

(4) Standards for determining eligibility for programs and services under ~~sections 5126.042 and~~ section 5126.15 of the Revised Code;

(5) Procedures for obtaining consent for the arrangement of services under section 5126.31 of the Revised Code and for obtaining signatures on individual service plans under that section;

(6) Specification of the service and support administration to be provided by a county board and standards for resolving grievances in connection with service and support administration;

~~(7) Standards for the provision of environmental modifications, including standards that require adherence to all applicable state and local building codes;~~

~~(8) Standards for the provision of specialized medical, adaptive, and assistive equipment, supplies, and supports.~~

(B) The director shall be the final authority in determining the nature and degree of mental retardation or developmental disability.

Sec. 5126.11. (A) As used in this section, "respite care" means appropriate, short-term, temporary care that is provided to a mentally retarded or developmentally disabled person to sustain the family structure or to meet planned or emergency needs of the family.

(B) Subject to rules adopted by the director of developmental disabilities, and subject to the availability of money from state and federal sources, the county board of developmental disabilities shall establish a family support services program. Under such a program, the board shall make payments to an individual with mental retardation or other developmental disability or the family of an individual with mental retardation or other developmental disability who desires to remain in and be supported in the family home. Payments shall be made for all or part of costs incurred or estimated to be incurred for services that would promote self-sufficiency and normalization, prevent or reduce inappropriate institutional care, and further the unity of the family by enabling the family to meet the special needs of the individual and to live as much like other families as possible. Payments may be made in the form of reimbursement for expenditures or in the form of vouchers to be used to purchase services.

(C) Payment shall not be made under this section to an individual or the individual's family if the individual is living in a residential facility that is providing residential services under contract with the department of developmental disabilities or a county board.

(D) Payments may be made for the following services:

(1) Respite care, in or out of the home;

(2) Counseling, supervision, training, and education of the individual,

the individual's caregivers, and members of the individual's family that aid the family in providing proper care for the individual, provide for the special needs of the family, and assist in all aspects of the individual's daily living;

(3) Special diets, purchase or lease of special equipment, or modifications of the home, if such diets, equipment, or modifications are necessary to improve or facilitate the care and living environment of the individual;

(4) Providing support necessary for the individual's continued skill development, including such services as development of interventions to cope with unique problems that may occur within the complexity of the family, enrollment of the individual in special summer programs, provision of appropriate leisure activities, and other social skills development activities;

(5) Any other services that are consistent with the purposes specified in division (B) of this section and specified in the individual's service plan.

(E) In order to be eligible for payments under a family support services program, the individual or the individual's family must reside in the county served by the county board, and the individual must be in need of habilitation. Payments shall be adjusted for income in accordance with the payment schedule established in rules adopted under this section. Payments shall be made only after the county board has taken into account all other available assistance for which the individual or family is eligible.

(F) Before incurring expenses for a service for which payment will be sought under a family support services program, the individual or family shall apply to the county board for a determination of eligibility and approval of the service. The service need not be provided in the county served by the county board. After being determined eligible and receiving approval for the service, the individual or family may incur expenses for the service or use the vouchers received from the county board for the purchase of the service.

If the county board refuses to approve a service, an appeal may be made in accordance with rules adopted by the department under this section.

(G) To be reimbursed for expenses incurred for approved services, the individual or family shall submit to the county board a statement of the expenses incurred accompanied by any evidence required by the board. To redeem vouchers used to purchase approved services, the entity that provided the service shall submit to the county board evidence that the service was provided and a statement of the charges. The county board shall make reimbursements and redeem vouchers no later than forty-five days after it receives the statements and evidence required by this division.

(H) A county board shall consider the following objectives in carrying out a family support services program:

(1) Enabling individuals to return to their families from an institution under the jurisdiction of the department of developmental disabilities;

(2) Enabling individuals found to be subject to institutionalization by court order under section 5123.76 of the Revised Code to remain with their families with the aid of payments provided under this section;

(3) Providing services to eligible children and adults currently residing in the community;

(4) Providing services to individuals with developmental disabilities who are not receiving other services from the board.

(I) The director shall adopt, and may amend and rescind, rules for the implementation of family support services programs by county boards. Such rules shall include the following:

(1) A payment schedule adjusted for income;

~~(2) A formula for distributing to county boards the money appropriated for family support services;~~

~~(3)~~ Standards for supervision, training, and quality control in the provision of respite care services;

~~(4)~~(3) Eligibility standards and procedures for providing temporary emergency respite care;

~~(5)~~(4) Procedures for hearing and deciding appeals made under division (F) of this section;

~~(6) Requirements to be followed by county boards regarding reports submitted under division (K) of this section.~~

Rules adopted under ~~divisions~~ division (I)(1) ~~and (2)~~ of this section shall be adopted in accordance with section 111.15 of the Revised Code. Rules adopted under divisions (I)~~(3)~~(2) to ~~(6)~~(4) of this section shall be adopted in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code.

(J) All individuals certified by the superintendent of the county board as eligible for temporary emergency respite care in accordance with rules adopted under this section shall be considered eligible for temporary emergency respite care for not more than five days to permit the determination of eligibility for family support services. The requirements of divisions (E) and (F) of this section do not apply to temporary emergency respite care.

~~(K) The department of developmental disabilities shall distribute to county boards money appropriated for family support services in quarterly installments of equal amounts. The installments shall be made not later than the thirtieth day of September, the thirty-first day of December, the~~

~~thirty-first day of March, and the thirtieth day of June. A county board shall use no more than seven per cent of the funds for administrative costs. Each county board shall submit reports to the department on payments made under this section. The reports shall be submitted at those times and in the manner specified in rules adopted under this section.~~

~~(L)~~ The county board shall not be required to make payments for family support services at a level that exceeds available state and federal funds for such payments.

Sec. 5126.12. (A) As used in this section:

(1) ~~"Approved school age class" means a class operated by a county board of developmental disabilities and funded by the department of education under section 3317.20 of the Revised Code.~~

(2) ~~"Approved preschool unit" means a class or unit operated by a county board of developmental disabilities and approved under division (B) of section 3317.05 of the Revised Code.~~

(3) ~~"Active treatment" means a continuous treatment program, which includes aggressive, consistent implementation of a program of specialized and generic training, treatment, health services, and related services, that is directed toward the acquisition of behaviors necessary for an individual with mental retardation or other developmental disability to function with as much self-determination and independence as possible and toward the prevention of deceleration, regression, or loss of current optimal functional status.~~

(4) ~~"Eligible for active treatment" means that an individual with mental retardation or other developmental disability resides in an intermediate care facility for the mentally retarded certified under Title XIX of the "Social Security Act," 79 Stat. 286 (1965), 42 U.S.C. 1396, as amended; resides in a state institution operated by the department of developmental disabilities; or is enrolled in home and community-based services.~~

(5) ~~"Traditional adult services" means vocational and nonvocational activities conducted within a sheltered workshop or adult activity center or supportive home services.~~

~~(B) Each~~ On or before the last day of each April, each county board of developmental disabilities shall certify to the director of developmental disabilities all of the following:

(1) ~~On or before the fifteenth day of October, the average daily membership for the first full week of programs and services during October receiving:~~

~~(a) Early childhood services provided pursuant to section 5126.05 of the Revised Code for children who are less than three years of age on the~~

thirtieth day of September of the academic year;

~~(b) Special education for children with disabilities in approved school age classes;~~

~~(c) Adult services for persons sixteen years of age and older operated pursuant to section 5126.05 and division (B) of section 5126.051 of the Revised Code. Separate counts shall be made for the following:~~

~~(i) Persons enrolled in traditional adult services who are eligible for but not enrolled in active treatment;~~

~~(ii) Persons enrolled in traditional adult services who are eligible for and enrolled in active treatment;~~

~~(iii) Persons enrolled in traditional adult services but who are not eligible for active treatment;~~

~~(iv) Persons participating in community employment services. To be counted as participating in community employment services, a person must have spent an average of no less than ten hours per week in that employment during the preceding six months.~~

~~(d) Other programs in the county for individuals with mental retardation and developmental disabilities that have been approved for payment of subsidy by the department of developmental disabilities.~~

~~The membership in each such program and service in the county shall be reported on forms prescribed by the department of developmental disabilities.~~

~~The department of developmental disabilities shall adopt rules defining full-time equivalent enrollees and for determining the average daily membership therefrom, except that certification of average daily membership in approved school age classes shall be in accordance with rules adopted by the state board of education. The average daily membership figure shall be determined by dividing the amount representing the sum of the number of enrollees in each program or service in the week for which the certification is made by the number of days the program or service was offered in that week. No enrollee may be counted in average daily membership for more than one program or service.~~

~~(2) By the fifteenth day of December, the number of children enrolled in approved preschool units on the first day of December;~~

~~(3) On or before the thirtieth day of April, an itemized report of all of the county board's income and operating expenditures for the immediately preceding calendar year. The certification shall be provided in an itemized report prepared and submitted in the a format specified by the department of developmental disabilities;~~

~~(4) That each required certification and report is in accordance with~~

~~rules established by the department of developmental disabilities and the state board of education for the operation and subsidization of the programs and services.~~

Sec. 5126.18. (A) As used in this section:

(1) "Taxable value" means the taxable value of a county certified under division (B) of this section.

(2) "Per-mill yield" means the quotient obtained by dividing the taxable value of a county by one thousand.

(3) "Population" of a county means that shown by the federal census for a census year or, for a noncensus year, the population as estimated by the department of development.

(4) "Six-year moving average" means the average of the per-mill yields of a county for the most recent six years.

(5) "Yield per person" means the quotient obtained by dividing the six-year moving average of a county by the population of that county.

(6) "Tax equity payments" means payments to county boards of developmental disabilities under this section or a prior version of this section from money appropriated by the general assembly to the department of developmental disabilities for that purpose.

(7) "Eligible county" means a county determined under division (C) of this section to be eligible for tax equity payments for the two-year period for which that determination is made.

(8) "Threshold county" means the county with the lowest yield per person that is determined not to be eligible to receive tax equity payments.

(B) At the request of the director of developmental disabilities, the tax commissioner shall certify to the director the taxable value of property on each county's most recent tax list of real and public utility property. The director may request any other tax information necessary for the purposes of this section.

(C) Beginning in 2011, on or before the thirty-first day of May of that year and of every second year thereafter, the director of developmental disabilities shall determine whether a county is eligible to receive tax equity payments for the ensuing two fiscal years as follows:

(1) The director shall determine the six-year moving average, population, and yield per person of each county in the state, based on the most recent information available.

(2) The director shall calculate a tax equity funding threshold by adding the population of the county with the lowest yield per person and the populations of individual counties in order from lowest yield per person to highest yield per person until the addition of the population of another

county would increase the aggregate sum to over thirty per cent of the total state population. A county is eligible to receive tax equity payments for the two-year period if its population is included in the calculation of the threshold and the addition of its population does not increase such sum to over thirty per cent of the total state population.

(D)(1) Except as provided in divisions (D)(2) and (3) of this section, beginning in fiscal year 2012 and for each fiscal year thereafter, the director shall make tax equity payments to each eligible county equal to the population of the county multiplied by the difference between the yield per person of the threshold county and the yield per person of the eligible county. For purposes of this division, the population and yield per person of a county equal the population and yield per person most recently determined for that county under division (C)(1) of this section. The payments shall be made in quarterly installments of equal amounts not later than the thirtieth day of September, the thirty-first day of December, the thirty-first day of March, and the thirtieth day of June of each fiscal year.

(2) In fiscal year 2012, if the amount determined under division (D)(1) of this section for an eligible county is at least twenty thousand dollars greater than or twenty thousand dollars less than the amount of tax equity payments the county received in fiscal year 2011, the county's tax equity payments for fiscal years 2012 through 2014 shall equal the following:

(a) For fiscal year 2012, one-fourth of the amount calculated for the eligible county under division (D)(1) of this section plus three-fourths of the amount of tax equity payments the county received in fiscal year 2011;

(b) For fiscal year 2013, one-half of the amount calculated for the eligible county under division (D)(1) of this section plus one-half of the amount of tax equity payments the county received in fiscal year 2011;

(c) For fiscal year 2014, three-fourths of the amount calculated for the eligible county under division (D)(1) of this section plus one-fourth of the amount of tax equity payments the county received in fiscal year 2011.

(3) In any fiscal year, if the total amount of tax equity payments for all eligible counties as determined under divisions (D)(1) and (2) of this section is greater than the amount appropriated to the department of developmental disabilities for the purpose of making such payments in that fiscal year, the director shall reduce the payments to each eligible county board in equal proportion. If the total amount of tax equity payments as determined under that division is less than the amount appropriated to the department for that purpose, the director shall determine how to allocate the excess money after consultation with the Ohio association of county boards serving people with developmental disabilities.

(4) Tax equity payments shall be paid only to an eligible county board of developmental disabilities and not to a regional council established under section 5126.13 of the Revised Code or any other entity.

(E)(1) Except as provided in division (E)(2) of this section, a county board of developmental disabilities shall use tax equity payments solely to pay the nonfederal share of medicaid expenditures it is required to pay under sections 5126.059 and 5126.0510 of the Revised Code. Tax equity payments shall not be used to pay any salary or other compensation to county board personnel.

(2) Upon the written request of a county board, the director of developmental disabilities may authorize a county board to use tax equity payments for infrastructure improvements necessary to support medicaid waiver administration.

(3) The director may audit any county board receiving tax equity payments to ensure appropriate use of the payments in accordance with this section. If the director determines that a county board is using payments inappropriately, the director shall notify the county board in writing of the determination. Within thirty days after receiving the director's notification, the county board shall submit a written plan of correction to the director. The director may accept or reject the plan. If the director rejects the plan, the director may require the county board to repay all or a portion of the amount of tax equity payments used inappropriately. The director shall distribute any tax equity payments returned under this division to other eligible county boards in accordance with a plan developed by the director after consultation with the Ohio association of county boards serving people with developmental disabilities.

Sec. 5126.24. (A) As used in this section:

(1) "License" means an educator license issued by the state board of education under section 3319.22 of the Revised Code or a certificate issued by the department of developmental disabilities.

(2) "Teacher" means a person employed by a county board of developmental disabilities in a position that requires a license.

(3) "Nonteaching employee" means a person employed by a county board of developmental disabilities in a position that does not require a license.

(4) "Years of service" includes all service described in division (A) of section 3317.13 of the Revised Code.

(B) Subject to rules established by the director of developmental disabilities pursuant to Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, each county board of developmental disabilities shall annually adopt separate salary schedules

for teachers and nonteaching employees.

(C) The teachers' salary schedule shall provide for increments based on training and years of service. The board may establish its own service requirements provided no teacher receives less than the salary the teacher would be paid under section 3317.13 of the Revised Code if the teacher were employed by a school district board of education and provided full credit for a minimum of five years of actual teaching and military experience as defined in division (A) of such section is given to each teacher.

Each teacher who has completed training that would qualify the teacher for a higher salary bracket pursuant to this section shall file by the fifteenth day of September with the fiscal officer of the board, satisfactory evidence of the completion of such additional training. The fiscal officer shall then immediately place the teacher, pursuant to this section, in the proper salary bracket in accordance with training and years of service. No teacher shall be paid less than the salary to which the teacher would be entitled under section 3317.13 of the Revised Code if the teacher were employed by a school district board of education.

The superintendent of each county board, on or before the fifteenth day of October of each year, shall certify to the state board of education the name of each teacher employed, on an annual salary, in each special education program operated pursuant to section 3323.09 of the Revised Code during the first full school week of October. The superintendent further shall certify, for each teacher, the number of years of training completed at a recognized college, the degrees earned from a college recognized by the state board, the type of license held, the number of months employed by the board, the annual salary, and other information that the state board may request.

(D) The nonteaching employees' salary schedule established by the board shall be based on training, experience, and qualifications with initial salaries no less than salaries in effect on July 1, 1985. Each board shall prepare and may amend from time to time, specifications descriptive of duties, responsibilities, requirements, and desirable qualifications of the classifications of employees required to perform the duties specified in the salary schedule. All nonteaching employees shall be notified of the position classification to which they are assigned and the salary for the classification. The compensation of all nonteaching employees working for a particular board shall be uniform for like positions except as compensation would be affected by salary increments based upon length of service.

On the fifteenth day of October of each year the nonteaching employees'

salary schedule and list of job classifications and salaries in effect on that date shall be filed by each board with the superintendent of public instruction. If such salary schedule and classification plan is not filed, the superintendent of public instruction shall order the board to file such schedule and list forthwith. If this condition is not corrected within ten days after receipt of the order from the superintendent, no money shall be distributed to the ~~district board~~ under Chapter ~~3306~~ or 3317. of the Revised Code until the superintendent has satisfactory evidence of the board's full compliance with such order.

Sec. 5126.41. The county board of developmental disabilities shall identify residents of the county for whom supported living is to be provided. Identification of the residents shall be made in accordance with the priorities set under section 5126.04 of the Revised Code and the waiting ~~list-policies~~ developed lists established under section 5126.042 of the Revised Code. The board shall assist the residents in identifying their individual service needs.

To arrange supported living for an individual, the board shall assist the individual in developing an individual service plan. In developing the plan, the individual shall choose a residence that is appropriate according to local standards; the individuals, if any, with whom the individual will live in the residence; the services the individual needs to live in the individual's residence of choice; and the providers from which the services will be received. The choices available to an individual shall be based on available resources.

The board shall obtain the consent of the individual or the individual's guardian and the signature of the individual or guardian on the individual service plan. The county board shall ensure that the individual receives from the provider the services contracted for under section 5126.45 of the Revised Code.

An individual service plan for supported living shall be effective for a period of time agreed to by the county board and the individual. In determining that period, the county board and the individual shall consider the nature of the services to be provided and the manner in which they are customarily provided.

Sec. 5126.42. (A) A county board of developmental disabilities shall establish an advisory council composed of board members or employees of the board, providers, individuals receiving supported living, and advocates for individuals receiving supported living to provide on-going communication among all persons concerned with supported living.

(B) The board shall develop procedures for the resolution of grievances between the board and providers or between the board and an entity with

which it has a shared funding agreement.

(C) The board shall develop and implement a provider selection system. Each system shall enable an individual to choose to continue receiving supported living from the same providers, to select additional providers, or to choose alternative providers. Annually, the board shall review its provider selection system to determine whether it has been implemented in a manner that allows individuals fair and equitable access to providers.

In developing a provider selection system, the county board shall create a pool of providers for individuals to use in choosing their providers of supported living. The pool shall be created by placing in the pool all providers on record with the board or by placing in the pool all providers approved by the board through soliciting requests for proposals for supported living contracts. In either case, only providers that are certified by the director of developmental disabilities may be placed in the pool.

If the board places all providers on record in the pool, the board shall review the pool at least annually to determine whether each provider has continued interest in being a provider and has maintained its certification by the department. At any time, an interested and certified provider may make a request to the board that it be added to the pool, and the board shall add the provider to the pool not later than seven days after receiving the request.

If the board solicits requests for proposals for inclusion of providers in the pool, the board shall develop standards for selecting the providers to be included. Requests for proposals shall be solicited at least annually. When requests are solicited, the board shall cause legal notices to be published ~~at least~~ once each week for two consecutive weeks in a newspaper ~~with~~ of general circulation within the county or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code. The board's formal request for proposals shall include a description of any applicable contract terms, the standards that are used to select providers for inclusion in the pool, and the process the board uses to resolve disputes arising from the selection process. The board shall accept requests from any entity interested in being a provider of supported living for individuals served by the board. Requests shall be approved or denied according to the standards developed by the board. Providers that previously have been placed in the pool are not required to resubmit a request for proposal to be included in the pool, unless the board's standards have been changed.

In assisting an individual in choosing a provider, the county board shall provide the individual with uniform and consistent information pertaining to each provider in the pool. An individual may choose to receive supported living from a provider that is not included in the pool, if the provider is

certified by the director of developmental disabilities.

Sec. 5139.11. The department of youth services shall do all of the following:

(A) Through a program of education, promotion, and organization, form groups of local citizens and assist these groups in conducting activities aimed at the prevention and control of juvenile delinquency, making use of local people and resources for the following purposes:

(1) Combatting local conditions known to contribute to juvenile delinquency;

(2) Developing recreational and other programs for youth work;

(3) Providing adult sponsors for delinquent children cases;

(4) Dealing with other related problems of the locality.

