

responsible for public records shall transmit a copy of a public record to any person by United States mail or by any other means of delivery or transmission within a reasonable period of time after receiving the request for the copy. The public office or person responsible for the public record may require the person making the request to pay in advance the cost of postage if the copy is transmitted by United States mail or the cost of delivery if the copy is transmitted other than by United States mail, and to pay in advance the costs incurred for other supplies used in the mailing, delivery, or transmission.

Any public office may adopt a policy and procedures that it will follow in transmitting, within a reasonable period of time after receiving a request, copies of public records by United States mail or by any other means of delivery or transmission pursuant to this division. A public office that adopts a policy and procedures under this division shall comply with them in performing its duties under this division.

In any policy and procedures adopted under this division, a public office may limit the number of records requested by a person that the office will transmit by United States mail to ten per month, unless the person certifies to the office in writing that the person does not intend to use or forward the requested records, or the information contained in them, for commercial purposes. For purposes of this division, "commercial" shall be narrowly construed and does not include reporting or gathering news, reporting or gathering information to assist citizen oversight or understanding of the operation or activities of government, or nonprofit educational research.

(8) A public office or person responsible for public records is not required to permit a person who is incarcerated pursuant to a criminal conviction or a juvenile adjudication to inspect or to obtain a copy of any public record concerning a criminal investigation or prosecution or concerning what would be a criminal investigation or prosecution if the subject of the investigation or prosecution were an adult, unless the request to inspect or to obtain a copy of the record is for the purpose of acquiring information that is subject to release as a public record under this section and the judge who imposed the sentence or made the adjudication with respect to the person, or the judge's successor in office, finds that the information sought in the public record is necessary to support what appears to be a justiciable claim of the person.

(9)(a) Upon written request made and signed by a journalist on or after December 16, 1999, a public office, or person responsible for public records, having custody of the records of the agency employing a specified peace officer, parole officer, prosecuting attorney, assistant prosecuting

attorney, correctional employee, youth services employee, firefighter, EMT, or investigator of the bureau of criminal identification and investigation shall disclose to the journalist the address of the actual personal residence of the peace officer, parole officer, prosecuting attorney, assistant prosecuting attorney, correctional employee, youth services employee, firefighter, EMT, or investigator of the bureau of criminal identification and investigation and, if the peace officer's, parole officer's, prosecuting attorney's, assistant prosecuting attorney's, correctional employee's, youth services employee's, firefighter's, EMT's, or investigator of the bureau of criminal identification and investigation's spouse, former spouse, or child is employed by a public office, the name and address of the employer of the peace officer's, parole officer's, prosecuting attorney's, assistant prosecuting attorney's, correctional employee's, youth services employee's, firefighter's, EMT's, or investigator of the bureau of criminal identification and investigation's spouse, former spouse, or child. The request shall include the journalist's name and title and the name and address of the journalist's employer and shall state that disclosure of the information sought would be in the public interest.

(b) Division (B)(9)(a) of this section also applies to journalist requests for customer information maintained by a municipally owned or operated public utility, other than social security numbers and any private financial information such as credit reports, payment methods, credit card numbers, and bank account information.

(c) As used in this division (B)(9) of this section, "journalist" means a person engaged in, connected with, or employed by any news medium, including a newspaper, magazine, press association, news agency, or wire service, a radio or television station, or a similar medium, for the purpose of gathering, processing, transmitting, compiling, editing, or disseminating information for the general public.

(C)(1) If a person allegedly is aggrieved by the failure of a public office or the person responsible for public records to promptly prepare a public record and to make it available to the person for inspection in accordance with division (B) of this section or by any other failure of a public office or the person responsible for public records to comply with an obligation in accordance with division (B) of this section, the person allegedly aggrieved may commence a mandamus action to obtain a judgment that orders the public office or the person responsible for the public record to comply with division (B) of this section, that awards court costs and reasonable attorney's fees to the person that instituted the mandamus action, and, if applicable, that includes an order fixing statutory damages under division (C)(1) of this section. The mandamus action may be commenced in the court of common

pleas of the county in which division (B) of this section allegedly was not complied with, in the supreme court pursuant to its original jurisdiction under Section 2 of Article IV, Ohio Constitution, or in the court of appeals for the appellate district in which division (B) of this section allegedly was not complied with pursuant to its original jurisdiction under Section 3 of Article IV, Ohio Constitution.

If a requestor transmits a written request by hand delivery or certified mail to inspect or receive copies of any public record in a manner that fairly describes the public record or class of public records to the public office or person responsible for the requested public records, except as otherwise provided in this section, the requestor shall be entitled to recover the amount of statutory damages set forth in this division if a court determines that the public office or the person responsible for public records failed to comply with an obligation in accordance with division (B) of this section.

The amount of statutory damages shall be fixed at one hundred dollars for each business day during which the public office or person responsible for the requested public records failed to comply with an obligation in accordance with division (B) of this section, beginning with the day on which the requester files a mandamus action to recover statutory damages, up to a maximum of one thousand dollars. The award of statutory damages shall not be construed as a penalty, but as compensation for injury arising from lost use of the requested information. The existence of this injury shall be conclusively presumed. The award of statutory damages shall be in addition to all other remedies authorized by this section.

The court may reduce an award of statutory damages or not award statutory damages if the court determines both of the following:

(a) That, based on the ordinary application of statutory law and case law as it existed at the time of the conduct or threatened conduct of the public office or person responsible for the requested public records that allegedly constitutes a failure to comply with an obligation in accordance with division (B) of this section and that was the basis of the mandamus action, a well-informed public office or person responsible for the requested public records reasonably would believe that the conduct or threatened conduct of the public office or person responsible for the requested public records did not constitute a failure to comply with an obligation in accordance with division (B) of this section;

(b) That a well-informed public office or person responsible for the requested public records reasonably would believe that the conduct or threatened conduct of the public office or person responsible for the requested public records would serve the public policy that underlies the

authority that is asserted as permitting that conduct or threatened conduct.

(2)(a) If the court issues a writ of mandamus that orders the public office or the person responsible for the public record to comply with division (B) of this section and determines that the circumstances described in division (C)(1) of this section exist, the court shall determine and award to the relator all court costs.

(b) If the court renders a judgment that orders the public office or the person responsible for the public record to comply with division (B) of this section, the court may award reasonable attorney's fees subject to reduction as described in division (C)(2)(c) of this section. The court shall award reasonable attorney's fees, subject to reduction as described in division (C)(2)(c) of this section when either of the following applies:

(i) The public office or the person responsible for the public records failed to respond affirmatively or negatively to the public records request in accordance with the time allowed under division (B) of this section.

(ii) The public office or the person responsible for the public records promised to permit the relator to inspect or receive copies of the public records requested within a specified period of time but failed to fulfill that promise within that specified period of time.

(c) Court costs and reasonable attorney's fees awarded under this section shall be construed as remedial and not punitive. Reasonable attorney's fees shall include reasonable fees incurred to produce proof of the reasonableness and amount of the fees and to otherwise litigate entitlement to the fees. The court may reduce an award of attorney's fees to the relator or not award attorney's fees to the relator if the court determines both of the following:

(i) That, based on the ordinary application of statutory law and case law as it existed at the time of the conduct or threatened conduct of the public office or person responsible for the requested public records that allegedly constitutes a failure to comply with an obligation in accordance with division (B) of this section and that was the basis of the mandamus action, a well-informed public office or person responsible for the requested public records reasonably would believe that the conduct or threatened conduct of the public office or person responsible for the requested public records did not constitute a failure to comply with an obligation in accordance with division (B) of this section;

(ii) That a well-informed public office or person responsible for the requested public records reasonably would believe that the conduct or threatened conduct of the public office or person responsible for the requested public records as described in division (C)(2)(c)(i) of this section

would serve the public policy that underlies the authority that is asserted as permitting that conduct or threatened conduct.

(D) Chapter 1347. of the Revised Code does not limit the provisions of this section.

(E)(1) To ensure that all employees of public offices are appropriately educated about a public office's obligations under division (B) of this section, all elected officials or their appropriate designees shall attend training approved by the attorney general as provided in section 109.43 of the Revised Code. In addition, all public offices shall adopt a public records policy in compliance with this section for responding to public records requests. In adopting a public records policy under this division, a public office may obtain guidance from the model public records policy developed and provided to the public office by the attorney general under section 109.43 of the Revised Code. Except as otherwise provided in this section, the policy may not limit the number of public records that the public office will make available to a single person, may not limit the number of public records that it will make available during a fixed period of time, and may not establish a fixed period of time before it will respond to a request for inspection or copying of public records, unless that period is less than eight hours.

(2) The public office shall distribute the public records policy adopted by the public office under division (E)(1) of this section to the employee of the public office who is the records custodian or records manager or otherwise has custody of the records of that office. The public office shall require that employee to acknowledge receipt of the copy of the public records policy. The public office shall create a poster that describes its public records policy and shall post the poster in a conspicuous place in the public office and in all locations where the public office has branch offices. The public office may post its public records policy on the internet web site of the public office if the public office maintains an internet web site. A public office that has established a manual or handbook of its general policies and procedures for all employees of the public office shall include the public records policy of the public office in the manual or handbook.

(F)(1) The bureau of motor vehicles may adopt rules pursuant to Chapter 119. of the Revised Code to reasonably limit the number of bulk commercial special extraction requests made by a person for the same records or for updated records during a calendar year. The rules may include provisions for charges to be made for bulk commercial special extraction requests for the actual cost of the bureau, plus special extraction costs, plus ten per cent. The bureau may charge for expenses for redacting information,

the release of which is prohibited by law.

(2) As used in division (F)(1) of this section:

(a) "Actual cost" means the cost of depleted supplies, records storage media costs, actual mailing and alternative delivery costs, or other transmitting costs, and any direct equipment operating and maintenance costs, including actual costs paid to private contractors for copying services.

(b) "Bulk commercial special extraction request" means a request for copies of a record for information in a format other than the format already available, or information that cannot be extracted without examination of all items in a records series, class of records, or data base by a person who intends to use or forward the copies for surveys, marketing, solicitation, or resale for commercial purposes. "Bulk commercial special extraction request" does not include a request by a person who gives assurance to the bureau that the person making the request does not intend to use or forward the requested copies for surveys, marketing, solicitation, or resale for commercial purposes.

(c) "Commercial" means profit-seeking production, buying, or selling of any good, service, or other product.

(d) "Special extraction costs" means the cost of the time spent by the lowest paid employee competent to perform the task, the actual amount paid to outside private contractors employed by the bureau, or the actual cost incurred to create computer programs to make the special extraction. "Special extraction costs" include any charges paid to a public agency for computer or records services.

(3) For purposes of divisions (F)(1) and (2) of this section, "surveys, marketing, solicitation, or resale for commercial purposes" shall be narrowly construed and does not include reporting or gathering news, reporting or gathering information to assist citizen oversight or understanding of the operation or activities of government, or nonprofit educational research.

Sec. 153.01. (A) Whenever any building or structure for the use of the state or any institution supported in whole or in part by the state or in or upon the public works of the state that is administered by the director of administrative services or by any other state officer or state agency authorized by law to administer a project, including an educational institution listed in section 3345.50 of the Revised Code, is to be erected or constructed, whenever additions, alterations, or structural or other improvements are to be made, or whenever heating, cooling, or ventilating plants or other equipment is to be installed or material supplied therefor, the aggregate estimated cost of which amounts to fifty two hundred thousand dollars or more, or the amount determined pursuant to section 153.53 of the

Revised Code or more, each officer, board, or other authority upon which devolves the duty of constructing, erecting, altering, or installing the same, referred to in sections 153.01 to 153.60 of the Revised Code as the ~~owner~~ public authority, shall cause to be made, by an architect or engineer whose contract of employment shall be prepared and approved by the attorney general, the following:

~~(A)~~(1) Full and accurate plans, suitable for the use of mechanics and other builders in the construction, improvement, addition, alteration, or installation;

~~(B)~~(2) Details to scale and full-sized, so drawn and represented as to be easily understood;

~~(C)~~ ~~Accurate bills showing the exact quantity of different kinds of material necessary to the construction;~~

~~(D)~~(3) Definite and complete specifications of the work to be performed, together with directions that will enable a competent mechanic or other builder to carry them out and afford bidders all needful information;

~~(E)~~(4) A full and accurate estimate of each item of expense and the aggregate cost of those items of expense;

~~(F)~~(5) A life-cycle cost analysis;

~~(G)~~(6) Further data as may be required by the department of administrative services.

(B) Division (A) of this section shall not be required with respect to a construction management contract entered into with a construction manager at risk as described in section 9.334 of the Revised Code or a design-build contract entered into with a design-build firm as described in section 153.693 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 153.02. (A) The director of administrative services, on the director's own initiative or upon request of the Ohio school facilities commission, may debar a contractor from contract awards for public improvements as referred to in section 153.01 of the Revised Code or for projects as defined in section 3318.01 of the Revised Code, upon proof that the contractor has done any of the following:

(1) Defaulted on a contract requiring the execution of a takeover agreement as set forth in division (B) of section 153.17 of the Revised Code;

(2) Knowingly failed during the course of a contract to maintain the coverage required by the bureau of workers' compensation;

(3) Knowingly failed during the course of a contract to maintain the contractor's drug-free workplace program as required by the contract;

(4) Knowingly failed during the course of a contract to maintain insurance required by the contract or otherwise by law, resulting in a

substantial loss to the owner, as owner is referred to in section 153.01 of the Revised Code, or to the commission and school district board, as provided in division (F) of section 3318.08 of the Revised Code;

(5) Misrepresented the firm's qualifications in the selection process set forth in sections 153.65 to 153.71 or section 3318.10 of the Revised Code;

(6) Been convicted of a criminal offense related to the application for or performance of any public or private contract, including, but not limited to, embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, receiving stolen property, and any other offense that directly reflects on the contractor's business integrity;

(7) Been convicted of a criminal offense under state or federal antitrust laws;

(8) Deliberately or willfully submitted false or misleading information in connection with the application for or performance of a public contract;

(9) Been debarred from bidding on or participating in a contract with any state or federal agency.

(B) When the director reasonably believes that grounds for debarment exist, the director shall send the contractor a notice of proposed debarment indicating the grounds for the proposed debarment and the procedure for requesting a hearing on the proposed debarment. The hearing shall be conducted in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code. If the contractor does not respond with a request for a hearing in the manner specified in Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, the director shall issue the debarment decision without a hearing and shall notify the contractor of the decision by certified mail, return receipt requested.

(C) The director shall determine the length of the debarment period and may rescind the debarment at any time upon notification to the contractor. During the period of debarment, the contractor is not eligible to bid for or participate in any contract for a public improvement as referred to in section 153.01 of the Revised Code or for a project as defined in section 3318.01 of the Revised Code. After the debarment period expires, the contractor shall be eligible to bid for and participate in such contracts ~~for a public improvement as referred to in section 153.01 of the Revised Code~~.

(D) The director, through the office of the state architect, shall maintain a list of all contractors currently debarred under this section. Any governmental entity awarding a contract for construction of a public improvement or project may use a contractor's presence on the debarment list to determine whether a contractor is responsible or best under section 9.312 or any other section of the Revised Code in the award of a contract.

Sec. 153.03. (A) As used in this section:

(1) "Contracting authority" means any state agency or other state instrumentality that is authorized to award a public improvement contract.

(2) "Bidder" means a person who submits a bid to a contracting authority to perform work under a public improvement contract.

(3) "Contractor" means any person with whom a contracting authority has entered into a public improvement contract to provide labor for a public improvement and includes a construction manager at risk and a design-build firm.

(4) "Subcontractor" means any person who undertakes to provide any part of the labor on the site of a public improvement under a contract with any person other than the contracting authority, including all such persons in any tier.

(5) "Construction manager" ~~means a person with substantial discretion and authority to plan, coordinate, manage, and direct all phases of a project for the construction, demolition, alteration, repair, or reconstruction of any public building, structure, or other improvement~~ has the same meaning as in section 9.33 of the Revised Code.

(6) "Construction manager at risk" has the same meaning as in section 9.33 of the Revised Code.

(7) "Design-build firm" has the same meaning as in section 153.65 of the Revised Code.

(8) "Labor" means any activity performed by a person that contributes to the direct installation of a product, component, or system, or that contributes to the direct removal of a product, component, or system.

~~(7)~~(9) "Public improvement contract" means any contract that is financed in whole or in part with money appropriated by the general assembly, or that is financed in any manner by a contracting authority, and that is awarded by a contracting authority for the construction, alteration, or repair of any public building, public highway, or other public improvement.

~~(8)~~(10) "State agency" means every organized body, office, or agency established by the laws of this state for the exercise of any function of state government.

(B) A contracting authority shall not award a public improvement contract to a bidder, and a construction manager at risk or design-build firm shall not award a subcontract, unless the contract or subcontract contains both of the following:

(1) The statements described in division (E) of this section;

(2) Terms that require the contractor or subcontractor to be enrolled in and be in good standing in the drug-free workplace program of the bureau of workers' compensation or a comparable program approved by the bureau

that requires an employer to do all of the following:

(a) Develop, implement, and provide to all employees a written substance use policy that conveys full and fair disclosure of the employer's expectations that no employee be at work with alcohol or drugs in the employee's system, and specifies the consequences for violating the policy.

(b) Conduct drug and alcohol tests on employees in accordance with division (B)(2)(c) of this section and under the following conditions:

(i) Prior to an individual's employment or during an employee's probationary period for employment, which shall not exceed one hundred twenty days after the probationary period begins;

(ii) At random intervals while an employee provides labor or ~~on-site~~ on-site supervision of labor for a public improvement contract. The employer shall use the neutral selection procedures required by the United States department of transportation to determine which employees to test and when to test those employees.

(iii) After an accident at the site where labor is being performed pursuant to a public improvement contract. For purposes of this division, "accident" has the meaning established in rules the administrator of workers' compensation adopts pursuant to Chapters 4121. and 4123. of the Revised Code for the bureau's drug-free workplace program, as those rules exist on ~~the effective date of this section~~ March 30, 2007.

(iv) When the employer ~~or a~~ construction manager, construction manager at risk, or design-build firm has reasonable suspicion that prior to an accident an employee may be in violation of the employer's written substance use policy. For purposes of this division, "reasonable suspicion" has the meaning established in rules the administrator adopts pursuant to Chapters 4121. and 4123. of the Revised Code for the bureau's drug-free workplace program, as those rules exist on ~~the effective date of this section~~ March 30, 2007.

(v) Prior to an employee returning to a work site to provide labor for a public improvement contract after the employee tested positive for drugs or alcohol, and again after the employee returns to that site to provide labor under that contract, as required by either the employer, ~~the~~ construction manager, construction manager at risk, design-build firm, or conditions in the contract.

(c) Use the following types of tests when conducting a test on an employee under the conditions described in division (B)(2)(b) of this section:

(i) Drug and alcohol testing that uses the federal testing model that the administrator has incorporated into the bureau's drug-free workplace

program;

(ii) Testing to determine whether the concentration of alcohol on an employee's breath is equal to or in excess of the level specified in division (A)(1)(d) or (h) of section 4511.19 of the Revised Code, which is obtained through an evidentiary breath test conducted by a breath alcohol technician using breath testing equipment that meets standards established by the United States department of transportation, or, if such technician and equipment are unavailable, a blood test may be used to determine whether the concentration of alcohol in an employee's blood is equal to or in excess of the level specified in division (A)(1)(b) or (f) of section 4511.19 of the Revised Code.

(d) Require all employees to receive at least one hour of training that increases awareness of and attempts to deter substance abuse and supplies information about employee assistance to deal with substance abuse problems, and require all supervisors to receive one additional hour of training in skill building to teach a supervisor how to observe and document employee behavior and intervene when reasonable suspicion exists of substance use;

(e) Require all supervisors and employees to receive the training described in division (B)(2)(d) of this section before work for a public improvement contract commences or during the term of a public improvement contract;

(f) Require that the training described in division (B)(2)(d) of this section be provided using material prepared by an individual who has credentials or experience in substance abuse training;

(g) Assist employees by providing, at a minimum, a list of community resources from which an employee may obtain help with substance abuse problems, except that this requirement does not preclude an employer from having a policy that allows an employer to terminate an employee's employment the first time the employee tests positive for drugs or alcohol or if an employee refuses to be tested for drugs, alcohol, or both.

(C) Any time the United States department of health and human services changes the federal testing model that the administrator has incorporated into the bureau's drug-free workplace program in a manner that allows additional or new products, protocols, procedures, and standards in the model, the administrator may adopt rules establishing standards to allow employers to use those additional or new products, protocols, procedures, or standards to satisfy the requirements of division (B)(2)(c) of this section, and the bureau may approve an employer's drug-free workplace program that meets the administrator's standards and the other requirements specified

in division (B)(2) of this section.

(D) A contracting authority shall ensure that money appropriated by the general assembly for the contracting authority's public improvement contract or, in the case of a state institution of higher education, the institution's financing for the public improvement contract, is not expended unless the contractor for that contract is enrolled in and in good standing in a drug-free workplace program described in division (B) of this section. Prior to awarding a contract to a bidder, a contracting authority shall verify that the bidder is enrolled in and in good standing in such a program.

(E) A contracting authority shall include all of the following statements in the public improvement contract entered into between the contracting authority and a contractor for the public improvement:

(1) "Each contractor shall require all subcontractors with whom the contractor is in contract for the public improvement to be enrolled in and be in good standing in the Bureau of Workers' Compensation's Drug-Free Workplace Program or a comparable program approved by the Bureau that meets the requirements specified in section 153.03 of the Revised Code prior to a subcontractor providing labor at the project site of the public improvement."

(2) "Each subcontractor shall require all lower-tier subcontractors with whom the subcontractor is in contract for the public improvement to be enrolled in and be in good standing in the Bureau of Workers' Compensation's Drug-Free Workplace Program or a comparable program approved by the Bureau that meets the requirements specified in section 153.03 of the Revised Code prior to a lower-tier subcontractor providing labor at the project site of the public improvement."

(3) "Failure of a contractor to require a subcontractor to be enrolled in and be in good standing in the Bureau of Workers' Compensation's Drug-Free Workplace Program or a comparable program approved by the Bureau that meets the requirements specified in section 153.03 of the Revised Code prior to the time that the subcontractor provides labor at the project site will result in the contractor being found in breach of the contract and that breach shall be used in the responsibility analysis of that contractor or the subcontractor who was not enrolled in a program for future contracts with the state for five years after the date of the breach."

(4) "Failure of a subcontractor to require a lower-tier subcontractor to be enrolled in and be in good standing in the Bureau of Workers' Compensation's Drug-Free Workplace Program or a comparable program approved by the Bureau that meets the requirements specified in section 153.03 of the Revised Code prior to the time that the lower-tier

subcontractor provides labor at the project site will result in the subcontractor being found in breach of the contract and that breach shall be used in the responsibility analysis of that subcontractor or the lower-tier subcontractor who was not enrolled in a program for future contracts with the state for five years after the date of the breach."

(F) In the event a construction manager, construction manager at risk, or design-build firm intends and is authorized to provide labor for a public improvement contract, a contracting authority shall verify, prior to awarding a contract for construction management services or design-build services, that the construction manager, construction manager at risk, or design-build firm was enrolled in and in good standing in a drug-free workplace program described in division (B) of this section prior to entering into the public improvement contract. The contracting authority shall not award a contract for construction manager services ~~to a construction manager or design-build services~~ if the construction manager, construction manager at risk, or design-build firm is not enrolled in or in good standing in such a program.

Sec. 153.07. The notice provided for in section 153.06 of the Revised Code shall be published once each week for three consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation, or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code, in the county where the activity for which bids are submitted is to occur and in such other newspapers as ordered by the department of administrative services, the last publication to be at least eight days preceding the day for opening the bids, and in such form and with such phraseology as the department orders. Copies of the plans, details, ~~bills of material~~, estimates of cost, and specifications shall be open to public inspection at all business hours between the day of the first publication and the day for opening the bids, at the office of the department where the bids are received, and such other place as may be designated in such notice.

Sec. 153.08. On the day and at the place named in the notice provided for in section 153.06 of the Revised Code, the owner referred to in section 153.01 of the Revised Code shall open the bids and shall publicly, with the assistance of the architect or engineer, immediately proceed to tabulate the bids upon duplicate sheets. The public bid opening may be broadcast by electronic means pursuant to rules established by the director of administrative services. A bid shall be invalid and not considered unless a bid guaranty meeting the requirements of section 153.54 of the Revised Code and in the form approved by the department of administrative services is filed with such bid ~~and unless such~~. For a bid that is not filed electronically, the bid and bid guaranty are shall be filed in one sealed envelope. If the bid and bid guaranty are filed electronically, they must be

received electronically before the deadline published pursuant to section 153.06 of the Revised Code. For all bids filed electronically, the original, unaltered bid guaranty shall be made available to the public authority after the public bid opening. After investigation, which shall be completed within thirty days, the contract shall be awarded by such owner to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder in accordance with section 9.312 of the Revised Code.

No contract shall be entered into until the industrial commission has certified that the person so awarded the contract has complied with sections 4123.01 to 4123.94 of the Revised Code, until, if the bidder so awarded the contract is a foreign corporation, the secretary of state has certified that such corporation is authorized to do business in this state, until, if the bidder so awarded the contract is a person nonresident of this state, such person has filed with the secretary of state a power of attorney designating the secretary of state as its agent for the purpose of accepting service of summons in any action brought under section 153.05 of the Revised Code or under sections 4123.01 to 4123.94 of the Revised Code, and until the contract and bond, if any, are submitted to the attorney general and the attorney general's approval certified thereon.

No contract shall be entered into unless the bidder possesses a valid certificate of compliance with affirmative action programs issued pursuant to section 9.47 of the Revised Code and dated no earlier than one hundred eighty days prior to the date fixed for the opening of bids for a particular project.

Sec. 153.50. (A) ~~As~~ As used in sections 153.50 to 153.52 of the Revised Code:

(1) "Construction manager at risk" has the same meaning as in section 9.33 of the Revised Code.

(2) "Design-assist services" means monitoring and assisting in the completion of the plans and specifications.

(3) "Design-assist firm" means a person capable of providing design-assist services.

(4) "Design-build firm" has the same meaning as in section 153.65 of the Revised Code.

(5) "General contracting" means constructing and managing an entire public improvement project, including the branches or classes of work specified in division (B) of this section, under the award of a single aggregate lump sum contract.

(6) "General contracting firm" means a person capable of performing general contracting.

(B) Except for contracts made with a construction manager at risk, with a design-build firm, or with a general contracting firm, an officer, board, or other authority of the state, a county, township, municipal corporation, or school district, or of any public institution belonging thereto, authorized to contract for the erection, repair, alteration, or rebuilding of a public building, institution, bridge, culvert, or improvement and required by law to advertise and receive bids for furnishing of materials and doing the work necessary for the erection thereof, shall require separate and distinct bids to be made for furnishing such materials or doing such work, or both, in their discretion, for each of the following branches or classes of work to be performed, and all work kindred thereto, entering into the improvement:

- (1) Plumbing and gas fitting;
- (2) Steam and hot-water heating, ventilating apparatus, and steam-power plant;
- (3) Electrical equipment.

(B) A public authority is not required to solicit separate bids for a branch or class of work specified in division (A) of this section for an improvement if the estimated cost for that branch or class of work is less than five thousand dollars.

Sec. 153.501. (A) A public authority may accept a subcontract awarded by a construction manager at risk, a design-build firm, or a general contracting firm, or may reject any such subcontract if the public authority determines that the bidder is not responsible.

(B) A public authority may authorize a construction manager at risk or design-build firm to utilize a design-assist firm on any public improvement project without transferring any design liability to the design-assist firm.

(C) If the construction manager at risk or design-build firm intends and is permitted by the public authority to self-perform a portion of the work to be performed, the construction manager at risk or design-build firm shall submit a sealed bid for the portion of the work prior to accepting and opening any bids for the same work.

Sec. 153.502. (A) Each construction manager at risk and design-build firm shall establish criteria by which it will prequalify prospective bidders on subcontracts awarded for work to be performed under the construction management or design-build contract. The criteria established by a construction manager at risk or design-build firm shall be subject to the approval of the public authority involved in the project and shall be consistent with the rules adopted by the department of administrative services pursuant to section 153.503 of the Revised Code.

(B) For each subcontract to be awarded, the construction manager at

risk or design-build firm shall identify at least three prospective bidders that are prequalified to bid on that subcontract, except that the construction manager at risk or design-build firm shall identify fewer than three if the construction manager at risk or design-build firm establishes to the satisfaction of the public authority that fewer than three prequalified bidders are available. The public authority shall verify that each prospective bidder meets the prequalification criteria and may eliminate any bidder it determines is not qualified.

(C) Once the prospective bidders are prequalified and found acceptable by the public authority, the construction manager at risk or design-build firm shall solicit proposals from each of those bidders. The solicitation and selection of a subcontractor shall be conducted under an open book pricing method. As used in this division, "open book pricing method" has the same meaning as in section 9.33 of the Revised Code, in the case of a construction manager at risk, and the same meaning as in section 153.65 of the Revised Code, in the case of a design-build firm.

(D) A construction manager at risk or design-build firm shall not be required to award a subcontract to a low bidder.

Sec. 153.503. The department of administrative services, pursuant to Chapter 119. of the Revised Code and not later than June 30, 2012, shall adopt rules to do all of the following:

(A) Prescribe the procedures and criteria for determining the best value selection of a construction manager at risk or design-build firm;

(B) In consultation with the state architect's office, set forth standards to be followed by construction managers at risk and design-build firms when establishing prequalification criteria pursuant to section 153.502 of the Revised Code;

(C) Prescribe the form for the contract documents to be used by a construction manager at risk, design-build firm, or general contractor when entering into a subcontract;

(D) Prescribe the form for the contract documents to be used by a public authority when entering into a contract with a construction manager at risk or design-build firm.

Sec. 153.51. (A) ~~When more than one branch or class of work specified in division (A) of~~ If separate and distinct bids are required pursuant to section 153.50 of the Revised Code ~~is required~~, no contract for the entire job, or for a greater portion thereof than is embraced in one such branch or class of work ~~shall~~ may be awarded, unless the separate bids do not cover all the work and materials required or the bids for the whole or for two or more kinds of work or materials are lower than the separate bids in the aggregate.

(B)(1) ~~The~~ If the public authority referred to in section 153.50 of the Revised Code also may award awards a single, aggregate contract for the entire project pursuant to division (A) of this section. ~~This, the~~ award shall be made to the bidder who is the lowest responsive and responsible bidder or the lowest and best bidder, as applicable, as specified in section 153.52 of the Revised Code.

(2) The public authority ~~referred to in section 153.50 of the Revised Code~~ may assign all or any portion of its interest in the contract of the lowest responsive and responsible bidder or the lowest and best bidder, as applicable, to another successful bidder as an agreed condition for an award of the contract for the amount of its respective bid. Such assignment may include, but is not limited to, the duty to schedule, coordinate, and administer the contracts.

~~(C) A public authority referred to in division (A) of section 153.50 of the Revised Code is not required to award separate contracts for a branch or class of work specified in division (A) of section 153.50 of the Revised Code entering into an improvement if the estimated cost for that branch or class of work is less than five thousand dollars.~~

Sec. 153.52. ~~The~~ A contract for general contracting or for doing the work belonging to each separate branch or class of work specified in division (A)(B) of section 153.50 of the Revised Code, or for the furnishing of materials therefor, or both, shall be awarded by the public authority referred to in section 153.50 of the Revised Code, in its discretion, to the lowest responsive and responsible separate bidder therefor, in accordance with section 9.312 of the Revised Code in the case of any public authority of the state or any public institution belonging thereto, and to the lowest and best separate bidder in the case of a county, township, or municipal corporation, ~~or school district,~~ or any public institution belonging thereto, and to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder in the case of a school district, and shall be made directly with the bidder in the manner and upon the terms, conditions, and limitations as to giving bond or bid guaranties as prescribed by law, ~~unless it is let as a whole, or to bidders for more than one kind of work or materials. Sections 153.50 to 153.52 of the Revised Code do not apply to the erection of buildings and other structures which cost less than fifty thousand dollars.~~

Sec. 153.53. (A) As used in this section, "rate of inflation" has the same meaning as in section 107.032 of the Revised Code.

(B) Five years after the effective date of this section and every five years thereafter, the director of administrative services shall evaluate the monetary threshold specified in section 153.01 of the Revised Code and

adopt rules adjusting that amount based on the average rate of inflation during each of the previous five years immediately preceding such adjustment.

Sec. 153.54. (A) ~~Each~~ Except with respect to a contract described in section 9.334 or 153.693 of the Revised Code, each person bidding for a contract with the state or any political subdivision, district, institution, or other agency thereof, excluding therefrom the department of transportation, for any public improvement shall file with the bid, a bid guaranty in the form of either:

(1) A bond in accordance with division (B) of this section for the full amount of the bid;

(2) A certified check, cashier's check, or letter of credit pursuant to Chapter 1305. of the Revised Code, in accordance with division (C) of this section. Any such letter of credit is revocable only at the option of the beneficiary state, political subdivision, district, institution, or agency. The amount of the certified check, cashier's check, or letter of credit shall be equal to ten per cent of the bid.

(B) A bid guaranty filed pursuant to division (A)(1) of this section shall be conditioned to:

(1) Provide that, if the bid is accepted, the bidder, after the awarding or the recommendation for the award of the contract, whichever the contracting authority designates, will enter into a proper contract in accordance with the bid, plans, details, and specifications, ~~and bills of material~~. If for any reason, other than as authorized by section 9.31 of the Revised Code or division (G) of this section, the bidder fails to enter into the contract, and the contracting authority awards the contract to the next lowest bidder, the bidder and the surety on the bidder's bond are liable to the state, political subdivision, district, institution, or agency for the difference between the bid and that of the next lowest bidder, or for a penal sum not to exceed ten per cent of the amount of the bond, whichever is less. If the state, political subdivision, district, institution, or agency does not award the contract to the next lowest bidder but resubmits the project for bidding, the bidder failing to enter into the contract and the surety on the bidder's bond, except as provided in division (G) of this section, are liable to the state, political subdivision, district, institution, or agency for a penal sum not to exceed ten per cent of the amount of the bid or the costs in connection with the resubmission of printing new contract documents, required advertising, and printing and mailing notices to prospective bidders, whichever is less.

(2) Indemnify the state, political subdivision, district, institution, or agency against all damage suffered by failure to perform the contract

according to its provisions and in accordance with the plans, details, and specifications, ~~and bills of material~~ therefor and to pay all lawful claims of subcontractors, material suppliers, and laborers for labor performed or material furnished in carrying forward, performing, or completing the contract; and agree and assent that this undertaking is for the benefit of any subcontractor, material supplier, or laborer having a just claim, as well as for the state, political subdivision, district, institution, or agency.

(C)(1) A bid guaranty filed pursuant to division (A)(2) of this section shall be conditioned to provide that if the bid is accepted, the bidder, after the awarding or the recommendation for the award of the contract, whichever the contracting authority designates, will enter into a proper contract in accordance with the bid, plans, details, specifications, and bills of material. If for any reason, other than as authorized by section 9.31 of the Revised Code or division (G) of this section, the bidder fails to enter into the contract, and the contracting authority awards the contract to the next lowest bidder, the bidder is liable to the state, political subdivision, district, institution, or agency for the difference between the bidder's bid and that of the next lowest bidder, or for a penal sum not to exceed ten per cent of the amount of the bid, whichever is less. If the state, political subdivision, district, institution, or agency does not award the contract to the next lowest bidder but resubmits the project for bidding, the bidder failing to enter into the contract, except as provided in division (G) of this section, is liable to the state, political subdivision, district, institution, or agency for a penal sum not to exceed ten per cent of the amount of the bid or the costs in connection with the resubmission, of printing new contract documents, required advertising, and printing and mailing notices to prospective bidders, whichever is less.

If the bidder enters into the contract, the bidder, at the time the contract is entered to, shall file a bond for the amount of the contract to indemnify the state, political subdivision, district, institution, or agency against all damage suffered by failure to perform the contract according to its provisions and in accordance with the plans, details, and specifications, ~~and bills of material therefor~~ and to pay all lawful claims of subcontractors, material suppliers, and laborers for labor performed or material furnished in carrying forward, performing, or completing the contract; and agree and assent that this undertaking is for the benefit of any subcontractor, material supplier, or laborer having a just claim, as well as for the state, political subdivision, district, institution, or agency.

(2) A construction manager who enters into a contract pursuant to sections 9.33 to 9.333 of the Revised Code, if required by the public owner

authority at the time the construction manager enters into the contract, shall file a letter of credit pursuant to Chapter 1305. of the Revised Code, bond, certified check, or cashier's check, for the value of the construction management contract to indemnify the state, political subdivision, district, institution, or agency against all damage suffered by the construction manager's failure to perform the contract according to its provisions, and shall agree and assent that this undertaking is for the benefit of the state, political subdivision, district, institution, or agency. A letter of credit provided by the construction manager is revocable only at the option of the beneficiary state, political subdivision, district, institution, or agency.

(D) Where the state, political subdivision, district, institution, or agency accepts a bid but the bidder fails or refuses to enter into a proper contract in accordance with the bid, plans, details, and specifications, ~~and bills of material~~ within ten days after the awarding of the contract, the bidder and the surety on any bond, except as provided in division (G) of this section, are liable for the amount of the difference between the bidder's bid and that of the next lowest bidder, but not in excess of the liability specified in division (B)(1) or (C) of this section. Where the state, political subdivision, district, institution, or agency then awards the bid to such next lowest bidder and such next lowest bidder also fails or refuses to enter into a proper contract in accordance with the bid, plans, details, and specifications, ~~and bills of material~~ within ten days after the awarding of the contract, the liability of such next lowest bidder, except as provided in division (G) of this section, is the amount of the difference between the bids of such next lowest bidder and the third lowest bidder, but not in excess of the liability specified in division (B)(1) or (C) of this section. Liability on account of an award to any lowest bidder beyond the third lowest bidder shall be determined in like manner.

(E) Notwithstanding division (C) of this section, where the state, political subdivision, district, institution, or agency resubmits the project for bidding, each bidder whose bid was accepted but who failed or refused to enter into a proper contract, except as provided in division (G) of this section, is liable for an equal share of a penal sum in connection with the resubmission, of printing new contract documents, required advertising, and printing and mailing notices to prospective bidders, but no bidder's liability shall exceed the amount of the bidder's bid guaranty.

(F) All bid guaranties filed pursuant to this section shall be payable to the state, political subdivision, district, institution, or agency, be for the benefit of the state, political subdivision, district, institution, or agency or any person having a right of action thereon, and be deposited with, and held

by, the board, officer, or agent contracting on behalf of the state, political subdivision, district, institution, or agency. All bonds filed pursuant to this section shall be issued by a surety company authorized to do business in this state as surety approved by the board, officer, or agent awarding the contract on behalf of the state, political subdivision, district, institution, or agency.

(G) A bidder for a contract with the state or any political subdivision, district, institution, or other agency thereof, excluding therefrom the Ohio department of transportation, for a public improvement costing less than one-half million dollars may withdraw the bid from consideration if the bidder's bid for some other contract with the state or any political subdivision, district, institution, or other agency thereof, excluding therefrom the department of transportation, for the public improvement costing less than one-half million dollars has already been accepted, if the bidder certifies in good faith that the total amount of all the bidder's current contracts is less than one-half million dollars, and if the surety certifies in good faith that the bidder is unable to perform the subsequent contract because to do so would exceed the bidder's bonding capacity. If a bid is withdrawn under authority of this division, the contracting authority may award the contract to the next lowest bidder or reject all bids and resubmit the project for bidding, and neither the bidder nor the surety on the bidder's bond are liable for the difference between the bidder's bid and that of the next lowest bidder, for a penal sum, or for the costs of printing new contract documents, required advertising, and printing and mailing notices to prospective bidders.

(H) Bid guaranties filed pursuant to division (A) of this section shall be returned to all unsuccessful bidders immediately after the contract is executed. The bid guaranty filed pursuant to division (A)(2) of this section shall be returned to the successful bidder upon filing of the bond required in division (C) of this section.

(I) For the purposes of this section, "next lowest bidder" means, in the case of a political subdivision that has adopted the model Ohio and United States preference requirements promulgated pursuant to division (E) of section 125.11 of the Revised Code, the next lowest bidder that qualifies under those preference requirements.

(J) For the purposes of this section and sections 153.56, 153.57, and 153.571 of the Revised Code, "public improvement," "subcontractor," "material supplier," "laborer," and "materials" have the same meanings as in section 1311.25 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 153.55. (A) For purposes of calculating the amount of a public improvement project to determine whether it is subject to section 153.01 of

the Revised Code, no officer, board, or other authority of the state or any institution supported by the state shall subdivide a public improvement project into component parts or separate projects in order to avoid the threshold of that section, unless the component parts or separate projects thus created are conceptually separate and unrelated to each other, or encompass independent or unrelated needs.

(B) In calculating the project amount for purposes of the threshold in section 153.01 of the Revised Code, the following expenses shall be included as costs of the project:

(1) Professional fees and expenses for services associated with the preparation of plans;

(2) Permit costs, testing costs, and other fees associated with the work;

(3) Project construction costs;

(4) A contingency reserve fund.

Sec. 153.56. (A) Any person to whom any money is due for labor or work performed or materials furnished in a public improvement as provided in section 153.54 of the Revised Code, at any time after performing the labor or work or furnishing the materials, but not later than ninety days after the completion of the contract by the principal contractor or design-build firm and the acceptance of the public improvement for which the bond was provided by the duly authorized board or officer, shall furnish the sureties on the bond, a statement of the amount due to the person.

(B) A suit shall not be brought against sureties on the bond until after sixty days after the furnishing of the statement described in division (A) of this section. If the indebtedness is not paid in full at the expiration of that sixty days, and if the person complies with division (C) of this section, the person may bring an action in the person's own name upon the bond, as provided in sections 2307.06 and 2307.07 of the Revised Code, that action to be commenced, notwithstanding section 2305.12 of the Revised Code, not later than one year from the date of acceptance of the public improvement for which the bond was provided.

(C) To exercise rights under this section, a subcontractor or materials supplier supplying labor or materials that cost more than thirty thousand dollars, who is not in direct privity of contract with the principal contractor or design-build firm for the public improvement, shall serve a notice of furnishing upon the principal contractor or design-build firm in the form provided in section 1311.261 of the Revised Code.

(D) A subcontractor or materials supplier who serves a notice of furnishing under division (C) of this section as required to exercise rights under this section has the right of recovery only as to amounts owed for

labor and work performed and materials furnished during and after the twenty-one days immediately preceding service of the notice of furnishing.

(E) For purposes of this section, ~~"principal:~~

(1) "Design-build firm" has the same meaning as in section 153.65 of the Revised Code.

(2) "Principal contractor" has the same meaning as in section 1311.25 of the Revised Code, and may include a "construction manager" and a "construction manager at risk" as defined in section 9.33 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 153.581. As used in sections 153.581 and 153.591 of the Revised Code:

(A) "Public works contract" means any contract awarded by a contracting authority for the construction, engineering, alteration, or repair of any public building, public highway, or other public work.

(B) "Contracting authority" means the state, any township, county, municipal corporation, school board, or other governmental entity empowered to award a public works contract, and any construction manager at risk as defined in section 9.33 of the Revised Code or design-build firm as defined in section 153.65 of the Revised Code awarding a subcontract.

(C) "Contractor" means any person, partnership, corporation, or association that has been awarded a public works contract.

Sec. 153.65. As used in sections 153.65 to ~~153.74~~ 153.73 of the Revised Code:

(A)(1) "Public authority" means the state, a state institution of higher education as defined in section 3345.011 of the Revised Code, a county, township, municipal corporation, school district, or other political subdivision, or any public agency, authority, board, commission, instrumentality, or special purpose district of the state or of a county, township, municipal corporation, school district, or other political subdivision.

(2) "Public authority" does not include the Ohio turnpike commission.

(B) "Professional design firm" means any person legally engaged in rendering professional design services.

(C) "Professional design services" means services within the scope of practice of an architect or landscape architect registered under Chapter 4703. of the Revised Code or a professional engineer or surveyor registered under Chapter 4733. of the Revised Code.

(D) "Qualifications" means all of the following:

(1) ~~Competence of the~~ (a) For a professional design firm, competence to perform the required professional design services as indicated by the

technical training, education, and experience of the firm's personnel, especially the technical training, education, and experience of the employees within the firm who would be assigned to perform the services;

(b) For a design-build firm, competence to perform the required design-build services as indicated by the technical training, education, and experience of the design-build firm's personnel and key consultants, especially the technical training, education, and experience of the employees and consultants of the design-build firm who would be assigned to perform the services, including the proposed architect or engineer of record.

(2) Ability of the firm in terms of its workload and the availability of qualified personnel, equipment, and facilities to perform the required professional design services or design-build services competently and expeditiously;

(3) Past performance of the firm as reflected by the evaluations of previous clients with respect to such factors as control of costs, quality of work, and meeting of deadlines;

(4) Any other relevant factors as determined by the public authority;

(5) With respect to a design-build firm, compliance with sections 4703.182, 4703.332, and 4733.16 of the Revised Code, including the use of a licensed design professional for all design services.

(E) "Design-build contract" means a contract between a public authority and another person that obligates the person to provide design-build services.

(F) "Design-build firm" means a person capable of providing design-build services.

(G) "Design-build services" means services that form an integrated delivery system for which a person is responsible to a public authority for both the design and construction, demolition, alteration, repair, or reconstruction of a public improvement.

(H) "Architect or engineer of record" means the architect or engineer that serves as the final signatory on the plans and specifications for the design-build project.

(I) "Criteria architect or engineer" means the architect or engineer retained by a public authority to prepare conceptual plans and specifications, to assist the public authority in connection with the establishment of the design criteria for a design-build project, and, if requested by the public authority, to serve as the representative of the public authority and provide, during the design-build project, other design and construction administration services on behalf of the public authority, including but not limited to, confirming that the design prepared by the design-build firm reflects the

original design intent established in the design criteria package.

(J) "Open book pricing method" means a method in which a design-build firm provides the public authority, at the public authority's request, all books, records, documents, contracts, subcontracts, purchase orders, and other data in its possession pertaining to the bidding, pricing, or performance of a contract for design-build services awarded to the design-build firm.

Sec. 153.66. (A) Each public authority planning to contract for professional design services or design-build services shall encourage professional design firms and design-build firms to submit a statement of qualifications and update the statements at regular intervals.

(B) Notwithstanding any contrary requirements in sections 153.65 to 153.70 of the Revised Code, for every design-build contract, each public authority planning to contract for design-build services shall evaluate the statements of qualifications submitted by design-build firms for the project, including the qualifications of the design-build firm's proposed architect or engineer of record, in consultation with the criteria architect or engineer before selecting a design-build firm pursuant to section 153.693 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 153.67. Each public authority planning to contract for professional design services or design-build services shall publicly announce all contracts available from it for such services. The announcements shall:

(A) Be made in a uniform and consistent manner and shall be made sufficiently in advance of the time that responses must be received from qualified professional design firms or design-build firms for the firms to have an adequate opportunity to submit a statement of interest in the project;

(B) Include a general description of the project, a statement of the specific professional design services or design-build services required, and a description of the qualifications required for the project;

(C) Indicate how qualified professional design firms or design-build firms may submit statements of qualifications in order to be considered for a contract to design or design-build the project;

(D) Be sent to ~~either~~ any of the following that the public authority considers appropriate:

~~(1) Each professional design firm that has a current statement of qualifications on file with the public authority and is qualified to perform the required professional design services~~ Design-build firms, including contractors or other entities that seek to perform the work as a design-build firm;

(2) Architect, landscape architect, engineer, and surveyor ~~trade~~

associations, ~~the~~;

(3) ~~The~~ news media, ~~and any~~;

(4) ~~Any~~ publications or other public media ~~that the public authority considers appropriate, including electronic media.~~

Sec. 153.69. For every professional design services contract, each public authority planning to contract for professional design services shall evaluate the statements of qualifications of ~~professional design firms currently on file, together with those that are~~ submitted by ~~other~~ professional design firms specifically regarding the project, and may hold discussions with individual firms to explore further the firms' statements of qualifications, the scope and nature of the services the firms would provide, and the various technical approaches the firms may take toward the project. Following this evaluation, the public authority shall:

(A) Select and rank no fewer than three firms which it considers to be the most qualified to provide the required professional design services, except when the public authority determines in writing that fewer than three qualified firms are available in which case the public authority shall select and rank those firms;

(B) Negotiate a contract with the firm ranked most qualified to perform the required services at a compensation determined in writing to be fair and reasonable to the public authority. Contract negotiations shall be directed toward:

(1) Ensuring that the professional design firm and the agency have a mutual understanding of the essential requirements involved in providing the required services;

(2) Determining that the firm will make available the necessary personnel, equipment, and facilities to perform the services within the required time;

(3) Agreeing upon compensation which is fair and reasonable, taking into account the estimated value, scope, complexity, and nature of the services.

(C) If a contract is negotiated with the firm ranked to perform the required services most qualified, the public authority shall, if applicable under section 127.16 of the Revised Code, request approval of the board to make expenditures under the contract.

(D) Upon failure to negotiate a contract with the firm ranked most qualified, the public authority shall inform the firm in writing of the termination of negotiations and may enter into negotiations with the firm ranked next most qualified. If negotiations again fail, the same procedure ~~shall~~ may be followed with each next most qualified firm selected and

ranked pursuant to division (A) of this section, in order of ranking, until a contract is negotiated.

(E) Should the public authority fail to negotiate a contract with any of the firms selected pursuant to division (A) of this section, the public authority ~~shall~~ may select and rank additional firms, based on their qualifications, and negotiations ~~shall~~ may continue as with the firms selected and ranked initially until a contract is negotiated.

(F) Nothing in this section affects a public authority's right to accept or reject any or all proposals in whole or in part.

Sec. 153.692. For every design-build contract, the public authority planning to contract for design-build services shall first obtain the services of a criteria architect or engineer by doing either of the following:

(A) Contracting for the services consistent with sections 153.65 to 153.70 of the Revised Code;

(B) Obtaining the services through an architect or engineer who is an employee of the public authority and notifying the department of administrative services before the services are performed.

Sec. 153.693. (A) For every design-build contract, the public authority planning to contract for design-build services, in consultation with the criteria architect or engineer, shall evaluate the statements of qualifications submitted by design-build firms specifically regarding the project, including the design-build firm's proposed architect or engineer of record. Following this evaluation, the public authority shall:

(1) Select and rank not fewer than three firms which it considers to be the most qualified to provide the required design-build services, except that the public authority shall select and rank fewer than three firms when the public authority determines in writing that fewer than three qualified firms are available;

(2) Provide each selected design-build firm with all of the following:

(a) A description of the project and project delivery;

(b) The design criteria produced by the criteria architect or engineer under section 153.692 of the Revised Code;

(c) A preliminary project schedule;

(d) A description of any preconstruction services;

(e) A description of the proposed design services;

(f) A description of a guaranteed maximum price, including the estimated level of design on which such guaranteed maximum price is based;

(g) The form of the design-build services contract;

(h) A request for a pricing proposal that shall be divided into a design

services fee and a preconstruction and design-build services fee. The pricing proposal of each design-build firm shall include at least all of the following:

- (i) A list of key personnel and consultants for the project;
- (ii) Design concepts adhering to the design criteria produced by the criteria architect or engineer under section 153.692 of the Revised Code;
- (iii) The design-build firm's statement of general conditions and estimated contingency requirements;
- (iv) A preliminary project schedule.

(3) Evaluate the pricing proposal submitted by each selected firm and, at its discretion, hold discussions with each firm to further investigate its pricing proposal, including the scope and nature of the firm's proposed services and potential technical approaches;

(4) Rank the selected firms based on the public authority's evaluation of the value of each firm's pricing proposal, with such evaluation considering each firm's proposed costs and qualifications;

(5) Enter into contract negotiations for design-build services with the design-build firm whose pricing proposal the public authority determines to be the best value under this section.

(B) In complying with division (A)(5) of this section, contract negotiations shall be directed toward:

(1) Ensuring that the design-build firm and the public authority mutually understand the essential requirements involved in providing the required design-build services, the provisions for the use of contingency funds, and the terms of the contract, including terms related to the possible distribution of savings in the final costs of the project;

(2) Ensuring that the design-build firm shall be able to provide the necessary personnel, equipment, and facilities to perform the design-build services within the time required by the design-build construction contract;

(3) Agreeing upon a procedure and schedule for determining a guaranteed maximum price using an open book pricing method that shall represent the total maximum amount to be paid by the public authority to the design-build firm for the project and that shall include the costs of all work, the cost of its general conditions, the contingency, and the fee payable to the design-build firm.

(C) If the public authority fails to negotiate a contract with the design-build firm whose pricing proposal the public authority determines to be the best value as determined under this section, the public authority shall inform the design-build firm in writing of the termination of negotiations. The public authority may then do the following:

(1) Negotiate a contract with a design-build firm ranked next highest

under this section following the negotiation procedure described in this section;

(2) If negotiations fail with the design-build firm under division (C)(1) of this section, negotiate a contract with the design-build firm ranked next highest under this section following the negotiation procedure described in this section and continue negotiating with the design-build firms selected under this section in the order of their ranking until a contract is negotiated.

(D) If the public authority fails to negotiate a contract with a design-build firm whose pricing proposal the public authority determines to be the best value as determined under this section, it may select additional design-build firms to provide pricing proposals to the public authority pursuant to this section or may select an alternative delivery method for the project.

(E) The public authority may provide a stipend for pricing proposals received from design-build firms.

(F) Nothing in this section affects a public authority's right to accept or reject any or all proposals in whole or in part.

Sec. 153.694. If a professional design firm selected as the criteria architect or engineer creates the preliminary criteria and design criteria for a project and provides professional design services to a public authority to assist that public authority in evaluating the design-build requirements provided to the public authority by a design-build firm pursuant to section 153.692 of the Revised Code, that professional design firm shall not provide any design-build services pursuant to the design-build contract under section 153.693 of the Revised Code for the project for which the professional design firm was selected as the criteria architect or engineer.

Sec. 153.70. (A) Except for any person providing professional design services of a research or training nature, any person rendering professional design services to a public authority or to a design-build firm, including a criteria architect or engineer and person performing architect or engineer of record services, shall have and maintain, or be covered by, during the period the services are rendered, a professional liability insurance policy or policies with a company or companies that are authorized to do business in this state and that afford professional liability coverage for the professional design services rendered. The insurance shall be in amount considered sufficient by the public authority. At the public authority's discretion, the design-build firm shall carry contractor's professional liability insurance and any other insurance the public authority considers appropriate.

(B) The requirement for professional liability insurance set forth in division (A) of this section may be waived by the public authority for good

cause, or the public authority may allow the person providing the professional design services to provide other assurances of financial responsibility.

(C) Before construction begins pursuant to a contract for design-build services with a design-build firm, the design-build firm shall provide a surety bond to the public authority in accordance with rules adopted by the director of administrative services under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code.

Sec. 153.71. Any public authority planning to contract for professional design services or design-build services may adopt, amend, or rescind rules, in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, to implement sections 153.66 to 153.70 of the Revised Code. Sections 153.66 to 153.70 of the Revised Code do not apply to ~~any~~ either of the following:

(A) Any project with an estimated professional design fee of less than ~~twenty-five~~ fifty thousand dollars; if both of the following requirements are met:

(1) The public authority selects a single design professional or firm from among those that have submitted a current statement of qualifications within the immediately preceding year, as provided under section 153.68 of the Revised Code, based on the public authority's determination that the selected design professional or firm is the most qualified to provide the required professional design services;

(2) The public authority and the selected design professional or firm comply with division (B) of section 153.69 of the Revised Code with respect to the negotiation of a contract.

(B) Any project determined in writing by the public authority head to be an emergency requiring immediate action including, but not limited to, any projects requiring multiple contracts let as part of a program requiring a large number of professional design firms of the same type;

~~(C) Any public authority that is not empowered by law to contract for professional design services.~~

Sec. 153.72. A design-build firm contracted for design-build services by a public authority may do either of the following:

(A) Perform design, construction, demolition, alteration, repair, or reconstruction work pursuant to such contract;

(B) Perform professional design services when contracted by a public authority for design-build services even if the design-build firm is not a professional design firm.

Sec. 153.73. The requirements set forth in sections 153.65 to 153.72 of the Revised Code for the bidding, selection, and award of a contract for professional design services or design-build services by a public authority

prevail in the event of any conflict with any other provision of this chapter.

Sec. 153.80. (A) A contract for the construction, demolition, alteration, repair, or reconstruction of a public improvement entered into on or after ~~the effective date of this section~~ April 16, 1993, shall be deemed to include the provisions contained in division (B) of this section.

(B)(1) In regard to any bond filed by the contractor for the work contracted, the contracting authority, in its sole discretion, may reduce the bond required by twenty-five per cent of the total amount of the bond after at least fifty per cent of the work contracted for has been completed and by fifty per cent after at least seventy-five per cent of the work contracted for has been completed provided that all of the following conditions are met:

(a) The contracting authority determines that the percentage of the work that has been completed at the time of determination has been satisfactorily performed and meets the terms of the contract, including a provision in regard to the time when the whole or any specified portion of work contemplated in the contract must be completed;

(b) The contracting authority determines that no disputed claim caused by the contractor exists or remains unresolved;

(c) The successful bid upon which the contract is based was not more than ten per cent below the next lowest bid or not more than ten per cent below a cost estimate for the work as published by the contracting authority.

(2) In regard to the amount of any funds retained, the contracting authority, in its sole discretion, may reduce the amount of funds retained pursuant to ~~section~~ sections 153.12 and 153.14 of the Revised Code for the faithful performance of work by fifty per cent of the amount of funds required to be retained pursuant to those sections, provided that the surety on the bond remains liable for all of the following that are caused due to default by the contractor:

(a) Completion of the job;

(b) All delay claims;

(c) All liquidated damages;

(d) All additional expenses incurred by the contracting authority.

(C) As used in this section:

(1) "Contracting authority" means an officer, board, or other authority of the state, a county, township, municipal corporation, or school district, or of any other political subdivision of the state, authorized to contract for the construction, demolition, alteration, repair, or reconstruction of a public improvement, and any construction manager at risk as defined in section 9.33 of the Revised Code or design-build firm as defined in section 153.65 of the Revised Code awarding a subcontract, but does not include an officer,

board, or other authority of the department of transportation.

(2) "Delay claim" means a claim that arises due to default on provisions in a contract in regard to the time when the whole or any specified portion of work contemplated in the contract must be completed.

Sec. 154.02. (A) Pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 154. of the Revised Code, the issuing authority may issue obligations as from time to time authorized by or pursuant to act or resolution of the general assembly, consistent with such limitations thereon, subject to section 154.12 of the Revised Code, as the general assembly may thereby prescribe as to principal amount, bond service charges, or otherwise, and shall cause the proceeds thereof to be applied to those capital facilities designated by or pursuant to act of the general assembly for any of the following:

(1) Mental hygiene and retardation, including housing for mental hygiene and retardation patients under Section 16 of Article VIII, Ohio Constitution;

(2) State supported and assisted institutions of higher education, including community or technical education colleges;

(3) Parks and recreation;

(4) Ohio cultural facilities;

(5) Ohio sports facilities;

(6) Housing of branches and agencies of state government.

(B) The authority provided by Chapter 154. of the Revised Code is in addition to any other authority provided by law for the same or similar purposes, except as may otherwise specifically be provided in Chapter 154. of the Revised Code. In case any section or provision of Chapter 154. of the Revised Code or in case any covenant, stipulation, obligation, resolution, trust agreement, indenture, lease agreement, act, or action, or part thereof, made, assumed, entered into, or taken under Chapter 154. of the Revised Code, or any application thereof, is for any reason held to be illegal or invalid, such illegality or invalidity shall not affect the remainder thereof or any other section or provision of Chapter 154. of the Revised Code or any other covenant, stipulation, obligation, resolution, trust agreement, indenture, lease, agreement, act, or action, or part thereof, made, assumed, entered into, or taken under such chapter, which shall be construed and enforced as if such illegal or invalid portion were not contained therein, nor shall such illegality or invalidity or any application thereof affect any legal and valid application thereof, and each such section, provision, covenant, stipulation, obligation, resolution, trust agreement, indenture, lease, agreement, act, or action, or part thereof, shall be deemed to be effective, operative, made, entered into or taken in the manner and to the full extent

permitted by law.

Sec. 154.07. For the respective purposes provided in sections 154.20, 154.21, 154.22, ~~and 154.23, 154.24, and 154.25~~ of the Revised Code, the issuing authority may issue obligations of the state of Ohio as provided in Chapter 154. of the Revised Code, provided that the holders or owners of obligations shall have no right to have excises or taxes levied by the general assembly for the payment of the bond service charges. The right of holders and owners to payment of bond service charges shall be limited to the revenues or receipts and funds pledged thereto in accordance with Chapter 154. of the Revised Code, and each obligation shall bear on its face a statement to that effect. Chapter 154. of the Revised Code does not permit, and no provision of that chapter shall be applied to authorize or grant, a pledge of charges for the treatment or care of mental hygiene and retardation patients to bond service charges on obligations other than those issued for capital facilities for mental hygiene and retardation, or a pledge of any receipts of or on behalf of state supported or state assisted institutions of higher education to bond service charges on obligations other than those issued for capital facilities for state supported or state assisted institutions of higher education, or a pledge of receipts with respect to parks and recreation to bond service charges on obligations other than those issued for capital facilities for parks and recreation, or a pledge of revenues or receipts received by or on behalf of any state agency to bond service charges on obligations other than those issued for capital facilities which are in whole or in part useful to, constructed by, or financed by the state agency that receives the revenues or receipts so pledged.

Sec. 154.11. The issuing authority may authorize and issue obligations for the refunding, including funding and retirement, of any obligations previously issued under this chapter and any bonds or notes previously issued under Chapter 152. of the Revised Code ~~to pay costs of capital facilities leased to the Ohio cultural facilities commission, formerly known as the Ohio arts and sports facilities commission.~~ Such obligations may be issued in amounts sufficient for payment of the principal amount of the prior obligations, any redemption premiums thereon, principal maturities of any such obligations maturing prior to the redemption of the remaining obligations on a parity therewith, interest accrued or to accrue to the maturity dates or dates of redemption of such obligations, and any expenses incurred or to be incurred in connection with such issuance and such refunding, funding, and retirement. Subject to the bond proceedings therefor, the portion of proceeds of the sale of obligations issued under this section to be applied to bond service charges on the prior obligations shall

be credited to the bond service fund for those prior obligations. Obligations authorized under this section shall be deemed to be issued for those purposes for which those prior obligations were issued and are subject to the provisions of Chapter 154. of the Revised Code pertaining to other obligations, except as otherwise indicated by this section and except for division (A) of section 154.02 of the Revised Code, provided that, unless otherwise authorized by the general assembly, any limitations imposed by the general assembly pursuant to that division with respect to bond service charges applicable to the prior obligations shall be applicable to the obligations issued under this section to refund, fund, or retire those prior obligations.

Sec. 154.24. (A) In addition to the definitions provided in section 154.01 of the Revised Code:

(1) "Capital facilities" includes, for purposes of this section, storage and parking facilities related to such capital facilities.

(2) "Costs of capital facilities" includes, for purposes of this section, the costs of assessing, planning, and altering capital facilities, and the financing thereof, all related direct administrative expenses and allocable portions of direct costs of lessee state agencies, and all other expenses necessary or incident to the assessment, planning, alteration, maintenance, equipment, or furnishing of capital facilities and the placing of the same in use and operation, including any one, part of, or combination of such classes of costs and expenses.

(3) "Governmental agency" includes, for purposes of this section, any state of the United States or any department, division, or agency of any state.

(4) "State agency" includes, for purposes of this section, branches, authorities, courts, the general assembly, counties, municipal corporations, and any other governmental entities of this state that enter into leases with the commission pursuant to this section or that are designated by law as state agencies for the purpose of performing a state function that is to be housed by a capital facility for which the issuing authority is authorized to issue revenue obligations pursuant to this section.

(B) Subject to authorization by the general assembly under section 154.02 of the Revised Code, the issuing authority may issue obligations pursuant to this chapter to pay costs of capital facilities for housing branches and agencies of state government, including capital facilities for the purpose of housing personnel, equipment, or functions, or any combination thereof that a state agency is responsible for housing, including obligations to pay the costs of capital facilities described in section 307.021 of the Revised

Code, and the costs of capital facilities in which one or more state agencies are participating with the federal government, municipal corporations, counties, or other governmental entities, or any one or more of them, and in which that portion of the facility allocated to the participating state agencies is to be used for the purpose of housing branches and agencies of state government including housing personnel, equipment, or functions, or any combination thereof. Such participation may be by grants, loans, or contributions to other participating governmental agencies for any of those capital facilities.

(C) The commission may lease any capital facilities for housing branches and agencies of state government to, and make or provide for other agreements with respect to the use or purchase of such capital facilities with, any state agency or governmental agency having authority under law to operate such capital facilities.

(D)(1) For purposes of this division, "available receipts" means fees, charges, revenues, grants, subsidies, income from the investment of moneys, proceeds from the sale of goods or services, and all other revenues or receipts derived from the operation, leasing, or other disposition of capital facilities financed with obligations issued under this section or received by or on behalf of any state agency for which capital facilities are financed with obligations issued under this section or any state agency participating in or by which the capital facilities are constructed or financed; the proceeds of obligations issued under this section and sections 154.11 or 154.12 of the Revised Code; and any moneys appropriated by a governmental agency, and gifts, grants, donations, and pledges, and receipts therefrom, available for the payment of bond service charges on such obligations.

(2) The issuing authority may pledge all, or such portion as it determines, of the available receipts to the payment of bond service charges on obligations issued under this section and section 154.11 or 154.12 of the Revised Code and for the establishment and maintenance of any reserves, as provided in the bond proceedings, and make other provisions therein with respect to such available receipts as authorized by this chapter, which provisions shall be controlling notwithstanding any other provision of law pertaining thereto.

(E) There are hereby created in the custody of the treasurer of state, but separate and apart from and not a part of the state treasury, the administrative facilities bond service trust fund, the adult correctional facilities bond service trust fund, the juvenile correctional facilities bond service trust fund, and the public safety bond service trust fund. All money received by or on account of the issuing authority or the commission and

required by the applicable bond proceedings to be deposited, transferred, or credited to any of these funds, and all other money transferred or allocated to or received for the purposes of any of these funds, shall be deposited with the treasurer of state and credited to such fund, subject to applicable provisions of the bond proceedings, but without necessity for any act or appropriation. These bond service funds are trust funds and are hereby pledged to the payment of bond service charges on the applicable obligations issued pursuant to this section and section 154.11 or 154.12 of the Revised Code to the extent provided in the applicable bond proceedings, and payment thereof from such funds shall be made or provided for by the treasurer of state in accordance with such bond proceedings without necessity for any act or appropriation.

(F) There are hereby created in the state treasury the administrative building fund, the adult correctional building fund, the juvenile correctional building fund, and the public safety building fund. Subject to the bond proceedings therefor, the proceeds of the sale of obligations pursuant to this section shall be credited to the appropriate fund, except that any accrued interest shall be credited to the appropriate bond service trust fund created pursuant to this section. These funds may also consist of gifts, grants, appropriated money, and other sums and securities received to the credit of such fund. All investment earnings of each fund shall be credited to the fund. The funds shall be applied to pay the costs of capital facilities as defined in this section and set forth in the bond proceedings.

(G) This section is to be applied with other applicable provisions of this chapter.

Sec. 154.25. (A) As used in this section:

(1) "Available community or technical college receipts" means all money received by a community or technical college or community or technical college district, including income, revenues, and receipts from the operation, ownership, or control of facilities, grants, gifts, donations, and pledges and receipts therefrom, receipts from fees and charges, the allocated state share of instruction as defined in section 3333.90 of the Revised Code, and the proceeds of the sale of obligations, including proceeds of obligations issued to refund obligations previously issued, but excluding any special fee, and receipts therefrom, charged pursuant to division (D) of section 154.21 of the Revised Code.

(2) "Community or technical college," "college," "community or technical college district," and "district" have the same meanings as in section 3333.90 of the Revised Code.

(3) "Community or technical college capital facilities" means auxiliary

facilities, education facilities, and housing and dining facilities, as those terms are defined in section 3345.12 of the Revised Code, to the extent permitted to be financed by the issuance of obligations under division (A)(2) of section 3357.112 of the Revised Code, that are authorized by sections 3354.121, 3357.112, and 3358.10 of the Revised Code to be financed by obligations issued by a community or technical college district, and for which the issuing authority is authorized to issue obligations pursuant to this section, and includes any one, part of, or any combination of the foregoing, and further includes site improvements, utilities, machinery, furnishings, and any separate or connected buildings, structures, improvements, sites, open space and green space areas, utilities, or equipment to be used in, or in connection with the operation or maintenance of, or supplementing or otherwise related to the services or facilities to be provided by, such facilities.

(4) "Cost of community or technical college capital facilities" means the costs of acquiring, constructing, reconstructing, rehabilitating, remodeling, renovating, enlarging, improving, equipping, or furnishing community or technical college capital facilities, and the financing thereof, including the cost of clearance and preparation of the site and of any land to be used in connection with community or technical college capital facilities, the cost of any indemnity and surety bonds and premiums on insurance, all related direct administrative expenses and allocable portions of direct costs of the commission and the issuing authority, community or technical college or community or technical college district, cost of engineering, architectural services, design, plans, specifications and surveys, estimates of cost, legal fees, fees and expenses of trustees, depositories, bond registrars, and paying agents for obligations, cost of issuance of obligations and financing costs and fees and expenses of financial advisers and consultants in connection therewith, interest on obligations from the date thereof to the time when interest is to be covered by available receipts or other sources other than proceeds of those obligations, amounts necessary to establish reserves as required by the bond proceedings, costs of audits, the reimbursements of all moneys advanced or applied by or borrowed from the community or technical college, community or technical college district, or others, from whatever source provided, including any temporary advances from state appropriations, for the payment of any item or items of cost of community or technical college facilities, and all other expenses necessary or incident to planning or determining feasibility or practicability with respect to such facilities, and such other expenses as may be necessary or incident to the acquisition, construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, remodeling,

renovation, enlargement, improvement, equipment, and furnishing of community or technical college capital facilities, the financing thereof and the placing of them in use and operation, including any one, part of, or combination of such classes of costs and expenses.

