on February 9, 1999, and the successors to 2459
that judge, shall have all the powers relating to the probate 2460
division of the court of common pleas of Marion county in 2461
addition to the powers previously specified in this division, 2462
and shall exercise concurrent jurisdiction with the judge of the 2463
probate division of that court over all matters that are within 2464
the jurisdiction of the probate division of that court under 2465
Chapter 2101., and other provisions, of the Revised Code in 2466
addition to the jurisdiction of the domestic relations-juvenile- 2467
probate division of that court otherwise specified in division 2468
(Z) (1) of this section. 2469

(2) The judge of the domestic relations-juvenile-probate 2470
division of the court of common pleas of Marion county or the 2471
judge of the probate division of the court of common pleas of 2472
Marion county, whichever of those judges is senior in total 2473
length of service on the court of common pleas of Marion county, 2474
regardless of the division or divisions of service, shall serve 2475
as the clerk of the probate division of the court of common 2476
pleas of Marion county. 2477

(3) On and after February 9, 2003, all references in law 2478
to "the probate court," "the probate judge," "the juvenile 2479
court," or "the judge of the juvenile court" shall be construed, 2480
with respect to Marion county, as being references to both "the 2481
probate division" and "the domestic relations-juvenile-probate 2482
division" and as being references to both "the judge of the 2483
probate division" and "the judge of the domestic relations- 2484
juvenile-probate division." On and after February 9, 2003, all 2485

references in law to "the clerk of the probate court" shall be 2486
construed, with respect to Marion county, as being references to 2487
the judge who is serving pursuant to division (Z)(2) of this 2488
section as the clerk of the probate division of the court of 2489
common pleas of Marion county. 2490

(AA) In Muskingum county, the judge of the court of common 2491
pleas whose term begins on January 2, 2003, and successors, 2492
shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 2493
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other 2494
judges of the court of common pleas of Muskingum county and 2495
shall be elected and designated as the judge of the court of 2496
common pleas, division of domestic relations. The judge shall be 2497
assigned all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, 2498
and annulment cases, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of 2499
the Revised Code, all proceedings involving child support, the 2500
allocation of parental rights and responsibilities for the care 2501
of children and the designation for the children of a place of 2502
residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and visitation, 2503
and all post-decree proceedings and matters arising from those 2504
cases and proceedings, except in cases that for some special 2505
reason are assigned to another judge of the court of common 2506
pleas. The judge shall be charged with the assignment and 2507
division of the work of the division and with the employment and 2508
supervision of the personnel of the division. 2509

The judge shall designate the title, compensation, expense 2510
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 2511
personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 2512
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel of the 2513
division, in addition to other statutory duties, shall include 2514
the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, 2515
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, 2516

cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, and 2517
proceedings involving child support, the allocation of parental 2518
rights and responsibilities for the care of children and the 2519
designation for the children of a place of residence and legal 2520
custodian, parenting time, and visitation and providing any 2521
counseling and conciliation services that the division makes 2522
available to persons, whether or not the persons are parties to 2523
an action pending in the division, who request the services. 2524

(BB) In Henry county, the judge of the court of common 2525
pleas whose term begins on January 1, 2005, and successors, 2526
shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 2527
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other 2528
judge of the court of common pleas of Henry county and shall be 2529
elected and designated as the judge of the court of common 2530
pleas, division of domestic relations. The judge shall have all 2531
of the powers relating to juvenile courts, and all cases under 2532
Chapter 2151. or 2152. of the Revised Code, all parentage 2533
proceedings arising under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code over 2534
which the juvenile court has jurisdiction, all divorce, 2535
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, 2536
all proceedings involving child support, the allocation of 2537
parental rights and responsibilities for the care of children 2538
and the designation for the children of a place of residence and 2539
legal custodian, parenting time, and visitation, and all post- 2540
decree proceedings and matters arising from those cases and 2541
proceedings shall be assigned to that judge, except in cases 2542
that for some special reason are assigned to the other judge of 2543
the court of common pleas. 2544

(CC) (1) In Logan county, the judge of the court of common 2545
pleas whose term begins January 2, 2005, and the successors to 2546
that judge, shall have the same qualifications, exercise the 2547

same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation 2548
as the other judges of the court of common pleas of Logan county 2549
and shall be elected and designated as judge of the court of 2550
common pleas, family court division. Except as otherwise 2551
specified in this division, that judge, and the successors to 2552
that judge, shall have all the powers relating to juvenile 2553
courts, and all cases under Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the 2554
Revised Code, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the 2555
Revised Code, all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 2556
separation, and annulment cases, all proceedings involving child 2557
support, the allocation of parental rights and responsibilities 2558
for the care of children and designation for the children of a 2559
place of residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and 2560
visitation, and all post-decree proceedings and matters arising 2561
from those cases and proceedings shall be assigned to that judge 2562
and the successors to that judge. Notwithstanding any other 2563
provision of any section of the Revised Code, on and after 2564
January 2, 2005, the judge of the court of common pleas of Logan 2565
county whose term begins on January 2, 2005, and the successors 2566
to that judge, shall have all the powers relating to the probate 2567
division of the court of common pleas of Logan county in 2568
addition to the powers previously specified in this division and 2569
shall exercise concurrent jurisdiction with the judge of the 2570
probate division of that court over all matters that are within 2571
the jurisdiction of the probate division of that court under 2572
Chapter 2101., and other provisions, of the Revised Code in 2573
addition to the jurisdiction of the family court division of 2574
that court otherwise specified in division (CC) (1) of this 2575
section. 2576

(2) The judge of the family court division of the court of 2577
common pleas of Logan county or the probate judge of the court 2578

of common pleas of Logan county who is elected as the 2579
administrative judge of the family court division of the court 2580
of common pleas of Logan county pursuant to Rule 4 of the Rules 2581
of Superintendence shall be the clerk of the family court 2582
division of the court of common pleas of Logan county. 2583