(B) Advise local, state, and federal officials, public and private agencies, and lay groups on the needs for and possible methods of the reduction and prevention of juvenile delinquency and the treatment of delinquent children;

(C) Consult with the schools and courts of this state on the development of programs for the reduction and prevention of delinquency and the treatment of delinquents;

(D) Cooperate with other agencies whose services deal with the care and treatment of delinquent children to the end that delinquent children who are state wards may be assisted whenever possible to a successful adjustment outside of institutional care;

(E) Cooperate with other agencies in surveying, developing, and utilizing the recreational resources of a community as a means of combatting the problem of juvenile delinquency and effectuating rehabilitation;

(F) Hold district and state conferences from time to time in order to acquaint the public with current problems of juvenile delinquency and develop a sense of civic responsibility toward the prevention of juvenile delinquency;

(G) Assemble and distribute information relating to juvenile delinquency and report on studies relating to community conditions that affect the problem of juvenile delinquency;

(H) Assist any community within the state by conducting a comprehensive survey of the community's available public and private resources, and recommend methods of establishing a community program for combatting juvenile delinquency and crime, but no survey of that type shall be conducted unless local individuals and groups request it through their local authorities, and no request of that type shall be interpreted as

binding the community to following the recommendations made as a result of the request;

(I) Evaluate the rehabilitation of children committed to the department and prepare and submit periodic reports to the committing court for the following purposes:

(1) Evaluating the effectiveness of institutional treatment;

(2) Making recommendations for judicial release under section 2152.22 of the Revised Code if appropriate and recommending conditions for judicial release;

(3) Reviewing the placement of children and recommending alternative placements where appropriate.

(J) Coordinate dates for hearings to be conducted under section 2152.22 of the Revised Code and assist in the transfer and release of children from institutionalization to the custody of the committing court;

(K)(1) Coordinate and assist juvenile justice systems by doing the following:

(a) Performing juvenile justice system planning in the state, including any planning that is required by any federal law;

(b) Collecting, analyzing, and correlating information and data concerning the juvenile justice system in the state;

(c) Cooperating with and providing technical assistance to state departments, administrative planning districts, metropolitan county criminal justice services agencies, criminal justice coordinating councils, and agencies, offices, and departments of the juvenile justice system in the state, and other appropriate organizations and persons;

(d) Encouraging and assisting agencies, offices, and departments of the juvenile justice system in the state and other appropriate organizations and persons to solve problems that relate to the duties of the department;

(e) Administering within the state any juvenile justice acts and programs that the governor requires the department to administer;

(f) Implementing the state comprehensive plans;

(g) Visiting and inspecting jails, detention facilities, correctional facilities, facilities that may hold juveniles involuntarily, or any other facility that may temporarily house juveniles on a voluntary or involuntary basis for the purpose of compliance pursuant to the "Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974," 88 Stat. 1109, as amended;

(h) Auditing grant activities of agencies, offices, organizations, and persons that are financed in whole or in part by funds granted through the department;

~~(h)~~(i) Monitoring or evaluating the performance of juvenile justice

system projects and programs in the state that are financed in whole or in part by funds granted through the department;

~~(i)~~(j) Applying for, allocating, disbursing, and accounting for grants that are made available pursuant to federal juvenile justice acts, or made available from other federal, state, or private sources, to improve the criminal and juvenile justice systems in the state. All money from federal juvenile justice act grants shall, if the terms under which the money is received require that the money be deposited into an interest bearing fund or account, be deposited in the state treasury to the credit of the federal juvenile justice program purposes fund, which is hereby created. All investment earnings shall be credited to the fund.

~~(j)~~(k) Contracting with federal, state, and local agencies, foundations, corporations, businesses, and persons when necessary to carry out the duties of the department;

~~(k)~~(l) Overseeing the activities of metropolitan county criminal justice services agencies, administrative planning districts, and juvenile justice coordinating councils in the state;

~~(l)~~(m) Advising the general assembly and governor on legislation and other significant matters that pertain to the improvement and reform of the juvenile justice system in the state;

~~(m)~~(n) Preparing and recommending legislation to the general assembly and governor for the improvement of the juvenile justice system in the state;

~~(n)~~(o) Assisting, advising, and making any reports that are required by the governor, attorney general, or general assembly;

~~(o)~~(p) Adopting rules pursuant to Chapter 119. of the Revised Code.

(2) Division (K)(1) of this section does not limit the discretion or authority of the attorney general with respect to crime victim assistance and criminal and juvenile justice programs.

(3) Nothing in division (K)(1) of this section is intended to diminish or alter the status of the office of the attorney general as a criminal justice services agency.

(4) The governor may appoint any advisory committees to assist the department that the governor considers appropriate or that are required under any state or federal law.

Sec. 5139.43. (A) The department of youth services shall operate a felony delinquent care and custody program that shall be operated in accordance with the formula developed pursuant to section 5139.41 of the Revised Code, subject to the conditions specified in this section.

(B)(1) Each juvenile court shall use the moneys disbursed to it by the department of youth services pursuant to division (B) of section 5139.41 of

the Revised Code in accordance with the applicable provisions of division (B)(2) of this section and shall transmit the moneys to the county treasurer for deposit in accordance with this division. The county treasurer shall create in the county treasury a fund that shall be known as the felony delinquent care and custody fund and shall deposit in that fund the moneys disbursed to the juvenile court pursuant to division (B) of section 5139.41 of the Revised Code. The county treasurer also shall deposit into that fund the state subsidy funds granted to the county pursuant to section 5139.34 of the Revised Code. The moneys disbursed to the juvenile court pursuant to division (B) of section 5139.41 of the Revised Code and deposited pursuant to this division in the felony delinquent care and custody fund shall not be commingled with any other county funds except state subsidy funds granted to the county pursuant to section 5139.34 of the Revised Code; shall not be used for any capital construction projects; upon an order of the juvenile court and subject to appropriation by the board of county commissioners, shall be disbursed to the juvenile court for use in accordance with the applicable provisions of division (B)(2) of this section; shall not revert to the county general fund at the end of any fiscal year; and shall carry over in the felony delinquent care and custody fund from the end of any fiscal year to the next fiscal year. The maximum balance carry-over at the end of each respective fiscal year in the felony delinquent care and custody fund in any county from funds allocated to the county pursuant to sections 5139.34 and 5139.41 of the Revised Code in the previous fiscal year shall not exceed an amount to be calculated as provided in the formula set forth in this division, unless that county has applied for and been granted an exemption by the director of youth services. Beginning June 30, 2008, the maximum balance carry-over at the end of each respective fiscal year shall be determined by the following formula: for fiscal year 2008, the maximum balance carry-over shall be one hundred per cent of the allocation for fiscal year 2007, to be applied in determining the fiscal year 2009 allocation; for fiscal year 2009, it shall be fifty per cent of the allocation for fiscal year 2008, to be applied in determining the fiscal year 2010 allocation; for fiscal year 2010, it shall be twenty-five per cent of the allocation for fiscal year 2009, to be applied in determining the fiscal year 2011 allocation; and for each fiscal year subsequent to fiscal year 2010, it shall be twenty-five per cent of the allocation for the immediately preceding fiscal year, to be applied in determining the allocation for the next immediate fiscal year. The department shall withhold from future payments to a county an amount equal to any moneys in the felony delinquent care and custody fund of the county that exceed the total maximum balance carry-over that applies for

that county for the fiscal year in which the payments are being made and shall reallocate the withheld amount. The department shall adopt rules for the withholding and reallocation of moneys disbursed under sections 5139.34 and 5139.41 of the Revised Code and for the criteria and process for a county to obtain an exemption from the withholding requirement. The moneys disbursed to the juvenile court pursuant to division (B) of section 5139.41 of the Revised Code and deposited pursuant to this division in the felony delinquent care and custody fund shall be in addition to, and shall not be used to reduce, any usual annual increase in county funding that the juvenile court is eligible to receive or the current level of county funding of the juvenile court and of any programs or services for delinquent children, unruly children, or juvenile traffic offenders.

(2)(a) A county and the juvenile court that serves the county shall use the moneys in its felony delinquent care and custody fund in accordance with rules that the department of youth services adopts pursuant to division (D) of section 5139.04 of the Revised Code and as follows:

(i) The moneys in the fund that represent state subsidy funds granted to the county pursuant to section 5139.34 of the Revised Code shall be used to aid in the support of prevention, early intervention, diversion, treatment, and rehabilitation programs that are provided for alleged or adjudicated unruly children or delinquent children or for children who are at risk of becoming unruly children or delinquent children. The county shall not use for capital improvements more than fifteen per cent of the moneys in the fund that represent the applicable annual grant of those state subsidy funds.

(ii) The moneys in the fund that were disbursed to the juvenile court pursuant to division (B) of section 5139.41 of the Revised Code and deposited pursuant to division (B)(1) of this section in the fund shall be used to provide programs and services for the training, treatment, or rehabilitation of felony delinquents that are alternatives to their commitment to the department, including, but not limited to, community residential programs, day treatment centers, services within the home, and electronic monitoring, and shall be used in connection with training, treatment, rehabilitation, early intervention, or other programs or services for any delinquent child, unruly child, or juvenile traffic offender who is under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court.

The fund also may be used for prevention, early intervention, diversion, treatment, and rehabilitation programs that are provided for alleged or adjudicated unruly children, delinquent children, or juvenile traffic offenders or for children who are at risk of becoming unruly children, delinquent children, or juvenile traffic offenders. Consistent with division

(B)(1) of this section, a county and the juvenile court of a county shall not use any of those moneys for capital construction projects.

(iii) Moneys in the fund shall not be used to support programs or services that do not comply with federal juvenile justice and delinquency prevention core requirements or to support programs or services that research has shown to be ineffective. Moneys in the fund shall be prioritized to research-supported, outcome-based programs and services.

(iv) The county and the juvenile court that serves the county may use moneys in the fund to provide out-of-home placement of children only in detention centers, community rehabilitation centers, or community corrections facilities approved by the department pursuant to standards adopted by the department, licensed by an authorized state agency, or accredited by the American correctional association or another national organization recognized by the department.

(b) Each juvenile court shall comply with division (B)(3)(d) of this section as implemented by the department. If a juvenile court fails to comply with division (B)(3)(d) of this section, the department shall not be required to make any disbursements in accordance with division (C) or (D) of section 5139.41 or division (C)(2) of section 5139.34 of the Revised Code.

(3) In accordance with rules adopted by the department pursuant to division (D) of section 5139.04 of the Revised Code, each juvenile court and the county served by that juvenile court shall do all of the following that apply:

(a) The juvenile court shall prepare an annual grant agreement and application for funding that satisfies the requirements of this section and section 5139.34 of the Revised Code and that pertains to the use, upon an order of the juvenile court and subject to appropriation by the board of county commissioners, of the moneys in its felony delinquent care and custody fund for specified programs, care, and services as described in division (B)(2)(a) of this section, shall submit that agreement and application to the county family and children first council, the regional family and children first council, or the local intersystem services to children cluster as described in sections 121.37 and 121.38 of the Revised Code, whichever is applicable, and shall file that agreement and application with the department for its approval. The annual grant agreement and application for funding shall include a method of ensuring equal access for minority youth to the programs, care, and services specified in it.

The department may approve an annual grant agreement and application for funding only if the juvenile court involved has complied with the preparation, submission, and filing requirements described in division

(B)(3)(a) of this section. If the juvenile court complies with those requirements and the department approves that agreement and application, the juvenile court and the county served by the juvenile court may expend the state subsidy funds granted to the county pursuant to section 5139.34 of the Revised Code only in accordance with division (B)(2)(a) of this section, the rules pertaining to state subsidy funds that the department adopts pursuant to division (D) of section 5139.04 of the Revised Code, and the approved agreement and application.

(b) By the thirty-first day of August of each year, the juvenile court shall file with the department a report that contains all of the statistical and other information for each month of the prior state fiscal year. If the juvenile court fails to file the report required by division (B)(3)(b) of this section by the thirty-first day of August of any year, the department shall not disburse any payment of state subsidy funds to which the county otherwise is entitled pursuant to section 5139.34 of the Revised Code and shall not disburse pursuant to division (B) of section 5139.41 of the Revised Code the applicable allocation until the juvenile court fully complies with division (B)(3)(b) of this section.

(c) If the department requires the juvenile court to prepare monthly statistical reports and to submit the reports on forms provided by the department, the juvenile court shall file those reports with the department on the forms so provided. If the juvenile court fails to prepare and submit those monthly statistical reports within the department's timelines, the department shall not disburse any payment of state subsidy funds to which the county otherwise is entitled pursuant to section 5139.34 of the Revised Code and shall not disburse pursuant to division (B) of section 5139.41 of the Revised Code the applicable allocation until the juvenile court fully complies with division (B)(3)(c) of this section. If the juvenile court fails to prepare and submit those monthly statistical reports within one hundred eighty days of the date the department establishes for their submission, the department shall not disburse any payment of state subsidy funds to which the county otherwise is entitled pursuant to section 5139.34 of the Revised Code and shall not disburse pursuant to division (B) of section 5139.41 of the Revised Code the applicable allocation, and the state subsidy funds and the remainder of the applicable allocation shall revert to the department. If a juvenile court states in a monthly statistical report that the juvenile court adjudicated within a state fiscal year five hundred or more children to be delinquent children for committing acts that would be felonies if committed by adults and if the department determines that the data in the report may be inaccurate, the juvenile court shall have an independent auditor or other

qualified entity certify the accuracy of the data on a date determined by the department.

(d) If the department requires the juvenile court and the county to participate in a fiscal monitoring program or another monitoring program that is conducted by the department to ensure compliance by the juvenile court and the county with division (B) of this section, the juvenile court and the county shall participate in the program and fully comply with any guidelines for the performance of audits adopted by the department pursuant to that program and all requests made by the department pursuant to that program for information necessary to reconcile fiscal accounting. If an audit that is performed pursuant to a fiscal monitoring program or another monitoring program described in this division determines that the juvenile court or the county used moneys in the county's felony delinquent care and custody fund for expenses that are not authorized under division (B) of this section, within forty-five days after the department notifies the county of the unauthorized expenditures, the county either shall repay the amount of the unauthorized expenditures from the county general revenue fund to the state's general revenue fund or shall file a written appeal with the department. If an appeal is timely filed, the director of the department shall render a decision on the appeal and shall notify the appellant county or its juvenile court of that decision within forty-five days after the date that the appeal is filed. If the director denies an appeal, the county's fiscal agent shall repay the amount of the unauthorized expenditures from the county general revenue fund to the state's general revenue fund within thirty days after receiving the director's notification of the appeal decision.

(C) The determination of which county a reduction of the care and custody allocation will be charged against for a particular youth shall be made as outlined below for all youths who do not qualify as public safety beds. The determination of which county a reduction of the care and custody allocation will be charged against shall be made as follows until each youth is released:

(1) In the event of a commitment, the reduction shall be charged against the committing county.

(2) In the event of a recommitment, the reduction shall be charged against the original committing county until the expiration of the minimum period of institutionalization under the original order of commitment or until the date on which the youth is admitted to the department of youth services pursuant to the order of recommitment, whichever is later. Reductions of the allocation shall be charged against the county that recommitted the youth after the minimum expiration date of the original commitment.

(3) In the event of a revocation of a release on parole, the reduction shall be charged against the county that revokes the youth's parole.

(D) A juvenile court is not precluded by its allocation amount for the care and custody of felony delinquents from committing a felony delinquent to the department of youth services for care and custody in an institution or a community corrections facility when the juvenile court determines that the commitment is appropriate.

Sec. 5310.35. The board of county commissioners shall conduct the public hearing required by section 5310.33 of the Revised Code in accordance with this section.

(A)(1) The board shall prepare a notice of the hearing that includes each of the following:

(a) A statement that the board is considering abolishing land registration in the county, that abolition would require the deregistration of all registered land in the county, and that after abolition all land in the county would have to be dealt with as nonregistered land;

(b) A statement that the board seeks evidence with regard to the matters listed in section 5310.34 of the Revised Code;

(c) The date, time, and place of the hearing, which shall be not earlier than two nor later than three months after the resolution to consider the merits of abolishing land registration was adopted by the board;

(d) A statement that any person affected by the proposed abolition of land registration may appear at the hearing and present evidence as provided in division (B) of this section.

(2) The board shall serve the notice by both of the following means:

(a) Ordinary mail, evidenced by a certificate of mailing, addressed to each person from whom a receipt or signature card, giving residence and post-office address, has been taken by the county recorder under section 5309.30 or 5309.50 of the Revised Code, and to each person who has filed an affidavit with the county recorder under section 5309.72 of the Revised Code. The county recorder, within one month after the adoption of a resolution to consider the merits of abolishing land registration in the county, shall provide the board with the names and respective addresses of the persons who are entitled to notice under this division.

If a notice is returned with an endorsement showing failure of delivery, the board is under no further obligation to directly serve the notice upon the addressee. The board shall preserve the returned notice in the records pertaining to its consideration of the merits of abolishing land registration in the county.

(b) Publication twice a week for two consecutive weeks in a newspaper

of general circulation in the county or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code. Publication of the notice shall be completed at least one month prior to the date set for the hearing.

(B) At the date, time, and place specified in the notice, the board shall conduct a hearing, which may be adjourned from day to day until complete, at which any person affected by the proposed abolition of land registration may appear in person, by ~~his~~ attorney, or both, and present evidence, orally or in writing, with regard to the costs and benefits of maintaining land registration in the county. Any person who presents evidence may also present evidence refuting any evidence offered in opposition to ~~his~~ the person's evidence.

The board shall cause a stenographic record to be made of the hearing. The president of the board, or a member ~~he~~ the president designates, shall preside at the hearing.

Sec. 5501.44. (A) ~~The~~ Notwithstanding section 5735.27 of the Revised Code, the director of transportation, when ~~he deems~~ the director determines it in the interest of the welfare and safety of the citizens of Ohio, may enter into agreements with other states or subdivisions thereof or the United States relative to the cooperation in the repair, maintenance, or construction of a ~~toll-free~~ bridge crossing a stream that forms a boundary line of this state, and may expend state highway funds for said purpose.

(1) No such agreement shall be made that obligates this state to expend more than the cost of the construction of such portion of said bridge as is located within the state, and not more than fifty per cent of the cost of maintenance of any such bridge, and no such agreement shall be made that obligates the state in excess of three hundred thousand dollars in any one year for maintenance.

(2) Notwithstanding division (A)(1) of this section, the director may expend funds for the design, construction, inspection, maintenance, repair, and replacement of bridge and bridge approaches for the bridge that were transferred from the Ohio bridge commission to the control of the state of Ohio, department of transportation, as provided in Section 4 of Amended Substitute House Bill No. 98 of the 114th general assembly. Following the replacement of that bridge, the director may expend funds for the design, construction, inspection, maintenance, repair, and replacement of bridge and bridge approaches.

(3) Any such agreements shall be approved by the governor and attorney general of the state before they become effective.

(4) Each agreement entered into shall designate responsibility for inspection, provide for annual inspection, and require that a report of each

inspection be filed with the department of transportation. The director, with regard to all existing bridges or other bridges on a stream that forms a boundary line of this state, shall take all reasonable measures to obtain and to secure the filing of a copy of each inspection report for each bridge with the department of transportation.

(5) The department, upon hearing that a ~~toll-free~~ bridge across the Ohio river is scheduled to be closed by a contiguous state, shall make all reasonable efforts to notify the Ohio residents likely to be adversely affected by that closing. The department also shall cooperate and communicate with contiguous states in trying to resolve bridge closing problems.

(B)(1) The director, when ~~he~~ the director considers it in the interest of the welfare and safety of the citizens of Ohio, may enter into agreements with other states, subdivisions thereof, metropolitan planning organizations, or the United States, relative to the design, construction, operation, maintenance, and repair of a regional traffic management system, and may expend state and federal highway funds for such purposes, notwithstanding any other provision of the Revised Code.

(2) No such agreement shall be made that obligates this state to expend more than the cost of construction of such portion of a regional traffic management system as is located within the state, and not more than a proportional amount, based upon the system presence in this state, for costs of design, operation, maintenance, and repair.

(3) Any such agreements shall be approved by the governor and attorney general of the state before they become effective.

(4) As used in division (B) of this section, "regional traffic management system" means an integrated, high-technology system to provide remote control center surveillance and monitoring of the regional freeways and main arterial routes in order to reduce and eliminate major backups and delays to motorists in the area.

Sec. 5501.73. (A) After selecting a solicited or unsolicited proposal for a public-private initiative, the department of transportation shall enter into a public-private agreement for a transportation facility with the selected private entity or any configuration of private entities. An affected jurisdiction may be a party to a public-private agreement entered into by the department and a selected private entity or combination of private entities.