(5) "Capital facilities" includes community or technical college capital facilities.

(6) "Obligations" has the same meaning as in section 154.01 or 3345.12 of the Revised Code, as the context requires.

(B) The issuing authority is authorized to issue revenue obligations under Section 2i of Article VIII, Ohio Constitution, on behalf of a community or technical college district and shall cause the net proceeds thereof, after any deposits of accrued interest for the payment of bond service charges and after any deposit of all or such lesser portion as the issuing authority may direct of the premium received upon the sale of those obligations for the payment of the bond service charges, to be applied to the cost of community or technical college capital facilities, provided that the issuance of such obligations is subject to the execution of a written agreement in accordance with division (C) of section 3333.90 of the Revised Code for the withholding and depositing of funds otherwise due the district, or the college it operates, in respect of its allocated state share of instruction.

(C) The bond service charges and all other payments required to be made by the trust agreement or indenture securing the obligations shall be payable solely from available community or technical college receipts pledged thereto as provided in the resolution. The available community or technical college receipts pledged and thereafter received by the commission are immediately subject to the lien of such pledge without any physical delivery thereof or further act, and the lien of any such pledge is valid and binding against all parties having claims of any kind against the authority, irrespective of whether those parties have notice thereof, and creates a perfected security interest for all purposes of Chapter 1309. of the Revised Code and a perfected lien for purposes of any real property interest, all without the necessity for separation or delivery of funds or for the filing or recording of the resolution, trust agreement, indenture, or other agreement by which such pledge is created or any certificate, statement, or other document with respect thereto; and the pledge of such available community or technical college receipts is effective and the money therefrom and thereof may be applied to the purposes for which pledged. Every pledge, and every covenant and agreement made with respect to the pledge, made in the resolution may therein be extended to the benefit of the owners and holders of obligations authorized by this section, and to any trustee therefor.

for the further securing of the payment of the bond service charges, and all or any rights under any agreement or lease made under this section may be assigned for such purpose.

(D) This section is to be applied with other applicable provisions of this chapter.

Sec. 166.02. (A) The general assembly finds that many local areas throughout the state are experiencing economic stagnation or decline, and that the economic development programs provided for in this chapter will constitute deserved, necessary reinvestment by the state in those areas, materially contribute to their economic revitalization, and result in improving the economic welfare of all the people of the state. Accordingly, it is declared to be the public policy of the state, through the operations of this chapter and other applicable laws adopted pursuant to Section 2p or 13 of Article VIII, Ohio Constitution, and other authority vested in the general assembly, to assist in and facilitate the establishment or development of eligible projects or assist and cooperate with any governmental agency in achieving such purpose.

(B) In furtherance of such public policy and to implement such purpose, the director of development may:

(1) After consultation with appropriate governmental agencies, enter into agreements with persons engaged in industry, commerce, distribution, or research and with governmental agencies to induce such persons to acquire, construct, reconstruct, rehabilitate, renovate, enlarge, improve, equip, or furnish, or otherwise develop, eligible projects and make provision therein for project facilities and governmental actions, as authorized by this chapter and other applicable laws, subject to any required actions by the general assembly or the controlling board and subject to applicable local government laws and regulations;

(2) Provide for the guarantees and loans as provided for in sections 166.06 and 166.07 of the Revised Code;

(3) Subject to release of such moneys by the controlling board, contract for labor and materials needed for, or contract with others, including governmental agencies, to provide, project facilities the allowable costs of which are to be paid for or reimbursed from moneys in the facilities establishment fund, and contract for the operation of such project facilities;

(4) Subject to release thereof by the controlling board, from moneys in the facilities establishment fund acquire or contract to acquire by gift, exchange, or purchase, including the obtaining and exercise of purchase options, property, and convey or otherwise dispose of, or provide for the conveyance or disposition of, property so acquired or contracted to be

acquired by sale, exchange, lease, lease purchase, conditional or installment sale, transfer, or other disposition, including the grant of an option to purchase, to any governmental agency or to any other person without necessity for competitive bidding and upon such terms and conditions and manner of consideration pursuant to and as the director determines to be appropriate to satisfy the objectives of sections 166.01 to 166.11 of the Revised Code;

(5) Retain the services of or employ financial consultants, appraisers, consulting engineers, superintendents, managers, construction and accounting experts, attorneys, and employees, agents, and independent contractors as are necessary in the director's judgment and fix the compensation for their services;

(6) Receive and accept from any person grants, gifts, and contributions of money, property, labor, and other things of value, to be held, used and applied only for the purpose for which such grants, gifts, and contributions are made;

(7) Enter into appropriate arrangements and agreements with any governmental agency for the taking or provision by that governmental agency of any governmental action;

(8) Do all other acts and enter into contracts and execute all instruments necessary or appropriate to carry out the provisions of this chapter;

(9) Adopt rules to implement any of the provisions of this chapter applicable to the director.

(C) The determinations by the director that facilities constitute eligible projects, that facilities are project facilities, that costs of such facilities are allowable costs, and all other determinations relevant thereto or to an action taken or agreement entered into shall be conclusive for purposes of the validity and enforceability of rights of parties arising from actions taken and agreements entered into under this chapter.

(D) Except as otherwise prescribed in this chapter, all expenses and obligations incurred by the director in carrying out the director's powers and in exercising the director's duties under this chapter, shall be payable solely from, as appropriate, moneys in the facilities establishment fund, the loan guarantee fund, the innovation Ohio loan guarantee fund, the innovation Ohio loan fund, the research and development loan fund, the logistics and distribution infrastructure fund, the logistics and distribution infrastructure taxable bond fund, or moneys appropriated for such purpose by the general assembly. This chapter does not authorize the director or the issuing authority under section 166.08 of the Revised Code to incur bonded indebtedness of the state or any political subdivision thereof, or to obligate

or pledge moneys raised by taxation for the payment of any bonds or notes issued or guarantees made pursuant to this chapter.

~~(E) No financial assistance for project facilities shall be provided under this chapter unless the provisions of the agreement providing for such assistance specify that all wages paid to laborers and mechanics employed on such project facilities for which the assistance is granted shall be paid at the prevailing rates of wages of laborers and mechanics for the class of work called for by such project facilities, which wages shall be determined in accordance with the requirements of Chapter 4115. of the Revised Code for determination of prevailing wage rates, provided that the requirements of this division do not apply where the federal government or any of its agencies provides financing assistance as to all or any part of the funds used in connection with such project facilities and prescribes predetermined minimum wages to be paid to such laborers and mechanics; and provided further that should a nonpublic user beneficiary of the eligible project undertake, as part of the eligible project, construction to be performed by its regular bargaining unit employees who are covered under a collective bargaining agreement which was in existence prior to the date of the document authorizing such assistance then, in that event, the rate of pay provided under the collective bargaining agreement may be paid to such employees.~~

(F) Any governmental agency may enter into an agreement with the director, any other governmental agency, or a person to be assisted under this chapter, to take or provide for the purposes of this chapter any governmental action it is authorized to take or provide, and to undertake on behalf and at the request of the director any action which the director is authorized to undertake pursuant to divisions (B)(3), (4), and (5) of this section or divisions (B)(3), (4), and (5) of section 166.12 of the Revised Code. Governmental agencies of the state shall cooperate with and provide assistance to the director of development and the controlling board in the exercise of their respective functions under this chapter.

Sec. 167.081. A regional council may enter into a contract that establishes a unit price for, and provides upon a per unit basis, materials, labor, services, overhead, profit, and associated expenses for the repair, enlargement, improvement, or demolition of a building or structure if the contract is awarded pursuant to a competitive bidding procedure of a county, municipal corporation, or township or a special district, school district, or other political subdivision that is a council member; a statewide consortium of which the council is a member; or a multistate consortium of which the council is a member.

A public notice requirement pertaining to the contract shall be considered as having been met if the public notice is given once a week for at least two consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation within a county in this state in which the council has members and if the notice is posted on the council's internet web site for at least two consecutive weeks before the date specified for receiving bids.

A county, municipal corporation, or township and a special district, school district, or other political subdivision that is a council member may participate in a contract entered into under this section. Purchases under a contract entered into under this section are exempt from any competitive selection or bidding requirements otherwise required by law. A county, municipal corporation, or township or a special district, school district, or other political subdivision that is a member of the council is not entitled to participate in a contract entered into under this section if it has received bids for the same work under another contract, unless participation in a contract under this section will enable the member to obtain the same work, upon the same terms, conditions, and specifications, at a lower price.

Sec. 173.14. As used in sections 173.14 to 173.27 of the Revised Code:

(A)(1) Except as otherwise provided in division (A)(2) of this section, "long-term care facility" includes any residential facility that provides personal care services for more than twenty-four hours for two or more unrelated adults, including all of the following:

(a) A "nursing home," "residential care facility," or "home for the aging" as defined in section 3721.01 of the Revised Code;

(b) A facility authorized to provide extended care services under Title XVIII of the "Social Security Act," 49 Stat. 620 (1935), 42 U.S.C. 301, as amended, including a long-term acute care hospital that provides medical and rehabilitative care to patients who require an average length of stay greater than twenty-five days and is classified by the centers for medicare and medicaid services as a long-term care hospital pursuant to 42 C.F.R. 412.23(e);

(c) A county home or district home operated pursuant to Chapter 5155. of the Revised Code;

(d) An "adult care facility" as defined in section ~~3722.04~~ 5119.70 of the Revised Code;

(e) A facility approved by the veterans administration under section 104(a) of the "Veterans Health Care Amendments of 1983," 97 Stat. 993, 38 U.S.C. 630, as amended, and used exclusively for the placement and care of veterans;

(f) An adult foster home certified under section ~~473.36~~ 5119.692 of the

Revised Code.

(2) "Long-term care facility" does not include a "residential facility" as defined in section 5119.22 of the Revised Code or a "residential facility" as defined in section 5123.19 of the Revised Code.

(B) "Resident" means a resident of a long-term care facility and, where appropriate, includes a prospective, previous, or deceased resident of a long-term care facility.

(C) "Community-based long-term care services" means health and social services provided to persons in their own homes or in community care settings, and includes any of the following:

- (1) Case management;
- (2) Home health care;
- (3) Homemaker services;
- (4) Chore services;
- (5) Respite care;
- (6) Adult day care;
- (7) Home-delivered meals;
- (8) Personal care;
- (9) Physical, occupational, and speech therapy;
- (10) Transportation;

(11) Any other health and social services provided to persons that allow them to retain their independence in their own homes or in community care settings.

(D) "Recipient" means a recipient of community-based long-term care services and, where appropriate, includes a prospective, previous, or deceased recipient of community-based long-term care services.

(E) "Sponsor" means an adult relative, friend, or guardian who has an interest in or responsibility for the welfare of a resident or a recipient.

(F) "Personal care services" has the same meaning as in section 3721.01 of the Revised Code.

(G) "Regional long-term care ombudsperson program" means an entity, either public or private and nonprofit, designated as a regional long-term care ombudsperson program by the state long-term care ombudsperson.

(H) "Representative of the office of the state long-term care ombudsperson program" means the state long-term care ombudsperson or a member of the ombudsperson's staff, or a person certified as a representative of the office under section 173.21 of the Revised Code.

(I) "Area agency on aging" means an area agency on aging established under the "Older Americans Act of 1965," 79 Stat. 219, 42 U.S.C.A. 3001, as amended.

Sec. 173.21. (A) The office of the state long-term care ~~ombudsman~~ ombudsperson program, through the state long-term care ~~ombudsman~~ ombudsperson and the regional long-term care ~~ombudsman~~ ombudsperson programs, shall require each representative of the office to complete a training and certification program in accordance with this section and to meet the continuing education requirements established under this section.

(B) The department of aging shall adopt rules under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code specifying the content of training programs for representatives of the office of the state long-term care ~~ombudsman~~ ombudsperson program. Training for representatives other than those who are volunteers providing services through regional long-term care ~~ombudsman~~ ombudsperson programs shall include instruction regarding federal, state, and local laws, rules, and policies on long-term care facilities and community-based long-term care services; investigative techniques; and other topics considered relevant by the department and shall consist of the following:

(1) A minimum of forty clock hours of basic instruction, which shall be completed before the trainee is permitted to handle complaints without the supervision of a representative of the office certified under this section;

(2) An additional sixty clock hours of instruction, which shall be completed within the first fifteen months of employment;

(3) An internship of twenty clock hours, which shall be completed within the first twenty-four months of employment, including instruction in, and observation of, basic nursing care and long-term care provider operations and procedures. The internship shall be performed at a site that has been approved as an internship site by the state long-term care ~~ombudsman~~ ombudsperson.

(4) One of the following, which shall be completed within the first twenty-four months of employment:

(a) Observation of a survey conducted by the director of health to certify a facility to receive funds under sections 5111.20 to 5111.32 of the Revised Code;

(b) Observation of an inspection conducted by the director of mental health to license an adult care facility under section ~~3722.04~~ 5119.73 of the Revised Code.

(5) Any other training considered appropriate by the department.

(C) Persons who for a period of at least six months prior to June 11, 1990, served as ombudsmen through the long-term care ~~ombudsman~~ ombudsperson program established by the department of aging under division (M) of section 173.01 of the Revised Code shall not be required to

complete a training program. These persons and persons who complete a training program shall take an examination administered by the department of aging. On attainment of a passing score, the person shall be certified by the department as a representative of the office. The department shall issue the person an identification card, which the representative shall show at the request of any person with whom ~~he~~ the representative deals while performing ~~his~~ the representative's duties and which ~~he~~ shall ~~surrender~~ be surrendered at the time ~~he~~ the representative separates from the office.

(D) The state ~~ombudsman~~ ombudsperson and each regional program shall conduct training programs for volunteers on their respective staffs in accordance with the rules of the department of aging adopted under division (B) of this section. Training programs may be conducted that train volunteers to complete some, but not all, of the duties of a representative of the office. Each regional office shall bear the cost of training its representatives who are volunteers. On completion of a training program, the representative shall take an examination administered by the department of aging. On attainment of a passing score, ~~he~~ a volunteer shall be certified by the department as a representative authorized to perform services specified in the certification. The department shall issue an identification card, which the representative shall show at the request of any person with whom ~~he~~ the representative deals while performing ~~his~~ the representative's duties and which ~~he~~ shall ~~surrender~~ be surrendered at the time ~~he~~ the representative separates from the office. Except as a supervised part of a training program, no volunteer shall perform any duty unless he is certified as a representative having received appropriate training for that duty.

(E) The state ~~ombudsman~~ ombudsperson shall provide technical assistance to regional programs conducting training programs for volunteers and shall monitor the training programs.

(F) Prior to scheduling an observation of a certification survey or licensing inspection for purposes of division (B)(4) of this section, the state ~~ombudsman~~ ombudsperson shall obtain permission to have the survey or inspection observed from both the director of health and the long-term care facility at which the survey or inspection is to take place.

(G) The department of aging shall establish continuing education requirements for representatives of the office.

Sec. 173.26. (A) Each of the following facilities shall annually pay to the department of aging six dollars for each bed maintained by the facility for use by a resident during any part of the previous year:

(1) Nursing homes, residential care facilities, and homes for the aging as defined in section 3721.01 of the Revised Code;

(2) Facilities authorized to provide extended care services under Title XVIII of the "Social Security Act," 49 Stat. 620 (1935), 42 U.S.C. 301, as amended, including a long-term acute care hospital that provides medical and rehabilitative care to patients who require an average length of stay greater than twenty-five days and is classified by the centers for medicare and medicaid services as a long-term care hospital pursuant to 42 C.F.R. 412.23(e);

(3) County homes and district homes operated pursuant to Chapter 5155. of the Revised Code;

(4) Adult care facilities as defined in section ~~3722.04~~ 5119.70 of the Revised Code;

(5) Facilities approved by the Veterans Administration under Section 104(a) of the "Veterans Health Care Amendments of 1983," 97 Stat. 993, 38 U.S.C. 630, as amended, and used exclusively for the placement and care of veterans.

The department shall, by rule adopted in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, establish deadlines for payments required by this section. A facility that fails, within ninety days after the established deadline, to pay a payment required by this section shall be assessed at two times the original invoiced payment.

(B) All money collected under this section shall be deposited in the state treasury to the credit of the office of the state long-term care ombudsperson program fund, which is hereby created. Money credited to the fund shall be used solely to pay the costs of operating the regional long-term care ombudsperson programs.

(C) The state long-term care ombudsperson and the regional programs may solicit and receive contributions to support the operation of the office or a regional program, except that no contribution shall be solicited or accepted that would interfere with the independence or objectivity of the office or program.

Sec. 173.391. (A) The department of aging or its designee shall do all of the following in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code:

(1) Certify a person or government entity to provide community-based long-term care services under a program the department administers if the person or government entity satisfies the requirements for certification established by rules adopted under division (B) of this section and pays the fee, if any, established by rules adopted under division (G) of this section;

(2) When required to do so by rules adopted under division (B) of this section, take one or more of the following disciplinary actions against a person or government entity ~~issued a certificate~~ certified under division

(A)(1) of this section:

- (a) Issue a written warning;
- (b) Require the submission of a plan of correction or evidence of compliance with requirements identified by the department;
- (c) Suspend referrals;
- (d) Remove clients;
- (e) Impose a fiscal sanction such as a civil monetary penalty or an order that unearned funds be repaid;
- (f) Suspend the certification;
- (g) Revoke the certificate certification;
- ~~(g)~~(h) Impose another sanction.

(3) ~~Hold~~ Except as provided in division (E) of this section, hold hearings when there is a dispute between the department or its designee and a person or government entity concerning actions the department or its designee takes ~~or does not take~~ regarding a decision not to certify the person or government entity under division (A)(1) of this section or a disciplinary action under division (A)(1) or (2)(e)(e) to (g)(h) of this section.

(B) The director of aging shall adopt rules in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code establishing certification requirements and standards for determining which type of disciplinary action to take under division (A)(2) of this section in individual situations. The rules shall establish procedures for all of the following:

(1) Ensuring that community-based long-term care agencies comply with section 173.394 of the Revised Code;

(2) Evaluating the services provided by the agencies to ensure that ~~they~~ the services are provided in a quality manner advantageous to the individual receiving the services;

(3) Determining when to take disciplinary action under division (A)(2) of this section and which disciplinary action to take;

(4) Determining what constitutes another sanction for purposes of division (A)(2)(h) of this section.

(C) The procedures established in rules adopted under division (B)(2) of this section shall require that all of the following be considered as part of an evaluation described in division (B)(2) of this section:

(1) The ~~service provider's~~ community-based long-term care agency's experience and financial responsibility;

(2) The ~~service provider's~~ agency's ability to comply with standards for the community-based long-term care services that the ~~provider~~ agency provides under a program the department administers;

(3) The ~~service provider's~~ agency's ability to meet the needs of the

individuals served;

(4) Any other factor the director considers relevant.

(D) The rules adopted under division (B)(3) of this section shall specify that the reasons disciplinary action may be taken under division (A)(2) of this section include good cause, including misfeasance, malfeasance, nonfeasance, confirmed abuse or neglect, financial irresponsibility, or other conduct the director determines is injurious, or poses a threat, to the health or safety of individuals being served.

(E) Subject to division (F) of this section, the department is not required to hold hearings under division (A)(3) of this section if any of the following conditions apply:

(1) Rules adopted by the director of aging pursuant to this chapter require the community-based long-term care agency to be a party to a provider agreement; hold a license, certificate, or permit; or maintain a certification, any of which is required or issued by a state or federal government entity other than the department of aging, and either of the following is the case:

(a) The provider agreement has not been entered into or the license, certificate, permit, or certification has not been obtained or maintained.

(b) The provider agreement, license, certificate, permit, or certification has been denied, revoked, not renewed, or suspended or has been otherwise restricted.

(2) The agency's certification under this section has been denied, suspended, or revoked for any of the following reasons:

(a) A government entity of this state, other than the department of aging, has terminated or refused to renew any of the following held by, or has denied any of the following sought by, a community-based long-term care agency: a provider agreement, license, certificate, permit, or certification. Division (E)(2)(a) of this section applies regardless of whether the agency has entered into a provider agreement in, or holds a license, certificate, permit, or certification issued by, another state.

(b) The agency or a principal owner or manager of the agency who provides direct care has entered a guilty plea for, or has been convicted of, an offense materially related to the medicaid program.

(c) The agency or a principal owner or manager of the agency who provides direct care has entered a guilty plea for, or been convicted of, an offense listed in division (C)(1)(a) of section 173.394 of the Revised Code, but only if none of the personal character standards established by the department in rules adopted under division (F) of section 173.394 of the Revised Code apply.

(d) The United States department of health and human services has taken adverse action against the agency and that action impacts the agency's participation in the medicaid program.

(e) The agency has failed to enter into or renew a provider agreement with the PASSPORT administrative agency, as that term is defined in section 173.42 of the Revised Code, that administers programs on behalf of the department of aging in the region of the state in which the agency is certified to provide services.

(f) The agency has not billed or otherwise submitted a claim to the department for payment under the medicaid program in at least two years.

(g) The agency denied or failed to provide the department or its designee access to the agency's facilities during the agency's normal business hours for purposes of conducting an audit or structural compliance review.

(h) The agency has ceased doing business.

(i) The agency has voluntarily relinquished its certification for any reason.

(3) The agency's provider agreement with the department of job and family services has been suspended under division (C) of section 5111.031 of the Revised Code.

(4) The agency's provider agreement with the department of job and family services is denied or revoked because the agency or its owner, officer, authorized agent, associate, manager, or employee has been convicted of an offense that caused the provider agreement to be suspended under section 5111.031 of the Revised Code.

(F) If the department does not hold hearings when any condition described in division (E) of this section applies, the department may send a notice to the agency describing a decision not to certify the agency under division (A)(1) of this section or the disciplinary action the department proposes to take under division (A)(2)(e) to (h) of this section. The notice shall be sent to the agency's address that is on record with the department and may be sent by regular mail.

(G) The director of aging may adopt rules in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code establishing a fee to be charged by the department of aging or its designee for certification issued under this section.

All fees collected by the department or its designee under this section shall be deposited in the state treasury to the credit of the provider certification fund, which is hereby created. Money credited to the fund shall be used to pay for community-based long-term care services, administrative costs associated with community-based long-term care agency certification

under this section, and administrative costs related to the publication of the Ohio long-term care consumer guide.

Sec. 173.40. (A) As used in sections 173.40 to 173.402 of the Revised Code, "PASSPORT:

"Medicaid waiver component" has the same meaning as in section 5111.85 of the Revised Code.

"PASSPORT program" means the program created under this section.

"PASSPORT waiver" means the federal medicaid waiver granted by the United States secretary of health and human services that authorizes the medicaid-funded component of the PASSPORT program.

"Unified long-term services and support medicaid waiver component" means the medicaid waiver component authorized by section 5111.864 of the Revised Code.

(B) There is hereby created the preadmission screening system providing options and resources today program, or PASSPORT. The PASSPORT program shall provide home and community-based services as an alternative to nursing facility placement for individuals who are aged and disabled medicaid recipients and meet the program's applicable eligibility requirements. ~~The~~ Subject to division (C) of this section, the program shall have a medicaid-funded component and a state-funded component.

(C)(1) Unless the medicaid-funded component of the PASSPORT program is terminated under division (C)(2) of this section, all of the following apply:

(a) The department of aging shall administer the medicaid-funded component through a contract entered into with the department of job and family services under section 5111.91 of the Revised Code.

(b) The medicaid-funded component shall be operated as a separate medicaid waiver component, as defined in section 5111.85 of the Revised Code, until the United States secretary of health and human services approves the consolidated federal medicaid waiver sought under section 5111.861 of the Revised Code. The program shall be part of the consolidated federal medicaid waiver sought under that section if the United States secretary approves the waiver. The department of aging shall administer the program through a contract entered into with the department of job and family services under section 5111.91 of the Revised Code. The

(c) For an individual to be eligible for the medicaid-funded component, the individual must be a medicaid recipient and meet the additional eligibility requirements applicable to the individual established in rules adopted under division (C)(1)(d) of this section.

(d) The director of job and family services shall adopt rules under

section 5111.85 of the Revised Code and the director of aging shall adopt rules in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code to implement the ~~program~~ medicaid-funded component.

(2) If the unified long-term services and support medicaid waiver component is created, the departments of aging and job and family services shall work together to determine whether the medicaid-funded component of the PASSPORT program should continue to operate as a separate medicaid waiver component or be terminated. If the departments determine that the medicaid-funded component of the PASSPORT program should be terminated, the medicaid-funded component shall cease to exist on a date the departments shall specify.

(D)(1) The department of aging shall administer the state-funded component of the PASSPORT program. The state-funded component shall not be administered as part of the medicaid program.

(2) For an individual to be eligible for the state-funded component, the individual must meet one of the following requirements and meet the additional eligibility requirements applicable to the individual established in rules adopted under division (D)(4) of this section:

(a) The individual must have been enrolled in the state-funded component on September 1, 1991, (as the state-funded component was authorized by uncoded law in effect at that time) and have had one or more applications for enrollment in the medicaid-funded component (or, if the medicaid-funded component is terminated under division (C)(2) of this section, the unified long-term services and support medicaid waiver component) denied.

(b) The individual must have had the individual's enrollment in the medicaid-funded component (or, if the medicaid-funded component is terminated under division (C)(2) of this section, the unified long-term services and support medicaid waiver component) terminated and the individual must still need the home and community-based services provided under the PASSPORT program to protect the individual's health and safety.

(c) The individual must have an application for the medicaid-funded component (or, if the medicaid-funded component is terminated under division (C)(2) of this section, the unified long-term services and support medicaid waiver component) pending and the department or the department's designee must have determined that the individual meets the nonfinancial eligibility requirements of the medicaid-funded component (or, if the medicaid-funded component is terminated under division (C)(2) of this section, the unified long-term services and support medicaid waiver component) and not have reason to doubt that the individual meets the

financial eligibility requirements of the medicaid-funded component (or, if the medicaid-funded component is terminated under division (C)(2) of this section, the unified long-term services and support medicaid waiver component).

(3) An individual who is eligible for the state-funded component because the individual meets the requirement of division (D)(2)(c) of this section may participate in the component for not more than three months.

(4) The director of aging shall adopt rules in accordance with section 111.15 of the Revised Code to implement the state-funded component. The additional eligibility requirements established in the rules may vary for the different groups of individuals specified in divisions (D)(2)(a), (b), and (c) of this section.

Sec. 173.401. (A) As used in this section:

"Area agency on aging" has the same meaning as in section 173.14 of the Revised Code.

"Long-term care consultation program" means the program the department of aging is required to develop under section 173.42 of the Revised Code.

"Long-term care consultation program administrator" or "administrator" means the department of aging or, if the department contracts with an area agency on aging or other entity to administer the long-term care consultation program for a particular area, that agency or entity.

"Nursing facility" has the same meaning as in section 5111.20 of the Revised Code.

~~"PASSPORT waiver" means the federal medicaid waiver granted by the United States secretary of health and human services that authorizes the PASSPORT program.~~

(B) The Subject to division (C)(2) of section 173.40 of the Revised Code, the department shall establish a home first component of the PASSPORT program under which eligible individuals may be enrolled in the medicaid-funded component of the PASSPORT program in accordance with this section. An individual is eligible for the PASSPORT program's home first component if ~~all~~ both of the following apply:

(1) The individual is ~~has been determined to be~~ eligible for the medicaid-funded component of the PASSPORT program.

(2) The individual is on the unified waiting list established under section 173.404 of the Revised Code.

(3) At least one of the following applies:

(a) The individual has been admitted to a nursing facility.

(b) A physician has determined and documented in writing that the

individual has a medical condition that, unless the individual is enrolled in home and community-based services such as the PASSPORT program, will require the individual to be admitted to a nursing facility within thirty days of the physician's determination.

(c) The individual has been hospitalized and a physician has determined and documented in writing that, unless the individual is enrolled in home and community-based services such as the PASSPORT program, the individual is to be transported directly from the hospital to a nursing facility and admitted.

(d) Both of the following apply:

(i) The individual is the subject of a report made under section 5101.61 of the Revised Code regarding abuse, neglect, or exploitation or such a report referred to a county department of job and family services under section 5126.31 of the Revised Code or has made a request to a county department for protective services as defined in section 5101.60 of the Revised Code.

(ii) A county department of job and family services and an area agency on aging have jointly documented in writing that, unless the individual is enrolled in home and community-based services such as the PASSPORT program, the individual should be admitted to a nursing facility.

(C) Each month, each area agency on aging shall identify individuals residing in the area that the agency serves who are eligible for the home first component of the PASSPORT program. When an area agency on aging identifies such an individual, the agency shall notify the long-term care consultation program administrator serving the area in which the individual resides. The administrator shall determine whether the PASSPORT program is appropriate for the individual and whether the individual would rather participate in the PASSPORT program than continue or begin to reside in a nursing facility. If the administrator determines that the PASSPORT program is appropriate for the individual and the individual would rather participate in the PASSPORT program than continue or begin to reside in a nursing facility, the administrator shall so notify the department of aging. On receipt of the notice from the administrator, the department shall approve the individual's enrollment in the medicaid-funded component of the PASSPORT program regardless of the unified waiting list established under section 173.404 of the Revised Code, unless the enrollment would cause the PASSPORT program component to exceed any limit on the number of individuals who may be enrolled in the program component as set by the United States secretary of health and human services in the PASSPORT waiver.

~~(D) Each quarter, the department of aging shall certify to the director of budget and management the estimated increase in costs of the PASSPORT program resulting from enrollment of individuals in the PASSPORT program pursuant to this section.~~

Sec. 173.403. "Choices (A) As used in this section:

"Choices program" means the program created under this section.

There "Medicaid waiver component" has the same meaning as in section 5111.85 of the Revised Code.

"Unified long-term services and support medicaid waiver component" means the medicaid waiver component authorized by section 5111.864 of the Revised Code.

~~(B) Subject to division (C) of this section, there is hereby created the choices program. The program shall provide home and community-based services. The choices program shall be operated as a separate medicaid waiver component, as defined in section 5111.85 of the Revised Code, until the United States secretary of health and human services approves the consolidated federal medicaid waiver sought under section 5111.861 of the Revised Code. The program shall be part of the consolidated federal medicaid waiver sought under that section if the United States secretary approves the waiver. The department of aging shall administer the program through a contract entered into with the department of job and family services under section 5111.91 of the Revised Code. Subject to federal approval, the program shall be available statewide.~~

(C) If the unified long-term services and support medicaid waiver component is created, the departments of aging and job and family services shall work together to determine whether the choices program should continue to operate as a separate medicaid waiver component or be terminated. If the departments determine that the choices program should be terminated, the program shall cease to exist on a date the departments shall specify.

Sec. 173.404. (A) As used in this section:

(1) "Department of aging-administered medicaid waiver component" means each of the following:

(a) The medicaid-funded component of the PASSPORT program created under section 173.40 of the Revised Code;

(b) The choices program created under section 173.403 of the Revised Code;

(c) The medicaid-funded component of the assisted living program created under section 5111.89 of the Revised Code.

(2) "PACE program" means the component of the medicaid program the

department of aging administers pursuant to section 173.50 of the Revised Code.

(B) ~~The~~ If the department of aging determines that there are insufficient funds to enroll all individuals who have applied and been determined eligible for department of aging-administered medicaid waiver components and the PACE program, the department of aging shall establish a unified waiting list for department of aging-administered medicaid waiver the components and the PACE program. Only individuals eligible for a department of aging-administered medicaid waiver component or the PACE program may be placed on the unified waiting list. An individual who may be enrolled in a department of aging-administered medicaid waiver component or the PACE program through a home first component established under section 173.401, 173.501, or 5111.894 of the Revised Code may be so enrolled without being placed on the unified waiting list.

Sec. 173.41. (A) The department of aging shall promote the development of a statewide aging and disabilities resource network through which older adults, adults with disabilities, and their caregivers are provided with both of the following:

(1) Information on any long-term care service options available to the individuals;

(2) Streamlined access to long-term care services, both publicly funded services and services available through private payment.

(B) Area agencies on aging shall establish the network throughout the state. In doing so, the agencies shall collaborate with centers for independent living and other locally funded organizations to establish a cost-effective and consumer-friendly network that builds on existing, local infrastructures of services that support consumers in their communities.

Sec. 173.42. (A) As used in sections 173.42 to 173.434 of the Revised Code:

(1) "Area agency on aging" means a public or private nonprofit entity designated under section 173.011 of the Revised Code to administer programs on behalf of the department of aging.

(2) "Department of aging-administered medicaid waiver component" means each of the following:

(a) The medicaid-funded component of the PASSPORT program created under section 173.40 of the Revised Code;

(b) The choices program created under section 173.403 of the Revised Code;

(c) The medicaid-funded component of the assisted living program created under section 5111.89 of the Revised Code;

(d) Any other medicaid waiver component, as defined in section 5111.85 of the Revised Code, that the department of aging administers pursuant to an interagency agreement with the department of job and family services under section 5111.91 of the Revised Code.

(3) "Home and community-based services covered by medicaid components the department of aging administers" means all of the following:

(a) Medicaid waiver services available to a participant in a department of aging-administered medicaid waiver component;

(b) The following medicaid state plan services available to a participant in a department of aging-administered medicaid waiver component as specified in rules adopted under section 5111.02 of the Revised Code:

(i) Home health services;

(ii) Private duty nursing services;

(iii) Durable medical equipment;

(iv) Services of a clinical nurse specialist;

(v) Services of a certified nurse practitioner.

(c) Services available to a participant of the PACE program.

(4) "Long-term care consultation" or "consultation" means the consultation service made available by the department of aging or a program administrator through the long-term care consultation program established pursuant to this section.

(5) "Medicaid" means the medical assistance program established under Chapter 5111. of the Revised Code.

(6) "Nursing facility" has the same meaning as in section 5111.20 of the Revised Code.

(7) "PACE program" means the component of the medicaid program the department of aging administers pursuant to section 173.50 of the Revised Code.

(8) "PASSPORT administrative agency" means an entity under contract with the department of aging to provide administrative services regarding the PASSPORT program.

(9) "Program administrator" means an area agency on aging or other entity under contract with the department of aging to administer the long-term care consultation program in a geographic region specified in the contract.

(10) "Representative" means a person acting on behalf of an individual specified in division (G) of this section. A representative may be a family member, attorney, hospital social worker, or any other person chosen to act on behalf of the individual.

(B) The department of aging shall develop a long-term care consultation program whereby individuals or their representatives are provided with long-term care consultations and receive through these professional consultations information about options available to meet long-term care needs and information about factors to consider in making long-term care decisions. The long-term care consultations provided under the program may be provided at any appropriate time, as permitted or required under this section and the rules adopted under it, including either prior to or after the individual who is the subject of a consultation has been admitted to a nursing facility or granted assistance in receiving home and community-based services covered by medicaid components the department of aging administers.

(C) The long-term care consultation program shall be administered by the department of aging, except that the department may have the program administered on a regional basis by one or more program administrators. The department and each program administrator shall administer the program in such a manner that all of the following are included:

(1) Coordination and collaboration with respect to all available funding sources for long-term care services;

(2) Assessments of individuals regarding their long-term care service needs;

(3) Assessments of individuals regarding their on-going eligibility for long-term care services;

(4) Procedures for assisting individuals in obtaining access to, and coordination of, health and supportive services, including department of aging-administered medicaid waiver components;

(5) Priorities for using available resources efficiently and effectively.

(D) The program's long-term care consultations shall be provided by individuals certified by the department under section 173.422 of the Revised Code.

(E) The information provided through a long-term care consultation shall be appropriate to the individual's needs and situation and shall address all of the following:

(1) The availability of any long-term care options open to the individual;

(2) Sources and methods of both public and private payment for long-term care services;

(3) Factors to consider when choosing among the available programs, services, and benefits;

(4) Opportunities and methods for maximizing independence and self-reliance, including support services provided by the individual's family,

friends, and community.

(F) An individual's long-term care consultation may include an assessment of the individual's functional capabilities. The consultation may incorporate portions of the determinations required under sections 5111.202, 5119.061, and 5123.021 of the Revised Code and may be provided concurrently with the assessment required under section 5111.204 of the Revised Code.

(G)(1) Unless an exemption specified in division (I) of this section is applicable, each of the following shall be provided with a long-term care consultation:

(a) An individual who applies or indicates an intention to apply for admission to a nursing facility, regardless of the source of payment to be used for the individual's care in a nursing facility;

(b) An individual who requests a long-term care consultation;

(c) An individual identified by the department or a program administrator as being likely to benefit from a long-term care consultation.

(2) In addition to the individuals specified in division (G)(1) of this section, a long-term care consultation may be provided to a nursing facility resident regardless of the source of payment being used for the resident's care in the nursing facility.

(H)(1) Except as provided in division (H)(2) or (3) of this section, a long-term care consultation provided pursuant to division (G) of this section shall be provided as follows:

(a) If the individual for whom the consultation is being provided has applied for medicaid and the consultation is being provided concurrently with the assessment required under section 5111.204 of the Revised Code, the consultation shall be completed in accordance with the applicable time frames specified in that section for providing a level of care determination based on the assessment.

(b) In all other cases, the consultation shall be provided not later than five calendar days after the department or program administrator receives notice of the reason for which the consultation is to be provided pursuant to division (G) of this section.

(2) An individual or the individual's representative may request that a long-term care consultation be provided on a date that is later than the date required under division (H)(1)(a) or (b) of this section.

(3) If a long-term care consultation cannot be completed within the number of days required by division (H)(1) or (2) of this section, the department or program administrator may do any of the following:

(a) In the case of an individual specified in division (G)(1) of this

section, exempt the individual from the consultation pursuant to rules that may be adopted under division (L) of this section;

(b) In the case of an applicant for admission to a nursing facility, provide the consultation after the individual is admitted to the nursing facility;

(c) In the case of a resident of a nursing facility, provide the consultation as soon as practicable.

(I) An individual is not required to be provided a long-term care consultation under division (G)(1) of this section if any of the following apply:

(1) The department or program administrator has attempted to provide the consultation, but the individual or the individual's representative refuses to cooperate;

(2) The individual is to receive care in a nursing facility under a contract for continuing care as defined in section 173.13 of the Revised Code;

(3) The individual has a contractual right to admission to a nursing facility operated as part of a system of continuing care in conjunction with one or more facilities that provide a less intensive level of services, including a residential care facility licensed under Chapter 3721. of the Revised Code, an adult care facility licensed under ~~Chapter 3722.~~ sections 5119.70 to 5119.88 of the Revised Code, or an independent living arrangement;

(4) The individual is to receive continual care in a home for the aged exempt from taxation under section 5701.13 of the Revised Code;

(5) The individual is seeking admission to a facility that is not a nursing facility with a provider agreement under section 5111.22, 5111.671, or 5111.672 of the Revised Code;

(6) The individual is exempted from the long-term care consultation requirement by the department or the program administrator pursuant to rules that may be adopted under division (L) of this section.

(J) As part of the long-term care consultation program, the department or program administrator shall assist an individual or individual's representative in accessing all sources of care and services that are appropriate for the individual and for which the individual is eligible, including all available home and community-based services covered by medicaid components the department of aging administers. The assistance shall include providing for the conduct of assessments or other evaluations and the development of individualized plans of care or services under section 173.424 of the Revised Code.

(K) No nursing facility for which an operator has a provider agreement

under section 5111.22, 5111.671, or 5111.672 of the Revised Code shall admit any individual as a resident, unless the nursing facility has received evidence that a long-term care consultation has been completed for the individual or division (I) of this section is applicable to the individual.

(L) The director of aging may adopt any rules the director considers necessary for the implementation and administration of this section. The rules shall be adopted in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code and may specify any or all of the following:

(1) Procedures for providing long-term care consultations pursuant to this section;

(2) Information to be provided through long-term care consultations regarding long-term care services that are available;

(3) Criteria and procedures to be used to identify and recommend appropriate service options for an individual receiving a long-term care consultation;

(4) Criteria for exempting individuals from the long-term care consultation requirement;

(5) Circumstances under which it may be appropriate to provide an individual's long-term care consultation after the individual's admission to a nursing facility rather than before admission;

(6) Criteria for identifying nursing facility residents who would benefit from the provision of a long-term care consultation;

(7) A description of the types of information from a nursing facility that is needed under the long-term care consultation program to assist a resident with relocation from the facility;

(8) Standards to prevent conflicts of interest relative to the referrals made by a person who performs a long-term care consultation, including standards that prohibit the person from being employed by a provider of long-term care services;

(9) Procedures for providing notice and an opportunity for a hearing under division (N) of this section.

(M) To assist the department and each program administrator with identifying individuals who are likely to benefit from a long-term care consultation, the department and program administrator may ask to be given access to nursing facility resident assessment data collected through the use of the resident assessment instrument specified in rules adopted under section 5111.02 of the Revised Code for purposes of the medicaid program. Except when prohibited by state or federal law, the department of health, department of job and family services, or nursing facility holding the data shall grant access to the data on receipt of the request from the department

of aging or program administrator.

(N)(1) The director of aging, after providing notice and an opportunity for a hearing, may fine a nursing facility an amount determined by rules the director shall adopt in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code for any of the following reasons:

(a) The nursing facility admits an individual, without evidence that a long-term care consultation has been provided, as required by this section;

(b) The nursing facility denies a person attempting to provide a long-term care consultation access to the facility or a resident of the facility;

(c) The nursing facility denies the department of aging or program administrator access to the facility or a resident of the facility, as the department or administrator considers necessary to administer the program.

(2) In accordance with section 5111.62 of the Revised Code, all fines collected under division (N)(1) of this section shall be deposited into the state treasury to the credit of the residents protection fund.

Sec. 173.45. As used in this section and in sections 173.46 to 173.49 of the Revised Code:

(A) "Adult care facility" has the same meaning as in section 5119.70 of the Revised Code.

(B) "Community-based long-term care services" has the same meaning as in section 173.14 of the Revised Code.

(C) "Long-term care facility" means a nursing home or residential care facility.

~~(B)~~(D) "Nursing home" and "residential care facility" have the same meanings as in section 3721.01 of the Revised Code.

~~(C)~~(E) "Nursing facility" has the same meaning as in section 5111.20 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 173.46. (A) The department of aging shall develop and publish a guide to long-term care facilities for use by individuals considering long-term care facility admission and their families, friends, and advisors. The guide, which shall be titled the Ohio long-term care consumer guide, may be published in printed form or in electronic form for distribution over the internet. The guide may be developed as a continuation or modification of the guide published by the department prior to ~~the effective date of this section~~ September 29, 2005, under rules adopted under section 173.02 of the Revised Code.

(B) The Ohio long-term care consumer guide shall include information on each long-term care facility in this state. For each facility, the guide shall include the following information, as applicable to the facility:

(1) Information regarding the facility's compliance with state statutes

and rules and federal statutes and regulations;

(2) Information generated by the centers for medicare and medicaid services of the United States department of health and human services from the quality measures developed as part of its nursing home quality initiative;

(3) Results of the customer satisfaction surveys conducted under section 173.47 of the Revised Code;

(4) Any other information the department specifies in rules adopted under section 173.49 of the Revised Code.

(C) The Ohio long-term care consumer guide may include information on adult care facilities and providers of community-based long-term care services. The department may adopt rules under section 173.49 of the Revised Code to specify the information to be included in the guide pursuant to this division.

Sec. 173.47. (A) For purposes of publishing the Ohio long-term care consumer guide, the department of aging shall conduct or provide for the conduct of an annual customer satisfaction survey of each long-term care facility. The results of the surveys may include information obtained from long-term care facility residents, their families, or both.

~~(B)(1) The department may charge fees for the conduct of annual customer satisfaction surveys. The department may contract with any person or government entity to collect the fees on its behalf. All fees collected under this section shall be deposited in accordance with section 173.48 of the Revised Code.~~

~~(2) The fees charged under this section shall not exceed the following amounts:~~

~~(a) Four hundred dollars for the customer satisfaction survey of a long-term care facility that is a nursing home;~~

~~(b) Three hundred dollars for the customer satisfaction survey pertaining to a long-term care facility that is a residential care facility.~~

~~(3) Fees paid by a long-term care facility that is a nursing facility shall be reimbursed through the medicaid program operated under Chapter 5111 of the Revised Code.~~

~~(C) Each long-term care facility shall cooperate in the conduct of its annual customer satisfaction survey.~~

Sec. 173.48. (A)(1) The department of aging may charge annual fees to long-term care facilities for the publication of the Ohio long-term care consumer guide. The department may contract with any person or government entity to collect the fees on its behalf. All fees collected under this section shall be deposited in accordance with division (B) of this section.

(2) The annual fees charged under this section shall not exceed the following amounts:

(a) Six hundred fifty dollars for each long-term care facility that is a nursing home;

(b) Three hundred dollars for each long-term care facility that is a residential care facility.

(3) Fees paid by a long-term care facility that is a nursing facility shall be reimbursed through the medicaid program operated under Chapter 5111. of the Revised Code.

(B) There is hereby created in the state treasury the long-term care consumer guide fund. Money collected from the fees charged for the ~~conduct of customer satisfaction surveys~~ publication of the Ohio long-term care consumer guide under division (A) of this section ~~173.47 of the Revised Code~~ shall be credited to the fund. The department of aging shall use money in the fund for costs associated with publishing the Ohio long-term care consumer guide, including, but not limited to, costs incurred in conducting or providing for the conduct of customer satisfaction surveys.

Sec. 173.501. (A) As used in this section:

"Nursing facility" has the same meaning as in section 5111.20 of the Revised Code.

"PACE provider" has the same meaning as in 42 U.S.C. 1396u-4(a)(3).

(B) The department of aging shall establish a home first component of the PACE program under which eligible individuals may be enrolled in the PACE program in accordance with this section. An individual is eligible for the PACE program's home first component if ~~at~~ both of the following apply:

(1) The individual ~~is~~ has been determined to be eligible for the PACE program.

(2) ~~The individual is on the unified waiting list established under section 173.404 of the Revised Code.~~

~~(3)~~ At least one of the following applies:

(a) The individual has been admitted to a nursing facility.

(b) A physician has determined and documented in writing that the individual has a medical condition that, unless the individual is enrolled in home and community-based services such as the PACE program, will require the individual to be admitted to a nursing facility within thirty days of the physician's determination.

(c) The individual has been hospitalized and a physician has determined and documented in writing that, unless the individual is enrolled in home and community-based services such as the PACE program, the individual is

to be transported directly from the hospital to a nursing facility and admitted.

(d) Both of the following apply:

(i) The individual is the subject of a report made under section 5101.61 of the Revised Code regarding abuse, neglect, or exploitation or such a report referred to a county department of job and family services under section 5126.31 of the Revised Code or has made a request to a county department for protective services as defined in section 5101.60 of the Revised Code.

(ii) A county department of job and family services and an area agency on aging have jointly documented in writing that, unless the individual is enrolled in home and community-based services such as the PACE program, the individual should be admitted to a nursing facility.

(C) Each month, the department of aging shall identify individuals who are eligible for the home first component of the PACE program. When the department identifies such an individual, the department shall notify the PACE provider serving the area in which the individual resides. The PACE provider shall determine whether the PACE program is appropriate for the individual and whether the individual would rather participate in the PACE program than continue or begin to reside in a nursing facility. If the PACE provider determines that the PACE program is appropriate for the individual and the individual would rather participate in the PACE program than continue or begin to reside in a nursing facility, the PACE provider shall so notify the department of aging. On receipt of the notice from the PACE provider, the department of aging shall approve the individual's enrollment in the PACE program in accordance with priorities established in rules adopted under section 173.50 of the Revised Code.

~~(D) Each quarter, the department of aging shall certify to the director of budget and management the estimated increase in costs of the PACE program resulting from enrollment of individuals in the PACE program pursuant to this section.~~

Sec. 183.30. ~~(A) Except as provided in division (C) of this section, no more than five per cent of the total disbursements, encumbrances, and obligations of the southern Ohio agricultural and community development foundation in a fiscal year shall be for administrative expenses of the foundation in the same fiscal year.~~

~~(B) Except as provided in division (C) of this section, no more than five per cent of the total disbursements, encumbrances, and obligations of the biomedical research and technology transfer trust fund in a fiscal year shall be for expenses relating to the administration of the trust fund by the third~~

frontier commission in the same fiscal year.

~~(C) This section's five per cent limitation on administrative expenses does not apply to any fiscal year for which the controlling board approves a spending plan that the foundation or commission submits to the board.~~

Payments may be made from the biomedical research and technology transfer trust fund for third frontier commission expenses related to the administration of awards made from the fund prior to the effective date of this section. No such payments shall be made after June 30, 2013.

Sec. 183.51. (A) As used in this section and in the applicable bond proceedings unless otherwise provided:

(1) "Bond proceedings" means the resolutions, orders, indentures, purchase and sale and trust and other agreements including any amendments or supplements to them, and credit enhancement facilities, and amendments and supplements to them, or any one or more or combination of them, authorizing, awarding, or providing for the terms and conditions applicable to or providing for the security or liquidity of, the particular obligations, and the provisions contained in those obligations.

(2) "Bond service fund" means the bond service fund created in the bond proceedings for the obligations.

(3) "Capital facilities" means, as applicable, capital facilities or projects as referred to in section 151.03 or 151.04 of the Revised Code.

(4) "Consent decree" means the consent decree and final judgment entered November 25, 1998, in the court of common pleas of Franklin county, Ohio, as the same may be amended or supplemented from time to time.

(5) "Cost of capital facilities" has the same meaning as in section 151.01 of the Revised Code, as applicable.

(6) "Credit enhancement facilities," "financing costs," and "interest" or "interest equivalent" have the same meanings as in section 133.01 of the Revised Code.

(7) "Debt service" means principal, including any mandatory sinking fund or redemption requirements for retirement of obligations, interest and other accreted amounts, interest equivalent, and any redemption premium, payable on obligations. If not prohibited by the applicable bond proceedings, "debt service" may include costs relating to credit enhancement facilities that are related to and represent, or are intended to provide a source of payment of or limitation on, other debt service.

(8) "Improvement fund" means, as applicable, the school building program assistance fund created in section 3318.25 of the Revised Code and the higher education improvement fund created in section 154.21 of the

Revised Code.

(9) "Issuing authority" means the buckeye tobacco settlement financing authority created in section 183.52 of the Revised Code.

(10) "Net proceeds" means amounts received from the sale of obligations, excluding amounts used to refund or retire outstanding obligations, amounts required to be deposited into special funds pursuant to the applicable bond proceedings, and amounts to be used to pay financing costs.

(11) "Obligations" means bonds, notes, or other evidences of obligation of the issuing authority, including any appertaining interest coupons, issued by the issuing authority under this section and Section 2i of Article VIII, Ohio Constitution, for the purpose of providing funds to the state, in exchange for the assignment and sale described in division (B) of this section, for the purpose of paying costs of capital facilities for: (a) housing branches and agencies of state government limited to facilities for a system of common schools throughout the state and (b) state-supported or state-assisted institutions of higher education.

(12) "Pledged receipts" means, as and to the extent provided for in the applicable bond proceedings:

(a) Pledged tobacco settlement receipts;

(b) Accrued interest received from the sale of obligations;

(c) Income from the investment of the special funds;

(d) Additional or any other specific revenues or receipts lawfully available to be pledged, and pledged, pursuant to the bond proceedings, including but not limited to amounts received under credit enhancement facilities, to the payment of debt service.

(13) "Pledged tobacco settlement receipts" means all amounts received by the issuing authority pursuant to division (B) of this section.

(14) "Principal amount" means the aggregate of the amount as stated or provided for in the applicable bond proceedings as the amount on which interest or interest equivalent on particular obligations is initially calculated. "Principal amount" does not include any premium paid to the issuing authority by the initial purchaser of the obligations. "Principal amount" of a capital appreciation bond, as defined in division (C) of section 3334.01 of the Revised Code, means its original face amount and not its accreted value, and "principal amount" of a zero coupon bond, as defined in division (J) of section 3334.01 of the Revised Code, means the discounted offering price at which the bond is initially sold to the public, disregarding any purchase price discount to the original purchaser, if provided in or for pursuant to the bond proceedings.

(15) "Special funds" or "funds," unless the context indicates otherwise, means the bond service fund, and any other funds, including any reserve funds, created under the bond proceedings and stated to be special funds in those proceedings, including moneys and investments, and earnings from investments, credited and to be credited to the particular fund. "Special funds" does not include any improvement fund or investment earnings on amounts in any improvement fund, or other funds created by the bond proceedings that are not stated by those proceedings to be special funds.

(B) The state may assign and sell to the issuing authority, and the issuing authority may accept and purchase, all or a portion of the amounts to be received by the state under the tobacco master settlement agreement for a purchase price payable by the issuing authority to the state consisting of the net proceeds of obligations and any residual interest, if any. Any such assignment and sale shall be irrevocable in accordance with its terms during the period any obligations secured by amounts so assigned and sold are outstanding under the applicable bond proceedings, and shall constitute a contractual obligation to the holders or owners of those obligations. Any such assignment and sale shall also be treated as an absolute transfer and true sale for all purposes, and not as a pledge or other security interest. The characterization of any such assignment and sale as a true sale and absolute transfer shall not be negated or adversely affected by only a portion of the amounts to be received under the tobacco master settlement agreement being transferred, the acquisition or retention by the state of a residual interest, the participation of any state officer or employee as a member or officer of, or providing staff support to, the issuing authority, any responsibility of an officer or employee of the state for collecting the amounts to be received under the tobacco master settlement agreement or otherwise enforcing that agreement or retaining any legal title to or interest in any portion of the amounts to be received under that agreement for the purpose of these collection activities, any characterization of the issuing authority or its obligations for purposes of accounting, taxation, or securities regulation, or by any other factors whatsoever. A true sale shall exist under this section regardless of whether the issuing authority has any recourse against the state or any other term of the bond proceedings or the treatment or characterization of the transfer as a financing for any purpose. Upon and following the assignment and sale, the state shall not have any right, title, or interest in the portion of the receipts under the tobacco master settlement agreement so assigned and sold, other than any residual interest that may be described in the applicable bond proceedings for those obligations, and that portion, if any, shall be the property of the issuing authority and not of the

state, and shall be paid directly to the issuing authority, and shall be owned, received, held, and disbursed by the issuing authority and not by the state.

The state may covenant, pledge, and agree in the bond proceedings, with and for the benefit of the issuing authority, the holders and owners of obligations, and providers of any credit enhancement facilities, that it shall: (1) maintain statutory authority for, and cause to be collected and paid directly to the issuing authority or its assignee, the pledged receipts, (2) enforce the rights of the issuing authority to receive the receipts under the tobacco master settlement agreement assigned and sold to the issuing authority, (3) not materially impair the rights of the issuing authority to fulfill the terms of its agreements with the holders or owners of outstanding obligations under the bond proceedings, (4) not materially impair the rights and remedies of the holders or owners of outstanding obligations or materially impair the security for those outstanding obligations, and (5) enforce Chapter 1346. of the Revised Code, the tobacco master settlement agreement, and the consent decree to effectuate the collection of the pledged tobacco settlement receipts. The bond proceedings may provide or authorize the manner for determining material impairment of the security for any outstanding obligations, including by assessing and evaluating the pledged receipts in the aggregate.

As further provided for in division (H) of this section, the bond proceedings may also include such other covenants, pledges, and agreements by the state to protect and safeguard the security and rights of the holders and owners of the obligations, and of the providers of any credit enhancement facilities, including, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, any covenant, pledge, or agreement customary in transactions involving the issuance of securities the debt service on which is payable from or secured by amounts received under the tobacco master settlement agreement. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any covenant, pledge, and agreement of the state, if and when made in the bond proceedings, shall be controlling and binding upon, and enforceable against the state in accordance with its terms for so long as any obligations are outstanding under the applicable bond proceedings. The bond proceedings may also include limitations on the remedies available to the issuing authority, the holders and owners of the obligations, and the providers of any credit enhancement facilities, including, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, a provision that those remedies may be limited to injunctive relief in circumstances where there has been no prior determination by a court of competent jurisdiction that the state has not enforced Chapter 1346. of the Revised Code, the tobacco master settlement

agreement, or the consent decree as may have been covenanted or agreed in the bond proceedings under division (B)(5) of this section.

Nothing in this section or the bond proceedings shall preclude or limit, or be construed to preclude or limit, the state from regulating or authorizing or permitting the regulation of smoking or from taxing and regulating the sale of cigarettes or other tobacco products, or from defending or prosecuting cases or other actions relating to the sale or use of cigarettes or other tobacco products. Except as otherwise may be agreed in writing by the attorney general, nothing in this section or the bond proceedings shall modify or limit, or be construed to modify or limit, the responsibility, power, judgment, and discretion of the attorney general to protect and discharge the duties, rights, and obligations of the state under the tobacco master settlement agreement, the consent decree, or Chapter 1346. of the Revised Code.

The governor and the director of budget and management, in consultation with the attorney general, on behalf of the state, and any member or officer of the issuing authority as authorized by that issuing authority, on behalf of the issuing authority, may take any action and execute any documents, including any purchase and sale agreements, necessary to effect the assignment and sale and the acceptance of the assignment and title to the receipts including, providing irrevocable direction to the escrow agent acting under the tobacco master settlement agreement to transfer directly to the issuing authority the amounts to be received under that agreement that are subject to such assignment and sale. Any purchase and sale agreement or other bond proceedings may contain the terms and conditions established by the state and the issuing authority to carry out and effectuate the purposes of this section, including, without limitation, covenants binding the state in favor of the issuing authority and its assignees and the owners of the obligations. Any such purchase and sale agreement shall be sufficient to effectuate such purchase and sale without regard to any other laws governing other property sales or financial transactions by the state.

Not later than two years following the date on which there are no longer any obligations outstanding under the bond proceedings, all assets of the issuing authority shall vest in the state, the issuing authority shall execute any necessary assignments or instruments, including any assignment of any right, title, or ownership to the state for receipt of amounts under the tobacco master settlement agreement, and the issuing authority shall be dissolved.

(C) The issuing authority is authorized to issue and to sell obligations as provided in this section. The aggregate principal amount of obligations

issued under this section shall not exceed six billion dollars, exclusive of obligations issued under division (M)(1) of this section to refund, renew, or advance refund other obligations issued or incurred. At least seventy-five per cent of the aggregate net proceeds of the obligations issued under the authority of this section, exclusive of obligations issued to refund, renew, or advance refund other obligations, shall be paid to the state for deposit into the school building program assistance fund created in section 3318.25 of the Revised Code.

(D) Each issue of obligations shall be authorized by resolution or order of the issuing authority. The bond proceedings shall provide for or authorize the manner for determining the principal amount or maximum principal amount of obligations of an issue, the principal maturity or maturities, the interest rate or rates, the date of and the dates of payment of interest on the obligations, their denominations, and the place or places of payment of debt service which may be within or outside the state. Unless otherwise provided by law, the latest principal maturity may not be later than the earlier of the thirty-first day of December of the fiftieth calendar year after the year of issuance of the particular obligations or of the fiftieth calendar year after the year in which the original obligation to pay was issued or entered into. Sections 9.96, 9.98, 9.981, 9.982, and 9.983 of the Revised Code apply to the obligations.

The purpose of the obligations may be stated in the bond proceedings in general terms, such as, as applicable, "paying costs of capital facilities for a system of common schools" and "paying costs of facilities for state-supported and state-assisted institutions of higher education." Unless otherwise provided in the bond proceedings or in division (C) of this section, the net proceeds from the issuance of the obligations shall be paid to the state for deposit into the applicable improvement fund. In addition to the investments authorized in Chapter 135. of the Revised Code, the net proceeds held in an improvement fund may be invested by the treasurer of state in guaranteed investment contracts with providers rated at the time of any investment in the three highest rating categories by two nationally recognized rating agencies, all subject to the terms and conditions set forth in those agreements or the bond proceedings. Notwithstanding ~~division (B)(4) of section 3318.38~~ anything to the contrary in Chapter 3318. of the Revised Code, net proceeds of obligations deposited into the school building program assistance fund created in section 3318.25 of the Revised Code may be used to pay basic project costs under ~~section 3318.38 of the Revised Code~~ that chapter at the times determined by the Ohio school facilities commission without regard to whether those expenditures are in proportion

to the state's and the school district's respective shares of that basic project cost; provided that this shall not result in any change in the state or school district shares of the basic project costs ~~provided under Chapter 3318. of the Revised Code~~ as determined under that chapter. As used in the preceding sentence, "Ohio school facilities commission" and "basic project costs" have the same meanings as in section 3318.01 of the Revised Code.

(E) The issuing authority may, without need for any other approval, appoint or provide for the appointment of paying agents, bond registrars, securities depositories, credit enhancement providers or counterparties, clearing corporations, and transfer agents, and retain or contract for the services of underwriters, investment bankers, financial advisers, accounting experts, marketing, remarketing, indexing, and administrative agents, other consultants, and independent contractors, including printing services, as are necessary in the judgment of the issuing authority to carry out the issuing authority's functions under this section and section 183.52 of the Revised Code. The attorney general as counsel to the issuing authority shall represent the authority in the execution of its powers and duties, and shall institute and prosecute all actions on its behalf. The issuing authority, in consultation with the attorney general, shall select counsel, and the attorney general shall appoint the counsel selected, for the purposes of carrying out the functions under this section and related sections of the Revised Code. Financing costs are payable, as may be provided in the bond proceedings, from the proceeds of the obligations, from special funds, or from other moneys available for the purpose, including as to future financing costs, from the pledged receipts.

(F) The issuing authority may irrevocably pledge and assign all, or such portion as the issuing authority determines, of the pledged receipts to the payment of the debt service charges on obligations issued under this section, and for the establishment and maintenance of any reserves, as provided in the bond proceedings, and make other provisions in the bond proceedings with respect to pledged receipts as authorized by this section, which provisions are controlling notwithstanding any other provisions of law pertaining to them. Any and all pledged receipts received by the issuing authority and required by the bond proceedings, consistent with this section, to be deposited, transferred, or credited to the bond service fund, and all other money transferred or allocated to or received for the purposes of that fund, shall be deposited and credited to the bond service fund created in the bond proceedings for the obligations, subject to any applicable provisions of those bond proceedings, but without necessity for any act of appropriation. Those pledged receipts shall immediately be subject to the lien of that

pledge without any physical delivery thereof or further act, and shall not be subject to other court judgments. The lien of the pledge of those pledged receipts shall be valid and binding against all parties having claims of any kind against the issuing authority, irrespective of whether those parties have notice thereof. The pledge shall create a perfected security interest for all purposes of Chapter 1309. of the Revised Code and a perfected lien for purposes of any other interest, all without the necessity for separation or delivery of funds or for the filing or recording of the applicable bond proceedings by which that pledge is created or any certificate, statement, or other document with respect thereto. The pledge of the pledged receipts shall be effective and the money therefrom and thereof may be applied to the purposes for which pledged.

(G) Obligations may be further secured, as determined by the issuing authority, by an indenture or a trust agreement between the issuing authority and a corporate trustee, which may be any trust company or bank having a place of business within the state. Any indenture or trust agreement may contain the resolution or order authorizing the issuance of the obligations, any provisions that may be contained in any bond proceedings, and other provisions that are customary or appropriate in an agreement of that type, including, but not limited to:

(1) Maintenance of each pledge, indenture, trust agreement, or other instrument comprising part of the bond proceedings until the issuing authority has fully paid or provided for the payment of debt service on the obligations secured by it;

(2) In the event of default in any payments required to be made by the bond proceedings, enforcement of those payments or agreements by mandamus, the appointment of a receiver, suit in equity, action at law, or any combination of them;

(3) The rights and remedies of the holders or owners of obligations and of the trustee and provisions for protecting and enforcing them, including limitations on rights of individual holders and owners.

(H) The bond proceedings may contain additional provisions customary or appropriate to the financing or to the obligations or to particular obligations including, but not limited to, provisions for:

(1) The redemption of obligations prior to maturity at the option of the issuing authority or of the holder or upon the occurrence of certain conditions, and at a particular price or prices and under particular terms and conditions;

(2) The form of and other terms of the obligations;

(3) The establishment, deposit, investment, and application of special

funds, and the safeguarding of moneys on hand or on deposit, in lieu of the applicability of provisions of Chapter 131. or 135. of the Revised Code, but subject to any special provisions of this section with respect to the application of particular funds or moneys. Any financial institution that acts as a depository of any moneys in special funds or other funds under the bond proceedings may furnish indemnifying bonds or pledge securities as required by the issuing authority.

(4) Any or every provision of the bond proceedings being binding upon the issuing authority and upon such governmental agency or entity, officer, board, authority, agency, department, institution, district, or other person or body as may from time to time be authorized to take actions as may be necessary to perform all or any part of the duty required by the provision;

(5) The maintenance of each pledge or instrument comprising part of the bond proceedings until the issuing authority has fully paid or provided for the payment of the debt service on the obligations or met other stated conditions;

(6) In the event of default in any payments required to be made by the bond proceedings, or by any other agreement of the issuing authority made as part of a contract under which the obligations were issued or secured, including a credit enhancement facility, the enforcement of those payments by mandamus, a suit in equity, an action at law, or any combination of those remedial actions;

(7) The rights and remedies of the holders or owners of obligations or of book-entry interests in them, and of third parties under any credit enhancement facility, and provisions for protecting and enforcing those rights and remedies, including limitations on rights of individual holders or owners;

(8) The replacement of mutilated, destroyed, lost, or stolen obligations;

(9) The funding, refunding, or advance refunding, or other provision for payment, of obligations that will then no longer be outstanding for purposes of this section or of the applicable bond proceedings;

(10) Amendment of the bond proceedings;

(11) Any other or additional agreements with the owners of obligations, and such other provisions as the issuing authority determines, including limitations, conditions, or qualifications, relating to any of the foregoing or the activities of the issuing authority in connection therewith.

The bond proceedings shall make provision for the payment of the expenses of the enforcement activity of the attorney general referred to in division (B) of this section from the amounts from the tobacco master settlement agreement assigned and sold to the issuing authority under that

division or from the proceeds of obligations, or a combination thereof, which may include provision for both annual payments and a special fund providing reserve amounts for the payment of those expenses.

The issuing authority shall not, and shall covenant in the bond proceedings that it shall not, be authorized to and shall not file a voluntary petition under the United States Bankruptcy Code, 11 U.S.C. 101 et seq., as amended, or voluntarily commence any similar bankruptcy proceeding under state law including, without limitation, consenting to the appointment of a receiver or trustee or making a general or specific assignment for the benefit of creditors, and neither any public officer or any organization, entity, or other person shall authorize the issuing authority to be or become a debtor under the United States Bankruptcy Code or take any of those actions under the United States Bankruptcy Code or state law. The state hereby covenants, and the issuing authority shall covenant, with the holders or owners of the obligations, that the state shall not permit the issuing authority to file a voluntary petition under the United States Bankruptcy Code or take any of those actions under the United States Bankruptcy Code or state law during the period obligations are outstanding and for any additional period for which the issuing authority covenants in the bond proceedings, which additional period may, but need not, be a period of three hundred sixty-seven days or more.

(I) The obligations requiring execution by or for the issuing authority shall be signed as provided in the bond proceedings, and may bear the official seal of the issuing authority or a facsimile thereof. Any obligation may be signed by the individual who, on the date of execution, is the authorized signer even though, on the date of the obligations, that individual is not an authorized signer. In case the individual whose signature or facsimile signature appears on any obligation ceases to be an authorized signer before delivery of the obligation, that signature or facsimile is nevertheless valid and sufficient for all purposes as if that individual had remained the authorized signer until delivery.

(J) Obligations are investment securities under Chapter 1308. of the Revised Code. Obligations may be issued in bearer or in registered form, registrable as to principal alone or as to both principal and interest, or both, or in certificated or uncertificated form, as the issuing authority determines. Provision may be made for the exchange, conversion, or transfer of obligations and for reasonable charges for registration, exchange, conversion, and transfer. Pending preparation of final obligations, the issuing authority may provide for the issuance of interim instruments to be exchanged for the final obligations.

(K) Obligations may be sold at public sale or at private sale, in such manner, and at such price at, above, or below par, all as determined by and provided by the issuing authority in the bond proceedings.

(L) Except to the extent that rights are restricted by the bond proceedings, any owner of obligations or provider of or counterparty to a credit enhancement facility may by any suitable form of legal proceedings protect and enforce any rights relating to obligations or that facility under the laws of this state or granted by the bond proceedings. Those rights include the right to compel the performance of all applicable duties of the issuing authority and the state. Each duty of the issuing authority and that issuing authority's officers, staff, and employees, and of each state entity or agency, or using district or using institution, and its officers, members, staff, or employees, undertaken pursuant to the bond proceedings, is hereby established as a duty of the entity or individual having authority to perform that duty, specifically enjoined by law and resulting from an office, trust, or station within the meaning of section 2731.01 of the Revised Code. The individuals who are from time to time members of the issuing authority, or their designees acting pursuant to section 183.52 of the Revised Code, or the issuing authority's officers, staff, agents, or employees, when acting within the scope of their employment or agency, shall not be liable in their personal capacities on any obligations or otherwise under the bond proceedings, or for otherwise exercising or carrying out any purposes or powers of the issuing authority.

(M)(1) Subject to any applicable limitations in division (C) of this section, the issuing authority may also authorize and provide for the issuance of:

(a) Obligations in the form of bond anticipation notes, and may authorize and provide for the renewal of those notes from time to time by the issuance of new notes. The holders of notes or appertaining interest coupons have the right to have debt service on those notes paid solely from the moneys and special funds, and all or any portion of the pledged receipts, that are or may be pledged to that payment, including the proceeds of bonds or renewal notes or both, as the issuing authority provides in the bond proceedings authorizing the notes. Notes may be additionally secured by covenants of the issuing authority to the effect that the issuing authority will do all things necessary for the issuance of bonds or renewal notes in such principal amount and upon such terms as may be necessary to provide moneys to pay when due the debt service on the notes, and apply their proceeds to the extent necessary, to make full and timely payment of debt service on the notes as provided in the applicable bond proceedings. In the

bond proceedings authorizing the issuance of bond anticipation notes the issuing authority shall set forth for the bonds anticipated an estimated schedule of annual principal payments the latest of which shall be no later than provided in division (D) of this section. While the notes are outstanding there shall be deposited, as shall be provided in the bond proceedings for those notes, from the sources authorized for payment of debt service on the bonds, amounts sufficient to pay the principal of the bonds anticipated as set forth in that estimated schedule during the time the notes are outstanding, which amounts shall be used solely to pay the principal of those notes or of the bonds anticipated.