(3) On and after April 5, 2019, all references in law to 2584
"the probate court," "the probate judge," "the juvenile court," 2585
or "the judge of the juvenile court" shall be construed, with 2586
respect to Logan county, as being references to both "the 2587
probate division" and the "family court division" and as being 2588
references to both "the judge of the probate division" and the 2589
"judge of the family court division." On and after April 5, 2590
2019, all references in law to "the clerk of the probate court" 2591
shall be construed, with respect to Logan county, as being 2592
references to the judge who is serving pursuant to division (CC) 2593
(2) of this section as the clerk of the family court division of 2594
the court of common pleas of Logan county. 2595

(DD) (1) In Champaign county, the judge of the court of 2596
common pleas whose term begins February 9, 2003, and the judge 2597
of the court of common pleas whose term begins February 10, 2598
2009, and the successors to those judges, shall have the same 2599
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 2600
receive the same compensation as the other judges of the court 2601
of common pleas of Champaign county and shall be elected and 2602
designated as judges of the court of common pleas, domestic 2603
relations-juvenile-probate division. Except as otherwise 2604
specified in this division, those judges, and the successors to 2605
those judges, shall have all the powers relating to juvenile 2606
courts, and all cases under Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the 2607
Revised Code, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the 2608
Revised Code, all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 2609

separation, and annulment cases, all proceedings involving child 2610
support, the allocation of parental rights and responsibilities 2611
for the care of children and the designation for the children of 2612
a place of residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and 2613
visitation, and all post-decree proceedings and matters arising 2614
from those cases and proceedings shall be assigned to those 2615
judges and the successors to those judges. Notwithstanding any 2616
other provision of any section of the Revised Code, on and after 2617
February 9, 2009, the judges designated by this division as 2618
judges of the court of common pleas of Champaign county, 2619
domestic relations-juvenile-probate division, and the successors 2620
to those judges, shall have all the powers relating to probate 2621
courts in addition to the powers previously specified in this 2622
division and shall exercise jurisdiction over all matters that 2623
are within the jurisdiction of probate courts under Chapter 2624
2101., and other provisions, of the Revised Code in addition to 2625
the jurisdiction of the domestic relations-juvenile-probate 2626
division otherwise specified in division (DD) (1) of this 2627
section. 2628

(2) On and after February 9, 2009, all references in law 2629
to "the probate court," "the probate judge," "the juvenile 2630
court," or "the judge of the juvenile court" shall be construed 2631
with respect to Champaign county as being references to the 2632
"domestic relations-juvenile-probate division" and as being 2633
references to the "judge of the domestic relations-juvenile- 2634
probate division." On and after February 9, 2009, all references 2635
in law to "the clerk of the probate court" shall be construed 2636
with respect to Champaign county as being references to the 2637
judge who is serving pursuant to Rule 4 of the Rules of 2638
Superintendence for the Courts of Ohio as the administrative 2639
judge of the court of common pleas, domestic relations-juvenile- 2640

probate division. 2641

(EE) In Delaware county, the judge of the court of common 2642
pleas whose term begins on January 1, 2017, and successors, 2643
shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 2644
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other 2645
judges of the court of common pleas of Delaware county and shall 2646
be elected and designated as the judge of the court of common 2647
pleas, division of domestic relations. Divorce, dissolution of 2648
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, including any 2649
post-decree proceedings, and cases involving questions of 2650
paternity, custody, visitation, child support, and the 2651
allocation of parental rights and responsibilities for the care 2652
of children, regardless of whether those matters arise in post- 2653
decree proceedings or involve children born between unmarried 2654
persons, shall be assigned to that judge, except cases that for 2655
some special reason are assigned to another judge of the court 2656
of common pleas. 2657

(FF) In Hardin county: 2658

(1) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term 2659
begins on January 1, 2023, and successors, shall have the same 2660
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 2661
receive the same compensation as the other judge of the court of 2662
common pleas of Hardin county and shall be elected and 2663
designated as the judge of the court of common pleas, division 2664
of domestic relations. The judge shall have all of the powers 2665
relating to juvenile courts, and all cases under Chapter 2151. 2666
or 2152. of the Revised Code, all parentage proceedings arising 2667
under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code over which the juvenile 2668
court has jurisdiction, all divorce, dissolution of marriage, 2669
legal separation, and annulment cases, civil protection orders 2670

issued under sections 2903.214 and 3113.31 of the Revised Code, 2671
all proceedings involving child support, the allocation of 2672
parental rights and responsibilities for the care of children 2673
and the designation for the children of a place of residence and 2674
legal custodian, parenting time, and visitation, and all post- 2675
decree proceedings and matters arising from those cases and 2676
proceedings shall be assigned to that judge, except in cases 2677
that for some special reason are assigned to the other judge of 2678
the court of common pleas. 2679

(2) The judge of the court of common pleas, general 2680
division, whose term begins on February 9, 2027, and successors, 2681
shall have assigned to the judge, in addition to all matters 2682
that are within the jurisdiction of the general division of the 2683
court of common pleas, all matters that are within the 2684
jurisdiction of the probate court under Chapter 2101., and other 2685
provisions, of the Revised Code. 2686

(GG) If a judge of the court of common pleas, division of 2687
domestic relations, or juvenile judge, of any of the counties 2688
mentioned in this section is sick, absent, or unable to perform 2689
that judge's judicial duties or the volume of cases pending in 2690
the judge's division necessitates it, the duties of that judge 2691
shall be performed by another judge of the court of common pleas 2692
of that county, assigned for that purpose by the presiding judge 2693
of the court of common pleas of that county to act in place of 2694
or in conjunction with that judge, as the case may require. 2695

Sec. 3794.09. Enforcement; Penalties. 2696

(A) Upon the receipt of a first report that a proprietor 2697
of a public place or place of employment or an individual has 2698
violated any provision of this chapter, the department of health 2699
or its designee shall investigate the report and, if it 2700

concludes that there was a violation, issue a warning letter to 2701
the proprietor or individual. 2702

(B) Upon a report of a second or subsequent violation of 2703
any provision of this chapter by a proprietor of a public place 2704
or place of employment or an individual, the department of 2705
health or its designee shall investigate the report. If the 2706
director of health or director's designee concludes, based on 2707
all of the information before ~~him or her~~ the director or the 2708
director's designee, that there was a violation, ~~he or she~~ the 2709
director or the director's designee shall impose a civil fine 2710
upon the proprietor or individual in accordance with the 2711
schedule of fines required to be promulgated under section 2712
3794.07 of ~~this chapter~~ the Revised Code. 2713