(B) A public-private agreement under this section shall provide for all of the following:

(1) Planning, acquisition, financing, development, design, construction, reconstruction, replacement, improvement, maintenance, management, repair, leasing, or operation of a transportation facility;

(2) Term of the public-private agreement, ~~subject to division (D) of this section;~~

(3) Type of property interest, if any, the private entity will have in the transportation facility;

(4) A specific plan to ensure proper maintenance of the transportation facility throughout the term of the agreement and a return of the facility to the department, if applicable, in good condition and repair;

(5) Whether user fees will be collected on the transportation facility and the basis by which such user fees shall be determined and modified;

(6) Compliance with applicable federal, state, and local laws;

(7) Grounds for termination of the public-private agreement by the department or operator;

(8) Disposition of the facility upon completion of the agreement;

(9) Procedures for amendment of the agreement.

(C) A public-private agreement under this section may provide for any of the following:

(1) Review and approval by the department of the operator's plans for the development and operation of the transportation facility;

(2) Inspection by the department of construction of or improvements to the transportation facility;

(3) Maintenance by the operator of a policy of liability insurance or self-insurance;

(4) Filing by the operator, on a periodic basis, of appropriate financial statements in a form acceptable to the department;

(5) Filing by the operator, on a periodic basis, of traffic reports in a form acceptable to the department;

(6) Financing obligations of the operator and the department;

(7) Apportionment of expenses between the operator and the department;

(8) Rights and duties of the operator, the department, and other state and local governmental entities with respect to use of the transportation facility;

(9) Rights and remedies available in the event of default or delay;

(10) Terms and conditions of indemnification of the operator by the department;

(11) Assignment, subcontracting, or other delegation of responsibilities of the operator or the department under the agreement to third parties, including other private entities and other state agencies;

(12) Sale or lease to the operator of private property related to the transportation facility;

(13) Traffic enforcement and other policing issues, including any

reimbursement by the private entity for such services.

~~(D) Any public-private agreement entered into under this section may be for a period not to exceed the then current two-year period for which appropriations have been made by the general assembly to the department; provided, that any agreement may be renewed for succeeding two-year periods when the general assembly enacts sufficient appropriations to the department for each successive biennium. Any such agreement may include, without limitation, any agreement by the department with respect to any costs of transportation facilities to be included prior to acquisition and construction of such transportation facilities. Any such agreement shall not constitute a debt or pledge of the faith and credit of the state, or of any political subdivision of the state, and the operator shall have no right to have taxes or excises levied by the general assembly, or the taxing authority of any political subdivision of the state, for payments under the agreement. Any such agreement shall contain a statement to that effect.~~

~~(E) No public-private agreement entered into under this section shall be construed to transfer to a private entity the director's authority to appropriate property under Chapters 163., 5501., and 5519. of the Revised Code.~~

Sec. 5502.52. (A) There is hereby created the statewide emergency alert program to aid in the identification and location of children who are under eighteen years of age, who are abducted, and whose abduction, as determined by a law enforcement agency, poses a credible threat of immediate danger of serious bodily harm or death to a child. The program shall be a coordinated effort among the governor's office, the department of public safety, the attorney general, law enforcement agencies, the state's public and commercial television and radio broadcasters, and others as deemed necessary by the governor.

(B) The statewide emergency alert program shall not be implemented unless all of the following activation criteria are met:

(1) The local investigating law enforcement agency confirms that an abduction has occurred.

(2) An abducted child is under eighteen years of age.

(3) The abduction poses a credible threat of immediate danger of serious bodily harm or death to a child.

(4) A law enforcement agency determines that the child is not a runaway and has not been abducted as a result of a child custody dispute, unless the dispute poses a credible threat of immediate danger of serious bodily harm or death to the child.

(5) There is sufficient descriptive information about the child, the abductor, and the circumstances surrounding the abduction to indicate that

activation of the alert will help locate the child.

(C) Nothing in division (B) of this section prevents the activation of a local or regional emergency alert program that may impose different criteria for the activation of a local or regional plan.

(D) Any radio broadcast station, television broadcast station, or cable television system participating in the statewide emergency alert program or in any local or regional emergency alert program, and any director, officer, employee, or agent of any such station or system, shall not be liable to any person for damages for any loss allegedly caused by or resulting from the station's or system's broadcast or cablecast of, or failure to broadcast or cablecast, any information pursuant to the statewide emergency alert program or the local or regional emergency alert program.

(E) No person shall knowingly make a false report that a child has been abducted and that leads to the implementation of the statewide emergency alert program created under this section or that leads to the implementation of a local or regional emergency alert program. Whoever violates this division is guilty of a felony of the fourth degree.

(F) As used in this section:

(1) "Abducted child" means a child for whom there is credible evidence to believe that the child has been abducted in violation of section 2905.01, 2905.02, 2905.03, or 2905.05 of the Revised Code.

(2) "Cable television system" means a cable system, as defined in section 2913.04 of the Revised Code.

(3) "Law enforcement agency" includes, but is not limited to, a county sheriff's office, the office of a village marshal, a police department of a municipal corporation, a police force of a regional transit authority, a police force of a metropolitan housing authority, the state highway patrol, a state university law enforcement agency, the office of a township police constable, and the police department of a township or joint township police district.

Sec. 5502.522. (A) There is hereby created the statewide emergency alert program to aid in the identification and location of any individual who has a mental impairment or is sixty-five years of age or older, who is or is believed to be a temporary or permanent resident of this state, is at a location that cannot be determined by an individual familiar with the missing individual, and is incapable of returning to the missing individual's residence without assistance, and whose disappearance, as determined by a law enforcement agency, poses a credible threat of immediate danger of serious bodily harm or death to the missing individual. The program shall be a coordinated effort among the governor's office, the department of public

safety, the attorney general, law enforcement agencies, the state's public and commercial television and radio broadcasters, and others as determined necessary by the governor. No name shall be given to the program created under this division that conflicts with any alert code standards that are required by federal law and that govern the naming of emergency alert programs.

(B) The statewide emergency alert program shall not be implemented unless all of the following activation criteria are met:

(1) The local investigating law enforcement agency confirms that the individual is missing.

(2) The individual is sixty-five years of age or older or has a mental impairment.

(3) The disappearance of the individual poses a credible threat of immediate danger of serious bodily harm or death to the individual.

(4) There is sufficient descriptive information about the individual and the circumstances surrounding the individual's disappearance to indicate that activation of the alert will help locate the individual.

(C) Nothing in division (B) of this section prevents the activation of a local or regional emergency alert program that may impose different criteria for the activation of a local or regional plan.

(D) Any radio broadcast station, television broadcast station, or cable system participating in the statewide emergency alert program or in any local or regional emergency alert program, and any director, officer, employee, or agent of any station or system participating in either type of alert program, shall not be liable to any person for damages for any loss allegedly caused by or resulting from the station's or system's broadcast or cablecast of, or failure to broadcast or cablecast, any information pursuant to the statewide emergency alert program or the local or regional emergency alert program.

(E) A local investigating law enforcement agency shall not be required to notify the statewide emergency alert program that the law enforcement agency has received information that meets the activation criteria set forth in division (B) of this section during the first twenty-four hours after the law enforcement agency receives the information.

(F) Nothing in this section shall be construed to authorize the use of the federal emergency alert system unless otherwise authorized by federal law.

(G) As used in this section:

(1) "Cable system" has the same meaning as in section 2913.04 of the Revised Code.

(2) "Law enforcement agency" includes, but is not limited to, a county

sheriff's office, the office of a village marshal, a police department of a municipal corporation, a police force of a regional transit authority, a police force of a metropolitan housing authority, the state highway patrol, a state university law enforcement agency, the office of a township police constable, and the police department of a township or joint township police district.

(3) "Mental impairment" means a substantial disorder of thought, mood, perception, orientation, or memory that grossly impairs judgment, behavior, or ability to live independently or provide self-care as certified by a licensed physician, psychiatrist, or psychologist.

Sec. 5502.61. As used in sections 5502.61 to 5502.66 of the Revised Code:

(A) "Federal criminal justice acts" means any federal law that authorizes financial assistance and other forms of assistance to be given by the federal government to the states to be used for the improvement of the criminal and juvenile justice systems of the states.

(B)(1) "Criminal justice system" includes all of the functions of the following:

(a) The state highway patrol, county sheriff offices, municipal and township police departments, and all other law enforcement agencies;

(b) The courts of appeals, courts of common pleas, municipal courts, county courts, and mayor's courts, when dealing with criminal cases;

(c) The prosecuting attorneys, city directors of law, village solicitors, and other prosecuting authorities when prosecuting or otherwise handling criminal cases, and the county and joint county public defenders and other public defender agencies or offices;

(d) The department of rehabilitation and correction, probation departments, county and municipal jails and workhouses, and any other department, agency, or facility that is concerned with the rehabilitation or correction of criminal offenders;

(e) Any public or private agency whose purposes include the prevention of crime or the diversion, adjudication, detention, or rehabilitation of criminal offenders;

(f) Any public or private agency, the purposes of which include assistance to crime victims or witnesses.

(2) The inclusion of any public or private agency, the purposes of which include assistance to crime victims or witnesses, as part of the criminal justice system pursuant to division (B)(1) of this section does not limit, and shall not be construed as limiting, the discretion or authority of the attorney general with respect to crime victim assistance and criminal justice

programs.

(C) "Juvenile justice system" includes all of the functions of the juvenile courts, the department of youth services, any public or private agency whose purposes include the prevention of delinquency or the diversion, adjudication, detention, or rehabilitation of delinquent children, and any of the functions of the criminal justice system that are applicable to children.

(D) "Comprehensive plan" means a document that coordinates, evaluates, and otherwise assists, on an annual or multi-year basis, any of the functions of the criminal and juvenile justice systems of the state or a specified area of the state, that conforms to the priorities of the state with respect to criminal and juvenile justice systems, and that conforms with the requirements of all federal criminal justice acts. These functions may include, but are not limited to, any of the following:

- (1) Crime and delinquency prevention;
- (2) Identification, detection, apprehension, and detention of persons charged with criminal offenses or delinquent acts;
- (3) Assistance to crime victims or witnesses, except that the comprehensive plan does not include the functions of the attorney general pursuant to sections 109.91 and 109.92 of the Revised Code;
- (4) Adjudication or diversion of persons charged with criminal offenses or delinquent acts;
- (5) Custodial treatment of criminal offenders, delinquent children, or both;
- (6) Institutional and noninstitutional rehabilitation of criminal offenders, delinquent children, or both.

(E) "Metropolitan county criminal justice services agency" means an agency that is established pursuant to division (A) of section 5502.64 of the Revised Code.

(F) "Administrative planning district" means a district that is established pursuant to division (A) or (B) of section 5502.66 of the Revised Code.

(G) "Criminal justice coordinating council" means a criminal justice services agency that is established pursuant to division (D) of section 5502.66 of the Revised Code.

(H) "Local elected official" means any person who is a member of a board of county commissioners or township trustees or of a city or village council, judge of the court of common pleas, a municipal court, or a county court, sheriff, county coroner, prosecuting attorney, city director of law, village solicitor, or mayor.

(I) "Juvenile justice coordinating council" means a juvenile justice services agency that is established pursuant to division (D) of section

5502.66 of the Revised Code.

(J) "Mcgruff house program" means a program in which individuals or families volunteer to have their homes or other buildings serve as places of temporary refuge for children and to display the mcgruff house symbol identifying the home or building as that type of place.

(K) "Mcgruff house symbol" means the symbol that is characterized by the image of "mcgruff," the crime dog, and the slogan "take a bite out of crime," and that has been adopted by the national crime prevention council as the symbol of its national citizens' crime prevention campaign.

(L) "Sponsoring agency" means any of the following:

(1) The board of education of any city, local, or exempted village school district;

(2) The governing board of any educational service center;

(3) The governing authority of any chartered nonpublic school;

(4) The police department of any municipal corporation, township, township police district, or joint ~~township~~ police district;

(5) The office of any township constable or county sheriff.

Sec. 5502.68. (A) There is hereby created in the state treasury the drug law enforcement fund. Ninety-seven per cent of three dollars and fifty cents out of each ten-dollar court cost imposed pursuant to section 2949.094 of the Revised Code shall be credited to the fund. Money in the fund shall be used only in accordance with this section to award grants to counties, municipal corporations, townships, township police districts, and joint ~~township~~ police districts to defray the expenses that a drug task force organized in the county, or in the county in which the municipal corporation, township, or district is located, incurs in performing its functions related to the enforcement of the state's drug laws and other state laws related to illegal drug activity.

The division of criminal justice services shall administer all money deposited into the drug law enforcement fund and, by rule adopted under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, shall establish procedures for a county, municipal corporation, township, township police district, or joint ~~township~~ police district to apply for money from the fund to defray the expenses that a drug task force organized in the county, or in the county in which the municipal corporation, township, or district is located, incurs in performing its functions related to the enforcement of the state's drug laws and other state laws related to illegal drug activity, procedures and criteria for determining eligibility of applicants to be provided money from the fund, and procedures and criteria for determining the amount of money to be provided out of the fund to eligible applicants.

(B) The procedures and criteria established under division (A) of this section for applying for money from the fund shall include, but shall not be limited to, a provision requiring a county, municipal corporation, township, township police district, or joint ~~township~~ police district that applies for money from the fund to specify in its application the amount of money desired from the fund, provided that the cumulative amount requested in all applications submitted for any single drug task force may not exceed more than two hundred fifty thousand dollars in any calendar year for that task force.

(C) The procedures and criteria established under division (A) of this section for determining eligibility of applicants to be provided money from the fund and for determining the amount of money to be provided out of the fund to eligible applicants shall include, but not be limited to, all of the following:

(1) Provisions requiring that, in order to be eligible to be provided money from the fund, a drug task force that applies for money from the fund must provide evidence that the drug task force will receive a local funding match of at least twenty-five per cent of the task force's projected operating costs in the period of time covered by the grant;

(2) Provisions requiring that money from the fund be allocated and provided to drug task forces that apply for money from the fund in accordance with the following priorities:

(a) Drug task forces that apply, that are in existence on the date of the application, and that are determined to be eligible applicants, and to which either of the following applies shall be given first priority to be provided money from the fund:

(i) Drug task forces that received funding through the division of criminal justice services in calendar year 2007;

(ii) Drug task forces in a county that has a population that exceeds seven hundred fifty thousand.

(b) If any moneys remain in the fund after all drug task forces that apply, that are in existence on the date of the application, that are determined to be eligible applicants, and that satisfy the criteria set forth in division (C)(2)(a)(i) or (ii) of this section are provided money from the fund as described in division (C)(2)(a) of this section, the following categories of drug task forces that apply and that are determined to be eligible applicants shall be given priority to be provided money from the fund in the order in which they apply for money from the fund:

(i) Drug task forces that are not in existence on the date of the application;

(ii) Drug task forces that are in existence on the date of the application but that do not satisfy the criteria set forth in division (C)(2)(a)(i) or (ii) of this section.

(D) The procedures and criteria established under division (A) of this section for determining the amount of money to be provided out of the fund to eligible applicants shall include, but shall not be limited to, a provision specifying that the cumulative amount provided to any single drug task force may not exceed more than two hundred fifty thousand dollars in any calendar year.

(E) As used in this section, "drug task force" means a drug task force organized in any county by the sheriff of the county, the prosecuting attorney of the county, the chief of police of the organized police department of any municipal corporation or township in the county, and the chief of police of the police force of any township police district or joint township police district in the county to perform functions related to the enforcement of state drug laws and other state laws related to illegal drug activity.

Sec. 5505.04. (A)(1) The general administration and management of the state highway patrol retirement system and the making effective of this chapter are hereby vested in the state highway patrol retirement board. The board may sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, contract and be contracted with, and do all things necessary to carry out this chapter.

The board shall consist of the following members:

- (a) The superintendent of the state highway patrol;
- (b) Two retirant members who reside in this state;
- (c) Five employee-members;
- (d) One member, known as the treasurer of state's investment designee, who shall be appointed by the treasurer of state for a term of four years and who shall have the following qualifications:

(i) The member is a resident of this state.

(ii) Within the three years immediately preceding the appointment, the member has not been employed by the public employees retirement system, police and fire pension fund, state teachers retirement system, school employees retirement system, or state highway patrol retirement system or by any person, partnership, or corporation that has provided to one of those retirement systems services of a financial or investment nature, including the management, analysis, supervision, or investment of assets.

(iii) The member has direct experience in the management, analysis, supervision, or investment of assets.

(iv) The member is not currently employed by the state or a political subdivision of the state.

(e) Two investment expert members, who shall be appointed to four-year terms. One investment expert member shall be appointed by the governor, and one investment expert member shall be jointly appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives and the president of the senate. Each investment expert member shall have the following qualifications:

(i) Each investment expert member shall be a resident of this state.

(ii) Within the three years immediately preceding the appointment, each investment expert member shall not have been employed by the public employees retirement system, police and fire pension fund, state teachers retirement system, school employees retirement system, or state highway patrol retirement system or by any person, partnership, or corporation that has provided to one of those retirement systems services of a financial or investment nature, including the management, analysis, supervision, or investment of assets.

(iii) Each investment expert member shall have direct experience in the management, analysis, supervision, or investment of assets.

(2) The board shall annually elect a chairperson and vice-chairperson from among its members. The vice-chairperson shall act as chairperson in the absence of the chairperson. A majority of the members of the board shall constitute a quorum and any action taken shall be approved by a majority of the members of the board. The board shall meet not less than once each year, upon sufficient notice to the members. All meetings of the board shall be open to the public except executive sessions as set forth in division (G) of section 121.22 of the Revised Code, and any portions of any sessions discussing medical records or the degree of disability of a member excluded from public inspection by this section.

(3) Any investment expert member appointed to fill a vacancy occurring prior to the expiration of the term for which the member's predecessor was appointed holds office until the end of such term. The member continues in office subsequent to the expiration date of the member's term until the member's successor takes office, or until a period of sixty days has elapsed, whichever occurs first.

(B) The attorney general shall prescribe procedures for the adoption of rules authorized under this chapter, consistent with the provision of section 111.15 of the Revised Code under which all rules shall be filed in order to be effective. Such procedures shall establish methods by which notice of proposed rules are given to interested parties and rules adopted by the board published and otherwise made available. When it files a rule with the joint committee on agency rule review pursuant to section 111.15 of the Revised Code, the board shall submit to the Ohio retirement study council a copy of

the full text of the rule, and if applicable, a copy of the rule summary and fiscal analysis required by division (B) of section 127.18 of the Revised Code.

(C)(1) As used in this division, "personal history record" means information maintained by the board on an individual who is a member, former member, retirant, or beneficiary that includes the address, telephone number, social security number, record of contributions, correspondence with the system, and other information the board determines to be confidential.

(2) The records of the board shall be open to public inspection, except for the following which shall be excluded: the member's, former member's, retirant's, or beneficiary's personal history record and the amount of a monthly allowance or benefit paid to a retirant, beneficiary, or survivor, except with the written authorization of the individual concerned.

(D) All medical reports and recommendations are privileged except as follows:

(1) Copies of such medical reports or recommendations shall be made available to the individual's personal physician, attorney, or authorized agent upon written release received from such individual or such 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.

(E) Notwithstanding the exceptions to public inspection in division (C)(2) of this section, the board may furnish the following information:

(1) If a member, former member, or 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 board shall furnish to the prosecutor the information requested from the individual's personal history record.

(2) Pursuant to a court order issued under Chapters 3119., 3121., and 3123. of the Revised Code, the board shall furnish to a court or child support enforcement agency the information required under those chapters.

(3) At the written request of any nonprofit organization or association providing services to retirement system members, retirants, or beneficiaries, the board shall provide to the organization or association a list of the names and addresses of members, former members, retirants, or beneficiaries if the organization or association agrees to use such information solely in

accordance with its stated purpose of providing services to such individuals and not for the benefit of other persons, organizations, or associations. The costs of compiling, copying, and mailing the list shall be paid by such entity.

(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 board shall inform the auditor of state of the name, current or most recent employer address, and social security number of each member whose name and social security number are the same as those of a person whose name or social security number was submitted by the director. The board and its employees, except for purposes of furnishing the auditor of state with information required by this section, shall preserve the confidentiality of recipients of public assistance in compliance with ~~division (A) of~~ section 5101.181 of the Revised Code.

(5) The system 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 system 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 board shall make available to the person copies of all documents, including resumes, in the board's possession regarding filling a vacancy of an employee member or retirant member of the board. 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 system shall provide the notice required by section 5505.263 of the Revised Code to the prosecutor assigned to the case.