(b) Obligations for the refunding, including funding and retirement, and advance refunding, with or without payment or redemption prior to maturity, of any obligations previously issued under this section and any bonds or notes previously issued for the purpose of paying costs of capital facilities for: (i) state-supported or state-assisted institutions of higher education as authorized by sections 151.01 and 151.04 of the Revised Code, pursuant to Sections 2i and 2n of Article VIII, Ohio Constitution, and (ii) housing branches and agencies of state government limited to facilities for a system of common schools throughout the state as authorized by sections 151.01 and 151.03 of the Revised Code, pursuant to Sections 2i and 2n of Article VIII, Ohio Constitution. Refunding obligations may be issued in amounts sufficient to pay or to provide for repayment of the principal amount, including principal amounts maturing prior to the redemption of the remaining prior obligations or bonds or notes, any redemption premium, and interest accrued or to accrue to the maturity or redemption date or dates, payable on the prior obligations or bonds or notes, and related financing costs and any expenses incurred or to be incurred in connection with that issuance and refunding. Subject to the applicable bond proceedings, the portion of the proceeds of the sale of refunding obligations issued under division (M)(1)(b) of this section to be applied to debt service on the prior obligations or bonds or notes shall be credited to an appropriate separate account in the bond service fund and held in trust for the purpose by the issuing authority or by a corporate trustee, and may be invested as provided in the bond proceedings. Obligations authorized under this division shall be considered to be issued for those purposes for which the prior obligations or bonds or notes were issued.

(2) The principal amount of refunding, advance refunding, or renewal obligations issued pursuant to division (M) of this section shall be in addition to the amount authorized in division (C) of this section.

(N) Obligations are lawful investments for banks, savings and loan

associations, credit union share guaranty corporations, trust companies, trustees, fiduciaries, insurance companies, including domestic for life and domestic not for life, trustees or other officers having charge of sinking and bond retirement or other special funds of the state and political subdivisions and taxing districts of this state, notwithstanding any other provisions of the Revised Code or rules adopted pursuant to those provisions by any state agency with respect to investments by them, and are also acceptable as security for the repayment of the deposit of public moneys. The exemptions from taxation in Ohio as provided for in particular sections of the Ohio Constitution and section 5709.76 of the Revised Code apply to the obligations.

(O)(1) Unless otherwise provided or provided for in any applicable bond proceedings, moneys to the credit of or in a special fund shall be disbursed on the order of the issuing authority. No such order is required for the payment, from the bond service fund or other special fund, when due of debt service or required payments under credit enhancement facilities.

(2) Payments received by the issuing authority under interest rate hedges entered into as credit enhancement facilities under this section shall be deposited as provided in the applicable bond proceedings.

(P) The obligations shall not be general obligations of the state and the full faith and credit, revenue, and taxing power of the state shall not be pledged to the payment of debt service on them or to any guarantee of the payment of that debt service. The holders or owners of the obligations shall have no right to have any moneys obligated or pledged for the payment of debt service except as provided in this section and in the applicable bond proceedings. The rights of the holders and owners to payment of debt service are limited to all or that portion of the pledged receipts, and those special funds, pledged to the payment of debt service pursuant to the bond proceedings in accordance with this section, and each obligation shall bear on its face a statement to that effect.

(Q) Each bond service fund is a trust fund and is hereby pledged to the payment of debt service on the applicable obligations. Payment of that debt service shall be made or provided for by the issuing authority in accordance with the bond proceedings without necessity for any act of appropriation. The bond proceedings may provide for the establishment of separate accounts in the bond service fund and for the application of those accounts only to debt service on specific obligations, and for other accounts in the bond service fund within the general purposes of that fund.

(R) Subject to the bond proceedings pertaining to any obligations then outstanding in accordance with their terms, the issuing authority may in the

bond proceedings pledge all, or such portion as the issuing authority determines, of the moneys in the bond service fund to the payment of debt service on particular obligations, and for the establishment and maintenance of any reserves for payment of particular debt service.

(S)(1) Unless otherwise provided in any applicable bond proceedings, moneys to the credit of special funds may be invested by or on behalf of the issuing authority only in one or more of the following:

(a) Notes, bonds, or other direct obligations of the United States or of any agency or instrumentality of the United States, or in no-front-end-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of those obligations, or in repurchase agreements, including those issued by any fiduciary, secured by those obligations, or in collective investment funds consisting exclusively of those obligations;

(b) Obligations of this state or any political subdivision of this state;

(c) Certificates of deposit of any national bank located in this state and any bank, as defined in section 1101.01 of the Revised Code, subject to inspection by the superintendent of financial institutions;

(d) The treasurer of state's pooled investment program under section 135.45 of the Revised Code;

(e) Other investment agreements or repurchase agreements that are consistent with the ratings on the obligations.

(2) The income from investments referred to in division (S)(1) of this section shall be credited to special funds or otherwise as the issuing authority determines in the bond proceedings. Those investments may be sold or exchanged at times as the issuing authority determines, provides for, or authorizes.

(T) The treasurer of state shall have responsibility for keeping records, making reports, and making payments, relating to any arbitrage rebate requirements under the applicable bond proceedings.

(U) The issuing authority shall make quarterly reports to the general assembly of the amounts in, and activities of, each improvement fund, including amounts and activities on the subfund level. Each report shall include a detailed description and analysis of the amount of proceeds remaining in each fund from the sale of obligations pursuant to this section, and any other deposits, credits, interest earnings, disbursements, expenses, transfers, or activities of each fund.

(V) The costs of the annual audit of the authority conducted pursuant to section 117.112 of the Revised Code are payable, as may be provided in the bond proceedings, from the proceeds of the obligations, from special funds, or from other moneys available for the purpose, including as to future

financing costs, from the pledged receipts.

Sec. 185.01. As used in this chapter:

(A) "Advanced practice nurse" has the same meaning as in section 4723.01 of the Revised Code.

(B) "Collaboration" has the same meaning as in section 4723.01 of the Revised Code.

~~(C) "Health care coverage and quality council" means the entity established under section 3923.90 of the Revised Code.~~

~~(D)~~ "Patient centered medical home education advisory group" means the entity established under section 185.03 of the Revised Code to implement and administer the patient centered medical home education pilot project.

~~(E)~~(D) "Patient centered medical home education pilot project" means the pilot project established under section 185.02 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 185.03. (A) The patient centered medical home education advisory group is hereby created for the purpose of implementing and administering the patient centered medical home pilot project. The advisory group shall develop a set of expected outcomes for the pilot project.

(B) The advisory group shall consist of the following voting members:

(1) One individual with expertise in the training and education of primary care physicians who is appointed by the dean of the university of Toledo college of medicine;

(2) One individual with expertise in the training and education of primary care physicians who is appointed by the dean of the Boonshoft school of medicine at Wright state university;

(3) One individual with expertise in the training and education of primary care physicians who is appointed by the president and dean of the northeast Ohio medical university;

(4) One individual with expertise in the training and education of primary care physicians who is appointed by the dean of the Ohio university college of osteopathic medicine;

(5) Two individuals appointed by the governing board of the Ohio academy of family physicians;

(6) One individual appointed by the governing board of the Ohio chapter of the American college of physicians;

(7) One individual appointed by the governing board of the American academy of pediatrics;

(8) One individual appointed by the governing board of the Ohio osteopathic association;

(9) One individual with expertise in the training and education of

advanced practice nurses who is appointed by the governing board of the Ohio council of deans and directors of baccalaureate and higher degree programs in nursing;

(10) One individual appointed by the governing board of the Ohio nurses association;

(11) One individual appointed by the governing board of the Ohio association of advanced practice nurses;

(12) ~~A member of the health care coverage and quality council, other than the advisory group member specified in division (C)(2) of this section;~~
One individual appointed by the governing board of the Ohio council for home care and hospice;

(13) One individual appointed by the superintendent of insurance.

(C) The advisory group shall consist of the following nonvoting, ex officio members:

(1) The executive director of the state medical board, or the director's designee;

(2) The executive director of the board of nursing or the director's designee;

(3) The chancellor of the Ohio board of regents, or the chancellor's designee;

(4) The individual within the department of job and family services who serves as the director of medicaid, or the director's designee;

(5) The director of health or the director's designee.

(D) Advisory group members who are appointed shall serve at the pleasure of their appointing authorities. Terms of office of appointed members shall be three years, except that a member's term ends if the pilot project ceases operation during the member's term.

Vacancies shall be filled in the manner provided for original appointments.

Members shall serve without compensation, except to the extent that serving on the advisory group is considered part of their regular employment duties.

(E) The advisory group shall select from among its members a chairperson and vice-chairperson. The advisory group may select any other officers it considers necessary to conduct its business.

A majority of the members of the advisory group constitutes a quorum for the transaction of official business. A majority of a quorum is necessary for the advisory group to take any action, except that when one or more members of a quorum are required to abstain from voting as provided in division (C)(1)(d) or (C)(2)(c) of section 185.05 of the Revised Code, the

number of members necessary for a majority of a quorum shall be reduced accordingly.

The advisory group shall meet as necessary to fulfill its duties. The times and places for the meetings shall be selected by the chairperson.

(F) Sections 101.82 to 101.87 of the Revised Code do not apply to the advisory group.

Sec. 185.06. (A) To be eligible for inclusion in the patient centered medical home education pilot project, a physician practice shall meet all of the following requirements:

(1) Consist of physicians who are board-certified in family medicine, general pediatrics, or internal medicine, as those designations are issued by a medical specialty certifying board recognized by the American board of medical specialties or American osteopathic association;

(2) Be capable of adapting the practice during the period in which the practice receives funding from the patient centered medical home education advisory group in such a manner that the practice is fully compliant with the minimum standards for operation of a patient centered medical home, as those standards are established by the advisory group;

~~(3) Comply with any reporting requirements recommended by the health care coverage and quality council under division (A)(12) of section 3923.91 of the Revised Code;~~

(4) Meet any other criteria established by the advisory group as part of the selection process.

(B) To be eligible for inclusion in the pilot project, an advanced practice nurse primary care practice shall meet all of the following requirements:

(1) Consist of advanced practice nurses who meet all of the following requirements:

(a) Hold a certificate to prescribe issued under section 4723.48 of the Revised Code;

(b) Are board-certified as a family nurse practitioner or adult nurse practitioner by the American academy of nurse practitioners or American nurses credentialing center, board-certified as a geriatric nurse practitioner or women's health nurse practitioner by the American nurses credentialing center, or is board-certified as a pediatric nurse practitioner by the American nurses credentialing center or pediatric nursing certification board;

(c) Has a collaboration agreement with a physician with board certification as specified in division (A)(1) of this section and who is an active participant on the health care team.

(2) Be capable of adapting the primary care practice during the period in which the practice receives funding from the advisory group in such a

manner that the practice is fully compliant with the minimum standards for operation of a patient centered medical home, as those standards are established by the advisory group;

(3) ~~Comply with any reporting requirements recommended by the health care coverage and quality council under division (A)(12) of section 3923.91 of the Revised Code;~~

(4) Meet any other criteria established by the advisory group as part of the selection process.

Sec. 185.10. The patient centered medical home education advisory group shall seek funding sources for the patient centered medical home education pilot project. In doing so, the advisory group may apply for grants, seek federal funds, seek private donations, or seek any other type of funding that may be available for the pilot project. ~~To ensure that appropriate sources of and opportunities for funding are identified and pursued, the advisory group may ask for assistance from the health care coverage and quality council.~~

Sec. 187.01. As used in this chapter, "JobsOhio" means the nonprofit corporation formed under this section, and includes any subsidiary of that corporation. In any section of law that refers to the nonprofit corporation formed under this section, reference to the corporation includes reference to any such subsidiary unless otherwise specified or clearly appearing from the context.

The governor is hereby authorized to form a nonprofit corporation, to be named "JobsOhio," with the purposes of promoting economic development, job creation, job retention, job training, and the recruitment of business to this state. Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, the corporation shall be organized and operated in accordance with Chapter 1702. of the Revised Code. The governor shall sign and file articles of incorporation for the corporation with the secretary of state. The legal existence of the corporation shall begin upon the filing of the articles.

~~The~~ In addition to meeting the requirements for articles of incorporation in Chapter 1702. of the Revised Code, the articles of incorporation for the nonprofit corporation shall set forth the following:

- (A) The designation of the name of the corporation as JobsOhio;
- (B) The creation of a board of directors consisting of ~~the governor and eight~~ nine directors, to be appointed by the governor, who satisfy the qualifications prescribed by section 187.02 of the Revised Code;
- (C) A requirement that the governor make initial appointments to the board within sixty days after the filing of the articles of incorporation. Of the initial appointments made to the board, two shall be for a term ending

one year after the date the articles were filed, two shall be for a term ending two years after the date the articles were filed, and ~~four~~ five shall be for a term ending four years after the date the articles were filed. The articles shall state that, following the initial appointments, the governor shall appoint directors to terms of office of four years, with each term of office ending on the same day of the same month as did the term that it succeeds. If any director dies, resigns, or the director's status changes such that any of the requirements of division (C) of section 187.02 of the Revised Code are no longer met, that director's seat on the board shall become immediately vacant. The governor shall forthwith fill the vacancy by appointment for the remainder of the term of office of the vacated seat.

(D) ~~The designation of A requirement that~~ the governor ~~as the~~ appoint one director to be chairperson of the board and procedures for electing directors to serve as officers of the corporation and members of an executive committee;

(E) A provision for the appointment of a chief investment officer of the corporation by the recommendation of the board and approval of the governor. The chief investment officer shall serve at the pleasure of the ~~governor~~ board and shall have the power to execute contracts, spend corporation funds, and hire employees on behalf of the corporation. If the position of chief investment officer becomes vacant for any reason, the vacancy shall be filled in the same manner as provided in this division.

(F) Provisions requiring the board to do all of the following:

(1) Adopt one or more resolutions providing for compensation of the chief investment officer;

(2) Approve an employee compensation plan recommended by the chief investment officer;

(3) Approve a contract with the director of development for the corporation to assist the director and the department of development with providing services or otherwise carrying out the functions or duties of the department, including the operation and management of programs, offices, divisions, or boards, as may be determined by the director of development in consultation with the governor;

(4) Approve all major contracts for services recommended by the chief investment officer;

(5) Establish an annual strategic plan and standards of measure to be used in evaluating the corporation's success in executing the plan;

(6) Establish a conflicts of interest policy that, at a minimum, complies with section 187.06 of the Revised Code;

(7) Hold a minimum of four board of directors meetings per year at

which a quorum of the board is physically present, and such other meetings, at which directors' physical presence is not required, as may be necessary. Meetings at which a quorum of the board is required to be physically present are subject to divisions (C), (D), and (E) of section 187.03 of the Revised Code.

(8) Establish a records retention policy and present the policy, and any subsequent changes to the policy, at a meeting of the board of directors at which a quorum of the board is required to be physically present pursuant to division (F)(7) of this section;

(9) Adopt standards of conduct for the directors.

(G) A statement that directors shall not receive any compensation from the corporation, except that ~~governor-appointed~~ directors may be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses incurred in connection with services performed for the corporation;

(H) A provision authorizing the board to amend provisions of the corporation's articles of incorporation or regulations, except provisions required by this chapter;

(I) Procedures by which the corporation would be dissolved and by which all corporation rights, ~~liabilities~~, and assets would be distributed to the state or to another corporation organized under this chapter. These procedures shall incorporate any separate procedures subsequently set forth in this chapter for the dissolution of the corporation. The articles shall state that no dissolution shall take effect until the corporation has made adequate provision for the payment of any outstanding bonds, notes, or other obligations.

(J) A provision establishing an audit committee to be comprised of directors. The articles shall require that the audit committee hire an independent certified public accountant to perform a financial audit of the corporation at least once every year.

(K) A provision authorizing ~~the governor, as chairperson of the board,~~ a majority of the disinterested directors to remove a director for misconduct, as that term may be defined in the articles or regulations of the corporation. The removal of a director under this division creates a vacancy on the board that the governor shall fill by appointment for the remainder of the term of office of the vacated seat.

Sec. 187.02. (A) To qualify for appointment to the board of directors of JobsOhio, an individual must satisfy all of the following:

(1) Has an understanding of generally accepted accounting principles and financial statements;

(2) Possesses the ability to assess the general application of such

principles in connection with the accounting for estimates, accruals, and reserves;

(3) Has experience preparing, auditing, analyzing, or evaluating financial statements that present a breadth and level of complexity of accounting issues that are generally comparable to the breadth and complexity of issues that can reasonably be expected to be presented by the JobsOhio corporation's financial statements, or experience actively supervising one or more persons engaged in such activities;

(4) Has an understanding of internal controls and the procedures for financial reporting;

(5) Has an understanding of audit committee functions.

(B) Specific experience demonstrating the qualifications required by division (A) of this section may be evidenced by any of the following:

(1) Education and experience as a principal financial officer, principal accounting officer, controller, public accountant or auditor, or experience in one or more positions that involve the performance of similar functions;

(2) Experience actively supervising a principal financial officer, principal accounting officer, controller, public accountant, auditor, or person performing similar functions;

(3) Experience overseeing or assessing the performance of companies or public accountants with respect to the preparation, auditing, or evaluation of financial statements;

~~(4) Other experience considered relevant by the governor consistent with division (A) of this section.~~

(C) Each individual appointed to the board of directors shall be a citizen of the United States. At least six of the individuals appointed to the board shall be residents of or domiciled in this state.

Sec. 187.03. (A) JobsOhio may perform such functions as permitted and shall perform such duties as prescribed by law, but shall not be considered a state or public department, agency, office, body, institution, or instrumentality for purposes of section 1.60 or Chapter 102., 121., 125., or 149. of the Revised Code. JobsOhio and its board of directors are not subject to the following sections of Chapter 1702. of the Revised Code: sections 1702.03, 1702.08, 1702.09, 1702.21, 1702.24, 1702.26, 1702.27, 1702.28, 1702.29, 1702.301, 1702.33, 1702.34, 1702.37, 1702.38, 1702.40 to 1702.52, 1702.521, 1702.54, 1702.57, 1702.58, 1702.59, 1702.60, 1702.80, and 1702.99. Nothing in this division shall be construed to impair the powers and duties of the Ohio ethics commission described in section 102.06 of the Revised Code to investigate and enforce section 102.02 of the Revised Code with regard to individuals required to file statements under

division (B)(2) of this section.

(B)(1) ~~With the exception of the governor, directors~~ Directors and employees of JobsOhio are not employees or officials of the state and, except as provided in division (B)(2) of this section, are not subject to Chapter 102., 124., 145., or 4117. of the Revised Code.

(2) The chief investment officer, any other officer or employee with significant administrative, supervisory, contracting, or investment authority, and any ~~governor-appointed~~ director of JobsOhio shall file, with the Ohio ethics commission, a financial disclosure statement pursuant to section 102.02 of the Revised Code that includes, in place of the information required by divisions (A)(2), (7), (8), and (9) of that section, the information required by divisions (A) and (B) of section 102.022 of the Revised Code. The governor shall comply with all applicable requirements of section 102.02 of the Revised Code.

(3) Actual or in-kind expenditures for the travel, meals, or lodging of the governor or of any public official or employee designated by the governor for the purpose of this division shall not be considered a violation of section 102.03 of the Revised Code if the expenditures are made by the corporation, or on behalf of the corporation by any person, in connection with the governor's performance of official duties ~~as chairperson of the board of directors of~~ related to JobsOhio. The governor may designate any person, including a person who is a public official or employee as defined in section 102.01 of the Revised Code, for the purpose of this division if such expenditures are made on behalf of the person in connection with the governor's performance of official duties ~~as chairperson~~ related to JobsOhio. A public official or employee so designated by the governor shall comply with all applicable requirements of section 102.02 of the Revised Code.

At the times and frequency agreed to under division (B)(2)(b) of section 187.04 of the Revised Code, beginning in 2012, the corporation shall file with the department of development a written report of all such expenditures paid or incurred during the preceding calendar year. The report shall state the dollar value and purpose of each expenditure, the date of each expenditure, the name of the person that paid or incurred each expenditure, and the location, if any, where services or benefits of an expenditure were received, provided that any such information that may disclose proprietary information as defined in division (C) of this section shall not be included in the report.

(4) The prohibition applicable to former public officials or employees in division (A)(1) of section 102.03 of the Revised Code does not apply to any person appointed to be a director or hired as an employee of JobsOhio.

(5) Notwithstanding division (A)(2) of section 145.01 of the Revised Code, any person who is a former state employee shall no longer be considered a public employee for purposes of Chapter 145. of the Revised Code upon commencement of employment with JobsOhio.

(6) Any director, officer, or employee of JobsOhio may request an advisory opinion from the Ohio ethics commission with regard to questions concerning the provisions of sections 102.02 and 102.022 of the Revised Code to which the person is subject.

(C) Meetings of the board of directors at which a quorum of the board is required to be physically present pursuant to division (F) of section 187.01 of the Revised Code shall be open to the public except, by a majority vote of the directors present at the meeting, such a meeting may be closed to the public only for one or more of the following purposes:

(1) To consider business strategy of the corporation;

(2) To consider proprietary information belonging to potential applicants or potential recipients of business recruitment, retention, or creation incentives. For the purposes of this division, "proprietary information" means marketing plans, specific business strategy, production techniques and trade secrets, financial projections, or personal financial statements of applicants or members of the applicants' immediate family, including, but not limited to, tax records or other similar information not open to the public inspection.

(3) To consider legal matters, including litigation, in which the corporation is or may be involved;

(4) To consider personnel matters related to an individual employee of the corporation.

(D) The board of directors shall establish a reasonable method whereby any person may obtain the time and place of all public meetings described in division (C) of this section. The method shall provide that any person, upon request and payment of a reasonable fee, may obtain reasonable advance notification of all such meetings.

(E) The board of directors shall promptly prepare, file, and maintain minutes of all public meetings described in division (C) of this section.

(F) Not later than March 1, 2012, and the first day of March of each year thereafter, the chief investment officer of JobsOhio shall prepare and submit a report of the corporation's activities for the preceding year to the governor, the speaker and minority leader of the house of representatives, and the president and minority leader of the senate. The annual report shall include the following:

(1) An analysis of the state's economy;

(2) A description of the structure, operation, and financial status of the corporation;

(3) A description of the corporation's strategy to improve the state economy and the standards of measure used to evaluate its progress;

(4) An evaluation of the performance of current strategies and major initiatives;

(5) An analysis of any statutory or administrative barriers to successful economic development, business recruitment, and job growth in the state identified by JobsOhio during the preceding year.

Sec. 187.09. (A) Any action brought by or on behalf of JobsOhio against a director or former director in that individual's capacity as a director shall be brought in the court of common pleas of Franklin county.

(B) Except as provided in division (D) of this section, any claim asserting that any one or more sections of the Revised Code amended or enacted by H.B. 1 of the 129th general assembly, any section of Chapter 4313. of the Revised Code enacted by H.B. 153 of the 129th general assembly, or any portion of one or more of those sections, violates any provision of the Ohio Constitution shall be brought in the court of common pleas of Franklin county within ninety days after the effective date of the amendment of this section by H.B. 153 of the 129th general assembly.

(C) Except as provided in division (D) of this section, any claim asserting that any action taken by JobsOhio violates any provision of the Ohio Constitution shall be brought in the court of common pleas of Franklin county within sixty days after the action is taken.

(D) Divisions (B) and (C) of this section shall not apply to any claim within the original jurisdiction of the supreme court or a court of appeals pursuant to Article IV of the Ohio Constitution.

(E) The court of common pleas of Franklin county shall give any claim filed pursuant to division (B) or (C) of this section priority over all other civil cases before the court, irrespective of position on the court's calendar, and shall make a determination on the claim expeditiously. A court of appeals shall give any appeal from a final order issued in a case brought pursuant to division (B) or (C) of this section priority over all other civil cases before the court, irrespective of position on the court's calendar, and shall make a determination on the appeal expeditiously.

Sec. 187.13. (A) No person, except the nonprofit corporation formed under section 187.01 of the Revised Code or its designees, may use the name "JobsOhio" or "Jobs Ohio," or words of a similar meaning in another language, as any part of a designation or name under which the person conducts or may conduct business in this state, unless the person receives

the written consent of JobsOhio. As used in this section, "person" has the same meaning as in section 1702.01 of the Revised Code.

(B) The name of any subsidiary of JobsOhio shall include the name "JobsOhio" and an additional designation that differentiates the subsidiary from other JobsOhio corporations formed under section 187.01 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 189.01. As used in sections 189.01 to 189.09 of the Revised Code, "political subdivision" means a municipal corporation, township, county, school district, or other body corporate and politic responsible for governmental activities in a geographic area smaller than that of the state. "Political subdivision" includes a county hospital commission appointed under section 339.14 of the Revised Code, board of hospital commissioners appointed for a municipal hospital under section 749.04 of the Revised Code, board of hospital trustees appointed for a municipal hospital under section 749.22 of the Revised Code, regional planning commission created pursuant to section 713.21 of the Revised Code, county planning commission created pursuant to section 713.22 of the Revised Code, joint planning council created pursuant to section 713.231 of the Revised Code, interstate regional planning commission created pursuant to section 713.30 of the Revised Code, port authority created pursuant to section 4582.02 or 4582.26 of the Revised Code or in existence on December 16, 1964, regional council established by political subdivisions pursuant to Chapter 167. of the Revised Code, emergency planning district and joint emergency planning district designated under section 3750.03 of the Revised Code, joint emergency medical services district created pursuant to section 307.052 of the Revised Code, fire and ambulance district created pursuant to section 505.375 of the Revised Code, joint interstate emergency planning district established by an agreement entered into under section 3750.03 of the Revised Code, county solid waste management district and joint solid waste management district established under section 343.01 or 343.012 of the Revised Code, community school established under Chapter 3314. of the Revised Code, the county or counties served by a community-based correctional facility and program or district community-based correctional facility and program established and operated under sections 2301.51 to 2301.58 of the Revised Code, a community-based correctional facility and program or district community-based correctional facility and program that is so established and operated, and the facility governing board of a community-based correctional facility and program or district community-based correctional facility and program that is so established and operated.

Sec. 189.02. There is hereby created the local government innovation program to be administered by the department of development and the local government innovation council established in section 189.03 of the Revised Code. The program shall provide loans and grants for local government innovation projects in accordance with this chapter.

Sec. 189.03. (A) There is hereby created the local government innovation council to establish criteria for and make loans and awards to political subdivisions for local government innovation projects and take such other actions, in consultation with the department of development, as necessary to implement the local government innovation program established in section 189.02 of the Revised Code.

(B) The council shall consist of the following members:

(1) The director of development, or the director's designee;

(2) The director of budget and management, or the director's designee;

(3) The auditor of state, or the auditor's designee;

(4) Two members of the senate, one member appointed by the president of the senate and one member appointed by the minority leader of the senate;

(5) Two members of the house of representatives, one member appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives and one member appointed by the minority leader of the house of representatives;

(6) One member recommended by the Ohio municipal league, appointed by the governor;

(7) One member recommended by the county commissioners association of Ohio, appointed by the governor;

(8) One member recommended by the Ohio township association, appointed by the governor;

(9) One member recommended by the Ohio chamber of commerce, appointed by the governor;

(10) One member recommended by the Ohio school boards association, appointed by the governor;

(11) One member, appointed by the governor, who is recommended by an Ohio-based advocacy group selected by the governor;

(12) One member, appointed by the governor, who is recommended by an Ohio-based foundation selected by the governor;

(13) One member with expertise in local government issues appointed by the chancellor of the board of regents.

(C) Initial appointments to the council shall be made not later than September 30, 2011. Of the governor's initial appointees, three shall serve an initial term of one year, two shall serve an initial term of two years, and

two shall serve an initial term of three years. Thereafter, each member appointed by the governor shall serve a four-year term, or a term ending when the council ceases to exist, whichever occurs first. The remaining members of the council shall be appointed for four-year terms, or terms ending when the council ceases to exist, whichever occurs first. Members may be reappointed to the council.

Vacancies on the council shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointments.

(D) At its first meeting, the council shall select a chairperson from among its members. After the first meeting, the council shall meet at the call of the chairperson or upon the request of a majority of the council's members. A majority of the council constitutes a quorum.

(E) The department of development shall provide administrative assistance to the council.

(F) Council members shall receive no compensation but shall be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of council duties.

Sec. 189.04. (A) The local government innovation council shall award loans to a qualified political subdivision or a qualified group of political subdivisions to be used for the purchase of equipment, facilities, or systems or for implementation costs.

Loans made under division (A) of this section shall be repaid by recipients using savings achieved from the innovation project.

(B) Up to twenty per cent of the funds in the local government innovation fund, established in section 189.05 of the Revised Code, may be awarded by the council as grants to political subdivisions for use in process improvement or implementation of innovation project awards.

(C) The council shall award, in total grants and loans, not more than one hundred thousand dollars to an individual political subdivision and not more than five hundred thousand dollars per innovation project under this section.

Sec. 189.05. Funds for awards made by the local government innovation council shall be made from the local government innovation fund, which is hereby created in the state treasury. The fund shall consist of moneys appropriated to it and any grants or donations received from nonpublic entities. Interest earned on the money in the fund shall be credited to the fund.

Sec. 189.06. (A) All political subdivisions of the state are eligible to apply for awards under the local government innovation program. The local government innovation council shall award loans and grants under the program in accordance with a competitive process to be developed by the

council.

(B) Not later than December 31, 2011, the council shall establish criteria for evaluating proposals and making awards to political subdivisions. The criteria shall be developed in consultation with nonpublic entities involved in local government issues, state institutions of higher education, and the department of development, as determined by the council. The criteria shall include a requirement that at least one of the political subdivisions that is a party to the proposal provide matching funds. The matching funds may be provided by a nonpublic entity. The criteria for evaluating proposals may include the following provisions:

(1) The expected return on investment, based on the ratio of expected savings;

(2) The number of participating entities in the proposal;

(3) The probability of the proposal's success;

(4) The percentage of local matching funds available;

(5) The ability to replicate the proposal in other political subdivisions;

(6) Whether the proposal is part of a larger consolidation effort by the applicant or applicants;

(7) Whether the proposal is to implement performance audit recommendations under section 117.462 of the Revised Code;

(8) Whether the applicant has successfully completed an innovation project in the past.

Sec. 189.07. A political subdivision seeking an award under the local government innovation program shall submit a proposal to the subdivision's district public works integrating committee. The committee shall submit the proposal to the department of development, with advisory comments. The department shall provide the proposal to the local government innovation council for evaluation and selection.

Sec. 189.08. (A) Starting not later than March 1, 2012, the local government innovation council shall begin evaluating proposals received from the department of development for awards to political subdivisions. Not later than July 1, 2012, the council shall make its first round of awards to the political subdivisions.

(B) After making the first round of awards, the council shall evaluate proposals and make awards on a quarterly basis, or on another schedule determined by the council, with the council determining the funding levels for each round of awards.

(C) When making awards from the local government innovation fund created in section 189.05 of the Revised Code, the funds available for each round of awards shall be divided into the following tiers:

(1) At least thirty per cent to political subdivisions that are not counties and have a population of less than 50,000 residents as determined in the decennial census conducted in 2010 or counties with a population of less than 130,000 residents as determined in the decennial census conducted in 2010;

(2) At least thirty per cent to political subdivisions that are not counties and have a population of 50,000 residents or more as determined in the decennial census conducted in 2010 or counties with a population of 130,000 residents or more as determined in the decennial census conducted in 2010.

If a proposal includes participants from both division (C)(1) and (2) of this section, the award may be drawn from either or both tiers in the local government innovation fund.

Sec. 189.09. Not later than January 31, 2013, the local government innovation council shall submit a report to the governor, president and minority leader of the senate, and speaker and minority leader of the house of representatives outlining the council's activities for the preceding year, including a listing of recipients of grants and loans, if any, made to political subdivisions, the amount of such grants and loans, and any other information about the local government innovation program that the council determines necessary to include in the report.

Sec. 189.10. The local government innovation council shall cease to exist on December 31, 2015.

Sec. 301.02. Previous to the presentation of a petition to the general assembly praying that a new county be erected, or for the location or relocation of a county seat, notice of the intention to present such petition shall be given, at least thirty days before the ensuing session of the general assembly, by advertisement in a newspaper published of general circulation in each county from which such new county is intended to be taken. If no paper newspaper is printed of general circulation within the county, notice shall be given by advertisement affixed to the door of the house where courts are held for such county, for such period of thirty days. The notice shall set forth the boundary lines of the new county, or the place where it is proposed to locate such county seat.

Sec. 301.15. Within sixty days after their appointment, the commissioners provided for by section 301.14 of the Revised Code, or any two of them, shall assemble at some convenient place in the new county. Twenty days' notice of the time, place, and purpose of such meeting shall be given by publication in a newspaper published in and circulated of general circulation in such the county, or by being posted in three of the most public

places in such county. When assembled, after having taken the oath of office prescribed by sections 3.22 and 3.23 of the Revised Code, such commissioners shall proceed to examine and select the most proper place as a seat of justice, as near the center of the county as possible, having regard to the situation, extent of population, quality of land, and the convenience and interest of the inhabitants.

Sec. 301.28. (A) As used in this section:

(1) "Financial transaction device" includes a credit card, debit card, charge card, or prepaid or stored value card, or automated clearinghouse network credit, debit, or e-check entry that includes, but is not limited to, accounts receivable and internet-initiated, point of purchase, and telephone-initiated applications or any other device or method for making an electronic payment or transfer of funds.

(2) "County expenses" includes fees, costs, taxes, assessments, fines, penalties, payments, or any other expense a person owes to a county office under the authority of a county official other than dog registration and kennel fees required to be paid under Chapter 955. of the Revised Code.

(3) "County official" includes the county auditor, county treasurer, county engineer, county recorder, county prosecuting attorney, county sheriff, county coroner, county park district and board of county commissioners, the clerk of the probate court, the clerk of the juvenile court, the clerks of court for all divisions of the courts of common pleas, and the clerk of the court of common pleas, the clerk of a county-operated municipal court, and the clerk of a county court.

The term "county expenses" includes county expenses owed to the board of health of the general health district or a combined health district in the county. If the board of county commissioners authorizes county expenses to be paid by financial transaction devices under this section, then the board of health and the general health district and the combined health district may accept payments by financial transaction devices under this section as if the board were a "county official" and the district were a county office. However, in the case of a general health district formed by unification of general health districts under section 3709.10 of the Revised Code, this entitlement applies only if all the boards of county commissioners of all counties in the district have authorized payments to be accepted by financial transaction devices.

(B) Notwithstanding any other section of the Revised Code and except as provided in division (D) of this section, a board of county commissioners may adopt a resolution authorizing the acceptance of payments by financial transaction devices for county expenses. The resolution shall include the

following:

(1) A specification of those county officials who, and of the county offices under those county officials that, are authorized to accept payments by financial transaction devices;

(2) A list of county expenses that may be paid for through the use of a financial transaction device;

(3) Specific identification of financial transaction devices that the board authorizes as acceptable means of payment for county expenses. Uniform acceptance of financial transaction devices among different types of county expenses is not required.

(4) The amount, if any, authorized as a surcharge or convenience fee under division (E) of this section for persons using a financial transaction device. Uniform application of surcharges or convenience fees among different types of county expenses is not required.

(5) A specific provision as provided in division (G) of this section requiring the payment of a penalty if a payment made by means of a financial transaction device is returned or dishonored for any reason.

The board's resolution shall also designate the county treasurer as an administrative agent to solicit proposals, within guidelines established by the board in the resolution and in compliance with the procedures provided in division (C) of this section, from financial institutions, issuers of financial transaction devices, and processors of financial transaction devices, to make recommendations about those proposals to the board, and to assist county offices in implementing the county's financial transaction devices program. The county treasurer may decline this responsibility within thirty days after receiving a copy of the board's resolution by notifying the board in writing within that period. If the treasurer so notifies the board, the board shall perform the duties of the administrative agent.

If the county treasurer is the administrative agent and fails to administer the county financial transaction devices program in accordance with the guidelines in the board's resolution, the board shall notify the treasurer in writing of the board's findings, explain the failures, and give the treasurer six months to correct the failures. If the treasurer fails to make the appropriate corrections within that six-month period, the board may pass a resolution declaring the board to be the administrative agent. The board may later rescind that resolution at its discretion.

(C) The county shall follow the procedures provided in this division whenever it plans to contract with financial institutions, issuers of financial transaction devices, or processors of financial transaction devices for the purposes of this section. The administrative agent shall request proposals

from at least three financial institutions, issuers of financial transaction devices, or processors of financial transaction devices, as appropriate in accordance with the resolution adopted under division (B) of this section. Prior to sending any financial institution, issuer, or processor a copy of any such request, the county shall advertise its intent to request proposals in a newspaper of general circulation in the county once a week for two consecutive weeks or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code. The notice shall state that the county intends to request proposals; specify the purpose of the request; indicate the date, which shall be at least ten days after the second publication, on which the request for proposals will be mailed to financial institutions, issuers, or processors; and require that any financial institution, issuer, or processor, whichever is appropriate, interested in receiving the request for proposals submit written notice of this interest to the county not later than noon of the day on which the request for proposals will be mailed.

Upon receiving the proposals, the administrative agent shall review them and make a recommendation to the board of county commissioners on which proposals to accept. The board of county commissioners shall consider the agent's recommendation and review all proposals submitted, and then may choose to contract with any or all of the entities submitting proposals, as appropriate. The board shall provide any financial institution, issuer, or processor that submitted a proposal, but with which the board does not enter into a contract, notice that its proposal is rejected. The notice shall state the reasons for the rejection, indicate whose proposals were accepted, and provide a copy of the terms and conditions of the successful bids.

(D) A board of county commissioners adopting a resolution under this section shall send a copy of the resolution to each county official in the county who is authorized by the resolution to accept payments by financial transaction devices. After receiving the resolution and before accepting payments by financial transaction devices, a county official shall provide written notification to the board of county commissioners of the official's intent to implement the resolution within the official's office. Each county office subject to the board's resolution adopted under division (B) of this section may use only the financial institutions, issuers of financial transaction devices, and processors of financial transaction devices with which the board of county commissioners contracts, and each such office is subject to the terms of those contracts.

If a county office under the authority of a county official is directly responsible for collecting one or more county expenses and the county official determines not to accept payments by financial transaction devices

for one or more of those expenses, the office shall not be required to accept payments by financial transaction devices, notwithstanding the adoption of a resolution by the board of county commissioners under this section.

Any office of a clerk of the court of common pleas that accepts financial transaction devices on or before July 1, 1999, and any other county office that accepted such devices before January 1, 1998, may continue to accept such devices without being subject to any resolution passed by the board of county commissioners under division (B) of this section, or any other oversight by the board of the office's financial transaction devices program. Any such office may use surcharges or convenience fees in any manner the county official in charge of the office determines to be appropriate, and, if the county treasurer consents, may appoint the county treasurer to be the office's administrative agent for purposes of accepting financial transaction devices. In order not to be subject to the resolution of the board of county commissioners adopted under division (B) of this section, a county office shall notify the board in writing within thirty days after March 30, 1999, that it accepted financial transaction devices prior to January 1, 1998, or, in the case of the office of a clerk of the court of common pleas, the clerk has accepted or will accept such devices on or before July 1, 1999. Each such notification shall explain how processing costs associated with financial transaction devices are being paid and shall indicate whether surcharge or convenience fees are being passed on to consumers.

(E) A board of county commissioners may establish a surcharge or convenience fee that may be imposed upon a person making payment by a financial transaction device. The surcharge or convenience fee shall not be imposed unless authorized or otherwise permitted by the rules prescribed by an agreement governing the use and acceptance of the financial transaction device.

If a surcharge or convenience fee is imposed, every county office accepting payment by a financial transaction device, regardless of whether that office is subject to a resolution adopted by a board of county commissioners, shall clearly post a notice in that office and shall notify each person making a payment by such a device about the surcharge or fee. Notice to each person making a payment shall be provided regardless of the medium used to make the payment and in a manner appropriate to that medium. Each notice shall include all of the following:

- (1) A statement that there is a surcharge or convenience fee for using a financial transaction device;
- (2) The total amount of the charge or fee expressed in dollars and cents for each transaction, or the rate of the charge or fee expressed as a

percentage of the total amount of the transaction, whichever is applicable;

(3) A clear statement that the surcharge or convenience fee is nonrefundable.

(F) If a person elects to make a payment to the county by a financial transaction device and a surcharge or convenience fee is imposed, the payment of the surcharge or fee shall be considered voluntary and the surcharge or fee is not refundable.

(G) If a person makes payment by financial transaction device and the payment is returned or dishonored for any reason, the person is liable to the county for payment of a penalty over and above the amount of the expense due. The board of county commissioners shall determine the amount of the penalty, which may be either a fee not to exceed twenty dollars or payment of the amount necessary to reimburse the county for banking charges, legal fees, or other expenses incurred by the county in collecting the returned or dishonored payment. The remedies and procedures provided in this section are in addition to any other available civil or criminal remedies provided by law.

(H) No person making any payment by financial transaction device to a county office shall be relieved from liability for the underlying obligation except to the extent that the county realizes final payment of the underlying obligation in cash or its equivalent. If final payment is not made by the financial transaction device issuer or other guarantor of payment in the transaction, the underlying obligation shall survive and the county shall retain all remedies for enforcement that would have applied if the transaction had not occurred.

(I) A county official or employee who accepts a financial transaction device payment in accordance with this section and any applicable state or local policies or rules is immune from personal liability for the final collection of such payments.

Sec. 305.171. The following applies until the department of administrative services implements for counties the health care plans under section 9.901 of the Revised Code. If those plans do not include or address any benefits listed in division (A) of this section, the following provisions continue in effect for those benefits.

(A) The board of county commissioners of any county may contract for, purchase, or otherwise procure and pay all or any part of the cost of group insurance policies that may provide benefits including, but not limited to, hospitalization, surgical care, major medical care, disability, dental care, eye care, medical care, hearing aids, or prescription drugs, and that may provide sickness and accident insurance, group legal services, or group life

insurance, or a combination of any of the foregoing types of insurance or coverage, for county officers and employees and their immediate dependents from the funds or budgets from which the county officers or employees are compensated for services, issued by an insurance company.

(B) The board of county commissioners also may negotiate and contract for any plan or plans of health care services with health insuring corporations holding a certificate of authority under Chapter 1751. of the Revised Code, provided that each county officer or employee shall be permitted to do both of the following:

(1) Exercise an option between a plan offered by an insurance company and a plan or plans offered by health insuring corporations under this division, on the condition that the county officer or employee shall pay any amount by which the cost of the plan chosen by the county officer or employee pursuant to this division exceeds the cost of the plan offered under division (A) of this section;

(2) Change from one of the plans to another at a time each year as determined by the board.

(C) Section 307.86 of the Revised Code does not apply to the purchase of benefits for county officers or employees under divisions (A) and (B) of this section when those benefits are provided through a jointly administered health and welfare trust fund in which the county or contracting authority and a collective bargaining representative of the county employees or contracting authority agree to participate.

(D) The board of trustees of a jointly administered trust fund that receives contributions pursuant to collective bargaining agreements entered into between the board of county commissioners of any county and a collective bargaining representative of the employees of the county may provide for self-insurance of all risk in the provision of fringe benefits, and may provide through the self-insurance method specific fringe benefits as authorized by the rules of the board of trustees of the jointly administered trust fund. The fringe benefits may include, but are not limited to, hospitalization, surgical care, major medical care, disability, dental care, vision care, medical care, hearing aids, prescription drugs, group life insurance, sickness and accident insurance, group legal services, or a combination of any of the foregoing types of insurance or coverage, for county employees and their dependents.

(E) The board of county commissioners may provide the benefits described in divisions (A) to (D) of this section through an individual self-insurance program or a joint self-insurance program as provided in section 9.833 of the Revised Code.

(F) When a board of county commissioners offers health benefits authorized under this section to a county officer or employee, the board may offer the benefits through a cafeteria plan meeting the requirements of section 125 of the "Internal Revenue Code of 1986," 100 Stat. 2085, 26 U.S.C.A. 125, as amended, and, as part of that plan, may offer the county officer or employee the option of receiving a cash payment in any form permissible under such cafeteria plans. A cash payment made to a county officer or employee under this division shall not exceed twenty-five per cent of the cost of premiums or payments that otherwise would be paid by the board for benefits for the county officer or employee under a policy or plan.

(G) The board of county commissioners may establish a policy authorizing any county appointing authority to make a cash payment to any county officer or employee in lieu of providing a benefit authorized under this section if the county officer or employee elects to take the cash payment instead of the offered benefit. A cash payment made to a county officer or employee under this division shall not exceed twenty-five per cent of the cost of premiums or payments that otherwise would be paid by the board for benefits for the county officer or employee under an offered policy or plan.

(H) No cash payment in lieu of a health benefit shall be made to a county officer or employee under division (F) or (G) of this section unless the county officer or employee signs a statement affirming that the county officer or employee is covered under another health insurance or health care policy, contract, or plan, and setting forth the name of the employer, if any, that sponsors the coverage, the name of the carrier that provides the coverage, and the identifying number of the policy, contract, or plan.

(I) The legislative authority of a county-operated municipal court, after consultation with the judges, or the clerk and deputy clerks, of the municipal court, shall negotiate and contract for, purchase, or otherwise procure, and pay the costs, premiums, or charges for, group health care coverage for the judges, and group health care coverage for the clerk and deputy clerks, in accordance with section 1901.111 or 1901.312 of the Revised Code.

(J) As used in this section:

(1) "County officer or employee" includes, but is not limited to, a member or employee of the county board of elections.

(2) "County-operated municipal court" and "legislative authority" have the same meanings as in section 1901.03 of the Revised Code.

(3) "Health care coverage" has the same meaning as in section 1901.111 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 305.23. (A) As used in this section:

(1) "County office" means the offices of the county commissioner,

county auditor, county treasurer, county engineer, county recorder, county prosecuting attorney, county sheriff, county coroner, county park district, veterans service commission, clerk of the juvenile court, clerks of court for all divisions of the courts of common pleas, including the clerk of the court of common pleas, clerk of a county-operated municipal court, and clerk of a county court, and any agency, department, or division under the authority of, or receiving funding in whole or in part from, any of those county offices.

(2) "Human resources" means any and all functions relating to human resource management, including civil service, employee benefits administration, collective bargaining, labor relations, risk management, workers' compensation, unemployment compensation, and any human resource management function required by state or federal law, but "human resources" does not authorize a board of county commissioners to adopt a resolution establishing a centralized human resource service that requires any county office to conform to any classification and compensation plan, position descriptions, or organizational structure; to determine the rate of compensation of any employee appointed by the appointing authority of a county office or the salary ranges for positions of a county office within the aggregate limits set in the appropriation resolution of the board of county commissioners; to determine the number of or the terms of employment of any employee appointed by the appointing authority of a county office within the aggregate limits set in the board's appropriation resolution; or to exercise powers relating to the hiring, qualifications, evaluation, suspension, demotion, disciplinary action, layoff, furloughing, establishment of a modified work-week schedule, or the termination of any employee appointed by the appointing authority of any county office.

(B) Subject to division (C) of this section, a board of county commissioners may adopt a resolution establishing centralized purchasing, printing, transportation, vehicle maintenance, human resources, revenue collection, and mail operation services for a county office. Before adopting a resolution under this section, the board of county commissioners, in a written notice, shall inform any other county office that will be impacted by the resolution of the board's desire to establish a centralized service or services. The written notice shall include a statement that provides the rationale and the estimated savings anticipated for centralizing a service or services. In addition, the board may request any other county office to serve as the agent and responsible party for administering a centralized service or services. That county office may enter into an agreement with the board of county commissioners to administer the centralized service or services under such terms and conditions as are included in the agreement, but nothing in

this section authorizes the board of county commissioners to require a county office to serve as the agent and responsible party for administering a centralized service or services at the board's request.

A resolution establishing a centralized service or services shall specify all of the following:

(1) The name of the county office that will be the agent and responsible party for administering a centralized service or services, and if the agent and responsible party is not the board of county commissioners, the designation of the county office that has entered into an agreement under division (B) of this section with the board to be the agent and responsible party;

(2) Which county offices are required to use the centralized services;

(3) If not all of the centralized services, which centralized service each county office must use;

(4) A list of rates and charges the county office shall pay for the centralized services;

(5) The date upon which each county office specified in the resolution shall begin using the centralized services.

Not later than ten days after a resolution is adopted under this section, the clerk of the board of county commissioners shall send a copy of the resolution to each county office that is specified in the resolution.

(C) A board of county commissioners shall not adopt a resolution that establishes a centralized service or services regarding any of the following:

(1) Purchases made for contract services with moneys from the special fund designated as "general fund moneys to supplement the equipment needs of the county recorder" under section 317.321 of the Revised Code, from the real estate assessment fund established under section 325.31 of the Revised Code, or from the funds that are paid out of the general fund of the county under sections 325.071 and 325.12 of the Revised Code;

(2) Purchases of financial software used by the county auditor;

(3) The printing of county property tax bills;

(4) The collection of any taxes, assessments, and fees the county treasurer is required by law to collect;

(5) Purchases of software used by the county recorder.

(D) Nothing in this section authorizes the board of county commissioners to have control or authority over funds that are received directly by a county office under another section of the Revised Code, or to control, or have authority regarding, the expenditure or use of such funds.

Sec. 306.322. (A) For any regional transit authority that levies a property tax and that includes in its membership political subdivisions that are located in a county having a population of at least four hundred thousand

according to the most recent federal census, the procedures of this section apply until November 5, 2013, and are in addition to and an alternative to those established in sections 306.32 and 306.321 for joining to the regional transit authority additional counties, municipal corporations, or townships.

(B) Any municipal corporation or township may adopt a resolution or ordinance proposing to join a regional transit authority described in division (A) of this section. In its resolution or ordinance, the political subdivision may propose joining the regional transit authority for a limited period of three years or without a time limit.

(C) The political subdivision proposing to join the regional transit authority shall submit a copy of its resolution or ordinance to the legislative authority of each municipal corporation and the board of trustees of each township comprising the regional transit authority. Within thirty days of receiving the resolution or ordinance for inclusion in the regional transit authority, the legislative authority of each municipal corporation and the board of trustees of each township shall consider the question of whether to include the additional subdivision in the regional transit authority, shall adopt a resolution or ordinance approving or rejecting the inclusion of the additional subdivision, and shall present its resolution or ordinance to the board of trustees of the regional transit authority.

(D) If a majority of the political subdivisions comprising the regional transit authority approve the inclusion of the additional political subdivision, the board of trustees of the regional transit authority, not later than the tenth day following the day on which the last ordinance or resolution is presented, shall notify the subdivision proposing to join the regional transit authority that it may certify the proposal to the board of elections for the purpose of having the proposal placed on the ballot at the next general election or at a special election conducted on the day of the next primary election that occurs not less than ninety days after the resolution or ordinance is certified to the board of elections.

(E) Upon certification of a proposal to the board of elections pursuant to this section, the board of elections shall make the necessary arrangements for the submission of the question to the electors of the territory to be included in the regional transit authority qualified to vote on the question, and the election shall be held, canvassed, and certified in the same manner as regular elections for the election of officers of the subdivision proposing to join the regional transit authority, except that, if the resolution proposed the inclusion without a time limitation the question appearing on the ballot shall read:

"Shall the territory within the (Name or names of

political subdivisions to be joined) be added to
(Name) regional transit authority?" and shall a(n) (here insert type of
tax or taxes) at a rate of taxation not to exceed (here insert maximum tax
rate or rates) be levied for all transit purposes?"

If the resolution proposed the inclusion with a three-year time
limitation, the question appearing on the ballot shall read:

"Shall the territory within the (Name or names of
political subdivisions to be joined) be added to
(Name) regional transit authority?" for three years and shall a(n)
(here insert type of tax or taxes) at a rate of taxation not to exceed (here
insert maximum tax rate or rates) be levied for all transit purposes for three
years?"

(F) If the question is approved by at least a majority of the electors
voting on the question, the addition of the new territory is effective six
months from the date of the certification of its passage, and the regional
transit authority may extend the levy of the tax against all the taxable
property within the territory that was added. If the question is approved at a
general election or at a special election occurring prior to the general
election but after the fifteenth day of July, the regional transit authority may
amend its budget and resolution adopted pursuant to section 5705.34 of the
Revised Code, and the levy shall be placed on the current tax list and
duplicate and collected as other taxes are collected from all taxable property
within the territorial boundaries of the regional transit authority, including
the territory within the political subdivision added as a result of the election.
If the budget of the regional transit authority is amended pursuant to this
paragraph, the county auditor shall prepare and deliver an amended
certificate of estimated resources to reflect the change in anticipated
revenues of the regional transit authority.

(G) If the question is approved by at least a majority of the electors
voting on the question, the board of trustees of the regional transit authority
immediately shall amend the resolution or ordinance creating the regional
transit authority to include the additional political subdivision.

(H) If the question approved by a majority of the electors voting on the
question added the subdivision for three years, the territory of the additional
municipal corporation or township in the regional transit authority shall be
removed from the territory of the regional transit authority three years after
the date the territory was added, as determined in the effective date of the
election, and shall no longer be a part of that authority without any further
action by either the political subdivisions that were included in the authority
prior to submitting the question to the electors or of the political subdivision

added to the authority as a result of the election. The regional transit authority reduced to its territory as it existed prior to the inclusion of the additional municipal corporation or township shall be entitled to levy and collect any property taxes that it was authorized to levy and collect prior to the enlargement of its territory and for which authorization has not expired, as if the enlargement had not occurred.

Sec. 306.35. Upon the creation of a regional transit authority as provided by section 306.32 of the Revised Code, and upon the qualifying of its board of trustees and the election of a president and a vice-president, the authority shall exercise in its own name all the rights, powers, and duties vested in and conferred upon it by sections 306.30 to 306.53 of the Revised Code. Subject to any reservations, limitations, and qualifications that are set forth in those sections, the regional transit authority:

(A) May sue or be sued in its corporate name;

(B) May make contracts in the exercise of the rights, powers, and duties conferred upon it;

(C) May adopt and at will alter a seal and use such seal by causing it to be impressed, affixed, reproduced, or otherwise used, but failure to affix the seal shall not affect the validity of any instrument;

(D)(1) May adopt, amend, and repeal bylaws for the administration of its affairs and rules for the control of the administration and operation of transit facilities under its jurisdiction, and for the exercise of all of its rights of ownership in those transit facilities;

(2) The regional transit authority also may adopt bylaws and rules for the following purposes:

(a) To prohibit selling, giving away, or using any beer or intoxicating liquor on transit vehicles or transit property;

(b) For the preservation of good order within or on transit vehicles or transit property;

(c) To provide for the protection and preservation of all property and life within or on transit vehicles or transit property;

(d) To regulate and enforce the collection of fares.

(3) Before a bylaw or rule adopted under division (D)(2) of this section takes effect, the regional transit authority shall provide for a notice of its adoption to be published once a week for two consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation within the territorial boundaries of the regional transit authority, or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code.

(4) No person shall violate any bylaw or rule of a regional transit authority adopted under division (D)(2) of this section.

(E) May fix, alter, and collect fares, rates, and rentals and other charges for the use of transit facilities under its jurisdiction to be determined exclusively by it for the purpose of providing for the payment of the expenses of the regional transit authority, the acquisition, construction, improvement, extension, repair, maintenance, and operation of transit facilities under its jurisdiction, the payment of principal and interest on its obligations, and to fulfill the terms of any agreements made with purchasers or holders of any such obligations, or with any person or political subdivision;

(F) Shall have jurisdiction, control, possession, and supervision of all property, rights, easements, licenses, moneys, contracts, accounts, liens, books, records, maps, or other property rights and interests conveyed, delivered, transferred, or assigned to it;

(G) ~~May (1) Except as provided in division (G)(2) of this section, may~~ acquire, construct, improve, extend, repair, lease, operate, maintain, or manage transit facilities within or without its territorial boundaries, considered necessary to accomplish the purposes of its organization and make charges for the use of transit facilities;

(2) Beginning on July 1, 2011, a regional transit authority shall not extend its service or facilities into a political subdivision outside the territorial boundaries of the authority without giving prior notice to the legislative authority of the political subdivision. The legislative authority shall have thirty days after receiving the notice to comment on the proposal.

(H) May levy and collect taxes as provided in sections 306.40 and 306.49 of the Revised Code;

(I) May issue bonds secured by its general credit as provided in section 306.40 of the Revised Code;

(J) May hold, encumber, control, acquire by donation, by purchase for cash or by installment payments, by lease-purchase agreement, by lease with option to purchase, or by condemnation, and may construct, own, lease as lessee or lessor, use, and sell, real and personal property, or any interest or right in real and personal property, within or without its territorial boundaries, for the location or protection of transit facilities and improvements and access to transit facilities and improvements, the relocation of buildings, structures, and improvements situated on lands acquired by the regional transit authority, or for any other necessary purpose, or for obtaining or storing materials to be used in constructing, maintaining, and improving transit facilities under its jurisdiction;

(K) May exercise the power of eminent domain to acquire property or any interest in property, within or without its territorial boundaries, that is

necessary or proper for the construction or efficient operation of any transit facility or access to any transit facility under its jurisdiction in accordance with section 306.36 of the Revised Code;

(L) May provide by agreement with any county, including the counties within its territorial boundaries, or any municipal corporation or any combination of counties or municipal corporations for the making of necessary surveys, appraisals, and examinations preliminary to the acquisition or construction of any transit facility and the amount of the expense for the surveys, appraisals, and examinations to be paid by each such county or municipal corporation;

(M) May provide by agreement with any county, including the counties within its territorial boundaries, or any municipal corporation or any combination of those counties or municipal corporations for the acquisition, construction, improvement, extension, maintenance, or operation of any transit facility owned or to be owned and operated by it or owned or to be owned and operated by any such county or municipal corporation and the terms on which it shall be acquired, leased, constructed, maintained, or operated, and the amount of the cost and expense of the acquisition, lease, construction, maintenance, or operation to be paid by each such county or municipal corporation;

(N) May issue revenue bonds for the purpose of acquiring, replacing, improving, extending, enlarging, or constructing any facility or permanent improvement that it is authorized to acquire, replace, improve, extend, enlarge, or construct, including all costs in connection with and incidental to the acquisition, replacement, improvement, extension, enlargement, or construction, and their financing, as provided by section 306.37 of the Revised Code;

(O) May enter into and supervise franchise agreements for the operation of a transit system;

(P) May accept the assignment of and supervise an existing franchise agreement for the operation of a transit system;

(Q) May exercise a right to purchase a transit system in accordance with the acquisition terms of an existing franchise agreement; and in connection with the purchase the regional transit authority may issue revenue bonds as provided by section 306.37 of the Revised Code or issue bonds secured by its general credit as provided in section 306.40 of the Revised Code;

(R) May apply for and accept grants or loans from the United States, the state, or any other public body for the purpose of providing for the development or improvement of transit facilities, mass transportation facilities, equipment, techniques, methods, or services, and grants or loans

needed to exercise a right to purchase a transit system pursuant to agreement with the owner of those transit facilities, or for providing lawful financial assistance to existing transit systems; and may provide any consideration that may be required in order to obtain those grants or loans from the United States, the state, or other public body, either of which grants or loans may be evidenced by the issuance of revenue bonds as provided by section 306.37 of the Revised Code or general obligation bonds as provided by section 306.40 of the Revised Code;

(S) May employ and fix the compensation of consulting engineers, superintendents, managers, and such other engineering, construction, accounting and financial experts, attorneys, and other employees and agents necessary for the accomplishment of its purposes;

(T) May procure insurance against loss to it by reason of damages to its properties resulting from fire, theft, accident, or other casualties or by reason of its liability for any damages to persons or property occurring in the construction or operation of transit facilities under its jurisdiction or the conduct of its activities;

(U) May maintain funds that it considers necessary for the efficient performance of its duties;

(V) May direct its agents or employees, when properly identified in writing, after at least five days' written notice, to enter upon lands within or without its territorial boundaries in order to make surveys and examinations preliminary to the location and construction of transit facilities, without liability to it or its agents or employees except for actual damage done;

(W) On its own motion, may request the appropriate zoning board, as defined in section 4563.03 of the Revised Code, to establish and enforce zoning regulations pertaining to any transit facility under its jurisdiction in the manner prescribed by sections 4563.01 to 4563.21 of the Revised Code;

(X) If it acquires any existing transit system, shall assume all the employer's obligations under any existing labor contract between the employees and management of the system. If the board acquires, constructs, controls, or operates any such facilities, it shall negotiate arrangements to protect the interests of employees affected by the acquisition, construction, control, or operation. The arrangements shall include, but are not limited to:

(1) The preservation of rights, privileges, and benefits under existing collective bargaining agreements or otherwise, the preservation of rights and benefits under any existing pension plans covering prior service, and continued participation in social security in addition to participation in the public employees retirement system as required in Chapter 145. of the Revised Code;

- (2) The continuation of collective bargaining rights;
- (3) The protection of individual employees against a worsening of their positions with respect to their employment;
- (4) Assurances of employment to employees of those transit systems and priority reemployment of employees terminated or laid off;
- (5) Paid training or retraining programs;
- (6) Signed written labor agreements.

The arrangements may include provisions for the submission of labor disputes to final and binding arbitration.

(Y) May provide for and maintain security operations, including a transit police department, subject to section 306.352 of the Revised Code. Regional transit authority police officers shall have the power and duty to act as peace officers within transit facilities owned, operated, or leased by the transit authority to protect the transit authority's property and the person and property of passengers, to preserve the peace, and to enforce all laws of the state and ordinances and regulations of political subdivisions in which the transit authority operates. Regional transit authority police officers also shall have the power and duty to act as peace officers when they render emergency assistance outside their jurisdiction to any other peace officer who is not a regional transit authority police officer and who has arrest authority under section 2935.03 of the Revised Code. Regional transit authority police officers may render emergency assistance if there is a threat of imminent physical danger to the peace officer, a threat of physical harm to another person, or any other serious emergency situation and if either the peace officer who is assisted requests emergency assistance or it appears that the peace officer who is assisted is unable to request emergency assistance and the circumstances observed by the regional transit authority police officer reasonably indicate that emergency assistance is appropriate.

Before exercising powers of arrest and the other powers and duties of a peace officer, each regional transit authority police officer shall take an oath and give bond to the state in a sum that the board of trustees prescribes for the proper performance of the officer's duties.

Persons employed as regional transit authority police officers shall complete training for the position to which they have been appointed as required by the Ohio peace officer training commission as authorized in section 109.77 of the Revised Code, or be otherwise qualified. The cost of the training shall be provided by the regional transit authority.

(Z) May procure a policy or policies insuring members of its board of trustees against liability on account of damages or injury to persons and property resulting from any act or omission of a member in the member's

official capacity as a member of the board or resulting solely out of the member's membership on the board;

(AA) May enter into any agreement for the sale and leaseback or lease and leaseback of transit facilities, which agreement may contain all necessary covenants for the security and protection of any lessor or the regional transit authority including, but not limited to, indemnification of the lessor against the loss of anticipated tax benefits arising from acts, omissions, or misrepresentations of the regional transit authority. In connection with that transaction, the regional transit authority may contract for insurance and letters of credit and pay any premiums or other charges for the insurance and letters of credit. The fiscal officer shall not be required to furnish any certificate under section 5705.41 of the Revised Code in connection with the execution of any such agreement.

(BB) In regard to any contract entered into on or after March 19, 1993, for the rendering of services or the supplying of materials or for the construction, demolition, alteration, repair, or reconstruction of transit facilities in which a bond is required for the faithful performance of the contract, may permit the person awarded the contract to utilize a letter of credit issued by a bank or other financial institution in lieu of the bond;

(CC) May enter into agreements with municipal corporations located within the territorial jurisdiction of the regional transit authority permitting regional transit authority police officers employed under division (Y) of this section to exercise full arrest powers, as provided in section 2935.03 of the Revised Code, for the purpose of preserving the peace and enforcing all laws of the state and ordinances and regulations of the municipal corporation within the areas that may be agreed to by the regional transit authority and the municipal corporation.

Sec. 306.43. (A) The board of trustees of a regional transit authority or any officer or employee designated by such board may make any contract for the purchase of goods or services, the cost of which does not exceed one hundred thousand dollars. When an expenditure, other than for the acquisition of real estate, the discharge of claims, or the acquisition of goods or services under the circumstances described in division (H) of this section, is expected to exceed one hundred thousand dollars, such expenditure shall be made through full and open competition by the use of competitive procedures. The regional transit authority shall use the competitive procedure, as set forth in divisions (B), (C), (D), and (E) of this section, that is most appropriate under the circumstances of the procurement.

(B) Competitive sealed bidding is the preferred method of procurement and a regional transit authority shall use that method if all of the following

conditions exist:

- (1) A clear, complete and adequate description of the goods, services, or work is available;
- (2) Time permits the solicitation, submission, and evaluation of sealed bids;
- (3) The award will be made on the basis of price and other price-related factors;
- (4) It is not necessary to conduct discussions with responding offerors about their bids;
- (5) There is a reasonable expectation of receiving more than one sealed bid.

A regional transit authority shall publish a notice calling for bids once a week for no less than two consecutive weeks in ~~at least one~~ a newspaper of general circulation within the territorial boundaries of the regional transit authority, or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code. A regional transit authority may require that a bidder for any contract other than a construction contract provide a bid guaranty in the form, quality, and amount considered appropriate by the regional transit authority. The board may let the contract to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder. Where fewer than two responsive bids are received, a regional transit authority may negotiate price with the sole responsive bidder or may rescind the solicitation and procure under division (H)(2) of this section.

(C) A regional transit authority may use two-step competitive bidding, consisting of a technical proposal and a separate, subsequent sealed price bid from those submitting acceptable technical proposals, if both of the following conditions exist:

- (1) A clear, complete, and adequate description of the goods, services, or work is not available, but definite criteria exist for the evaluation of technical proposals;
- (2) It is necessary to conduct discussions with responding offerors.

A regional transit authority shall publish a notice calling for technical proposals once a week for no less than two consecutive weeks in ~~at least one~~ a newspaper of general circulation within the territorial boundaries of the regional transit authority, or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code. A regional transit authority may require a bid guaranty in the form, quality, and amount the regional transit authority considers appropriate. The board may let the contract to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder. Where fewer than two responsive and responsible bids are received, a regional transit authority may negotiate price with the sole responsive and responsible bidder or may rescind the solicitation and procure under division

(H)(2) of this section.

(D) A regional transit authority shall make a procurement by competitive proposals if competitive sealed bidding or two-step competitive bidding is not appropriate.

A regional transit authority shall publish a notice calling for proposals once a week for no less than two consecutive weeks in ~~at least one a~~ newspaper of general circulation within the territorial boundaries of the regional transit authority, or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code. A regional transit authority may require a proposal guaranty in the form, quality, and amount considered appropriate by the regional transit authority. The board may let the contract to the proposer making the offer considered most advantageous to the authority. Where fewer than two competent proposals are received, a regional transit authority may negotiate price and terms with the sole proposer or may rescind the solicitation and procure under division (H)(2) of this section.

(E)(1) A regional transit authority shall procure the services of an architect or engineer in the manner prescribed by the "Federal Mass Transportation Act of 1987," Public Law No. 100-17, section 316, 101 Stat. 227, 232-234, 49 U.S.C.A. app. 1608 and the services of a construction manager in the manner prescribed by sections 9.33 to 9.332 of the Revised Code.

(2) A regional transit authority may procure revenue rolling stock in the manner prescribed by division (B), (C), or (D) of this section.

(3) All contracts for construction in excess of one hundred thousand dollars shall be made only after the regional transit authority has published a notice calling for bids once a week for two consecutive weeks in ~~at least one a~~ newspaper of general circulation within the territorial boundaries of the regional transit authority, or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code. The board may award a contract to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder. Where only one responsive and responsible bid is received, the regional transit authority may negotiate price with the sole responsive bidder or may rescind the solicitation. The regional transit authority shall award construction contracts in accordance with sections 153.12 to 153.14 and 153.54 of the Revised Code. Divisions (B) and (C) of this section shall not apply to the award of contracts for construction.

(F) All contracts involving expenditures in excess of one hundred thousand dollars shall be in writing and shall be accompanied by or shall refer to plans and specifications for the work to be done. The plans and specifications shall at all times be made and considered part of the contract. For all contracts other than construction contracts, a regional transit

authority may require performance, payment, or maintenance guaranties or any combination of such guaranties in the form, quality, and amount it considers appropriate. The contract shall be approved by the board and signed on behalf of the regional transit authority and by the contractor.

(G) In making a contract, a regional transit authority may give preference to goods produced in the United States in accordance with the Buy America requirements in the "Surface Transportation Assistance Act of 1982," Public Law No. 97-424, section 165, 96 Stat. 2097, 23 U.S.C.A. 101 note, as amended, and the rules adopted thereunder. The regional transit authority also may give preference to providers of goods produced in and services provided in labor surplus areas as defined by the United States department of labor in 41 U.S.C.A. 401 note, Executive Order No. 12073, August 16, 1978, 43 Fed. Reg. 36873, as amended.

(H) Competitive procedures under this section are not required in any of the following circumstances:

(1) The board of trustees of a regional transit authority, by a two-thirds affirmative vote of its members, determines that a real and present emergency exists under any of the following conditions, and the board enters its determination and the reasons for it in its proceedings:

(a) Affecting safety, welfare, or the ability to deliver transportation services;

(b) Arising out of an interruption of contracts essential to the provision of daily transit services;

(c) Involving actual physical damage to structures, supplies, equipment, or property.

(2) The purchase consists of goods or services, or any combination thereof, and after reasonable inquiry the board or any officer or employee the board designates finds that only one source of supply is reasonably available.

(3) The expenditure is for a renewal or renegotiation of a lease or license for telecommunications or electronic data processing equipment, services, or systems, or for the upgrade of such equipment, services, or systems, or for the maintenance thereof as supplied by the original source or its successors or assigns.

(4) The purchase of goods or services is made from another political subdivision, public agency, public transit system, regional transit authority, the state, or the federal government, or as a third-party beneficiary under a state or federal procurement contract, or as a participant in a department of administrative services contract under division (B) of section 125.04 of the Revised Code.

(5) The sale and leaseback or lease and leaseback of transit facilities is made as provided in division (AA) of section 306.35 of the Revised Code.