(C) Any proprietor or individual against whom a finding of 2714
a violation is made under this chapter may appeal the finding ~~to~~ 2715
~~the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas. Such appeal shall be~~ 2716
~~governed by the provisions of~~ in accordance with section 119.12 2717
of the Revised Code. 2718

(D) The director of health may institute an action in the 2719
court of common pleas seeking an order in equity against a 2720
proprietor or individual that has repeatedly violated the 2721
provisions of this chapter or fails to comply with its 2722
provisions. 2723

Sec. 3901.321. (A) For the purposes of this section: 2724

(1) "Acquiring party" means any person by whom or on whose 2725
behalf a merger or other acquisition of control is to be 2726
effected. 2727

(2) "Domestic insurer" includes any person controlling a 2728
domestic insurer unless the person, as determined by the 2729

superintendent of insurance, is either directly or through its 2730
affiliates primarily engaged in business other than the business 2731
of insurance. 2732

(3) "Person" does not include any securities broker 2733
holding, in the usual and customary broker's function, less than 2734
twenty per cent of the voting securities of an insurance company 2735
or of any person that controls an insurance company. 2736

(B) (1) Subject to compliance with division (B) (2) of this 2737
section, no person other than the issuer shall do any of the 2738
following if, as a result, the person would, directly or 2739
indirectly, including by means of conversion or the exercise of 2740
any right to acquire, be in control of a domestic insurer: 2741

(a) Make a tender offer for any voting security of a 2742
domestic insurer; 2743

(b) Make a request or invitation for tenders of any voting 2744
security of a domestic insurer; 2745

(c) Enter into any agreement to exchange securities of a 2746
domestic insurer; 2747

(d) Seek to acquire or acquire, in the open market or 2748
otherwise, any voting security of a domestic insurer; 2749

(e) Enter into an agreement to merge with, or otherwise to 2750
acquire control of, a domestic insurer. 2751

(2) (a) No person shall engage in any transaction described 2752
in division (B) (1) of this section, unless all of the following 2753
conditions are met: 2754

(i) The person has filed with the superintendent of 2755
insurance a statement containing the information required by 2756
division (C) of this section; 2757

(ii) The person has sent the statement to the domestic 2758
insurer; 2759

(iii) The offer, request, invitation, agreement, or 2760
acquisition has been approved by the superintendent in the 2761
manner provided in division (F) of this section. 2762

(b) The requirements of division (B) (2) (a) of this section 2763
shall be met at the time any offer, request, or invitation is 2764
made, or any agreement is entered into, or prior to the 2765
acquisition of the securities if no offer or agreement is 2766
involved. 2767

(3) Any controlling person of a domestic insurer seeking 2768
to divest its controlling interest in the domestic insurer shall 2769
file a confidential notice of its proposed divestiture with the 2770
superintendent at least thirty days prior to the cessation of 2771
control, and provide a copy of the confidential notice to the 2772
insurer. The superintendent may require the person seeking to 2773
divest the controlling interest to file for and obtain approval 2774
of the transaction. The information shall remain confidential 2775
until the conclusion of the transaction unless the 2776
superintendent, in the superintendent's discretion, determines 2777
that the confidential treatment will interfere with enforcement 2778
of this section. If the statement required by division (B) (2) of 2779
this section is otherwise filed with the superintendent in 2780
relation to all parties that acquire a controlling interest as a 2781
result of the divestiture, this division shall not apply. 2782

(C) The statement required by division (B) (2) of this 2783
section shall be made under oath or affirmation, and shall 2784
contain all of the following information: 2785

(1) The name and address of each acquiring party; 2786

(2) If the acquiring party is an individual, the 2787
individual's principal occupation and all offices and positions 2788
held during the past five years, and any conviction of crimes 2789
other than minor traffic violations during the past ten years; 2790

(3) If the acquiring party is not an individual, a report 2791
of the nature of its business operations during the past five 2792
years or for such lesser period as the acquiring party and any 2793
of its predecessors shall have been in existence; an informative 2794
description of the business intended to be done by the acquiring 2795
party and the acquiring party's subsidiaries; and a list of all 2796
individuals who are or who have been selected to become 2797
directors or executive officers of the acquiring party, who 2798
perform or will perform functions appropriate to such positions. 2799
The list shall include for each individual the information 2800
required by division (C)(2) of this section. 2801

(4) The source, nature, and amount of the consideration 2802
used or to be used in effecting the merger or other acquisition 2803
of control, a description of any transaction in which funds were 2804
or are to be obtained for any such purpose, including any pledge 2805
of the domestic insurer's stock, or the stock of any of its 2806
subsidiaries or controlling affiliates, and the identity of 2807
persons furnishing such consideration; 2808

(5) Fully audited financial information as to the earnings 2809
and financial condition of each acquiring party for its 2810
preceding five fiscal years, or for such lesser period as the 2811
acquiring party and any of its predecessors shall have been in 2812
existence, and similar unaudited information as of a date not 2813
earlier than ninety days prior to the filing of the statement; 2814

(6) Any plans or proposals which each acquiring party may 2815
have to liquidate such domestic insurer, to sell its assets or 2816

merge or consolidate it with any person, or to make any other 2817
material change in its business or corporate structure or 2818
management; 2819

(7) The number of shares of any security of such issuer or 2820
such controlling person that each acquiring party proposes to 2821
acquire, and the terms of the offer, request, invitation, 2822
agreement, or acquisition, and a statement as to the method by 2823
which the fairness of the proposal was determined; 2824

(8) The amount of each class of any security of such 2825
issuer or such controlling person which is beneficially owned or 2826
concerning which there is a right to acquire beneficial 2827
ownership by each acquiring party; 2828