(F) A statement that contains information obtained from the system's records that is certified and signed by an officer of the retirement system and to which the system's official seal is affixed, or copies of the system's records to which the signature and seal are attached, shall be received as true copies of the system's records in any court or before any officer of this state.

Sec. 5505.22. The right of any individual to a pension, or to the return of accumulated contributions, payable as provided under this chapter, and all moneys and investments of the state highway patrol retirement system and income from moneys or investments are exempt from any state tax, except the tax imposed by section 5747.02 of the Revised Code, and are exempt from any county, municipal, or other local tax, except income taxes

imposed pursuant to section 5748.02 ~~or~~, 5748.08, or 5748.09 of the Revised Code, and, except as provided in sections 3105.171, 3105.65, 3115.32, 3119.80, 3119.81, 3121.02, 3121.03, 3123.06, 5505.26, 5505.262, and 5505.263 of the Revised Code, shall not be subject to execution, garnishment, attachment, the operation of bankruptcy or insolvency laws, or any other process of law whatsoever, and shall be unassignable except as specifically provided in this chapter.

Sec. 5525.04. No bidder shall be given a certificate of qualification unless the bidder's financial statement and the investigation made by the director of transportation show that the bidder possesses net current assets or working capital sufficient, in the judgment of the director, to render it probable that the bidder can satisfactorily execute the bidder's contracts and meet all contractual obligations. Any applicant desiring a certificate of qualification in an amount of ~~two~~ five million dollars or more shall submit on forms prescribed by the director a financial audit prepared and attested as correct by an independent certified public accountant. Any applicant desiring a certificate of qualification in an amount that is less than ~~two~~ five million dollars shall submit a financial review on forms prescribed by the director. The aggregate amount of work set forth in either type of certificate of qualification shall not exceed ten times the applicant's net current assets or working capital. At the time of bidding, a bidder's qualification is determined by the bidder's qualification amount minus all of the bidder's pending work.

Applicants for qualification shall expressly authorize the director to obtain any information that the director considers pertinent, with respect to the financial worth, assets, and liabilities of the applicant, from banks or other financial institutions, surety companies, dealers in material, equipment, or supplies, or other persons having business transactions with the applicant. Applicants shall expressly authorize all such financial institutions or other persons to furnish any such information requested from them by the director. All information filed with or furnished to the director by applicants or other persons, in connection with the administration of sections 5525.02 to 5525.09 of the Revised Code, shall be kept in confidence by the director and not revealed to any person, except upon proper order of a court. Failure to submit the required information or to expressly grant the director authority to obtain the required information shall result in the denial of a certificate of qualification. The director or the director's subordinates shall have access to the books of account and financial records of all applicants, unless the financial statement furnished by any applicant is prepared and attested as correct by a certified public

accountant.

If an applicant for either type of certificate of qualification is or has been an employer in this state the application shall be accompanied by satisfactory evidence that the applicant has complied with Chapter 4123. of the Revised Code.

The director may require all qualified bidders to file financial statements at such intervals as the director prescribes. Sections 5525.02 to 5525.09 of the Revised Code shall be administered without reference to the residence of applicants, and the rules of the director shall apply equally to residents and nonresidents of this state. Sections 5525.02 to 5525.09 of the Revised Code, do not apply to the purchase of material, equipment, or supplies.

Sec. 5540.01. As used in this chapter:

(A) "Transportation improvement district" or "district" means a transportation improvement district designated pursuant to section 5540.02 of the Revised Code.

(B) "Governmental agency" means a department, division, or other unit of state government; a county, township, or municipal corporation or other political subdivision; a regional transit authority or regional transit commission created pursuant to Chapter 306. of the Revised Code; a port authority created pursuant to Chapter 4582. of the Revised Code; and the United States or any agency thereof.

(C) "Project" means a street, highway, parking facility, freight rail tracks and necessarily related freight rail facilities, or other transportation project constructed or improved under this chapter and includes all bridges, tunnels, overpasses, underpasses, interchanges, approaches, those portions of connecting streets or highways that serve interchanges and are determined by the district to be necessary for the safe merging of traffic between the project and those streets or highways, service facilities, and administration, storage, and other buildings, property, and facilities, that the district considers necessary for the operation of the project, together with all property and rights that must be acquired by the district for the construction, maintenance, or operation of the project.

(D) "Cost," as applied to the construction of a project, includes the cost of construction, including bridges over or under existing highways and railroads, acquisition of all property acquired by the district for such construction, demolishing or removing any buildings or structures on land so acquired, including the cost of acquiring any lands to which such buildings or structures may be moved, site clearance, improvement, and preparation, diverting streets or highways, interchanges with streets or highways, access roads to private property, including the cost of land or

easements therefor, all machinery, furnishings, and equipment, communications facilities, financing expenses, interest prior to and during construction and for one year after completion of construction, traffic estimates, indemnity and surety bonds and premiums on insurance, and guarantees, engineering, feasibility studies, and legal expenses, plans, specifications, surveys, estimates of cost and revenues, other expenses necessary or incidental to determining the feasibility or practicability of constructing a project, and such other expense as may be necessary or incident to the construction of the project and the financing of such construction. Any obligation or expense incurred by any governmental agency or person for surveys, borings, preparation of plans and specifications, and other engineering services, or any other cost described above, in connection with the construction of a project may be regarded as part of the cost of the project and reimbursed from revenues, taxes, or the proceeds of bonds as authorized by this chapter.

(E) "Owner" includes any person having any title or interest in any property authorized to be acquired by a district under this chapter.

(F) "Revenues" means all moneys received by a district with respect to the lease, sublease, or sale, including installment sale, conditional sale, or sale under a lease-purchase agreement, of a project, all moneys received by a district under an agreement pursuant to Section 515.03 of H.B. 66 of the 126th General Assembly, Section 555.10 of H.B. 67 of the 127th general assembly, or Section 755.20 of H.B. 153 of the 129th general assembly, any gift or grant received with respect to a project, tolls, special assessments levied by the district, proceeds of bonds to the extent the use thereof for payment of principal or of premium, if any, or interest on the bonds is authorized by the district, proceeds from any insurance, condemnation, or guaranty pertaining to a project or property mortgaged to secure bonds or pertaining to the financing of a project, and income and profit from the investment of the proceeds of bonds or of any revenues.

(G) "Street or highway" has the same meaning as in section 4511.01 of the Revised Code.

(H) "Financing expenses" means all costs and expenses relating to the authorization, issuance, sale, delivery, authentication, deposit, custody, clearing, registration, transfer, exchange, fractionalization, replacement, payment, and servicing of bonds including, without limitation, costs and expenses for or relating to publication and printing, postage, delivery, preliminary and final official statements, offering circulars, and informational statements, travel and transportation, underwriters, placement agents, investment bankers, paying agents, registrars, authenticating agents,

remarketing agents, custodians, clearing agencies or corporations, securities depositories, financial advisory services, certifications, audits, federal or state regulatory agencies, accounting and computation services, legal services and obtaining approving legal opinions and other legal opinions, credit ratings, redemption premiums, and credit enhancement facilities.

(I) "Bond proceedings" means the resolutions, trust agreements, certifications, notices, sale proceedings, leases, lease-purchase agreements, assignments, credit enhancement facility agreements, and other agreements, instruments, and documents, as amended and supplemented, or any one or more of combination thereof, authorizing, or authorizing or providing for the terms and conditions applicable to, or providing for the security or sale or award or liquidity of, bonds, and includes the provisions set forth or incorporated in those bonds and bond proceedings.

(J) "Bond service charges" means principal, including any mandatory sinking fund or mandatory redemption requirements for retirement of bonds, and interest and any redemption premium payable on bonds, as those payments come due and are payable to the bondholder or to a person making payment under a credit enhancement facility of those bond service charges to a bondholder.

(K) "Bond service fund" means the applicable fund created by the bond proceedings for and pledged to the payment of bond service charges on bonds provided for by those proceedings, including all moneys and investments, and earnings from investments, credited and to be credited to that fund as provided in the bond proceedings.

(L) "Bonds" means bonds, notes, including notes anticipating bonds or other notes, commercial paper, certificates of participation, or other evidences of obligation, including any interest coupons pertaining thereto, issued pursuant to this chapter.

(M) "Net revenues" means revenues lawfully available to pay both current operating expenses of a district and bond service charges in any fiscal year or other specified period, less current operating expenses of the district and any amount necessary to maintain a working capital reserve for that period.

(N) "Pledged revenues" means net revenues, moneys and investments, and earnings on those investments, in the applicable bond service fund and any other special funds, and the proceeds of any bonds issued for the purpose of refunding prior bonds, all as lawfully available and by resolution of the district committed for application as pledged revenues to the payment of bond service charges on particular issues of bonds.

(O) "Special funds" means the applicable bond service fund and any

accounts and subaccounts in that fund, any other funds or accounts permitted by and established under, and identified as a special fund or special account in, the bond proceedings, including any special fund or account established for purposes of rebate or other requirements under federal income tax laws.

(P) "Credit enhancement facilities" means letters of credit, lines of credit, standby, contingent, or firm securities purchase agreements, insurance, or surety arrangements, guarantees, and other arrangements that provide for direct or contingent payment of bond service charges, for security or additional security in the event of nonpayment or default in respect of bonds, or for making payment of bond service charges and at the option and on demand of bondholders or at the option of the district or upon certain conditions occurring under put or similar arrangements, or for otherwise supporting the credit or liquidity of the bonds, and includes credit, reimbursement, marketing, remarketing, indexing, carrying, interest rate hedge, and subrogation agreements, and other agreements and arrangements for payment and reimbursement of the person providing the credit enhancement facility and the security for that payment and reimbursement.

(Q) "Refund" means to fund and retire outstanding bonds, including advance refunding with or without payment or redemption prior to stated maturity.

(R) "Property" includes interests in property.

(S) "Administrative agent," "agent," "commercial paper," "floating rate interest structure," "indexing agent," "interest rate hedge," "interest rate period," "put arrangement," and "remarketing agent" have the same meanings as in section 9.98 of the Revised Code.

(T) "Outstanding" as applied to bonds means outstanding in accordance with the terms of the bonds and the applicable bond proceedings.

(U) "Interstate system" has the same meaning as in section 5516.01 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 5540.03. (A) A transportation improvement district may:

(1) Adopt bylaws for the regulation of its affairs and the conduct of its business;

(2) Adopt an official seal;

(3) Sue and be sued in its own name, plead and be impleaded, provided any actions against the district shall be brought in the court of common pleas of the county in which the principal office of the district is located, or in the court of common pleas of the county in which the cause of action arose, and all summonses, exceptions, and notices of every kind shall be served on the district by leaving a copy thereof at its principal office with the

secretary-treasurer;

(4) Purchase, construct, maintain, repair, sell, exchange, police, operate, or lease projects;

(5) Issue either or both of the following for the purpose of providing funds to pay the costs of any project or part thereof:

(a) Transportation improvement district revenue bonds;

(b) Bonds pursuant to Section 13 of Article VIII, Ohio Constitution;

(6) Maintain such funds as it considers necessary;

(7) Direct its agents or employees, when properly identified in writing and after at least five days' written notice, to enter upon lands within its jurisdiction to make surveys and examinations preliminary to the location and construction of projects for the district, without liability of the district or its agents or employees except for actual damage done;

(8) Make and enter into all contracts and agreements necessary or incidental to the performance of its functions and the execution of its powers under this chapter;

(9) Employ or retain or contract for the services of consulting engineers, superintendents, managers, and such other engineers, construction and accounting experts, financial advisers, trustees, marketing, remarketing, and administrative agents, attorneys, and other employees, independent contractors, or agents as are necessary in its judgment and fix their compensation, provided all such expenses shall be payable solely from the proceeds of bonds or from revenues;

(10) Receive and accept from the federal or any state or local government, including, but not limited to, any agency, entity, or instrumentality of any of the foregoing, loans and grants for or in aid of the construction, maintenance, or repair of any project, and receive and accept aid or contributions from any source or person of money, property, labor, or other things of value, to be held, used, and applied only for the purposes for which such loans, grants, and contributions are made. Nothing in division (A)(10) of this section shall be construed as imposing any liability on this state for any loan received by a transportation improvement district from a third party unless this state has entered into an agreement to accept such liability.

(11) Acquire, hold, and dispose of property in the exercise of its powers and the performance of its duties under this chapter;

(12) Establish and collect tolls or user charges for its projects;

(13) Do all acts necessary and proper to carry out the powers expressly granted in this chapter.

(B) Chapters 123., 124., 125., 153., and 4115., and sections 9.331;

~~9.332, 9.333,~~ to 9.335 and 307.86 of the Revised Code do not apply to contracts or projects of a transportation improvement district.

Sec. 5540.031. (A) The board of trustees of a transportation improvement district may provide for the construction, reconstruction, improvement, alteration, or repair of any road, highway, public place, building, or other infrastructure and levy special assessments, if the board determines that the public improvement will benefit the area where it will be constructed, reconstructed, improved, altered, or repaired. However, if the improvement is proposed for territory in a political subdivision located outside the district's territory, the legislative authority of that political subdivision shall approve the undertaking of the improvement within the political subdivision.

(B) If any improvements are made under this section, contracts for the improvement may provide that the improvement may be owned by the district or by the person or corporation supplying it to the district under a lease.

(C) If the board of trustees of a district proposes an improvement described in division (A) of this section, the board shall conduct a hearing on the proposed improvement. The board shall indicate by metes and bounds the area in which the public improvement will be made and the area that will benefit from the improvement.

(D) The board of trustees shall fix a day for a hearing on the proposed improvement. The secretary-treasurer of the board shall deliver, to each owner of a parcel of land or a lot that the board identifies as benefiting from the proposed improvement, a notice that sets forth the substance of the proposed improvement and the time and place of the hearing on it. At least fifteen days before the date set for the hearing, a copy of the notice shall be served upon the owner or left at ~~his~~ the owner's usual place of residence, or, if the owner is a corporation, upon an officer or agent of the corporation. On or before the day of the hearing, the person serving notice of the hearing shall make return thereon, under oath, of the time and manner of service, and shall file the notice with the secretary-treasurer of the board.

At least fifteen days before the day set for the hearing on the proposed improvement, the secretary-treasurer shall give notice to each nonresident owner of a lot or parcel of land in the area to be benefited by the improvement, by publication once in a newspaper ~~published and~~ of general circulation in the one or more counties in which this area is located. The publication of the notice shall be verified by affidavit of the printer or other person having knowledge of the publication and shall be filed with the secretary-treasurer of the district on or before the date of the hearing.

(E) At the time and place specified in the notice for a hearing on the proposed improvement, the board of trustees of the district shall meet and hear any and all testimony provided by any of the parties affected by the proposed improvement and by any other persons competent to testify. The board or its representatives shall inspect, by an actual viewing, the area to be benefited by the proposed improvement. The board shall determine the necessity of the proposed improvement and may find that the proposed improvement will result in general as well as special benefits. The board may adjourn from time to time and to such places as it considers necessary.

(F)(1) The board may award contracts or enter into a lease agreement for the construction, reconstruction, improvement, alteration, or repair of any improvement described in division (A) of this section and may issue notes, bonds, revenue anticipatory instruments, or other obligations, as authorized by this chapter, to finance the improvements.

(2) All or a part of the costs and expenses of providing for the construction, reconstruction, improvement, alteration, or repair of any improvement described in division (F)(1) of this section may be paid from a fund into which may be paid special assessments levied under this section against the lots and parcels of land in the area to be benefited by the improvement, if the board finds that the improvement will result in general or special benefits to the benefited area. These special assessments shall be levied not more than one time on the same lot or parcel of land. Such costs and expenses may also be paid from the treasury of the district or from other available sources in amounts the board finds appropriate.

(3) The board shall levy special assessments at an amount not to exceed ten per cent of the assessable value of the lot or parcel of land being assessed. The board shall determine the assessable value of a lot or parcel of land in the following manner: the board shall first determine the fair market value of the lot or parcel being assessed in the calendar year in which the area to be benefited by the public improvement is first designated and then multiply this amount by the average rate of appreciation in value of the lot or parcel since that calendar year. The assessable value of the lot or parcel is the current fair market value of the lot or parcel minus the amount calculated in the manner described in the immediately preceding sentence. The board may adjust the assessable value of a lot or parcel of land to reflect a sale of the lot or parcel that indicates an appreciation in its value that exceeds its average rate of appreciation in value.

(4) Special assessments levied by the board may be paid in full in a lump sum or may be paid and collected in equal semiannual installments, equal in number to twice the number of years for which the lease of the

improvement is made or twice the number of years that the note, bond, instrument, or obligation that the assessments are pledged to pay requires. The assessments shall be paid and collected in the same manner and at the same time as real property taxes are paid and collected, and assessments in the amount of fifty 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. Complaints regarding assessments may be made to the county board of revision in the same manner as complaints relating to the valuation and assessment of real property.

Credits against assessments shall be granted equal to the value of any construction, reconstruction, improvement, alteration, or repair that an owner of a parcel of land or lot makes to an improvement pursuant to an agreement between the owner and the district.

(5) After the levy of a special assessment, the board, at any time during any year in which an installment of the assessment becomes due, may pay out of other available funds of the district, including any state or federal funds available to the district, the full amount of the price of the contract that the special assessments are pledged to pay for that year or any other portion of the remaining obligation. The board shall be the sole determiner of the definition, extent, and allocation of the benefit resulting from an improvement that the board authorizes under this section.

(G)(1) The board shall certify to the appropriate county auditor the boundaries of the area that is benefited by any public improvement the board authorizes under this section and, when the board so requests, the auditor shall apportion the valuation of any lot or parcel of land lying partly within and partly outside the area so benefited.

(2) The board by resolution shall assess against the lots and parcels of land located in the area that is benefited by a public improvement such portion of the costs of completing the public improvement as the board determines, for the period that may be necessary to pay the note, bond, instrument, or obligation issued to pay for the improvement and the proceedings in relation to it, and shall certify these costs to the appropriate county auditor.

(3) Except for assessments that have been paid in full in a lump sum, the county auditor shall annually place upon the tax duplicate, for collection in semiannual installments, the two installments of the assessment for that year, which shall be paid and collected at the same time and in the same manner as real property taxes. The collected assessments shall be paid to the treasury of the district and the board of the district shall use the assessments for any purpose authorized by this chapter.

Sec. 5540.05. The board of trustees of a district may acquire real property in fee simple in the name of the district in connection with, but in excess of that needed for, a project by any method other than appropriation and hold the property for such period of time as the board determines. All right, title, and interest of the district in the property may be sold at public auction or otherwise, as the board considers in the best interests of the district; but in no event shall the property be sold for less than two-thirds of its appraised value. Sale at public auction shall be undertaken only after the board advertises the sale in a newspaper of general circulation in the district for ~~at least two weeks~~ or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code, prior to the date set for the sale.

Sec. 5543.10. (A) The county engineer, upon the order of the board of county commissioners or board of township trustees, shall construct sidewalks, curbs, or gutters of suitable materials, along or connecting the public highways, outside any municipal corporation, upon the petition of a majority of the abutting property owners. The expense of the construction of these improvements may be paid by the county or township, or by the county or township and abutting property owners in such proportion as determined by the board of county commissioners or board of township trustees. The board of county commissioners or board of township trustees may assess part or all of the cost of these improvements against the abutting property owners, in proportion to benefits accruing to their property.

The board of county commissioners or board of township trustees, by unanimous vote, may order the construction, repair, or maintenance of sidewalks, curbs, and gutters along or connecting the public highways, outside a municipal corporation, without a petition for that construction, repair, or maintenance, and may assess none, all, or any part of the cost against abutting property owners, provided that notice is given by publication for three successive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation within the county or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code, stating the intention of the board of county commissioners or board of township trustees to construct, repair, or maintain the specified improvements and fixing a date for a hearing on them. As part of a sidewalk improvement, the board may include the repair or reconstruction of a driveway within the sidewalk easement. As part of a curb improvement, the board may include construction or repair of a driveway apron.

Notice to all abutting property owners shall be given by two publications in a newspaper of general circulation in the county or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code, at least ten days prior to the date fixed in the notice for the making of assessments. The notice shall state

the time and place when abutting property owners will be given an opportunity to be heard with reference to assessments. The board of county commissioners or board of township trustees shall determine whether assessments shall be paid in one or more installments.

(B) The county engineer may trim or remove any and all trees, shrubs, and other vegetation growing in or encroaching onto the right-of-way of the easement of a public sidewalk along or connecting the public highways and maintained by the county, and the board of township trustees may trim or remove any and all trees, shrubs, and other vegetation growing in or encroaching onto the right-of-way of the easement of a public sidewalk along or connecting the public highways and maintained by the township, as is necessary in the engineer's or board's judgment to facilitate the right of the public to improvement and maintenance of, and uninterrupted travel on, public sidewalks in the county or township.