(6) The purchase substantially involves services of a personal, professional, highly technical, or scientific nature, including but not limited to the services of an attorney, physician, surveyor, appraiser, investigator, court reporter, adjuster, advertising consultant, or licensed broker, or involves the special skills or proprietary knowledge required for the servicing of specialized equipment owned by the regional transit authority.

(7) Services or supplies are available from a qualified nonprofit agency pursuant to sections 4115.31 to 4115.35 of the Revised Code.

(8) The purchase consists of the product or services of a public utility.

(9) The purchase is for the services of individuals with disabilities to work in the authority's commissaries or cafeterias, and those individuals are supplied by a nonprofit corporation or association whose purpose is to assist individuals with disabilities, whether or not that corporation or association is funded entirely or in part by the federal government, or the purchase is for services provided by a nonprofit corporation or association whose purpose is to assist individuals with disabilities, whether or not that corporation or association is funded entirely or in part by the federal government. For purposes of division (H)(9) of this section, "disability" has the same meaning as in section 4112.01 of the Revised Code.

(I) A regional transit authority may enter into blanket purchase agreements for purchases of maintenance, operating, or repair goods or services where the item cost does not exceed five hundred dollars and the annual expenditure does not exceed one hundred thousand dollars.

(J) Nothing contained in this section prohibits a regional transit authority from participating in intergovernmental cooperative purchasing arrangements.

(K) Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, a regional transit authority shall make a sale or other disposition of property through full and open competition. Except as provided in division (L) of this section, all dispositions of personal property and all grants of real property for terms exceeding five years shall be made by public auction or competitive procedure.

(L) The competitive procedures required by division (K) of this section are not required in any of the following circumstances:

(1) The grant is a component of a joint development between public and private entities and is intended to enhance or benefit public transit.

(2) The grant of a limited use or of a license affecting land is made to an owner of abutting real property.

(3) The grant of a limited use is made to a public utility.

(4) The grant or disposition is to a department of the federal or state government, to a political subdivision of the state, or to any other governmental entity.

(5) Used equipment is traded on the purchase of equipment and the value of the used equipment is a price-related factor in the basis for award for the purchase.

(6) The value of the personal property is such that competitive procedures are not appropriate and the property either is sold at its fair market value or is disposed of by gift to a nonprofit entity having the general welfare or education of the public as one of its principal objects.

(M) The board of trustees of a regional transit authority, when making a contract funded exclusively by state or local moneys or any combination thereof, shall make a good faith effort to use disadvantaged business enterprise participation to the same extent required under Section 105(f) of the "Surface Transportation Assistance Act of 1982," Public Law No. 97-424, 96 Stat. 2100, and Section 106(c) of the "Surface Transportation and Uniform Relocation Assistance Act of 1987," Public Law No. 100-17, 101 Stat. 145, and the rules adopted thereunder.

(N) As used in this section:

(1) "Goods" means all things, including specially manufactured goods, that are movable at the time of identification to the contract for sale other than the money in which the price is to be paid, investment securities, and things in action. "Goods" also includes other identified things attached to realty as described in section 1302.03 of the Revised Code.

(2) "Services" means the furnishing of labor, time, or effort by a contractor, not involving the delivery of goods or reports other than goods or reports that are merely incidental to the required performance, including but not limited to insurance, bonding, or routine operation, routine repair, or routine maintenance of existing structures, buildings, real property, or equipment, but does not include employment agreements, collective bargaining agreements, or personal services.

(3) "Construction" means the process of building, altering, repairing, improving, painting, decorating, or demolishing any structure or building, or other improvements of any kind to any real property owned or leased by a regional transit authority.

(4) "Full and open competition" has the same meaning as in the "Office of Federal Procurement Policy Act," Public Law No. 98-369, section 2731, 98 Stat. 1195 (1984), 41 U.S.C.A. 403.

(5) A bidder is "responsive" if, applying the criteria of division (A) of

section 9.312 of the Revised Code, the bidder is "responsive" as described in that section.

(6) A bidder is "responsible" if, applying the criteria of division ~~(A)~~(B) of section 9.312 of the Revised Code and of the "Office of Federal Procurement Policy Act," Public Law No. 98-369, section 2731, 98 Stat. 1195 (1984), 41 U.S.C.A. 403, the bidder is "responsible" as described in those sections.

Sec. 306.55. Beginning July 1, 2011 and until November 5, 2013, any municipal corporation or township that has created or joined a regional transit authority that levies a property tax and that includes in its membership political subdivisions that are located in a county having a population of at least four hundred thousand according to the most recent federal census, may withdraw from the regional transit authority in the manner provided in this section. The legislative authority of the municipal corporation or board of township trustees of the township proposing to withdraw shall adopt a resolution to submit the question of withdrawing from the regional transit authority to the electors of the territory to be withdrawn and shall certify the proposal to the board of elections for the purpose of having the proposal placed on the ballot at the next general election or at a special election conducted on the day of the next primary election that occurs not less than ninety days after the resolution is certified to the board of elections.

Upon certification of a proposal to the board of elections pursuant to this section, the board of elections shall make the necessary arrangements for the submission of the question to the electors of the territory to be withdrawn from the regional transit authority qualified to vote on the question, and the election shall be held, canvassed, and certified in the same manner as regular elections for the election of officers of the subdivision proposing to withdraw from the regional transit authority, except that the question appearing on the ballot shall read:

"Shall the territory within the (Name of political subdivision to be withdrawn) be withdrawn from (Name) regional transit authority?"

If the question is approved by at least a majority of the electors voting on the question, the withdrawal is effective six months from the date of the certification of its passage.

The board of elections to which the resolution was certified shall certify the results of the election to the board or legislative authority of the subdivision that submitted the resolution to withdraw and to the board of trustees of the regional transit authority from which the subdivision

proposed to withdraw.

If the question of withdrawing from the regional transit authority is approved, the power of the regional transit authority to levy a tax on taxable property in the withdrawing subdivision terminates.

Sec. 306.551. Any municipal corporation or township that withdraws from a regional transit authority under section 306.55 of the Revised Code may enter into a contract with a regional transit authority or other provider of transit services to provide transportation service for handicapped, disabled, or elderly persons and for any other service the legislative authority of the municipal corporation or township may determine to be appropriate.

Sec. 306.70. A tax proposed to be levied by a board of county commissioners or by the board of trustees of a regional transit authority pursuant to sections 5739.023 and 5741.022 of the Revised Code shall not become effective until it is submitted to the electors residing within the county or within the territorial boundaries of the regional transit authority and approved by a majority of the electors voting on it. Such question shall be submitted at a general election or at a special election on a day specified in the resolution levying the tax and occurring not less than ninety days after such resolution is certified to the board of elections, in accordance with section 3505.071 of the Revised Code.

The board of elections of the county or of each county in which any territory of the regional transit authority is located shall make the necessary arrangements for the submission of such question to the electors of the county or regional transit authority, and the election shall be held, canvassed, and certified in the same manner as regular elections for the election of county officers. Notice of the election shall be published in ~~one or more newspapers which in the aggregate are~~ a newspaper of general circulation in the territory of the county or of the regional transit authority once a week for two consecutive weeks prior to the election ~~and, if or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code.~~ If the board of elections operates and maintains a web site, notice of the election also shall be posted on that web site for thirty days prior to the election. The notice shall state the type, rate, and purpose of the tax to be levied, the length of time during which the tax will be in effect, and the time and place of the election.

More than one such question may be submitted at the same election. The form of the ballots cast at such election shall be:

"Shall a(n) (sales and use) tax be levied for all transit purposes of the (here insert name of the county or regional transit authority) at a rate not exceeding (here insert percentage)

per cent for (here insert number of years the tax is to be in effect, or that it is to be in effect for a continuing period of time)?"

If the tax proposed to be levied is a continuation of an existing tax, whether at the same rate or at an increased or reduced rate, or an increase in the rate of an existing tax, the notice and ballot form shall so state.

The board of elections to which the resolution was certified shall certify the results of the election to the county auditor of the county or secretary-treasurer of the regional transit authority levying the tax and to the tax commissioner of the state.

Sec. 307.022. (A) The board of county commissioners of any county may do both of the following without following the competitive bidding requirements of section 307.86 of the Revised Code:

(1) Enter into a lease, including a lease with an option to purchase, of correctional facilities for a term not in excess of forty years. Before entering into the lease, the board shall publish, once a week for three consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the county or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code, a notice that the board is accepting proposals for a lease pursuant to this division. The notice shall state the date before which the proposals are required to be submitted in order to be considered by the board.

(2) Subject to compliance with this section, grant leases, easements, and licenses with respect to, or sell, real property owned by the county if the real property is to be leased back by the county for use as correctional facilities.

The lease under division (A)(1) of this section shall require the county to contract, in accordance with Chapter 153., sections 307.86 to 307.92, and Chapter 4115. of the Revised Code, for the construction, improvement, furnishing, and equipping of correctional facilities to be leased pursuant to this section. Prior to the board's execution of the lease, it may require the lessor under the lease to cause sufficient money to be made available to the county to enable the county to comply with the certification requirements of division (D) of section 5705.41 of the Revised Code.

A lease entered into pursuant to division (A)(1) of this section by a board may provide for the county to maintain and repair the correctional facility during the term of the leasehold, may provide for the county to make rental payments prior to or after occupation of the correctional facilities by the county, and may provide for the board to obtain and maintain any insurance that the lessor may require, including, but not limited to, public liability, casualty, builder's risk, and business interruption insurance. The obligations incurred under a lease entered into pursuant to division (A)(1) of this section shall not be considered to be within the debt limitations of

section 133.07 of the Revised Code.

(B) The correctional facilities leased under division (A)(1) of this section may include any or all of the following:

(1) Facilities in which one or more other governmental entities are participating or in which other facilities of the county are included;

(2) Facilities acquired, constructed, renovated, or financed by the Ohio building authority and leased to the county pursuant to section 307.021 of the Revised Code;

(3) Correctional facilities that are under construction or have been completed and for which no permanent financing has been arranged.

(C) As used in this section:

(1) "Correctional facilities" includes, but is not limited to, jails, detention facilities, workhouses, community-based correctional facilities, and family court centers.

(2) "Construction" has the same meaning as in division (B) of section 4115.03 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 307.041. (A) As used in this section, "energy conservation measure" means an installation or modification of an installation in, or remodeling of, an existing building, to reduce energy consumption. "Energy conservation measure" includes the following:

(1) Insulation of the building structure and of systems within the building;

(2) Storm windows and doors, multiglazed windows and doors, heat-absorbing or heat-reflective glazed and coated window and door systems, additional glazing, reductions in glass area, and other window and door system modifications that reduce energy consumption;

(3) Automatic energy control systems;

(4) Heating, ventilating, or air conditioning system modifications or replacements;

(5) Caulking and weatherstripping;

(6) Replacement or modification of lighting fixtures to increase the energy efficiency of the system without increasing the overall illumination of a facility, unless such an increase in illumination is necessary to conform to the applicable state or local building code for the proposed lighting system;

(7) Energy recovery systems;

(8) Cogeneration systems that produce steam or forms of energy such as heat, as well as electricity, for use primarily within a building or complex of buildings;

(9) Acquiring, constructing, furnishing, equipping, improving the site

of, and otherwise improving a central utility plant to provide heating and cooling services to a building or buildings together with distribution piping and ancillary distribution controls, equipment, and related facilities from the central utility plant to the building or buildings;

(10) Any other modification, installation, or remodeling approved by the board of county commissioners as an energy conservation measure.

(B) For the purpose of evaluating county buildings for energy conservation measures, a county may contract with an architect, professional engineer, energy services company, contractor, or other person experienced in the design and implementation of energy conservation measures for an energy conservation report. The report shall include all of the following:

(1) Analyses of the buildings' energy needs and recommendations for building installations, modifications of existing installations, or building remodeling that would significantly reduce energy consumption in the buildings owned by that county;

(2) Estimates of all costs of those installations, those modifications, or that remodeling, including costs of design, engineering, installation, maintenance, and repairs;

(3) Estimates of the amounts by which energy consumption could be reduced;

(4) The interest rate used to estimate the costs of any energy conservation measures that are to be financed;

(5) The average system life of the energy conservation measures;

(6) Estimates of the likely savings that will result from the reduction in energy consumption over the average system life of the energy conservation measure, including the methods used to estimate the savings;

(7) A certification under the seal of a registered professional engineer that the energy conservation report uses reasonable methods of analysis and estimation.

(C)(1) A county desiring to implement energy conservation measures may proceed under either of the following methods:

(a) Using a report or any part of an energy conservation report prepared under division (B) of this section, advertise for bids and, except as otherwise provided in this section, comply with sections 307.86 to 307.92 of the Revised Code;

(b) Notwithstanding sections 307.86 to 307.92 of the Revised Code, request proposals from at least three vendors for the implementation of energy conservation measures. A request for proposals shall require the installer that is awarded a contract under division (C)(2)(b) of this section to prepare an energy conservation report in accordance with division (B) of

this section. Prior to sending any installer of energy conservation measures a copy of any request for proposals, the county shall advertise its intent to request proposals for the installation of energy conservation measures in a newspaper of general circulation in the county once a week for two consecutive weeks or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code. The notice shall state that the county intends to request proposals for the installation of energy conservation measures; indicate the date, which shall be at least ten days after the second publication, on which the request for proposals will be mailed to installers of energy conservation measures; and state that any installer of energy conservation measures interested in receiving the request for proposals shall submit written notice to the county not later than noon of the day on which the request for proposals will be mailed.

(2)(a) Upon receiving bids under division (C)(1)(a) of this section, the county shall analyze them and select the lowest and best bid or bids most likely to result in the greatest energy savings considering the cost of the project and the county's ability to pay for the improvements with current revenues or by financing the improvements.

(b) Upon receiving proposals under division (C)(1)(b) of this section, the county shall analyze the proposals and the installers' qualifications and select the most qualified installer to prepare an energy conservation report in accordance with division (B) of this section. After receipt and review of the energy conservation report, the county may award a contract to the selected installer to install the energy conservation measures that are most likely to result in the greatest energy savings considering the cost of the project and the county's ability to pay for the improvements with current revenues or by financing the improvements.

(c) The awarding of a contract to install energy conservation measures under division (C)(2)(a) or (b) of this section shall be conditioned upon a finding by the contracting authority that the amount of money spent on the energy conservation measures is not likely to exceed the amount of money the county would save in energy, operating, maintenance, and avoided capital costs over the average system life of the energy conservation measures as specified in the energy conservation report. In making such a finding, the contracting authority may take into account increased costs due to inflation as shown in the energy conservation report. Nothing in this division prohibits a county from rejecting all bids or proposals under division (C)(1)(a) or (b) of this section or from selecting more than one bid or proposal.

(D) A board of county commissioners may enter into an installment

payment contract for the purchase and installation of energy conservation measures. Provisions of installment payment contracts that deal with interest charges and financing terms shall not be subject to the competitive bidding requirements of section 307.86 of the Revised Code, and shall be on the following terms:

(1) Not less than a specified percentage, as determined and approved by the board of county commissioners, of the costs of the contract shall be paid within two years from the date of purchase.

(2) The remaining balance of the costs of the contract shall be paid within the lesser of the average system life of the energy conservation measures as specified in the energy conservation report or thirty years.

(E) The board of county commissioners may issue the notes of the county specifying the terms of a purchase of energy conservation measures under this section and securing any deferred payments provided for in division (D) of this section. The notes shall be payable at the times provided and bear interest at a rate not exceeding the rate determined as provided in section 9.95 of the Revised Code. The notes may contain an option for prepayment and shall not be subject to Chapter 133. of the Revised Code. Revenues derived from local taxes or otherwise for the purpose of conserving energy or for defraying the current operating expenses of the county may be pledged and applied to the payment of interest and the retirement of the notes. The notes may be sold at private sale or given to the contractor under an installment payment contract authorized by division (D) of this section.

(F) Debt incurred under this section shall not be included in the calculation of the net indebtedness of a county under section 133.07 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 307.10. (A) No sale of real property, or lease of real property used or to be used for the purpose of airports, landing fields, or air navigational facilities, or parts thereof, as provided by section 307.09 of the Revised Code shall be made unless it is authorized by a resolution adopted by a majority of the board of county commissioners. When a sale of real property as provided by section 307.09 of the Revised Code is authorized, the board may either deed the property to the highest responsible bidder, after advertisement once a week for four consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the county or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code, or offer the real property for sale at a public auction, after giving at least thirty days' notice of the auction by publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the county. The board may reject any and all bids. The board may, as it considers best, sell real property pursuant

to this section as an entire tract or in parcels. The board, by resolution adopted by a majority of the board, may lease real property, in accordance with division (A) of section 307.09 of the Revised Code, without advertising for bids.

(B) The board, by resolution, may transfer real property in fee simple belonging to the county and not needed for public use to the United States government, to the state or any department or agency thereof, to municipal corporations or other political subdivisions of the state, to the county board of developmental disabilities, or to a county land reutilization corporation organized under Chapter 1724. of the Revised Code for public purposes upon the terms and in the manner that it may determine to be in the best interests of the county, without advertising for bids. The board shall execute a deed or other proper instrument when such a transfer is approved.

(C) The board, by resolution adopted by a majority of the board, may grant leases, rights, or easements to the United States government, to the state or any department or agency thereof, or to municipal corporations and other political subdivisions of the state, or to privately owned electric light and power companies, natural gas companies, or telephone or telegraph companies for purposes of rendering their several public utilities services, in accordance with division (B) of section 307.09 of the Revised Code, without advertising for bids. When such grant of lease, right, or easement is authorized, a deed or other proper instrument therefor shall be executed by the board.

Sec. 307.12. (A) Except as otherwise provided in divisions (D), (E), and (G) of this section, when the board of county commissioners finds, by resolution, that the county has personal property, including motor vehicles acquired for the use of county officers and departments, and road machinery, equipment, tools, or supplies, that is not needed for public use, is obsolete, or is unfit for the use for which it was acquired, and when the fair market value of the property to be sold or donated under this division is, in the opinion of the board, in excess of two thousand five hundred dollars, the board may do either of the following:

(1) Sell the property at public auction or by sealed bid to the highest bidder. Notice of the time, place, and manner of the sale shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the county at least ten days prior to the sale, and a typewritten or printed notice of the time, place, and manner of the sale shall be posted at least ten days before the sale in the offices of the county auditor and the board of county commissioners.

If a board conducts a sale of property by sealed bid, the form of the bid shall be as prescribed by the board, and each bid shall contain the name of

the person submitting it. Bids received shall be opened and tabulated at the time stated in the notice. The property shall be sold to the highest bidder, except that the board may reject all bids and hold another sale, by public auction or sealed bid, in the manner prescribed by this section.

(2) Donate any motor vehicle that does not exceed four thousand five hundred dollars in value to a nonprofit organization exempt from federal income taxation pursuant to 26 U.S.C. 501(a) and (c)(3) for the purpose of meeting the transportation needs of participants in the Ohio works first program established under Chapter 5107. of the Revised Code and participants in the prevention, retention, and contingency program established under Chapter 5108. of the Revised Code.

(B) When the board of county commissioners finds, by resolution, that the county has personal property, including motor vehicles acquired for the use of county officers and departments, and road machinery, equipment, tools, or supplies, that is not needed for public use, is obsolete, or is unfit for the use for which it was acquired, and when the fair market value of the property to be sold or donated under this division is, in the opinion of the board, two thousand five hundred dollars or less, the board may do either of the following:

(1) Sell the property by private sale, without advertisement or public notification;

(2) Donate the property to an eligible nonprofit organization that is located in this state and is exempt from federal income taxation pursuant to 26 U.S.C. 501(a) and (c)(3). Before donating any property under this division, the board shall adopt a resolution expressing its intent to make unneeded, obsolete, or unfit-for-use county personal property available to these organizations. The resolution shall include guidelines and procedures the board considers necessary to implement a donation program under this division and shall indicate whether the county will conduct the donation program or the board will contract with a representative to conduct it. If a representative is known when the resolution is adopted, the resolution shall provide contact information such as the representative's name, address, and telephone number.

The resolution shall include within its procedures a requirement that any nonprofit organization desiring to obtain donated property under this division shall submit a written notice to the board or its representative. The written notice shall include evidence that the organization is a nonprofit organization that is located in this state and is exempt from federal income taxation pursuant to 26 U.S.C. 501(a) and (c)(3); a description of the organization's primary purpose; a description of the type or types of

property the organization needs; and the name, address, and telephone number of a person designated by the organization's governing board to receive donated property and to serve as its agent.

After adoption of the resolution, the board shall publish, in a newspaper of general circulation in the county, notice of its intent to donate unneeded, obsolete, or unfit-for-use county personal property to eligible nonprofit organizations. The notice shall include a summary of the information provided in the resolution and shall be published ~~at least~~ twice or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code. The second and any subsequent notice shall be published not less than ten nor more than twenty days after the previous notice. A similar notice also shall be posted continually in a conspicuous place in the offices of the county auditor and the board of county commissioners, ~~and, if~~. If the county maintains a web site on the internet, the notice shall be posted continually at that web site.

The board or its representative shall maintain a list of all nonprofit organizations that notify the board or its representative of their desire to obtain donated property under this division and that the board or its representative determines to be eligible, in accordance with the requirements set forth in this section and in the donation program's guidelines and procedures, to receive donated property.

The board or its representatives also shall maintain a list of all county personal property the board finds to be unneeded, obsolete, or unfit for use and to be available for donation under this division. The list shall be posted continually in a conspicuous location in the offices of the county auditor and the board of county commissioners, and, if the county maintains a web site on the internet, the list shall be posted continually at that web site. An item of property on the list shall be donated to the eligible nonprofit organization that first declares to the board or its representative its desire to obtain the item unless the board previously has established, by resolution, a list of eligible nonprofit organizations that shall be given priority with respect to the item's donation. Priority may be given on the basis that the purposes of a nonprofit organization have a direct relationship to specific public purposes of programs provided or administered by the board. A resolution giving priority to certain nonprofit organizations with respect to the donation of an item of property shall specify the reasons why the organizations are given that priority.

(C) Members of the board of county commissioners shall consult with the Ohio ethics commission, and comply with the provisions of Chapters 102. and 2921. of the Revised Code, with respect to any sale or donation under division (A) or (B) of this section to a nonprofit organization of which

a county commissioner, any member of the county commissioner's family, or any business associate of the county commissioner is a trustee, officer, board member, or employee.

(D) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in division (A), (B), or (E) of this section and regardless of the property's value, the board of county commissioners may sell or donate county personal property, including motor vehicles, to the federal government, the state, any political subdivision of the state, or a county land reutilization corporation without advertisement or public notification.

(E) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in division (A), (B), or (G) of this section and regardless of the property's value, the board of county commissioners may sell personal property, including motor vehicles acquired for the use of county officers and departments, and road machinery, equipment, tools, or supplies, that is not needed for public use, is obsolete, or is unfit for the use for which it was acquired, by internet auction. The board shall adopt, during each calendar year, a resolution expressing its intent to sell that property by internet auction. The resolution shall include a description of how the auctions will be conducted and shall specify the number of days for bidding on the property, which shall be no less than ten days, including Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays. The resolution shall indicate whether the county will conduct the auction or the board will contract with a representative to conduct the auction and shall establish the general terms and conditions of sale. If a representative is known when the resolution is adopted, the resolution shall provide contact information such as the representative's name, address, and telephone number.

After adoption of the resolution, the board shall publish, in a newspaper of general circulation in the county, notice of its intent to sell unneeded, obsolete, or unfit-for-use county personal property by internet auction. The notice shall include a summary of the information provided in the resolution and shall be published ~~at least~~ twice or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code. The second and any subsequent notice shall be published not less than ten nor more than twenty days after the previous notice. A similar notice also shall be posted continually throughout the calendar year in a conspicuous place in the offices of the county auditor and the board of county commissioners, ~~and, if,~~ If the county maintains a web site on the internet, the notice shall be posted continually throughout the calendar year at that web site.

When property is to be sold by internet auction, the board or its representative may establish a minimum price that will be accepted for

specific items and may establish any other terms and conditions for the particular sale, including requirements for pick-up or delivery, method of payment, and sales tax. This type of information shall be provided on the internet at the time of the auction and may be provided before that time upon request after the terms and conditions have been determined by the board or its representative.

(F) When a county officer or department head determines that county-owned personal property under the jurisdiction of the officer or department head, including motor vehicles, road machinery, equipment, tools, or supplies, is not of immediate need, the county officer or department head may notify the board of county commissioners, and the board may lease that personal property to any municipal corporation, township, other political subdivision of the state, or to a county land reutilization corporation. The lease shall require the county to be reimbursed under terms, conditions, and fees established by the board, or under contracts executed by the board.

(G) If the board of county commissioners finds, by resolution, that the county has vehicles, equipment, or machinery that is not needed, or is unfit for public use, and the board desires to sell the vehicles, equipment, or machinery to the person or firm from which it proposes to purchase other vehicles, equipment, or machinery, the board may offer to sell the vehicles, equipment, or machinery to that person or firm, and to have the selling price credited to the person or firm against the purchase price of other vehicles, equipment, or machinery.

(H) If the board of county commissioners advertises for bids for the sale of new vehicles, equipment, or machinery to the county, it may include in the same advertisement a notice of the willingness of the board to accept bids for the purchase of county-owned vehicles, equipment, or machinery that is obsolete or not needed for public use, and to have the amount of those bids subtracted from the selling price of the other vehicles, equipment, or machinery as a means of determining the lowest responsible bidder.

(I) If a board of county commissioners determines that county personal property is not needed for public use, or is obsolete or unfit for the use for which it was acquired, and that the property has no value, the board may discard or salvage that property.

(J) A county engineer, in the engineer's discretion, may dispose of scrap construction materials on such terms as the engineer determines reasonable, including disposal without recovery of costs, if the total value of the materials does not exceed twenty-five thousand dollars. The engineer shall maintain records of all dispositions made under this division, including

identification of the origin of the materials, the final disposition, and copies of all receipts resulting from the dispositions.

As used in division (I) of this section, "scrap construction materials" means construction materials that result from a road or bridge improvement, remain after the improvement is completed, and are not reusable. Construction material that is metal and that results from a road or bridge improvement and remains after the improvement is completed is scrap construction material only if it cannot be used in any other road or bridge improvement or other project in its current state.

Sec. 307.676. (A) As used in this section:

(1) "Food and beverages" means any raw, cooked, or processed edible substance used or intended for use in whole or in part for human consumption, including ice, water, spirituous liquors, wine, mixed beverages, beer, soft drinks, soda, and other beverages.

(2) "Convention facilities authority" has the same meaning as in section 351.01 of the Revised Code.

(3) "Convention center" has the same meaning as in section 307.695 of the Revised Code.

(B) The legislative authority of a county with a population of one million or more according to the most recent federal decennial census may, by resolution adopted on or before August 30, 2004, by a majority of the members of the legislative authority and with the subsequent approval of a majority of the electors of the county voting upon it, levy a tax of not more than two per cent on every retail sale in the county of food and beverages to be consumed on the premises where sold to pay the expenses of administering the tax and to provide revenues for the county general fund. Such resolution shall direct the board of elections to submit the question of levying the tax to the electors of the county at the next primary or general election in the county occurring not less than ninety days after the resolution is certified to the board of elections, and such resolution may further direct the board of elections to include upon the ballot submitted to the electors any specific purposes for which the tax will be used. The legislative authority shall establish all regulations necessary to provide for the administration and allocation of the tax. The regulations may prescribe the time for payment of the tax and may provide for imposition of a penalty, interest, or both for late payments, provided that any such penalty may not exceed ten per cent of the amount of tax due and the rate at which interest accrues may not exceed the rate per annum required under section 5703.47 of the Revised Code.

(C) A tax levied under this section shall remain in effect for the period

of time specified in the resolution or ordinance levying the tax, but in no case for a longer period than forty years.

(D) A tax levied under this section is in addition to any other tax levied under Chapter 307., 4301., 4305., 5739., 5741., or any other chapter of the Revised Code. "Price," as defined in sections 5739.01 and 5741.01 of the Revised Code, does not include any tax levied under this section and any tax levied under this section does not include any tax imposed under Chapter 5739. or 5741. of the Revised Code.

(E)(1) No amount collected from a tax levied under this section shall be contributed to a convention facilities authority, corporation, or other entity created after July 1, 2003, for the principal purpose of constructing, improving, expanding, equipping, financing, or operating a convention center unless the mayor of the municipal corporation in which the convention center is to be operated by that convention facilities authority, corporation, or other entity has consented to the creation of that convention facilities authority, corporation, or entity. Notwithstanding any contrary provision of section 351.04 of the Revised Code, if a tax is levied by a county under this section, the board of county commissioners of that county may determine the manner of selection, the qualifications, the number, and terms of office of the members of the board of directors of any convention facilities authority, corporation, or other entity described in division (E)(1) of this section.

(2)(a) No amount collected from a tax levied under this section may be used for any purpose other than paying the direct and indirect costs of constructing, improving, expanding, equipping, financing, or operating a convention center and for the real and actual costs of administering the tax, unless, prior to the adoption of the resolution of the legislative authority of the county directing the board of elections to submit the question of the levy, extension, or increase to the electors of the county, the county and the mayor of the most populous municipal corporation in that county have entered into an agreement as to the use of such amounts, provided that such agreement has been approved by a majority of the mayors of the other municipal corporations in that county. The agreement shall provide that the amounts to be used for purposes other than paying the convention center or administrative costs described in division (E)(2)(a) of this section be used only for the direct and indirect costs of capital improvements in accordance with the agreement, including the financing of capital improvements. Immediately following the execution of the agreement, the county shall:

(i) In accordance with section 7.12 of the Revised Code, cause the agreement to be published ~~at least~~ once in a newspaper of general

circulation in that county; or

(ii) Post the agreement in at least five public places in the county, as determined by the legislative authority, for a period not less than fifteen days.

(b) If the county in which the tax is levied has an association of mayors and city managers, the approval of that association of an agreement described in division (E)(2)(a) of this section shall be considered to be the approval of the majority of the mayors of the other municipal corporations for purposes of that division.

(F) Each year, the auditor of state shall conduct an audit of the uses of any amounts collected from taxes levied under this section and shall prepare a report of the auditor of state's findings. The auditor of state shall submit the report to the legislative authority of the county that has levied the tax, the speaker of the house of representatives, the president of the senate, and the leaders of the minority parties of the house of representatives and the senate.

(G) The levy of any taxes under Chapter 5739. of the Revised Code on the same transactions subject to a tax under this section does not prevent the levy of a tax under this section.

Sec. 307.70. In any county electing a county charter commission, the board of county commissioners shall appropriate money for the expenses of such commission in the preparation of a county charter, or charter amendment, and the study of problems involved. No appropriation shall be made for the compensation of members of the commission for their services. The board shall appropriate money for the printing and mailing or otherwise distributing to each elector in the county, as far as may be reasonably possible, a copy of a charter submitted to the electors of the county by a charter commission or by the board pursuant to petition as provided by Section 4 of Article X, Ohio Constitution. The copy of the charter shall be mailed or otherwise distributed at least thirty days prior to the election. The board shall appropriate money for the printing and distribution or publication of proposed amendments to a charter submitted by a charter commission pursuant to Section 4 of Article X, Ohio Constitution. Notice of amendments to a county charter shall be given by mailing or otherwise distributing a copy of each proposed amendment to each elector in the county, as far as may be reasonably possible, at least thirty days prior to the election or, if the board so determines, by publishing the full text of the proposed amendments once a week for at least two consecutive weeks in a newspaper published in the county. ~~If no newspaper is published in the county or the board is unable to obtain publication in a newspaper published~~

~~in the county, the proposed amendments may be published in a newspaper~~ of general circulation within the county, or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code. No public officer is precluded, because of being a public officer, from also holding office as a member of a county charter commission, except that not more than four officeholders may be elected to a county charter commission at the same time. No member of a county charter commission, because of charter commission membership, is precluded from seeking or holding other public office.

Sec. 307.79. (A) The board of county commissioners may adopt, amend, and rescind rules establishing technically feasible and economically reasonable standards to achieve a level of management and conservation practices that will abate wind or water erosion of the soil or abate the degradation of the waters of the state by soil sediment in conjunction with land grading, excavating, filling, or other soil disturbing activities on land used or being developed for nonfarm commercial, industrial, residential, or other nonfarm purposes, and establish criteria for determination of the acceptability of those management and conservation practices. The rules shall be designed to implement the applicable areawide waste treatment management plan prepared under section 208 of the "Federal Water Pollution Control Act," 86 Stat. 816 (1972), 33 U.S.C.A. 1228, as amended, and to implement phase II of the storm water program of the national pollutant discharge elimination system established in 40 C.F.R. Part 122. The rules to implement phase II of the storm water program of the national pollutant discharge elimination system shall not be inconsistent with, more stringent than, or broader in scope than the rules or regulations adopted by the environmental protection agency under 40 C.F.R. Part 122. The rules adopted under this section shall not apply inside the limits of municipal corporations or the limits of townships with a limited home rule government that have adopted rules under section 504.21 of the Revised Code, to lands being used in a strip mine operation as defined in section 1513.01 of the Revised Code, or to land being used in a surface mine operation as defined in section 1514.01 of the Revised Code.

The rules adopted under this section may require persons to file plans governing erosion control, sediment control, and water management before clearing, grading, excavating, filling, or otherwise wholly or partially disturbing one or more contiguous acres of land owned by one person or operated as one development unit for the construction of nonfarm buildings, structures, utilities, recreational areas, or other similar nonfarm uses. If the rules require plans to be filed, the rules shall do all of the following:

- (1) Designate the board itself, its employees, or another agency or

official to review and approve or disapprove the plans;

(2) Establish procedures and criteria for the review and approval or disapproval of the plans;

(3) Require the designated entity to issue a permit to a person for the clearing, grading, excavating, filling, or other project for which plans are approved and to deny a permit to a person whose plans have been disapproved;

(4) Establish procedures for the issuance of the permits;

(5) Establish procedures under which a person may appeal the denial of a permit.

Areas of less than one contiguous acre shall not be exempt from compliance with other provisions of this section or rules adopted under this section. The rules adopted under this section may impose reasonable filing fees for plan review, permit processing, and field inspections.

No permit or plan shall be required for a public highway, transportation, or drainage improvement or maintenance project undertaken by a government agency or political subdivision in accordance with a statement of its standard sediment control policies that is approved by the board or the chief of the division of soil and water resources in the department of natural resources.

(B) Rules or amendments may be adopted under this section only after public hearings at not fewer than two regular sessions of the board. The board of county commissioners shall cause to be published, in a newspaper of general circulation in the county, notice of the public hearings, including time, date, and place, once a week for two weeks immediately preceding the hearings, or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code. The proposed rules or amendments shall be made available by the board to the public at the board office or other location indicated in the notice. The rules or amendments shall take effect on the thirty-first day following the date of their adoption.

(C) The board of county commissioners may employ personnel to assist in the administration of this section and the rules adopted under it. The board also, if the action does not conflict with the rules, may delegate duties to review sediment control and water management plans to its employees, and may enter into agreements with one or more political subdivisions, other county officials, or other government agencies, in any combination, in order to obtain reviews and comments on plans governing erosion control, sediment control, and water management or to obtain other services for the administration of the rules adopted under this section.

(D) The board of county commissioners or any duly authorized

representative of the board may, upon identification to the owner or person in charge, enter any land upon obtaining agreement with the owner, tenant, or manager of the land in order to determine whether there is compliance with the rules adopted under this section. If the board or its duly authorized representative is unable to obtain such an agreement, the board or representative may apply for, and a judge of the court of common pleas for the county where the land is located may issue, an appropriate inspection warrant as necessary to achieve the purposes of this chapter.

(E)(1) If the board of county commissioners or its duly authorized representative determines that a violation of the rules adopted under this section exists, the board or representative may issue an immediate stop work order if the violator failed to obtain any federal, state, or local permit necessary for sediment and erosion control, earth movement, clearing, or cut and fill activity. In addition, if the board or representative determines such a rule violation exists, regardless of whether or not the violator has obtained the proper permits, the board or representative may authorize the issuance of a notice of violation. If, after a period of not less than thirty days has elapsed following the issuance of the notice of violation, the violation continues, the board or its duly authorized representative shall issue a second notice of violation. Except as provided in division (E)(3) of this section, if, after a period of not less than fifteen days has elapsed following the issuance of the second notice of violation, the violation continues, the board or its duly authorized representative may issue a stop work order after first obtaining the written approval of the prosecuting attorney of the county if, in the opinion of the prosecuting attorney, the violation is egregious.

Once a stop work order is issued, the board or its duly authorize representative shall request, in writing, the prosecuting attorney of the county to seek an injunction or other appropriate relief in the court of common pleas to abate excessive erosion or sedimentation and secure compliance with the rules adopted under this section. If the prosecuting attorney seeks an injunction or other appropriate relief, then, in granting relief, the court of common pleas may order the construction of sediment control improvements or implementation of other control measures and may assess a civil fine of not less than one hundred or more than five hundred dollars. Each day of violation of a rule or stop work order issued under this section shall be considered a separate violation subject to a civil fine.

(2) The person to whom a stop work order is issued under this section may appeal the order to the court of common pleas of the county in which it was issued, seeking any equitable or other appropriate relief from that order.

(3) No stop work order shall be issued under this section against any

public highway, transportation, or drainage improvement or maintenance project undertaken by a government agency or political subdivision in accordance with a statement of its standard sediment control policies that is approved by the board or the chief of the division of soil and water resources in the department of natural resources.

(F) No person shall violate any rule adopted or order issued under this section. Notwithstanding division (E) of this section, if the board of county commissioners determines that a violation of any rule adopted or administrative order issued under this section exists, the board may request, in writing, the prosecuting attorney of the county to seek an injunction or other appropriate relief in the court of common pleas to abate excessive erosion or sedimentation and secure compliance with the rules or order. In granting relief, the court of common pleas may order the construction of sediment control improvements or implementation of other control measures and may assess a civil fine of not less than one hundred or more than five hundred dollars. Each day of violation of a rule adopted or administrative order issued under this section shall be considered a separate violation subject to a civil fine.

Sec. 307.791. The question of repeal of a county sediment control rule adopted under section 307.79 of the Revised Code may be initiated by filing with the board of elections of the county not less than ninety days before the general or primary election in any year a petition requesting that an election be held on such question. Such petition shall be signed by qualified electors residing in the county equal in number to ten per cent of those voting for governor at the most recent gubernatorial election in the county.

After determination by it that such petition is valid, the board of elections shall submit the question to the electors of the county at the next general or primary election. The election shall be conducted, canvassed, and certified in the same manner as regular elections for county offices in the county. Notice of the election shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the county once a week for two consecutive weeks prior to the election ~~and, if or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code. If the board of elections operates and maintains a web site, notice of the election also shall be posted on that web site for thirty days prior to the election. The notice shall state the purpose, time, and place of the election and the complete text a succinct summary of each rule sought to be repealed.~~ The form of the ballot cast at such election shall be prescribed by the secretary of state. The question covered by such petition shall be submitted as a separate proposition, but it may be printed on the same ballot with any other proposition submitted at the same election other than the election of officers.

If a majority of the qualified electors voting on the question of repeal approve the repeal, the result of the election shall be certified immediately after the canvass by the board of elections to the board of county commissioners, who shall thereupon rescind the rule.

Sec. 307.80. The board of county commissioners of any county may, by resolution, establish a county microfilming board. The county microfilming board shall consist of the county treasurer or ~~his~~ the treasurer's representative, the county auditor or ~~his~~ the auditor's representative, the clerk of the court of common pleas or ~~his~~ the clerk's representative, a member or representative of the board of county commissioners chosen by the board of county commissioners, and the county recorder or ~~his~~ the recorder's representative who shall serve as secretary.

After the initial meeting of the county microfilming board, no county office shall purchase, lease, operate, or contract for the use of any microfilming or other image processing equipment, software, or services without prior approval of the board.

As used in sections 307.80 to 307.806 of the Revised Code, "county office" means any officer, department, board, commission, agency, court, or other office of the county and the court of common pleas. The county hospital shall not be considered a "county office" when the county hospital uses microfilming to record and store for future access physical and psychiatric examinations or treatment records of its patients. The county hospital shall participate, at the request of the county microfilming board, in purchasing film and equipment and in entering into contracts for services for microfilming.

Sec. 307.801. Within ninety days after a county microfilming board has been established, it shall hold its initial meeting at such time as the secretary of the board determines. Thereafter, the board shall meet annually on the ~~third~~ second Monday in January and at such other times and places as the secretary determines. The secretary shall, within five days after receiving a written request from any other member of the board, call the board together for a meeting. A majority of the board constitutes a quorum at any regular or special meeting.

The board may, by unanimous consent, adopt such rules as it considers necessary for its operation, but no rule of the board shall derogate the authority or responsibility of any elected official.

Sec. 307.802. The county microfilming board shall coordinate the use of all microfilming or image processing equipment, software, or services in use throughout the county offices at the time the board is established.

The board may, in writing, authorize any county office to contract for

microfilming or image processing services, or operate or acquire microfilming or image processing equipment or software, where the board determines such action is desirable. The authorization shall be signed by a majority of the members of the board and shall be filed in the office of the board of county commissioners.

The county microfilming board may establish a microfilming center which shall provide a centralized system for the use of microfilming or image processing equipment, software, or services for all county offices.

Sec. 307.803. The board of county commissioners may purchase, lease, or otherwise acquire any microfilming or image processing equipment, software, or services that the board determines is necessary, or that the county microfilming board or county board of information services and records management authorizes, from funds budgeted and appropriated by the board of county commissioners for such purposes.

Sec. 307.806. The county microfilming board may enter into a contract with the legislative authorities of any municipal corporation, township, port authority, water or sewer district, school district, library district, county law library association, health district, park district, soil and water conservation district, conservancy district, other taxing district, regional council established pursuant to Chapter 167. of the Revised Code, or otherwise, county land reutilization corporation organized under Chapter 1724. of the Revised Code, or with the board of county commissioners or the microfilming board of any other county, or with any other federal or state governmental agency, and such authorities may enter into contracts with the county microfilming board, to provide microfilming or image processing services to any of them. The board shall establish a schedule of charges upon which the cost of providing such services shall be based. All moneys collected by the board for services rendered pursuant to contracts entered into under this section shall be deposited in the county general fund; however, such moneys may be segregated into a special fund in the county treasury until the end of the calendar year. County offices may also be charged for such services and the appropriation so charged and the appropriation of the board so credited.

Sec. 307.81. (A) Where lands have been dedicated to or for the use of the public for parks or park lands, and where such lands have remained unimproved and unused by the public and there appears to be little or no possibility that such lands will be improved and used by the public, the board of county commissioners of the county in which the lands are located may, by resolution, declare such parks or park lands vacated upon the petition of a majority of the abutting freeholders. No such parks or park

lands shall be vacated unless notice of the pendency and prayer of the petition is given in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which such lands are situated for three consecutive weeks preceding action on such petition or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code. No such lands shall be vacated prior to a public hearing had thereon.

(B) Before the board of county commissioners may act on a petition to vacate unimproved and unused parks or park lands under division (A) of this section, the board shall offer such parks or park lands to all political subdivisions described in division (C) of this section. The board shall give notice to those political subdivisions by first class mail that the parks or park lands may be declared vacated unless the board of county commissioners accepts an offer from another political subdivision to buy or lease the lands. The failure of delivery of any such notice does not invalidate any proceedings for the disposition of parks or park lands under this division. Any such political subdivision that wishes to buy or lease the parks or park lands shall make an offer for the lands to the board in writing not later than ninety days after receiving the notice. The board may reject any offer, except that if it receives an offer in which the political subdivision agrees to use the lands for park purposes and in which the board finds all of the other terms acceptable, the board shall accept that offer. No offer shall be accepted until notice of the offer is published for three consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the lands are situated or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code, and a public hearing is held. Proceeds from the sale or lease of the lands shall be placed in the general fund of the county and be disbursed as prescribed in section 307.82 of the Revised Code. Any deed conveying the lands shall be executed as provided in that section.

(C) In order to receive a notice or to make an offer regarding parks or park lands under division (B) of this section, a political subdivision must meet both of the following conditions:

(1) Have the authority to acquire, develop, and maintain public parks or recreation areas;

(2) Contain the parks or park lands in question within its boundaries, or adjoin a political subdivision that contains those parks or park lands within its boundaries.

Sec. 307.82. Upon the vacation of parks or park lands, the board of county commissioners shall offer such lands for sale at a public auction at the courthouse of the county in which such lands are situated. No lands shall be sold until the board gives notice of intention to sell such lands. Such notice shall be published once a week for four consecutive weeks in a

newspaper of general circulation in the county in which sale is to be had or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code. The board shall sell such lands to the highest and best bidder, provided, the board may reject any and all bids made hereunder.

When such sale is made, the auditor of the county in which sale is had and in which such lands are located, shall enter into a deed, conveying said lands to the purchaser thereof. At the time of sale, the auditor shall place the lands sold hereunder on the tax duplicate of the county at a value to be established by ~~him~~ the auditor as in cases where ~~he~~ the auditor re-enters property which has been tax exempt on the taxable list of the county.

The proceeds from the sale of lands sold pursuant to this section shall be placed in the general fund of the county in which such lands are located and may be disbursed as other general fund moneys.

Sec. 307.83. When real estate which has been dedicated to or for the use of the public for parks or park lands is vacated by the board of county commissioners pursuant to division (A) of section 307.81 of the Revised Code or is to be sold or leased for nonpark use under division (B) of that section, and where reversionary interests have been set up in the event of the non-use of such lands for the dedicated purpose, such reversionary interests shall accelerate and vest in the holders thereof upon such vacation, or prior to the acceptance of an offer to buy or lease the land. Thereupon the auditor of the county shall place the lands on the tax duplicate of the county in the names of such reversioners as are known to the board of county commissioners. If the board is unable to establish the names of such reversioners, it shall fix a date on or before which claims to such real estate may be asserted and after which such real estate shall be sold or leased. The board shall give notice of such date and of the sale or lease to be held thereafter, once each week for four consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the county wherein such lands are located or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code. In the event that no claims to such lands are asserted or found to be valid, the lands shall be sold pursuant to section 307.82 of the Revised Code in the case of a vacation of the lands pursuant to division (A) of section 307.81 of the Revised Code, or be sold or leased pursuant to division (B) of section 307.81 of the Revised Code if an agreement with a political subdivision is entered into under that division, and the title of any holders of reversionary interests shall be extinguished.

Sec. 307.84. The board of county commissioners of any county may, by resolution, establish a county automatic data processing board. The board shall consist of the county treasurer or the county treasurer's representative, the county recorder or the county recorder's representative, the clerk of the

court of common pleas or the clerk's representative, a member or representative of the board of county commissioners chosen by the board, two members or representatives of the board of elections chosen by the board of elections one of whom shall be a member of the political party receiving the greatest number of votes at the most recent general election for the office of governor and one of whom shall be a member of the political party receiving the second greatest number of votes at such an election, if the board of elections desires to participate, and the county auditor or the county auditor's representative who shall serve as secretary. The members of the county automatic data processing board may by majority vote add to the board any additional members whose officers use the facilities of the board.

After the initial meeting of the county automatic data processing board, no county office shall purchase, lease, operate, or contract for the use of any automatic or electronic data processing or record-keeping equipment, software, or services without prior approval of the board.

As used in sections 307.84 to 307.846 of the Revised Code, "county office" means any officer, department, board, commission, agency, court, or other office of the county, other than a board of county hospital trustees.

Sec. 307.842. The county automatic data processing board shall coordinate the use of all automatic or electronic data processing or record-keeping equipment, software, or services in use throughout the county offices at the time the board is established.

The board may, in writing, authorize any county office to contract for automatic or electronic data processing or record-keeping services, or operate or acquire automatic or electronic data processing or record-keeping equipment, where the board determines such action is desirable. The authorization shall be signed by a majority of the members of the board and shall be filed in the office of the board of county commissioners.

The county automatic data processing board may establish an automatic data processing center which shall provide a centralized system for the use of automatic or electronic data processing or record-keeping equipment, software, or services for all county offices.

Sec. 307.843. The board of county commissioners may purchase, lease, or otherwise acquire any automatic or electronic data processing or record-keeping equipment, software, or services that the board determines is necessary, or that the county automatic data processing board recommends, from funds budgeted and appropriated by the board of county commissioners for such purposes.

Sec. 307.846. The county automatic data processing board may enter into a contract with the legislative authorities of any municipal corporation,

township, port authority, water or sewer district, school district, library district, county law library association, health district, park district, soil and water conservation district, conservancy district, other taxing district, regional council established pursuant to Chapter 167. of the Revised Code, county land reutilization corporation organized under Chapter 1724. of the Revised Code, or otherwise or with the board of county commissioners or the automatic data processing board of any other county, or with any other federal or state governmental agency, and such authorities or entities may enter into contracts with the county automatic data processing board, to provide automatic or electronic data processing or record-keeping services to any of them. The board shall establish a schedule of charges upon which the cost of providing such services shall be based. All moneys collected by the board for services rendered pursuant to contracts entered into under this section shall be deposited in the county general fund; however, such moneys may be segregated into a special fund in the county treasury until the end of the calendar year. County offices may also be charged for such services and the appropriation so charged and the appropriation of the board so credited.

Sec. 307.847. (A) In lieu of having a county records commission and a county microfilming board, a board of county commissioners may, by resolution, require the county automatic data processing board established under section 307.84 of the Revised Code to coordinate the management of information resources of the county, the records and information management operations of all county offices, and the various records and information technologies acquired and operated by county offices. The resolution requiring the board to assume these duties shall specify the date on which the county records commission and the county microfilming board no longer exist. If the duties of the county automatic data processing board are expanded under this section, the prosecuting attorney, county engineer, county coroner, sheriff, and a judge of the court of common pleas selected by a majority vote of all judges of the court shall be added to the membership of the board. Any of these additional members may designate a representative to serve on that member's behalf.

After a resolution is adopted under this section, no county office shall purchase, lease, operate, or contract for the use of any automatic data processing equipment, software, or services; microfilming equipment or services; records center or archives facilities; or any other image processing or electronic data processing or record-keeping equipment, software, or services without prior approval of the board. The board may adopt such rules as it considers necessary for its operation, but no rule shall derogate the authority or responsibility of any county elected official. The board's

rules may include any regulations or standards the board wishes to impose. For purposes of this section, "county office" means any officer, department, board, commission, agency, court, or other office of the county and the court of common pleas, except that in the case of microfilming equipment, "county office" does not include the county hospital when the county hospital uses microfilming to record and store for future access physical and psychiatric examinations or treatment records of its patients. The county hospital shall participate, at the request of the county automatic data processing board, in purchasing film and equipment and in entering into contracts for services for microfilming.

(B) In the resolution expanding the duties of the county automatic data processing board adopted under this section, the board of county commissioners shall designate the date on which all equipment, records, files, effects, and other personal property; contractual obligations; and assets and liabilities of the county records commission and the county microfilming board shall be transferred to the county automatic data processing board.

For purposes of succession of the functions, powers, duties, and obligations of the county records commission and the county microfilming board transferred and assigned to, devolved upon, and assumed by the county automatic data processing board under this section, the county automatic data processing board shall be deemed to constitute the continuation of the county records commission and the county microfilming board, as applicable.

Any business, proceeding, or other matter undertaken or commenced by the county records commission or the county microfilming board pertaining to or connected with the functions, powers, duties, and obligations transferred or assigned and pending on the date of the transfer of duties to the county automatic data processing board shall be conducted, prosecuted or defended, and completed by the county automatic data processing board in the same manner and with the same effect as if conducted by the county records commission or the county microfilming board. In all such actions and proceedings, the county automatic data processing board shall be substituted as a party.

All rules, acts, determinations, approvals, and decisions of the county records commission or the county microfilming board pertaining to the functions transferred and assigned under this section to the county automatic data processing board in force at the time of the transfer, assignment, assumption, or devolution shall continue in force as rules, acts, determinations, approvals, and decisions of the county automatic data

processing board until duly modified or repealed by the board.

Wherever the functions, powers, duties, and obligations of the county records commission or the county microfilming board are referred to or designated in any law, contract, or other document pertaining to those functions, powers, duties, and obligations, the reference or designation shall be deemed to refer to the county automatic data processing board, as appropriate.

No existing right or remedy of any character shall be lost, impaired, or affected by reason of the transfer of duties to the county automatic data processing board, except insofar as those rights and remedies are administered by the county automatic data processing board.

(C) Except for provisions regarding the microfilming, the county automatic data processing board shall have the powers, duties, and functions of the county records commission as provided in section 149.38 of the Revised Code and the county microfilming board as provided in section 307.802 of the Revised Code.

(D) The county automatic data processing board may establish an automatic data processing center, microfilming center, records center, archives, and any other centralized or decentralized facilities it considers necessary to fulfill its duties. Any such centralized facilities shall be used by all county offices. The establishment of either centralized or decentralized facilities shall be contingent on the appropriation of funds by the board of county commissioners.

The county auditor shall be the chief administrator of either centralized or decentralized facilities, as provided under section 307.844 of the Revised Code.

The county auditor shall prepare an annual estimate of the revenues and expenditures of the county automatic data processing board for the ensuing fiscal year and submit it to the board of county commissioners as provided in section 5705.28 of the Revised Code. The estimate shall be sufficient to take care of all the needs of the county automatic data processing board, including, but not limited to, salaries, rental, and purchase of equipment. The board's funds shall be disbursed by the county auditor's warrant drawn on the county treasury five days after receipt of a voucher approved by a majority of that board and by a majority of the board of county commissioners.

On the first Monday in April of each year the county auditor shall file with the county automatic data processing board and the board of county commissioners a report of the operations of each center and a statement of each center's receipts and expenditures during the preceding calendar year.

(E) With the approval of the board of county commissioners, the county automatic data processing board may enter into a contract with the legislative authority of any municipal corporation, township, port authority, water or sewer district, school district, library district, county law library association, health district, park district, soil and water conservation district, conservancy district, other taxing district, or regional council established under Chapter 167. of the Revised Code, or with the board of county commissioners or the automatic data processing board or microfilming board of any other county, or with any other federal or state governmental agency, and such authorities may enter into contracts with the county automatic data processing board to provide microfilming, automatic data processing, or other image processing or electronic data processing or record-keeping services to any of them. The board shall establish a schedule of charges upon which the cost of providing such services shall be based. All moneys collected by the board for services rendered pursuant to contracts entered into under this section shall be deposited in the county general fund, although these moneys may be segregated into a special fund in the county treasury until the end of the calendar year. County offices also may be charged for such services and the appropriations of those offices so charged and the appropriation of the county automatic data processing board so credited.

Sec. 307.86. Anything to be purchased, leased, leased with an option or agreement to purchase, or constructed, including, but not limited to, any product, structure, construction, reconstruction, improvement, maintenance, repair, or service, except the services of an accountant, architect, attorney at law, physician, professional engineer, construction project manager, consultant, surveyor, or appraiser, by or on behalf of the county or contracting authority, as defined in section 307.92 of the Revised Code, at a cost in excess of twenty-five thousand dollars, except as otherwise provided in division (D) of section 713.23 and in sections 9.48, 125.04, 125.60 to 125.6012, 307.022, 307.041, 307.861, 339.05, 340.03, 340.033, 4115.31 to 4115.35, 5119.16, 5513.01, 5543.19, 5713.01, and 6137.05 of the Revised Code, shall be obtained through competitive bidding. However, competitive bidding is not required when any of the following applies:

(A) The board of county commissioners, by a unanimous vote of its members, makes a determination that a real and present emergency exists, and that determination and the reasons for it are entered in the minutes of the proceedings of the board, when either of the following applies:

- (1) The estimated cost is less than fifty thousand dollars.
- (2) There is actual physical disaster to structures, radio communications

equipment, or computers.

For purposes of this division, "unanimous vote" means all three members of a board of county commissioners when all three members are present, or two members of the board if only two members, constituting a quorum, are present.

Whenever a contract of purchase, lease, or construction is exempted from competitive bidding under division (A)(1) of this section because the estimated cost is less than fifty thousand dollars, but the estimated cost is twenty-five thousand dollars or more, the county or contracting authority shall solicit informal estimates from no fewer than three persons who could perform the contract, before awarding the contract. With regard to each such contract, the county or contracting authority shall maintain a record of such estimates, including the name of each person from whom an estimate is solicited. The county or contracting authority shall maintain the record for the longer of at least one year after the contract is awarded or the amount of time the federal government requires.

(B)(1) The purchase consists of supplies or a replacement or supplemental part or parts for a product or equipment owned or leased by the county, and the only source of supply for the supplies, part, or parts is limited to a single supplier.

(2) The purchase consists of services related to information technology, such as programming services, that are proprietary or limited to a single source.

(C) The purchase is from the federal government, the state, another county or contracting authority of another county, or a board of education, educational service center, township, or municipal corporation.

(D) The purchase is made by a county department of job and family services under section 329.04 of the Revised Code and consists of family services duties or workforce development activities or is made by a county board of developmental disabilities under section 5126.05 of the Revised Code and consists of program services, such as direct and ancillary client services, child care, case management services, residential services, and family resource services.

(E) The purchase consists of criminal justice services, social services programs, family services, or workforce development activities by the board of county commissioners from nonprofit corporations or associations under programs funded by the federal government or by state grants.

(F) The purchase consists of any form of an insurance policy or contract authorized to be issued under Title XXXIX of the Revised Code or any form of health care plan authorized to be issued under Chapter 1751. of the

Revised Code, or any combination of such policies, contracts, plans, or services that the contracting authority is authorized to purchase, and the contracting authority does all of the following:

(1) Determines that compliance with the requirements of this section would increase, rather than decrease, the cost of the purchase;

(2) Requests issuers of the policies, contracts, plans, or services to submit proposals to the contracting authority, in a form prescribed by the contracting authority, setting forth the coverage and cost of the policies, contracts, plans, or services as the contracting authority desires to purchase;

(3) Negotiates with the issuers for the purpose of purchasing the policies, contracts, plans, or services at the best and lowest price reasonably possible.

(G) The purchase consists of computer hardware, software, or consulting services that are necessary to implement a computerized case management automation project administered by the Ohio prosecuting attorneys association and funded by a grant from the federal government.

(H) Child care services are purchased for provision to county employees.

(I)(1) Property, including land, buildings, and other real property, is leased for offices, storage, parking, or other purposes, and all of the following apply:

(a) The contracting authority is authorized by the Revised Code to lease the property.

(b) The contracting authority develops requests for proposals for leasing the property, specifying the criteria that will be considered prior to leasing the property, including the desired size and geographic location of the property.

(c) The contracting authority receives responses from prospective lessors with property meeting the criteria specified in the requests for proposals by giving notice in a manner substantially similar to the procedures established for giving notice under section 307.87 of the Revised Code.

(d) The contracting authority negotiates with the prospective lessors to obtain a lease at the best and lowest price reasonably possible considering the fair market value of the property and any relocation and operational costs that may be incurred during the period the lease is in effect.

(2) The contracting authority may use the services of a real estate appraiser to obtain advice, consultations, or other recommendations regarding the lease of property under this division.

(J) The purchase is made pursuant to section 5139.34 or sections

5139.41 to 5139.46 of the Revised Code and is of programs or services that provide case management, treatment, or prevention services to any felony or misdemeanor delinquent, unruly youth, or status offender under the supervision of the juvenile court, including, but not limited to, community residential care, day treatment, services to children in their home, or electronic monitoring.

(K) The purchase is made by a public children services agency pursuant to section 307.92 or 5153.16 of the Revised Code and consists of family services, programs, or ancillary services that provide case management, prevention, or treatment services for children at risk of being or alleged to be abused, neglected, or dependent children.

(L) The purchase is to obtain the services of emergency medical service organizations under a contract made by the board of county commissioners pursuant to section 307.05 of the Revised Code with a joint emergency medical services district.

(M) The county contracting authority determines that the use of competitive sealed proposals would be advantageous to the county and the contracting authority complies with section 307.862 of the Revised Code.

Any issuer of policies, contracts, plans, or services listed in division (F) of this section and any prospective lessor under division (I) of this section may have the issuer's or prospective lessor's name and address, or the name and address of an agent, placed on a special notification list to be kept by the contracting authority, by sending the contracting authority that name and address. The contracting authority shall send notice to all persons listed on the special notification list. Notices shall state the deadline and place for submitting proposals. The contracting authority shall mail the notices at least six weeks prior to the deadline set by the contracting authority for submitting proposals. Every five years the contracting authority may review this list and remove any person from the list after mailing the person notification of that action.

Any contracting authority that negotiates a contract under division (F) of this section shall request proposals and negotiate with issuers in accordance with that division at least every three years from the date of the signing of such a contract, unless the parties agree upon terms for extensions or renewals of the contract. Such extension or renewal periods shall not exceed six years from the date the initial contract is signed.

Any real estate appraiser employed pursuant to division (I) of this section shall disclose any fees or compensation received from any source in connection with that employment.

Sec. 308.13. (A) The board of trustees of a regional airport authority or

any officer or employee designated by such board may make any contract for the purchase of supplies or material or for labor for any work, under the supervision of the board, the cost of which shall not exceed fifteen thousand dollars. Except where the contract is for equipment, materials, or supplies available from a qualified nonprofit agency pursuant to sections 4115.31 to 4115.35 of the Revised Code, when an expenditure, other than for the acquisition of real estate, the discharge of noncontractual claims, personal services, or for the product or services of public utilities, exceeds fifteen thousand dollars, such expenditure shall be made only after a notice calling for bids has been published once a week for three consecutive weeks in ~~at least one~~ a newspaper of general circulation within the territorial boundaries of the regional airport authority, or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code. If the bid is for a contract for the construction, demolition, alteration, repair, or reconstruction of an improvement, it shall meet the requirements of section 153.54 of the Revised Code. If the bid is for any other contract authorized by this section, it shall be accompanied by a good and approved bond with ample security conditioned on the carrying out of the contract. The board may let the contract to the lowest and best bidder. Such contract shall be in writing and shall be accompanied by or shall refer to plans and specifications for the work to be done, approved by the board. The plans and specifications shall at all times be made and considered part of the contract. Said contract shall be approved by the board and signed by its chief executive officer and by the contractor, and shall be executed in duplicate.

(B) Whenever a board of trustees of a regional airport authority or any officer or employee designated by the board makes a contract for the purchase of supplies or material or for labor for any work, the cost of which is greater than one thousand dollars but no more than fifteen thousand dollars, the board or designated officer or employee shall solicit informal estimates from no fewer than three potential suppliers before awarding the contract. With regard to each such contract, the board shall maintain a record of such estimates, including the name of each person from whom an estimate is solicited, for no less than one year after the contract is awarded.

Sec. 311.29. (A) As used in this section, "Chautauqua assembly" has the same meaning as in section 4511.90 of the Revised Code.

(B) The sheriff may, from time to time, enter into contracts with any municipal corporation, township, township police district, joint police district, metropolitan housing authority, port authority, water or sewer district, school district, library district, health district, park district created pursuant to section 511.18 or 1545.01 of the Revised Code, soil and water

conservation district, water conservancy district, or other taxing district or with the board of county commissioners of any contiguous county with the concurrence of the sheriff of the other county, and such subdivisions, authorities, and counties may enter into agreements with the sheriff pursuant to which the sheriff undertakes and is authorized by the contracting subdivision, authority, or county to perform any police function, exercise any police power, or render any police service in behalf of the contracting subdivision, authority, or county, or its legislative authority, that the subdivision, authority, or county, or its legislative authority, may perform, exercise, or render.

Upon the execution of an agreement under this division and within the limitations prescribed by it, the sheriff may exercise the same powers as the contracting subdivision, authority, or county possesses with respect to such policing that by the agreement the sheriff undertakes to perform or render, and all powers necessary or incidental thereto, as amply as such powers are possessed and exercised by the contracting subdivision, authority, or county directly.

Any agreement authorized by division (A), (B), or (C) of this section shall not suspend the possession by a contracting subdivision, authority, or county of any police power performed or exercised or police service rendered in pursuance to the agreement nor limit the authority of the sheriff.

(C) The sheriff may enter into contracts with any Chautauqua assembly that has grounds located within the county, and the Chautauqua assembly may enter into agreements with the sheriff pursuant to which the sheriff undertakes to perform any police function, exercise any police power, or render any police service upon the grounds of the Chautauqua assembly that the sheriff is authorized by law to perform, exercise, or render in any other part of the county within the sheriff's territorial jurisdiction. Upon the execution of an agreement under this division, the sheriff may, within the limitations prescribed by the agreement, exercise such powers with respect to such policing upon the grounds of the Chautauqua assembly, provided that any limitation contained in the agreement shall not be construed to limit the authority of the sheriff.

(D) Contracts entered into under division (A), (B), or (C) of this section shall provide for the reimbursement of the county for the costs incurred by the sheriff for such policing including, but not limited to, the salaries of deputy sheriffs assigned to such policing, the current costs of funding retirement pensions and of providing workers' compensation, the cost of training, and the cost of equipment and supplies used in such policing, to the extent that such equipment and supplies are not directly furnished by the

contracting subdivision, authority, county, or Chautauqua assembly. Each such contract shall provide for the ascertainment of such costs and shall be of any duration, not in excess of four years, and may contain any other terms that may be agreed upon. All payments pursuant to any such contract in reimbursement of the costs of such policing shall be made to the treasurer of the county to be credited to a special fund to be known as the "sheriff's policing revolving fund," hereby created. Any moneys coming into the fund shall be used for the purposes provided in divisions (A) to (D) of this section and paid out on vouchers by the county commissioners as other funds coming into their possession. Any moneys credited to the fund and not obligated at the termination of the contract shall be credited to the county general fund.

The sheriff shall assign the number of deputies as may be provided for in any contract made pursuant to division (A), (B), or (C) of this section. The number of deputies regularly assigned to such policing shall be in addition to and an enlargement of the sheriff's regular number of deputies. Nothing in divisions (A) to (D) of this section shall preclude the sheriff from temporarily increasing or decreasing the deputies so assigned as emergencies indicate a need for shifting assignments to the extent provided by the contracts.

All such deputies shall have the same powers and duties, the same qualifications, and be appointed and paid and receive the same benefits and provisions and be governed by the same laws as all other deputy sheriffs.

Contracts under division (A), (B), or (C) of this section may be entered into jointly with the board of county commissioners, and sections 307.14 to 307.19 of the Revised Code apply to this section insofar as they may be applicable.

(E)(1) As used in division (E) of this section:

(a) "Ohio prisoner" has the same meaning as in section 5120.64 of the Revised Code.

(b) "Out-of-state prisoner" and "private contractor" have the same meanings as in section 9.07 of the Revised Code.

(2) The sheriff may enter into a contract with a private person or entity for the return of Ohio prisoners who are the responsibility of the sheriff from outside of this state to a location in this state specified by the sheriff, if there are adequate funds appropriated by the board of county commissioners and there is a certification pursuant to division (D) of section 5705.41 of the Revised Code that the funds are available for this purpose. A contract entered into under this division is within the coverage of section 325.07 of the Revised Code. If a sheriff enters into a contract as described in this

division, subject to division (E)(3) of this section, the private person or entity in accordance with the contract may return Ohio prisoners from outside of this state to locations in this state specified by the sheriff. A contract entered into under this division shall include all of the following:

(a) Specific provisions that assign the responsibility for costs related to medical care of prisoners while they are being returned that is not covered by insurance of the private person or entity;

(b) Specific provisions that set forth the number of days, not exceeding ten, within which the private person or entity, after it receives the prisoner in the other state, must deliver the prisoner to the location in this state specified by the sheriff, subject to the exceptions adopted as described in division (E)(2)(c) of this section;

(c) Any exceptions to the specified number of days for delivery specified as described in division (E)(2)(b) of this section;

(d) A requirement that the private person or entity immediately report all escapes of prisoners who are being returned to this state, and the apprehension of all prisoners who are being returned and who have escaped, to the sheriff and to the local law enforcement agency of this state or another state that has jurisdiction over the place at which the escape occurs;

(e) A schedule of fines that the sheriff shall impose upon the private person or entity if the private person or entity fails to perform its contractual duties, and a requirement that, if the private person or entity fails to perform its contractual duties, the sheriff shall impose a fine on the private person or entity from the schedule of fines and, in addition, may exercise any other rights the sheriff has under the contract.

(f) If the contract is entered into on or after the effective date of the rules adopted by the department of rehabilitation and correction under section 5120.64 of the Revised Code, specific provisions that comport with all applicable standards that are contained in those rules.

(3) If the private person or entity that enters into the contract fails to perform its contractual duties, the sheriff shall impose upon the private person or entity a fine from the schedule, the money paid in satisfaction of the fine shall be paid into the county treasury, and the sheriff may exercise any other rights the sheriff has under the contract. If a fine is imposed under this division, the sheriff may reduce the payment owed to the private person or entity pursuant to any invoice in the amount of the fine.

(4) Upon the effective date of the rules adopted by the department of rehabilitation and correction under section 5120.64 of the Revised Code, notwithstanding the existence of a contract entered into under division (E)(2) of this section, in no case shall the private person or entity that is a

party to the contract return Ohio prisoners from outside of this state into this state for a sheriff unless the private person or entity complies with all applicable standards that are contained in the rules.

(5) Divisions (E)(1) to (4) of this section do not apply regarding any out-of-state prisoner who is brought into this state to be housed pursuant to section 9.07 of the Revised Code in a correctional facility in this state that is managed and operated by a private contractor.

Sec. 311.31. (A) The board of county commissioners of a county may establish, by resolution, a voluntary motor vehicle decal registration program to be controlled and conducted by the sheriff within the unincorporated areas of the county. The board may establish a fee for participation in the program in an amount sufficient to cover the cost of administering the program and the cost of the decals. The board shall coordinate its program with any pre-existing program established by a township located within the county under section 505.67 of the Revised Code.

(B) Any resident of the county may enroll a motor vehicle that ~~he~~ the resident owns in the program by signing a consent form, displaying the decal issued under this section, and paying the prescribed fee. The motor vehicle owner shall remove the decal to withdraw from the program and also prior to the sale or transfer of ownership of the vehicle. Any law enforcement officer may conduct, at any place within this state at which the officer would be permitted to arrest the person operating the vehicle, an investigatory stop of any motor vehicle displaying a decal issued under this section when the vehicle is being driven between the hours of one a.m. and five a.m. A law enforcement officer may conduct an investigatory stop under this division regardless of whether the officer observes a violation of law involving the vehicle or whether ~~he~~ the officer has probable cause to believe that any violation of law involving the vehicle has occurred.