(9) A full description of any contracts, arrangements, or 2829
understandings with respect to any security of such issuer or 2830
such controlling person in which any acquiring party is 2831
involved, including but not limited to transfer of any of the 2832
securities, joint ventures, loan or option arrangements, puts or 2833
calls, guarantees of loans, guarantees against loss or 2834
guarantees of profits, division of losses or profits, or the 2835
giving or withholding of proxies. The description shall identify 2836
the persons with whom such contracts, arrangements, or 2837
understandings have been made. 2838

(10) A description of the purchase of any security of such 2839
issuer or such controlling person during the year preceding the 2840
filing of the statement, by any acquiring party, including the 2841
dates of purchase, names of the purchasers, and consideration 2842
paid or agreed to be paid therefor; 2843

(11) A description of any recommendations to purchase any 2844
security of such issuer or such controlling person made during 2845

the year preceding the filing of the statement, by any acquiring 2846
party, or by anyone based upon interviews or at the suggestion 2847
of the acquiring party; 2848

(12) Copies of all tender offers for, requests, or 2849
invitations for tenders of, exchange offers for, and agreements 2850
to acquire or exchange any securities of such issuer or such 2851
controlling person, and, if distributed, of additional 2852
solicitation material relating thereto; 2853

(13) The terms of any agreement, contract, or 2854
understanding made with or proposed to be made with any broker 2855
or dealer as to solicitation of securities of such issuer or 2856
such controlling person for tender, and the amount of any fees, 2857
commissions, or other compensation to be paid to brokers or 2858
dealers with regard thereto; 2859

(14) With respect to proposed affiliations between 2860
depository institutions or any affiliate thereof, within the 2861
meaning of Title I, section 104(c) of the "Gramm-Leach-Bliley 2862
Act," Pub. L. No. 106-102, 113 Stat. 1338 (1999), and a domestic 2863
insurer, the proposed effective date of the acquisition or 2864
change of control; 2865

(15) An agreement by the person required to file the 2866
statement required by division (B) of this section that the 2867
person will provide the annual registration required by division 2868
(K) of section 3901.33 of the Revised Code for so long as the 2869
person has control of the domestic insurer; 2870

(16) An acknowledgment by the person required to file the 2871
statement required by division (B) of this section that the 2872
person and all subsidiaries within the person's control in the 2873
insurance holding company system will provide information to the 2874

superintendent upon request as necessary to evaluate enterprise 2875
risk to the insurer; 2876

(17) Such additional information as the superintendent may 2877
by rule prescribe as necessary or appropriate for the protection 2878
of policyholders of the domestic insurer or in the public 2879
interest. 2880

(D) (1) If the person required to file the statement 2881
required by division (B) (2) of this section is a partnership, 2882
limited partnership, syndicate, or other group, the 2883
superintendent may require that the information required by 2884
division (C) of this section be furnished with respect to each 2885
partner of such partnership or limited partnership, each member 2886
of such syndicate or group, and each person that controls such 2887
partner or member. If any such partner, member, or person is a 2888
corporation, or the person required to file the statement is a 2889
corporation, the superintendent may require that the information 2890
required by division (C) of this section be furnished with 2891
respect to the corporation, each officer and director of the 2892
corporation, and each person that is directly or indirectly the 2893
beneficial owner of more than ten per cent of the outstanding 2894
voting securities of the corporation. 2895

(2) If any material change occurs in the facts set forth 2896
in the statement required by division (B) (2) of this section, an 2897
amendment setting forth such change, together with copies of all 2898
documents and other material relevant to the change, shall be 2899
filed with the superintendent by the person subject to division 2900
(B) (2) of this section and sent to the domestic insurer within 2901
two business days after such person learns of the occurrence of 2902
the material change. 2903

(E) If any offer, request, invitation, agreement, or 2904

acquisition described in division (B)(1) of this section is 2905
proposed to be made by means of a registration statement under 2906
the "Securities Act of 1933," 48 Stat. 74, 15 U.S.C.A. 78a, or 2907
in circumstances requiring the disclosure of similar information 2908
under the "Securities Exchange Act of 1934," 48 Stat. 881, 15 2909
U.S.C.A. 78a, or under a state law requiring similar 2910
registration or disclosure, the person required to file the 2911
statement required by division (B)(2) of this section may use 2912
such documents in furnishing the information required by that 2913
statement. 2914

(F)(1) The superintendent shall approve any merger or 2915
other acquisition of control described in division (B)(1) of 2916
this section unless, after a public hearing, the superintendent 2917
finds that any of the following apply: 2918

(a) After the change of control, the domestic insurer 2919
would not be able to satisfy the requirements for the issuance 2920
of a license to write the line or lines of insurance for which 2921
it is presently licensed; 2922

(b) The effect of the merger or other acquisition of 2923
control would be substantially to lessen competition in 2924
insurance in this state or tend to create a monopoly; 2925

(c) The financial condition of any acquiring party is such 2926
as might jeopardize the financial stability of the domestic 2927
insurer, or prejudice the interests of its policyholders; 2928

(d) The plans or proposals that the acquiring party has to 2929
liquidate the domestic insurer, sell its assets, or consolidate 2930
or merge it with any person, or to make any other material 2931
change in its business or corporate structure or management, are 2932
unfair and unreasonable to policyholders of the domestic insurer 2933

and not in the public interest; 2934

(e) The competence, experience, and integrity of those 2935
persons that would control the operation of the domestic insurer 2936
are such that it would not be in the interest of policyholders 2937
of the domestic insurer and of the public to permit the merger 2938
or other acquisition of control; 2939

(f) The acquisition is likely to be hazardous or 2940
prejudicial to the insurance-buying public. 2941

(2) (a) Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, except for 2942
section 119.09 of the Revised Code, applies to any hearing held 2943
under division (F) (1) of this section, including the notice of 2944
the hearing, the conduct of the hearing, the orders issued 2945
pursuant to it, the review of the orders, and all other matters 2946
relating to the holding of the hearing, but only to the extent 2947
that Chapter 119. of the Revised Code is not inconsistent or in 2948
conflict with this section. 2949