Sec. 5549.21. The board of township trustees may purchase or lease such machinery and tools as are necessary for use in constructing, reconstructing, maintaining, and repairing roads and culverts within the township, and shall provide suitable places for housing and storing machinery and tools owned by the township. It may purchase such material and employ such labor as is necessary for carrying into effect this section, or it may authorize the purchase or employment of such material and labor by one of its number, or by the township highway superintendent, at a price to be fixed by the board. All payments on account of machinery, tools, material, and labor shall be made from the township road fund. Except as otherwise provided in sections 505.08, 505.101, and 5513.01 of the Revised Code, all purchases of materials, machinery, and tools shall, if the amount involved exceeds ~~twenty-five~~ fifty thousand dollars, be made from the lowest responsible bidder after advertisement, as provided in section 5575.01 of the Revised Code.

If, in compliance with section 505.10 of the Revised Code, the board wishes to sell machinery, equipment, or tools owned by the township to the person from whom it is to purchase other machinery, equipment, or tools, the board may offer, if the amount of the purchase alone involved does not exceed ~~twenty-five~~ fifty thousand dollars, to sell such machinery, equipment, or tools and have the amount credited by the vendor against the purchase of the other machinery, equipment, or tools. If the purchase price of the other machinery, equipment, or tools alone exceeds ~~twenty-five~~ fifty thousand dollars, the board may give notice to the competitive bidders of its willingness to accept offers for the purchase of the old machinery, equipment, or tools, and those offers shall be subtracted from the selling

price of the other machinery, equipment, or tools as bid, in determining the lowest responsible bidder. Notice of the willingness of the board to accept offers for the purchase of the old machinery, equipment, or tools shall be made as a part of the advertisement for bids.

Sec. 5552.06. (A) A board of county commissioners or a board of township trustees may adopt access management regulations or any amendments to those regulations after holding at least two public hearings at regular or special sessions of the board. The board shall consider the county engineer's proposed regulations prepared under division (B) of section 5552.04 or 5552.05 of the Revised Code and all comments on those regulations. The board, in its discretion, may, but need not, adopt any or all of those proposed regulations. After the public hearings, the board may decide not to adopt any access management regulations.

The board shall publish notice of the public hearings in a newspaper of general circulation in the county or township, as applicable, once a week for at least two weeks or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code, immediately preceding the hearings. The notice shall include the time, date, and place of each hearing. Copies of any proposed regulations or amendments shall be made available to the public at the board's office and, if the county engineer administers or is proposed to administer a point of access permit, in the engineer's office.

(B) In addition to the notice required by division (A) of this section, not less than thirty days before holding a public hearing, a board of county commissioners shall send a copy of the county engineer's proposed regulations, a copy of the advisory committee's recommendations, and a request for written comments to the board of township trustees of each township in the county, the department of transportation district deputy director for the district in which the county is located, a representative of the metropolitan planning organization, where applicable, and at least the local professional associations representing the following professions:

- (1) Homebuilders;
- (2) Realtors;
- (3) Professional surveyors;
- (4) Attorneys;
- (5) Professional engineers.

(C) In addition to the notice required by division (A) of this section, a board of township trustees shall send a copy of the county engineer's proposed regulations, a copy of the advisory committee's recommendations, and a request for written comments, not less than thirty days before holding a public hearing, to the department of transportation district deputy director

for the district in which the township is located, a representative of the metropolitan planning organization, where applicable, and at least the local professional associations representing the professions listed in division (B) of this section.

Sec. 5553.05. (A) In the resolution required by section 5553.04 of the Revised Code, the board of county commissioners shall fix a date when it will view the proposed improvement, and also a date for a final hearing thereon.

The board shall give notice of the time and place for both such view and hearing by publication once a week for two consecutive weeks in a newspaper ~~published and having~~ of general circulation in the county where such improvement is located, ~~but if there is no such newspaper published in said county, then in a newspaper having general circulation in said county or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code.~~ Such notice, in addition to the date and place of such view and place and time of the final hearing, shall state briefly the character of such improvement.

(B) If the board adopts a resolution to vacate a public road as provided in section 5553.04 of the Revised Code, or if a petition to vacate a public road is filed, the board shall, in addition to the notice of the time and place for hearing prescribed in division (A) of this section, send written notice of the hearing by first class mail at least twenty days before the date of the public hearing to owners of property abutting upon that portion of the road to be vacated, and to the director of natural resources. Such notice shall be mailed to the addresses of such owners appearing on the county auditor's current tax list or the treasurer's mailing list, and such other list or lists that may be specified by the board. The failure of the delivery of such notice does not invalidate any such vacating of the road authorized in the resolution.

Sec. 5553.19. The county engineer shall view and survey the road as provided in section 5553.18 of the Revised Code, and shall make a return of the survey and plat of the road to the board of county commissioners. Upon the filing of the report of the engineer, the board shall give notice of the filing of such report by publication as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code or once each week for three consecutive weeks in a newspaper ~~published and having~~ of general circulation in the county in which such road is situated, ~~but if there is no such newspaper published in said county, then in a newspaper having general circulation in said county.~~ Such notice shall state the date and time of the hearing upon the report of the engineer. If exceptions or objections are made, the board shall hear them, and it may approve or reject said report. If the report of the engineer is

approved, the board shall cause such report to be recorded together with the survey and plat of such road.

Sec. 5553.23. If a person through whose land a public road has been established, which is under the jurisdiction of the board of county commissioners, desires to turn or change or relocate such road or any part thereof through any part of ~~his~~ the person's land, ~~he~~ the person may file a petition with the board of county commissioners setting forth briefly the particular change ~~he desires~~ desired. Upon the receipt of such petition, the board shall give notice by publication once not later than two weeks prior to the date for the hearing on such petition in ~~some a newspaper published and~~ of general circulation in said county, ~~but if there is no such newspaper published in said county, then in a newspaper having general circulation in said county,~~ stating that such petition has been filed and setting forth the change desired in such road and the date and place for the hearing on said petition. If a public road was once established for public convenience through private lands, but has not been improved by public funds and for more than twenty-one years has not been used, the owner of such land may petition the board to vacate the road in accordance with proceedings under sections 5553.04 to 5553.11 of the Revised Code.

A person through whose land a trail right of way has been preserved under section 5553.044 of the Revised Code may file a petition to turn or change the route of the trail right of way in the manner provided in this section, and such petition shall be acted upon in the manner set forth in sections 5553.23 to 5553.31 of the Revised Code. Notice of the hearing in such case shall also be made by first class mail to the director of natural resources. If the board turns or changes the route of the trail right of way, it shall furnish the director with a full and accurate description or map of the change.

Sec. 5553.42. The board of county commissioners shall give notice to the owners of lands through which the proposed road will pass of the filing of the petition provided for in section 5553.41 of the Revised Code and the date and place of the hearing thereon. Such notice shall be served on such owners personally, or by leaving a copy of such notice at the usual place of residence of such owners at least five days before the date of the hearing on said petition. Proof of service of such notice shall be made by affidavit of the person serving such notice. If any of such owners are nonresidents of the county, the board shall give notice to such nonresidents by publication once each week for two consecutive weeks in a newspaper ~~published and having~~ of general circulation within in the county, ~~but if there is no such newspaper published in said county, then in a newspaper having general circulation in~~

~~said county~~ or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code. A copy of the newspaper containing such notice shall be mailed by the county auditor to each nonresident whose post-office address is known to such auditor. Such notice shall state the time and place of the hearing on claims for compensation and damages.

Sec. 5555.07. The county engineer shall prepare and file with the board of county commissioners, by the time fixed therefor by the board, copies of the surveys, plans, profiles, cross sections, estimates of costs, and specifications for the improvement and estimated assessments upon lands benefited thereby. Thereupon such board shall file such copies in its office for the inspection and examination of all persons interested. Except in a case involving the improvement of a public road in which no land or property is taken or assessed, the board shall publish in a newspaper ~~published and of general circulation in the county, or if no newspaper is published in the county then in a newspaper having general circulation in the county,~~ or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code, notice that a resolution has been adopted providing for said improvement, and that copies of the surveys, plans, profiles, cross sections, estimates, and specifications, together with estimated assessments upon the lands benefited by such improvement for the proportion of the cost thereof to be assessed therefor, are on file in the office of the board for the inspection of persons interested therein. Such notice shall state the time and place for hearing objections to said improvement and to such estimated assessments. In a case involving the improvement of a public road in which no land or property is taken or assessed, the board shall publish the notice required by this section once a week for two consecutive weeks or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code.

At such hearing the board may order said surveys, plans, profiles, cross sections, estimates, and specifications to be changed or modified and shall make such adjustments of the estimated assessments as seem just to it. Thereupon the board may approve such surveys, plans, profiles, cross sections, specifications, and estimates and approve and confirm estimated assessments as made by the engineer or as modified and changed by the board. Such assessments when so approved and confirmed shall be certified to the county auditor of the county and shall thereupon become a lien upon the land charged therewith. The board may declare against said improvement.

Sec. 5555.27. As soon as the county engineer has transmitted to the several boards of county commissioners copies of ~~his~~ the engineer's surveys, plans, profiles, cross sections, estimates, and specifications for the

improvement, the joint board of county commissioners shall, except in cases of reconstruction or repair of roads where no lands or property are taken, fix a time and place for hearing objections to said improvement. The joint board shall thereupon, except in cases of reconstruction or repair of roads where no lands or property are taken, publish in a newspaper ~~published and of~~ general circulation within each interested county, ~~or if there is no such newspaper published in such county then in a newspaper having general circulation in such county,~~ once a week for two consecutive weeks or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code, a notice that such improvement is to be made and that copies of the surveys, plans, profiles, cross sections, estimates, and specifications therefor are on file in the office of the board of each interested county for the inspection and examination of all persons interested therein. Such notice shall also state the time and place for hearing objections to said improvement. Proceedings for the appropriation of land needed for such improvement shall be maintained in accordance with sections 163.01 to 163.22, ~~inclusive,~~ of the Revised Code.

Sec. 5555.42. A board of county commissioners desiring to construct a county road improvement, and finding that no equitable method of apportioning the compensation, damages, and expenses thereof is provided by section 5555.41 of the Revised Code, or finding that an equitable assessment cannot be made by the use of any of the several assessment areas authorized by said section, may order the county engineer to make a tentative plan for such improvement and an approximate estimate of the cost. Such board may thereupon file an application in the court of common pleas describing the improvement in question, and a copy of the tentative plan and approximate estimate of cost shall be attached to such application. The board shall set forth in such application that the compensation, damages, and expenses of the improvement cannot be equitably apportioned under any of the several plans provided by said section or that such compensation, damages, and expenses cannot be equitably assessed by the use of any one of the several assessment areas authorized by said section, or that both such conditions exist, and it shall set forth a method of apportioning the compensation, damages, and expenses and a definite description of the area against which it desires to assess any part of such compensation, damages, and expenses. The application shall contain a prayer requesting authority from such court to construct the improvement and apportion the compensation, damages, and expenses according to the plan suggested by such board and to assess the designated portion of the cost against the real estate within the area described in the petition.

Notice of the filing and pendency of such application shall be given

once a week for four consecutive weeks by publication in ~~two newspapers published and of general circulation in the county, or if there are no such newspapers then in two newspapers~~ a newspaper of general circulation in such county or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code. Such notice shall describe the route and termini of the improvement and set forth the estimated cost and the proposed method of apportionment and assessment area. After such notice has been given, the court or a judge thereof shall fix a time for a hearing on such application, and, at the time fixed, the court or a judge thereof shall hear such application and all evidence offered by the board or any taxpayer of the county for or against the proposed plan of apportionment and for or against the use of the suggested assessment area. If the court finds that the suggested plan of apportionment and the area against which special assessments are to be made are fair and just, that the cost of the improvement will not be excessive in view of the benefits conferred, and that all the real estate within the suggested assessment area will be benefited by the construction of the improvement upon the plan suggested and by the use of the method of apportionment set forth in said application, such court may authorize the board to proceed upon the suggested plan and to apportion the compensation, damages, and expenses in the manner set forth in the application and to assess against the real estate within the assessment area designated in the application, according to the benefits, that portion of the cost to be specially assessed; otherwise the court shall dismiss the application and the board may not proceed with the improvement. The court may modify the suggested plan of apportionment or the suggested assessment area and grant the prayer of the application subject to such modifications as it determines are just and proper. The board in its application may set up any division of cost which it thinks proper among the county, the owners of lands to be specially assessed, and any municipal corporation within which such projected improvement is situated in whole or in part, but no portion of the cost may be apportioned to a municipal corporation without the consent of such municipal corporation evidenced by an ordinance or resolution of its legislative authority.

When the prayer of any such application is granted by the court or a judge thereof and the plan of apportionment and area of assessment is approved by such court, either as set forth in the application or as modified by the court, the board may proceed with the construction of the improvement and use the method of apportionment and the assessment area authorized by the court. In such event, the board may levy taxes and issue bonds in the manner provided by law with respect to improvements, the compensation, damages, and expenses of which are apportioned and paid as

provided in section 5555.41 of the Revised Code, and all proceedings in connection with such improvement shall be conducted in accordance with sections 5555.01 to 5555.83 of the Revised Code, except as provided in this section. The special assessments shall be made by the board against the real estate within the assessment area authorized by the court, but no assessment against any lot or parcel of real estate shall exceed the actual benefits conferred thereon by the construction of the improvement. This section also applies to improvements of sections of a state highway within counties having a tax duplicate of real and personal property in excess of three hundred million dollars, and with respect to which the board desires to co-operate with the department of transportation.

Sec. 5559.06. Upon the completion of the surveys, plans, profiles, cross sections, estimates, and specifications for an improvement under section 5559.02 of the Revised Code by the county engineer, ~~he~~ the engineer shall transmit to the board of county commissioners copies of such surveys, plans, profiles, cross sections, estimates, and specifications. The board shall then publish, in a newspaper ~~published and~~ of general circulation within the county, ~~and if there is no such newspaper published in the county then in one having general circulation in such county,~~ once a week for two consecutive weeks or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code, a notice that such improvement is to be made and that copies of the surveys, plans, profiles, cross sections, estimates, and specifications for it are on file in the office of the board for the inspection and examination of all persons interested. Such notice shall also state the time and place for hearing objections to the improvement.

In the event that land or property is to be taken for such improvement, such taking shall be in accordance with sections 163.01 to 163.22, ~~inclusive,~~ of the Revised Code.

Sec. 5559.10. As soon as all questions of compensation and damages have been determined in a road improvement case, the county engineer shall make, upon actual view, an estimated assessment upon the real estate to be charged therewith, of the compensation, damages, and costs of an improvement as provided by section 5559.02 of the Revised Code. Such estimated assessment shall be according to the benefit which will result to the real estate. In making such assessment the engineer may take into consideration any previous special assessments made upon the real estate for road improvements. The schedule of such assessments shall be filed in the office of the board of county commissioners for the inspection of the persons interested. Before adopting the assessment, the board shall publish, once each week for two consecutive weeks, in ~~some~~ a newspaper ~~published~~

~~and of general circulation in the county or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code, but if there is no such newspaper then in one having general circulation in the county,~~ notice that such assessment has been made, is on file in the office of the board, and the date when objections will be heard to such assessment. If any owner of property affected thereby desires, ~~he~~ the owner may file ~~his~~ objections to said assessments, in writing, with the board before the time for hearing. If any objections are filed the board shall hear them and act as an equalizing board. It may change such assessments if, in its opinion, any change is necessary to make them just and equitable, and the board shall approve and confirm such assessments as reported by the engineer or modified by it. Such assessments, when so approved and confirmed, shall be a lien on the land chargeable therewith.

Sec. 5559.12. After the board of county commissioners has decided to proceed with an improvement as provided by section 5559.02 of the Revised Code, it shall advertise for bids once, not later than two weeks prior to the date fixed for the letting of the contract, in a newspaper ~~published and of general circulation in the county, but if there is no such newspaper then in one having general circulation in such county.~~ Such notice shall state that copies of the surveys, plans, profiles, cross sections, estimates, and specifications for such improvement are on file in the office of the board, and the time within which bids will be received. The board shall award the contract to the lowest responsible bidder.

The contract shall be let upon the basis of lump sum bids, unless the board orders that it be let upon the basis of unit price bids, in which event it shall be let upon such basis. The bids received shall be opened at the time stated in the notice. The board may reject all bids.

Sec. 5561.04. The board of county commissioners, desiring to proceed under sections 4957.06 and 5561.01 to 5561.15 of the Revised Code, shall, after receipt of the certificate of necessity and expediency from the director of transportation, as provided in section 5561.03 of the Revised Code, hold a public hearing as to the expediency of constructing such improvement, notice of which shall be given by publication in ~~two newspapers published and a newspaper~~ of general circulation in the county, ~~if such there be, otherwise in two newspapers of general circulation in such county,~~ for two weeks prior to the date set for such hearing or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code, and shall be served upon the railroad or interurban railway companies in the manner for the service of summons in civil actions, not less than twenty days prior to the date of such hearing.

The board, after such hearing and for the purpose of making or causing such an improvement to be made, may, by resolution adopted by unanimous

vote, require the railroad company, in co-operation with the county engineer or any engineer designated by the board, to prepare and submit to the board within six months, unless longer time is mutually agreed upon in writing, plans and specifications for such improvements, specifying the number, character, and location of all piers and supports which are to be permanently placed in any road or highway, specifying the grades to be established for the roads and the height, character, and estimated cost of any viaduct or way above or below any railroad track, and the change of grade required to be made of such tracks including side tracks and switches. But in changing the grade of any railroad, no grade shall be required in excess of that adopted by the railroad company for its construction work on that division or part of the railroad on which the improvement is to be made, without the consent of the railroad company, nor shall the railroad company's tracks be required to be placed below high-water mark.

Such resolution shall be published in the same manner as resolutions of the legislative authority of a municipal corporation declaring the necessity of a contemplated public improvement, and shall be served by the sheriff upon the railroad or interurban railway companies in the manner provided for the service of summons in civil actions. If the proposed public improvement is to be made within a municipal corporation, notice of the passage of the same shall be served upon the municipal corporation by delivering to the clerk of the village or legislative authority of a city a true copy thereof.

If, at the expiration of six months from the passage of such resolution, the railroad company has refused or failed to co-operate in the preparation of such plans and specifications, or if the county engineer or engineer designated by the board and the railroad company fail to agree upon the plans and specification of such improvement, then either the railroad company or the county may submit the matter of determining the method by which the improvement shall be made to the court of common pleas of such county. Either the county or company, after the expiration of six months from the passage of the resolution, may apply to such court by petition, accompanied by the necessary plans prepared by the county or railroad company, covering the grade crossing proposed to be abolished. Such plans must show the grades to be established for such roads or highways, the changes to be made in the location of roads or highways, the height, character, and estimated cost of any viaduct or way above or below the railroad tracks, the number, character, and location of piers, abutments, or supports to be permanently located in the roads or highways, and the change of grade to be made in any railroad tracks, including sidetracks and

switches.

Sec. 5561.08. Notice of the passage of a resolution for a grade crossing improvement shall be served by the sheriff of the county, upon the owner of each piece of property which will be affected by any change of grade, in the manner provided for the service of summons in civil actions. If any of such owners are nonresidents of the county, or if it appears from the return that they cannot be found, the notice shall be published for at least two weeks in ~~an English language~~ a newspaper published of general circulation in such the county or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code. Notice shall be completed at least twenty days before any work is done on such improvement, and the sheriff's return shall be prima-facie evidence of the facts recited therein.

Section 727.18 of the Revised Code shall apply to the notice provided for in this section, and to all claims for damages by reason of such improvement. Such claims shall be filed with the county auditor within the time, and rights thereunder shall pass to vendees, as provided in such section. After the expiration of the time provided for the filing of claims, the board of county commissioners, when claims have been filed within the time limited, shall determine, by resolution, whether such claims are to be judicially inquired into before commencing or after the completion of the proposed improvement. Thereupon, the county prosecutor shall make application for a jury, to the court of common pleas, or probate court of the county, before commencing or after the completion of the improvement, as the board determines, and all proceedings upon such application shall be governed by the laws relating to similar applications provided for in cases of city improvements.