(C) The consent form required under division (B) of this section shall:

(1) Describe the conditions for participation in the program, including a description of an investigatory stop and a statement that any law enforcement officer may conduct, at any place within this state at which the officer would be permitted to arrest the person operating the vehicle, an investigatory stop of the motor vehicle when it is being driven between the hours of one a.m. and five a.m.

(2) Contain other information identifying the vehicle and owner as the sheriff considers necessary.

(D) The state director of public safety, in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, shall adopt rules governing the color, size, and design

of decals issued under this section and the location where the decals shall be displayed on vehicles that are enrolled in the program.

(E) Divisions (A) to (D) of this section do not require a law enforcement officer to conduct an investigatory stop of a vehicle displaying a decal issued under this section.

(F) As used in this section:

(1) "Investigatory stop" means a temporary stop of a motor vehicle and its operator and occupants for purposes of determining the identity of the person who is operating the vehicle and, if the person who is operating it is not its owner, whether any violation of law has occurred or is occurring. An "investigatory stop" is not an arrest, but, if an officer who conducts an investigatory stop determines that illegal conduct has occurred or is ~~occurring~~ occurring, an "investigatory stop" may be the basis for an arrest.

(2) "Law enforcement officer" means a sheriff, deputy sheriff, constable, police officer of a township or joint ~~township~~ police district, marshal, deputy marshal, municipal police officer, or state highway patrol trooper.

Sec. 317.06. (A) Each county recorder who is newly elected to a full term of office shall attend and successfully complete at least fifteen hours of continuing education courses during the first year of the recorder's term of office and complete at least another eight hours of such courses each year of the remaining term. Each county recorder who is elected to a subsequent term of office shall attend and successfully complete at least eight hours of such courses in each year of any subsequent term of office. To be counted toward the continuing education hours required by this section, a course must be approved by the Ohio recorders' association. Any county recorder who teaches an approved course shall be entitled to credit for the course in the same manner as if the county recorder had attended the course.

The Ohio recorders' association shall record and, upon request, verify the completion of required course work for each county recorder and issue a statement to each county recorder of the number of hours of continuing education the county recorder has successfully completed. Each year the association shall send a list of the continuing education courses, and the number of hours each county recorder has successfully completed, to the auditor of state and shall provide a copy of this list to any other individual who requests it.

The association shall issue a "failure to complete notice" to any county recorder required to complete continuing education courses under this section who fails to successfully complete at least fifteen hours of continuing education courses during the first year of the county recorder's

first term of office or to complete a total of at least thirty-nine hours of such courses, including the fifteen hours completed in the first year of the first term, by the end of that term. The association shall issue a "failure to complete notice" to any county recorder required to complete continuing education courses under this section who fails to successfully complete at least eight hours of continuing education courses each year of any subsequent term of office or to complete a total of at least thirty-two hours of such courses, by the end of that subsequent term. The notice is for informational purposes only and does not affect any individual's ability to hold the office of county recorder.

(B) Each board of county commissioners shall approve, from money appropriated to the county recorder, a reasonable amount requested by the county recorder of its county to cover the costs the county recorder must incur to meet the requirements of division (A) of this section, including registration fees, lodging and meal expenses, and travel expenses.

Sec. 317.20. (A) When, in the opinion of the board of county commissioners, sectional indexes are needed and it so directs, in addition to the alphabetical indexes provided for in section 317.18 of the Revised Code, the board may provide for making, in books prepared for that purpose, sectional indexes to the records of all real estate in the county beginning with some designated year and continuing through the period of years that the board specifies. The sectional indexes shall place under the heads of the original surveyed sections or surveys, parts of a section or survey, squares, subdivisions, permanent parcel numbers provided for under section 319.28 of the Revised Code, or lots, on the left-hand page or on the upper portion of that page of the index book, the name of the grantor, then the name of the grantee, then the number and page of the record in which the instrument is found recorded, then the character of the instrument, and then a pertinent description of the interest in property conveyed by the deed, lease, or assignment of lease and shall place under similar headings on the right-hand page or on the lower portion of that page of the index book, beginning at the bottom, all the mortgages, liens, notices provided for in sections 5301.51, 5301.52, and 5301.56 of the Revised Code, or other encumbrances affecting the real estate.

(B) The compensation for the services rendered under this section shall be paid from the general revenue fund of the county, and no additional levy shall be made in consequence of the services.

(C) If the board of county commissioners decides to have sectional indexes made, it shall advertise for three consecutive weeks in one newspaper of general circulation in the county or as provided in section 7.16

of the Revised Code for sealed proposals to do the work provided for in this section, shall contract with the lowest and best bidder, and shall require the successful bidder to give a bond for the faithful performance of the contract in the sum that the board fixes. The work shall be done to the acceptance of the auditor of state upon allowance by the board. The board may reject any and all bids for the work, provided that no more than five cents shall be paid for each entry of each tract or lot of land.

(D) When the sectional indexes are brought up and completed, the county recorder shall maintain the indexes and comply with division (E) of this section in connection with registered land.

(E)(1) As used in division (E) of this section, "housing accommodations" and "restrictive covenant" have the same meanings as in section 4112.01 of the Revised Code.

(2) In connection with any transfer of registered land that occurs on and after ~~the effective date of this amendment~~ March 30, 1999, in accordance with Chapters 5309. and 5310. of the Revised Code, the county recorder shall delete from the sectional indexes maintained under this section all references to any restrictive covenant that appears to apply to the transferred registered land, if any inclusion of the restrictive covenant in a transfer, rental, or lease of housing accommodations, any honoring or exercising of the restrictive covenant, or any attempt to honor or exercise the restrictive covenant constitutes an unlawful discriminatory practice under division (H)(9) of section 4112.02 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 319.11. The county auditor shall, on or before ninety days after the close of the fiscal year, prepare a financial report of the county for the preceding fiscal year in such form as prescribed by the auditor of state. Upon completing the report, the county auditor shall publish notice that the report has been completed and is available for public inspection at the office of the county auditor. The notice shall be published once in ~~two newspapers~~ a newspaper of general circulation ~~published~~ in the county, ~~except that if only one newspaper is published in the county, then publication in only one newspaper is required, and if~~ If there are is no newspapers newspaper of general circulation in the county, then publication is required in the newspaper of general circulation in an adjoining county that has the largest circulation in ~~the that~~ adjoining county. The report shall contain at least the information required by section 117.38 of the Revised Code, and a copy shall be filed with the auditor of state.

No county auditor shall fail or neglect to prepare the report or publish notice of completion of the report as required by this section.

Sec. 319.301. (A) The reductions required by division (D) of this

section do not apply to any of the following:

(1) Taxes levied at whatever rate is required to produce a specified amount of tax money, including a tax levied under section 5705.199 ~~or~~, 5705.211, or 5748.09 of the Revised Code, or an amount to pay debt charges;

(2) Taxes levied within the one per cent limitation imposed by Section 2 of Article XII, Ohio Constitution;

(3) Taxes provided for by the charter of a municipal corporation.

(B) As used in this section:

(1) "Real property" includes real property owned by a railroad.

(2) "Carryover property" means all real property on the current year's tax list except:

(a) Land and improvements that were not taxed by the district in both the preceding year and the current year;

(b) Land and improvements that were not in the same class in both the preceding year and the current year.

(3) "Effective tax rate" means with respect to each class of property:

(a) The sum of the total taxes that would have been charged and payable for current expenses against real property in that class if each of the district's taxes were reduced for the current year under division (D)(1) of this section without regard to the application of division (E)(3) of this section divided by

(b) The taxable value of all real property in that class.

(4) "Taxes charged and payable" means the taxes charged and payable prior to any reduction required by section 319.302 of the Revised Code.

(C) The tax commissioner shall make the determinations required by this section each year, without regard to whether a taxing district has territory in a county to which section 5715.24 of the Revised Code applies for that year. Separate determinations shall be made for each of the two classes established pursuant to section 5713.041 of the Revised Code.

(D) With respect to each tax authorized to be levied by each taxing district, the tax commissioner, annually, shall do both of the following:

(1) Determine by what percentage, if any, the sums levied by such tax against the carryover property in each class would have to be reduced for the tax to levy the same number of dollars against such property in that class in the current year as were charged against such property by such tax in the preceding year subsequent to the reduction made under this section but before the reduction made under section 319.302 of the Revised Code. In the case of a tax levied for the first time that is not a renewal of an existing tax, the commissioner shall determine by what percentage the sums that would otherwise be levied by such tax against carryover property in each

class would have to be reduced to equal the amount that would have been levied if the full rate thereof had been imposed against the total taxable value of such property in the preceding tax year. A tax or portion of a tax that is designated a replacement levy under section 5705.192 of the Revised Code is not a renewal of an existing tax for purposes of this division.

(2) Certify each percentage determined in division (D)(1) of this section, as adjusted under division (E) of this section, and the class of property to which that percentage applies to the auditor of each county in which the district has territory. The auditor, after complying with section 319.30 of the Revised Code, shall reduce the sum to be levied by such tax against each parcel of real property in the district by the percentage so certified for its class. Certification shall be made by the first day of September except in the case of a tax levied for the first time, in which case certification shall be made within fifteen days of the date the county auditor submits the information necessary to make the required determination.

(E)(1) As used in division (E)(2) of this section, "pre-1982 joint vocational taxes" means, with respect to a class of property, the difference between the following amounts:

(a) The taxes charged and payable in tax year 1981 against the property in that class for the current expenses of the joint vocational school district of which the school district is a part after making all reductions under this section;

(b) The following percentage of the taxable value of all real property in that class:

(i) In 1987, five one-hundredths of one per cent;

(ii) In 1988, one-tenth of one per cent;

(iii) In 1989, fifteen one-hundredths of one per cent;

(iv) In 1990 and each subsequent year, two-tenths of one per cent.

If the amount in division (E)(1)(b) of this section exceeds the amount in division (E)(1)(a) of this section, the pre-1982 joint vocational taxes shall be zero.

As used in divisions (E)(2) and (3) of this section, "taxes charged and payable" has the same meaning as in division (B)(4) of this section and excludes any tax charged and payable in 1985 or thereafter under sections 5705.194 to 5705.197 or section 5705.199, 5705.213, ~~or~~ 5705.219, or 5748.09 of the Revised Code.

(2) If in the case of a school district other than a joint vocational or cooperative education school district any percentage required to be used in division (D)(2) of this section for either class of property could cause the total taxes charged and payable for current expenses to be less than two per

cent of the taxable value of all real property in that class that is subject to taxation by the district, the commissioner shall determine what percentages would cause the district's total taxes charged and payable for current expenses against that class, after all reductions that would otherwise be made under this section, to equal, when combined with the pre-1982 joint vocational taxes against that class, the lesser of the following:

(a) The sum of the rates at which those taxes are authorized to be levied;

(b) Two per cent of the taxable value of the property in that class. The auditor shall use such percentages in making the reduction required by this section for that class.

(3)(a) If in the case of a joint vocational school district any percentage required to be used in division (D)(2) of this section for either class of property could cause the total taxes charged and payable for current expenses for that class to be less than the designated amount, the commissioner shall determine what percentages would cause the district's total taxes charged and payable for current expenses for that class, after all reductions that would otherwise be made under this section, to equal the designated amount. The auditor shall use such percentages in making the reductions required by this section for that class.

(b) As used in division (E)(3)(a) of this section, the designated amount shall equal the taxable value of all real property in the class that is subject to taxation by the district times the lesser of the following:

(i) Two-tenths of one per cent;

(ii) The district's effective rate plus the following percentage for the year indicated:

WHEN COMPUTING THE TAXES CHARGED FOR	ADD THE FOLLOWING PERCENTAGE:
1987	0.025%
1988	0.05%
1989	0.075%
1990	0.1%
1991	0.125%
1992	0.15%
1993	0.175%
1994 and thereafter	0.2%

(F) No reduction shall be made under this section in the rate at which any tax is levied.

(G) The commissioner may order a county auditor to furnish any information the commissioner needs to make the determinations required under division (D) or (E) of this section, and the auditor shall supply the

information in the form and by the date specified in the order. If the auditor fails to comply with an order issued under this division, except for good cause as determined by the commissioner, the commissioner shall withhold from such county or taxing district therein fifty per cent of state revenues to local governments pursuant to section 5747.50 of the Revised Code or shall direct the department of education to withhold therefrom fifty per cent of state revenues to school districts pursuant to ~~Chapters 3306. and Chapter~~ 3317. of the Revised Code. The commissioner shall withhold the distribution of such revenues until the county auditor has complied with this division, and the department shall withhold the distribution of such revenues until the commissioner has notified the department that the county auditor has complied with this division.

(H) If the commissioner is unable to certify a tax reduction factor for either class of property in a taxing district located in more than one county by the last day of November because information required under division (G) of this section is unavailable, the commissioner may compute and certify an estimated tax reduction factor for that district for that class. The estimated factor shall be based upon an estimate of the unavailable information. Upon receipt of the actual information for a taxing district that received an estimated tax reduction factor, the commissioner shall compute the actual tax reduction factor and use that factor to compute the taxes that should have been charged and payable against each parcel of property for the year for which the estimated reduction factor was used. The amount by which the estimated factor resulted in an overpayment or underpayment in taxes on any parcel shall be added to or subtracted from the amount due on that parcel in the ensuing tax year.

A percentage or a tax reduction factor determined or computed by the commissioner under this section shall be used solely for the purpose of reducing the sums to be levied by the tax to which it applies for the year for which it was determined or computed. It shall not be used in making any tax computations for any ensuing tax year.

(I) In making the determinations under division (D)(1) of this section, the tax commissioner shall take account of changes in the taxable value of carryover property resulting from complaints filed under section 5715.19 of the Revised Code for determinations made for the tax year in which such changes are reported to the commissioner. Such changes shall be reported to the commissioner on the first abstract of real property filed with the commissioner under section 5715.23 of the Revised Code following the date on which the complaint is finally determined by the board of revision or by a court or other authority with jurisdiction on appeal. The tax commissioner

shall account for such changes in making the determinations only for the tax year in which the change in valuation is reported. Such a valuation change shall not be used to recompute the percentages determined under division (D)(1) of this section for any prior tax year.

Sec. 319.54. (A) On all moneys collected by the county treasurer on any tax duplicate of the county, other than estate tax duplicates, and on all moneys received as advance payments of personal property and classified property taxes, the county auditor, on settlement with the treasurer and tax commissioner, on or before the date prescribed by law for such settlement or any lawful extension of such date, shall be allowed as compensation for the county auditor's services the following percentages:

- (1) On the first one hundred thousand dollars, two and one-half per cent;
- (2) On the next two million dollars, eight thousand three hundred eighteen ten-thousandths of one per cent;
- (3) On the next two million dollars, six thousand six hundred fifty-five ten-thousandths of one per cent;
- (4) On all further sums, one thousand six hundred sixty-three ten-thousandths of one per cent.

If any settlement is not made on or before the date prescribed by law for such settlement or any lawful extension of such date, the aggregate compensation allowed to the auditor shall be reduced one per cent for each day such settlement is delayed after the prescribed date. No penalty shall apply if the auditor and treasurer grant all requests for advances up to ninety per cent of the settlement pursuant to section 321.34 of the Revised Code. The compensation allowed in accordance with this section on settlements made before the dates prescribed by law, or the reduced compensation allowed in accordance with this section on settlements made after the date prescribed by law or any lawful extension of such date, shall be apportioned ratably by the auditor and deducted from the shares or portions of the revenue payable to the state as well as to the county, townships, municipal corporations, and school districts.

(B) For the purpose of reimbursing county auditors for the expenses associated with the increased number of applications for reductions in real property taxes under sections 323.152 and 4503.065 of the Revised Code that result from the amendment of those sections by Am. Sub. H.B. 119 of the 127th general assembly, there shall be paid from the state's general revenue fund to the county treasury, to the credit of the real estate assessment fund created by section 325.31 of the Revised Code, an amount equal to one per cent of the total annual amount of property tax relief reimbursement paid to that county under sections 323.156 and 4503.068 of

the Revised Code for the preceding tax year. Payments made under this division shall be made at the same times and in the same manner as payments made under section 323.156 of the Revised Code.

(C) From all moneys collected by the county treasurer on any tax duplicate of the county, other than estate tax duplicates, and on all moneys received as advance payments of personal property and classified property taxes, there shall be paid into the county treasury to the credit of the real estate assessment fund created by section 325.31 of the Revised Code, an amount to be determined by the county auditor, which shall not exceed the percentages prescribed in divisions (C)(1) and (2) of this section.

(1) For payments made after June 30, 2007, and before 2011, the following percentages:

- (a) On the first five hundred thousand dollars, four per cent;
- (b) On the next five million dollars, two per cent;
- (c) On the next five million dollars, one per cent;
- (d) On all further sums not exceeding one hundred fifty million dollars, three-quarters of one per cent;
- (e) On amounts exceeding one hundred fifty million dollars, five hundred eighty-five thousandths of one per cent.

(2) For payments made in or after 2011, the following percentages:

- (a) On the first five hundred thousand dollars, four per cent;
- (b) On the next ten million dollars, two per cent;
- (c) On amounts exceeding ten million five hundred thousand dollars, three-fourths of one per cent.

Such compensation shall be apportioned ratably by the auditor and deducted from the shares or portions of the revenue payable to the state as well as to the county, townships, municipal corporations, and school districts.

(D) Each county auditor shall receive four per cent of the amount of tax collected and paid into the county treasury, on property omitted and placed by the county auditor on the tax duplicate.

(E) On all estate tax moneys collected by the county treasurer, the county auditor, on settlement semiannually with the tax commissioner, shall be allowed, as compensation for the auditor's services under Chapter 5731. of the Revised Code, the following percentages:

- (1) Four per cent on the first one hundred thousand dollars;
- (2) One-half of one per cent on all additional sums.

Such percentages shall be computed upon the amount collected and reported at each semiannual settlement, and shall be for the use of the general fund of the county.

(F) On all cigarette license moneys collected by the county treasurer, the county auditor, on settlement semiannually with the treasurer, shall be allowed as compensation for the auditor's services in the issuing of such licenses one-half of one per cent of such moneys, to be apportioned ratably and deducted from the shares of the revenue payable to the county and subdivisions, for the use of the general fund of the county.

(G) The county auditor shall charge and receive fees as follows:

(1) For deeds of land sold for taxes to be paid by the purchaser, five dollars;

(2) For the transfer or entry of land, lot, or part of lot, or the transfer or entry on or after January 1, 2000, of a used manufactured home or mobile home as defined in section 5739.0210 of the Revised Code, fifty cents for each transfer or entry, to be paid by the person requiring it;

(3) For receiving statements of value and administering section 319.202 of the Revised Code, one dollar, or ten cents for each one hundred dollars or fraction of one hundred dollars, whichever is greater, of the value of the real property transferred or, for sales occurring on or after January 1, 2000, the value of the used manufactured home or used mobile home, as defined in section 5739.0210 of the Revised Code, transferred, except no fee shall be charged when the transfer is made:

(a) To or from the United States, this state, or any instrumentality, agency, or political subdivision of the United States or this state;

(b) Solely in order to provide or release security for a debt or obligation;

(c) To confirm or correct a deed previously executed and recorded or when a current owner on any record made available to the general public on the internet or a publicly accessible database and the general tax list of real and public utility property and the general duplicate of real and public utility property is a peace officer, parole officer, prosecuting attorney, assistant prosecuting attorney, correctional employee, youth services employee, firefighter, EMT, or investigator of the bureau of criminal identification and investigation and is changing the current owner name listed on any record made available to the general public on the internet or a publicly accessible database and the general tax list of real and public utility property and the general duplicate of real and public utility property to the initials of the current owner as prescribed in division (B)(1) of section 319.28 of the Revised Code;

(d) To evidence a gift, in trust or otherwise and whether revocable or irrevocable, between husband and wife, or parent and child or the spouse of either;

(e) On sale for delinquent taxes or assessments;

(f) Pursuant to court order, to the extent that such transfer is not the result of a sale effected or completed pursuant to such order;

(g) Pursuant to a reorganization of corporations or unincorporated associations or pursuant to the dissolution of a corporation, to the extent that the corporation conveys the property to a stockholder as a distribution in kind of the corporation's assets in exchange for the stockholder's shares in the dissolved corporation;

(h) By a subsidiary corporation to its parent corporation for no consideration, nominal consideration, or in sole consideration of the cancellation or surrender of the subsidiary's stock;

(i) By lease, whether or not it extends to mineral or mineral rights, unless the lease is for a term of years renewable forever;

(j) When the value of the real property or the manufactured or mobile home or the value of the interest that is conveyed does not exceed one hundred dollars;

(k) Of an occupied residential property, including a manufactured or mobile home, being transferred to the builder of a new residence or to the dealer of a new manufactured or mobile home when the former residence is traded as part of the consideration for the new residence or new manufactured or mobile home;

(l) To a grantee other than a dealer in real property or in manufactured or mobile homes, solely for the purpose of, and as a step in, the prompt sale of the real property or manufactured or mobile home to others;

(m) To or from a person when no money or other valuable and tangible consideration readily convertible into money is paid or to be paid for the real estate or manufactured or mobile home and the transaction is not a gift;

(n) Pursuant to division (B) of section 317.22 of the Revised Code, or section 2113.61 of the Revised Code, between spouses or to a surviving spouse pursuant to section 5302.17 of the Revised Code as it existed prior to April 4, 1985, between persons pursuant to section 5302.17 or 5302.18 of the Revised Code on or after April 4, 1985, to a person who is a surviving, survivorship tenant pursuant to section 5302.17 of the Revised Code on or after April 4, 1985, or pursuant to section 5309.45 of the Revised Code;

(o) To a trustee acting on behalf of minor children of the deceased;

(p) Of an easement or right-of-way when the value of the interest conveyed does not exceed one thousand dollars;

(q) Of property sold to a surviving spouse pursuant to section 2106.16 of the Revised Code;

(r) To or from an organization exempt from federal income taxation under section 501(c)(3) of the "Internal Revenue Code of 1986," 100 Stat.

2085, 26 U.S.C.A. 1, as amended, provided such transfer is without consideration and is in furtherance of the charitable or public purposes of such organization;

(s) Among the heirs at law or devisees, including a surviving spouse, of a common decedent, when no consideration in money is paid or to be paid for the real property or manufactured or mobile home;

(t) To a trustee of a trust, when the grantor of the trust has reserved an unlimited power to revoke the trust;

(u) To the grantor of a trust by a trustee of the trust, when the transfer is made to the grantor pursuant to the exercise of the grantor's power to revoke the trust or to withdraw trust assets;

(v) To the beneficiaries of a trust if the fee was paid on the transfer from the grantor of the trust to the trustee or if the transfer is made pursuant to trust provisions which became irrevocable at the death of the grantor;

(w) To a corporation for incorporation into a sports facility constructed pursuant to section 307.696 of the Revised Code;

(x) Between persons pursuant to section 5302.18 of the Revised Code;

(y) From a county land reutilization corporation organized under Chapter 1724. of the Revised Code to a third party.

(4) For the cost of publishing the delinquent manufactured home tax list, the delinquent tax list, and the delinquent vacant land tax list, a flat fee, as determined by the county auditor, to be charged to the owner of a home on the delinquent manufactured home tax list or the property owner of land on the delinquent tax list or the delinquent vacant land tax list.

The auditor shall compute and collect the fee. The auditor shall maintain a numbered receipt system, as prescribed by the tax commissioner, and use such receipt system to provide a receipt to each person paying a fee. The auditor shall deposit the receipts of the fees on conveyances in the county treasury daily to the credit of the general fund of the county, except that fees charged and received under division (G)(3) of this section for a transfer of real property to a county land reutilization corporation shall be credited to the county land reutilization corporation fund established under section 321.263 of the Revised Code.

The real property transfer fee provided for in division (G)(3) of this section shall be applicable to any conveyance of real property presented to the auditor on or after January 1, 1968, regardless of its time of execution or delivery.

The transfer fee for a used manufactured home or used mobile home shall be computed by and paid to the county auditor of the county in which the home is located immediately prior to the transfer.

Sec. 321.18. As soon as sufficient funds are in the county treasury to redeem the warrants drawn on the treasury, and on which interest is accruing, the county treasurer shall give notice in a newspaper ~~published in and circulating of general circulation in his~~ the county that ~~he the treasurer~~ is ready to redeem such warrants, and from the date of the notice the interest on such warrants shall cease.

Sec. 321.261. (A) ~~Five~~ In each county treasury there shall be created the treasurer's delinquent tax and assessment collection fund and the prosecuting attorney's delinquent tax and assessment collection fund. Except as otherwise provided in this division, two and one-half per cent of all delinquent real property, personal property, and manufactured and mobile home taxes and assessments collected by the county treasurer shall be deposited in the treasurer's delinquent tax and assessment collection fund, which shall be created in the county treasury. Except as otherwise provided in division (D) of this section, the moneys in the fund, one-half of which shall be appropriated by the board of county commissioners to the treasurer and one-half of which shall be appropriated to the county prosecuting attorney, and two and one-half per cent of such delinquent taxes and assessments shall be deposited in the prosecuting attorney's delinquent tax and assessment collection fund. The board of county commissioners shall appropriate to the county treasurer from the treasurer's delinquent tax and assessment collection fund, and shall appropriate to the prosecuting attorney from the prosecuting attorney's delinquent tax and assessment collection fund, money to the credit of the respective fund, and except as provided in division (D) of this section, the appropriation shall be used only for the following purposes:

(1) By the county treasurer ~~and or~~ or the county prosecuting attorney in connection with the collection of delinquent real property, personal property, and manufactured and mobile home taxes and assessments, including proceedings related to foreclosure of the state's lien for such taxes against such property;

(2) With respect to any portion of the amount appropriated ~~to the county treasurer from the treasurer's delinquent tax and assessment collection fund~~ for the benefit of the a county land reutilization corporation organized under Chapter 1724. of the Revised Code, whether by transfer to or other application on behalf of, the county land reutilization corporation. Upon the deposit of amounts in the treasurer's delinquent tax and assessment collection fund ~~of the county~~, any amounts allocated at the direction of the treasurer to the support of the county land reutilization corporation shall be paid out of such fund to the corporation upon a warrant of the county

auditor.

If the balance in the treasurer's or prosecuting attorney's delinquent tax and assessment collection fund exceeds three times the amount deposited into the fund in the preceding year, the treasurer or prosecuting attorney, on or before the twentieth day of October of the current year, may direct the county auditor to forgo the allocation of delinquent taxes and assessments to that officer's respective fund in the ensuing year. If the county auditor receives such direction, the auditor shall cause the portion of taxes and assessments that otherwise would be credited to the fund under this section in that ensuing year to be allocated and distributed among taxing units' funds as otherwise provided in this chapter and other applicable law.

(B) During the period of time that a county land reutilization corporation is functioning as such on behalf of a county, the board of county commissioners, upon the request of the county treasurer, may designate by resolution that an additional amount, not exceeding five per cent of all collections of delinquent real property, personal property, and manufactured and mobile home taxes and assessments, shall be deposited in the treasurer's delinquent tax and assessment collection fund and be available for appropriation by the board for the use of the corporation. Any such amounts so deposited and appropriated under this division shall be paid out of the treasurer's delinquent tax and assessment collection fund to the corporation upon a warrant of the county auditor.

(C) Annually by the first day of December, the county treasurer and the prosecuting attorney each shall submit a report to the board of county commissioners regarding the use of the moneys appropriated ~~to~~ from their respective ~~offices from the delinquent tax and assessment collection fund~~ funds. Each report shall specify the amount appropriated ~~to the office from the fund~~ during the current calendar year, an estimate of the amount so appropriated that will be expended by the end of the year, a summary of how the amount appropriated has been expended in connection with delinquent tax collection activities or land reutilization, and an estimate of the amount that will be credited to the fund during the ensuing calendar year.

The annual report of a county land reutilization corporation required by section 1724.05 of the Revised Code shall include information regarding the amount and use of the moneys that the corporation received from the treasurer's delinquent tax and assessment collection fund of the county.

(D)(1) In any county, if the county treasurer or prosecuting attorney determines that the ~~amount appropriated to the office from the county's balance to the credit of that officer's corresponding delinquent tax and~~

assessment collection fund ~~under division (A) of this section~~ exceeds the amount required to be used as prescribed by ~~that~~ division (A) of this section, the county treasurer or prosecuting attorney may expend the excess to prevent residential mortgage foreclosures in the county and to address problems associated with other foreclosed real property. The amount used for that purpose in any year may not exceed the amount that would cause the fund to have a reserve of less than twenty per cent of the amount expended in the preceding year for the purposes of division (A) of this section. The county treasurer or prosecuting attorney may not expend any money from the officer's fund for the purpose of land reutilization unless the county treasurer or prosecuting attorney obtains the approval of the county investment advisory committee established under section 135.341 of the Revised Code.

Money authorized to be expended under division (D)(1) of this section shall be used to provide financial assistance in the form of loans to borrowers in default on their home mortgages, including for the payment of late fees, to clear arrearage balances, and to augment moneys used in the county's foreclosure prevention program. The money also may be used to assist municipal corporations or townships in the county, upon their application to the county treasurer, prosecuting attorney, or the county department of development, in the nuisance abatement of deteriorated residential buildings in foreclosure, or vacant, abandoned, tax-delinquent, or blighted real property, including paying the costs of boarding up such buildings, lot maintenance, and demolition.

(2) In a county having a population of more than one hundred thousand according to the department of development's 2006 census estimate, if the county treasurer or prosecuting attorney determines that the ~~amount appropriated to the office from the county's balance to the credit of that officer's corresponding~~ delinquent tax and assessment collection fund ~~under division (A) of this section~~ exceeds the amount required to be used as prescribed by ~~that~~ division (A) of this section, the county treasurer or prosecuting attorney may expend the excess to assist townships or municipal corporations located in the county as provided in division (D)(2) of this section, provided that the combined amount so expended each year in a county shall not exceed three million dollars. Upon application for the funds by a township or municipal corporation, the county treasurer ~~and~~ or prosecuting attorney may assist the township or municipal corporation in abating foreclosed residential nuisances, including paying the costs of securing such buildings, lot maintenance, and demolition. At the prosecuting attorney's discretion, the prosecuting attorney also may apply the funds to

costs of prosecuting alleged violations of criminal and civil laws governing real estate and related transactions, including fraud and abuse.

Sec. 322.02. (A) For the purpose of paying the costs of enforcing and administering the tax and providing additional general revenue for the county, any county may levy and collect a tax to be known as the real property transfer tax on each deed conveying real property or any interest in real property located wholly or partially within the boundaries of the county at a rate not to exceed thirty cents per hundred dollars for each one hundred dollars or fraction thereof of the value of the real property or interest in real property located within the boundaries of the county granted, assigned, transferred, or otherwise conveyed by the deed. The tax shall be levied pursuant to a resolution adopted by the board of county commissioners of the county and, except as provided in division (A) of section 322.07 of the Revised Code, shall be levied at a uniform rate upon all deeds as defined in division (D) of section 322.01 of the Revised Code. Prior to the adoption of any such resolution, the board of county commissioners shall conduct two public hearings thereon, the second hearing to be not less than three nor more than ten days after the first. Notice of the date, time, and place of the hearings shall be given by publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the county once a week on the same day of the week for two consecutive weeks, ~~the~~ or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code. The second publication ~~being~~ shall be not less than ten nor more than thirty days prior to the first hearing. The tax shall be levied upon the grantor named in the deed and shall be paid by the grantor for the use of the county to the county auditor at the time of the delivery of the deed as provided in section 319.202 of the Revised Code and prior to the presentation of the deed to the recorder of the county for recording.

(B) No resolution levying a real property transfer tax pursuant to this section or a manufactured home transfer tax pursuant to section 322.06 of the Revised Code shall be effective sooner than thirty days following its adoption. Such a resolution is subject to a referendum as provided in sections 305.31 to 305.41 of the Revised Code, unless the resolution is adopted as an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, in which case it shall go into immediate effect. An emergency measure must receive an affirmative vote of all of the members of the board of commissioners, and shall state the reasons for the necessity. A resolution may direct the board of elections to submit the question of levying the tax to the electors of the county at the next primary or general election in the county occurring not less than ninety days after the resolution is certified to the board. No such resolution shall go

into effect unless approved by a majority of those voting upon it.

Sec. 322.021. The question of a repeal of a county permissive tax adopted as an emergency measure pursuant to division (B) of section 322.02 of the Revised Code may be initiated by filing with the board of elections of the county not less than ninety days before the general election in any year a petition requesting that an election be held on such question. Such petition shall be signed by qualified electors residing in the county equal in number to ten per cent of those voting for governor at the most recent gubernatorial election.

After determination by it that such petition is valid, the board of elections shall submit the question to the electors of the county at the next general election. The election shall be conducted, canvassed, and certified in the same manner as regular elections for county offices in the county. Notice of the election shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the district once a week for two consecutive weeks prior to the election ~~and, if~~ or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code. If the board of elections operates and maintains a web site, notice of the election also shall be posted on that web site for thirty days prior to the election. The notice shall state the purpose, time, and place of the election. The form of the ballot cast at such election shall be prescribed by the secretary of state. The question covered by such petition shall be submitted as a separate proposition, but it may be printed on the same ballot with any other proposition submitted at the same election other than the election of officers. If a majority of the qualified electors voting on the question of repeal approve the repeal, the result of the election shall be certified immediately after the canvass by the board of elections to the board of county commissioners, who shall thereupon, after the current year, cease to levy the tax.

Sec. 323.08. After certifying the tax list and duplicate pursuant to section 319.28 of the Revised Code, the county auditor shall deliver a list of the tax rates, tax reduction factors, and effective tax rates assessed and applied against each of the two classes of property of the county to the county treasurer, who shall immediately cause a schedule of such tax rates and effective rates to be published in a newspaper of ~~the type described in section 5721.01 of the Revised Code~~ having general circulation in the county or, in lieu of such publication, the county treasurer may insert a copy of such schedule with each tax bill mailed. Such schedule shall specify particularly the rates and effective rates of taxation levied for all purposes on the tax list and duplicate for the support of the various taxing units within the county, expressed in dollars and cents for each one thousand dollars of valuation. The effective tax rates shall be printed in boldface type.

The county treasurer shall publish notice of the date of the last date for payment of each installment of taxes once a week for two successive weeks prior to such date in ~~two newspapers~~ a newspaper of general circulation within the county or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code. ~~If only one such newspaper exists, the notice shall be published in it.~~ The notice shall be inserted in a conspicuous place in ~~each~~ the newspaper and shall also contain notice that any taxes paid after such date will accrue a penalty and interest and that failure to receive a tax bill will not avoid such penalty and interest. The notice shall contain a telephone number that may be called by taxpayers who have not received tax bills.

As used in this section and section 323.131 of the Revised Code, "effective tax rate" means the effective rate after making the reduction required by section 319.301, but before making the reduction required by section 319.302 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 323.73. (A) Except as provided in division (G) of this section or section 323.78 of the Revised Code, a parcel of abandoned land that is to be disposed of under this section shall be disposed of at a public auction scheduled and conducted as described in this section. At least twenty-one days prior to the date of the public auction, the clerk of court or sheriff of the county shall advertise the public auction in a newspaper of general circulation that meets the requirements of section 7.12 of the Revised Code in the county in which the land is located. The advertisement shall include the date, time, and place of the auction, the permanent parcel number of the land if a permanent parcel number system is in effect in the county as provided in section 319.28 of the Revised Code or, if a permanent parcel number system is not in effect, any other means of identifying the parcel, and a notice stating that the abandoned land is to be sold subject to the terms of sections 323.65 to 323.79 of the Revised Code.

(B) The sheriff of the county or a designee of the sheriff shall conduct the public auction at which the abandoned land will be offered for sale. To qualify as a bidder, a person shall file with the sheriff on a form provided by the sheriff a written acknowledgment that the abandoned land being offered for sale is to be conveyed in fee simple to the successful bidder. At the auction, the sheriff of the county or a designee of the sheriff shall begin the bidding at an amount equal to the total of the impositions against the abandoned land, plus the costs apportioned to the land under section 323.75 of the Revised Code. The abandoned land shall be sold to the highest bidder. The county sheriff or designee may reject any and all bids not meeting the minimum bid requirements specified in this division.

(C) Except as otherwise permitted under section 323.74 of the Revised

Code, the successful bidder at a public auction conducted under this section shall pay the sheriff of the county or a designee of the sheriff a deposit of at least ten per cent of the purchase price in cash, or by bank draft or official bank check, at the time of the public auction, and shall pay the balance of the purchase price within thirty days after the day on which the auction was held. Notwithstanding section 321.261 of the Revised Code, with respect to any proceedings initiated pursuant to sections 323.65 to 323.79 of the Revised Code, from the total proceeds arising from the sale, transfer, or redemption of abandoned land, twenty per cent of such proceeds shall be deposited to the credit of the county treasurer's delinquent tax and assessment collection fund to reimburse the fund for costs paid from the fund for the transfer, redemption, or sale of abandoned land at public auction. Not more than one-half of the twenty per cent may be used by the treasurer for community development, nuisance abatement, foreclosure prevention, demolition, and related services or distributed by the treasurer to a land reutilization corporation. The balance of the proceeds, if any, shall be distributed to the appropriate political subdivisions and other taxing units in proportion to their respective claims for taxes, assessments, interest, and penalties on the land. Upon the sale of foreclosed lands, the clerk of court shall hold any surplus proceeds in excess of the impositions until the clerk receives an order of priority and amount of distribution of the surplus that are adjudicated by a court of competent jurisdiction or receives a certified copy of an agreement between the parties entitled to a share of the surplus providing for the priority and distribution of the surplus. Any party to the action claiming a right to distribution of surplus shall have a separate cause of action in the county or municipal court of the jurisdiction in which the land reposes, provided the board confirms the transfer or regularity of the sale. Any dispute over the distribution of the surplus shall not affect or revive the equity of redemption after the board confirms the transfer or sale.

(D) Upon the sale or transfer of abandoned land pursuant to this section, the owner's fee simple interest in the land shall be conveyed to the purchaser. A conveyance under this division is free and clear of any liens and encumbrances of the parties named in the complaint for foreclosure attaching before the sale or transfer, and free and clear of any liens for taxes, except for federal tax liens and covenants and easements of record attaching before the sale.

(E) The county board of revision shall reject the sale of abandoned land to any person if it is shown by a preponderance of the evidence that the person is delinquent in the payment of taxes levied by or pursuant to Chapter 307., 322., 324., 5737., 5739., 5741., or 5743. of the Revised Code

or any real property taxing provision of the Revised Code. The board also shall reject the sale of abandoned land to any person if it is shown by a preponderance of the evidence that the person is delinquent in the payment of property taxes on any parcel in the county, or to a member of any of the following classes of parties connected to that person:

- (1) A member of that person's immediate family;
- (2) Any other person with a power of attorney appointed by that person;
- (3) A sole proprietorship owned by that person or a member of that person's immediate family;
- (4) A partnership, trust, business trust, corporation, association, or other entity in which that person or a member of that person's immediate family owns or controls directly or indirectly any beneficial or legal interest.

(F) If the purchase of abandoned land sold pursuant to this section or section 323.74 of the Revised Code is for less than the sum of the impositions against the abandoned land and the costs apportioned to the land under division (A) of section 323.75 of the Revised Code, then, upon the sale or transfer, all liens for taxes due at the time the deed of the property is conveyed to the purchaser following the sale or transfer, and liens subordinate to liens for taxes, shall be deemed satisfied and discharged.

(G) If the county board of revision finds that the total of the impositions against the abandoned land are greater than the fair market value of the abandoned land as determined by the auditor's then-current valuation of that land, the board, at any final hearing under section 323.70 of the Revised Code, may order the property foreclosed and, without an appraisal or public auction, order the sheriff to execute a deed to the certificate holder or county land reutilization corporation that filed a complaint under section 323.69 of the Revised Code, or to a community development organization, school district, municipal corporation, county, or township, whichever is applicable, as provided in section 323.74 of the Revised Code. Upon a transfer under this division, all liens for taxes due at the time the deed of the property is transferred to the certificate holder, community development organization, school district, municipal corporation, county, or township following the conveyance, and liens subordinate to liens for taxes, shall be deemed satisfied and discharged.

Sec. 323.75. (A) The county treasurer or county prosecuting attorney shall apportion the costs of the proceedings with respect to abandoned lands offered for sale at a public auction held pursuant to section 323.73 or 323.74 of the Revised Code among those lands according to actual identified costs, equally, or in proportion to the fair market values of the lands. The costs of the proceedings include the costs of conducting the title search, notifying

record owners or other persons required to be notified of the pending sale, advertising the sale, and any other costs incurred by the county board of revision, county treasurer, county auditor, clerk of court, prosecuting attorney, or county sheriff in performing their duties under sections 323.65 to 323.79 of the Revised Code.

(B) All costs assessed in connection with proceedings under sections 323.65 to 323.79 of the Revised Code may be paid after they are incurred, as follows:

(1) If the abandoned land in question is purchased at public auction, from the purchaser of the abandoned land;

(2) In the case of abandoned land transferred to a community development organization, school district, municipal corporation, county, or township under section 323.74 of the Revised Code, from either of the following:

(a) At the discretion of the county treasurer, in whole or in part from the delinquent tax and assessment collection ~~fund~~ funds created under section 321.261 of the Revised Code, ~~in which case the amount shall be a prior charge to the fund before its equal allocation between~~ allocated equally among the respective funds of the county treasurer and of the prosecuting attorney;

(b) From the community development organization, school district, municipal corporation, county, or township, whichever is applicable.

(3) If the abandoned land in question is transferred to a certificate holder, from the certificate holder.

(C) If a parcel of abandoned land is sold or otherwise transferred pursuant to sections 323.65 to 323.79 of the Revised Code, the officer who conducted the sale or made the transfer, the prosecuting attorney, or the county treasurer may collect a recording fee from the purchaser or transferee of the parcel at the time of the sale or transfer and shall prepare the deed conveying title to the parcel or execute the deed prepared by the board for that purpose. That officer or the prosecuting attorney or treasurer is authorized to record on behalf of that purchaser or transferee the deed conveying title to the parcel, notwithstanding that the deed may not actually have been delivered to the purchaser or transferee prior to the recording of the deed. Receiving title to a parcel under sections 323.65 to 323.79 of the Revised Code constitutes the transferee's consent to an officer, prosecuting attorney, or county treasurer to file the deed to the parcel for recording. Nothing in this division shall be construed to require an officer, prosecuting attorney, or treasurer to file a deed or to relieve a transferee's obligation to file a deed. Upon confirmation of that sale or transfer, the deed shall be

deemed delivered to the purchaser or transferee of the parcel.

Sec. 324.02. For the purpose of providing additional general revenues for the county and paying the expense of administering such levy, any county may levy a county excise tax to be known as the utilities service tax on the charge for every utility service to customers within the county at a rate not to exceed two per cent of such charge. On utility service to customers engaged in business, the tax shall be imposed at a rate of one hundred fifty per cent of the rate imposed upon all other consumers within the county. The tax shall be levied pursuant to a resolution adopted by the board of county commissioners of the county and shall be levied at uniform rates required by this section upon all charges for utility service except as provided in section 324.03 of the Revised Code. The tax shall be levied upon the customer and shall be paid by the customer to the utility supplying the service at the time the customer pays the utility for the service. If the charge for utility service is billed to a person other than the customer at the request of such person, the tax commissioner of the state may, in accordance with section 324.04 of the Revised Code, provide for the levy of the tax against and the payment of the tax by such other person. Each utility furnishing a utility service the charge for which is subject to the tax shall set forth the tax as a separate item on each bill or statement rendered to the customer.

Prior to the adoption of any resolution levying a utilities service tax the board of county commissioners shall conduct two public hearings thereon, the second hearing to be not less than three nor more than ten days after the first. Notice of the date, time, and place of such hearings shall be given by publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the county once a week on the same day of the week for two consecutive weeks, the or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code. The second publication being shall be not less than ten nor more than thirty days prior to the first hearing. No resolution levying a utilities service tax pursuant to this section of the Revised Code shall be effective sooner than thirty days following its adoption and such resolution is subject to a referendum as provided in sections 305.31 to 305.41 of the Revised Code, unless such resolution is adopted as an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, in which case it shall go into immediate effect. Such emergency measure must receive an affirmative vote of all of the members of the board of commissioners, and shall state the reasons for such necessity. A resolution may direct the board of elections to submit the question of levying the tax to the electors of the county at the next primary or general election in the county occurring not less than ninety

days after such resolution is certified to the board. No such resolution shall go into effect unless approved by a majority of those voting upon it. The tax levied by such resolution shall apply to all bills rendered subsequent to the sixtieth day after the effective date of the resolution. No bills shall be rendered out of the ordinary course of business to avoid payment of the tax.

Sec. 324.021. The question of repeal of a county permissive tax adopted as an emergency measure pursuant to section 324.02 of the Revised Code may be initiated by filing with the board of elections of the county not less than ninety days before the general election in any year a petition requesting that an election be held on such question. Such petition shall be signed by qualified electors residing in the county equal in number to ten per cent of those voting for governor at the most recent gubernatorial election.

After determination by it that such petition is valid, the board of elections shall submit the question to the electors of the county at the next general election. The election shall be conducted, canvassed, and certified in the same manner as regular elections for county offices in the county. Notice of the election shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the district once a week for two consecutive weeks prior to the election ~~and, if~~ or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code. If the board of elections operates and maintains a web site, notice of the election also shall be posted on that web site for thirty days prior to the election. The notice shall state the purpose, time, and place of the election. The form of the ballot cast at such election shall be prescribed by the secretary of state. The question covered by such petition shall be submitted as a separate proposition, but it may be printed on the same ballot with any other proposition submitted at the same election other than the election of officers. If a majority of the qualified electors voting on the question of repeal approve the repeal, the result of the election shall be certified immediately after the canvass by the board of elections to the board of county commissioners, who shall thereupon, after the current year, cease to levy the tax.

Sec. 325.20. (A) Except as otherwise provided by law, no elected county officer and no deputy or employee of the county shall attend, at county expense, any association meeting, convention, or training sessions conducted pursuant to section 901.10 of the Revised Code, unless authorized by the board of county commissioners. Before such allowance may be made, the head of the county office desiring it shall apply to the board in writing showing the necessity of such attendance and the probable costs to the county. If a majority of the members of the board approves the application, such expenses shall be paid from the moneys appropriated to such office for traveling expenses.

(B) The board of county commissioners shall approve or disapprove any travel outside this state if the travel expenses will or may be in excess of one hundred dollars and will or may be paid for from funds in either of the delinquent tax and assessment collection ~~fund~~ funds created in section 321.261 of the Revised Code or the real estate assessment fund created in section 325.31 of the Revised Code. The head of the county office seeking approval shall apply to the board in writing showing the necessity of the travel and the probable costs to the county from either ~~the~~ delinquent tax and assessment collection fund or from the real estate assessment fund. If the travel is requested by a county auditor, and the board does not approve the travel, the auditor may not apply to the tax commissioner pursuant to section 5713.01 of the Revised Code for an additional allowance for such travel.

Sec. 340.02. As used in this section, "mental health professional" means a person who is qualified to work with mentally ill persons, pursuant to standards established by the director of mental health under section 5119.611 of the Revised Code.

For each alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health service district, there shall be appointed a board of alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health services of eighteen members. Nine members shall be interested in mental health programs and facilities and nine other members shall be interested in alcohol or drug addiction programs. All members shall be residents of the service district. The membership shall, as nearly as possible, reflect the composition of the population of the service district as to race and sex.

The director of mental health shall appoint four members of the board, the director of alcohol and drug addiction services shall appoint four members, and the board of county commissioners shall appoint ten members. In a joint-county district, the county commissioners of each participating county shall appoint members in as nearly as possible the same proportion as that county's population bears to the total population of the district, except that at least one member shall be appointed from each participating county.

The director of mental health shall ensure that at least one member of the board is a psychiatrist and one member of the board is a mental health professional. If the appointment of a psychiatrist is not possible, as determined under rules adopted by the director, a licensed physician may be appointed in place of the psychiatrist. If the appointment of a licensed physician is not possible, the director of mental health may waive the requirement that the psychiatrist or licensed physician be a resident of the service district and appoint a psychiatrist or licensed physician from a

contiguous county. The director of mental health shall ensure that at least one member of the board is a person who has received or is receiving mental health services paid for by public funds and at least one member is a parent or other relative of such a person.

The director of alcohol and drug addiction services shall ensure that at least one member of the board is a professional in the field of alcohol or drug addiction services and one member of the board is an advocate for persons receiving treatment for alcohol or drug addiction. Of the members appointed by the director of alcohol and drug addiction services, at least one shall be a person who has received or is receiving services for alcohol or drug addiction, and at least one shall be a parent or other relative of such a person.

No member or employee of a board of alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health services shall serve as a member of the board of any agency with which the board of alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health services has entered into a contract for the provision of services or facilities. No member of a board of alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health services shall be an employee of any agency with which the board has entered into a contract for the provision of services or facilities, unless the board member's employment duties with the agency consist of providing, only outside the district the board serves, services for which the medicaid program pays. No person shall be an employee of a board and such an agency unless the board and agency both agree in writing.

No person shall serve as a member of the board of alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health services whose spouse, child, parent, brother, sister, grandchild, stepparent, stepchild, stepbrother, stepsister, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother-in-law, or sister-in-law serves as a member of the board of any agency with which the board of alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health services has entered into a contract for the provision of services or facilities. No person shall serve as a member or employee of the board whose spouse, child, parent, brother, sister, stepparent, stepchild, stepbrother, stepsister, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother-in-law, or sister-in-law serves as a county commissioner of a county or counties in the alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health service district.

Each year each board member shall attend at least one inservice training session provided or approved by the department of mental health or the department of alcohol and drug addiction services. Such training sessions shall not be considered to be regularly scheduled meetings of the board.

Each member shall be appointed for a term of four years, commencing

the first day of July, except that one-third of initial appointments to a newly established board, and to the extent possible to expanded boards, shall be for terms of two years, one-third of initial appointments shall be for terms of three years, and one-third of initial appointments shall be for terms of four years. No member shall serve more than two consecutive four-year terms. A member may serve for three consecutive terms only if one of the terms is for less than two years. A member who has served two consecutive four-year terms or three consecutive terms totaling less than ten years is eligible for reappointment one year following the end of the second or third term, respectively.

When a vacancy occurs, appointment for the expired or unexpired term shall be made in the same manner as an original appointment. The appointing authority shall be notified by certified mail of any vacancy and shall fill the vacancy within sixty days following that notice.

Any member of the board may be removed from office by the appointing authority for neglect of duty, misconduct, or malfeasance in office, and shall be removed by the appointing authority if the ~~member's spouse, child, parent, brother, sister, stepparent, stepchild, stepbrother, stepsister, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother-in-law, or sister-in-law serves as a county commissioner of a county or counties in the service district or serves as a member or employee of the board of an agency with which the board of alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health services has entered a contract for the provision of services or facilities~~ member is barred by this section from serving as a board member. The member shall be informed in writing of the charges and afforded an opportunity for a hearing. Upon the absence of a member within one year from either four board meetings or from two board meetings without prior notice, the board shall notify the appointing authority, which may vacate the appointment and appoint another person to complete the member's term.

Members of the board shall serve without compensation, but shall be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties, as defined by rules of the departments of mental health and alcohol and drug addiction services.

Sec. 340.03. (A) Subject to rules issued by the director of mental health after consultation with relevant constituencies as required by division ~~(A)(H)(L)~~ of section 5119.06 of the Revised Code, with regard to mental health services, the board of alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health services shall:

(1) Serve as the community mental health planning agency for the county or counties under its jurisdiction, and in so doing it shall:

(a) Evaluate the need for facilities and community mental health services;

(b) In cooperation with other local and regional planning and funding bodies and with relevant ethnic organizations, assess the community mental health needs, set priorities, and develop plans for the operation of facilities and community mental health services;

(c) In accordance with guidelines issued by the director of mental health after consultation with board representatives, annually develop and submit to the department of mental health, ~~no later than six months prior to the conclusion of the fiscal year in which the board's current plan is scheduled to expire,~~ a community mental health plan listing community mental health needs, including the needs of all residents of the district now residing in state mental institutions and severely mentally disabled adults, children, and adolescents; all children subject to a determination made pursuant to section 121.38 of the Revised Code; and all the facilities and community mental health services that are or will be in operation or provided during the period for which the plan will be in operation in the service district to meet such needs.

The plan shall include, but not be limited to, a statement of which of the services listed in section 340.09 of the Revised Code the board intends to make available. The board must include crisis intervention services for individuals in an emergency situation in the plan and explain how the board intends to make such services available. The plan must also include ~~an explanation of how the board intends to make any payments that it may be required to pay under section 5119.62 of the Revised Code,~~ a statement of the inpatient and community-based services the board proposes that the department operate, an assessment of the number and types of residential facilities needed, such other information as the department requests, and a budget for moneys the board expects to receive. ~~The board shall also submit an allocation request for state and federal funds. Within sixty days after the department's determination that the plan and allocation request are complete,~~ the department shall approve or disapprove the plan ~~and request,~~ in whole or in part, according to the criteria developed pursuant to section 5119.61 of the Revised Code. The department's statement of approval or disapproval shall specify the inpatient and the community-based services that the department will operate for the board. Eligibility for state and federal funding shall be contingent upon an approved plan or relevant part of a plan.

~~If the director disapproves all or part of any plan, the director shall inform the board of the reasons for the disapproval and of the criteria that must be met before the plan may be approved. The director shall provide the~~

~~board an opportunity to present its case on behalf of the plan. The director shall give the board a reasonable time in which to meet the criteria, and shall offer the board technical assistance to help it meet the criteria.~~

~~If the approval of a plan remains in dispute thirty days prior to the conclusion of the fiscal year in which the board's current plan is scheduled to expire, the board or the director may request that the dispute be submitted to a mutually agreed upon third party mediator with the cost to be shared by the board and the department. The mediator shall issue to the board and the department recommendations for resolution of the dispute. Prior to the conclusion of the fiscal year in which the current plan is scheduled to expire, the director, taking into consideration the recommendations of the mediator, shall make a final determination and approve or disapprove the plan, in whole or in part.~~

If a board determines that it is necessary to amend a plan or an allocation request that has been approved under division (A)(1)(c) of this section, the board shall submit a proposed amendment to the director. The director may approve or disapprove all or part of the amendment. ~~If the director does not approve all or part of the amendment within thirty days after it is submitted, the amendment or part of it shall be considered to have been approved.~~ The director shall inform the board of the reasons for disapproval of all or part of an amendment and of the criteria that must be met before the amendment may be approved. The director shall provide the board an opportunity to present its case on behalf of the amendment. The director shall give the board a reasonable time in which to meet the criteria, and shall offer the board technical assistance to help it meet the criteria.

The board shall implement the plan approved by the department.

~~(d) Receive, compile, and transmit to the department of mental health applications for state reimbursement;~~

~~(e) Promote, arrange, and implement working agreements with social agencies, both public and private, and with judicial agencies.~~

(2) Investigate, or request another agency to investigate, any complaint alleging abuse or neglect of any person receiving services from a community mental health agency as defined in section 5122.01 of the Revised Code, or from a residential facility licensed under section 5119.22 of the Revised Code. If the investigation substantiates the charge of abuse or neglect, the board shall take whatever action it determines is necessary to correct the situation, including notification of the appropriate authorities. Upon request, the board shall provide information about such investigations to the department.

(3) For the purpose of section 5119.611 of the Revised Code, cooperate

with the director of mental health in visiting and evaluating whether the services of a community mental health agency satisfy the certification standards established by rules adopted under that section;

(4) In accordance with criteria established under division ~~(G)~~(E) of section 5119.61 of the Revised Code, review and evaluate the quality, effectiveness, and efficiency of services provided through its community mental health plan and submit its findings and recommendations to the department of mental health;

(5) In accordance with section 5119.22 of the Revised Code, review applications for residential facility licenses and recommend to the department of mental health approval or disapproval of applications;

(6) Audit, in accordance with rules adopted by the auditor of state pursuant to section 117.20 of the Revised Code, at least annually all programs and services provided under contract with the board. In so doing, the board may contract for or employ the services of private auditors. A copy of the fiscal audit report shall be provided to the director of mental health, the auditor of state, and the county auditor of each county in the board's district.

(7) Recruit and promote local financial support for mental health programs from private and public sources;

(8)(a) Enter into contracts with public and private facilities for the operation of facility services included in the board's community mental health plan and enter into contracts with public and private community mental health agencies for the provision of community mental health services that are listed in section 340.09 of the Revised Code and included in the board's community mental health plan. The board may not contract with a community mental health agency to provide community mental health services included in the board's community mental health plan unless the services are certified by the director of mental health under section 5119.611 of the Revised Code. Section 307.86 of the Revised Code does not apply to contracts entered into under this division. In contracting with a community mental health agency, a board shall consider the cost effectiveness of services provided by that agency and the quality and continuity of care, and may review cost elements, including salary costs, of the services to be provided. A utilization review process shall be established as part of the contract for services entered into between a board and a community mental health agency. The board may establish this process in a way that is most effective and efficient in meeting local needs. In the case of Until July 1, 2012, a contract with a community mental health agency or facility, as defined in section 5111.023 of the Revised Code, to provide

services listed in division (B) of that section, ~~the contract~~ shall provide for the agency or facility to be paid in accordance with the contract entered into between the departments of job and family services and mental health under section 5111.91 of the Revised Code and any rules adopted under division (A) of section 5119.61 of the Revised Code.

If either the board or a facility or community mental health agency with which the board contracts under division (A)(8)(a) of this section proposes not to renew the contract or proposes substantial changes in contract terms, the other party shall be given written notice at least one hundred twenty days before the expiration date of the contract. During the first sixty days of this one hundred twenty-day period, both parties shall attempt to resolve any dispute through good faith collaboration and negotiation in order to continue to provide services to persons in need. If the dispute has not been resolved sixty days before the expiration date of the contract, either party may ~~notify the department of mental health of the unresolved dispute. The director may~~ require request that both parties to submit the dispute to a third party with the cost to be shared by the board and the facility or community mental health agency. The third party shall issue to the board, ~~the~~ and facility or agency, ~~and the department~~ recommendations on how the dispute may be resolved twenty days prior to the expiration date of the contract, unless both parties agree to a time extension. ~~The director shall adopt rules establishing the procedures of this dispute resolution process.~~

(b) With the prior approval of the director of mental health, a board may operate a facility or provide a community mental health service as follows, if there is no other qualified private or public facility or community mental health agency that is immediately available and willing to operate such a facility or provide the service:

(i) In an emergency situation, any board may operate a facility or provide a community mental health service in order to provide essential services for the duration of the emergency;

(ii) In a service district with a population of at least one hundred thousand but less than five hundred thousand, a board may operate a facility or provide a community mental health service for no longer than one year;

(iii) In a service district with a population of less than one hundred thousand, a board may operate a facility or provide a community mental health service for no longer than one year, except that such a board may operate a facility or provide a community mental health service for more than one year with the prior approval of the director and the prior approval of the board of county commissioners, or of a majority of the boards of county commissioners if the district is a joint-county district.

The director shall not give a board approval to operate a facility or provide a community mental health service under division (A)(8)(b)(ii) or (iii) of this section unless the director determines that it is not feasible to have the department operate the facility or provide the service.

The director shall not give a board approval to operate a facility or provide a community mental health service under division (A)(8)(b)(iii) of this section unless the director determines that the board will provide greater administrative efficiency and more or better services than would be available if the board contracted with a private or public facility or community mental health agency.

The director shall not give a board approval to operate a facility previously operated by a person or other government entity unless the board has established to the director's satisfaction that the person or other government entity cannot effectively operate the facility or that the person or other government entity has requested the board to take over operation of the facility. The director shall not give a board approval to provide a community mental health service previously provided by a community mental health agency unless the board has established to the director's satisfaction that the agency cannot effectively provide the service or that the agency has requested the board take over providing the service.

The director shall review and evaluate a board's operation of a facility and provision of community mental health service under division (A)(8)(b) of this section.

Nothing in division (A)(8)(b) of this section authorizes a board to administer or direct the daily operation of any facility or community mental health agency, but a facility or agency may contract with a board to receive administrative services or staff direction from the board under the direction of the governing body of the facility or agency.

(9) Approve fee schedules and related charges or adopt a unit cost schedule or other methods of payment for contract services provided by community mental health agencies in accordance with guidelines issued by the department as necessary to comply with state and federal laws pertaining to financial assistance;

(10) Submit to the director and the county commissioners of the county or counties served by the board, and make available to the public, an annual report of the programs under the jurisdiction of the board, including a fiscal accounting;

(11) Establish, to the extent resources are available, a community support system, which provides for treatment, support, and rehabilitation services and opportunities. The essential elements of the system include, but

are not limited to, the following components in accordance with section 5119.06 of the Revised Code:

(a) To locate persons in need of mental health services to inform them of available services and benefits mechanisms;

(b) Assistance for clients to obtain services necessary to meet basic human needs for food, clothing, shelter, medical care, personal safety, and income;

(c) Mental health care, including, but not limited to, outpatient, partial hospitalization, and, where appropriate, inpatient care;

(d) Emergency services and crisis intervention;

(e) Assistance for clients to obtain vocational services and opportunities for jobs;

(f) The provision of services designed to develop social, community, and personal living skills;

(g) Access to a wide range of housing and the provision of residential treatment and support;

(h) Support, assistance, consultation, and education for families, friends, consumers of mental health services, and others;

(i) Recognition and encouragement of families, friends, neighborhood networks, especially networks that include racial and ethnic minorities, churches, community organizations, and meaningful employment as natural supports for consumers of mental health services;

(j) Grievance procedures and protection of the rights of consumers of mental health services;

(k) Case management, which includes continual individualized assistance and advocacy to ensure that needed services are offered and procured.

(12) Designate the treatment program, agency, or facility for each person involuntarily committed to the board pursuant to Chapter 5122. of the Revised Code and authorize payment for such treatment. The board shall provide the least restrictive and most appropriate alternative that is available for any person involuntarily committed to it and shall assure that the services listed in section 340.09 of the Revised Code are available to severely mentally disabled persons residing within its service district. The board shall establish the procedure for authorizing payment for services, which may include prior authorization in appropriate circumstances. The board may provide for services directly to a severely mentally disabled person when life or safety is endangered and when no community mental health agency is available to provide the service.

(13) Establish a method for evaluating referrals for involuntary

commitment and affidavits filed pursuant to section 5122.11 of the Revised Code in order to assist the probate division of the court of common pleas in determining whether there is probable cause that a respondent is subject to involuntary hospitalization and what alternative treatment is available and appropriate, if any;

(14) Ensure that apartments or rooms built, subsidized, renovated, rented, owned, or leased by the board or a community mental health agency have been approved as meeting minimum fire safety standards and that persons residing in the rooms or apartments are receiving appropriate and necessary services, including culturally relevant services, from a community mental health agency. This division does not apply to residential facilities licensed pursuant to section 5119.22 of the Revised Code.

(15) Establish a mechanism for involvement of consumer recommendation and advice on matters pertaining to mental health services in the alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health service district;

(16) Perform the duties under section ~~3722.48~~ 5119.88 of the Revised Code required by rules adopted under section 5119.61 of the Revised Code regarding referrals by the board or mental health agencies under contract with the board of individuals with mental illness or severe mental disability to adult care facilities and effective arrangements for ongoing mental health services for the individuals. The board is accountable in the manner specified in the rules for ensuring that the ongoing mental health services are effectively arranged for the individuals.

(B) The board shall establish such rules, operating procedures, standards, and bylaws, and perform such other duties as may be necessary or proper to carry out the purposes of this chapter.

(C) A board of alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health services may receive by gift, grant, devise, or bequest any moneys, lands, or property for the benefit of the purposes for which the board is established, and may hold and apply it according to the terms of the gift, grant, or bequest. All money received, including accrued interest, by gift, grant, or bequest shall be deposited in the treasury of the county, the treasurer of which is custodian of the alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health services funds to the credit of the board and shall be available for use by the board for purposes stated by the donor or grantor.

(D) No board member or employee of a board of alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health services shall be liable for injury or damages caused by any action or inaction taken within the scope of the board member's official duties or the employee's employment, whether or not such action or inaction is expressly authorized by this section, section 340.033, or

any other section of the Revised Code, unless such action or inaction constitutes willful or wanton misconduct. Chapter 2744. of the Revised Code applies to any action or inaction by a board member or employee of a board taken within the scope of the board member's official duties or employee's employment. For the purposes of this division, the conduct of a board member or employee shall not be considered willful or wanton misconduct if the board member or employee acted in good faith and in a manner that the board member or employee reasonably believed was in or was not opposed to the best interests of the board and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe the conduct was unlawful.

(E) The meetings held by any committee established by a board of alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health services shall be considered to be meetings of a public body subject to section 121.22 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 340.05. A community mental health agency that receives a complaint under section ~~3722.17~~ 5119.87 of the Revised Code alleging abuse or neglect of an individual with mental illness or severe mental disability who resides in an adult care facility shall report the complaint to the board of alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health services serving the alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health service district in which the adult care facility is located. A board of alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health services that receives such a complaint or a report from a community mental health agency of such a complaint shall report the complaint to the director of mental health for the purpose of the director conducting an investigation under section ~~3722.17~~ 5119.87 of the Revised Code. The board may enter the adult care facility with or without the director and, if the health and safety of a resident is in immediate danger, take any necessary action to protect the resident. The board's action shall not violate any resident's rights under section ~~3722.12~~ 5119.81 of the Revised Code and rules adopted by the ~~public health council~~ department of mental health under ~~that chapter~~ sections 5119.70 to 5119.88 of the Revised Code. The board shall immediately report to the director regarding the board's actions under this section.

Sec. 340.091. Each board of alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health services shall contract with a community mental health agency under division (A)(~~8~~)(7)(a) of section 340.03 of the Revised Code for the agency to do all of the following in accordance with rules adopted under section 5119.61 of the Revised Code for an individual referred to the agency under division (C)(2) of section ~~173.35~~ 5119.69 of the Revised Code:

(A) Assess the individual to determine whether to recommend that a

~~PASSPORT~~ residential state supplement administrative agency designated under section 5119.69 of the Revised Code determine that the environment in which the individual will be living while receiving residential state supplement payments is appropriate for the individual's needs and, if it determines the environment is appropriate, issue the recommendation to the ~~PASSPORT~~ residential state supplement administrative agency;

(B) Provide ongoing monitoring to ensure that services provided under section 340.09 of the Revised Code are available to the individual;

(C) Provide discharge planning to ensure the individual's earliest possible transition to a less restrictive environment.

Sec. 340.11. ~~(A)~~ A board of alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health services may procure a policy or policies of insurance insuring board members or employees of the board or agencies with which the board contracts against liability arising from the performance of their official duties. If the liability insurance is unavailable or the amount a board has procured or is able to procure is insufficient to cover the amount of a claim, the board may indemnify a board member or employee as follows:

~~(1)(A)~~ For any action or inaction in his the capacity ~~as-a~~ of board member or employee or at the request of the board, whether or not the action or inaction is expressly authorized by this or any other section of the Revised Code, if:

~~(a)(1)~~ The board member or employee acted in good faith and in a manner that ~~he the board member or employee~~ reasonably believed was in or was not opposed to the best interests of the board; and

~~(b)(2)~~ With respect to any criminal action or proceeding, the board member or employee had no reason to believe ~~his the board member's or employee's~~ conduct was unlawful.

~~(2)(B)~~ Against any expenses, including attorneys' fees, the board member or employee actually and reasonably incurs as a result of a suit or other proceeding involving the defense of any action or inaction in his the capacity ~~as-a~~ of board member or employee or at the request of the board, or in defense of any claim, issue, or matter raised in connection with the defense of such an action or inaction, to the extent that the board member or employee is successful on the merits or otherwise.

~~(B)~~ The board may utilize up to that per cent of its budget as approved by the department of mental health to purchase insurance and to pool with funds of other boards of alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health services, as provided in division (E) of section 5119.62 of the Revised Code, to pay expenditures for utilization of state hospital facilities that exceed the amount allocated to the board under the formula developed under that section.

Sec. 341.192. (A) As used in this section:

(1) "Jail" means a county jail, or a multicounty, municipal-county, or multicounty-municipal correctional center.

(2) "Medical assistance program" has the same meaning as in section 2913.40 of the Revised Code.

(2)(3) "Medical provider" means a physician, hospital, laboratory, pharmacy, or other health care provider that is not employed by or under contract to a county, municipal corporation, township, the department of youth services, or the department of rehabilitation and correction to provide medical services to persons confined in ~~the county~~ a jail or a state correctional institution, or is in the custody of a law enforcement officer.

(3)(4) "Necessary care" means medical care of a nonelective nature that cannot be postponed until after the period of confinement of a person who is confined in a ~~county~~ jail or a state correctional institution, or is in the custody of a law enforcement officer without endangering the life or health of the person.

(B) If a physician employed by or under contract to a county, municipal corporation, township, the department of youth services, or the department of rehabilitation and correction to provide medical services to persons confined in ~~the county~~ a jail or state correctional institution determines that a person who is confined in the ~~county~~ jail or a state correctional institution or who is in the custody of a law enforcement officer prior to the person's confinement in ~~the county~~ a jail or a state correctional institution requires necessary care that the physician cannot provide, the necessary care shall be provided by a medical provider. The county, municipal corporation, township, the department of youth services, or the department of rehabilitation and correction shall pay a medical provider for necessary care an amount not exceeding the authorized reimbursement rate for the same service established by the department of job and family services under the medical assistance program.

Sec. 343.08. (A) The board of county commissioners of a county solid waste management district and the board of directors of a joint solid waste management district may fix reasonable rates or charges to be paid by every person, municipal corporation, township, or other political subdivision that owns premises to which solid waste collection, storage, transfer, disposal, recycling, processing, or resource recovery service is provided by the district and may change the rates or charges whenever it considers it advisable. Charges for collection, storage, transfer, disposal, recycling, processing, or resource recovery service shall be made only against lots or parcels that are improved, or in the process of being improved, with at least

one permanent, portable, or temporary building. The rates or charges may be collected by either of the following means:

(1) Periodic billings made by the district directly or in conjunction with billings for public utility rates or charges by a county water district established under section 6103.02 of the Revised Code, a county sewer district established under section 6117.02 of the Revised Code, or a municipal corporation or other political subdivision authorized by law to provide public utility service. When any such charges that are so billed are not paid, the board shall certify them to the county auditor of the county where the lots or parcels are located, who shall place them upon the real property duplicate against the property served by the collection, storage, transfer, disposal, recycling, processing, or resource recovery service. The charges shall be a lien on the property from the date they are placed upon the real property duplicate by the auditor and shall be collected in the same manner as other taxes.