(b) The notice of a hearing required under this division 2950
shall be transmitted by personal service, certified mail, e- 2951
mail, or any other method designed to ensure and confirm receipt 2952
of the notice, to the persons and addresses designated to 2953
receive notices and correspondence in the information statement 2954
filed under division (B) (2) of this section. Confirmation of 2955
receipt of the notice, including electronic "Read Receipt" 2956
confirmation, shall constitute evidence of compliance with the 2957
requirement of this section. The notice of hearing shall include 2958
the reasons for the proposed action and a statement informing 2959
the acquiring party that the party is entitled to a hearing. The 2960
notice also shall inform the acquiring party that at the hearing 2961
the acquiring party may appear in person, by attorney, or by 2962
such other representative as is permitted to practice before the 2963

superintendent, or that the acquiring party may present its 2964
position, arguments, or contentions in writing, and that at the 2965
hearing the acquiring party may present evidence and examine 2966
witnesses appearing for and against the acquiring party. A copy 2967
of the notice also shall be transmitted to attorneys or other 2968
representatives of record representing the acquiring party. 2969

(c) The hearing shall be held at the offices of the 2970
superintendent within ten calendar days, but not earlier than 2971
seven calendar days, of the date of transmission of the notice 2972
of hearing by any means, unless it is postponed or continued; 2973
but in no event shall the hearing be held unless notice is 2974
received at least three days prior to the hearing. The 2975
superintendent may postpone or continue the hearing upon receipt 2976
of a written request by an acquiring party, or upon the 2977
superintendent's motion, provided, however, a hearing in 2978
connection with a proposed change of control involving a 2979
depository institution or any affiliate thereof, within the 2980
meaning of Title I, section 104(c) of the "Gramm-Leach-Bliley 2981
Act," Pub. L. No. 106-102, 113 Stat. 1338 (1999), and a domestic 2982
insurer, may be postponed or continued only upon the request of 2983
an acquiring party, or upon the superintendent's motion when the 2984
acquiring party agrees in writing to extend the sixty-day period 2985
provided for in section 104(c) of the "Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act," 2986
by a number of days equal to the number of days of such 2987
postponement or continuance. 2988

(d) For the purpose of conducting any hearing held under 2989
this section, the superintendent may require the attendance of 2990
such witnesses and the production of such books, records, and 2991
papers as the superintendent desires, and may take the 2992
depositions of witnesses residing within or without the state in 2993
the same manner as is prescribed by law for the taking of 2994

depositions in civil actions in the court of common pleas, and 2995
for that purpose the superintendent may, and upon the request of 2996
an acquiring party shall, issue a subpoena for any witnesses or 2997
a subpoena duces tecum to compel the production of any books, 2998
records, or papers, directed to the sheriff of the county where 2999
such witness resides or is found, which shall be served and 3000
returned in the same manner as a subpoena in a criminal case is 3001
served and returned. The fees of the sheriff shall be the same 3002
as that allowed in the court of common pleas in criminal cases. 3003
Witnesses shall be paid the fees and mileage provided for under 3004
section 119.094 of the Revised Code. Fees and mileage shall be 3005
paid from the fund in the state treasury for the use of the 3006
superintendent in the same manner as other expenses of the 3007
superintendent are paid. In any case of disobedience or neglect 3008
of any subpoena served on any person or the refusal of any 3009
witness to testify in any matter regarding which the witness may 3010
lawfully be interrogated, the court of common pleas of any 3011
county where such disobedience, neglect, or refusal occurs or 3012
any judge thereof, on application by the superintendent, shall 3013
compel obedience by attachment proceedings for contempt, as in 3014
the case of disobedience of the requirements of a subpoena 3015
issued from the court or a refusal to testify therein. 3016

In any hearing held under this section, a record of the 3017
testimony, as provided by stenographic means or by use of audio 3018
electronic recording devices, as determined by the 3019
superintendent, and other evidence submitted shall be taken at 3020
the expense of the superintendent. The record shall include all 3021
of the testimony and other evidence, and rulings on the 3022
admissibility thereof, presented at the hearing. 3023

The superintendent shall pass upon the admissibility of 3024
evidence, but a party to the proceedings may at that time object 3025

to the rulings of the superintendent, and if the superintendent 3026
refuses to admit evidence, the party offering the evidence shall 3027
proffer the evidence. The proffer shall be made a part of the 3028
record of the hearing. 3029

In any hearing held under this section, the superintendent 3030
may call any person to testify under oath as upon cross- 3031
examination. The superintendent, or any one delegated by the 3032
superintendent to conduct a hearing, may administer oaths or 3033
affirmations. 3034

In any hearing under this section, the superintendent may 3035
appoint a hearing officer to conduct the hearing; the hearing 3036
officer has the same powers and authority in conducting the 3037
hearing as is granted to the superintendent. The hearing officer 3038
shall have been admitted to the practice of law in the state and 3039
be possessed of any additional qualifications as the 3040
superintendent requires. The hearing officer shall submit to the 3041
superintendent a written report setting forth the hearing 3042
officer's finding of fact and conclusions of law and a 3043
recommendation of the action to be taken by the superintendent. 3044
A copy of the written report and recommendation shall, within 3045
seven days of the date of filing thereof, be served upon the 3046
acquiring party or the acquiring party's attorney or other 3047
representative of record, by personal service, certified mail, 3048
electronic mail, or any other method designed to ensure and 3049
confirm receipt of the report. The acquiring party may, within 3050
three days of receipt of the copy of the written report and 3051
recommendation, file with the superintendent written objections 3052
to the report and recommendation, which objections the 3053
superintendent shall consider before approving, modifying, or 3054
disapproving the recommendation. The superintendent may grant 3055
extensions of time to the acquiring party within which to file 3056

such objections. No recommendation of the hearing officer shall 3057
be approved, modified, or disapproved by the superintendent 3058
until after three days following the service of the report and 3059
recommendation as provided in this section. The superintendent 3060
may order additional testimony to be taken or permit the 3061
introduction of further documentary evidence. The superintendent 3062
may approve, modify, or disapprove the recommendation of the 3063
hearing officer, and the order of the superintendent based on 3064
the report, recommendation, transcript of testimony, and 3065
evidence, or the objections of the acquiring party, and 3066
additional testimony and evidence shall have the same effect as 3067
if the hearing had been conducted by the superintendent. No such 3068
recommendation is final until confirmed and approved by the 3069
superintendent as indicated by the order entered in the record 3070
of proceedings, and if the superintendent modifies or 3071
disapproves the recommendations of the hearing officer, the 3072
reasons for the modification or disapproval shall be included in 3073
the record of proceedings. 3074