Sec. 5571.011. If a person through whose land a public road has been established which is under the jurisdiction of a board of township trustees, desires to turn or change or relocate such road or any part thereof through any part of ~~his~~ the person's land, ~~he~~ the person may file a petition with such board of township trustees setting forth briefly the particular change ~~he desires~~ desired. Upon receipt of such petition, the board of township trustees shall give notice by publication once, not later than two weeks prior to the date which such board shall fix for a hearing on such petition, in a newspaper ~~published or~~ of general circulation in said township, stating that such petition has been filed and setting forth the change desired in such road and the date and place of such hearing.

Upon receipt of such a petition the board of township trustees shall cause a competent engineer to make a survey of the ground over which the road is proposed to be changed, and to make a report in writing, together

with a plat and survey of the proposed change and ~~his~~ the engineer's opinion as to its advantage or disadvantage. The report of such engineer shall be filed with the board prior to the hearing of such petition.

At the hearing had on the petition the board of township trustees may hear evidence for or against changing the road, and if the board is satisfied that the proposed change will not cause serious injury or disadvantage to the public, it may make a finding of such fact in its journal and authorize the petitioner to change such road in conformity with the prayer of the petition. The board may grant the change as prayed for in the petition, or it may order such change of the route of such road as will, in its judgment, be for the best interest of the public.

Upon receiving satisfactory evidence that the road has been changed as authorized by it, and opened to the legal width and improved as required by it, the board of township trustees shall declare such new road a public highway and cause a record thereof to be made and at the same time vacate so much of the old road as is rendered unnecessary by the new road. The person petitioning for such change shall in all cases pay all costs and expenses in connection with the proceeding, as found and determined by the board, and the expense of making such change, including the cost of relocation of any conduits, cables, wires, towers, poles or other equipment or appliances of any public utility, located on, over or under such road. The petitioner shall, on the filing of the petition for such change, give bond to the satisfaction of the board in such amount as it determines to secure payment of the costs of the proceeding and to cover the expense of making the change asked for by the petition.

Sec. 5573.02. Upon the completion of the surveys, plans, profiles, cross sections, estimates, and specifications for a road improvement by the county engineer, ~~he~~ the engineer shall transmit to the board of township trustees copies of the same. Except in cases of reconstruction or repair of roads, where no land or property is taken, the board shall then cause to be published in a newspaper, ~~published in the county and~~ of general circulation within the township, ~~but if no such paper is published in the county then in one having general circulation in such township,~~ once a week for two consecutive weeks or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code, a notice that such improvement is to be made and that copies of the surveys, plans, profiles, cross sections, estimates, and specifications for it are on file with the board for the inspection and examination of all persons interested.

In the event that land or property is to be taken for such improvement, proceedings shall be had in accordance with sections 163.01 to 163.22; ~~inclusive~~, of the Revised Code.

Sec. 5573.10. As soon as all questions of compensation and damages have been determined for any road improvement, the county engineer shall make, upon actual view, an estimated assessment, upon the real estate to be charged, of such part of the compensation, damages, and costs of such improvement as is to be specially assessed. Such assessment shall be according to the benefits which will result to the real estate. In making such assessment the engineer may take into consideration any previous special assessment made upon such real estate for road improvements.

The schedule for such assessments shall be filed with the board of township trustees for the inspection of the persons interested. Before adopting the estimated assessment, the board shall publish once each week for two consecutive weeks, in ~~some a newspaper published in the county~~ and of general circulation within such township, ~~but if there is no such paper published in said county then in one having general circulation in such township~~ or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code, notice that such assessment has been made and is on file with the board, and the date when objections will be heard to such assessment.

If any owner of property affected desires to make objections, ~~he the~~ owner may file ~~his~~ objections to such assessments, in writing, with the board, before the time of such hearing. If any objections are filed the board shall hear them and act as an equalizing board, and may change assessments if, in its opinion, any changes are necessary to make them just and equitable. The board shall approve and confirm assessments as reported by the engineer or modified by the board. Such assessments, when approved and confirmed, shall be a lien on the land chargeable therewith.

Sec. 5575.01. (A) In the maintenance and repair of roads, the board of township trustees may proceed either by contract or force account, but, unless the exemption specified in division (C) of this section applies, if the board wishes to proceed by force account, it first shall cause the county engineer to complete the force account assessment form developed by the auditor of state under section 117.16 of the Revised Code. Except as otherwise provided in sections 505.08 and 505.101 of the Revised Code, when the board proceeds by contract, the contract shall, if the amount involved exceeds forty-five thousand dollars, be let by the board to the lowest responsible bidder after advertisement for bids once, not later than two weeks, prior to the date fixed for the letting of the contract, in a newspaper ~~published in the county and~~ of general circulation within the township ~~or, if no newspaper is published in the county, in a newspaper having general circulation in the township~~. If the amount involved is forty-five thousand dollars or less, a contract may be let without competitive

bidding, or the work may be done by force account. Such a contract shall be performed under the supervision of a member of the board or the township road superintendent.

(B) Before undertaking the construction or reconstruction of a township road, the board shall cause to be made by the county engineer an estimate of the cost of the work, which estimate shall include labor, material, freight, fuel, hauling, use of machinery and equipment, and all other items of cost. If the board finds it in the best interest of the public, it may, in lieu of constructing the road by contract, proceed to construct the road by force account. Except as otherwise provided under sections 505.08 and 505.101 of the Revised Code, where the total ~~estimate~~ estimated cost of the work exceeds fifteen thousand dollars per mile, the board shall invite and receive competitive bids for furnishing all the labor, materials, and equipment and doing the work, as provided in section 5575.02 of the Revised Code, and shall consider and reject them before ordering the work done by force account. When such bids are received, considered, and rejected, and the work is done by force account, the work shall be performed in compliance with the plans and specifications upon which the bids were based.

(C) Force account assessment forms are not required under division (A) of this section for road maintenance or repair projects of less than fifteen thousand dollars, or under division (B) of this section for road construction or reconstruction projects of less than five thousand dollars per mile.

(D) All force account work under this section shall be done under the direction of a member of the board or the township road superintendent.

Sec. 5575.02. After the board of township trustees has decided to proceed with a road improvement, it shall advertise for bids once, not later than two weeks prior to the date fixed for the letting of contracts, in a newspaper ~~published in the county and of general circulation within such the township, but if there is no such paper published in the county then in one having general circulation in the township.~~ Such notice shall state that copies of the surveys, plans, profiles, cross sections, estimates, and specifications for such improvement are on file with the board, and the time within which bids will be received. The board may let the work as a whole or in convenient sections, as it determines. The contract shall be awarded to the lowest and best bidder who meets the requirements of section 153.54 of the Revised Code, and shall be let upon the basis of lump sum bids, unless the board orders that it be let upon the basis of unit price bids, in which event it shall be let upon such basis.

Sec. 5591.15. All resolutions and notices provided for in sections 5591.03 to 5591.17 of the Revised Code, shall be published in a newspaper

~~published in and~~ of general circulation in the county where the improvement provided in such sections is to be made, and such publication shall be complete when published once a week, on the same day of the week, for two consecutive weeks or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 5593.08. The bridge commission of any county or city may:

(A) Adopt bylaws for the regulation of its affairs and the conduct of its business;

(B) Adopt an official seal, which shall not be the seal of Ohio;

(C) Maintain a principal office and suboffices at such places within the county or city as it designates;

(D) Sue and be sued in its own name, and plead and be impleaded. Any actions against a bridge commission shall be brought in the court of common pleas of the county in which the principal office of the commission is located, or in the court of common pleas of the county in which the cause of action arose, when such county is located within this state. All summonses, exceptions, and notices of every kind shall be served on the commission by leaving a copy thereof at the principal office with the secretary-treasurer or the person in charge.

(E) Construct, acquire by purchase or condemnation, improve, maintain, repair, police, and operate any bridge, and establish rules for the use of any such bridge;

(F) Issue bridge revenue bonds of the county or city, payable solely from revenues, as provided in sections 5593.10 and 5593.16 of the Revised Code, for the purpose of paying any part of the cost of any bridge or bridges;

(G) Fix and revise from time to time and charge and collect tolls for transit over each bridge constructed or acquired by it;

(H) Acquire, hold, and dispose of real and personal property in the exercise of its powers and the performance of its duties under this chapter;

(I) Acquire, in the name of the county or city, as the case may be, by purchase or otherwise, on such terms and in such manner as it determines proper, or by the exercise of the right of condemnation in the manner provided by sections 163.01 to 163.22 of the Revised Code, any bridge, land, rights, easements, franchises, and other property necessary or convenient for the construction of a bridge or the improvement or efficient operation of any property acquired or constructed under this chapter, or for securing right-of-way leading to any such bridge or its approach facilities;

(J) Make and enter into all contracts and agreements necessary or incidental to the performance of its duties and the execution of its powers under this chapter:

(1) When the cost under any such contract or agreement, other than compensation for personal services, involves an expenditure of more than ten thousand dollars, the commission shall make a written contract with the lowest and best bidder after advertisement for not less than two consecutive weeks, or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code, in a newspaper of general circulation in Franklin county, and in such other publications as the commission determines, which notice shall state the general character of the work and the general character of the materials to be furnished, the place where plans and specifications therefor may be examined, and the time and place of receiving bids.

(2) Each bid for a contract for the construction, demolition, alteration, repair, or reconstruction of an improvement shall contain the full name of every person interested in it and meets the requirements of section 153.54 of the Revised Code.

(3) Each bid for a contract except as provided in division (J)(2) of this section shall contain the full name of every person or company interested in it and shall be accompanied by a bond or certified check on a solvent bank, in such amount as the commission determines sufficient, that if the bid is accepted a contract will be entered into and the performance of its proposal secured.

(4) The commission may reject any and all bids.

(5) A bond with good and sufficient surety, approved by the commission, shall be required of every contractor awarded a contract except as provided in division (J)(2) of this section, in an amount equal to at least fifty per cent of the contract price, conditioned upon the faithful performance of the contract.

(K) Employ consulting engineers, superintendents, managers, engineers, construction and accounting experts, attorneys, and other employees and agents as are necessary in its judgment, and fix their compensation. All such expenses are payable solely from the proceeds of bridge revenue bonds issued under this chapter, or from revenues.

(L) Receive and accept from any federal agency, subject to the approval of the board of county commissioners or the legislative authority of the city, as the case may be, grants for or in aid of the construction, acquisition, improvement, or operation of any bridge, and receive and accept aid or contributions from any source of money, property, labor, or other things of value, to be held, used, and applied only for the purposes for which such grants and contributions are made;

(M) Provide coverage for its employees under sections 4123.01 to 4123.94 and 4141.01 to 4141.46 of the Revised Code;

(N) Do all acts necessary or proper to carry out the powers expressly granted in this chapter.

Sec. 5701.13. (A) As used in this section:

(1) "Nursing home" means a nursing home or a home for the aging, as those terms are defined in section 3721.01 of the Revised Code, that is issued a license pursuant to section 3721.02 of the Revised Code.

(2) "Residential care facility" means a residential care facility, as defined in section 3721.01 of the Revised Code, that is issued a license pursuant to section 3721.02 of the Revised Code.

(3) "Adult care facility" means an adult care facility as defined in section ~~3722.04~~ 5119.70 of the Revised Code that is issued a license pursuant to section ~~3722.04~~ 5119.73 of the Revised Code.

(B) As used in Title LVII of the Revised Code, and for the purpose of other sections of the Revised Code that refer specifically to Chapter 5701. or section 5701.13 of the Revised Code, a "home for the aged" means either of the following:

(1) A place of residence for aged and infirm persons that satisfies divisions (B)(1)(a) to (e) of this section:

(a) It is a nursing home, residential care facility, or adult care facility.

(b) It is owned by a corporation, unincorporated association, or trust of a charitable, religious, or fraternal nature, which is organized and operated not for profit, which is not formed for the pecuniary gain or profit of, and whose net earnings or any part of whose net earnings is not distributable to, its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, and which is exempt from federal income taxation under section 501 of the "Internal Revenue Code of 1986," 100 Stat. 2085, 26 U.S.C. 1.

(c) It is open to the public without regard to race, color, or national origin.

(d) It does not pay, directly or indirectly, compensation for services rendered, interest on debts incurred, or purchase price for land, building, equipment, supplies, or other goods or chattels, which compensation, interest, or purchase price is unreasonably high.

(e) It provides services for the life of each resident without regard to the resident's ability to continue payment for the full cost of the services.

(2) A place of residence that satisfies divisions (B)(1)(b), (d), and (e) of this section; that satisfies the definition of "nursing home;" or "residential care facility;" ~~or "adult care facility"~~ under section 3721.01 of the Revised Code or ~~3722.04~~ the definition of "adult care facility" under section 5119.70 of the Revised Code regardless of whether it is licensed as such a home or facility; and that is provided at no charge to individuals on account of their

service without compensation to a charitable, religious, fraternal, or educational institution, which individuals are aged or infirm and are members of the corporation, association, or trust that owns the place of residence. For the purposes of division (B)(2) of this section, "compensation" does not include furnishing room and board, clothing, health care, or other necessities, or stipends or other de minimis payments to defray the cost thereof.

Exemption from taxation shall be accorded, on proper application, only to those homes or parts of homes which meet the standards and provide the services specified in this section.

Nothing in this section shall be construed as preventing a home from requiring a resident with financial need to apply for any applicable financial assistance or requiring a home to retain a resident who willfully refuses to pay for services for which the resident has contracted even though the resident has sufficient resources to do so.

(C)(1) If a corporation, unincorporated association, or trust described in division (B)(1)(b) of this section is granted a certificate of need pursuant to section 3702.52 of the Revised Code to construct, add to, or otherwise modify a nursing home, or is given approval pursuant to section 3791.04 of the Revised Code to construct, add to, or otherwise modify a residential care facility or adult care facility and if the corporation, association, or trust submits an affidavit to the tax commissioner stating that, commencing on the date of licensure and continuing thereafter, the home or facility will be operated in accordance with the requirements of divisions (B)(1)(a) to (e) of this section, the corporation, association, or trust shall be considered to be operating a "home for the aged" within the meaning of division (B)(1) of this section, beginning on the first day of January of the year in which such certificate is granted or approval is given.

(2) If a corporation, association, or trust is considered to be operating a "home for the aged" pursuant to division (C)(1) of this section, the corporation, association, or trust shall notify the tax commissioner in writing upon the occurrence of any of the following events:

(a) The corporation, association, or trust no longer intends to complete the construction of, addition to, or modification of the home or facility, to obtain the appropriate license for the home or facility, or to commence operation of the home or facility in accordance with the requirements of divisions (B)(1)(a) to (e) of this section;

(b) The certificate of approval referred to in division (C)(1) of this section expires, is revoked, or is otherwise terminated prior to the completion of the construction of, addition to, or modification of the home

or facility;

(c) The license to operate the home or facility is not granted by the director of health within one year following completion of the construction of, addition to, or modification of the home or facility;

(d) The license to operate the home or facility is not granted by the director of health within four years following the date upon which the certificate or approval referred to in division (C)(1) of this section was granted or given;

(e) The home or facility is granted a license to operate as a nursing home, residential care facility, or adult care facility.

(3) Upon the occurrence of any of the events referred to in divisions (C)(2)(a), (b), (c), (d), and (e) of this section, the corporation, association, or trust shall no longer be considered to be operating a "home for the aged" pursuant to division (C)(1) of this section, except that the tax commissioner, for good cause shown and to the extent the commissioner considers appropriate, may extend the time period specified in division (C)(2)(c) or (d) of this section, or both. Nothing in division (C)(3) of this section shall be construed to prevent a nursing home, residential care facility, or adult care facility from qualifying as a "home for the aged" if, upon proper application made pursuant to division (B) of this section, it is found to meet the requirements of divisions (A) and (B) of this section.

Sec. 5703.05. All powers, duties, and functions of the department of taxation are vested in and shall be performed by the tax commissioner, which powers, duties, and functions shall include, but shall not be limited to, the following:

(A) Prescribing all blank forms which the department is authorized to prescribe, and to provide such forms and distribute the same as required by law and the rules of the department. ~~The tax commissioner shall include a mail-in registration form prescribed in section 3503.14 of the Revised Code within the return and instructions for the tax levied in odd-numbered years under section 5747.02 of the Revised Code, beginning with the tax levied for 1995. The secretary of state shall bear all costs for the inclusion of the mail-in registration form. That form shall be addressed for return to the office of the secretary of state.~~

(B) Exercising the authority provided by law, including orders from bankruptcy courts, relative to remitting or refunding taxes or assessments, including penalties and interest thereon, illegally or erroneously assessed or collected, or for any other reason overpaid, and in addition, the commissioner may on written application of any person, firm, or corporation claiming to have overpaid to the treasurer of state at any time within five

years prior to the making of such application any tax payable under any law which the department of taxation is required to administer which does not contain any provision for refund, or on the commissioner's own motion investigate the facts and make in triplicate a written statement of the commissioner's findings, and, if the commissioner finds that there has been an overpayment, issue in triplicate a certificate of abatement payable to the taxpayer, the taxpayer's assigns, or legal representative which shows the amount of the overpayment and the kind of tax overpaid. One copy of such statement shall be entered on the journal of the commissioner, one shall be certified to the attorney general, and one certified copy shall be delivered to the taxpayer. All copies of the certificate of abatement shall be transmitted to the attorney general, and if the attorney general finds it to be correct the attorney general shall so certify on each copy, and deliver one copy to the taxpayer, one copy to the commissioner, and the third copy to the treasurer of state. Except as provided in sections 5725.08 and 5725.16 of the Revised Code the taxpayer's copy of any certificates of abatement may be tendered by the payee or transferee thereof to the treasurer of state as payment, to the extent of the amount thereof, of any tax payable to the treasurer of state.

(C) Exercising the authority provided by law relative to consenting to the compromise and settlement of tax claims;

(D) Exercising the authority provided by law relative to the use of alternative tax bases by taxpayers in the making of personal property tax returns;

(E) Exercising the authority provided by law relative to authorizing the prepayment of taxes on retail sales of tangible personal property or on the storage, use, or consumption of personal property, and waiving the collection of such taxes from the consumers;

(F) Exercising the authority provided by law to revoke licenses;

(G) Maintaining a continuous study of the practical operation of all taxation and revenue laws of the state, the manner in which and extent to which such laws provide revenues for the support of the state and its political subdivisions, the probable effect upon such revenue of possible changes in existing laws, and the possible enactment of measures providing for other forms of taxation. For this purpose the commissioner may establish and maintain a division of research and statistics, and may appoint necessary employees who shall be in the unclassified civil service; the results of such study shall be available to the members of the general assembly and the public.

(H) Making all tax assessments, valuations, findings, determinations, computations, and orders the department of taxation is by law authorized

and required to make and, pursuant to time limitations provided by law, on the commissioner's own motion, reviewing, redetermining, or correcting any tax assessments, valuations, findings, determinations, computations, or orders the commissioner has made, but the commissioner shall not review, redetermine, or correct any tax assessment, valuation, finding, determination, computation, or order which the commissioner has made as to which an appeal or application for rehearing, review, redetermination, or correction has been filed with the board of tax appeals, unless such appeal or application is withdrawn by the appellant or applicant or dismissed;

(I) Appointing not more than five deputy tax commissioners, who, under such regulations as the rules of the department of taxation prescribe, may act for the commissioner in the performance of such duties as the commissioner prescribes in the administration of the laws which the commissioner is authorized and required to administer, and who shall serve in the unclassified civil service at the pleasure of the commissioner, but if a person who holds a position in the classified service is appointed, it shall not affect the civil service status of such person. The commissioner may designate not more than two of the deputy commissioners to act as commissioner in case of the absence, disability, or recusal of the commissioner or vacancy in the office of commissioner. The commissioner may adopt rules relating to the order of precedence of such designated deputy commissioners and to their assumption and administration of the office of commissioner.

(J) Appointing and prescribing the duties of all other employees of the department of taxation necessary in the performance of the work of the department which the tax commissioner is by law authorized and required to perform, and creating such divisions or sections of employees as, in the commissioner's judgment, is proper;

(K) Organizing the work of the department, which the commissioner is by law authorized and required to perform, so that, in the commissioner's judgment, an efficient and economical administration of the laws will result;

(L) Maintaining a journal, which is open to public inspection, in which the tax commissioner shall keep a record of all final determinations of the commissioner;

(M) Adopting and promulgating, in the manner provided by section 5703.14 of the Revised Code, all rules of the department, including rules for the administration of sections 3517.16, 3517.17, and 5747.081 of the Revised Code;

(N) Destroying any or all returns or assessment certificates in the manner authorized by law;

(O) Adopting rules, in accordance with division (B) of section 325.31 of the Revised Code, governing the expenditure of moneys from the real estate assessment fund under that division.