(2) Certifying the rates or charges to the county auditor of the county where the lots or parcels are located, who shall place them on the real property duplicate against the lots or parcels. The rates or charges are a lien on the property from the date they are placed upon the real property duplicate by the auditor and shall be collected in the same manner as other taxes.

The county or joint district need not fix a rate or charge against property if the district does not operate a collection system.

Where a county or joint district owns or operates a solid waste facility, either without a collection system or in conjunction therewith, the board of county commissioners or board of directors may fix reasonable rates or charges for the use of the facility by persons, municipal corporations, townships, and other political subdivisions, may contract with any public authority or person for the collection of solid wastes in any part of any district for collection, storage, disposal, transfer, recycling, processing, or resource recovery in any solid waste facility, or may lease the facility to any public authority or person. The cost of collection, storage, transfer, disposal, recycling, processing, or resource recovery under such contracts may be paid by rates or charges fixed and collected under this section or by rates and charges fixed under those contracts and collected by the contractors.

All moneys collected by or on behalf of a county or joint district as rates or charges for solid waste collection, storage, transfer, disposal, recycling, processing, or resource recovery service in any district shall be paid to the county treasurer in a county district or to the county treasurer or other official designated by the board of directors in a joint district and kept in a

separate and distinct fund to the credit of the district. The fund shall be used for the payment of the cost of the management, maintenance, and operation of the solid waste collection or other solid waste facilities of the district and, if applicable, the payment of the cost of collecting the rates or charges of the district pursuant to division (A)(1) or (2) of this section. Prior to the approval of the district's initial solid waste management plan under section 3734.55 of the Revised Code or the issuance of an order under that section requiring the district to implement an initial plan prepared by the director, as appropriate, the fund also may be used for the purposes of division (G)(1) or (3) of section 3734.57 of the Revised Code. On and after the approval of the district's initial plan under section 3734.521 or 3734.55 of the Revised Code or the issuance of an order under either of those sections, as appropriate, requiring the district to implement an initial plan prepared by the director, the fund also may be used for the purposes of divisions (G)(1) to (10) of section 3734.57 of the Revised Code. Those uses may include, in accordance with a cost allocation plan adopted under division (B) of this section, the payment of all allowable direct and indirect costs of the district, the sanitary engineer or sanitary engineering department, or a federal or state grant program, incurred for the purposes of this chapter and sections 3734.52 to 3734.572 of the Revised Code. Any surplus remaining after those uses of the fund may be used for the enlargement, modification, or replacement of such facilities and for the payment of the interest and principal on bonds and bond anticipation notes issued pursuant to section 343.07 of the Revised Code. In no case shall money so collected be expended otherwise than for the use and benefit of the district.

A board of county commissioners or directors, instead of operating and maintaining solid waste collection or other solid waste facilities of the district with county or joint district personnel, may enter into a contract with a municipal corporation having territory within the district pursuant to which the operation and maintenance of the facilities will be performed by the municipal corporation.

The products of any solid waste collection or other solid waste facility owned under this chapter shall be sold through competitive bidding in accordance with section 307.12 of the Revised Code, except when a board of county commissioners or directors determines by resolution that it is in the public interest to sell those products in a commercially reasonable manner without competitive bidding.

(B) A board of county commissioners or directors may adopt a cost allocation plan that identifies, accumulates, and distributes allowable direct and indirect costs that may be paid from the fund of the district created in

division (A) of this section and prescribes methods for allocating those costs. The plan shall authorize payment from the fund for only those costs incurred by the district, the sanitary engineer or sanitary engineering department, or a federal or state grant program, and those costs incurred by the general and other funds of the county for a common or joint purpose, that are necessary and reasonable for the proper and efficient administration of the district under this chapter and sections 3734.52 to 3734.572 of the Revised Code. The plan shall not authorize payment from the fund of any general government expense required to carry out the overall governmental responsibilities of a county. The plan shall conform to United States office of management and budget Circular A-87 "Cost Principles for State and Local Governments," published January 15, 1983.

(C) A board of county commissioners or directors shall fix rates or charges, or enter into contracts fixing the rates or charges to be collected by the contractor, for solid waste collection, storage, transfer, disposal, recycling, processing, or resource recovery services at a public meeting held in accordance with section 121.22 of the Revised Code. In addition to fulfilling the requirements of section 121.22 of the Revised Code, the board, before fixing or changing rates or charges for solid waste collection, storage, transfer, disposal, recycling, processing, or resource recovery services, or before entering into a contract that fixes rates or charges to be collected by the contractor providing the services, shall hold at least three public hearings on the proposed rates, charges, or contract. Prior to the first public hearing, the board shall publish notice of the public hearings as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code or once a week for three consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the county or counties that would be affected by the proposed rates, charges, or contract. The notice shall include a listing of the proposed rates or charges to be fixed and collected by the board or fixed pursuant to the contract and collected by the contractor, and the dates, time, and place of each of the three hearings thereon. The board shall hear any person who wishes to testify on the proposed rates, charges, or contract.

Sec. 345.03. A copy of any resolution adopted under section 345.01 of the Revised Code shall be certified within five days by the taxing authority and not later than four p. m. of the ninetieth day before the day of the election, to the county board of elections, and such board shall submit the proposal to the electors of the subdivision at the succeeding general election. The board shall make the necessary arrangements for the submission of such question to the electors of the subdivision, and the election shall be conducted, canvassed, and certified in like manner as regular elections in

such subdivision.

Notice of the election shall be published once in a newspaper of general circulation in the subdivision, ~~at least once~~, not less than two weeks prior to such election. The notice shall set out the purpose of the proposed increase in rate, the amount of the increase expressed in dollars and cents for each one hundred dollars of valuation as well as in mills for each one dollar of property valuation, the number of years during which such increase will be in effect, and the time and place of holding such election.

Sec. 349.03. (A) Proceedings for the organization of a new community authority shall be initiated by a petition filed by the developer in the office of the clerk of the board of county commissioners of one of the counties in which all or part of the proposed new community district is located. Such petition shall be signed by the developer and may be signed by each proximate city. The legislative authorities of each such proximate city shall act in behalf of such city. Such petition shall contain:

- (1) The name of the proposed new community authority;
- (2) The address where the principal office of the authority will be located or the manner in which the location will be selected;
- (3) A map and a full and accurate description of the boundaries of the new community district together with a description of the properties within such boundaries, if any, which will not be included in the new community district. Unless the district is wholly contained within municipalities, the total acreage included in such district shall not be less than one thousand acres, all of which acreage shall be owned by, or under the control through leases of at least seventy-five years' duration, options, or contracts to purchase, of the developer, if the developer is a private entity. Such acreage shall be developable as one functionally interrelated community. In the case of a new community authority established on or after the effective date of this amendment and before January 1, 2012, such leases may be of not less than forty years' duration, and the acreage may be developable so that the community is one functionally interrelated community.
- (4) A statement setting forth the zoning regulations proposed for zoning the area within the boundaries of the new community district for comprehensive development as a new community, and if the area has been zoned for such development, a certified copy of the applicable zoning regulations therefor;
- (5) A current plan indicating the proposed development program for the new community district, the land acquisition and land development activities, community facilities, services proposed to be undertaken by the new community authority under such program, the proposed method of

financing such activities and services, including a description of the bases, timing, and manner of collecting any proposed community development charges, and the projected total residential population of, and employment within, the new community;

(6) A suggested number of members, consistent with section 349.04 of the Revised Code, for the board of trustees;

(7) A preliminary economic feasibility analysis, including the area development pattern and demand, location and proposed new community district size, present and future socio-economic conditions, public services provision, financial plan, and the developer's management capability;

(8) A statement that the development will comply with all applicable environmental laws and regulations.

Upon the filing of such petition, the organizational board of commissioners shall determine whether such petition complies with the requirements of this section as to form and substance. The board in subsequent proceedings may at any time permit the petition to be amended in form and substance to conform to the facts by correcting any errors in the description of the proposed new community district or in any other particular.

Upon the determination of the organizational board of commissioners that a sufficient petition has been filed in accordance with this section, the board shall fix the time and place of a hearing on the petition for the establishment of the proposed new community authority. Such hearing shall be held not less than ninety-five nor more than one hundred fifteen days after the petition filing date, except that if the petition has been signed by all proximate cities, such hearing shall be held not less than thirty nor more than forty-five days after the petition filing date. The clerk of the board of county commissioners with which the petition was filed shall give notice thereof by publication once each week for three consecutive weeks, or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code, in a newspaper of general circulation in any county of which a portion is within the proposed new community district. Such clerk shall also give written notice of the date, time, and place of the hearing and furnish a certified copy of the petition to the clerk of the legislative authority of each proximate city which has not signed such petition. In the event that the legislative authority of a proximate city which did not sign the petition does not approve by ordinance, resolution, or motion the establishment of the proposed new community authority and does not deliver such ordinance, resolution, or motion to the clerk of the board of county commissioners with which the petition was filed within ninety days following the date of the first publication of the

notice of the public hearing, the organizational board of commissioners shall cancel such public hearing and terminate the proceedings for the establishment of the new community authority.

Upon the hearing, if the organizational board of commissioners determines by resolution that the proposed new community district will be conducive to the public health, safety, convenience, and welfare, and is intended to result in the development of a new community, the board shall by its resolution, entered of record in its journal and the journal of the board of county commissioners with which the petition was filed, declare the new community authority to be organized and a body politic and corporate with the corporate name designated in the resolution, and define the boundary of the new community district. In addition, the resolution shall provide the method of selecting the board of trustees of the new community authority and fix the surety for their bonds in accordance with section 349.04 of the Revised Code.

If the organizational board of commissioners finds that the establishment of the district will not be conducive to the public health, safety, convenience, or welfare, or is not intended to result in the development of a new community, it shall reject the petition thereby terminating the proceedings for the establishment of the new community authority.

(B) At any time after the creation of a new community authority, the developer may file an application with the clerk of the board of county commissioners of the county in which the original petition was filed, setting forth a general description of territory it desires to add or to delete from such district, that such change will be conducive to the public health, safety, convenience, and welfare, and will be consistent with the development of a new community and will not jeopardize the plan of the new community. If the developer is not a municipal corporation, port authority, or county, all of such an addition to such a district shall be owned by, or under the control through leases of at least seventy-five years' duration, options, or contracts to purchase, of the developer. In the case of a new community authority established on or after the effective date of this amendment and before January 1, 2012, such leases may be of not less than forty years' duration. Upon the filing of the application, the organizational board of commissioners shall follow the same procedure as required by this section in relation to the petition for the establishment of the proposed new community.

(C) If all or any part of the new community district is annexed to one or more existing municipal corporations, their legislative authorities may

appoint persons to replace any appointed citizen member of the board of trustees. The number of such trustees to be replaced by the municipal corporation shall be the number, rounded to the lowest integer, bearing the proportionate relationship to the number of existing appointed citizen members as the acreage of the new community district within such municipal corporation bears to the total acreage of the new community district. If any such municipal corporation chooses to replace an appointed citizen member, it shall do so by ordinance, the term of the trustee being replaced shall terminate thirty days from the date of passage of such ordinance, and the trustee to be replaced shall be determined by lot. Each newly appointed member shall assume the term of the member's predecessor.

Sec. 501.07. Lands described in division (A) of section 501.06 of the Revised Code shall continue to be leased under the terms granted until such time as the lease may expire. At the time of expiration, subject to section 501.04 of the Revised Code, the land may be leased again by the board of education of the school district for whose benefit the land has been allocated or be offered for sale by public auction or by the receipt of sealed bids with the sale awarded by the school board to the highest bidder. Prior to the offering of these lands for sale, the school board shall have an appraisal made of these lands by at least two disinterested appraisers. Notification of the sale of these lands, including the minerals in or on these or other lands, shall be advertised ~~at least~~ once a week for two consecutive weeks, or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code, in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the land is located. No bids shall be accepted for less than the appraised value of the land.

Sec. 503.05. When a boundary line between townships is in dispute, the board of county commissioners, upon application of the board of township trustees of one of such townships, and upon notice in writing to the board of township trustees of such civil township, and on thirty days' public notice printed in a newspaper ~~published~~ of general circulation within the county, shall establish such boundary line and make a record thereof as provided by section 503.04 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 503.162. (A) After certification of a resolution as provided in section 503.161 of the Revised Code, the board of elections shall submit the question of whether the township's name shall be changed to the electors of the unincorporated area of the township in accordance with division (C) of that section, and the ballot language shall be substantially as follows:

"Shall the township of (name) change its name to (proposed name)?

..... For name change

..... Against name change"

(B)(1) At least forty-five days before the election on this question, the board of township trustees shall provide notice of the election and an explanation of the proposed name change in a newspaper of general circulation in the township once a week for two consecutive weeks ~~and~~ or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code. The board of township trustees shall post the notice and explanation in five conspicuous places in the unincorporated area of the township.

(2) If the board of elections operates and maintains a web site, notice of the election and an explanation of the proposed name change shall be posted on that web site for at least thirty days before the election on this question.

(C) If a majority of the votes cast on the proposition of changing the township's name is in the affirmative, the name change is adopted and becomes effective ninety days after the board of elections certifies the election results to the fiscal officer of the township. Upon receipt of the certification of the election results from the board of elections, the fiscal officer of the township shall send a copy of that certification to the secretary of state.

(D) A change in the name of a township shall not alter the rights or liabilities of the township as previously named.

Sec. 503.41. (A) A board of township trustees, by resolution, may regulate and require the registration of massage establishments and their employees within the unincorporated territory of the township. In accordance with sections 503.40 to 503.49 of the Revised Code, for that purpose, the board, by a majority vote of all members, may adopt, amend, administer, and enforce regulations within the unincorporated territory of the township.

(B) A board may adopt regulations and amendments under this section only after public hearing at not fewer than two regular sessions of the board. The board shall cause to be published in ~~at least one~~ a newspaper of general circulation in the township, or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code, notice of the public hearings, including the time, date, and place, once a week for two weeks immediately preceding the hearings. The board shall make available proposed regulations or amendments to the public at the office of the board.

(C) Regulations or amendments adopted by the board are effective thirty days after the date of adoption unless, within thirty days after the adoption of the regulations or amendments, the township fiscal officer receives a petition, signed by a number of qualified electors residing in the

unincorporated area of the township equal to not less than ten per cent of the total vote cast for all candidates for governor in the area at the most recent general election at which a governor was elected, requesting the board to submit the regulations or amendments to the electors of the area for approval or rejection at the next primary or general election occurring at least ninety days after the board receives the petition.

No regulation or amendment for which the referendum vote has been requested is effective unless a majority of the votes cast on the issue is in favor of the regulation or amendment. Upon certification by the board of elections that a majority of the votes cast on the issue was in favor of the regulation or amendment, the regulation or amendment takes immediate effect.

(D) The board shall make available regulations it adopts or amends to the public at the office of the board and shall cause to be published once a notice of the availability of the regulations in ~~at least one~~ a newspaper of general circulation in the township within ten days after their adoption or amendment.

(E) Nothing in sections 503.40 to 503.49 of the Revised Code shall be construed to allow a board of township trustees to regulate the practice of any limited branch of medicine specified in section 4731.15 of the Revised Code or the practice of providing therapeutic massage by a licensed physician, a licensed chiropractor, a licensed podiatrist, a licensed nurse, or any other licensed health professional. As used in this division, "licensed" means licensed, certified, or registered to practice in this state.

Sec. 504.02. (A) After certification of a resolution as provided in division (A) of section 504.01 of the Revised Code, the board of elections shall submit the question of whether to adopt a limited home rule government to the electors of the unincorporated area of the township, and the ballot language shall be substantially as follows:

"Shall the township of (name) adopt a limited home rule government, under which government the board of township trustees, by resolution, may exercise limited powers of local self-government and limited police powers?

..... For adoption of a limited home rule government

..... Against adoption of a limited home rule government"

(B)(1) At least forty-five days before the election on this question, the board of township trustees shall have notice of the election and a description of the proposed limited home rule government published in a newspaper of general circulation in the township once a week for two consecutive weeks or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code, and shall have the notice

and description posted in five conspicuous places in the unincorporated area of the township.

(2) If a board of elections operates and maintains a web site, notice of the election and a description of the proposed limited home rule government shall be posted on that web site for at least thirty days before the election on this question.

(C) If a majority of the votes cast on the proposition of adopting a limited home rule government is in the affirmative, that government is adopted and becomes the government of the township on the first day of January immediately following the election.

Sec. 504.03. (A)(1) If a limited home rule government is adopted pursuant to section 504.02 of the Revised Code, it shall remain in effect for at least three years except as otherwise provided in division (B) of this section. At the end of that period, if the board of township trustees determines that that government is not in the best interests of the township, it may adopt a resolution causing the board of elections to submit to the electors of the unincorporated area of the township the question of whether the township should continue the limited home rule government. The question shall be voted upon at the next general election occurring at least ninety days after the certification of the resolution to the board of elections. After certification of the resolution, the board of elections shall submit the question to the electors of the unincorporated area of the township, and the ballot language shall be substantially as follows:

"Shall the township of (name) continue the limited home rule government under which it is operating?

..... For continuation of the limited home rule government

..... Against continuation of the limited home rule government"

(2)(a) At least forty-five days before the election on the question of continuing the limited home rule government, the board of township trustees shall have notice of the election published in a newspaper of general circulation in the township once a week for two consecutive weeks or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code, and shall have the notice posted in five conspicuous places in the unincorporated area of the township.

(b) If a board of elections operates and maintains a web site, notice of the election shall be posted on that web site for at least thirty days before the election on the question of continuing the limited home rule government.

(B) The electors of a township that has adopted a limited home rule government may propose at any time by initiative petition, in accordance with section 504.14 of the Revised Code, a resolution submitting to the

electors in the unincorporated area of the township, in an election, the question set forth in division (A)(1) of this section.

(C) If a majority of the votes cast under division (A) or (B) of this section on the proposition of continuing the limited home rule government is in the negative, that government is terminated effective on the first day of January immediately following the election, and a limited home rule government shall not be adopted in the unincorporated area of the township pursuant to section 504.02 of the Revised Code for at least three years after that date.

(D) If a limited home rule government is terminated under this section, the board of township trustees immediately shall adopt a resolution repealing all resolutions adopted pursuant to this chapter that are not authorized by any other section of the Revised Code outside this chapter, effective on the first day of January immediately following the election described in division (A) or (B) of this section. However, no resolution adopted under this division shall affect or impair the obligations of the township under any security issued or contracts entered into by the township in connection with the financing of any water supply facility or sewer improvement under sections 504.18 to 504.20 of the Revised Code or the authority of the township to collect or enforce any assessments or other revenues constituting security for or source of payments of debt service charges of those securities.

(E) Upon the termination of a limited home rule government under this section, if the township had converted its board of township trustees to a five-member board before September 26, 2003, the current board member who received the lowest number of votes of the current board members who were elected at the most recent election for township trustees, and the current board member who received the lowest number of votes of the current board members who were elected at the second most recent election for township trustees, shall cease to be township trustees on the date that the limited home rule government terminates. Their offices likewise shall cease to exist at that time, and the board shall continue as a three-member board as provided in section 505.01 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 504.12. No resolution and no section or numbered or lettered division of a section shall be revised or amended unless the new resolution contains the entire resolution, section, or division as revised or amended, and the resolution, section, or division so amended shall be repealed. This requirement does not prevent the amendment of a resolution by the addition of a new section, or division, and in this case the full text of the former resolution need not be set forth, nor does this section prevent repeals by

implication. Except in the case of a codification or recodification of resolutions, a separate vote shall be taken on each resolution proposed to be amended. Resolutions that have been introduced and have received their first reading or their first and second readings, but have not been voted on for passage, may be amended or revised by a majority vote of the members of the board of township trustees, and the amended or revised resolution need not receive additional readings.

The board of township trustees of a limited home rule township may revise, codify, and publish in book form the resolutions of the township in the same manner as provided in section 731.23 of the Revised Code for municipal corporations. Resolutions adopted by the board shall be published in the same manner as provided by sections 731.21, 731.22, 731.24, 731.25, and 731.26 of the Revised Code for municipal corporations, except that they shall be published in newspapers circulating a newspaper of general circulation within the township. The fiscal officer of the township shall perform the duties that the clerk of the legislative authority of a municipal corporation is required to perform under those sections.

The procedures provided in this section apply only to resolutions adopted pursuant to a township's limited home rule powers as authorized by this chapter.

Sec. 504.16. (A) Each township that adopts a limited home rule government shall promptly do one of the following:

(1) Establish a police district pursuant to section 505.48 of the Revised Code, except that the district shall include all of the unincorporated area of the township and no other territory;

(2) Establish a joint ~~township~~ police district pursuant to section ~~505.481~~ 505.482 of the Revised Code;

(3) Contract pursuant to section 311.29, 505.43, or 505.50 of the Revised Code to obtain police protection services, including the enforcement of township resolutions adopted under this chapter, on a regular basis;

(4) Designate one or more police constables under Chapter 509. of the Revised Code.

(B) A township that has taken an action described in division (A) of this section before adopting a limited home rule government need not take any other such action upon adopting that government.

(C) The requirement that a township take one of the actions described in divisions (A)(1), (2), and (3) of this section does not prevent a township that acts under division (A)(1) or (2) of this section from contracting under division (A)(3) of this section to obtain additional police protection services

on a regular basis.

Sec. 504.21. (A) The board of township trustees of a township that has adopted a limited home rule government may, for the unincorporated territory in the township, adopt, amend, and rescind rules establishing technically feasible and economically reasonable standards to achieve a level of management and conservation practices that will abate wind or water erosion of the soil or abate the degradation of the waters of the state by soil sediment in conjunction with land grading, excavating, filling, or other soil disturbing activities on land used or being developed in the township for nonfarm commercial, industrial, residential, or other nonfarm purposes, and establish criteria for determination of the acceptability of those management and conservation practices. The rules shall be designed to implement the applicable areawide waste treatment management plan prepared under section 208 of the "Federal Water Pollution Control Act," 86 Stat. 816 (1972), 33 U.S.C.A. 1228, as amended, and to implement phase II of the storm water program of the national pollutant discharge elimination system established in 40 C.F.R. Part 122. The rules to implement phase II of the storm water program of the national pollutant discharge elimination system shall not be inconsistent with, more stringent than, or broader in scope than the rules or regulations adopted by the environmental protection agency under 40 C.F.R. Part 122. The rules adopted under this section shall not apply inside the limits of municipal corporations, to lands being used in a strip mine operation as defined in section 1513.01 of the Revised Code, or to land being used in a surface mine operation as defined in section 1514.01 of the Revised Code.

The rules adopted under this section may require persons to file plans governing erosion control, sediment control, and water management before clearing, grading, excavating, filling, or otherwise wholly or partially disturbing one or more contiguous acres of land owned by one person or operated as one development unit for the construction of nonfarm buildings, structures, utilities, recreational areas, or other similar nonfarm uses. If the rules require plans to be filed, the rules shall do all of the following:

- (1) Designate the board itself, its employees, or another agency or official to review and approve or disapprove the plans;
- (2) Establish procedures and criteria for the review and approval or disapproval of the plans;
- (3) Require the designated entity to issue a permit to a person for the clearing, grading, excavating, filling, or other project for which plans are approved and to deny a permit to a person whose plans have been disapproved;

(4) Establish procedures for the issuance of the permits;

(5) Establish procedures under which a person may appeal the denial of a permit.

Areas of less than one contiguous acre shall not be exempt from compliance with other provisions of this section or rules adopted under this section. The rules adopted under this section may impose reasonable filing fees for plan review, permit processing, and field inspections.

No permit or plan shall be required for a public highway, transportation, or drainage improvement or maintenance project undertaken by a government agency or political subdivision in accordance with a statement of its standard sediment control policies that is approved by the board or the chief of the division of soil and water resources in the department of natural resources.

(B) Rules or amendments may be adopted under this section only after public hearings at not fewer than two regular sessions of the board of township trustees. The board shall cause to be published, in a newspaper of general circulation in the township, notice of the public hearings, including time, date, and place, once a week for two weeks immediately preceding the hearings, or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code. The proposed rules or amendments shall be made available by the board to the public at the board office or other location indicated in the notice. The rules or amendments shall take effect on the thirty-first day following the date of their adoption.

(C) The board of township trustees may employ personnel to assist in the administration of this section and the rules adopted under it. The board also, if the action does not conflict with the rules, may delegate duties to review sediment control and water management plans to its employees, and may enter into agreements with one or more political subdivisions, other township officials, or other government agencies, in any combination, in order to obtain reviews and comments on plans governing erosion control, sediment control, and water management or to obtain other services for the administration of the rules adopted under this section.

(D) The board of township trustees or any duly authorized representative of the board may, upon identification to the owner or person in charge, enter any land upon obtaining agreement with the owner, tenant, or manager of the land in order to determine whether there is compliance with the rules adopted under this section. If the board or its duly authorized representative is unable to obtain such an agreement, the board or representative may apply for, and a judge of the court of common pleas for the county where the land is located may issue, an appropriate inspection

warrant as necessary to achieve the purposes of this section.

(E)(1) If the board of township trustees or its duly authorized representative determines that a violation of the rules adopted under this section exists, the board or representative may issue an immediate stop work order if the violator failed to obtain any federal, state, or local permit necessary for sediment and erosion control, earth movement, clearing, or cut and fill activity. In addition, if the board or representative determines such a rule violation exists, regardless of whether or not the violator has obtained the proper permits, the board or representative may authorize the issuance of a notice of violation. If, after a period of not less than thirty days has elapsed following the issuance of the notice of violation, the violation continues, the board or its duly authorized representative shall issue a second notice of violation. Except as provided in division (E)(3) of this section, if, after a period of not less than fifteen days has elapsed following the issuance of the second notice of violation, the violation continues, the board or its duly authorized representative may issue a stop work order after first obtaining the written approval of the prosecuting attorney of the county in which the township is located if, in the opinion of the prosecuting attorney, the violation is egregious.

Once a stop work order is issued, the board or its duly authorized representative shall request, in writing, the prosecuting attorney to seek an injunction or other appropriate relief in the court of common pleas to abate excessive erosion or sedimentation and secure compliance with the rules adopted under this section. If the prosecuting attorney seeks an injunction or other appropriate relief, then, in granting relief, the court of common pleas may order the construction of sediment control improvements or implementation of other control measures and may assess a civil fine of not less than one hundred or more than five hundred dollars. Each day of violation of a rule or stop work order issued under this section shall be considered a separate violation subject to a civil fine.

(2) The person to whom a stop work order is issued under this section may appeal the order to the court of common pleas of the county in which it was issued, seeking any equitable or other appropriate relief from that order.

(3) No stop work order shall be issued under this section against any public highway, transportation, or drainage improvement or maintenance project undertaken by a government agency or political subdivision in accordance with a statement of its standard sediment control policies that is approved by the board or the chief of the division of soil and water resources in the department of natural resources.

(F) No person shall violate any rule adopted or order issued under this

section. Notwithstanding division (E) of this section, if the board of township trustees determines that a violation of any rule adopted or administrative order issued under this section exists, the board may request, in writing, the prosecuting attorney of the county in which the township is located, to seek an injunction or other appropriate relief in the court of common pleas to abate excessive erosion or sedimentation and secure compliance with the rules or order. In granting relief, the court of common pleas may order the construction of sediment control improvements or implementation of other control measures and may assess a civil fine of not less than one hundred or more than five hundred dollars. Each day of violation of a rule adopted or administrative order issued under this section shall be considered a separate violation subject to a civil fine.

Sec. 505.101. The board of township trustees of any township may, by resolution, enter into a contract, without advertising or bidding, for the purchase or sale of materials, equipment, or supplies from or to any department, agency, or political subdivision of the state, for the purchase of services with a soil and water conservation district established under Chapter 1515. of the Revised Code, ~~or~~ for the purchase of supplies, services, materials, and equipment with a regional planning commission pursuant to division (D) of section 713.23 of the Revised Code, or for the purchase of services from an educational service center under section 3313.846 of the Revised Code. The resolution shall:

(A) Set forth the maximum amount to be paid as the purchase price for the materials, equipment, supplies, or services;

(B) Describe the type of materials, equipment, supplies, or services that are to be purchased;

(C) Appropriate sufficient funds to pay the purchase price for the materials, equipment, supplies, or services, except that no such appropriation is necessary if funds have been previously appropriated for the purpose and remain unencumbered at the time the resolution is adopted.

Sec. 505.105. Stolen or other property recovered by members of an organized police department of a township, a township police district, a joint ~~township~~ police district, or the office of a township constable shall be deposited and kept in a place designated by the head of the department, district, or office. Each article of property shall be entered in a book kept for that purpose, with the name of its owner, if ascertained, the person from whom it was taken, the place where it was found with general circumstances, the date of its receipt, and the name of the officer receiving it.

An inventory of all money or other property shall be given to the party

from whom it was taken, and, if it is not claimed by some person within thirty days after arrest and seizure, it shall be delivered to the person from whom it was taken, and to no other person, either attorney, agent, factor, or clerk, except by special order of the head of the department, district, or office.

Sec. 505.106. No officer, or other member of an organized police department of a township, a township police district, a joint ~~township~~ police district, or the office of a township constable shall neglect or refuse to deposit property taken or found by the officer or other member in possession of a person arrested. Any conviction for a violation of this section shall vacate the office of the person so convicted.

Sec. 505.107. If, within thirty days, the money or property recovered under section 505.105 of the Revised Code is claimed by any other person, it shall be retained by its custodian until after the discharge or conviction of the person from whom it was taken and as long as it is required as evidence in any case in court. If that claimant establishes to the satisfaction of the court that the claimant is the rightful owner, the money or property shall be restored to the claimant; otherwise, it shall be returned to the accused person, personally, and not to any attorney, agent, factor, or clerk of the accused person, except upon special order of the head of the organized police department of the township, township police district, joint ~~township~~ police district, or office of a township constable, as the case may be, after all liens and claims in favor of the township have first been discharged and satisfied.

Sec. 505.108. Except as otherwise provided in this section and unless the property involved is required to be disposed of pursuant to another section of the Revised Code, property that is unclaimed for ninety days or more shall be sold by the chief of police or other head of the organized police department of the township, township police district, joint ~~township~~ police district, or office of a township constable at public auction, after notice of the sale has been provided by publication once a week for three successive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation, or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code, in the county, or counties, if appropriate, in the case of a joint ~~township~~ police district. The proceeds of the sale shall be paid to the fiscal officer of the township and credited to the township general fund, except that, in the case of a joint ~~township~~ police district, the proceeds of a sale shall be paid to the ~~fiscal officer~~ treasurer of the ~~most populous participating township~~ joint police district board and credited to the appropriate ~~township general fund or funds~~ according to agreement of the participating townships and municipal corporations.

If authorized to do so by a resolution adopted by the board of township trustees or, in the case of a joint ~~township~~ police district, ~~each participating the joint police district board of township trustees~~, and if the property involved is not required to be disposed of pursuant to another section of the Revised Code, the head of the department, district, or office may contribute property that is unclaimed for ninety days or more to one or more public agencies, to one or more nonprofit organizations no part of the net income of which inures to the benefit of any private shareholder or individual and no substantial part of the activities of which consists of carrying on propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, or to one or more organizations satisfying section 501(c)(3) or (c)(19) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

Sec. 505.109. Upon the sale of any unclaimed property as provided in section 505.108 of the Revised Code, if any of the unclaimed property was ordered removed to a place of storage or stored, or both, by or under the direction of the head of the organized police department of the township, township police district, joint ~~township~~ police district, or office of a township constable, any expenses or charges for the removal or storage, or both, and costs of sale, provided they are approved by the head of the department, district, or office, shall first be paid from the proceeds of the sale. Notice shall be given by certified mail, thirty days before the date of the sale, to the owner and mortgagee, or other lienholder, at their last known addresses.

Sec. 505.17. (A) Except in a township or portion of a township that is within the limits of a municipal corporation, the board of township trustees may make regulations and orders as are necessary to control passenger car, motorcycle, and internal combustion engine noise, as permitted under section 4513.221 of the Revised Code, and all vehicle parking in the township. This authorization includes, among other powers, the power to regulate parking on established roadways proximate to buildings on private property as necessary to provide access to the property by public safety vehicles and equipment, if the property is used for commercial purposes, the public is permitted to use the parking area, and accommodation for more than ten motor vehicles is provided, and the power to authorize the issuance of orders limiting or prohibiting parking on any township street or highway during a snow emergency declared pursuant to a snow-emergency authorization adopted under this division. All such regulations and orders shall be subject to the limitations, restrictions, and exceptions in sections 4511.01 to 4511.76 and 4513.02 to 4513.37 of the Revised Code.

A board of township trustees may adopt a general snow-emergency

authorization, which becomes effective under division (B)(1) of this section, allowing the president of the board or some other person specified in the authorization to issue an order declaring a snow emergency and limiting or prohibiting parking on any township street or highway during the snow emergency. Any such order becomes effective under division (B)(2) of this section. Each general snow-emergency authorization adopted under this division shall specify the weather conditions under which a snow emergency may be declared in that township.

(B)(1) All regulations and orders, including any snow-emergency authorization established by the board under this section, except for an order declaring a snow emergency as provided in division (B)(2) of this section, shall be posted by the township fiscal officer in five conspicuous public places in the township for thirty days before becoming effective, and shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the township for three consecutive weeks or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code. In addition to these requirements, no general snow-emergency authorization shall become effective until permanent signs giving notice that parking is limited or prohibited during a snow emergency are properly posted, in accordance with any applicable standards adopted by the department of transportation, along streets or highways specified in the authorization.

(2) Pursuant to the adoption of a snow-emergency authorization under this section, an order declaring a snow emergency becomes effective two hours after the president of the board or the other person specified in the general snow-emergency authorization makes an announcement of a snow emergency to the local news media. The president or other specified person shall request the local news media to announce that a snow emergency has been declared, the time the declaration will go into effect, and whether the snow emergency will remain in effect for a specified period of time or indefinitely until canceled by a subsequent announcement to the local news media by the president or other specified person.

(C) Such regulations and orders may be enforced where traffic control devices conforming to section 4511.09 of the Revised Code are prominently displayed. Parking regulations authorized by this section do not apply to any state highway unless the parking regulations are approved by the director of transportation.

(D) A board of township trustees or its designated agent may order into storage any vehicle parked in violation of a township parking regulation or order, if the violation is not one that is required to be handled pursuant to Chapter 4521. of the Revised Code. The owner or any lienholder of a vehicle ordered into storage may claim the vehicle upon presentation of

proof of ownership, which may be evidenced by a certificate of title to the vehicle, and payment of all expenses, charges, and fines incurred as a result of the parking violation and removal and storage of the vehicle.

(E) Whoever violates any regulation or order adopted pursuant to this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor, unless the township has enacted a regulation pursuant to division (A) of section 4521.02 of the Revised Code, that specifies that the violation shall not be considered a criminal offense and shall be handled pursuant to Chapter 4521. of the Revised Code. Fines levied and collected under this section shall be paid into the township general revenue fund.

Sec. 505.172. (A) As used in this section, "law enforcement officer" means a sheriff, deputy sheriff, constable, police officer of a township or joint township police district, marshal, deputy marshal, or municipal police officer.

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this section and section 505.17 of the Revised Code, a board of township trustees may adopt regulations and orders that are necessary to control noise within the unincorporated territory of the township that is generated at any premises to which a D permit has been issued by the division of liquor control or that is generated within any areas zoned for residential use.

(C) Any person who engages in any of the activities described in section 1.61 of the Revised Code is exempt from any regulation or order adopted under division (B) of this section if the noise is attributed to an activity described in section 1.61 of the Revised Code. Any person who engages in coal mining and reclamation operations, as defined in division (B) of section 1513.01 of the Revised Code, or surface mining, as defined in division (A) of section 1514.01 of the Revised Code, is exempt from any regulation or order adopted under division (B) of this section if the noise is attributed to coal mining and reclamation or surface mining activities. Noise resulting from the drilling, completion, operation, maintenance, or construction of any crude oil or natural gas wells or pipelines or any appurtenances to those wells or pipelines or from the distribution, transportation, gathering, or storage of crude oil or natural gas is exempt from any regulation or order adopted under division (B) of this section.

(D)(1) Except as otherwise provided in division (C) ~~or (D)(2)~~ of this section, any regulation or order adopted under division (B) of this section shall apply to any business or industry ~~in existence and operating on October 20, 1999, and a regulation or order so adopted shall apply to any new operation or expansion of that business or industry that results in substantially increased noise levels from those generated by that business or~~

industry on that date.

~~(2) Any regulation or order adopted under division (B) of this section applies or to any premises to which a D permit has been issued by the division of liquor control regardless of whether the premises was in existence and operating on October 20, 1999, or whether when it came into existence and operation after that date.~~

(E) Whoever violates any regulation or order adopted under division (B) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree. Fines levied and collected under this section shall be paid into the township general revenue fund.

(F) Any person allegedly aggrieved by another person's violation of a regulation or order adopted under division (B) of this section may seek in a civil action a declaratory judgment, an injunction, or other appropriate relief against the other person committing the act or practice that violates that regulation or order. A board of township trustees that adopts a regulation or order under division (B) of this section ~~shall~~ may seek in a civil action an injunction against ~~each~~ any person that commits an act or practice that violates that regulation or order. The court involved in a civil action referred to in this division may award to the prevailing party reasonable attorney's fees limited to the work reasonably performed.

(G) If any law enforcement officer with jurisdiction in a township that has adopted a regulation or order under division (B) of this section has reasonable cause to believe that any premises to which a D permit has been issued by the division of liquor control has violated the regulation or order and, as a result of the violation, has caused, is causing, or is about to cause substantial and material harm, the law enforcement officer may issue an order that the premises cease and desist from the activity violating the regulation or order. The cease-and-desist order shall be served personally upon the owner, operator, manager, or other person in charge of the premises immediately after its issuance by the officer. The township thereafter may publicize or otherwise make known to all interested persons that the cease-and-desist order has been issued.

The cease-and-desist order shall specify the particular conduct that is subject to the order and shall inform the person upon whom it is served that the premises will be granted a hearing in the municipal court or county court with jurisdiction over the premises regarding the operation of the order and the possible issuance of an injunction or other appropriate relief. The premises shall comply with the cease-and-desist order immediately upon receipt of the order. Upon service of the cease-and-desist order upon the owner, operator, manager, or other person in charge of the premises, the

township law director or, if the township does not have a law director, the prosecuting attorney of the county in which the township is located shall file in the municipal court or county court with jurisdiction over the premises a civil action seeking to confirm the cease-and-desist order and seeking an injunction or other appropriate relief against the premises. The owner, operator, manager, or other person in charge of the premises may file a motion in that civil action for a stay of the cease-and-desist order for good cause shown, pending the court's rendering its decision in the action. The court shall set a date for a hearing, hold the hearing, and render a decision in the action not more than ten days after the date of the cease-and-desist order, or the cease-and-desist order is terminated. Division (F) of this section applies regarding an action filed as described in this division.

(H) Nothing in this section authorizes a township to enforce any regulation or order adopted under division (B) of this section against a premises to which a D permit has been issued by the division of liquor control if that premises is not located in the unincorporated territory of that township.

Sec. 505.24. Each township trustee is entitled to compensation as follows:

(A) Except as otherwise provided in division (B) of this section, an amount for each day of service in the business of the township, to be paid from the township treasury as follows:

(1) In townships having a budget of fifty thousand dollars or less, twenty dollars per day for not more than two hundred days;

(2) In townships having a budget of more than fifty thousand but not more than one hundred thousand dollars, twenty-four dollars per day for not more than two hundred days;

(3) In townships having a budget of more than one hundred thousand but not more than two hundred fifty thousand dollars, twenty-eight dollars and fifty cents per day for not more than two hundred days;

(4) In townships having a budget of more than two hundred fifty thousand but not more than five hundred thousand dollars, thirty-three dollars per day for not more than two hundred days;

(5) In townships having a budget of more than five hundred thousand but not more than seven hundred fifty thousand dollars, thirty-five dollars per day for not more than two hundred days;

(6) In townships having a budget of more than seven hundred fifty thousand but not more than one million five hundred thousand dollars, forty dollars per day for not more than two hundred days;

(7) In townships having a budget of more than one million five hundred

thousand but not more than three million five hundred thousand dollars, forty-four dollars per day for not more than two hundred days;

(8) In townships having a budget of more than three million five hundred thousand dollars but not more than six million dollars, forty-eight dollars per day for not more than two hundred days;

(9) In townships having a budget of more than six million dollars, fifty-two dollars per day for not more than two hundred days.

(B) Beginning in calendar year 1999, the amounts paid as specified in division (A) of this section shall be replaced by the following amounts:

(1) In calendar year 1999, the amounts specified in division (A) of this section increased by three per cent;

(2) In calendar year 2000, the amounts determined under division (B)(1) of this section increased by three per cent;

(3) In calendar year 2001, the amounts determined under division (B)(2) of this section increased by three per cent;

(4) In calendar year 2002, except in townships having a budget of more than six million dollars, the amounts determined under division (B)(3) of this section increased by three per cent; in townships having a budget of more than six million but not more than ten million dollars, seventy dollars per day for not more than two hundred days; and in townships having a budget of more than ten million dollars, ninety dollars per day for not more than two hundred days;

(5) In calendar years 2003 through 2008, the amounts determined under division (B) of this section for the immediately preceding calendar year increased by the lesser of the following:

(a) Three per cent;

(b) The percentage increase, if any, in the consumer price index over the twelve-month period that ends on the thirtieth day of September of the immediately preceding calendar year, rounded to the nearest one-tenth of one per cent;

(6) In calendar year 2009 and thereafter, the amount determined under division (B) of this section for calendar year 2008.

As used in division (B) of this section, "consumer price index" has the same meaning as in section 325.18 of the Revised Code.

(C) Whenever members of a board of township trustees are compensated per diem and not by annual salary, the board shall establish, by resolution, a method by which each member of the board shall periodically notify the township fiscal officer of the number of days spent in the service of the township and the kinds of services rendered on those days. The per diem compensation shall be paid from the township general fund or from

other township funds in such proportions as the kinds of services performed may require. The notice shall be filed with the township fiscal officer and preserved for inspection by any persons interested.

By unanimous vote, a board of township trustees may adopt a method of compensation consisting of an annual salary to be paid in equal monthly payments. If the office of trustee is held by more than one person during any calendar year, each person holding the office shall receive payments for only those months, and any fractions of those months, during which the person holds the office. The amount of the annual salary approved by the board shall be no more than the maximum amount that could be received annually by a trustee if the trustee were paid on a per diem basis as specified in this division, and shall be paid from the township general fund or from other township funds in such proportions as the board may specify by resolution. Each trustee shall certify the percentage of time spent working on matters to be paid from the township general fund and from other township funds in such proportions as the kinds of services performed. A board of township trustees that has adopted a salary method of compensation may return to a method of compensation on a per diem basis as specified in this division by a majority vote. Any change in the method of compensation shall be effective on the first day of January of the year following the year during which the board has voted to change the method of compensation.

Sec. 505.264. (A) As used in this section, "energy conservation measure" means an installation or modification of an installation in, or remodeling of, an existing building, to reduce energy consumption. It includes the following:

(1) Insulation of the building structure and of systems within the building;

(2) Storm windows and doors, multiglazed windows and doors, heat-absorbing or heat-reflective glazed and coated window and door systems, additional glazing, reductions in glass area, and other window and door system modifications that reduce energy consumption;

(3) Automatic energy control systems;

(4) Heating, ventilating, or air conditioning system modifications or replacements;

(5) Caulking and weatherstripping;

(6) Replacement or modification of lighting fixtures to increase the energy efficiency of the system without increasing the overall illumination of a facility, unless an increase in illumination is necessary to conform to the applicable state or local building code for the proposed lighting system;

(7) Energy recovery systems;

(8) Cogeneration systems that produce steam or forms of energy such as heat, as well as electricity, for use primarily within a building or complex of buildings;

(9) Any other modification, installation, or remodeling approved by the board of township trustees as an energy conservation measure.

(B) For the purpose of evaluating township buildings for energy conservation measures, a township may contract with an architect, professional engineer, energy services company, contractor, or other person experienced in the design and implementation of energy conservation measures for a report that analyzes the buildings' energy needs and presents recommendations for building installations, modifications of existing installations, or building remodeling that would significantly reduce energy consumption in the buildings owned by that township. The report shall include estimates of all costs of the installations, modifications, or remodeling, including costs of design, engineering, installation, maintenance, and repairs, and estimates of the amounts by which energy consumption could be reduced.

(C) A township desiring to implement energy conservation measures may proceed under either of the following methods:

(1) Using a report or any part of a report prepared under division (B) of this section, advertise for bids and comply with the bidding procedures set forth in sections 307.86 to 307.92 of the Revised Code;

(2) Request proposals from at least three vendors for the implementation of energy conservation measures. Prior to sending any installer of energy conservation measures a copy of any such request, the township shall advertise its intent to request proposals for the installation of energy conservation measures in a newspaper of general circulation in the township once a week for two consecutive weeks or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code. The notice shall state that the township intends to request proposals for the installation of energy conservation measures; indicate the date, which shall be at least ten days after the second publication, on which the request for proposals will be mailed to installers of energy conservation measures; and state that any installer of energy conservation measures interested in receiving the request for proposal shall submit written notice to the township not later than noon of the day on which the request for proposal will be mailed.

Upon receiving the proposals, the township shall analyze them and select the proposal or proposals most likely to result in the greatest energy savings considering the cost of the project and the township's ability to pay

for the improvements with current revenues or by financing the improvements. The awarding of a contract to install energy conservation measures under division (C)(2) of this section shall be conditioned upon a finding by the township that the amount of money spent on energy savings measures is not likely to exceed the amount of money the township would save in energy and operating costs over ten years or a lesser period as determined by the township or, in the case of contracts for cogeneration systems, over five years or a lesser period as determined by the township. Nothing in this section prohibits a township from rejecting all proposals or from selecting more than one proposal.

(D) A board of township trustees may enter into an installment payment contract for the purchase and installation of energy conservation measures. Any provisions of those installment payment contracts that deal with interest charges and financing terms shall not be subject to the competitive bidding procedures of section 307.86 of the Revised Code. Unless otherwise approved by a resolution of the board, an installment payment contract entered into by a board of township trustees under this section shall require the board to contract in accordance with the procedures set forth in section 307.86 of the Revised Code for the installation, modification, or remodeling of energy conservation measures pursuant to this section.

(E) The board may issue securities of the township specifying the terms of the purchase and securing the deferred payments, payable at the times provided and bearing interest at a rate not exceeding the rate determined as provided in section 9.95 of the Revised Code. The maximum maturity of the securities shall be as provided in division (B)(7)(g) of section 133.20 of the Revised Code. The securities may contain an option for prepayment and shall not be subject to Chapter 133. of the Revised Code. Revenues derived from local taxes or otherwise, for the purpose of conserving energy or for defraying the current operating expenses of the township, may be applied to the payment of interest and the retirement of the securities. The securities may be sold at private sale or given to the contractor under the installment payment contract authorized by division (D) of this section.

(F) Debt incurred under this section shall not be included in the calculation of the net indebtedness of a township under section 133.09 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 505.267. (A) As used in this section:

(1) "Lease-purchase agreement" has the same meaning as a lease with an option to purchase.

(2) "Public obligation" has the same meaning as in section 133.01 of the Revised Code.

(B) For any purpose for which a board of township trustees, ~~or a board of trustees of a joint township~~ police district board, a township fire district, a joint fire district, or a fire and ambulance district is authorized to acquire real or personal property, that board may enter into a lease-purchase agreement in accordance with this section to acquire the property. The board's resolution authorizing the lease-purchase agreement may provide for the issuance of certificates of participation or other evidences of fractionalized interests in the lease-purchase agreement, for the purpose of financing, or refinancing or refunding, any public obligation that financed or refinanced the acquisition of the property. Sections 9.94, 133.03, and 133.30 of the Revised Code shall apply to any such fractionalized interests.

The lease-purchase agreement shall provide for a series of terms in which no term extends beyond the end of the fiscal year of the township or district in which that term commences. In total, the terms provided for in the agreement shall be for not more than the useful life of the real or personal property that is the subject of the agreement. A property's useful life shall be determined either by the maximum number of installment payments permitted under the statute that authorizes the board to acquire the property or, if there is no such provision, by the maximum number of years to maturity provided for the issuance of bonds in division (B) of section 133.20 of the Revised Code for that property. If the useful life cannot be determined under either of those statutes, it shall be estimated as provided in division (C) of section 133.20 of the Revised Code.

The lease-purchase agreement shall provide that, at the end of the final term in the agreement, if all obligations of the township or district have been satisfied, the title to the leased property shall vest in the township or district executing the lease-purchase agreement, if that title has not vested in the township or district before or during the lease terms; except that the lease-purchase agreement may require the township or district to pay an additional lump sum payment as a condition of obtaining that title.

(C) A board of trustees that enters into a lease-purchase agreement under this section may do any of the following with the property that is the subject of the agreement:

- (1) If the property is personal property, assign the board's rights to that property;
- (2) Grant the lessor a security interest in the property;
- (3) If the property is real property, grant leases, easements, or licenses for underlying land or facilities under the board's control for terms not exceeding five years beyond the final term of the lease-purchase agreement.
- (D) The authority granted in this section is in addition to, and not in

derogation of, any other financing authority provided by law.

Sec. 505.28. The board of township trustees may create a waste disposal district under sections 505.27 to 505.33 of the Revised Code, by a unanimous vote of the board and give notice thereof by a publication in ~~two newspapers~~ a newspaper of general circulation in the township. If, within thirty days after such publication, a protest petition is filed with the board, signed by at least fifty per cent of the electors residing in the district, the act of the board in creating such district shall be void. If a petition is filed with the board asking for the creation of such a district in the township, accompanied by a map clearly showing the boundaries of such district, and signed by at least sixty-five per cent of the electors residing therein, with addresses of such signers, the board shall, within sixty days, create such a district.

Each district shall be given a name, and the entire cost of any necessary equipment and labor shall be apportioned against each district by the respective boards.

Sec. 505.373. The board of township trustees may, by resolution, adopt by incorporation by reference a standard code pertaining to fire, fire hazards, and fire prevention prepared and promulgated by the state or any department, board, or other agency of the state, or any such code prepared and promulgated by a public or private organization that publishes a model or standard code.

After the adoption of the code by the board, a notice clearly identifying the code, stating the purpose of the code, and stating that a complete copy of the code is on file with the township fiscal officer for inspection by the public and also on file in the law library of the county in which the township is located and that the fiscal officer has copies available for distribution to the public at cost, shall be posted by the fiscal officer in five conspicuous places in the township for thirty days before becoming effective. The notice required by this section shall also be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the township once a week for three consecutive weeks or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code. If the adopting township amends or deletes any provision of the code, the notice shall contain a brief summary of the deletion or amendment.

If the agency that originally promulgated or published the code thereafter amends the code, any township that has adopted the code pursuant to this section may adopt the amendment or change by incorporation by reference in the same manner as provided for adoption of the original code.

Sec. 505.43. In order to obtain police protection, or to obtain additional police protection, any township may enter into a contract with one or more

townships, municipal corporations, park districts created pursuant to section 511.18 or 1545.01 of the Revised Code, ~~or~~ county sheriffs, joint police districts, or with a governmental entity of an adjoining state upon any terms that are agreed to by them, for services of police departments or use of police equipment, or the interchange of the service of police departments or use of police equipment within the several territories of the contracting subdivisions, if the contract is first authorized by respective boards of township trustees or other legislative bodies. The cost of the contract may be paid for from the township general fund or from funds received pursuant to the passage of a levy authorized pursuant to division (J) of section 5705.19 and section 5705.25 of the Revised Code.

Chapter 2744. of the Revised Code, insofar as it is applicable to the operation of police departments, applies to the contracting political subdivisions and police department members when the members are rendering service outside their own subdivision pursuant to the contract.

Police department members acting outside the subdivision in which they are employed may participate in any pension or indemnity fund established by their employer to the same extent as while acting within the employing subdivision, and are entitled to all the rights and benefits of Chapter 4123. of the Revised Code, to the same extent as while performing service within the subdivision.

The contract may provide for a fixed annual charge to be paid at the times agreed upon and stipulated in the contract.

Sec. 505.48. (A) The board of township trustees of any township may, by resolution adopted by two-thirds of the members of the board, create a township police district comprised of all or a portion of the unincorporated territory of the township as the resolution may specify. If the township police district does not include all of the unincorporated territory of the township, the resolution creating the district shall contain a complete and accurate description of the territory of the district and a separate and distinct name for the district.

At any time not less than one hundred twenty days after a township police district is created and operative, the territorial limits of the district may be altered in the manner provided in division (B) of this section or, if applicable, as provided in section 505.482 of the Revised Code.

(B) Except as otherwise provided in section ~~505.482~~ 505.481 of the Revised Code, the territorial limits of a township police district may be altered by a resolution adopted by a two-thirds vote of the board of township trustees. If the township police district imposes a tax, any territory proposed for addition to the district shall become part of the district only after all of

the following have occurred:

- (1) Adoption by two-thirds vote of the board of township trustees of a resolution approving the expansion of the territorial limits of the district;
- (2) Adoption by a two-thirds vote of the board of township trustees of a resolution recommending the extension of the tax to the additional territory;
- (3) Approval of the tax by the electors of the territory proposed for addition to the district.

Each resolution of the board adopted under division (B)(2) of this section shall state the name of the township police district, a description of the territory to be added, and the rate and termination date of the tax, which shall be the rate and termination date of the tax currently in effect in the district.

The board of trustees shall certify each resolution adopted under division (B)(2) of this section to the board of elections in accordance with section 5705.19 of the Revised Code. The election required under division (B)(3) of this section shall be held, canvassed, and certified in the manner provided for the submission of tax levies under section 5705.25 of the Revised Code, except that the question appearing on the ballot shall read:

"Shall the territory within (description of the proposed territory to be added) be added to (name) township police district, and a property tax at a rate of taxation not exceeding (here insert tax rate) be in effect for (here insert the number of years the tax is to be in effect or "a continuing period of time," as applicable)?"

If the question is approved by at least a majority of the electors voting on it, the joinder shall be effective as of the first day of January of the year following approval, and, on that date, the township police district tax shall be extended to the taxable property within the territory that has been added.

Sec. ~~505.482~~ 505.481. (A) If a township police district does not include all the unincorporated territory of the township, the remaining unincorporated territory of the township may be added to the district by a resolution adopted by a unanimous vote of the board of township trustees to place the issue of expansion of the district on the ballot for the electors of the entire unincorporated territory of the township. The resolution shall state whether the proposed township police district initially will hire personnel as provided in section 505.49 of the Revised Code or contract for the provision of police protection services or additional police protection services as provided in section 505.43 or 505.50 of the Revised Code.

The ballot measure shall provide for the addition into a new district of all the unincorporated territory of the township not already included in the township police district and for the levy of any tax then imposed by the

district throughout the unincorporated territory of the township. The measure shall state the rate of the tax, if any, to be imposed in the district resulting from approval of the measure, which need not be the same rate of any tax imposed by the existing district, and the last year in which the tax will be levied or that it will be levied for a continuous period of time.

(B) The election on the measure shall be held, canvassed, and certified in the manner provided for the submission of tax levies under section 5705.25 of the Revised Code, except that the question appearing on the ballot shall read substantially as follows:

"Shall the unincorporated territory within (name of the township) not already included within the (name of township police district) be added to the township police district to create the (name of new township police district) township police district?"

The name of the proposed township police district shall be separate and distinct from the name of the existing township police district.

If a tax is imposed in the existing township police district, the question shall be modified by adding, at the end of the question, the following: ", and shall a property tax be levied in the new township police district, replacing the tax in the existing township police district, at a rate not exceeding mills per dollar of taxable valuation, which amounts to (rate expressed in dollars and cents per one thousand dollars in taxable valuation), for (number of years the tax will be levied, or "a continuing period of time")."

If the measure is not approved by a majority of the electors voting on it, the township police district shall continue to occupy its existing territory until altered as provided in this section or section 505.48 of the Revised Code, and any existing tax imposed under section 505.51 of the Revised Code shall remain in effect in the existing district at the existing rate and for as long as provided in the resolution under the authority of which the tax is levied.

Sec. ~~505.481~~ 505.482. (A) The boards of township trustees of any two or more contiguous townships, or the boards of township trustees of one or more contiguous townships and the legislative authorities of one or more contiguous municipal corporations, whether or not within the same county, ~~may~~, by adoption of a joint resolution by a two-thirds majority favorable vote of each such board and of the members of the legislative authority of each such municipal corporation, may form themselves into a joint township police district board, and such townships shall be a part of a joint township police district comprising all or any part of the townships or municipal corporations as are mutually agreed upon. The governing body of the joint police district shall be a joint police district board, which shall include either

all of the township trustees of each township and all of the members of the legislative authority of each municipal corporation in the district, as agreed to and established in the joint resolution creating the joint police district; or an odd number of members as agreed to and established in the joint resolution, as long as the members are representatives from each board of township trustees of each township and from the legislative authority of each municipal corporation in the joint police district.

~~Such~~ (B) ~~The joint township police district board shall organize within thirty days after the favorable vote by the last board of township trustees or the members of the legislative authority of the last municipal corporation joining itself into the joint township police district board. The president of the board of township trustees of the most populous participating township or the legislative authority of the most populous participating municipal corporation shall give notice of the time and place of organization to each pending member of the joint police district board of township trustees of each participating township, as established in the joint resolution. Such notice shall be signed by the president of the board of township trustees of the most populous participating township, and shall be sent by certified mail to each such pending member of the board of township trustees of each participating township, at least five days prior to the organization meeting, which meeting shall be held in one of the participating townships or municipal corporations. All members of the boards of township trustees of the participating townships constitute the joint township police district board. Two-thirds of all the township trustees of the participating townships joint police district board members constitutes a quorum. Such~~ The members of the boards of township trustees joint police district board shall, at the organization meeting of the joint township police district board, proceed with the election of a president, a secretary, and a treasurer, and such other officers as they consider necessary and proper, and shall transact such other business as properly comes before the board.

(C) In the formation of ~~such~~ a joint police district, such action may be taken by or on behalf of part of a township, by excluding that portion of the township lying within a municipal corporation. The joint ~~township~~ police district board may exercise the same powers as are granted to a board of township trustees in the operation of a township police district under sections 505.49 to 505.55 of the Revised Code, including, but not limited to, the power to employ, train, and discipline personnel, to acquire equipment and buildings, to levy a tax, to issue bonds and notes, and to dissolve the district.

Sec. 505.483. A township or municipal corporation, or parts thereof,

may join an existing joint police district by the adoption of a resolution by the township or of an ordinance by the municipal corporation requesting participation in the district and upon approval of the existing joint police district board.

Sec. 505.484. The treasurer of the joint police district board, before entering upon the duties of that office, shall execute a bond payable to the state, in the amount and with surety to be approved by the joint police district board, conditioned for the faithful performance of all the official duties required by the treasurer. The bond shall be deposited with the president of the joint police district board, and a copy thereof, certified by the president, shall be filed with the county auditor.

Sec. 505.49. (A) As used in this section, "felony" has the same meaning as in section 109.511 of the Revised Code.

(B)(1) The township trustees of a township police district, by a two-thirds vote of the board, or a joint police district board, by majority vote of its members, may adopt rules necessary for the operation of the township or joint police district, including a determination of the qualifications of the chief of police, patrol officers, and others to serve as members of the district police force.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in division (E) of this section and subject to division (D) of this section, the township trustees of a township police district, by a two-thirds vote of the board or the joint police district board, by majority vote of its members, shall appoint a chief of police for the district, determine the number of patrol officers and other personnel required by the district, and establish salary schedules and other conditions of employment for the employees of the township or joint police district. The chief of police of the district shall serve at the pleasure of the township trustees or the joint police district board and shall appoint patrol officers and other personnel that the district may require, subject to division (D) of this section and to the rules and limits as to qualifications, salary ranges, and numbers of personnel established by the board of township trustees or the joint police district board. The township trustees may include in the township police district and under the direction and control of the chief of police any constable appointed pursuant to section 509.01 of the Revised Code, or may designate the chief of police or any patrol officer appointed by the chief of police as a constable, as provided for in section 509.01 of the Revised Code, for the township police district.

(3) Except as provided in division (D) of this section, a patrol officer, other police district employee, or police constable, who has been awarded a certificate attesting to the satisfactory completion of an approved state,

county, or municipal police basic training program, as required by section 109.77 of the Revised Code, may be removed or suspended only under the conditions and by the procedures in sections 505.491 to 505.495 of the Revised Code. Any other patrol officer, police district employee, or police constable shall serve at the pleasure of the township trustees or joint police district board. In case of removal or suspension of an appointee by the board of township trustees of a township police district or the joint police district board, that appointee may appeal the decision of ~~the~~ either board to the court of common pleas of the county in which the district is situated to determine the sufficiency of the cause of removal or suspension. The appointee shall take the appeal within ten days of written notice to the appointee of the decision of the board.

(C)(1) Division (B) of this section does not apply to a township that has a population of ten thousand or more persons residing within the township and outside of any municipal corporation, that has its own police department employing ten or more full-time paid employees, and that has a civil service commission established under division (B) of section 124.40 of the Revised Code. The township shall comply with the procedures for the employment, promotion, and discharge of police personnel provided by Chapter 124. of the Revised Code, except as otherwise provided in divisions (C)(2) and (3) of this section.

(2) The board of township trustees of the township may appoint the chief of police, and a person so appointed shall be in the unclassified service under section 124.11 of the Revised Code and shall serve at the pleasure of the board. A person appointed chief of police under these conditions who is removed by the board or who resigns from the position shall be entitled to return to the classified service in the township police department, in the position that person held previous to the person's appointment as chief of police.

(3) The appointing authority of an urban township, as defined in section 504.01 of the Revised Code, may appoint to a vacant position any one of the three highest scorers on the eligible list for a promotional examination.

(4) The board of township trustees of a township described in this division shall determine the number of personnel required and establish salary schedules and conditions of employment not in conflict with Chapter 124. of the Revised Code.

(5) Persons employed as police personnel in a township described in this division on the date a civil service commission is appointed pursuant to division (B) of section 124.40 of the Revised Code, without being required to pass a competitive examination or a police training program, shall retain

their employment and any rank previously granted them by action of the township trustees or otherwise, but those persons are eligible for promotion only by compliance with Chapter 124. of the Revised Code.

(6) This division does not apply to constables appointed pursuant to section 509.01 of the Revised Code. This division is subject to division (D) of this section.

(D)(1) The board of township trustees or a joint police district board shall not appoint or employ a person as a chief of police, and the chief of police shall not appoint or employ a person as a patrol officer or other peace officer of a township police district ~~or a~~ township police department, or joint police district on a permanent basis, on a temporary basis, for a probationary term, or on other than a permanent basis if the person previously has been convicted of or has pleaded guilty to a felony.

(2)(a) The board of township trustees or joint police district board shall terminate the appointment or employment of a chief of police, patrol officer, or other peace officer of a township police district ~~or a~~ township police department, or joint police district who does either of the following:

(i) Pleads guilty to a felony;

(ii) Pleads guilty to a misdemeanor pursuant to a negotiated plea agreement as provided in division (D) of section 2929.43 of the Revised Code in which the chief of police, patrol officer, or other peace officer of a township police district ~~or a~~ township police department, or joint police district agrees to surrender the certificate awarded to that chief of police, patrol officer, or other peace officer under section 109.77 of the Revised Code.

(b) The board shall suspend the appointment or employment of a chief of police, patrol officer, or other peace officer of a township police district ~~or a~~ township police department, or joint police district who is convicted, after trial, of a felony. If ~~the~~ such chief of police, patrol officer, or other peace officer ~~of a township police district or township police department~~ files an appeal from that conviction and the conviction is upheld by the highest court to which the appeal is taken, or, if no timely appeal is filed, the board shall terminate the appointment or employment of that chief of police, patrol officer, or other peace officer. If the chief of police, patrol officer, or other peace officer of a township police district ~~or a~~ township police department, or joint police district files an appeal that results in that chief of police's, patrol officer's, or other peace officer's acquittal of the felony or conviction of a misdemeanor, or in the dismissal of the felony charge against the chief of police, patrol officer, or other peace officer, the board shall reinstate that chief of police, patrol officer, or other peace officer. A

chief of police, patrol officer, or other peace officer ~~of a township police district or township police department~~ who is reinstated under division (D)(2)(b) of this section shall not receive any back pay unless the conviction of that chief of police, patrol officer, or other peace officer of the felony was reversed on appeal, or the felony charge was dismissed, because the court found insufficient evidence to convict the chief of police, patrol officer, or other peace officer of the felony.

(3) Division (D) of this section does not apply regarding an offense that was committed prior to January 1, 1997.

(4) The suspension or termination of the appointment or employment of a chief of police, patrol officer, or other peace officer under division (D)(2) of this section shall be in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code.

(E) The board of township trustees or the joint police district board may enter into a contract under section 505.43 or 505.50 of the Revised Code to obtain all police protection for the township police district or joint police district from one or more municipal corporations, county sheriffs, or other townships. If the board enters into such a contract, subject to division (D) of this section, it may, but is not required to, appoint a police chief for the district.

(F) The members of the police force of a township police district of a township, or of a joint police district board comprised of a township, that adopts the limited self-government form of township government shall serve as peace officers for the township territory included in the district.

(G) A chief of police or patrol officer of a township police district, ~~or of a township police department~~, or joint police district may participate, as the director of an organized crime task force established under section 177.02 of the Revised Code or as a member of the investigatory staff of that task force, in an investigation of organized criminal activity in any county or counties in this state under sections 177.01 to 177.03 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 505.491. Except as provided in division (D) of section 505.49 or in division (C) of section 509.01 of the Revised Code for a board of township trustees, and except as provided in division (D) of section 505.49 of the Revised Code for a joint police district board, if the board ~~of trustees of a township~~ has reason to believe that a chief of police, patrol officer, or other township or joint police district employee appointed under division (B) of section 505.49 of the Revised Code or a police constable appointed under division (B) of section 509.01 of the Revised Code has been guilty, in the performance of the official duty of that chief of police, patrol officer, other township or joint police district employee, or police constable, of bribery,

misfeasance, malfeasance, nonfeasance, misconduct in office, neglect of duty, gross immorality, habitual drunkenness, incompetence, or failure to obey orders given that person by the proper authority, the board immediately shall file written charges against that person, ~~setting.~~ The written charges shall set forth in detail a statement of the alleged guilt and, at the same time, or as soon thereafter as possible, serve a true copy of those charges upon the person against whom they are made. The service may be made on the person or by leaving a copy of the charges at the office or residence of that person. Return of the service shall be made to the board in the same manner that is provided for the return of the service of summons in a civil action.

Sec. 505.492. Charges filed by the board of township trustees or joint police district board under section 505.491 of the Revised Code shall be heard at the next regular meeting thereof, unless the board extends the time for the hearing, which shall be done only on the application of the accused. The accused may appear in person and by counsel, examine all witnesses, and answer all charges against ~~him~~ the accused.

Sec. 505.493. Pending any proceedings under sections 505.491 and 505.492 of the Revised Code, an accused person may be suspended by the board of township trustees or joint police district board, but such suspension shall be for a period not longer than fifteen days, unless the hearing of such charges is extended upon the application of the accused, in which event the suspension shall not exceed thirty days.

Sec. 505.494. For the purpose of investigating charges filed pursuant to section 505.491 of the Revised Code, the board of township trustees or joint police district board may issue subpoenas or compulsory process to compel the attendance of persons and the production of books and papers before it and provide by resolution for exercising and enforcing this section.

Sec. 505.495. In all cases in which the attendance of witnesses may be compelled for an investigation, under section 505.494 of the Revised Code, any member of the board of township trustees or of the joint police district board may administer the requisite oaths. The board has the same power to compel the giving of testimony by attending witnesses as is conferred upon courts. In all such cases, witnesses shall be entitled to the same privileges and immunities as are allowed witnesses in civil cases. Witnesses shall be paid the fees and mileage provided for under section 1901.26 of the Revised Code, and the costs of all such proceedings shall be payable from the general fund of the township or joint police district.

Sec. 505.50. The board of township trustees of a township or of a township police district, or a joint police district board, may purchase, lease,

lease with an option to purchase, or otherwise acquire any police apparatus, equipment, including a public communications system, or materials that the township ~~or~~ township police district, or joint police district requires and may build, purchase, lease, or lease with an option to purchase any building or buildings and site of the building or buildings that are necessary for the police operations of the township or either district.

The boards of trustees of any two or more contiguous townships, ~~may or~~ the boards of township trustees of one or more contiguous townships and the legislative authorities of one or more contiguous municipal corporations, by joint agreement, may unite in the joint purchase, lease, lease with an option to purchase, maintenance, use, and operation of police equipment for any other police purpose designated in sections 505.48 to 505.55 of the Revised Code, and to prorate the expense of that joint action on terms mutually agreed upon by the trustees in each affected township and the legislative authorities of each affected municipal corporation.

The board of trustees of a township or of a township police district, or a joint police district board, may enter into a contract with one or more townships, a municipal corporation, a park district created pursuant to section 511.18 or 1545.01 of the Revised Code, or the county sheriff upon any terms that are mutually agreed upon for the provision of police protection services or additional police protection services either on a regular basis or for additional protection in times of emergency. The contract shall be agreed to in each instance by the respective board or boards of township trustees, the board of county commissioners, the board of park commissioners, the joint police district board, or the legislative authority of the municipal corporation involved. The contract may provide for a fixed annual charge to be paid at the time agreed upon in the contract.

Chapter 2744. of the Revised Code, insofar as it is applicable to the operation of police departments, applies to the contracting political subdivisions and police department members when the members are serving outside their own political subdivision pursuant to such a contract. Police department members acting outside the political subdivision in which they are employed may participate in any pension or indemnity fund established by their employer and are entitled to all the rights and benefits of Chapter 4123. of the Revised Code, to the same extent as while performing services within the political subdivision.