After the order is entered, the superintendent shall 3075
transmit in the manner and by any of the methods set forth in 3076
division (F)(2)(b) of this section a certified copy of the order 3077
and a statement of the time and method by which an appeal may be 3078
perfected. A copy of the order shall be mailed to the attorneys 3079
or other representatives of record representing the acquiring 3080
party. 3081

(e) An order of disapproval issued by the superintendent 3082
may be appealed to the court of common pleas ~~of Franklin county~~ 3083
in accordance with section 119.12 of the Revised Code by filing 3084
a notice of appeal with the superintendent and a copy of the 3085
notice of appeal with the court, within fifteen calendar days 3086
after the transmittal of the copy of the order of disapproval. 3087

The notice of appeal shall set forth the order appealed from and 3088
the grounds for appeal, in accordance with section 119.12 of the 3089
Revised Code. 3090

(3) The superintendent may retain at the acquiring party's 3091
expense any attorneys, actuaries, accountants, and other experts 3092
not otherwise a part of the superintendent's staff as may be 3093
reasonably necessary to assist the superintendent in reviewing 3094
the proposed acquisition of control. 3095

(G) This section does not apply to either of the 3096
following: 3097

(1) Any transaction that is subject to section 3921.14, or 3098
sections 3925.27 to 3925.31, 3941.35 to 3941.46, or section 3099
3953.19 of the Revised Code; 3100

(2) Any offer, request, invitation, agreement, or 3101
acquisition that the superintendent by order exempts from this 3102
section on either of the following bases: 3103

(a) It has not been made or entered into for the purpose 3104
and does not have the effect of changing or influencing the 3105
control of a domestic insurer; 3106

(b) It is not otherwise comprehended within the purposes 3107
of this section. 3108

(H) Nothing in this section or in any other section of 3109
Title XXXIX of the Revised Code shall be construed to impair the 3110
authority of the attorney general to investigate or prosecute 3111
actions under any state or federal antitrust law with respect to 3112
any merger or other acquisition involving domestic insurers. 3113

(I) In connection with a proposed change of control 3114
involving a depository institution or any affiliate thereof, 3115

within the meaning of Title I, section 104(c) of the "Gramm- 3116
Leach-Bliley Act," Pub. L. No. 106-102, 113 Stat. 1338 (1999), 3117
and a domestic insurer, not later than sixty days after the date 3118
of the notification of the proposed change in control submitted 3119
pursuant to division (B)(2) of this section, the superintendent 3120
shall make any determination that the person acquiring control 3121
of the insurer shall maintain or restore the capital of the 3122
insurer to the level required by the laws and regulations of 3123
this state. 3124

Sec. 3913.13. Any policyholder adversely affected by an 3125
order of the superintendent of insurance pursuant to division 3126
(F) of section 3913.11 of the Revised Code, may appeal to the 3127
court of common pleas ~~of Franklin county~~ pursuant to section 3128
119.12 of the Revised Code. 3129

Sec. 3913.23. Any policyholder adversely affected by an 3130
order of the superintendent of insurance pursuant to division 3131
(F) of section 3913.21 of the Revised Code, may appeal to the 3132
court of common pleas ~~of Franklin county~~ pursuant to section 3133
119.12 of the Revised Code. 3134

Sec. 5101.35. (A) As used in this section: 3135

(1)(a) "Agency" means the following entities that 3136
administer a family services program: 3137

(i) The department of job and family services; 3138

(ii) A county department of job and family services; 3139

(iii) A public children services agency; 3140

(iv) A private or government entity administering, in 3141
whole or in part, a family services program for or on behalf of 3142
the department of job and family services or a county department 3143

of job and family services or public children services agency. 3144

(b) If the department of medicaid contracts with the 3145
department of job and family services to hear appeals authorized 3146
by section 5160.31 of the Revised Code regarding medical 3147
assistance programs, "agency" includes the department of 3148
medicaid. 3149

(2) "Appellant" means an applicant, participant, former 3150
participant, recipient, or former recipient of a family services 3151
program who is entitled by federal or state law to a hearing 3152
regarding a decision or order of the agency that administers the 3153
program. 3154

(3) (a) "Family services program" means all of the 3155
following: 3156

(i) A Title IV-A program as defined in section 5101.80 of 3157
the Revised Code; 3158

(ii) Programs that provide assistance under Chapter 5104. 3159
of the Revised Code; 3160

(iii) Programs that provide assistance under section 3161
5101.141, 5101.461, 5101.54, 5119.41, 5153.163, or 5153.165 of 3162
the Revised Code; 3163

(iv) Title XX social services provided under section 3164
5101.46 of the Revised Code, other than such services provided 3165
by the department of mental health and addiction services, the 3166
department of developmental disabilities, a board of alcohol, 3167
drug addiction, and mental health services, or a county board of 3168
developmental disabilities. 3169

(b) If the department of medicaid contracts with the 3170
department of job and family services to hear appeals authorized 3171

by section 5160.31 of the Revised Code regarding medical 3172
assistance programs, "family services program" includes medical 3173
assistance programs. 3174

(4) "Medical assistance program" has the same meaning as 3175
in section 5160.01 of the Revised Code. 3176

(B) Except as provided by divisions (G) and (H) of this 3177
section, an appellant who appeals under federal or state law a 3178
decision or order of an agency administering a family services 3179
program shall, at the appellant's request, be granted a state 3180
hearing by the department of job and family services. This state 3181
hearing shall be conducted in accordance with rules adopted 3182
under this section. The state hearing shall be recorded, but 3183
neither the recording nor a transcript of the recording shall be 3184
part of the official record of the proceeding. Except as 3185
provided in section 5160.31 of the Revised Code, a state hearing 3186
decision is binding upon the agency and department, unless it is 3187
reversed or modified on appeal to the director of job and family 3188
services or a court of common pleas. 3189