Sec. 5703.056. (A) As used in any section of the Revised Code that requires the tax commissioner to use certified mail or personal service or that requires or permits a payment to be made or a document to be submitted to the tax commissioner or the board of tax appeals by mail and as used in any section of Chapter 3734., 3769., 4303., or 4305. or Title LVII of the Revised Code that requires or permits a payment to be made or a document to be submitted to the treasurer of state by mail:

(1) "Certified mail," "express mail," "United States mail," "United States postal service," and similar terms include any delivery service authorized pursuant to division (B) of this section.

(2) "Postmark date," "date of postmark," and similar terms include the date recorded and marked in the manner described in division (B)(3) of this section.

~~(b)~~(B) The tax commissioner may authorize the use of a delivery service for the delivery of any payment or document described in division (A) of this section if the commissioner finds that the delivery service:

(1) Is available to the general public;

(2) Is at least as timely and reliable on a regular basis as the United States postal service;

(3) Records electronically to a database kept in the regular course of its business, and marks on the cover in which the payment or document is enclosed, the date on which the payment or document was given to the delivery service for delivery;

(4) Records electronically to a database kept in the regular course of its business the date on which the payment or document was given by the delivery service to the person who signed the receipt of delivery and the name of the person who signed the receipt; and

(5) Meets any other criteria that the tax commissioner may by rule prescribe.

Sec. 5703.059. (A) The tax commissioner may adopt rules requiring returns, including any accompanying schedule or statement, for any of the following taxes to be filed electronically using the Ohio business gateway as defined in section 718.051 of the Revised Code, filed telephonically using the system known as the Ohio telefile system, or filed by any other electronic means prescribed by the commissioner:

(1) Employer income tax withholding under Chapter 5747. of the Revised Code;

(2) Motor fuel tax under Chapter 5735. of the Revised Code;

(3) Cigarette and tobacco product tax under Chapter 5743. of the Revised Code;

(4) Severance tax under Chapter 5749. of the Revised Code;

(5) Use tax under Chapter 5741. of the Revised Code.

(B) The tax commissioner may adopt rules requiring any payment of tax shown on such a return to be due to be made electronically in a manner approved by the commissioner.

(C) A rule adopted under this section does not apply to returns or reports filed or payments made before six months after the effective date of the rule. The commissioner shall publicize any new electronic filing requirement on the department's web site. The commissioner shall educate the public of the requirement through seminars, workshops, conferences, or other outreach activities.

(D) Any person required to file returns and make payments electronically under rules adopted under this section may apply to the commissioner, on a form prescribed by the commissioner, to be excused from that requirement. For good cause shown, the commissioner may excuse the applicant from the requirement and permit the applicant to file the returns or reports or make the payments required under this section by nonelectronic means.

Sec. 5703.37. (A)(1) Except as provided in division (B) of this section, whenever service of a notice or order is required in the manner provided in this section, a copy of the notice or order shall be served upon the person affected thereby either by personal service ~~or~~, by certified mail, or by a delivery service authorized under section 5703.056 of the Revised Code that notifies the tax commissioner of the date of delivery.

(2) With the permission of the person affected by the notice or order, the commissioner may enter into a written agreement to deliver a notice or order by alternative means as provided in this section, including, but not limited to, delivery by secure electronic mail. Delivery by such means satisfies the requirements for delivery under this section.

(B)(1)(a) If certified mail is returned because of an undeliverable address, the commissioner shall first utilize reasonable means to ascertain a new last known address, including the use of a change of address service offered by the United States postal service or an authorized delivery service under section 5703.056 of the Revised Code. If, after using reasonable means, the commissioner is unable to ascertain a new last known address, the assessment is final for purposes of section 131.02 of the Revised Code sixty days after the notice or order sent by certified mail is first returned to

the commissioner, and the commissioner shall certify the notice or order, if applicable, to the attorney general for collection under section 131.02 of the Revised Code.

(b) Notwithstanding certification to the attorney general under division (B)(1)(a) of this section, once the commissioner or attorney general, or the designee of either, makes an initial contact with the person to whom the notice or order is directed, the person may protest an assessment by filing a petition for reassessment within sixty days after the initial contact. The certification of an assessment under division (B)(1)(a) of this section is prima-facie evidence that delivery is complete and that the notice or order is served.

(2) If mailing of a notice or order by certified mail is returned for some cause other than an undeliverable address, the tax commissioner shall resend the notice or order by ordinary mail. The notice or order shall show the date the commissioner sends the notice or order and include the following statement:

"This notice or order is deemed to be served on the addressee under applicable law ten days from the date this notice or order was mailed by the commissioner as shown on the notice or order, and all periods within which an appeal may be filed apply from and after that date."

Unless the mailing is returned because of an undeliverable address, the mailing of that information is prima-facie evidence that delivery of the notice or order was completed ten days after the commissioner sent the notice or order by ordinary mail and that the notice or order was served.

If the ordinary mail is subsequently returned because of an undeliverable address, the commissioner shall proceed under division (B)(1)(a) of this section. A person may challenge the presumption of delivery and service under this division in accordance with division (C) of this section.

(C)(1) A person disputing the presumption of delivery and service under division (B) of this section bears the burden of proving by a preponderance of the evidence that the address to which the notice or order was sent was not an address with which the person was associated at the time the commissioner originally mailed the notice or order by certified mail. For the purposes of this section, a person is associated with an address at the time the commissioner originally mailed the notice or order if, at that time, the person was residing, receiving legal documents, or conducting business at the address; or if, before that time, the person had conducted business at the address and, when the notice or order was mailed, the person's agent or the person's affiliate was conducting business at the address. For the purposes of

this section, a person's affiliate is any other person that, at the time the notice or order was mailed, owned or controlled at least twenty per cent, as determined by voting rights, of the addressee's business.

(2) If the person elects to protest an assessment certified to the attorney general for collection, the person must do so within sixty days after the attorney general's initial contact with the person. The attorney general may enter into a compromise with the person under sections 131.02 and 5703.06 of the Revised Code if the person does not file a petition for reassessment with the tax commissioner.

(D) Nothing in this section prohibits the tax commissioner or the commissioner's designee from delivering a notice or order by personal service.

(E) Collection actions taken pursuant to section 131.02 of the Revised Code upon any assessment being challenged under division (B)(1)(b) of this section shall be stayed upon the pendency of an appeal under this section. If a petition for reassessment is filed pursuant to this section on a claim that has been certified to the attorney general for collection, the claim shall be uncertified.

(F) As used in this section:

(1) "Last known address" means the address the department has at the time the document is originally sent by certified mail, or any address the department can ascertain using reasonable means such as the use of a change of address service offered by the United States postal service or an authorized delivery service under section 5703.056 of the Revised Code.

(2) "Undeliverable address" means an address to which the United States postal service or an authorized delivery service under section 5703.056 of the Revised Code is not able to deliver a notice or order, except when the reason for nondelivery is because the addressee fails to acknowledge or accept the notice or order.

Sec. 5703.57. (A) As used in this section, "Ohio business gateway" has the same meaning as in section 718.051 of the Revised Code.

(B) There is hereby created the Ohio business gateway steering committee to direct the continuing development of the Ohio business gateway and to oversee its operations. The committee shall provide general oversight regarding operation of the Ohio business gateway and shall recommend to the department of administrative services enhancements that will improve the Ohio business gateway. The committee shall consider all banking, technological, administrative, and other issues associated with the Ohio business gateway and shall make recommendations regarding the type of reporting forms or other tax documents to be filed through the Ohio

business gateway.

(C) The committee shall consist of:

(1) The following members, appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate:

(a) Not more than ~~two~~ four representatives of the business community;

(b) Not more than ~~three representatives~~ one representative of municipal tax administrators; and

(c) Not more than two tax practitioners.

(2) The following ex officio members:

(a) The director or other highest officer of each state agency that has tax reporting forms or other tax documents filed with it through the Ohio business gateway or the director's designee;

(b) The secretary of state or the secretary of state's designee;

(c) The treasurer of state or the treasurer of state's designee;

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

(e) The state chief information officer or the officer's designee;

(f) The tax commissioner or the tax commissioner's designee; and

(g) The director of development or the director's designee.

An appointed member shall serve until the member resigns or is removed by the governor. Vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as original appointments.

(D) A vacancy on the committee does not impair the right of the other members to exercise all the functions of the committee. The presence of a majority of the members of the committee constitutes a quorum for the conduct of business of the committee. The concurrence of at least a majority of the members of the committee is necessary for any action to be taken by the committee. On request, each member of the committee shall be reimbursed for the actual and necessary expenses incurred in the discharge of the member's duties.

(E) The committee is a part of the department of taxation for administrative purposes.

(F) Each year, the governor shall select a member of the committee to serve as chairperson. The chairperson shall appoint an official or employee of the department of taxation to act as the committee's secretary. The secretary shall keep minutes of the committee's meetings and a journal of all meetings, proceedings, findings, and determinations of the committee.

(G) The committee ~~shall~~ may hire professional, technical, and clerical staff needed to support its activities.

(H) The committee shall meet as often as necessary to perform its duties.

Sec. 5703.58. (A) Subject to ~~division (C)~~ divisions (B) and (D) of this section, the tax commissioner shall not make or issue an assessment for any tax payable to the state that is administered by the tax commissioner, or any penalty, interest, or additional charge on such tax, after the expiration of ten years, including any extension, from the date the tax return or report was due when such amount was not reported and paid, provided that the ten-year period shall be extended by the period of any lawful stay to such assessment. As used in this section, "assessment" has the same meaning as in section 5703.50 of the Revised Code.

(B) Subject to division (D) of this section, the tax commissioner shall not make or issue an assessment against any person for any tax due under Chapter 5741. of the Revised Code, or any penalty, interest, or additional charge on such tax, after the expiration of seven years, including any extension, from the date the tax return or report was due if the amount of tax due was not reported and paid, provided that the seven-year period shall be extended by the period of any lawful stay to the assessment. The commissioner shall not make or issue an assessment against a consumer for any tax due under Chapter 5741. of the Revised Code, or for any penalty, interest, or additional charge on such tax, if the tax was due before January 1, 2008.

(C) This section does not apply to either of the following:

(1) Any amount collected for the state by a vendor or seller under Chapter 5739. or 5741. of the Revised Code or withheld by an employer under Chapter 5747. of the Revised Code.

(2) Any person who fraudulently attempts to avoid such tax.

~~(C)~~(D) This section does not authorize the assessment or collection of a tax for which the applicable period of limitation prescribed by law has expired and for which no valid assessment has been made and served as prescribed by law.

Sec. 5705.01. As used in this chapter:

(A) "Subdivision" means any county; municipal corporation; township; township police district; joint police district; township fire district; joint fire district; joint ambulance district; joint emergency medical services district; fire and ambulance district; joint recreation district; township waste disposal district; township road district; community college district; technical college district; detention facility district; a district organized under section 2151.65 of the Revised Code; a combined district organized under sections 2152.41 and 2151.65 of the Revised Code; a joint-county alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health service district; a drainage improvement district created under section 6131.52 of the Revised Code; a union cemetery district; a

county school financing district; a city, local, exempted village, cooperative education, or joint vocational school district; or a regional student education district created under section 3313.83 of the Revised Code.

(B) "Municipal corporation" means all municipal corporations, including those that have adopted a charter under Article XVIII, Ohio Constitution.

(C) "Taxing authority" or "bond issuing authority" means, in the case of any county, the board of county commissioners; in the case of a municipal corporation, the council or other legislative authority of the municipal corporation; in the case of a city, local, exempted village, cooperative education, or joint vocational school district, the board of education; in the case of a community college district, the board of trustees of the district; in the case of a technical college district, the board of trustees of the district; in the case of a detention facility district, a district organized under section 2151.65 of the Revised Code, or a combined district organized under sections 2152.41 and 2151.65 of the Revised Code, the joint board of county commissioners of the district; in the case of a township, the board of township trustees; in the case of a joint police district, the joint police district board; in the case of a joint fire district, the board of fire district trustees; in the case of a joint recreation district, the joint recreation district board of trustees; in the case of a joint-county alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health service district, the district's board of alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health services; in the case of a joint ambulance district or a fire and ambulance district, the board of trustees of the district; in the case of a union cemetery district, the legislative authority of the municipal corporation and the board of township trustees, acting jointly as described in section 759.341 of the Revised Code; in the case of a drainage improvement district, the board of county commissioners of the county in which the drainage district is located; in the case of a joint emergency medical services district, the joint board of county commissioners of all counties in which all or any part of the district lies; and in the case of a township police district, a township fire district, a township road district, or a township waste disposal district, the board of township trustees of the township in which the district is located. "Taxing authority" also means the educational service center governing board that serves as the taxing authority of a county school financing district as provided in section 3311.50 of the Revised Code, and the board of directors of a regional student education district created under section 3313.83 of the Revised Code.

(D) "Fiscal officer" in the case of a county, means the county auditor; in the case of a municipal corporation, the city auditor or village clerk, or an

officer who, by virtue of the charter, has the duties and functions of the city auditor or village clerk, except that in the case of a municipal university the board of directors of which have assumed, in the manner provided by law, the custody and control of the funds of the university, the chief accounting officer of the university shall perform, with respect to the funds, the duties vested in the fiscal officer of the subdivision by sections 5705.41 and 5705.44 of the Revised Code; in the case of a school district, the treasurer of the board of education; in the case of a county school financing district, the treasurer of the educational service center governing board that serves as the taxing authority; in the case of a township, the township fiscal officer; in the case of a joint police district, the treasurer of the district; in the case of a joint fire district, the clerk of the board of fire district trustees; in the case of a joint ambulance district, the clerk of the board of trustees of the district; in the case of a joint emergency medical services district, the person appointed as fiscal officer pursuant to division (D) of section 307.053 of the Revised Code; in the case of a fire and ambulance district, the person appointed as fiscal officer pursuant to division (B) of section 505.375 of the Revised Code; in the case of a joint recreation district, the person designated pursuant to section 755.15 of the Revised Code; in the case of a union cemetery district, the clerk of the municipal corporation designated in section 759.34 of the Revised Code; in the case of a children's home district, educational service center, general health district, joint-county alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health service district, county library district, detention facility district, district organized under section 2151.65 of the Revised Code, a combined district organized under sections 2152.41 and 2151.65 of the Revised Code, or a metropolitan park district for which no treasurer has been appointed pursuant to section 1545.07 of the Revised Code, the county auditor of the county designated by law to act as the auditor of the district; in the case of a metropolitan park district which has appointed a treasurer pursuant to section 1545.07 of the Revised Code, that treasurer; in the case of a drainage improvement district, the auditor of the county in which the drainage improvement district is located; in the case of a regional student education district, the fiscal officer appointed pursuant to section 3313.83 of the Revised Code; and in all other cases, the officer responsible for keeping the appropriation accounts and drawing warrants for the expenditure of the moneys of the district or taxing unit.

(E) "Permanent improvement" or "improvement" means any property, asset, or improvement with an estimated life or usefulness of five years or more, including land and interests therein, and reconstructions, enlargements, and extensions thereof having an estimated life or usefulness

of five years or more.

(F) "Current operating expenses" and "current expenses" mean the lawful expenditures of a subdivision, except those for permanent improvements, and except payments for interest, sinking fund, and retirement of bonds, notes, and certificates of indebtedness of the subdivision.

(G) "Debt charges" means interest, sinking fund, and retirement charges on bonds, notes, or certificates of indebtedness.

(H) "Taxing unit" means any subdivision or other governmental district having authority to levy taxes on the property in the district or issue bonds that constitute a charge against the property of the district, including conservancy districts, metropolitan park districts, sanitary districts, road districts, and other districts.

(I) "District authority" means any board of directors, trustees, commissioners, or other officers controlling a district institution or activity that derives its income or funds from two or more subdivisions, such as the educational service center, the trustees of district children's homes, the district board of health, a joint-county alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health service district's board of alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health services, detention facility districts, a joint recreation district board of trustees, districts organized under section 2151.65 of the Revised Code, combined districts organized under sections 2152.41 and 2151.65 of the Revised Code, and other such boards.

(J) "Tax list" and "tax duplicate" mean the general tax lists and duplicates prescribed by sections 319.28 and 319.29 of the Revised Code.

(K) "Property" as applied to a tax levy means taxable property listed on general tax lists and duplicates.

(L) "School library district" means a school district in which a free public library has been established that is under the control and management of a board of library trustees as provided in section 3375.15 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 5705.14. No transfer shall be made from one fund of a subdivision to any other fund, by order of the court or otherwise, except as follows:

(A) The unexpended balance in a bond fund that is no longer needed for the purpose for which such fund was created shall be transferred to the sinking fund or bond retirement fund from which such bonds are payable.

(B) The unexpended balance in any specific permanent improvement fund, other than a bond fund, after the payment of all obligations incurred in the acquisition of such improvement, shall be transferred to the sinking fund or bond retirement fund of the subdivision; provided that if such money is

not required to meet the obligations payable from such funds, it may be transferred to a special fund for the acquisition of permanent improvements, or, with the approval of the court of common pleas of the county in which such subdivision is located, to the general fund of the subdivision.

(C) ~~The~~ (1) Except as provided in division (C)(2) of this section, the unexpended balance in the sinking fund or bond retirement fund of a subdivision, after all indebtedness, interest, and other obligations for the payment of which such fund exists have been paid and retired, shall be transferred, in the case of the sinking fund, to the bond retirement fund, and in the case of the bond retirement fund, to the sinking fund; provided that if such transfer is impossible by reason of the nonexistence of the fund to receive the transfer, such unexpended balance, with the approval of the court of common pleas of the county in which such division is located, may be transferred to any other fund of the subdivision.

(2) Money in a bond fund or bond retirement fund of a city, local, exempted village, cooperative education, or joint vocational school district may be transferred to a specific permanent improvement fund provided that the county budget commission of the county in which the school district is located approves the transfer upon its determination that the money transferred will not be required to meet the obligations payable from the bond fund or bond retirement fund. In arriving at such a determination, the county budget commission shall consider the balance of the bond fund or bond retirement fund, the outstanding obligations payable from the fund, and the sources and timing of the fund's revenue.

(D) The unexpended balance in any special fund, other than an improvement fund, existing in accordance with division (D), (F), or (G) of section 5705.09 or section 5705.12 of the Revised Code, may be transferred to the general fund or to the sinking fund or bond retirement fund after the termination of the activity, service, or other undertaking for which such special fund existed, but only after the payment of all obligations incurred and payable from such special fund.

(E) Money may be transferred from the general fund to any other fund of the subdivision.

(F) Moneys retained or received by a county under section 4501.04 or division (A)(3) of section 5735.27 of the Revised Code may be transferred from the fund into which they were deposited to the sinking fund or bond retirement fund from which any principal, interest, or charges for which such moneys may be used is payable.

(G) Moneys retained or received by a municipal corporation under section 4501.04 or division (A)(1) or (2) of section 5735.27 of the Revised

Code may be transferred from the fund into which they were deposited to the sinking fund or bond retirement fund from which any principal, interest, or charges for which such moneys may be used is payable.

(H)(1) Money may be transferred from the county developmental disabilities general fund to the county developmental disabilities capital fund established under section 5705.091 of the Revised Code or to any other fund created for the purposes of the county board of developmental disabilities, so long as money in the fund to which the money is transferred can be spent for the particular purpose of the transferred money. The county board of developmental disabilities may request, by resolution, that the board of county commissioners make the transfer. The county board of developmental disabilities shall transmit a certified copy of the resolution to the board of county commissioners. Upon receiving the resolution, the board of county commissioners may make the transfer. Money transferred to a fund shall be credited to an account appropriate to its particular purpose.

(2) An unexpended balance in an account in the county developmental disabilities capital fund or any other fund created for the purposes of the county board of developmental disabilities may be transferred back to the county developmental disabilities general fund. The transfer may be made if the unexpended balance is no longer needed for its particular purpose and all outstanding obligations have been paid. Money transferred back to the county developmental disabilities general fund shall be credited to an account for current expenses within that fund. The county board of developmental disabilities may request, by resolution, that the board of county commissioners make the transfer. The county board of developmental disabilities shall transmit a certified copy of the resolution to the board of county commissioners. Upon receiving the resolution, the board of county commissioners may make the transfer.

(I) Money may be transferred from the public assistance fund established under section 5101.161 of the Revised Code to either of the following funds, so long as the money to be transferred from the public assistance fund may be spent for the purposes for which money in the receiving fund may be used:

(1) The children services fund established under section 5101.144 of the Revised Code;

(2) The child support enforcement administrative fund established, as authorized under rules adopted by the director of job and family services, in the county treasury for use by any county family services agency.