Sec. 505.51. ~~The~~ (A) In the case of a township police district, the board of trustees of a the township police district may levy a tax upon all of the taxable property in the township police district pursuant to sections 5705.19 and 5705.25 of the Revised Code to defray all or a portion of expenses of

the township police district in providing police protection.

(B) In the case of a joint police district, the joint police district board may levy a tax upon all of the taxable property in the joint police district pursuant to sections 5705.19 and 5705.25 of the Revised Code to defray all or a portion of expenses of the joint police district in providing police protection.

Sec. 505.511. (A) A board of township trustees that operates a township police department ~~or~~, the board of township trustees of a township police district, or a joint police district board may, after police constables, the township police, a law enforcement agency with which the township contracts for police services, the joint police district police, and the county sheriff or the sheriff's deputy have answered a combined total of three false alarms from the same commercial or residential security alarm system within the township in the same calendar year, cause the township fiscal officer to mail the manager of the commercial establishment or the occupant, lessee, agent, or tenant of the residence a bill for each subsequent false alarm from the same alarm system during that year, to defray the costs incurred. The bill's amount shall be as follows:

- (1) For the fourth false alarm of that year \$50.00;
- (2) For the fifth false alarm of that year \$100.00;
- (3) For all false alarms in that year occurring after the fifth false alarm \$150.00.

If payment of the bill is not received within thirty days, the township fiscal officer or joint police district treasurer shall send a notice by certified mail to the manager and to the owner, if different, of the real estate of which the commercial establishment is a part, or to the occupant, lessee, agent, or tenant and to the owner, if different, of the real estate of which the residence is a part, indicating that failure to pay the bill within thirty days, or to show just cause why the bill should not be paid, will result in the assessment of a lien upon the real estate in the amount of the bill. If payment is not received within those thirty days or if just cause is not shown, the amount of the bill shall be entered upon the tax duplicate, shall be a lien upon the real estate from the date of the entry, and shall be collected as other taxes and returned to the township treasury to be earmarked for use for police services.

The board of township trustees shall not cause the township fiscal officer, or the joint police district board shall not cause the joint police district treasurer, to send a bill pursuant to this division if a bill has already been sent pursuant to division (B) of this section for the same false alarm.

(B) The county sheriff may, after the county sheriff or the sheriff's deputy, police constables, the township police, the joint police district

police, and a law enforcement agency with which the township contracts for police services have answered a combined total of three false alarms from the same commercial or residential security alarm system within the unincorporated area of the county in the same calendar year, mail the manager of the commercial establishment or the occupant, lessee, agent, or tenant of the residence a bill for each subsequent false alarm from the same alarm system during that year, to defray the costs incurred. The bill's amount shall be as follows:

- (1) For the fourth false alarm of that year \$50.00;
- (2) For the fifth false alarm of that year \$100.00;
- (3) For all false alarms in that year occurring after the fifth false alarm \$150.00.

If payment of the bill is not received within thirty days, the sheriff shall send a notice by certified mail to the manager and to the owner, if different, of the real estate of which the commercial establishment is a part, or to the occupant, lessee, agent, or tenant and to the owner, if different, of the real estate of which the residence is a part, indicating that failure to pay the bill within thirty days, or to show just cause why the bill should not be paid, will result in the assessment of a lien upon the real estate in the amount of the bill. If payment is not received within those thirty days or if just cause is not shown, the amount of the bill shall be entered upon the tax duplicate, shall be a lien upon the real estate from the date of the entry, and shall be collected as other taxes and returned to the county treasury.

The sheriff shall not send a bill pursuant to this division if a bill has already been sent pursuant to division (A) of this section for the same false alarm.

(C) As used in this section, "commercial establishment" has the same meaning as in section 505.391 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 505.52. The board of trustees of a township police district or a joint police district board may issue bonds for the purpose of buying police equipment in the manner provided for in section 133.18 and pursuant to Chapter 133. of the Revised Code. The proceeds of the bonds issued under this section, other than any premium and accrued interest which is credited to the sinking fund, shall be placed in the township treasury or joint police district board treasury to the credit of a fund to be known as the "police equipment fund." Money from the police equipment fund shall be paid out only upon order of the township board of trustees of the township police district or of the joint police district board.

Sec. 505.53. The board of trustees of a township police district or a joint police district board may issue notes for a period not to exceed three years

for the purpose of buying police equipment or a building or site to house police equipment. One-third of the purchase price of the equipment, building, or site shall be paid at the time of purchase, and the remainder of the purchase price shall be covered by notes maturing in two and three years respectively. Notes may bear interest not to exceed the rate determined as provided in section 9.95 of the Revised Code, and shall not be subject to Chapter 133. of the Revised Code. Such notes shall be offered for sale on the open market or given to a vendor if no sale is made.

Sec. 505.54. The board of trustees of the township or the joint police district board may, upon nomination by the chief of police, send one or more of the officers, ~~patrolmen~~ patrol officers, or other employees of the township police district or the joint police district to a school of instruction designed to provide additional training or skills related to the employees work assignment in the district. The trustees may make advance tuition payments for any employee so nominated and may defray all or a portion of the employee's expenses while receiving this instruction.

Sec. 505.541. (A) The board of township trustees or a joint police district board, respectively, may establish, by resolution, a parking enforcement unit within a township police district or within a joint police district, and provide for the regulation of parking enforcement officers. The chief of police of the district shall be the executive head of the parking enforcement unit, shall make all appointments and removals of parking enforcement officers, subject to any general rules prescribed by the board of township trustees by resolution or joint police district board, as appropriate, and shall prescribe rules for the organization, training, administration, control, and conduct of the parking enforcement unit. The chief of police may appoint parking enforcement officers who agree to serve for nominal compensation, and persons with physical disabilities may receive appointments as parking enforcement officers.

(B) The authority of the parking enforcement officers shall be limited to the enforcement of section 4511.69 of the Revised Code and any other parking laws specified in the resolution creating the parking enforcement unit. Parking enforcement officers shall have no other powers.

(C) The training the parking enforcement officers shall receive shall include instruction in general administrative rules and procedures governing the parking enforcement unit, the role of the judicial system as it relates to parking regulation and enforcement, proper techniques and methods relating to the enforcement of parking laws, human interaction skills, and first aid.

Sec. 505.55. In the event that need for a township police district ceases to exist, the township trustees by a two-thirds vote of the board shall adopt a

resolution specifying the date that the township police district shall cease to exist and provide for the disposal of all property belonging to the district by public sale. Such sale must be by public auction and upon notice thereof being published once a week for three weeks in a newspaper ~~published, or~~ of general circulation in such township, ~~the~~ or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code. The last of such publications ~~to~~ shall be made at least five days before the date of the sale. Any moneys remaining after the dissolution of the district or received from the public sale of property shall be paid into the treasury of the township and may be expended for any public purpose when duly authorized by the township board of trustees.

Sec. 505.551. (A) Any township or municipal corporation may withdraw from a joint police district created under section 505.482 of the Revised Code by adopting a resolution or an ordinance, respectively, ordering withdrawal. On or after the first day of January of the year following the adoption of the resolution or ordinance of withdrawal, the township or municipal corporation withdrawing ceases to be a part of the district, and the power of the district to levy a tax upon the taxable property in the withdrawing township or municipal corporation terminates, except that the district shall continue to levy and collect taxes for the payment of indebtedness within the territory of the district as it was comprised at the time the indebtedness was incurred.

(B) Upon the withdrawal of any township or municipal corporation from a joint police district, the county auditor shall ascertain, apportion, and order a division of the funds on hand and moneys and taxes in the process of collection, except for taxes levied for the payment of indebtedness, credits, and real and personal property, either in money or in kind, on the basis of the valuation of the respective tax duplicates of the withdrawing township or municipal corporation and the remaining territory of the joint police district.

(C) When the number of townships or municipal corporations comprising a joint police district is reduced to one, the joint police district ceases to exist by operation of law, and the funds, credits, and property remaining after apportionments to withdrawing townships or municipal corporations shall be assumed by the one remaining township or municipal corporation. When a joint police district ceases to exist and an indebtedness remains unpaid, the board of county commissioners shall continue to levy and collect taxes for the payment of that indebtedness within the territory of the joint police district as it was comprised at the time the indebtedness was incurred.

Sec. 505.60. The following applies until the department of administrative services implements for townships the health care plans

under section 9.901 of the Revised Code. If those plans do not include or address any benefits listed in division (A) of this section, the following provisions continue in effect for those benefits.

(A) As provided in this section and section 505.601 of the Revised Code, the board of township trustees of any township may procure and pay all or any part of the cost of insurance policies that may provide benefits for hospitalization, surgical care, major medical care, disability, dental care, eye care, medical care, hearing aids, prescription drugs, or sickness and accident insurance, or a combination of any of the foregoing types of insurance for township officers and employees. The board of township trustees of any township may negotiate and contract for the purchase of a policy of long-term care insurance for township officers and employees pursuant to section 124.841 of the Revised Code.

If the board procures any insurance policies under this section, the board shall provide uniform coverage under these policies for township officers and full-time township employees and their immediate dependents, and may provide coverage under these policies for part-time township employees and their immediate dependents, from the funds or budgets from which the officers or employees are compensated for services, such policies to be issued by an insurance company duly authorized to do business in this state.

(B) The board may also provide coverage for any or all of the benefits described in division (A) of this section by entering into a contract for group health care services with health insuring corporations holding certificates of authority under Chapter 1751. of the Revised Code for township officers and employees and their immediate dependents. If the board so contracts, it shall provide uniform coverage under any such contracts for township officers and full-time township employees and their immediate dependents, from the funds or budgets from which the officers or employees are compensated for services, and may provide coverage under such contracts for part-time township employees and their immediate dependents, from the funds or budgets from which the officers or employees are compensated for services, provided that each officer and employee so covered is permitted to:

(1) Choose between a plan offered by an insurance company and a plan offered by a health insuring corporation, and provided further that the officer or employee pays any amount by which the cost of the plan chosen exceeds the cost of the plan offered by the board under this section;

(2) Change the choice made under this division at a time each year as determined in advance by the board.

An addition of a class or change of definition of coverage to the plan offered under this division by the board may be made at any time that it is

determined by the board to be in the best interest of the township. If the total cost to the township of the revised plan for any trustee's coverage does not exceed that cost under the plan in effect during the prior policy year, the revision of the plan does not cause an increase in that trustee's compensation.

(C) Any township officer or employee may refuse to accept any coverage authorized by this section without affecting the availability of such coverage to other township officers and employees.

(D) If any township officer or employee is denied coverage under a health care plan procured under this section or if any township officer or employee elects not to participate in the township's health care plan, the township may reimburse the officer or employee for each out-of-pocket premium attributable to the coverage provided for the officer or employee for insurance benefits described in division (A) of this section that the officer or employee otherwise obtains, but not to exceed an amount equal to the average premium paid by the township for its officers and employees under any health care plan it procures under this section.

(E) The board may provide the benefits authorized under this section, without competitive bidding, by contributing to a health and welfare trust fund administered through or in conjunction with a collective bargaining representative of the township employees.

The board may also provide the benefits described in this section through an individual self-insurance program or a joint self-insurance program as provided in section 9.833 of the Revised Code.

(F) If a board of township trustees fails to pay one or more premiums for a policy, contract, or plan of insurance or health care services authorized under this section and the failure causes a lapse, cancellation, or other termination of coverage under the policy, contract, or plan, it may reimburse a township officer or employee for, or pay on behalf of the officer or employee, any expenses incurred that would have been covered under the policy, contract, or plan.

(G) As used in this section and section 505.601 of the Revised Code:

(1) "Part-time township employee" means a township employee who is hired with the expectation that the employee will work not more than one thousand five hundred hours in any year.

(2) "Premium" does not include any deductible or health care costs paid directly by a township officer or employee.

Sec. 505.601. The following applies until the department of administrative services implements for townships the health care plans under section 9.901 of the Revised Code.

If a board of township trustees does not procure an insurance policy or group health care services as provided in section 505.60 of the Revised Code, the board of township trustees may reimburse any township officer or employee for each out-of-pocket premium attributable to the coverage provided for that officer or employee for insurance benefits described in division (A) of section 505.60 of the Revised Code that the officer or employee otherwise obtains, if all of the following conditions are met:

(A) The board of township trustees adopts a resolution that states that the township has chosen not to procure a health care plan under section 505.60 of the Revised Code and has chosen instead to reimburse its officers and employees for each out-of-pocket premium attributable to the coverage provided for them for insurance benefits described in division (A) of section 505.60 of the Revised Code that they otherwise obtain.

(B) That resolution provides for a uniform maximum monthly or yearly payment amount for each officer or employee to cover themselves and their immediate dependents, beyond which the township will not reimburse the officer or employee.

(C) That resolution states the specific benefits listed in division (A) of section 505.60 of the Revised Code for which the township will reimburse all officers and employees of the township. The township may not reimburse officers and employees for benefits other than those listed in division (A) of section 505.60 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 505.603. The following applies until the department of administrative services implements for townships the health care plans under section 9.901 of the Revised Code. If those plans do not include or address any benefits incorporated in this section, the following provisions continue in effect for those benefits.

In addition to or in lieu of providing benefits to township officers and employees under section 505.60, 505.601, or 505.602 of the Revised Code, a board of township trustees may offer benefits to officers and employees through a cafeteria plan that meets the requirements of section 125 of the "Internal Revenue Code of 1986," 100 Stat. 2085, 26 U.S.C.A. 125, as amended, after first adopting a policy authorizing an officer or employee to receive a cash payment in lieu of a benefit otherwise offered to township officers or employees under any of those sections, but only if the cash payment does not exceed twenty-five per cent of the cost of premiums or payments that otherwise would be paid by the board for benefits for the officer or employee under an offered policy, contract, or plan. No cash payment in lieu of a benefit shall be made pursuant to this section unless the officer or employee signs a statement affirming that the officer or employee

is covered under another health insurance or health care policy, contract, or plan in the case of a health benefit, or a life insurance policy in the case of a life insurance benefit, and setting forth the name of the employer, if any, that sponsors the coverage, the name of the carrier that provides the coverage, and an identifying number of the applicable policy, contract, or plan.

Sec. 505.61. A board of township trustees may purchase a policy or policies of insurance to indemnify township constables appointed under Chapter 509. of the Revised Code or the chief of police, ~~patrolmen~~ patrol officers, and other employees of a township police district established under sections 505.48 to 505.55 of the Revised Code against liability arising from the performance of their official duties.

A joint police district board may purchase a policy or policies of insurance to indemnify the chief of police, patrol officers, and other employees of a joint police district established under section 505.482 of the Revised Code against liability arising from the performance of their duties.

Sec. 505.67. (A) If the board of county commissioners of the county in which a township is located has not established a motor vehicle decal registration program under section 311.31 of the Revised Code, the board of township trustees may establish, by resolution, a voluntary motor vehicle decal registration program to be controlled and conducted by the chief law enforcement officer of the township within the unincorporated areas of the township. The board may establish a fee for participation in the program in an amount sufficient to cover the cost of administering the program and the cost of the decals.

(B) Any resident of the township may enroll a motor vehicle that ~~he~~ the resident owns in the program by signing a consent form, displaying the decal issued under this section, and paying the prescribed fee. The motor vehicle owner shall remove the decal to withdraw from the program and also prior to the sale or transfer of ownership of the vehicle. Any law enforcement officer may conduct, at any place within this state at which the officer would be permitted to arrest the person operating the vehicle, an investigatory stop of any motor vehicle displaying a decal issued under this section when the vehicle is being driven between the hours of one a.m. and five a.m. A law enforcement officer may conduct an investigatory stop under this division regardless of whether the officer observes a violation of law involving the vehicle or whether ~~he~~ the officer has probable cause to believe that any violation of law involving the vehicle has occurred.

(C) The consent form required under division (B) of this section shall:

(1) Describe the conditions for participation in the program, including a

description of an investigatory stop and a statement that any law enforcement officer may conduct, at any place within this state at which the officer would be permitted to arrest the person operating the vehicle, an investigatory stop of the motor vehicle when it is being driven between the hours of one a.m. and five a.m.

(2) Contain other information identifying the vehicle and owner as the chief law enforcement officer of the township considers necessary.

(D) The state director of public safety, in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, shall adopt rules governing the color, size, and design of decals issued under this section and the location where the decals shall be displayed on vehicles that are enrolled in the program.

(E) Divisions (A) to (D) of this section do not require a law enforcement officer to conduct an investigatory stop of a vehicle displaying a decal issued under this section.

(F) As used in this section:

(1) "Investigatory stop" means a temporary stop of a motor vehicle and its operator and occupants for purposes of determining the identity of the person who is operating the vehicle and, if the person who is operating it is not its owner, whether any violation of law has occurred or is occurring. An "investigatory stop" is not an arrest, but, if an officer who conducts an investigatory stop determines that illegal conduct has occurred or is ~~occurring~~ occurring, an "investigatory stop" may be the basis for an arrest.

(2) "Law enforcement officer" means a sheriff, deputy sheriff, constable, police officer of a township or joint ~~township~~ police district, marshal, deputy marshal, municipal police officer, or state highway patrol trooper.

Sec. 505.73. (A) The board of township trustees may, by resolution, adopt by incorporation by reference, administer, and enforce within the unincorporated area of the township an existing structures code pertaining to the repair and continued maintenance of structures and the premises of those structures. For that purpose, the board shall adopt any model or standard code prepared and promulgated by this state, any department, board, or agency of this state, or any public or private organization that publishes a recognized model or standard code on the subject. The board shall ensure that the code adopted governs subject matter not addressed by the state residential building code and that it is fully compatible with the state residential and nonresidential building codes the board of building standards adopts pursuant to section 3781.10 of the Revised Code.

(B) The board shall assign the duties of administering and enforcing the existing structures code to a township officer or employee who is trained

and qualified for those duties and shall establish by resolution the minimum qualifications necessary to perform those duties.

(C)(1) After the board adopts an existing structures code, the township fiscal officer shall post a notice that clearly identifies the code, states the code's purpose, and states that a complete copy of the code is on file for inspection by the public with the fiscal officer and in the county law library and that the fiscal officer has copies available for distribution to the public at cost.

(2) The township fiscal officer shall post the notice in five conspicuous places in the township for thirty days before the code becomes effective and shall publish the notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the township for three consecutive weeks or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code. If the adopting township amends or deletes any provision of the code, the notice shall contain a brief summary of the deletion or amendment.

(D) If the agency that originally promulgated or published the existing structures code amends the code, the board may adopt the amendment or change by incorporation by reference in the manner provided for the adoption of the original code.

Sec. 507.09. (A) Except as otherwise provided in division (D) of this section, the township fiscal officer shall be entitled to compensation as follows:

(1) In townships having a budget of fifty thousand dollars or less, three thousand five hundred dollars;

(2) In townships having a budget of more than fifty thousand but not more than one hundred thousand dollars, five thousand five hundred dollars;

(3) In townships having a budget of more than one hundred thousand but not more than two hundred fifty thousand dollars, seven thousand seven hundred dollars;

(4) In townships having a budget of more than two hundred fifty thousand but not more than five hundred thousand dollars, nine thousand nine hundred dollars;

(5) In townships having a budget of more than five hundred thousand but not more than seven hundred fifty thousand dollars, eleven thousand dollars;

(6) In townships having a budget of more than seven hundred fifty thousand but not more than one million five hundred thousand dollars, thirteen thousand two hundred dollars;

(7) In townships having a budget of more than one million five hundred thousand but not more than three million five hundred thousand dollars, fifteen thousand four hundred dollars;

(8) In townships having a budget of more than three million five hundred thousand dollars but not more than six million dollars, sixteen thousand five hundred dollars;

(9) In townships having a budget of more than six million dollars, seventeen thousand six hundred dollars.

(B) Any township fiscal officer may elect to receive less than the compensation the fiscal officer is entitled to under division (A) of this section. Any township fiscal officer electing to do this shall so notify the board of township trustees in writing, and the board shall include this notice in the minutes of its next board meeting.

(C) The compensation of the township fiscal officer shall be paid in equal monthly payments. If the office of township fiscal officer is held by more than one person during any calendar year, each person holding the office shall receive payments for only those months, and any fractions of those months, during which the person holds the office.

A township fiscal officer may be compensated from the township general fund or from other township funds based on the proportion of time the township fiscal officer spends providing services related to each fund. A township fiscal officer must document the amount of time the township fiscal officer spends providing services related to each fund by certification specifying the percentage of time spent working on matters to be paid from the township general fund or from other township funds in such proportions as the kinds of services performed.

(D) Beginning in calendar year 1999, the township fiscal officer shall be entitled to compensation as follows:

(1) In calendar year 1999, the compensation specified in division (A) of this section increased by three per cent;

(2) In calendar year 2000, the compensation determined under division (D)(1) of this section increased by three per cent;

(3) In calendar year 2001, the compensation determined under division (D)(2) of this section increased by three per cent;

(4) In calendar year 2002, except in townships having a budget of more than six million dollars, the compensation determined under division (D)(3) of this section increased by three per cent; in townships having a budget of more than six million but not more than ten million dollars, nineteen thousand eight hundred ten dollars; and in townships having a budget of more than ten million dollars, twenty thousand nine hundred dollars;

(5) In calendar year 2003, the compensation determined under division (D)(4) of this section increased by three per cent or the percentage increase in the consumer price index as described in division (D)(7)(b) of this

section, whichever percentage is lower;

(6) In calendar year 2004, except in townships having a budget of more than six million dollars, the compensation determined under division (D)(5) of this section for the calendar year 2003 increased by three per cent or the percentage increase in the consumer price index as described in division (D)(7)(b) of this section, whichever percentage is lower; in townships having a budget of more than six million but not more than ten million dollars, twenty-two thousand eighty-seven dollars; and in townships having a budget of more than ten million dollars, twenty-five thousand five hundred fifty-three dollars;

(7) In calendar years 2005 through 2008, the compensation determined under division (D) of this section for the immediately preceding calendar year increased by the lesser of the following:

(a) Three per cent;

(b) The percentage increase, if any, in the consumer price index over the twelve-month period that ends on the thirtieth day of September of the immediately preceding calendar year, rounded to the nearest one-tenth of one per cent;

(8) In calendar year 2009 and thereafter, the amount determined under division (D) of this section for calendar year 2008.

As used in this division, "consumer price index" has the same meaning as in section 325.18 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 509.15. The following fees and expenses shall be taxed as costs, collected from the judgment debtor, and paid to the general fund of the appropriate township or district as compensation due for services rendered by township constables or members of the police force of a township police district or joint police district:

(A) Serving and making return of each of the following:

(1) Order to commit to jail, order on jailer for prisoner, or order of ejectment, including copies to complete service, one dollar for each defendant named therein;

(2) Search warrant or warrant of arrest, for each person named in the writ, five dollars;

(3) Writ of attachment of property, except for purpose of garnishment, twenty dollars;

(4) Writ of attachment for the purpose of garnishment, five dollars;

(5) Writ of possession or restitution, twenty dollars;

(6) Attachment for contempt, for each person named in the writ, three dollars;

(7) Writ of replevin, twenty dollars;

(8) Summons and writs, subpoena, venire, and notice to garnishee, including copies to complete service, three dollars for each person named therein;

(9) Execution against property or person, eighty cents, and six per cent of all money thus collected;

(10) Any other writ, order, or notice required by law, for each person named therein, including copies to complete service, three dollars for the first name and fifty cents for each additional name.

(B) Mileage for the distance actually and necessarily traveled in serving and returning any of the preceding writs, orders, and notices, fifty cents for the first mile and for each additional mile, twenty cents;

(C) For attending a criminal case during the trial or hearing and having charge of prisoners, each case, two dollars and fifty cents, but, when so acting, such constable shall not be entitled to a witness fee if called upon to testify;

(D) For attending civil court during a jury trial, each case, two dollars;

(E) For attending civil court during a trial without jury, each case, one dollar and fifty cents;

(F) The actual amount paid solely for the transportation, meals, and lodging of prisoners, and for the moving and storage of goods and the care of animals taken on any legal process, such expense shall be specifically itemized on the back of the writs and sworn to;

(G) For summoning and swearing appraisers, each case, two dollars;

(H) For advertising property for sale, by posting, taken on any legal process, one dollar;

(I) For taking and making return of any bond required by law, eighty cents.

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this section, if any comparable fee or expense specified under section 311.17 of the Revised Code is increased to an amount greater than that set forth in this section, the board of township trustees, board of trustees of the township police district, or joint ~~township~~ police district board, as appropriate, may require that the amount taxed as costs under this section equal the amount specified under section 311.17 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 511.01. If, in a township, a town hall is to be built, improved, enlarged, or removed at a cost greater than ~~ten~~ fifty thousand dollars, the board of township trustees shall submit the question to the electors of such township and shall certify their resolution to the board of elections not later than four p.m. of the ninetieth day before the day of the election.

Sec. 511.12. The board of township trustees may prepare plans and

specifications and make contracts for the construction and erection of a memorial building, monument, statue, or memorial, for the purposes specified and within the amount authorized by section 511.08 of the Revised Code. If the total estimated cost of the construction and erection exceeds ~~twenty-five~~ fifty thousand dollars, the contract shall be let by competitive bidding. If the estimated cost is ~~twenty-five~~ fifty thousand dollars or less, competitive bidding may be required at the board's discretion. In making contracts under this section, the board shall be governed as follows:

(A) Contracts for construction when competitive bidding is required shall be based upon detailed plans, specifications, forms of bids, and estimates of cost, adopted by the board.

(B) Contracts shall be made in writing upon concurrence of a majority of the members of the board, and shall be signed by at least two of the members and by the contractor. If competitive bidding is required, no contract shall be made or signed until an advertisement has been placed in a newspaper, published or of general circulation in the township, at least twice. The board may also cause notice to be inserted in trade papers or other publications designated by it or to be distributed by electronic means, including posting the notice on the board's internet web site. If the board posts the notice on its web site, it may eliminate the second notice otherwise required to be published in a newspaper published or of general circulation in the township, provided that the first notice published in such newspaper meets all of the following requirements:

(1) It is published at least two weeks before the opening of bids.

(2) It includes a statement that the notice is posted on the board's internet web site.

(3) It includes the internet address of the board's internet web site.

(4) It includes instructions describing how the notice may be accessed on the board's internet web site.

(C) No contract shall be let by competitive bidding except to the lowest and best bidder, who shall meet the requirements of section 153.54 of the Revised Code.

(D) When, in the opinion of the board, it becomes necessary in the prosecution of such work to make alterations or modifications in any contract, the alterations or modifications shall be made only by order of the board, and that order shall be of no effect until the price to be paid for the work or materials under the altered or modified contract has been agreed upon in writing and signed by the contractor and at least two members of the board.

(E) No contract or alteration or modification of it shall be valid unless

made in the manner provided in this section.

Sec. 511.23. (A) When the vote under section 511.22 of the Revised Code is in favor of establishing one or more public parks, the board of park commissioners shall constitute a board, to be called the board of park commissioners of that township park district, and they shall be a body politic and corporate. Their office is not a township office within the meaning of section 703.22 of the Revised Code but is an office of the township park district. The members of the board shall serve without compensation but shall be allowed their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

(B) The board may locate, establish, improve, maintain, and operate a public park or parks in accordance with division (B) of section 511.18 of the Revised Code, with or without recreational facilities. Any township park district that contains only unincorporated territory and that operated a public park or parks outside the township immediately prior to July 18, 1990, may continue to improve, maintain, and operate these parks outside the township, but further acquisitions of land shall not affect the boundaries of the park district itself or the appointing authority for the board of park commissioners.

The board may lease, accept a conveyance of, or purchase suitable lands for cash, by purchase by installment payments with or without a mortgage, by lease or lease-purchase agreements, or by lease with option to purchase, may acquire suitable lands through an exchange under section 511.241 of the Revised Code, or may appropriate suitable lands and materials for park district purposes. The board also may lease facilities from other political subdivisions or private sources. The board shall have careful surveys and plats made of the lands acquired for park district purposes and shall establish permanent monuments on the boundaries of the lands. Those plats, when executed according to sections 711.01 to 711.38 of the Revised Code, shall be recorded in the office of the county recorder, and those records shall be admissible in evidence for the purpose of locating and ascertaining the true boundaries of the park or parks.

(C) In furtherance of the use and enjoyment of the lands controlled by it, the board may accept donations of money or other property or act as trustees of land, money, or other property, and may use and administer the land, money, or other property as stipulated by the donor or as provided in the trust agreement.

The board may receive and expend grants for park purposes from agencies and instrumentalities of the United States and this state and may enter into contracts or agreements with those agencies and instrumentalities

to carry out the purposes for which the grants were furnished.

(D) In exercising any powers conferred upon the board under divisions (B) and (C) of this section and for other types of assistance that the board finds necessary in carrying out its duties, the board may hire and contract for professional, technical, consulting, and other special services and may purchase goods and award contracts. The procuring of goods and awarding of contracts shall be done in accordance with the procedures established for the board of county commissioners by sections 307.86 to 307.91 of the Revised Code.

(E) The board may appoint an executive for the park or parks and may designate the executive or another person as the clerk of the board. It may appoint all other necessary officers and employees, fix their compensation, and prescribe their duties, or it may require the executive to appoint all other necessary officers and employees, and to fix their compensation and prescribe their duties, in accordance with guidelines and policies adopted by the board.

(F) The board may adopt bylaws and rules that it considers advisable for the following purposes:

(1) To prohibit selling, giving away, or using any intoxicating liquors in the park or parks;

(2) For the government and control of the park or parks and the operation of motor vehicles in the park or parks;

(3) To provide for the protection and preservation of all property and natural life within its jurisdiction.

Before the bylaws and rules take effect, the board shall provide for a notice of their adoption to be published once a week for two consecutive weeks or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code, in a newspaper of general circulation in the county within which the park district is located.

No person shall violate any of the bylaws or rules. Fines levied and collected for violations shall be paid into the treasury of the township park district. The board may use moneys collected from those fines for any purpose that is not inconsistent with sections 511.18 to 511.37 of the Revised Code.

(G) The board may do either of the following:

(1) Establish and charge fees for the use of any facilities and services of the park or parks regardless of whether the park or parks were acquired before, on, or after ~~the effective date of this amendment~~ September 21, 2000;

(2) Enter into a lease agreement with an individual or organization that provides for the exclusive use of a specified portion of the park or parks

within the township park district by that individual or organization for the duration of an event produced by the individual or organization. The board, for the specific portion of the park or parks covered by the lease agreement, may charge a fee to, or permit the individual or organization to charge a fee to, participants in and spectators at the event covered by the agreement.

(H) If the board finds that real or personal property owned by the township park district is not currently needed for park purposes, the board may lease that property to other persons or organizations during any period of time the board determines the property will not be needed. If the board finds that competitive bidding on a lease is not feasible, it may lease the property without taking bids.

(I) The board may exchange property owned by the township park district for property owned by the state, another political subdivision, or the federal government on terms that it considers desirable, without the necessity of competitive bidding.

(J) Any rights or duties established under this section may be modified, shared, or assigned by an agreement pursuant to section 755.16 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 511.235. The board of park commissioners of a township park district may enter into contracts with one or more townships, township police districts, joint police districts, municipal corporations, or county sheriffs of this state, with one or more park districts created pursuant to section 1545.01 of the Revised Code or other township park districts, or with a contiguous political subdivision of an adjoining state, and a township, township police district, joint police district board, municipal corporation, county sheriff, park district, or other township park district of this state may enter into a contract with a township park district upon any terms that are agreed to by them, to allow the use of the township park district law enforcement officers designated under section 511.232 of the Revised Code to perform any police function, exercise any police power, or render any police service in behalf of the contracting political subdivision that the subdivision may perform, exercise, or render.

Chapter 2744. of the Revised Code, insofar as it applies to the operation of police departments, shall apply to the contracting political subdivisions and to the members of their police force or law enforcement department when they are rendering service outside their own subdivisions pursuant to that contract.

Any members of the police force or law enforcement department acting pursuant to that contract outside the political subdivision in which they are employed shall be entitled to participate in any indemnity fund established

by their employer to the same extent as while acting within the employing subdivision. Those members shall be entitled to all the rights and benefits of Chapter 4123. of the Revised Code, to the same extent as while performing service within the subdivision.

The contracts entered into pursuant to this section may provide for the following:

(A) A fixed annual charge to be paid at the times agreed upon and stipulated in the contract;

(B) Compensation based upon the following:

(1) A stipulated price for each call or emergency;

(2) The number of members or pieces of equipment employed;

(3) The elapsed time of service required in each call or emergency.

(C) Compensation for loss or damage to equipment while engaged in rendering police services outside the limits of the subdivision that owns and furnishes the equipment;

(D) Reimbursement of the subdivision in which the police force or law enforcement department members are employed, for any indemnity award or premium contribution assessed against the employing subdivision for workers' compensation benefits for injuries or death to members of its police force or law enforcement department occurring while engaged in rendering service pursuant to the contract.

Sec. 511.236. The police force or law enforcement department of any township park district may provide police protection to any county, municipal corporation, township, ~~or township police district, or joint police district~~ of this state, to any other township park district or any park district created pursuant to section 1545.01 of the Revised Code, or to a governmental entity of an adjoining state without a contract to provide police protection, upon the approval, by resolution, of the board of park commissioners of the township park district in which the police force or law enforcement department is located and upon authorization by an officer or employee of the police force or department providing the police protection who is designated by title of office or position, pursuant to the resolution of the board of park commissioners, to give the authorization.

Chapter 2744. of the Revised Code, insofar as it applies to the operation of police departments, shall apply to any township park district and to members of its police force or law enforcement department when those members are rendering police services pursuant to this section outside the township park district by which they are employed.

Police force or law enforcement department members acting, as provided in this section, outside the township park district by which they are

employed shall be entitled to participate in any pension or indemnity fund established by their employer to the same extent as while acting within the township park district by which they are employed. Those members shall be entitled to all rights and benefits of Chapter 4123. of the Revised Code to the same extent as while performing services within the township park district by which they are employed.

Sec. 511.25. If the board of park commissioners of a township park district finds that any lands that the board has acquired are not necessary for the purposes for which they were acquired, it may sell and dispose of those lands upon terms that the board considers advisable and may reject any purchase bid received under this section that the board determines does not meet its terms for sale.

Except as otherwise provided in this section, no lands shall be sold without first giving notice of the board's intention to sell the lands by publication once a week for four consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the township or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code. The notice shall contain an accurate description of the lands being offered for sale and shall state the time and place at which sealed bids for the lands will be received. If the board rejects all of the purchase bids, it may reoffer the lands for sale in accordance with this section.

The board also may sell park lands not necessary for district purposes to another political subdivision, the state, or the federal government without giving the notices or taking bids as otherwise required by this section.

No lands acquired by a township park district may be sold without the approval of the court of common pleas of the county in which the park district is located, if the court appointed the board under section 511.18 of the Revised Code, or the approval of the board of township trustees, if the board of township trustees appointed the board of park commissioners under section 511.18 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 511.28. A copy of any resolution for a tax levy adopted by the township board of park commissioners as provided in section 511.27 of the Revised Code shall be certified by the clerk of the board of park commissioners to the board of elections of the proper county, together with a certified copy of the resolution approving the levy, passed by the board of township trustees if such a resolution is required by division (C) of section 511.27 of the Revised Code, not less than ninety days before a general or primary election in any year. The board of elections shall submit the proposal to the electors as provided in section 511.27 of the Revised Code at the succeeding general or primary election. A resolution to renew an existing levy may not be placed on the ballot unless the question is

submitted at the general election held during the last year the tax to be renewed may be extended on the real and public utility property tax list and duplicate, or at any election held in the ensuing year. The board of park commissioners shall cause notice that the vote will be taken to be published once a week for two consecutive weeks prior to the election in a newspaper of general circulation, or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code, in the county within which the park district is located. Additionally, if the board of elections operates and maintains a web site, the board of elections shall post that notice on its web site for thirty days prior to the election. The notice shall state the purpose of the proposed levy, the annual rate proposed expressed in dollars and cents for each one hundred dollars of valuation as well as in mills for each one dollar of valuation, the number of consecutive years during which the levy shall be in effect, and the time and place of the election.

The form of the ballots cast at the election shall be: "An additional tax for the benefit of (name of township park district) for the purpose of (purpose stated in the order of the board) at a rate not exceeding mills for each one dollar of valuation, which amounts to (rate expressed in dollars and cents) for each one hundred dollars of valuation, for (number of years the levy is to run)"

	FOR THE TAX LEVY
	AGAINST THE TAX LEVY

"

If the levy submitted is a proposal to renew, increase, or decrease an existing levy, the form of the ballot specified in this section may be changed by substituting for the words "An additional" at the beginning of the form, the words "A renewal of a" in the case of a proposal to renew an existing levy in the same amount; the words "A renewal of mills and an increase of mills to constitute a" in the case of an increase; or the words "A renewal of part of an existing levy, being a reduction of mills, to constitute a" in the case of a decrease in the rate of the existing levy.

If the tax is to be placed on the current tax list, the form of the ballot shall be modified by adding, after the statement of the number of years the levy is to run, the phrase ", commencing in (first year the tax is to be levied), first due in calendar year (first calendar year in which the tax shall be due)."

The question covered by the order shall be submitted as a separate

proposition, but may be printed on the same ballot with any other proposition submitted at the same election, other than the election of officers. More than one such question may be submitted at the same election.

Sec. 511.34. In townships composed of islands, and on one of which islands lands have been conveyed in trust for the benefit of the inhabitants of the island for use as a park, and a board of park trustees has been provided for the control of the park, the board of township trustees may create a tax district of the island to raise funds by taxation as provided under divisions (A) and (B) of this section.

(A) For the care and maintenance of parks on the island, the board of township trustees annually may levy a tax, not to exceed one mill, upon all the taxable property in the district. The tax shall be in addition to all other levies authorized by law, and subject to no limitation on tax rates except as provided in this division.

The proceeds of the tax levy shall be expended by the board of township trustees for the purpose of the care and maintenance of the parks, and shall be paid out of the township treasury upon the orders of the board of park trustees.

(B) For the purpose of acquiring additional land for use as a park, the board of township trustees may levy a tax in excess of the ten-mill limitation on all taxable property in the district. The tax shall be proposed by resolution adopted by two-thirds of the members of the board of township trustees. The resolution shall specify the purpose and rate of the tax and the number of years the tax will be levied, which shall not exceed five years, and which may include a levy on the current tax list and duplicate. The resolution shall go into immediate effect upon its passage, and no publication of the resolution is necessary other than that provided for in the notice of election. The board of township trustees shall certify a copy of the resolution to the proper board of elections not later than ninety days before the primary or general election in the township, and the board of elections shall submit the question of the tax to the voters of the district at the succeeding primary or general election. The board of elections shall make the necessary arrangements for the submission of the question to the electors of the district, and the election shall be conducted, canvassed, and certified in the same manner as regular elections in the township for the election of officers. Notice of the election shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the township once a week for two consecutive weeks, or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code prior to the election and, if the board of elections operates and maintains a web site, notice of the

election also shall be posted on that web site for thirty days prior to the election. The notice shall state the purpose of the tax, the proposed rate of the tax expressed in dollars and cents for each one hundred dollars of valuation and mills for each one dollar of valuation, the number of years the tax will be in effect, the first year the tax will be levied, and the time and place of the election.

The form of the ballots cast at an election held under this division shall be as follows:

"An additional tax for the benefit of (name of the township) for the purpose of acquiring additional park land at a rate of mills for each one dollar of valuation, which amounts to (rate expressed in dollars and cents) for each one hundred dollars of valuation, for (number of years the levy is to run) beginning in (first year the tax will be levied).

	FOR THE TAX LEVY	"
	AGAINST THE TAX LEVY	

The question shall be submitted as a separate proposition but may be printed on the same ballot with any other proposition submitted at the same election other than the election of officers. More than one such question may be submitted at the same election.

If the levy is approved by a majority of electors voting on the question, the board of elections shall certify the result of the election to the tax commissioner. In the first year of the levy, the tax shall be extended on the tax lists after the February settlement following the election. If the tax is to be placed on the tax lists of the current year as specified in the resolution, the board of elections shall certify the result of the election immediately after the canvass to the board of township trustees, which shall forthwith make the necessary levy and certify the levy to the county auditor, who shall extend the levy on the tax lists for collection. After the first year of the levy, the levy shall be included in the annual tax budget that is certified to the county budget commission.

Sec. 513.14. The board of elections shall advertise the proposed tax levy question mentioned in section 513.13 of the Revised Code in ~~two newspapers of opposite political faith, if two such newspapers are published in the joint township hospital district, or otherwise in one a newspaper; published or~~ of general circulation in the proposed township hospital district, once a week for two consecutive weeks, or as provided in section

7.16 of the Revised Code, prior to the election ~~and, if~~. If the board operates and maintains a web site, the board also shall advertise that proposed tax levy question on its web site for thirty days prior to the election.

Sec. 515.01. The board of township trustees may provide artificial lights for any road, highway, public place, or building under its supervision or control, or for any territory within the township and outside the boundaries of any municipal corporation, when the board determines that the public safety or welfare requires that the road, highway, public place, building, or territory shall be lighted. The lighting may be procured either by the township installing a lighting system or by contracting with any person or corporation to furnish lights.

If lights are furnished under contract, the contract may provide that the equipment employed may be owned by the township or by the person or corporation supplying the lights.

If the board determines to procure lighting by contract and the total estimated cost of the contract exceeds ~~twenty-five~~ fifty thousand dollars, the board shall prepare plans and specifications for the lighting equipment and shall, for two weeks, advertise for bids for furnishing the lighting equipment, either by posting the advertisement in three conspicuous places in the township or by publication of the advertisement once a week, for two consecutive weeks, in a newspaper of general circulation in the township. Any such contract for lighting shall be made with the lowest and best bidder.

The board may also cause notice to be inserted in trade papers or other publications designated by it or to be distributed by electronic means, including posting the notice on the board's internet web site. If the board posts the notice on its web site, it may eliminate the second notice otherwise required to be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the township, provided that the first notice published in such newspaper meets all of the following requirements:

- (A) It is published at least two weeks before the opening of bids.
- (B) It includes a statement that the notice is posted on the board's internet web site.
- (C) It includes the internet address of the board's internet web site.
- (D) It includes instructions describing how the notice may be accessed on the board's internet web site.

No lighting contract awarded by the board shall be made to cover a period of more than twenty years. The cost of installing and operating any lighting system or any light furnished under contract shall be paid from the general fund of the township treasury.

Sec. 515.04. The township fiscal officer shall fix a day, not more than thirty days from the date of notice to the board of township trustees, for the hearing of the petition authorized by section 515.02 or 515.16 of the Revised Code. The township fiscal officer or the fiscal officer's designee shall prepare and deliver to any of the petitioners a notice in writing directed to the lot and land owners and to the corporations, either public or private, affected by the improvement. The notice shall set forth the substance, pendency, and prayer of the petition and the time and place of the hearing on it.

A copy of the notice shall be served upon each lot or land owner or left at the lot or land owner's usual place of residence, and upon an officer or agent of each corporation having its place of business in the district or area, at least fifteen days before the date set for the hearing. On or before the day of the hearing, the person serving the notice shall make return on it, under oath, of the time and manner of service and shall file the return with the township fiscal officer.

The township fiscal officer or the fiscal officer's designee shall give the notice to each nonresident lot or land owner, by publication once, in a newspaper ~~published in and~~ of general circulation in the county in which the district or area is situated, at least two weeks before the day set for hearing. The notice shall be verified by affidavit of the printer or other person knowing the fact and shall be filed with the township fiscal officer or the fiscal officer's designee on or before the day of hearing. No further notice of the petition or the proceedings under it shall thereafter be required.

Sec. 515.07. If the total estimated cost of any lighting improvement provided for in section 515.06 of the Revised Code is ~~twenty-five~~ fifty thousand dollars or less, the contract may be let without competitive bidding. When competitive bidding is required, the board of township trustees shall post, in three of the most conspicuous public places in the district, a notice specifying the number, candle power, and location of lights and the kind of supports for the lights as provided by section 515.06 of the Revised Code, as well as the time, which shall not be less than thirty days from the posting of the notices, and the place the board will receive bids to furnish the lights. The board shall accept the lowest and best bid, if the successful bidder meets the requirements of section 153.54 of the Revised Code. The board may reject all bids.

Sec. 517.06. The board of township trustees shall have the cemetery laid out in lots, avenues, and paths, shall number the lots, and shall have a suitable plat of the lots made, which plat shall be carefully kept by the township fiscal officer. The board shall make and enforce all needful rules

and regulations for the division of the cemetery into lots, for the allotment of lots to families or individuals, and for the care, supervision, and improvement of the lots. The board also may make and enforce all needful rules and regulations for burial, interment, reinterment, or disinterment. The board shall require the grass and weeds in the cemetery to be cut and destroyed at least twice each year. Suitable provision shall be made in the cemetery for persons whose burial is at the expense of the township.

Sec. 517.12. The board of township trustees may make rules specifying the times when cemeteries under its control shall be closed to the public. The board shall cause the rules to be published once a week for two consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation within the township or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code, and may post appropriate notice in the township as considered necessary.

The purposes of such rules shall be to assure a reasonable time of access to the cemeteries in view of the differences in attendance anticipated from past experience as to each, to exclude attendance at times when no proper purposes could normally be expected, to permit exceptions to the normal hours of access on reasonable request with adequate reason provided, and to facilitate the task of protecting the premises from vandalism, desecration, and other improper usage.

Whoever violates these rules is guilty of a minor misdemeanor.

Sec. 517.22. The board of township trustees or the trustees or directors of a cemetery association, after notice has first been given in ~~two newspapers~~ a newspaper of general circulation in the county, may dispose of, at public sale, and convey any cemetery under their control that they have determined to discontinue as burial grounds, but possession of the cemetery shall not be given to a grantee until after the remains buried in that cemetery, together with stones and monuments, have been removed as provided by section 517.21 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 521.03. On receiving a petition filed under section 521.02 of the Revised Code, or at the request of the board of township trustees, the township fiscal officer shall fix a time, not more than thirty days after the date of giving notice of the filing to the board or the date of receiving the request from the board, and place for a hearing on the issue of repair or maintenance of the tiles. The township fiscal officer shall prepare a notice in writing directed to the lot and land owners and to the corporations, either public or private, affected by the improvement. The notice shall set forth the substance of the petition or board request, and the time and place of the hearing on it.

If the hearing is to be held in response to a petition, the township fiscal

officer shall deliver a copy of the notice to any of the petitioners, who shall see that the notice is served on each lot or land owner or left at the lot or land owner's usual place of residence, and served on an officer or agent of each corporation affected by the improvement, at least fifteen days before the date set for the hearing. If the hearing is to be held at the request of the board, the board shall see that the notice is so served. On or before the day of the hearing, the person serving the notice shall certify, under oath, the time and manner of service, and shall file this certification with the township fiscal officer.

The township fiscal officer shall give notice of the hearing to each nonresident lot or land owner, by publication once, in a newspaper ~~published in and~~ of general circulation in the county in which the township is situated, at least two weeks before the day set for the hearing. This notice shall be verified by affidavit of the printer or other person knowing the fact, and shall be filed with the township fiscal officer on or before the day of the hearing. No further notice of the petition or the proceedings under it shall thereafter be required.

Sec. 521.05. (A) If the total estimated cost of any improvement provided for in section 521.04 of the Revised Code is ~~twenty-five~~ fifty thousand dollars or less, the contract may be let without competitive bidding. When competitive bidding is required, the board of township trustees shall post, in three of the most conspicuous public places in the township, a notice specifying the improvement to be made and the time, which shall be at least thirty days after the posting of the notices, and the place the board will receive bids to make the improvement. The board shall accept the lowest and best bid, if the successful bidder meets the requirements of section 153.54 of the Revised Code. The board may reject all bids.

(B) On accepting a bid, the board shall enter into a contract with the successful bidder for making the improvement according to specifications. The contract shall not be for a term longer than ten years.

Sec. 523.01. The territory of one or more townships may be merged with that of a contiguous township to create a new township, in the manner provided under this chapter. The new township shall have all of, and only, the rights, powers, and responsibilities afforded by law to townships.

Sec. 523.02. (A) A resolution for a merger under this chapter may be proposed by initiative petition by the electors of each township being proposed for merger, and adopted by election by these electors under the same circumstances, in the same manner, and subject to the same penalties as provided by sections 731.28 to 731.40 and 731.99 of the Revised Code

for municipal corporations, except that all of the following apply:

(1) Each board of township trustees shall perform the duties imposed on the legislative authority of the municipal corporation under those sections;

(2) Initiative petitions shall be filed with the township fiscal officer of each township proposed for merger, who shall perform the duties imposed under those sections upon the city auditor or village clerk;

(3) Initiative petitions shall contain the signatures of not less than ten per cent of the total number of electors in a township proposed for merger who voted for the office of governor at the most recent general election in the township for that office;

(4) Each signer of an initiative petition shall be an elector of the township in which the election on the proposed resolution is to be held.

(B) The merger shall take effect one hundred twenty days after certification by the board or boards of elections that the merger has been approved by the electors of each township proposed for merger.

Sec. 523.03. (A) The boards of township trustees of two or more townships, by adopting resolutions by a majority vote of the board of township trustees of each township, may cause the appropriate board of elections for each township to submit to the electors of each township the question of merger under section 523.01 of the Revised Code. The question shall be voted upon at the next general election occurring not less than ninety days after the certification of the resolutions to the appropriate board of elections.

(B) In submitting to the electors of each township the question of merger, the board of elections shall submit the question in language substantially as follows:

"Shall the townships of (Names of all of the townships to be merged) be merged to create the new township of (Name of the new township)?"

(C) The merger shall take effect one hundred twenty days after certification by the board or boards of elections that the merger has been approved by the electors of each township proposed for merger.

Sec. 523.04. (A) Within one hundred twenty days after approval of the merger by the electors under section 523.02 or 523.03 of the Revised Code, each board of township trustees of the townships merged, by adopting a joint resolution approved by a majority of the members of each board, shall enter into a merger agreement that contains the specific terms and conditions of the merger. At a minimum, the merger agreement shall set forth all of the following:

(1) The names of the former townships that were merged;

- (2) The name of the new township;
 - (3) The place in which the principal office of the new township will be located or the manner in which it may be selected;
 - (4) The territorial boundaries of the new township;
 - (5) The date on which the merger took effect;
 - (6) The governmental operations and organization for the new township, including a plan for electing officers at the next general election that is held not later than ninety days after the merger agreement is finalized;
 - (7) A procedure for the efficient and timely transition of specific services, functions, and responsibilities from each township and its respective offices to the new township;
 - (8) Terms for the disposition of the assets and property of each township, if necessary;
 - (9) The liquidation of existing indebtedness for each township, if necessary;
 - (10) A plan for the common administration and enforcement of resolutions of the townships merged, to be enforced uniformly within the new township;
 - (11) A provision that specifies whether there will be any zoning changes as a result of the merger, if applicable;
 - (12) A plan to conform the boundaries of an existing special purpose district with the new township, to dissolve the special purpose district, or to absorb the special purpose district into the new township. As used in this division, "special purpose district" has the meaning in division (F) of section 523.06 of the Revised Code.
 - (B) A copy of the joint resolution and the merger agreement adopted under this section shall be filed with the township fiscal officer of the new township. The merger agreement shall take effect on the day on which such filing is made.
 - (C) If no merger agreement, or if only a partial merger agreement, is entered into within the time period prescribed by division (A) of this section, the new township shall comply with and operate under a merger agreement that contains the terms and conditions required by section 523.06 of the Revised Code.
- Sec. 523.05. (A) A new township created under this chapter shall succeed to the following interests of each township merged:
- (1) All money, taxes, and special assessments, whether in the township treasury or in the process of collection;
 - (2) All property and interests in property, whether real or personal;
 - (3) All rights and interests in contracts, or in securities, bonds, notes, or

other instruments;

(4) All accounts receivable and rights of action;

(5) All other matters not included in this section that are not addressed in the merger agreement.

(B) A new township created under this chapter is legally obligated for all outstanding franchises, contracts, debts, and other legally binding obligations for each township merged into the new township. A new township created under this chapter is legally responsible for maintaining, defending, or otherwise resolving any and all legal claims or actions of each township merged into the new township.

Sec. 523.06. If a merger agreement is entered into as required by section 523.04 of the Revised Code, this section does not apply. If a merger agreement is not entered into under section 523.04 of the Revised Code, the merger agreement shall contain all of the terms and conditions specified in this section. If a partial merger agreement is entered into under section 523.04 of the Revised Code, this section applies only to the extent any term or condition that is required by section 523.04 of the Revised Code to be addressed in the merger agreement is not addressed therein.

The terms and conditions of a merger agreement to which this section applies shall be as follows:

(A) All members of each board of township trustees shall serve as board members of the new township. At the first general election for township officers occurring not less than ninety days after a merger is approved, the electors of the new township shall elect three township trustees with staggered terms of office. The first terms of office following the election shall be modified to an even number of years not to exceed four to allow subsequent elections for the office to be held in the same year as other township officers.

(B) The township fiscal officer of the largest township, by population, shall be the township fiscal officer for the new township. At the first general election for township officers occurring not less than ninety days after the merger, the electors shall elect a township fiscal officer, whose first term of office shall be modified to an even number of years not to exceed four to allow subsequent elections for that office to be held in the same year as other township fiscal officers.

(C) Voted property tax levies shall remain in effect for the parcels of real property to which they applied prior to the merger, and the merger shall not affect the proceeds of a tax levy pledged for the retirement of any debt obligation. Upon expiration of a property tax levy, the levy may only be replaced or renewed by vote of the electors in the manner provided by law.

to apply to real property within the boundaries of the new township. If the millage levied inside the ten-mill limitation of each township merged is different, the board of township trustees of the new township shall immediately equalize the millage for the entire new township.

(D) For purposes of the retirement of all debt obligations of each township merged, the township fiscal officer shall continue to track parcels of real property and the tax revenue generated on those parcels by the tax districts that were in place prior to the merger, and shall provide that information on an annual basis to the board of township trustees of the new township. Debt obligations that existed at the time of the merger shall be retired from the revenue generated from the parcels of real property that made up the township that incurred the debt before the merger.

(E)(1) With respect to any agreement entered into under Chapter 4117. of the Revised Code that covers any of the employees of the townships merged under this chapter, the state employment relations board, within one hundred twenty days after the date the merger is approved, shall designate the appropriate bargaining units for the employees of the new township in accordance with section 4117.06 of the Revised Code. Notwithstanding the recognition procedures prescribed in section 4117.05 and division (A) of section 4117.07 of the Revised Code, the board shall conduct a representation election with respect to each bargaining unit designated under this division in accordance with divisions (B) and (C) of section 4117.07 of the Revised Code. If an exclusive representative is selected through this election, the exclusive representative shall negotiate and enter into an agreement with the new township in accordance with Chapter 4117. of the Revised Code. Until the parties reach an agreement, any agreement in effect on the date of the merger shall apply to the employees that were in the bargaining unit that is covered by the agreement. An agreement in existence on the date of the merger is terminated on the effective date of an agreement negotiated under this division.

(2) If an exclusive representative is not selected, any agreement in effect on the date of the merger shall apply to the employees that were in the bargaining unit that is covered by the agreement and shall expire on its terms.

(3) Each agreement entered into under Chapter 4117. of the Revised Code on or after the effective date of this section involving a new township shall contain a provision regarding the designation of an exclusive representative and bargaining units for the new township as described in division (E) of this section.

(4) In addition to the laws listed in division (A) of section 4117.10 of

the Revised Code that prevail over conflicting agreements between employee organizations and public employers, division (E) of this section prevails over any conflicting provisions of agreements between employee organizations and public employers that are entered into on or after the effective date of this section pursuant to Chapter 4117. of the Revised Code.

(5) As used in division (E) of this section, "employee organization" and "exclusive representative" have the same meanings as in section 4117.01 of the Revised Code.

(F)(1) If the boundaries of the new township are not coextensive with a special purpose district, the new township shall remain in the existing special purpose district as a successor to the original township, unless the special purpose district is dissolved. The board of township trustees of the new township may place a question on the ballot at the next general election held after the merger to conform the boundaries, dissolve the special purpose district, or absorb the special purpose district into the new township on the terms specified in the resolution that places the question on the ballot for approval of the electors of the new township.

(2) As used in division (F) of this section, "special purpose district" means any geographic or political jurisdiction that is created under law by a township merged.

(G) Zoning codes that existed at the time of the merger shall remain in effect after the merger, and the townships that existed before the merger shall be treated as administrative districts within the new township for the purposes of zoning.

Sec. 523.07. If a merger is disapproved by a majority of those voting on it in the townships proposed to be merged, an identical merger shall not be considered for at least three years after the date of the disapproval.

Sec. 705.16. (A) All ordinances or resolutions shall be in effect after thirty days from the date of their passage, except as provided in section 705.75 of the Revised Code.

(B) Notwithstanding any conflicting provision of section 7.12 of the Revised Code, A succinct summary of each ordinance and resolution of a general nature, or providing for public improvements, or assessing property; or a succinct summary of each such ordinance or resolution, shall, upon passage of the ordinance or resolution, be promptly published one time in not more than two newspapers a newspaper of general circulation in the municipal corporation. Such publication shall be made in the body type of the paper under headlines in eighteen point type, which headlines shall specify the nature of such legislation. If a summary of an ordinance or resolution is published, the The publication shall contain notice that the

complete text of each such ordinance or resolution may be obtained or viewed at the office of the clerk of the legislative authority of the municipal corporation and may be viewed at any other location designated by the legislative authority of the municipal corporation. The city director of law, village solicitor, or other chief legal officer of the municipal corporation shall review ~~any~~ the summary of an ordinance or resolution published under this section prior to forwarding it to the clerk for publication, to ensure that the summary is legally accurate and sufficient.

(C) Upon publication of a summary of an ordinance or resolution in accordance with this section, the clerk of the legislative authority shall supply a copy of the complete text of each such ordinance or resolution to any person, upon request, and may charge a reasonable fee, set by the legislative authority, for each copy supplied. The clerk shall post a copy of the text at ~~his~~ the clerk's office and at every other location designated by the legislative authority.

(D) No newspaper shall be paid a higher price for the publication of summaries of ordinances than its ~~maximum bona fide commercial~~ government rate established under section 7.10 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 709.43. As used in sections 709.43 to 709.48 of the Revised Code, "merger" means the annexation, one to another, of existing municipal corporations or of the unincorporated area of a township with one or more municipal corporations, or the merger of one or more municipal corporations with the unincorporated area of a township.

Sec. 709.44. The territory of one or more municipal corporations, whether or not adjacent to one another, may be merged with that of an adjacent municipal corporation, and the unincorporated area of a township may be merged with one or more municipal corporations, or one or more municipal corporations, whether or not adjacent to one another, may be merged with that of an adjacent unincorporated area of a township, in the manner provided in sections 709.43 to 709.48 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 709.451. (A) In lieu of filing a petition under section 709.45 of the Revised Code, if the legislative authorities of each political subdivision that may be merged as provided in section 709.44 of the Revised Code agree to a merger and adopt, by a two-thirds vote of each legislative authority, an ordinance or resolution proposing a merger, no election of a commission to draw up a statement of conditions for merger of the political subdivisions shall be held. Instead, the legislative authorities of those political subdivisions shall have one hundred twenty days to enter into a merger agreement that specifies the conditions of the proposed merger, in identical ordinances or a resolution adopted by a simple majority vote of each

legislative authority. At a minimum, the proposed merger agreement shall include all of the following:

(1) The names of the municipal corporations and township, if any, proposing the merger;

(2) The territorial boundaries of the resulting municipal corporation or township;

(3) The date that the proposed merger will take effect;

(4) A procedure for the efficient and timely transition to the resulting municipal corporation or township of specified services, functions, and responsibilities from each municipal corporation or township and its respective departments and agencies;

(5) A transition plan and schedule.

(B) The merger shall take effect as provided in division (C) of section 709.452 of the Revised Code. On the effective date of the merger, a municipal corporation merging into a township only has the rights, powers, and responsibilities afforded by law to townships, and all other authority ceases to exist.

Sec. 709.452. (A) The legislative authority of each municipal corporation or township proposed for merger as provided in section 709.44 of the Revised Code that adopts a merger agreement under section 709.451 of the Revised Code shall submit the question of merger to the electors of the municipal corporations and township proposed for merger. The legislative authorities shall certify the ordinances or resolution that adopted the merger agreement to the board or boards of elections, if the territory proposed for merger is located in more than one county, directing the submission of the question of merger to the electors of the municipal corporations and township proposed for merger at a special election to be held on the day of the next primary or general election in the county or counties that occurs not less than ninety days after the ordinances or resolution are certified to the board or boards of elections. The question shall be put on the ballot and voted upon, separately, in each municipal corporation or township proposed for merger.

(B) The ordinances or resolution specifying the merger conditions agreed to by the municipal corporations and township proposed for merger shall be posted on the web sites of those municipal corporations and township, and shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipal corporations and township once a week for two consecutive weeks prior to the election.

(C) If the merger is approved by a majority of those voting on it in each municipal corporation or township proposed to be merged, the merger and

the merger agreement shall take immediate effect.

(D) If an existing charter of a municipal corporation proposed for merger under this section conflicts with the processes and procedures specified in this section, the processes and procedures for merger addressed in the municipal corporation's charter apply.

Sec. 711.35. Upon the filing of the application provided for in section 711.34 of the Revised Code, the county auditor shall give notice of the filing, by publication, for two consecutive weeks in a newspaper ~~published and~~ of general circulation in the county, ~~of the filing thereof, and or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code.~~ The county auditor shall also notify the board of county commissioners of such filing.

Sec. 715.011. Each municipal corporation may lease for a period not to exceed forty years, pursuant to a contract providing for the construction thereof under a lease-purchase plan, buildings, structures, and other improvements for any authorized municipal purpose, and in conjunction therewith, may grant leases, easements, or licenses for lands under the control of the municipal corporation for a period not to exceed forty years. The lease shall provide that at the end of the lease period the buildings, structures, and related improvements together with the land on which they are situate shall become the property of the municipal corporation without cost.

Whenever any building, structure, or other improvement is to be so leased by a municipal corporation, the appropriate contracting officer of the municipal corporation shall file with the clerk of the council such basic plans, specifications, bills of materials, and estimates of cost with sufficient detail to afford bidders all needed information, or alternatively, shall file the following plans, details, bills of materials, and specifications:

(A) Full and accurate plans, suitable for the use of mechanics and other builders in such construction, improvement, addition, alteration, or installation;

(B) Details to scale and full sized, so drawn and represented as to be easily understood;

(C) Accurate bills showing the exact quantity of different kinds of material necessary to the construction;

(D) Definite and complete specifications of the work to be performed, together with such directions as will enable a competent mechanic or other builder to carry them out and afford bidders all needed information;

(E) A full and accurate estimate of each item of expense and of the aggregate cost thereof.

The council of the municipal corporation shall give public notice; ~~in the~~

a newspaper of general circulation in the municipal corporation, and in the form and with the phraseology as the council orders, published once each week for four consecutive weeks or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code, of the time and place, when and where bids will be received for entering into an agreement to lease to the municipal corporation a building, structure, or other improvement, the last publication to be at least eight days preceding the day for opening the bids. The bids shall contain the terms upon which the builder would propose to lease the building, structure, or other improvement to the municipal corporation. The form of the bid approved by the council of the municipal corporation shall be used and a bid shall be invalid and not considered unless such form is used without change, alteration, or addition. Before submitting bids pursuant to this section, any builder shall have complied with sections 153.50 to 153.52 of the Revised Code.

On the day and at the place named for receiving bids for entering into lease agreements with the municipal corporation, the appropriate contracting officer of the municipal corporation shall open the bids, and shall publicly proceed immediately to tabulate the bids upon triplicate sheets, one of each of which sheets shall be filed with the clerk of the council. No lease agreement shall be entered into until the bureau of workers' compensation has certified that the corporation, partnership, or person to be awarded the lease agreement has complied with Chapter 4123. of the Revised Code, and until, if the builder submitting the lowest and best bid is a foreign corporation, the secretary of state has certified that the corporation is authorized to do business in this state, and until, if the builder submitting the lowest and best bid is a person or partnership nonresident of this state, the person or partnership has filed with the secretary of state a power of attorney designating the secretary of state as its agent for the purpose of accepting service of summons in any action brought under Chapter 4123. of the Revised Code, and until the agreement is submitted to the village solicitor or city director of law of the municipal corporation and ~~his~~ the solicitor's or director's approval is certified thereon. Within thirty days after the day on which the bids are received, the council shall investigate the bids received and shall determine that the bureau and the secretary of state have made the certifications required by this section of the builder who has submitted the lowest and best bid. Within ten days of the completion of the investigation of the bids the council may award the lease agreement to the builder who has submitted the lowest and best bid and who has been certified by the bureau and secretary of state as required by this section. If bidding for the lease agreement has been conducted upon the basis of basic plans,

specifications, bills of materials, and estimates of costs, upon the award to the builder, the council, or the builder with the approval of the council, shall appoint an architect or engineer licensed in this state to prepare such further detailed plans, specifications, and bills of materials as are required to construct the building, structure, or improvement.

The council may reject any bid. Where there is reason to believe there is collusion or combination among bidders, the bids of those concerned therein shall be rejected.

Sec. 715.47. A municipal corporation may fill or drain any lot or land within its limits on which water at any time becomes stagnant, remove all putrid substances from any lot, and remove all obstructions from culverts, covered drains, or private property, laid in any natural watercourse, creek, brook, or branch, which obstruct the water naturally flowing therein, causing it to flow back or become stagnant, in a way prejudicial to the health, comfort, or convenience of any of the citizens of the neighborhood. If such culverts or drains are of insufficient capacity, the municipal corporation may make them of such capacity as reasonably to accommodate the flow of such water at all times. The legislative authority of such municipal corporation may, by resolution, direct the owner to fill or drain such lot, remove such putrid substance or such obstructions, and if necessary, enlarge such culverts or covered drains to meet the requirements thereof.

After service of a copy of such resolution, or after a publication thereof, in a newspaper of general circulation in such municipal corporation or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code, for two consecutive weeks, such owner, or ~~his~~ such owner's agent or attorney, shall comply with the directions of the resolution within the time therein specified.

In case of the failure or refusal of such owner to comply with the resolution, the work required thereby may be done at the expense of the municipal corporation, and the amount of money so expended shall be recovered from the owner before any court of competent jurisdiction. Such expense from the time of the adoption of the resolution shall be a lien on such lot, which may be enforced by suit in the court of common pleas, and like proceedings may be had as directed in relation to the improvement of streets.

The officers connected with the health department of every such municipal corporation shall see that this section is strictly and promptly enforced.

Sec. 718.01. (A) As used in this chapter:

(1) "Adjusted federal taxable income" means a C corporation's federal taxable income before net operating losses and special deductions as

determined under the Internal Revenue Code, adjusted as follows:

(a) Deduct intangible income to the extent included in federal taxable income. The deduction shall be allowed regardless of whether the intangible income relates to assets used in a trade or business or assets held for the production of income.

(b) Add an amount equal to five per cent of intangible income deducted under division (A)(1)(a) of this section, but excluding that portion of intangible income directly related to the sale, exchange, or other disposition of property described in section 1221 of the Internal Revenue Code;

(c) Add any losses allowed as a deduction in the computation of federal taxable income if the losses directly relate to the sale, exchange, or other disposition of an asset described in section 1221 or 1231 of the Internal Revenue Code;

(d)(i) Except as provided in division (A)(1)(d)(ii) of this section, deduct income and gain included in federal taxable income to the extent the income and gain directly relate to the sale, exchange, or other disposition of an asset described in section 1221 or 1231 of the Internal Revenue Code;

(ii) Division (A)(1)(d)(i) of this section does not apply to the extent the income or gain is income or gain described in section 1245 or 1250 of the Internal Revenue Code.

(e) Add taxes on or measured by net income allowed as a deduction in the computation of federal taxable income;

(f) In the case of a real estate investment trust and regulated investment company, add all amounts with respect to dividends to, distributions to, or amounts set aside for or credited to the benefit of investors and allowed as a deduction in the computation of federal taxable income;

(g) If Deduct, to the extent not otherwise deducted or excluded in computing federal taxable income, any income derived from providing public services under a contract through a project owned by the state, as described in section 126.604 of the Revised Code or derived from a transfer agreement or from the enterprise transferred under that agreement under section 4313.02 of the Revised Code.

If the taxpayer is not a C corporation and is not an individual, the taxpayer shall compute adjusted federal taxable income as if the taxpayer were a C corporation, except: guaranteed

(i) ~~Guaranteed~~ payments and other similar amounts paid or accrued to a partner, former partner, member, or former member shall not be allowed as a deductible expense; and ~~amounts~~

(ii) ~~Amounts~~ paid or accrued to a qualified self-employed retirement plan with respect to an owner or owner-employee of the taxpayer, amounts

paid or accrued to or for health insurance for an owner or owner-employee, and amounts paid or accrued to or for life insurance for an owner or owner-employee shall not be allowed as a deduction.

Nothing in division (A)(1) of this section shall be construed as allowing the taxpayer to add or deduct any amount more than once or shall be construed as allowing any taxpayer to deduct any amount paid to or accrued for purposes of federal self-employment tax.

Nothing in this chapter shall be construed as limiting or removing the ability of any municipal corporation to administer, audit, and enforce the provisions of its municipal income tax.

(2) "Internal Revenue Code" means the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, 100 Stat. 2085, 26 U.S.C. 1, as amended.

(3) "Schedule C" means internal revenue service schedule C filed by a taxpayer pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code.

(4) "Form 2106" means internal revenue service form 2106 filed by a taxpayer pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code.

(5) "Intangible income" means income of any of the following types: income yield, interest, capital gains, dividends, or other income arising from the ownership, sale, exchange, or other disposition of intangible property including, but not limited to, investments, deposits, money, or credits as those terms are defined in Chapter 5701. of the Revised Code, and patents, copyrights, trademarks, tradenames, investments in real estate investment trusts, investments in regulated investment companies, and appreciation on deferred compensation. "Intangible income" does not include prizes, awards, or other income associated with any lottery winnings or other similar games of chance.

(6) "S corporation" means a corporation that has made an election under subchapter S of Chapter 1 of Subtitle A of the Internal Revenue Code for its taxable year.

(7) For taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2004, "net profit" for a taxpayer other than an individual means adjusted federal taxable income and "net profit" for a taxpayer who is an individual means the individual's profit required to be reported on schedule C, schedule E, or schedule F, other than any amount allowed as a deduction under division (E)(2) or (3) of this section or amounts described in division (H) of this section.