(C) Except as provided by division (G) of this section, an 3190
appellant who disagrees with a state hearing decision may make 3191
an administrative appeal to the director of job and family 3192
services in accordance with rules adopted under this section. 3193
This administrative appeal does not require a hearing, but the 3194
director or the director's designee shall review the state 3195
hearing decision and previous administrative action and may 3196
affirm, modify, remand, or reverse the state hearing decision. 3197
An administrative appeal decision is the final decision of the 3198
department and, except as provided in section 5160.31 of the 3199
Revised Code, is binding upon the department and agency, unless 3200
it is reversed or modified on appeal to the court of common 3201

pleas. 3202

(D) An agency shall comply with a decision issued pursuant 3203
to division (B) or (C) of this section within the time limits 3204
established by rules adopted under this section. If a county 3205
department of job and family services or a public children 3206
services agency fails to comply within these time limits, the 3207
department may take action pursuant to section 5101.24 of the 3208
Revised Code. If another agency, other than the department of 3209
medicaid, fails to comply within the time limits, the department 3210
may force compliance by withholding funds due the agency or 3211
imposing another sanction established by rules adopted under 3212
this section. 3213

(E) An appellant who disagrees with an administrative 3214
appeal decision of the director of job and family services or 3215
the director's designee issued under division (C) of this 3216
section may appeal from the decision to the court of common 3217
pleas pursuant to section 119.12 of the Revised Code. The appeal 3218
shall be governed by section 119.12 of the Revised Code except 3219
that: 3220

~~(1) The person may appeal to the court of common pleas of 3221
the county in which the person resides, or to the court of 3222
common pleas of Franklin county if the person does not reside in 3223
this state. 3224~~

~~(2)~~ The person may apply to the court for designation as 3225
an indigent and, if the court grants this application, the 3226
appellant shall not be required to furnish the costs of the 3227
appeal. 3228

~~(3)~~ (2) The appellant shall mail the notice of appeal to 3229
the department of job and family services and file notice of 3230

appeal with the court within thirty days after the department 3231
mails the administrative appeal decision to the appellant. For 3232
good cause shown, the court may extend the time for mailing and 3233
filing notice of appeal, but such time shall not exceed six 3234
months from the date the department mails the administrative 3235
appeal decision. Filing notice of appeal with the court shall be 3236
the only act necessary to vest jurisdiction in the court. 3237

~~(4)~~ (3) The department shall be required to file a 3238
transcript of the testimony of the state hearing with the court 3239
only if the court orders the department to file the transcript. 3240
The court shall make such an order only if it finds that the 3241
department and the appellant are unable to stipulate to the 3242
facts of the case and that the transcript is essential to a 3243
determination of the appeal. The department shall file the 3244
transcript not later than thirty days after the day such an 3245
order is issued. 3246

(F) The department of job and family services shall adopt 3247
rules in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code to 3248
implement this section, including rules governing the following: 3249

(1) State hearings under division (B) of this section. The 3250
rules shall include provisions regarding notice of eligibility 3251
termination and the opportunity of an appellant appealing a 3252
decision or order of a county department of job and family 3253
services to request a county conference with the county 3254
department before the state hearing is held. 3255

(2) Administrative appeals under division (C) of this 3256
section; 3257

(3) Time limits for complying with a decision issued under 3258
division (B) or (C) of this section; 3259

(4) Sanctions that may be applied against an agency under 3260
division (D) of this section. 3261

(G) The department of job and family services may adopt 3262
rules in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code 3263
establishing an appeals process for an appellant who appeals a 3264
decision or order regarding a Title IV-A program identified 3265
under division (A)(4)(c), (d), (e), (f), or (g) of section 3266
5101.80 of the Revised Code that is different from the appeals 3267
process established by this section. The different appeals 3268
process may include having a state agency that administers the 3269
Title IV-A program pursuant to an interagency agreement entered 3270
into under section 5101.801 of the Revised Code administer the 3271
appeals process. 3272

(H) If an appellant receiving medicaid through a health 3273
insuring corporation that holds a certificate of authority under 3274
Chapter 1751. of the Revised Code is appealing a denial of 3275
medicaid services based on lack of medical necessity or other 3276
clinical issues regarding coverage by the health insuring 3277
corporation, the person hearing the appeal may order an 3278
independent medical review if that person determines that a 3279
review is necessary. The review shall be performed by a health 3280
care professional with appropriate clinical expertise in 3281
treating the recipient's condition or disease. The department 3282
shall pay the costs associated with the review. 3283

A review ordered under this division shall be part of the 3284
record of the hearing and shall be given appropriate evidentiary 3285
consideration by the person hearing the appeal. 3286

(I) The requirements of Chapter 119. of the Revised Code 3287
apply to a state hearing or administrative appeal under this 3288
section only to the extent, if any, specifically provided by 3289

rules adopted under this section. 3290

Sec. 5164.38. (A) As used in this section: 3291

(1) "Party" has the same meaning as in division (G) of 3292
section 119.01 of the Revised Code. 3293

(2) "Revalidate" means to approve a medicaid provider's 3294
continued enrollment as a medicaid provider in accordance with 3295
the revalidation process established in rules authorized by 3296
section 5164.32 of the Revised Code. 3297

(B) This section does not apply to either of the 3298
following: 3299

(1) Any action taken or decision made by the department of 3300
medicaid with respect to entering into or refusing to enter into 3301
a contract with a managed care organization pursuant to section 3302
5167.10 of the Revised Code; 3303

(2) Any action taken by the department under division (D) 3304
(2) of section 5124.60, division (D)(1) or (2) of section 3305
5124.61, or sections 5165.60 to 5165.89 of the Revised Code. 3306

(C) Except as provided in division (E) of this section and 3307
section 5164.58 of the Revised Code, the department shall do any 3308
of the following by issuing an order pursuant to an adjudication 3309
conducted in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code: 3310

(1) Refuse to enter into a provider agreement with a 3311
medicaid provider; 3312

(2) Refuse to revalidate a medicaid provider's provider 3313
agreement; 3314

(3) Suspend or terminate a medicaid provider's provider 3315
agreement; 3316

(4) Take any action based upon a final fiscal audit of a 3317
medicaid provider. 3318

(D) Any party who is adversely affected by the issuance of 3319
an adjudication order under division (C) of this section may 3320
appeal to the court of common pleas ~~of Franklin county~~ in 3321
accordance with section 119.12 of the Revised Code. 3322

(E) The department is not required to comply with division 3323
(C) (1), (2), or (3) of this section whenever any of the 3324
following occur: 3325

(1) The terms of a provider agreement require the medicaid 3326
provider to hold a license, permit, or certificate or maintain a 3327
certification issued by an official, board, commission, 3328
department, division, bureau, or other agency of state or 3329
federal government other than the department of medicaid, and 3330
the license, permit, certificate, or certification has been 3331
denied, revoked, not renewed, suspended, or otherwise limited. 3332

(2) The terms of a provider agreement require the medicaid 3333
provider to hold a license, permit, or certificate or maintain 3334
certification issued by an official, board, commission, 3335
department, division, bureau, or other agency of state or 3336
federal government other than the department of medicaid, and 3337
the provider has not obtained the license, permit, certificate, 3338
or certification. 3339

(3) The medicaid provider's application for a provider 3340
agreement is denied, or the provider's provider agreement is 3341
terminated or not revalidated, because of or pursuant to any of 3342
the following: 3343

(a) The termination, refusal to renew, or denial of a 3344
license, permit, certificate, or certification by an official, 3345

board, commission, department, division, bureau, or other agency 3346
of this state other than the department of medicaid, 3347
notwithstanding the fact that the provider may hold a license, 3348
permit, certificate, or certification from an official, board, 3349
commission, department, division, bureau, or other agency of 3350
another state; 3351

(b) Division (D) or (E) of section 5164.35 of the Revised 3352
Code; 3353

(c) The provider's termination, suspension, or exclusion 3354
from the medicare program or from another state's medicaid 3355
program and, in either case, the termination, suspension, or 3356
exclusion is binding on the provider's participation in the 3357
medicaid program in this state; 3358

(d) The provider's pleading guilty to or being convicted 3359
of a criminal activity materially related to either the medicare 3360
or medicaid program; 3361

(e) The provider or its owner, officer, authorized agent, 3362
associate, manager, or employee having been convicted of one of 3363
the offenses that caused the provider's provider agreement to be 3364
suspended pursuant to section 5164.36 of the Revised Code; 3365

(f) The provider's failure to provide the department the 3366
national provider identifier assigned the provider by the 3367
national provider system pursuant to 45 C.F.R. 162.408. 3368

(4) The medicaid provider's application for a provider 3369
agreement is denied, or the provider's provider agreement is 3370
terminated or suspended, as a result of action by the United 3371
States department of health and human services and that action 3372
is binding on the provider's medicaid participation. 3373

(5) The medicaid provider's provider agreement and 3374

medicaid payments to the provider are suspended under section 3375
5164.36 or 5164.37 of the Revised Code. 3376

(6) The medicaid provider's application for a provider 3377
agreement is denied because the provider's application was not 3378
complete; 3379

(7) The medicaid provider's provider agreement is 3380
converted under section 5164.32 of the Revised Code from a 3381
provider agreement that is not time-limited to a provider 3382
agreement that is time-limited. 3383

(8) Unless the medicaid provider is a nursing facility or 3384
ICF/IID, the provider's provider agreement is not revalidated 3385
pursuant to division (B)(1) of section 5164.32 of the Revised 3386
Code. 3387

(9) The medicaid provider's provider agreement is 3388
suspended, terminated, or not revalidated because of either of 3389
the following: 3390

(a) Any reason authorized or required by one or more of 3391
the following: 42 C.F.R. 455.106, 455.23, 455.416, 455.434, or 3392
455.450; 3393

(b) The provider has not billed or otherwise submitted a 3394
medicaid claim for two years or longer. 3395

(F) In the case of a medicaid provider described in 3396
division (E)(3)(f), (6), (7), or (9)(b) of this section, the 3397
department may take its action by sending a notice explaining 3398
the action to the provider. The notice shall be sent to the 3399
medicaid provider's address on record with the department. The 3400
notice may be sent by regular mail. 3401

(G) The department may withhold payments for medicaid 3402

services rendered by a medicaid provider during the pendency of 3403
proceedings initiated under division (C) (1), (2), or (3) of this 3404
section. If the proceedings are initiated under division (C) (4) 3405
of this section, the department may withhold payments only to 3406
the extent that they equal amounts determined in a final fiscal 3407
audit as being due the state. This division does not apply if 3408
the department fails to comply with section 119.07 of the 3409
Revised Code, requests a continuance of the hearing, or does not 3410
issue a decision within thirty days after the hearing is 3411
completed. This division does not apply to nursing facilities 3412
and ICFs/IID. 3413

Section 2. That existing sections 109.02, 119.12, 124.34, 3414
956.11, 956.15, 1901.02, 1901.021, 1901.041, 2301.03, 3794.09, 3415
3901.321, 3913.13, 3913.23, 5101.35, and 5164.38 of the Revised 3416
Code are hereby repealed. 3417

Section 3. All cases arising in Perry Township in Wood 3418
County that are pending in the Fostoria branch of the Tiffin- 3419
Fostoria Municipal Court on the effective date of this section 3420
shall be adjudicated by the Fostoria branch of the Tiffin- 3421
Fostoria Municipal Court. All cases arising in Perry Township in 3422
Wood County on or after the effective date of this section shall 3423
be brought before the Bowling Green Municipal Court. 3424

Section 4. Section 119.12 of the Revised Code is presented 3425
in this act as a composite of the section as amended by both 3426
H.B. 52 and H.B. 64 of the 131st General Assembly. The General 3427
Assembly, applying the principle stated in division (B) of 3428
section 1.52 of the Revised Code that amendments are to be 3429
harmonized if reasonably capable of simultaneous operation, 3430
finds that the composite is the resulting version of the section 3431
in effect prior to the effective date of the section as 3432

presented in this act.

3433