(8) "Taxpayer" means a person subject to a tax on income levied by a municipal corporation. Except as provided in division (L) of this section, "taxpayer" does not include any person that is a disregarded entity or a qualifying subchapter S subsidiary for federal income tax purposes, but

"taxpayer" includes any other person who owns the disregarded entity or qualifying subchapter S subsidiary.

(9) "Taxable year" means the corresponding tax reporting period as prescribed for the taxpayer under the Internal Revenue Code.

(10) "Tax administrator" means the individual charged with direct responsibility for administration of a tax on income levied by a municipal corporation and includes:

(a) The central collection agency and the regional income tax agency and their successors in interest, and other entities organized to perform functions similar to those performed by the central collection agency and the regional income tax agency;

(b) A municipal corporation acting as the agent of another municipal corporation; and

(c) Persons retained by a municipal corporation to administer a tax levied by the municipal corporation, but only if the municipal corporation does not compensate the person in whole or in part on a contingency basis.

(11) "Person" includes individuals, firms, companies, business trusts, estates, trusts, partnerships, limited liability companies, associations, corporations, governmental entities, and any other entity.

(12) "Schedule E" means internal revenue service schedule E filed by a taxpayer pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code.

(13) "Schedule F" means internal revenue service schedule F filed by a taxpayer pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code.

(B) No municipal corporation shall tax income at other than a uniform rate.

(C) No municipal corporation shall levy a tax on income at a rate in excess of one per cent without having obtained the approval of the excess by a majority of the electors of the municipality voting on the question at a general, primary, or special election. The legislative authority of the municipal corporation shall file with the board of elections at least ninety days before the day of the election a copy of the ordinance together with a resolution specifying the date the election is to be held and directing the board of elections to conduct the election. The ballot shall be in the following form: "Shall the Ordinance providing for a ... per cent levy on income for (Brief description of the purpose of the proposed levy) be passed?"

	FOR THE INCOME TAX
	AGAINST THE INCOME TAX

"

In the event of an affirmative vote, the proceeds of the levy may be used only for the specified purpose.

(D)(1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, no municipal corporation shall exempt from a tax on income compensation for personal services of individuals over eighteen years of age or the net profit from a business or profession.

(2)(a) For taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2004, no municipal corporation shall tax the net profit from a business or profession using any base other than the taxpayer's adjusted federal taxable income.

(b) Division (D)(2)(a) of this section does not apply to any taxpayer required to file a return under section 5745.03 of the Revised Code or to the net profit from a sole proprietorship.

(E)(1) The legislative authority of a municipal corporation may, by ordinance or resolution, exempt from withholding and from a tax on income the following:

(a) Compensation arising from the sale, exchange, or other disposition of a stock option, the exercise of a stock option, or the sale, exchange, or other disposition of stock purchased under a stock option; or

(b) Compensation attributable to a nonqualified deferred compensation plan or program described in section 3121(v)(2)(C) of the Internal Revenue Code.

(2) The legislative authority of a municipal corporation may adopt an ordinance or resolution that allows a taxpayer who is an individual to deduct, in computing the taxpayer's municipal income tax liability, an amount equal to the aggregate amount the taxpayer paid in cash during the taxable year to a health savings account of the taxpayer, to the extent the taxpayer is entitled to deduct that amount on internal revenue service form 1040.

(3) The legislative authority of a municipal corporation may adopt an ordinance or resolution that allows a taxpayer who has a net profit from a business or profession that is operated as a sole proprietorship to deduct from that net profit the amount that the taxpayer paid during the taxable year for medical care insurance premiums for the taxpayer, the taxpayer's spouse, and dependents as defined in section 5747.01 of the Revised Code. The deduction shall be allowed to the same extent the taxpayer is entitled to deduct the premiums on internal revenue service form 1040. The deduction allowed under this division shall be net of any related premium refunds, related premium reimbursements, or related insurance premium dividends received by the taxpayer during the taxable year.

(F) If an individual's taxable income includes income against which the taxpayer has taken a deduction for federal income tax purposes as reportable on the taxpayer's form 2106, and against which a like deduction has not been allowed by the municipal corporation, the municipal corporation shall deduct from the taxpayer's taxable income an amount equal to the deduction shown on such form allowable against such income, to the extent not otherwise so allowed as a deduction by the municipal corporation.

(G)(1) In the case of a taxpayer who has a net profit from a business or profession that is operated as a sole proprietorship, no municipal corporation may tax or use as the base for determining the amount of the net profit that shall be considered as having a taxable situs in the municipal corporation, an amount other than the net profit required to be reported by the taxpayer on schedule C or F from such sole proprietorship for the taxable year.

(2) In the case of a taxpayer who has a net profit from rental activity required to be reported on schedule E, no municipal corporation may tax or use as the base for determining the amount of the net profit that shall be considered as having a taxable situs in the municipal corporation, an amount other than the net profit from rental activities required to be reported by the taxpayer on schedule E for the taxable year.

(H) A municipal corporation shall not tax any of the following:

(1) The military pay or allowances of members of the armed forces of the United States and of members of their reserve components, including the Ohio national guard;

(2) The income of religious, fraternal, charitable, scientific, literary, or educational institutions to the extent that such income is derived from tax-exempt real estate, tax-exempt tangible or intangible property, or tax-exempt activities;

(3) Except as otherwise provided in division (I) of this section, intangible income;

(4) Compensation paid under section 3501.28 or 3501.36 of the Revised Code to a person serving as a precinct election official, to the extent that such compensation does not exceed one thousand dollars annually. Such compensation in excess of one thousand dollars may be subjected to taxation by a municipal corporation. A municipal corporation shall not require the payer of such compensation to withhold any tax from that compensation.

(5) Compensation paid to an employee of a transit authority, regional transit authority, or regional transit commission created under Chapter 306. of the Revised Code for operating a transit bus or other motor vehicle for the authority or commission in or through the municipal corporation, unless the bus or vehicle is operated on a regularly scheduled route, the operator is

subject to such a tax by reason of residence or domicile in the municipal corporation, or the headquarters of the authority or commission is located within the municipal corporation;

(6) The income of a public utility, when that public utility is subject to the tax levied under section 5727.24 or 5727.30 of the Revised Code, except a municipal corporation may tax the following, subject to Chapter 5745. of the Revised Code:

(a) Beginning January 1, 2002, the income of an electric company or combined company;

(b) Beginning January 1, 2004, the income of a telephone company.

As used in division (H)(6) of this section, "combined company," "electric company," and "telephone company" have the same meanings as in section 5727.01 of the Revised Code.

(7) On and after January 1, 2003, items excluded from federal gross income pursuant to section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code;

(8) On and after January 1, 2001, compensation paid to a nonresident individual to the extent prohibited under section 718.011 of the Revised Code;

(9)(a) Except as provided in division (H)(9)(b) and (c) of this section, an S corporation shareholder's distributive share of net profits of the S corporation, other than any part of the distributive share of net profits that represents wages as defined in section 3121(a) of the Internal Revenue Code or net earnings from self-employment as defined in section 1402(a) of the Internal Revenue Code.

(b) If, pursuant to division (H) of former section 718.01 of the Revised Code as it existed before March 11, 2004, a majority of the electors of a municipal corporation voted in favor of the question at an election held on November 4, 2003, the municipal corporation may continue after 2002 to tax an S corporation shareholder's distributive share of net profits of an S corporation.

(c) If, on December 6, 2002, a municipal corporation was imposing, assessing, and collecting a tax on an S corporation shareholder's distributive share of net profits of the S corporation to the extent the distributive share would be allocated or apportioned to this state under divisions (B)(1) and (2) of section 5733.05 of the Revised Code if the S corporation were a corporation subject to taxes imposed under Chapter 5733. of the Revised Code, the municipal corporation may continue to impose the tax on such distributive shares to the extent such shares would be so allocated or apportioned to this state only until December 31, 2004, unless a majority of the electors of the municipal corporation voting on the question of

continuing to tax such shares after that date vote in favor of that question at an election held November 2, 2004. If a majority of those electors vote in favor of the question, the municipal corporation may continue after December 31, 2004, to impose the tax on such distributive shares only to the extent such shares would be so allocated or apportioned to this state.

(d) For the purposes of division (D) of section 718.14 of the Revised Code, a municipal corporation shall be deemed to have elected to tax S corporation shareholders' distributive shares of net profits of the S corporation in the hands of the shareholders if a majority of the electors of a municipal corporation vote in favor of a question at an election held under division (H)(9)(b) or (c) of this section. The municipal corporation shall specify by ordinance or rule that the tax applies to the distributive share of a shareholder of an S corporation in the hands of the shareholder of the S corporation.

(10) Employee compensation that is not "qualifying wages" as defined in section 718.03 of the Revised Code;

(11) Beginning August 1, 2007, compensation paid to a person employed within the boundaries of a United States air force base under the jurisdiction of the United States air force that is used for the housing of members of the United States air force and is a center for air force operations, unless the person is subject to taxation because of residence or domicile. If the compensation is subject to taxation because of residence or domicile, municipal income tax shall be payable only to the municipal corporation of residence or domicile.

(I) Any municipal corporation that taxes any type of intangible income on March 29, 1988, pursuant to Section 3 of Amended Substitute Senate Bill No. 238 of the 116th general assembly, may continue to tax that type of income after 1988 if a majority of the electors of the municipal corporation voting on the question of whether to permit the taxation of that type of intangible income after 1988 vote in favor thereof at an election held on November 8, 1988.

(J) Nothing in this section or section 718.02 of the Revised Code shall authorize the levy of any tax on income that a municipal corporation is not authorized to levy under existing laws or shall require a municipal corporation to allow a deduction from taxable income for losses incurred from a sole proprietorship or partnership.

(K)(1) Nothing in this chapter prohibits a municipal corporation from allowing, by resolution or ordinance, a net operating loss carryforward.

(2) Nothing in this chapter requires a municipal corporation to allow a net operating loss carryforward.

(L)(1) A single member limited liability company that is a disregarded entity for federal tax purposes may elect to be a separate taxpayer from its single member in all Ohio municipal corporations in which it either filed as a separate taxpayer or did not file for its taxable year ending in 2003, if all of the following conditions are met:

(a) The limited liability company's single member is also a limited liability company;

(b) The limited liability company and its single member were formed and doing business in one or more Ohio municipal corporations for at least five years before January 1, 2004;

(c) Not later than December 31, 2004, the limited liability company and its single member each make an election to be treated as a separate taxpayer under division (L) of this section;

(d) The limited liability company was not formed for the purpose of evading or reducing Ohio municipal corporation income tax liability of the limited liability company or its single member;

(e) The Ohio municipal corporation that is the primary place of business of the sole member of the limited liability company consents to the election.

(2) For purposes of division (L)(1)(e) of this section, a municipal corporation is the primary place of business of a limited liability company if, for the limited liability company's taxable year ending in 2003, its income tax liability is greater in that municipal corporation than in any other municipal corporation in Ohio, and that tax liability to that municipal corporation for its taxable year ending in 2003 is at least four hundred thousand dollars.

Sec. 718.09. (A) This section applies to either of the following:

(1) A municipal corporation that shares the same territory as a city, local, or exempted village school district, to the extent that not more than five per cent of the territory of the municipal corporation is located outside the school district and not more than five per cent of the territory of the school district is located outside the municipal corporation;

(2) A municipal corporation that shares the same territory as a city, local, or exempted village school district, to the extent that not more than five per cent of the territory of the municipal corporation is located outside the school district, more than five per cent but not more than ten per cent of the territory of the school district is located outside the municipal corporation, and that portion of the territory of the school district that is located outside the municipal corporation is located entirely within another municipal corporation having a population of four hundred thousand or more according to the federal decennial census most recently completed

before the agreement is entered into under division (B) of this section.

(B) The legislative authority of a municipal corporation to which this section applies may propose to the electors an income tax, one of the purposes of which shall be to provide financial assistance to the school district through payment to the district of not less than twenty-five per cent of the revenue generated by the tax, except that the legislative authority may not propose to levy the income tax on the incomes of nonresident individuals. Prior to proposing the tax, the legislative authority shall negotiate and enter into a written agreement with the board of education of the school district specifying the tax rate, the percentage of tax revenue to be paid to the school district, the purpose for which the school district will use the money, the first year the tax will be levied, the date of the special election on the question of the tax, and the method and schedule by which the municipal corporation will make payments to the school district. The special election shall be held on a day specified in division (D) of section 3501.01 of the Revised Code, except that the special election may not be held on the day for holding a primary election as authorized by the municipal corporation's charter unless the municipal corporation is to have a primary election on that day.

After the legislative authority and board of education have entered into the agreement, the legislative authority shall provide for levying the tax by ordinance. The ordinance shall state the tax rate, the percentage of tax revenue to be paid to the school district, the purpose for which the municipal corporation will use its share of the tax revenue, the first year the tax will be levied, and that the question of the income tax will be submitted to the electors of the municipal corporation. The legislative authority also shall adopt a resolution specifying the regular or special election date the election will be held and directing the board of elections to conduct the election. At least ninety days before the date of the election, the legislative authority shall file certified copies of the ordinance and resolution with the board of elections.

(C) The board of elections shall make the necessary arrangements for the submission of the question to the electors of the municipal corporation, and shall conduct the election in the same manner as any other municipal income tax election. Notice of the election shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipal corporation once a week for four consecutive weeks, or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code, prior to the election, and shall include statements of the rate and municipal corporation and school district purposes of the income tax, the percentage of tax revenue that will be paid to the school district, and the first year the tax

will be levied. The ballot shall be in the following form:

"Shall the ordinance providing for a per cent levy on income for (brief description of the municipal corporation and school district purposes of the levy, including a statement of the percentage of tax revenue that will be paid to the school district) be passed? The income tax, if approved, will not be levied on the incomes of individuals who do not reside in (the name of the municipal corporation).

	For the income tax
	Against the income tax

"

(D) If the question is approved by a majority of the electors, the municipal corporation shall impose the income tax beginning in the year specified in the ordinance. The proceeds of the levy may be used only for the specified purposes, including payment of the specified percentage to the school district.

Sec. 718.10. (A) This section applies to a group of two or more municipal corporations that, taken together, share the same territory as a single city, local, or exempted village school district, to the extent that not more than five per cent of the territory of the municipal corporations as a group is located outside the school district and not more than five per cent of the territory of the school district is located outside the municipal corporations as a group.

(B) The legislative authorities of the municipal corporations in a group of municipal corporations to which this section applies each may propose to the electors an income tax, to be levied in concert with income taxes in the other municipal corporations of the group, except that a legislative authority may not propose to levy the income tax on the incomes of individuals who do not reside in the municipal corporation. One of the purposes of such a tax shall be to provide financial assistance to the school district through payment to the district of not less than twenty-five per cent of the revenue generated by the tax. Prior to proposing the taxes, the legislative authorities shall negotiate and enter into a written agreement with each other and with the board of education of the school district specifying the tax rate, the percentage of the tax revenue to be paid to the school district, the first year the tax will be levied, and the date of the election on the question of the tax, all of which shall be the same for each municipal corporation. The agreement also shall state the purpose for which the school district will use the money, and specify the method and schedule by which each municipal corporation will make payments to the school district. The special election

shall be held on a day specified in division (D) of section 3501.01 of the Revised Code, including a day on which all of the municipal corporations are to have a primary election.

After the legislative authorities and board of education have entered into the agreement, each legislative authority shall provide for levying its tax by ordinance. Each ordinance shall state the rate of the tax, the percentage of tax revenue to be paid to the school district, the purpose for which the municipal corporation will use its share of the tax revenue, and the first year the tax will be levied. Each ordinance also shall state that the question of the income tax will be submitted to the electors of the municipal corporation on the same date as the submission of questions of an identical tax to the electors of each of the other municipal corporations in the group, and that unless the electors of all of the municipal corporations in the group approve the tax in their respective municipal corporations, none of the municipal corporations in the group shall levy the tax. Each legislative authority also shall adopt a resolution specifying the regular or special election date the election will be held and directing the board of elections to conduct the election. At least ninety days before the date of the election, each legislative authority shall file certified copies of the ordinance and resolution with the board of elections.

(C) For each of the municipal corporations, the board of elections shall make the necessary arrangements for the submission of the question to the electors, and shall conduct the election in the same manner as any other municipal income tax election. For each of the municipal corporations, notice of the election shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipal corporation once a week for four consecutive weeks, or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code, prior to the election. The notice shall include a statement of the rate and municipal corporation and school district purposes of the income tax, the percentage of tax revenue that will be paid to the school district, and the first year the tax will be levied, and an explanation that the tax will not be levied unless an identical tax is approved by the electors of each of the other municipal corporations in the group. The ballot shall be in the following form:

"Shall the ordinance providing for a ... per cent levy on income for (brief description of the municipal corporation and school district purposes of the levy, including a statement of the percentage of income tax revenue that will be paid to the school district) be passed? The income tax, if approved, will not be levied on the incomes of individuals who do not reside in (the name of the municipal corporation). In order for the income tax to be levied, the voters of (the other municipal corporations in the group), which

are also in the (name of the school district) school district, must approve an identical income tax and agree to pay the same percentage of the tax revenue to the school district.

	For the income tax	"
	Against the income tax	

(D) If the question is approved by a majority of the electors and identical taxes are approved by a majority of the electors in each of the other municipal corporations in the group, the municipal corporation shall impose the tax beginning in the year specified in the ordinance. The proceeds of the levy may be used only for the specified purposes, including payment of the specified percentage to the school district.

Sec. 719.012. In order to rehabilitate a building or structure that a municipal corporation determines to be a blighted property as defined in section 1.08 of the Revised Code, a municipal corporation may appropriate, in the manner provided in sections 163.01 to 163.22 of the Revised Code, any such building or structure and the real property of which it is a part. The municipal corporation shall rehabilitate the building or structure or cause it to be rehabilitated within two years after the appropriation, so that the building or structure is no longer a public nuisance, insecure, unsafe, structurally defective, unhealthful, or unsanitary, or a threat to the public health, safety, or welfare, or in violation of a building code or ordinance adopted under section 731.231 of the Revised Code. Any building or structure appropriated pursuant to this section which is not rehabilitated within two years shall be demolished.

If during the rehabilitation process the municipal corporation retains title to the building or structure and the real property of which it is a part, then within one hundred eighty days after the rehabilitation is complete, the municipal corporation shall appraise the rehabilitated building or structure and the real property of which it is a part, and shall sell the building or structure and property at public auction. The municipal corporation shall advertise the public auction in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipal corporation once a week for three consecutive weeks, or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code, prior to the date of sale. The municipal corporation shall sell the building or structure and real property to the highest and best bidder. No property that a municipal corporation acquires pursuant to this section shall be leased.

Sec. 719.05. The mayor of a municipal corporation shall, immediately upon the passage of a resolution under section 719.04 of the Revised Code,

declaring an intent to appropriate property, for which but one reading is necessary, cause written notice to be given to the owner of, person in possession of, or person having an interest of record in, every piece of property sought to be appropriated, or to ~~his~~ the authorized agent of the owner or other such person. Such notice shall be served by a person designated for the purpose and return made in the manner provided for the service and return of summons in civil actions. If such owner, person, or agent cannot be found, notice shall be given by publication once a week for three consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipal corporation or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code, and the legislative authority may thereupon pass an ordinance by a two-thirds vote of all members elected thereto, directing such appropriation to proceed.

Sec. 721.03. No contract, except as provided in section 721.28 of the Revised Code, for the sale or lease of real estate belonging to a municipal corporation shall be made unless authorized by an ordinance, approved by a two-thirds vote of the members of the legislative authority of such municipal corporation, and by the board or officer having supervision or management of such real estate. When the contract is so authorized, it shall be made in writing by such board or officer, and, except as provided in section 721.27 of the Revised Code, only with the highest bidder, after advertisement once a week for five consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation within the municipal corporation or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code. Such board or officer may reject any bids and readvertise until all such real estate is sold or leased.

Sec. 721.15. (A) Personal property not needed for municipal purposes, the estimated value of which is less than one thousand dollars, may be sold by the board or officer having supervision or management of that property. If the estimated value of that property is one thousand dollars or more, it shall be sold only when authorized by an ordinance of the legislative authority of the municipal corporation and approved by the board, officer, or director having supervision or management of that property. When so authorized, the board, officer, or director shall make a written contract with the highest and best bidder after advertisement for not less than two ~~or~~ nor more than four consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation within the municipal corporation or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code, or with a board of county commissioners upon such lawful terms as are agreed upon, as provided by division (B)(1) of section 721.27 of the Revised Code.

(B) When the legislative authority finds, by resolution, that the

municipal corporation has vehicles, equipment, or machinery which is obsolete, or is not needed or is unfit for public use, that the municipal corporation has need of other vehicles, equipment, or machinery of the same type, and that it will be in the best interest of the municipal corporation that the sale of obsolete, unneeded, or unfit vehicles, equipment, or machinery be made simultaneously with the purchase of the new vehicles, equipment, or machinery of the same type, the legislative authority may offer to sell, or authorize a board, officer, or director of the municipal corporation having supervision or management of the property to offer to sell, those vehicles, equipment, or machinery and to have the selling price credited against the purchase price of other vehicles, equipment, or machinery and to consummate the sale and purchase by a single contract with the lowest and best bidder to be determined by subtracting from the selling price of the vehicles, equipment, or machinery to be purchased by the municipal corporation the purchase price offered for the municipally-owned vehicles, equipment, or machinery. When the legislative authority or the authorized board, officer, or director of a municipal corporation advertises for bids for the sale of new vehicles, equipment, or machinery to the municipal corporation, they may include in the same advertisement a notice of willingness to accept bids for the purchase of municipally-owned vehicles, equipment, or machinery which is obsolete, or is not needed or is unfit for public use, and to have the amount of those bids subtracted from the selling price as a means of determining the lowest and best bidder.

(C) If the legislative authority of the municipal corporation determines that municipal personal property is not needed for public use, or is obsolete or unfit for the use for which it was acquired, and that the property has no value, the legislative authority may discard or salvage that property.

(D) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in division (A) or (B) of this section and regardless of the property's value, the legislative authority of a municipal corporation may sell personal property, including motor vehicles acquired for the use of municipal officers and departments, and road machinery, equipment, tools, or supplies, which is not needed for public use, or is obsolete or unfit for the use for which it was acquired, by internet auction. The legislative authority shall adopt, during each calendar year, a resolution expressing its intent to sell that property by internet auction. The resolution shall include a description of how the auctions will be conducted and shall specify the number of days for bidding on the property, which shall be no less than ten days, including Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays. The resolution shall indicate whether the municipal corporation will conduct the auction or the legislative authority

will contract with a representative to conduct the auction and shall establish the general terms and conditions of sale. If a representative is known when the resolution is adopted, the resolution shall provide contact information such as the representative's name, address, and telephone number.

After adoption of the resolution, the legislative authority shall publish, in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipal corporation or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code, notice of its intent to sell unneeded, obsolete, or unfit municipal personal property by internet auction. The notice shall include a summary of the information provided in the resolution and shall be published ~~at least~~ twice. The second ~~and any subsequent~~ notice shall be published not less than ten nor more than twenty days after the previous notice. A similar notice also shall be posted continually throughout the calendar year in a conspicuous place in the offices of the village clerk or city auditor, and the legislative authority, ~~and, if, If the municipal corporation maintains a website web site~~ on the internet, the notice shall be posted continually throughout the calendar year at that ~~website web site~~.

When the property is to be sold by internet auction, the legislative authority or its representative may establish a minimum price that will be accepted for specific items and may establish any other terms and conditions for the particular sale, including requirements for pick-up or delivery, method of payment, and sales tax. This type of information shall be provided on the internet at the time of the auction and may be provided before that time upon request after the terms and conditions have been determined by the legislative authority or its representative.

Sec. 721.20. Notice of the filing, pendency, and prayer of the petition provided for by section 721.19 of the Revised Code shall be published for four consecutive weeks or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code, prior to the day of hearing, in a newspaper ~~published in the municipal corporation, or if there is none, then in a newspaper published in the county, and~~ of general circulation in such municipal corporation.

Sec. 723.07. No street or alley shall be vacated or narrowed unless notice of the pendency and prayer of the petition under section 723.04 of the Revised Code is given by publishing, in a newspaper ~~published or~~ of general circulation in such municipal corporation, for six consecutive weeks preceding action on such petition, ~~or, where~~ as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code preceding action on the petition. Where no newspaper is published of general circulation in the municipal corporation, notice shall be given by posting the notice in three public places therein six weeks preceding such action. Action thereon shall take place within three months

after the completion of the notice.

Sec. 727.011. For the purpose of controlling the blight and disease of shade trees within public rights-of-way, and for planting, maintaining, trimming, and removing shade trees in and along the streets of a municipality, the legislative authority of such municipal corporation may establish one or more districts in the municipality designating the boundaries thereof, and may each year thereafter, by ordinance, designate the district in which such control, planting, care, and maintenance shall be effected, setting forth an estimate of the cost and providing for the levy of a special assessment upon all the real property in the district, in the amount and in the manner provided in section 727.01 of the Revised Code, for planting, maintaining, trimming, and removing shade trees. The ordinance shall be adopted ~~and published~~ as other ordinances and a succinct summary of the ordinance shall be published in the manner provided in section 731.21 of the Revised Code. Bonds and anticipatory notes may be issued in anticipation of the collection of such special assessments, under section 133.17 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 727.012. For the purpose of constructing, maintaining, repairing, cleaning, and enclosing ditches, the legislative authority of such municipal corporation may establish one or more districts in the municipality designating the boundaries thereof, and may each year thereafter, by ordinance, designate the district in which such constructing, maintaining, repairing, cleaning, and enclosing of ditches shall be effected, setting forth an estimate of the cost and providing for the levying of a special assessment upon all the real property in the district, in the amount and in the manner provided in section 727.01 of the Revised Code, for constructing, maintaining, repairing, cleaning, and enclosing ditches. The ordinance shall be adopted ~~and published~~ as other ordinances and a succinct summary of the ordinance shall be published in the manner provided in section 731.21 of the Revised Code. Bonds and anticipatory notes may be issued in anticipation of the collection of such special assessments, under section 133.17 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 727.08. The cost of any public improvement to be paid for directly or indirectly, in whole or in part, by funds derived from special assessments may include but not be limited to:

(A) The purchase price of real estate or any interest therein when acquired by purchase, or not more than fifty per cent of the cost of acquiring such real estate or any interest therein when acquired by appropriation;

(B) The cost of preliminary and other surveys;

(C) The cost of preparing plans, specifications, profiles, and estimates

except, to the extent that costs of plans, specifications, and estimates of cost have been paid for by the levy of assessments under section 729.11 of the Revised Code, such costs shall not be included in determining the cost of the improvement under this section;

(D) The cost of printing, serving, and publishing notices; and summaries of resolutions; and ordinances;

(E) The cost of all special proceedings;

(F) The cost of labor and material, whether furnished by contract or otherwise;

(G) Interest on securities issued in anticipation of the levy and collection of the special assessments or, if securities in anticipation of the levy of the special assessments are not issued, interest, at a rate to be determined by the legislative authority in the resolution of necessity adopted pursuant to section 727.12 of the Revised Code, on moneys advanced by the municipal corporation for the cost of the public improvement in anticipation of the levy of the special assessments;

(H) The total amount of damages, resulting from the improvement, assessed in favor of any owner of lands affected by the improvement, and interest thereon;

(I) The cost incurred in connection with the preparation, levy, and collection of the special assessments, including legal expenses incurred by reason of the improvement;

(J) Incidental costs directly connected with the improvement.

Sec. 727.14. In lieu of the procedure provided in section 727.13 of the Revised Code, the legislative authority may provide for notice of the passage of a resolution of necessity providing for the lighting, sprinkling, sweeping, or cleaning of any street, alley, public road, or place, or parts thereof or for treating the surface of the same with dust-laying or preservative substances, or for the planting, maintaining, and removing of shade trees, or for the constructing, maintaining, repairing, cleaning, and enclosing of ditches, and the filing of the estimated assessment under section 727.12 of the Revised Code, to be given by publication of such notice once a week for two consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipal corporation or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code. When it appears from the estimated assessment filed as provided by section 727.12 of the Revised Code, that the assessment against the owner of any lot or parcel of land will exceed two hundred fifty dollars, such owner shall be notified of the assessment in the manner provided in section 727.13 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 727.46. When a general plan has been prepared under section

727.44 of the Revised Code and reported to the legislative authority, it shall be filed with the clerk of the legislative authority and the legislative authority shall cause its clerk to publish, once a week for two consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipal corporation or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code, a notice stating that such general plan has been prepared and is on file in the office of the clerk of the legislative authority for examination by interested persons and that written objections to such plan may be filed in the office of such clerk before the date specified in the notice, which shall not be earlier than the seventeenth day following the date of the first publication in said newspaper. Any person having an objection to the general plan shall file such objection in writing, with the clerk of the legislative authority within the time specified.

Sec. 729.08. The legislative authority of the municipal corporation shall cause a notice to be published for three consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipal corporation or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code, stating that such list of estimated assessments has been made and is on file in the office of the clerk of the legislative authority for the inspection and examination of persons interested therein.

If any person objects to an assessment on such list, ~~he~~ the person shall file ~~his~~ the objection in writing with the clerk of the legislative authority within two weeks after the expiration of the notice provided in this section.

Sec. 729.11. In addition to the power conferred upon municipal corporations under section 727.01 of the Revised Code to levy and collect special assessments, the legislative authority of a municipal corporation may, whenever it has determined by ordinance that it is necessary to construct, enlarge, or improve a system of storm or sanitary sewerage for the municipal corporation or any part thereof, including sewage disposal works, treatment plants, and sewage pumping stations, or a water supply system for the municipal corporation or any part thereof including mains, dams, reservoirs, wells, intakes, purification works, and pumping stations, and that any such improvement shall be constructed, enlarged, or improved, may levy upon property to be benefited in the municipal corporation or any designated part thereof, which property shall be described in the ordinance, a preliminary assessment upon the benefited lots and lands within the corporation or such part thereof, apportioned according to benefits or to the tax valuation or partly by one method and partly by the other, as the legislative authority determines for the purpose of paying the costs of general and detailed plans, specifications, estimates, preparation of the tentative assessment, financing, and legal services incident to the preparation of such plans, and a plan for financing the proposed

improvements.

Prior to the adoption of such ordinance, the legislative authority of such municipal corporation shall give notice of the pendency thereof and of the proposed determination of the necessity of the improvement therein generally described, which notice shall set forth the description of the benefited property as designated in the ordinance and the time and place of hearing of objections to and endorsements of the improvement. Such notice shall be given by publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipal corporation once a week for two consecutive weeks or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code, the first publication to be at least two weeks prior to the date set for the hearing. At such hearing, or at any adjournment thereof, of which no further published notice need be given, the legislative authority shall hear all persons whose properties are proposed to be assessed, and such evidence as is deemed to be necessary, and shall then determine the necessity of the proposed improvement and in addition shall determine whether the improvement shall be made by the municipal corporation, and shall direct the preparation of tentative assessments upon the benefited properties and by whom they shall be prepared.

Such assessments shall be in the amount determined to be necessary by the legislative authority to pay the costs of general and detailed plans, specifications, estimates of cost, preparation of the tentative assessment, financing and legal services incident to the preparation of such plans, and a plan of financing the proposed improvements, and shall be payable in such number of years as the legislative authority determines, not to exceed twenty, together with interest on any notes which may be issued in anticipation of the collection of such assessments.

The legislative authority may at any time levy additional assessments according to benefits or to tax valuation or partly by one method and partly by the other as the legislative authority determines for such purposes upon such properties to complete the payment of such costs or to pay the cost of any additional plans, specifications, estimates of cost, tentative assessments, and the cost of financing and legal services incident to the preparation of such plans and such plan of financing, which additional assessments shall be payable in such number of years as the legislative authority determines, not to exceed twenty years, together with interest on any notes and bonds which may be issued in anticipation of the collection thereof.

Upon completion of the tentative assessments or any additional assessments, they shall be filed with the clerk of the legislative authority and shall be and remain open to public inspection, and thereupon, the legislative

authority shall give at least ten days' notice of the filing thereof in one newspaper of general circulation in the municipal corporation, or shall give notice as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code, which notice shall state the time and place when and where such tentative assessments shall be taken up for consideration. At such time and place or at any adjournment thereof, of which no further published notice need be given, the legislative authority shall hear all persons whose properties are proposed to be assessed, shall correct any errors and make any revisions that appear to be necessary or just, and may then pass an ordinance levying upon the properties determined to be benefited such assessments as so corrected and revised.

The assessments levied by such ordinance shall be certified to the county auditor for collection as other taxes in the year or years in which they are payable; provided any such assessment in the amount of five dollars or less, or any unpaid balance of any such assessment which is five dollars or less, shall be paid in full, and not in installments, at the time the first or next installment would otherwise become due and payable.

Upon the adoption of such ordinance levying assessments the legislative authority may authorize contracts to carry out the purposes for which such assessments have been levied without the prior issuance of notes and bonds; provided that the payments due by the municipal corporation do not fall due prior to the times in which such assessments shall be collected. The municipal corporation may also issue and sell its bonds with a maximum maturity of twenty years in anticipation of the collection of such assessments and may issue its notes in anticipation of the issuance of such bonds, which notes and bonds shall be issued and sold as provided in Chapter 133. of the Revised Code.

Sec. 731.14. All contracts made by the legislative authority of a village shall be executed in the name of the village and signed on its behalf by the mayor and clerk. Except where the contract is for equipment, services, materials, or supplies to be purchased under division (D) of section 713.23 or section 125.04 or 5513.01 of the Revised Code, available from a qualified nonprofit agency pursuant to sections 4115.31 to 4115.35 of the Revised Code, or required to be purchased from a qualified nonprofit agency under sections 125.60 to 125.6012 of the Revised Code, when any expenditure, other than the compensation of persons employed in the village, exceeds ~~twenty-five~~ fifty thousand dollars, such contracts shall be in writing and made with the lowest and best bidder after advertising once a week for not less than two consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation within the village. The legislative authority may also cause notice to be

inserted in trade papers or other publications designated by it or to be distributed by electronic means, including posting the notice on the legislative authority's internet web site. If the legislative authority posts the notice on its web site, it may eliminate the second notice otherwise required to be published in a newspaper of general circulation within the village, provided that the first notice published in such newspaper meets all of the following requirements:

- (A) It is published at least two weeks before the opening of bids.
- (B) It includes a statement that the notice is posted on the legislative authority's internet web site.
- (C) It includes the internet address of the legislative authority's internet web site.
- (D) It includes instructions describing how the notice may be accessed on the legislative authority's internet web site.

The bids shall be opened and shall be publicly read by the clerk of the village or a person designated by the clerk at the time, date, and place specified in the advertisement to bidders or specifications. The time, date, and place of bid openings may be extended to a later date by the legislative authority of the village, provided that written or oral notice of the change shall be given to all persons who have received or requested specifications no later than ninety-six hours prior to the original time and date fixed for the opening. This section does not apply to those villages that have provided for the appointment of a village administrator under section 735.271 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 731.141. In those villages that have established the position of village administrator, as provided by section 735.271 of the Revised Code, the village administrator shall make contracts, purchase supplies and materials, and provide labor for any work under the administrator's supervision involving not more than twenty-five thousand dollars. When an expenditure, other than the compensation of persons employed by the village, exceeds twenty-five thousand dollars, the expenditure shall first be authorized and directed by ordinance of the legislative authority of the village. When so authorized and directed, except where the contract is for equipment, services, materials, or supplies to be purchased under division (D) of section 713.23 or section 125.04 or 5513.01 of the Revised Code, available from a qualified nonprofit agency pursuant to sections 4115.31 to 4115.35 of the Revised Code, or required to be purchased from a qualified nonprofit agency under sections 125.60 to 125.6012 of the Revised Code, the village administrator shall make a written contract with the lowest and best bidder after advertisement for not less than two nor more than four

consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation within the village or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code. The bids shall be opened and shall be publicly read by the village administrator or a person designated by the village administrator at the time, date, and place as specified in the advertisement to bidders or specifications. The time, date, and place of bid openings may be extended to a later date by the village administrator, provided that written or oral notice of the change shall be given to all persons who have received or requested specifications no later than ninety-six hours prior to the original time and date fixed for the opening. All contracts shall be executed in the name of the village and signed on its behalf by the village administrator and the clerk.

The legislative authority of a village may provide, by ordinance, for central purchasing for all offices, departments, divisions, boards, and commissions of the village, under the direction of the village administrator, who shall make contracts, purchase supplies or materials, and provide labor for any work of the village in the manner provided by this section.

Sec. 731.20. Ordinances, resolutions, and bylaws shall be authenticated by the signature of the presiding officer and clerk of the legislative authority of the municipal corporation. ~~Ordinances~~ A succinct summary of ordinances of a general nature or providing for improvements shall be published as provided by sections 731.21 and 731.22 of the Revised Code before going into operation. No ordinance shall take effect until the expiration of ten days after the first publication of such notice. As soon as a bylaw, resolution, or ordinance is passed and signed, it shall be recorded by the clerk in a book furnished by the legislative authority for that purpose.

Sec. 731.21. (A) ~~Notwithstanding any conflicting provision of section 7.12 of the Revised Code, A succinct summary of each municipal ordinance or resolution, or a succinct summary of each municipal ordinance and resolution, and all statements, orders, proclamations, notices, and reports required by law or ordinance to be published shall be published as follows:~~

(1) ~~In two English language newspapers of opposite politics, published and in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipal corporation, if there are any such newspapers;~~

(2) ~~If two English language newspapers of opposite politics are not published and of general circulation in the municipal corporation, then in one such political newspaper and one other English language newspaper published and of general circulation therein;~~

(3) ~~If only one english language newspaper is published and of general circulation in the municipal corporation, then in that newspaper;~~

(4) ~~If no english language newspaper is published and of general~~

~~circulation in the municipal corporation, then in any English language newspaper of general circulation therein or by posting as provided in section 731.25 of the Revised Code, at the option of the legislative authority of such municipal corporation.~~ Proof of the publication and required circulation of any newspaper used as a medium of publication as provided by this section shall be made by affidavit of the proprietor of ~~either of such newspapers~~ the newspaper, and shall be filed with the clerk of the legislative authority.

~~(B) If a summary of an ordinance or resolution is published under division (A) of this section, the~~ The publication shall contain notice that the complete text of each such ordinance or resolution may be obtained or viewed at the office of the clerk of the legislative authority of the municipal corporation and may be viewed at any other location designated by the legislative authority of the municipal corporation. The city director of law, village solicitor, or other chief legal officer of the municipal corporation shall review ~~any~~ the summary of an ordinance or resolution published under this section prior to forwarding it to the clerk for publication, to ensure that the summary is legally accurate and sufficient.

(C) Upon publication of a summary of an ordinance or resolution in accordance with this section, the clerk of the legislative authority shall supply a copy of the complete text of each such ordinance or resolution to any person, upon request, and may charge a reasonable fee, set by the legislative authority, for each copy supplied. The clerk shall post a copy of the text at ~~his~~ the clerk's office and at every other location designated by the legislative authority.

Sec. 731.211. In accordance with Section 9 of Article XVIII, Ohio Constitution, notice of proposed amendments to municipal charters shall be given in one of the following ways:

(A) Not less than thirty days prior to the election at which the amendment is to be submitted to the electors, the clerk of the municipality shall mail a copy of the proposed charter amendment to each elector whose name appears upon the poll or registration books of the last regular or general election held therein.

(B) The full text of the proposed charter amendment shall be published once a week for not less than two consecutive weeks in a newspaper ~~published of general circulation in the municipal corporation or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code,~~ with the first publication being at least fifteen days prior to the election at which the amendment is to be submitted to the electors. ~~If no newspaper is published in the municipal corporation, then such publication shall be made in a newspaper of general circulation within the municipal corporation.~~

Sec. 731.22. The publication required in section 731.21 of the Revised Code shall be for the following times:

(A) ~~Ordinances and resolutions, or summaries~~ Summaries of ordinances or resolutions, and proclamations of elections, once a week for two consecutive weeks or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code;

(B) Notices, not less than two nor more than four consecutive weeks or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code;

(C) All other matters shall be published once.

Sec. 731.23. When ordinances are revised, codified, rearranged, published in book form, and certified as correct by the clerk of the legislative authority of a municipal corporation and the mayor, such publication shall be a sufficient publication, and the ordinances so published, under appropriate titles, chapters, and sections, shall be held the same in law as though they had been published in a newspaper. A new ordinance so published in book form, a summary of which has not been published as required by sections 731.21 and 731.22 of the Revised Code, and which contains entirely new matter, shall be published as required by such sections. If such revision or codification is made by a municipal corporation and contains new matter, it shall be a sufficient publication of such codification, including the new matter, to publish, in the manner required by such sections, a notice of the enactment of such codifying ordinance, containing the title of the ordinance and a summary of the new matters covered by it. Such revision and codification may be made under appropriate titles, chapters, and sections and in one ordinance containing one or more subjects.

Except as provided by this section, a succinct summary of all ordinances, including emergency ordinances, shall be published in accordance with section 731.21 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 731.24. Immediately after the expiration of the period of publication ~~for ordinances or~~ of summaries of ordinances required by section 731.22 of the Revised Code, the clerk of the legislative authority of a municipal corporation shall enter on the record of ordinances, in a blank to be left for such purpose under the recorded ordinance, a certificate stating in which newspaper and on what dates such publication was made, and shall sign ~~his~~ the clerk's name thereto officially. Such certificate shall be prima-facie evidence that legal publication of the ~~ordinance or~~ summary of the ordinance was made.

Sec. 731.25. ~~Notwithstanding any conflicting provision of section 7.12 of the Revised Code, in~~ In municipal corporations in which no newspaper is ~~published generally circulated,~~ publication of ~~ordinances and resolutions, or~~

summaries of ordinances and resolutions, and publication of all statements, orders, proclamations, notices, and reports, required by law or ordinance to be published, shall be accomplished ~~in either of the following methods, as determined by the legislative authority:~~

(A) ~~By~~ by posting copies in not less than five of the most public places in the municipal corporation, as determined by the legislative authority, for a period of not less than fifteen days prior to the effective date thereof;

(B) ~~By publication in any newspaper printed in this state and of general circulation in such municipal corporation.~~

Notices to bidders for the construction of public improvements and notices of the sale of bonds shall be published in ~~not more than two newspapers, printed in this state and~~ a newspaper of general circulation in such municipal corporation, for the time prescribed in section 731.22 of the Revised Code.

Where such publication is by posting, the clerk shall make a certificate as to such posting, and as to the times when and the places where such posting is done, in the manner provided in section 731.24 of the Revised Code, and such certificate shall be prima-facie evidence that the copies were posted as required.

Sec. 735.05. The director of public service may make any contract, purchase supplies or material, or provide labor for any work under the supervision of the department of public service involving not more than twenty-five thousand dollars. When an expenditure within the department, other than the compensation of persons employed in the department, exceeds twenty-five thousand dollars, the expenditure shall first be authorized and directed by ordinance of the city legislative authority. When so authorized and directed, except where the contract is for equipment, services, materials, or supplies to be purchased under division (D) of section 713.23 or section 125.04 or 5513.01 of the Revised Code or available from a qualified nonprofit agency pursuant to sections 4115.31 to 4115.35 of the Revised Code, the director shall make a written contract with the lowest and best bidder after advertisement for not less than two nor more than four consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation within the city or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 735.20. When a whole plan, or any portion thereof, as provided in section 735.19 of the Revised Code is completed, or when the location of any avenue, street, roadway, or alley has been finally determined by the platting commissioner of a city, a plat of the plan, avenue, street, roadway, or alley shall be placed in the office of the city engineer for the inspection of persons interested, and notice that it is ready for inspection shall be

published in ~~one or more newspapers~~, a newspaper of general circulation within the city, for six consecutive weeks, or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 737.022. ~~When authorized by ordinance of the legislative authority of a city, and in~~ (A) As used in this section:

(1) "Occupy or use," with respect to a public way, means to create parking spaces and install, repair, maintain, replace, and operate parking meters or other similar devices for the purpose of providing on-street parking.

(2) "Public agency" includes any county, municipal corporation, port authority, regional transit authority, airport authority, or transportation improvement district created pursuant to the laws of this state.

(3) "Public parking franchise" means a property right and privilege to occupy and use one or more public ways for the operation of an on-street parking system in all or in one or more portions of the area within the corporate limits of a municipal corporation or to construct, install, repair, maintain, and operate parking meters or other devices or facilities on public property owned or controlled by the municipal corporation.

(4) "Public way" means the surface of, and the space within, through, on, across, above, or below, any public street, road, highway, lane, path, alley, court, sidewalk, boulevard, parkway, or drive owned or controlled by a municipal corporation.

(B) In order to expedite the flow and direction of traffic, to eliminate congestion on streets, alleys, and highways public ways, and to provide for the safety of passengers in motor vehicles and pedestrians, the legislative authority of a municipal corporation may by ordinance make and issue, or, in the case of the legislative authority of a city, authorize the director of public safety may to make and issue rules and regulations concerning:

~~(A)~~(1) The number, type, and location of traffic control devices and signs;

~~(B)~~(2) The regulation or prohibition of parking on ~~streets, alleys, highways,~~ public ways or public property;

~~(C)~~(3) The regulation of the right-of-way at intersections of streets, alleys, and highways;

~~(D)~~(4) The regulation or prohibition of turns at intersections;

~~(E)~~(5) The creation, abolition, and regulation of through routes and truck routes;

~~(F)~~(6) The creation, abolition, and regulation of pedestrian crosswalk and safety zones;

~~(G)~~(7) The creation, abolition, and regulation of bus loading and

unloading zones and business loading zones;

~~(H)(8)~~ (8) The creation, abolition, and regulation of traffic lanes, and passing zones;

~~(H)(9)~~ (9) The regulation of the direction of traffic on ~~streets, alleys, and highways~~ public ways and the creation and abolition of one way public streets, roads, alleys, courts, or drives;

~~(H)(10)~~ (10) Such other subjects as may be provided by ordinance, which shall not be limited by the specific enumeration of subjects by this section.

~~Such rules~~ (C) The legislative authority of a municipal corporation having rules and regulations with respect to parking on public ways or public property for the purposes specified in division (B) of this section may establish and maintain reasonable fees and charges for the privilege of parking in locations permitted by those rules and regulations and may construct, install, maintain, repair, replace, and operate parking meters or other devices or facilities on public ways and public property for the collection of those fees and charges. The operation of meters, devices, and facilities may be managed and operated by municipal officials and employees or by any other person or public agency retained by the municipal corporation for those purposes, as determined by the legislative authority.

(D) As an alternative to the operation of parking meters, devices, and facilities in the manner specified in division (C) of this section, the legislative authority of a municipal corporation having rules and regulations with respect to parking on public ways or public property for the purposes specified in division (B) of this section may grant to a person or public agency a public parking franchise permitting that person or agency to occupy and use certain public ways or to construct, install, maintain, repair, replace, and operate parking meters or other devices or facilities on public property on and subject to terms and conditions specified in a franchise agreement approved by the legislative authority; provided, that no such public parking franchise shall be granted for a term of more than thirty years. The legislative authority may require the person or public agency receiving such a public parking franchise to pay to the municipal corporation a lump sum fee, a periodic fee, or both for the property rights and privileges granted. Public parking franchises shall be subject to regulation by the legislative authority of the municipal corporation and shall not be deemed to be a public utility or an entity otherwise subject to regulation by any state agency or commission.

(E) Rules and regulations made and issued in accordance with division (B) of this section shall be issued in the manner and subject to the conditions

and limitations as prescribed by ordinance of the legislative authority of such city. Copies of ~~such~~ rules and regulations issued pursuant to this section, when certified by the director of public safety, shall be competent evidence in all courts. Violation of any such rules and regulations shall be as specified by the legislative authority, either a criminal misdemeanor and shall be punishable as provided by the ordinances of such city municipal corporation or a civil infraction for which a charge is prescribed. The enforcement of rules and regulations violations of which constitute criminal misdemeanors shall be by authorized law enforcement officers.

Sec. 737.04. The legislative authority of any municipal corporation, in order to obtain police protection or to obtain additional police protection, or to allow its police officers to work in multijurisdictional drug, gang, or career criminal task forces, may enter into contracts with one or more municipal corporations, townships, township police districts, joint police districts, or county sheriffs in this state, with one or more park districts created pursuant to section 511.18 or 1545.01 of the Revised Code, with one or more port authorities, or with a contiguous municipal corporation in an adjoining state, upon any terms that are agreed upon, for services of police departments or the use of police equipment or for the interchange of services of police departments or police equipment within the several territories of the contracting subdivisions.

Chapter 2744. of the Revised Code, insofar as it applies to the operation of police departments, shall apply to the contracting political subdivisions and to the police department members when they are rendering service outside their own subdivisions pursuant to the contracts.

Police department members acting outside the subdivision in which they are employed, pursuant to a contract entered into under this section, shall be entitled to participate in any indemnity fund established by their employer to the same extent as while acting within the employing subdivision. Those members shall be entitled to all the rights and benefits of Chapter 4123. of the Revised Code, to the same extent as while performing service within the subdivision.

The contracts may provide for:

(A) A fixed annual charge to be paid at the times agreed upon and stipulated in the contract;

(B) Compensation based upon:

(1) A stipulated price for each call or emergency;

(2) The number of members or pieces of equipment employed;

(3) The elapsed time of service required in each call or emergency.

(C) Compensation for loss or damage to equipment while engaged in

rendering police services outside the limits of the subdivision owning and furnishing the equipment;

(D) Reimbursement of the subdivision in which the police department members are employed for any indemnity award or premium contribution assessed against the employing subdivision for workers' compensation benefits for injuries or death of its police department members occurring while engaged in rendering police services pursuant to the contract.

Sec. 737.041. The police department of any municipal corporation may provide police protection to any county, municipal corporation, township, ~~or~~ township police district, or joint police district of this state, to a park district created pursuant to section 511.18 or 1545.01 of the Revised Code, to a port authority, to any multijurisdictional drug, gang, or career criminal task force, or to a governmental entity of an adjoining state without a contract to provide police protection, upon the approval, by resolution, of the legislative authority of the municipal corporation in which the department is located and upon authorization by an officer or employee of the police department providing the police protection who is designated by title of office or position, pursuant to the resolution of the legislative authority of the municipal corporation, to give the authorization.

Chapter 2744. of the Revised Code, insofar as it applies to the operation of police departments, shall apply to any municipal corporation and to members of its police department when the members are rendering police services pursuant to this section outside the municipal corporation by which they are employed.

Police department members acting, as provided in this section, outside the municipal corporation by which they are employed shall be entitled to participate in any pension or indemnity fund established by their employer to the same extent as while acting within the municipal corporation by which they are employed. Those members shall be entitled to all the rights and benefits of Chapter 4123. of the Revised Code to the same extent as while performing services within the municipal corporation by which they are employed.

Sec. 737.32. Except as otherwise provided in this section and unless the property involved is required to be disposed of pursuant to another section of the Revised Code, property that is unclaimed for ninety days or more shall be sold by the chief of police of the municipal corporation, marshal of the village, or licensed auctioneer at public auction, after notice of the sale has been provided by publication once a week for three successive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the county or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code. The proceeds of the sale shall be paid to the

treasurer of the municipal corporation and shall be credited to the general fund of the municipal corporation.

If authorized to do so by an ordinance adopted by the legislative authority of the municipal corporation and if the property involved is not required to be disposed of pursuant to another section of the Revised Code, the chief of police or marshal may contribute property that is unclaimed for ninety days or more to one or more public agencies, to one or more nonprofit organizations no part of the net income of which inures to the benefit of any private shareholder or individual and no substantial part of the activities of which consists of carrying on propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, or to one or more organizations satisfying section 501(c)(3) or (c)(19) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

Sec. 737.40. (A) The legislative authority of a municipal corporation may establish, by ordinance or resolution, a voluntary motor vehicle decal registration program to be controlled by the director of public safety of the municipal corporation and conducted by the police department of the municipal corporation. The legislative authority may establish a fee for participation in the program in an amount sufficient to cover the cost of administering the program and the cost of the decals.

(B) Any resident of the municipal corporation may enroll a motor vehicle that he owns in the program by signing a consent form, displaying the decal issued under this section, and paying the prescribed fee. The motor vehicle owner shall remove the decal to withdraw from the program and also prior to the sale or transfer of ownership of the vehicle. Any law enforcement officer may conduct, at any place within this state at which the officer would be permitted to arrest the person operating the vehicle, an investigatory stop of any motor vehicle displaying a decal issued under this section when the vehicle is being driven between the hours of one a.m. and five a.m. A law enforcement officer may conduct an investigatory stop under this division regardless of whether the officer observes a violation of law involving the vehicle or whether he has probable cause to believe that any violation of law involving the vehicle has occurred.

(C) The consent form required under division (B) of this section shall:

(1) Describe the conditions for participation in the program, including a description of an investigatory stop and a statement that any law enforcement officer may conduct, at any place within this state at which the officer would be permitted to arrest the person operating the vehicle, an investigatory stop of the motor vehicle when it is being driven between the hours of one a.m. and five a.m.

(2) Contain other information identifying the vehicle and owner as the

director of public safety of the municipal corporation or the chief of police considers necessary.

(D) The state director of public safety, in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, shall adopt rules governing the color, size, and design of decals issued under this section and the location where the decals shall be displayed on vehicles that are enrolled in the program.

(E) Divisions (A) to (D) and (G) of this section do not require a law enforcement officer to conduct an investigatory stop of a vehicle displaying a decal issued under this section or under a program described in division (G) of this section.

(F) As used in this section:

(1) "Investigatory stop" means a temporary stop of a motor vehicle and its operator and occupants for purposes of determining the identity of the person who is operating the vehicle and, if the person who is operating it is not its owner, whether any violation of law has occurred or is occurring. An "investigatory stop" is not an arrest, but, if an officer who conducts an investigatory stop determines that illegal conduct has occurred or is occurring, an "investigatory stop" may be the basis for an arrest.

(2) "Law enforcement officer" means a sheriff, deputy sheriff, constable, police officer of a township or joint ~~township~~ police district, marshal, deputy marshal, municipal police officer, or state highway patrol trooper.

(G) Any motor vehicle decal registration program that was in existence on June 1, 1993, and administered by a municipal corporation shall not be required to conform in any manner to this section and may continue to be administered in the manner in which it was administered on that date.

Sec. 742.41. (A) As used in this section:

(1) "Other system retirant" has the same meaning as in section 742.26 of the Revised Code.

(2) "Personal history record" includes a member's, former member's, or other system retirant's name, address, telephone number, social security number, record of contributions, correspondence with the Ohio police and fire pension fund, status of any application for benefits, and any other information deemed confidential by the trustees of the fund.

(B) The treasurer of state shall furnish annually to the board of trustees of the fund a sworn statement of the amount of the funds in the treasurer of state's custody belonging to the Ohio police and fire pension fund. The records of the fund shall be open for public inspection except for the following, which shall be excluded, except with the written authorization of the individual concerned:

- (1) The individual's personal history record;
- (2) Any information identifying, by name and address, the amount of a monthly allowance or benefit paid to the individual.

(C) All medical reports and recommendations required are privileged, except as follows:

(1) Copies of medical reports or recommendations shall be made available to the personal physician, attorney, or authorized agent of the individual concerned upon written release received from the individual or the individual's agent or, when necessary for the proper administration of the fund, to the board-assigned physician.

(2) Documentation required by section 2929.193 of the Revised Code shall be provided to a court holding a hearing under that section.

(D) Any person who is a member of the fund or an other system retirant shall be furnished with a statement of the amount to the credit of the person's individual account upon the person's written request. The fund need not answer more than one such request of a person in any one year.

(E) Notwithstanding the exceptions to public inspection in division (B) of this section, the fund may furnish the following information:

(1) If a member, former member, or other system retirant is subject to an order issued under section 2907.15 of the Revised Code or an order issued under division (A) or (B) of section 2929.192 of the Revised Code or is convicted of or pleads guilty to a violation of section 2921.41 of the Revised Code, on written request of a prosecutor as defined in section 2935.01 of the Revised Code, the fund shall furnish to the prosecutor the information requested from the individual's personal history record.

(2) Pursuant to a court order issued pursuant to Chapter 3119., 3121., 3123., or 3125. of the Revised Code, the fund shall furnish to a court or child support enforcement agency the information required under that section.

(3) At the request of any organization or association of members of the fund, the fund shall provide a list of the names and addresses of members of the fund and other system retirants. The fund shall comply with the request of such organization or association at least once a year and may impose a reasonable charge for the list.

(4) Within fourteen days after receiving from the director of job and family services a list of the names and social security numbers of recipients of public assistance pursuant to section 5101.181 of the Revised Code, the fund shall inform the auditor of state of the name, current or most recent employer address, and social security number of each member or other system retirant whose name and social security number are the same as that

of a person whose name or social security number was submitted by the director. The fund and its employees shall, except for purposes of furnishing the auditor of state with information required by this section, preserve the confidentiality of recipients of public assistance in compliance with ~~division (A) of~~ section 5101.181 of the Revised Code.

(5) The fund shall comply with orders issued under section 3105.87 of the Revised Code.

On the written request of an alternate payee, as defined in section 3105.80 of the Revised Code, the fund shall furnish to the alternate payee information on the amount and status of any amounts payable to the alternate payee under an order issued under section 3105.171 or 3105.65 of the Revised Code.

(6) At the request of any person, the fund shall make available to the person copies of all documents, including resumes, in the fund's possession regarding filling a vacancy of a police officer employee member, firefighter employee member, police retirant member, or firefighter retirant member of the board of trustees. The person who made the request shall pay the cost of compiling, copying, and mailing the documents. The information described in this division is a public record.

(7) The fund shall provide the notice required by section 742.464 of the Revised Code to the prosecutor assigned to the case.

(F) A statement that contains information obtained from the fund's records that is signed by the secretary of the board of trustees of the Ohio police and fire pension fund and to which the board's official seal is affixed, or copies of the fund's records to which the signature and seal are attached, shall be received as true copies of the fund's records in any court or before any officer of this state.

Sec. 745.07. An ordinance passed pursuant to section 745.06 of the Revised Code shall not take effect until submitted to the electors of the municipal corporation, at a special or general election held in the municipal corporation at such time as the legislative authority determines, and approved by a majority of the electors voting on it. The ordinance shall be passed by an affirmative vote of not less than a majority of the members of the legislative authority and shall be subject to the approval of the mayor as provided by law. The ordinance shall specify the form or phrasing of the question to be placed upon the ballot. Thirty days' notice of the election shall be given by publication once a week for two consecutive weeks in ~~two daily or weekly newspapers published or circulated~~ a newspaper of general circulation in the municipal corporation ~~and, if or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code. If the board of elections operates and maintains a~~

web site, notice of the election also shall be posted on that web site for thirty days prior to the election. The notice shall contain the full form or phrasing of the question to be submitted. The clerk of the legislative authority shall certify the passage of the ordinance to the officers having control of elections in the municipal corporation, who shall cause the question to be voted on at the general or special election as specified in the ordinance.

Sec. 747.05. The board of rapid transit commissioners shall have control of the expenditure of all moneys appropriated by the legislative authority of the city, received from the sale of bonds provided for in sections 747.01 to 747.13, ~~inclusive~~, of the Revised Code, or from any other source, for the purchase, construction, improvement, maintenance, equipment, or enjoyment of all such rapid transit property, but no liability shall be incurred or expenditure made unless the money required therefor is in the city treasury to the credit of the board of rapid transit commissioners' fund and not appropriated for any other purpose. Moneys to be derived from the sale of bonds, the issue of which has been authorized, shall be deemed to be in the treasury to the credit of such fund.

All moneys expended for the construction and acquisition of parkways or boulevards, as authorized by such sections, shall be provided for partly by special appropriation or bond issue and partly by assessments, as specified in section 747.06 of the Revised Code, and such funds shall be separately accounted for, and such expenditure shall not be considered a part of the rapid transit expenditure authorized by this section. The board may let contracts for any part of the work to the lowest and best bidder after three weeks' advertisement in ~~two newspapers~~ a newspaper of general circulation in the city or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code.

The board may reject any bid, and the proceedings for such contracts and payment therefor shall be the same as provided for the director of public service except the requirement of the approval of the board of control.

Sec. 747.11. The board of rapid transit commissioners may grant to any corporation organized for street or interurban railway purposes the right to operate, by lease or otherwise, the depots, terminals, and railways mentioned in section 747.08 of the Revised Code upon such terms as the board is authorized by ordinance to agree upon with such corporation, subject to the approval of a majority of the electors of the city voting on the question.

The board of rapid transit commissioners shall certify such lease or agreement to the board of elections, which shall then submit the question of the approval of such lease or agreement to the qualified electors of the city at either a special or general election as the ordinance specifies. Thirty days'

notice of the election shall be given by publication in ~~one or more of the newspapers published~~ a newspaper of general circulation in the city once a week for two consecutive weeks prior to the election, ~~and, if or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code.~~ If the board of elections operates and maintains a web site, the board of elections shall post notice of the election for thirty days prior to the election on its web site. The notice shall set forth the terms of the lease or agreement and the time of holding the election. On the approval by a majority of the voters voting at the election, the corporation may operate such depots, terminals, and railways as provided in the lease or agreement, and corporations organized under the laws of this state for street or interurban railway purposes may lease and operate such depots, terminals, and railways.

Sec. 747.12. Whenever the board of rapid transit commissioners of a city declares by resolution that real estate of the city acquired for rapid transit purposes is not needed for the proper conduct and maintenance of such rapid transit system, such real estate may be sold or leased by the board to the highest bidder after advertisement once a week for three consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation within the city or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code. The board may reject any bid and readvertise until all such property is sold or leased. When the board has twice so offered to sell or lease such property, and it is not sold or leased, the board may privately sell or lease it.

Moneys arising from such sales or leases shall be deposited in the treasury of the city to the credit of the board of rapid transit commissioners' fund, and may be expended for the purchase, construction, improvement, maintenance, equipment, and enjoyment of the city's rapid transit property, as such board directs.

Contracts, leases, deeds, bills of sale, or other instruments in writing pertaining to such sales or leases shall be executed on behalf of the city by the board, by its president and secretary.

Sec. 755.16. (A) Any ~~municipal corporation, township, township park district, county, or school district~~ contracting subdivision, jointly with one or more other ~~municipal corporations, townships, township park districts, counties, or school districts~~ or with an educational service center contracting subdivisions, in any combination, ~~and a joint recreation district~~, may acquire property for, construct, operate, and maintain any parks, playgrounds, playfields, gymnasiums, public baths, swimming pools, indoor recreation centers, educational facilities, or community centers. Any school district ~~or~~, educational service center, or state institution of higher education may provide by the erection of any school ~~or~~, educational service center, or state

institution of higher education building or premises, or by the enlargement of, addition to, or reconstruction or improvement of any school ~~or~~, educational service center, or state institution of higher education building or premises, for the inclusion of any such parks, recreational facilities, educational facilities, and community centers to be jointly acquired, constructed, operated, and maintained. Any ~~municipal corporation, township, township park district, county, or school district~~ contracting subdivision, jointly with one or more other ~~municipal corporations, townships, township park districts, counties, or school districts~~ or with an educational service center contracting subdivisions, in any combination, ~~and a joint recreation district~~, may equip, operate, and maintain those parks, recreational facilities, educational facilities, and community centers and may appropriate money for ~~them~~ those purposes. ~~An educational service center also may appropriate money for purposes of equipping, operating, and maintaining those parks, recreational facilities, and community centers.~~

Any ~~municipal corporation, township, township park district, county, school district, or educational service center~~ contracting subdivision agreeing to jointly acquire, construct, operate, or maintain parks, recreational facilities, educational facilities, and community centers pursuant to this section may contribute lands, money, other personal property, or services to the joint venture, as may be agreed upon. Any agreement shall specify the rights of the parties in any lands or personal property contributed.

Any lands acquired by a township park district pursuant to Chapter 511. of the Revised Code and established as a public park or parks may be contributed to a joint venture authorized by this section. Fees may be charged in connection with the use of any recreational facilities, educational facilities, and community centers that may be constructed on those lands.

(B) Any township may, jointly with a private land owner, construct, operate, equip, and maintain free public playgrounds and playfields. Any equipment provided by a township pursuant to this division shall remain township property and shall be used subject to a right of removal by the township.

(C) As used in this section and in sections 755.17 and 755.18 of the Revised Code:

(1) "Community centers" means facilities characterized by all of the following:

(a) They are acquired, constructed, operated, or maintained by ~~political contracting subdivisions or an educational service center~~ pursuant to division (A) of this section.

(b) They may be used for governmental, civic, or educational operations or purposes, or recreational activities.

(c) They may be used only by the entities contracting subdivisions that acquire, construct, operate, or maintain them or by any other person upon terms and conditions determined by those entities contracting subdivisions.

(2) "Educational service center" has the same meaning as in division (A) of section 3311.05 of the Revised Code.

(3) "Contracting subdivision" means a municipal corporation, township, joint recreation district, township park district, county, school district, educational service center, or state institution of higher education.

(4) "School district" means any of the school districts or joint vocational school districts referred to in section 3311.01 of the Revised Code.

(5) "State institution of higher education" has the same meaning as in section 3345.011 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 755.29. The board of park trustees, before entering into any contract for the performance of any work, the cost of which exceeds ~~ten~~ twenty-five thousand dollars, shall cause plans and specifications and forms of bids to be prepared, and when adopted by the board, ~~it~~ shall have them printed for distribution among bidders.

Sec. 755.41. When lands lying within the limits of a municipal corporation have been dedicated to or for the use of the public for parks or park lands, and where such lands have remained unimproved and unused by the public for a period of twenty-one years and there appears to be little or no possibility that such lands will be improved and used by the public, the legislative authority of a municipal corporation in which said lands are located may, by ordinance, declare such parks or park lands vacated upon the petition of a majority of the abutting freeholders. No such parks or park lands shall be vacated unless notice of the pendency and prayer of the petition is given, in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipal corporation in which such lands are situated for three consecutive weeks, or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code, preceding action on such petition. No such lands shall be vacated prior to a public hearing had thereon.

Sec. 755.42. Upon the vacation of parks or park lands as provided by section 755.41 of the Revised Code, the legislative authority of a municipal corporation shall offer such lands for sale at a public auction. No lands shall be sold until the legislative authority of such municipal corporation gives notice of intention to sell such lands. Such notice shall be published as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code or once a week for four consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in a municipal

corporation in which the sale is to be had. The legislative authority of such municipal corporation or the board or officer having supervision or management of such real estate shall sell such lands to the highest and best bidder, provided that any and all bids made hereunder may be rejected.

When such sale is made, the mayor or other officer of a municipal corporation in which sale is had and in which such lands are located, shall enter into a deed, conveying said lands to the purchaser thereof. At or after the time of sale, the auditor of the county shall place the lands sold hereunder on the tax duplicate of the county at a value to be established by ~~him~~ the auditor as in cases where ~~he~~ the auditor re-enters property which has been tax exempt on the taxable list of the county.

The proceeds from the sale of lands sold pursuant to this section shall be placed in the general fund of the treasury of the municipal corporation in which such lands are located and may be disbursed as other general fund moneys.

Sec. 755.43. When real estate ~~which~~ that has been dedicated to or for the use of the public for parks or park lands is vacated by the legislative authority of a municipal corporation pursuant to section 755.41 of the Revised Code, and where reversionary interests have been set up in the event of the non-use of such lands for the dedicated purpose, such reversionary interests shall accelerate and vest in the holders thereof upon such vacation. Thereupon, the auditor of the county shall place the lands on the tax duplicate of the county in the names of such reversionaries as are known to and supplied by the legislative authority of the municipal corporation or the board or officer having supervision or management of such real estate. If the legislative authority of such board or officer is unable to furnish the names of such reversioners, the legislative authority of a municipal corporation shall fix a date on or before which claims to such real estate may be asserted and after which such real estate shall be sold. Notice shall be given of such date and of the sale to be held thereafter, as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code or once each week for four consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipal corporation wherein such lands are located. In the event that no claims to such lands are asserted or found to be valid, the lands shall be sold pursuant to section 755.42 of the Revised Code, and the title of any holders of reversionary interests shall be extinguished.

Nothing contained in sections 755.41, 755.42, or 755.43 of the Revised Code shall be construed as limiting any of the home rule powers conferred upon municipalities by Article XVIII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio.

Sec. 759.47. Land belonging to a public cemetery and used for an approach thereto, and which is, in the judgment of a majority of the officers having control or management thereof, unnecessary for cemetery purposes, may be sold by them at public sale to the highest bidder after advertisement as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code or once a week for five consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation within the county in which the cemetery is situated. The board of township trustees or board of cemetery trustees of a municipal corporation making such sale shall execute in the name of the township or municipal corporation owning such cemetery proper conveyances for the land so sold.

Sec. 901.09. (A) The director of agriculture may employ and establish a compensation rate for seasonal produce graders and seasonal gypsy mothtrap tenders, who shall be in the unclassified civil service.

(B) In lieu of employing seasonal gypsy moth tenders as provided in division (A) of this section, the director may contract with qualified individuals or entities to perform gypsy moth trapping.

Sec. 924.52. (A) The Ohio grape industries committee may:

(1) Conduct, and contract with others to conduct, research, including the study, analysis, dissemination, and accumulation of information obtained from the research or elsewhere, concerning the marketing and distribution of grapes and grape products, the storage, refrigeration, processing, and transportation of them, and the production and product development of grapes and grape products. The committee shall expend for these activities ~~no less than thirty per cent and~~ no more than seventy per cent of all money it receives from the Ohio grape industries fund created under section 924.54 of the Revised Code.

(2) Provide the wholesale and retail trade with information relative to proper methods of handling and selling grapes and grape products;

(3) Make or contract for market surveys and analyses, undertake any other similar activities that it determines are appropriate for the maintenance and expansion of present markets and the creation of new and larger markets for grapes and grape products, and make, in the name of the committee, contracts to render service in formulating and conducting plans and programs and such other contracts or agreements as the committee considers necessary for the promotion of the sale of grapes and grape products. The committee shall expend for these activities ~~no less than thirty per cent and~~ no more than seventy per cent of all money it receives from the fund.

(4) Publish and distribute to producers and others information relating to the grape and grape product industries;

(5) Propose to the director of agriculture for adoption, rescission, or