Except in the case of transfer pursuant to division (E) of this section, transfers authorized by this section shall only be made by resolution of the

taxing authority passed with the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members.

Sec. 5705.16. A resolution of the taxing authority of any political subdivision shall be passed by a majority of all the members thereof, declaring the necessity for the transfer of funds authorized by section 5705.15 of the Revised Code, and such taxing authority shall prepare a petition addressed to the court of common pleas of the county in which the funds are held. The petition shall set forth the name and amount of the fund, the fund to which it is desired to be transferred, a copy of such resolution with a full statement of the proceedings pertaining to its passage, and the reason or necessity for the transfer. A duplicate copy of said petition shall be forwarded to the tax commissioner for ~~his~~ the commissioner's examination and approval.

If the petition is disapproved by the commissioner, it shall be returned within ten days of its receipt to the officers who submitted it, with a memorandum of the commissioner's objections. This disapproval shall not prejudice a later application for approval. If the petition is approved by the commissioner, it shall be forwarded within ten days of its receipt to the clerk of the court of common pleas of the county to whose court of common pleas the petition is addressed, marked with the approval of the commissioner. If the commissioner approves the petition, ~~he~~ the commissioner shall notify immediately the officers who submitted the petition, who then may file the petition in the court to which it is addressed.

The petitioner shall give notice of the filing, object, and prayer of the petition, and of the time when it will be heard. The notice shall be given by one publication in ~~two newspapers having~~ a newspaper of general circulation in the territory to be affected by such transfer of funds; ~~preference being given to newspapers published within the territory.~~ If there ~~are~~ is no such ~~newspapers~~ newspaper, the notice shall be posted in ten conspicuous places within the territory for ~~the~~ a period of four weeks.

The petition may be heard at the time stated in the notice, or as soon thereafter as convenient for the court. Any person who objects to the prayer of such petition shall file ~~his~~ the person's objections in such cause on or before the time fixed in the notice for hearing, and ~~he~~ that person shall be entitled to be heard.

If, upon hearing, the court finds that the notice has been given as required by this section, that the petition states sufficient facts, that there are good reasons, or that a necessity exists, for the transfer, and that no injury will result therefrom, it shall grant the prayer of the petition and order the petitioners to make such transfer.

A copy of the findings, orders, and judgments of the court shall be certified by the clerk and entered on the records of the petitioning officers or board, and thereupon the petitioners may make the transfer of funds as directed by the court. All costs of such proceedings shall be paid by the petitioners, except that if objections are filed the court may order such objectors to pay all or a portion of the costs.

Sec. 5705.19. This section does not apply to school districts or county school financing districts.

The taxing authority of any subdivision at any time and in any year, by vote of two-thirds of all the members of the taxing authority, may declare by resolution and certify the resolution to the board of elections not less than ninety days before the election upon which it will be voted that the amount of taxes that may be raised within the ten-mill limitation will be insufficient to provide for the necessary requirements of the subdivision and that it is necessary to levy a tax in excess of that limitation for any of the following purposes:

(A) For current expenses of the subdivision, except that the total levy for current expenses of a detention facility district or district organized under section 2151.65 of the Revised Code shall not exceed two mills and that the total levy for current expenses of a combined district organized under sections 2151.65 and 2152.41 of the Revised Code shall not exceed four mills;

(B) For the payment of debt charges on certain described bonds, notes, or certificates of indebtedness of the subdivision issued subsequent to January 1, 1925;

(C) For the debt charges on all bonds, notes, and certificates of indebtedness issued and authorized to be issued prior to January 1, 1925;

(D) For a public library of, or supported by, the subdivision under whatever law organized or authorized to be supported;

(E) For a municipal university, not to exceed two mills over the limitation of one mill prescribed in section 3349.13 of the Revised Code;

(F) For the construction or acquisition of any specific permanent improvement or class of improvements that the taxing authority of the subdivision may include in a single bond issue;

(G) For the general construction, reconstruction, resurfacing, and repair of streets, roads, and bridges in municipal corporations, counties, or townships;

(H) For parks and recreational purposes;

(I) For the purpose of providing and maintaining fire apparatus, appliances, buildings, or sites therefor, or sources of water supply and

materials therefor, or the establishment and maintenance of lines of fire alarm telegraph, or the payment of firefighting companies or permanent, part-time, or volunteer firefighters or firefighting companies, emergency medical service, administrative, or communications personnel to operate the same, including the payment of ~~the firefighter employers' contribution~~ any employer contributions required for such personnel under section 145.48 or 742.34 of the Revised Code, or the purchase of ambulance equipment, or the provision of ambulance, paramedic, or other emergency medical services operated by a fire department or firefighting company;

(J) For the purpose of providing and maintaining motor vehicles, communications, other equipment, buildings, and sites for such buildings used directly in the operation of a police department, or the payment of salaries of permanent or part-time police, communications, or administrative personnel to operate the same, including the payment of ~~the police officer employers' contribution~~ any employer contributions required for such personnel under section 145.48 or 742.33 of the Revised Code, or the payment of the costs incurred by townships as a result of contracts made with other political subdivisions in order to obtain police protection, or the provision of ambulance or emergency medical services operated by a police department;

(K) For the maintenance and operation of a county home or detention facility;

(L) For community mental retardation and developmental disabilities programs and services pursuant to Chapter 5126. of the Revised Code, except that the procedure for such levies shall be as provided in section 5705.222 of the Revised Code;

(M) For regional planning;

(N) For a county's share of the cost of maintaining and operating schools, district detention facilities, forestry camps, or other facilities, or any combination thereof, established under section 2151.65 or 2152.41 of the Revised Code or both of those sections;

(O) For providing for flood defense, providing and maintaining a flood wall or pumps, and other purposes to prevent floods;

(P) For maintaining and operating sewage disposal plants and facilities;

(Q) For the purpose of purchasing, acquiring, constructing, enlarging, improving, equipping, repairing, maintaining, or operating, or any combination of the foregoing, a county transit system pursuant to sections 306.01 to 306.13 of the Revised Code, or of making any payment to a board of county commissioners operating a transit system or a county transit board pursuant to section 306.06 of the Revised Code;

(R) For the subdivision's share of the cost of acquiring or constructing any schools, forestry camps, detention facilities, or other facilities, or any combination thereof, under section 2151.65 or 2152.41 of the Revised Code or both of those sections;

(S) For the prevention, control, and abatement of air pollution;

(T) For maintaining and operating cemeteries;

(U) For providing ambulance service, emergency medical service, or both;

(V) For providing for the collection and disposal of garbage or refuse, including yard waste;

(W) For the payment of the police officer employers' contribution or the firefighter employers' contribution required under sections 742.33 and 742.34 of the Revised Code;

(X) For the construction and maintenance of a drainage improvement pursuant to section 6131.52 of the Revised Code;

(Y) For providing or maintaining senior citizens services or facilities as authorized by section 307.694, 307.85, 505.70, or 505.706 or division (EE) of section 717.01 of the Revised Code;

(Z) For the provision and maintenance of zoological park services and facilities as authorized under section 307.76 of the Revised Code;

(AA) For the maintenance and operation of a free public museum of art, science, or history;

(BB) For the establishment and operation of a 9-1-1 system, as defined in section 4931.40 of the Revised Code;

(CC) For the purpose of acquiring, rehabilitating, or developing rail property or rail service. As used in this division, "rail property" and "rail service" have the same meanings as in section 4981.01 of the Revised Code. This division applies only to a county, township, or municipal corporation.

(DD) For the purpose of acquiring property for, constructing, operating, and maintaining community centers as provided for in section 755.16 of the Revised Code;

(EE) For the creation and operation of an office or joint office of economic development, for any economic development purpose of the office, and to otherwise provide for the establishment and operation of a program of economic development pursuant to sections 307.07 and 307.64 of the Revised Code, or to the extent that the expenses of a county land reutilization corporation organized under Chapter 1724. of the Revised Code are found by the board of county commissioners to constitute the promotion of economic development, for the payment of such operations and expenses;

(FF) For the purpose of acquiring, establishing, constructing, improving,

equipping, maintaining, or operating, or any combination of the foregoing, a township airport, landing field, or other air navigation facility pursuant to section 505.15 of the Revised Code;

(GG) For the payment of costs incurred by a township as a result of a contract made with a county pursuant to section 505.263 of the Revised Code in order to pay all or any part of the cost of constructing, maintaining, repairing, or operating a water supply improvement;

(HH) For a board of township trustees to acquire, other than by appropriation, an ownership interest in land, water, or wetlands, or to restore or maintain land, water, or wetlands in which the board has an ownership interest, not for purposes of recreation, but for the purposes of protecting and preserving the natural, scenic, open, or wooded condition of the land, water, or wetlands against modification or encroachment resulting from occupation, development, or other use, which may be styled as protecting or preserving "greenspace" in the resolution, notice of election, or ballot form. Except as otherwise provided in this division, land is not acquired for purposes of recreation, even if the land is used for recreational purposes, so long as no building, structure, or fixture used for recreational purposes is permanently attached or affixed to the land. Except as otherwise provided in this division, land that previously has been acquired in a township for these greenspace purposes may subsequently be used for recreational purposes if the board of township trustees adopts a resolution approving that use and no building, structure, or fixture used for recreational purposes is permanently attached or affixed to the land. The authorization to use greenspace land for recreational use does not apply to land located in a township that had a population, at the time it passed its first greenspace levy, of more than thirty-eight thousand within a county that had a population, at that time, of at least eight hundred sixty thousand.

(II) For the support by a county of a crime victim assistance program that is provided and maintained by a county agency or a private, nonprofit corporation or association under section 307.62 of the Revised Code;

(JJ) For any or all of the purposes set forth in divisions (I) and (J) of this section. This division applies only to a township.

(KK) For a countywide public safety communications system under section 307.63 of the Revised Code. This division applies only to counties.

(LL) For the support by a county of criminal justice services under section 307.45 of the Revised Code;

(MM) For the purpose of maintaining and operating a jail or other detention facility as defined in section 2921.01 of the Revised Code;

(NN) For purchasing, maintaining, or improving, or any combination of

the foregoing, real estate on which to hold agricultural fairs. This division applies only to a county.

(OO) For constructing, rehabilitating, repairing, or maintaining sidewalks, walkways, trails, bicycle pathways, or similar improvements, or acquiring ownership interests in land necessary for the foregoing improvements;

(PP) For both of the purposes set forth in divisions (G) and (OO) of this section.

(QQ) For both of the purposes set forth in divisions (H) and (HH) of this section. This division applies only to a township.

(RR) For the legislative authority of a municipal corporation, board of county commissioners of a county, or board of township trustees of a township to acquire agricultural easements, as defined in section 5301.67 of the Revised Code, and to supervise and enforce the easements.

(SS) For both of the purposes set forth in divisions (BB) and (KK) of this section. This division applies only to a county.

(TT) For the maintenance and operation of a facility that is organized in whole or in part to promote the sciences and natural history under section 307.761 of the Revised Code.

(UU) For the creation and operation of a county land reutilization corporation and for any programs or activities of the corporation found by the board of directors of the corporation to be consistent with the purposes for which the corporation is organized;

(VV) For construction and maintenance of improvements and expenses of soil and water conservation district programs under Chapter 1515. of the Revised Code;

(WW) For the Ohio cooperative extension service fund created under section 3335.35 of the Revised Code for the purposes prescribed under section 3335.36 of the Revised Code for the benefit of the citizens of a county. This division applies only to a county.

The resolution shall be confined to the purpose or purposes described in one division of this section, to which the revenue derived therefrom shall be applied. The existence in any other division of this section of authority to levy a tax for any part or all of the same purpose or purposes does not preclude the use of such revenues for any part of the purpose or purposes of the division under which the resolution is adopted.

The resolution shall specify the amount of the increase in rate that it is necessary to levy, the purpose of that increase in rate, and the number of years during which the increase in rate shall be in effect, which may or may not include a levy upon the duplicate of the current year. The number of

years may be any number not exceeding five, except as follows:

(1) When the additional rate is for the payment of debt charges, the increased rate shall be for the life of the indebtedness.

(2) When the additional rate is for any of the following, the increased rate shall be for a continuing period of time:

(a) For the current expenses for a detention facility district, a district organized under section 2151.65 of the Revised Code, or a combined district organized under sections 2151.65 and 2152.41 of the Revised Code;

(b) For providing a county's share of the cost of maintaining and operating schools, district detention facilities, forestry camps, or other facilities, or any combination thereof, established under section 2151.65 or 2152.41 of the Revised Code or under both of those sections.

(3) When the additional rate is for either of the following, the increased rate may be for a continuing period of time:

(a) For the purposes set forth in division (I), (J), (U), or (KK) of this section;

(b) For the maintenance and operation of a joint recreation district.

(4) When the increase is for the purpose or purposes set forth in division (D), (G), (H), (CC), or (PP) of this section, the tax levy may be for any specified number of years or for a continuing period of time, as set forth in the resolution.

(5) When the additional rate is for the purpose described in division (Z) of this section, the increased rate shall be for any number of years not exceeding ten.

A levy for one of the purposes set forth in division (G), (I), (J), or (U) of this section may be reduced pursuant to section 5705.261 or 5705.31 of the Revised Code. A levy for one of the purposes set forth in division (G), (I), (J), or (U) of this section may also be terminated or permanently reduced by the taxing authority if it adopts a resolution stating that the continuance of the levy is unnecessary and the levy shall be terminated or that the millage is excessive and the levy shall be decreased by a designated amount.

A resolution of a detention facility district, a district organized under section 2151.65 of the Revised Code, or a combined district organized under both sections 2151.65 and 2152.41 of the Revised Code may include both current expenses and other purposes, provided that the resolution shall apportion the annual rate of levy between the current expenses and the other purpose or purposes. The apportionment need not be the same for each year of the levy, but the respective portions of the rate actually levied each year for the current expenses and the other purpose or purposes shall be limited by the apportionment.

Whenever a board of county commissioners, acting either as the taxing authority of its county or as the taxing authority of a sewer district or subdistrict created under Chapter 6117. of the Revised Code, by resolution declares it necessary to levy a tax in excess of the ten-mill limitation for the purpose of constructing, improving, or extending sewage disposal plants or sewage systems, the tax may be in effect for any number of years not exceeding twenty, and the proceeds of the tax, notwithstanding the general provisions of this section, may be used to pay debt charges on any obligations issued and outstanding on behalf of the subdivision for the purposes enumerated in this paragraph, provided that any such obligations have been specifically described in the resolution.

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.

When the electors of a subdivision have approved a tax levy under this section, the taxing authority of the subdivision may anticipate a fraction of the proceeds of the levy and issue anticipation notes in accordance with section 5705.191 or 5705.193 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 5705.191. The taxing authority of any subdivision, other than the board of education of a school district or the taxing authority of a county school financing district, by a vote of two-thirds of all its members, may declare by resolution that the amount of taxes that may be raised within the ten-mill limitation by levies on the current tax duplicate will be insufficient to provide an adequate amount for the necessary requirements of the subdivision, and that it is necessary to levy a tax in excess of such limitation for any of the purposes in section 5705.19 of the Revised Code, or to supplement the general fund for the purpose of making appropriations for one or more of the following purposes: public assistance, human or social services, relief, welfare, hospitalization, health, and support of general hospitals, and that the question of such additional tax levy shall be submitted to the electors of the subdivision at a general, primary, or special election to be held at a time therein specified. Such resolution shall not include a levy on the current tax list and duplicate unless such election is to be held at or prior to the general election day of the current tax year. Such resolution shall conform to the requirements of section 5705.19 of the Revised Code, except that a levy to supplement the general fund for the purposes of public assistance, human or social services, relief, welfare, hospitalization, health, or the support of general or tuberculosis hospitals may not be for a longer period than ten years. All other levies under this section may not be for a longer period than five years unless a longer period is permitted by section

5705.19 of the Revised Code, and the resolution shall specify the date of holding such election, which shall not be earlier than ninety days after the adoption and certification of such resolution. The resolution shall go into immediate effect upon its passage and no publication of the same is necessary other than that provided for in the notice of election. A copy of such resolution, immediately after its passage, shall be certified to the board of elections of the proper county or counties in the manner provided by section 5705.25 of the Revised Code, and such section shall govern the arrangements for the submission of such question and other matters with respect to such election, to which section 5705.25 of the Revised Code refers, excepting that such election shall be held on the date specified in the resolution, which shall be consistent with the requirements of section 3501.01 of the Revised Code, provided that only one special election for the submission of such question may be held in any one calendar year and provided that a special election may be held upon the same day a primary election is held. Publication of notice of that election shall be made in ~~one or more newspapers~~ 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, prior to the election, ~~and, if~~. If the board of elections operates and maintains a web site, the board of elections shall post notice of the election on its web site for thirty days prior to the election.

If a majority of the electors voting on the question vote in favor thereof, the taxing authority of the subdivision may make the necessary levy within such subdivision at the additional rate or at any lesser rate outside the ten-mill limitation on the tax list and duplicate for the purpose stated in the resolution. Such tax levy shall be included in the next annual tax budget that is certified to the county budget commission.

After the approval of such a levy by the electors, the taxing authority of the subdivision may anticipate a fraction of the proceeds of such levy and issue anticipation notes. In the case of a continuing levy that is not levied for the purpose of current expenses, notes may be issued at any time after approval of the levy in an amount not more than fifty per cent of the total estimated proceeds of the levy for the succeeding ten years, less an amount equal to the fraction of the proceeds of the levy previously anticipated by the issuance of anticipation notes. In the case of a levy for a fixed period that is not for the purpose of current expenses, notes may be issued at any time after approval of the levy in an amount not more than fifty per cent of the total estimated proceeds of the levy throughout the remaining life of the levy, less an amount equal to the fraction of the proceeds of the levy previously anticipated by the issuance of anticipation notes. In the case of a

levy for current expenses, notes may be issued after the approval of the levy by the electors and prior to the time when the first tax collection from the levy can be made. Such notes may be issued in an amount not more than fifty per cent of the total estimated proceeds of the levy throughout the term of the levy in the case of a levy for a fixed period, or fifty per cent of the total estimated proceeds for the first ten years of the levy in the case of a continuing levy.

No anticipation notes that increase the net indebtedness of a county may be issued without the prior consent of the board of county commissioners of that county. The notes shall be issued as provided in section 133.24 of the Revised Code, shall have principal payments during each year after the year of their issuance over a period not exceeding the life of the levy anticipated, and may have a principal payment in the year of their issuance.

"Taxing authority" and "subdivision" have the same meanings as in section 5705.01 of the Revised Code.

This section is supplemental to and not in derogation of sections 5705.20, 5705.21, and 5705.22 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 5705.194. The board of education of any city, local, exempted village, cooperative education, or joint vocational school district at any time may declare by resolution that the revenue that will be raised by all tax levies which the district is authorized to impose, when combined with state and federal revenues, will be insufficient to provide for the emergency requirements of the school district or to avoid an operating deficit, and that it is therefore necessary to levy an additional tax in excess of the ten-mill limitation. The resolution shall be confined to a single purpose and shall specify that purpose. If the levy is proposed to renew all or a portion of the proceeds derived from one or more existing levies imposed pursuant to this section, it shall be called a renewal levy and shall be so designated on the ballot. If two or more existing levies are to be included in a single renewal levy but are not scheduled to expire in the same year, the resolution shall specify that the existing levies to be renewed shall not be levied after the year preceding the year in which the renewal levy is first imposed. Notwithstanding the original purpose of any one or more existing levies that are to be in any single renewal levy, the purpose of the renewal levy may be either to avoid an operating deficit or to provide for the emergency requirements of the school district. The resolution shall further specify the amount of money it is necessary to raise for the specified purpose for each calendar year the millage is to be imposed; if a renewal levy, whether the levy is to renew all, or a portion of, the proceeds derived from one or more existing levies; and the number of years in which the millage is to be in

effect, which may include a levy upon the current year's tax list. The number of years may be any number not exceeding ten.

The question shall be submitted at a special election on a date specified in the resolution. The date shall not be earlier than eighty days after the adoption and certification of the resolution to the county auditor and shall be consistent with the requirements of section 3501.01 of the Revised Code. A resolution for a renewal levy shall not be placed on the ballot unless the question is submitted on a date on which a special election may be held under division (D) of section 3501.01 of the Revised Code, except for the first Tuesday after the first Monday in February and August, during the last year the levy 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, except that if the resolution proposes renewing two or more existing levies, the question shall be submitted on the date of the general or primary election held during the last year at least one of the levies to be renewed may be extended on that list and duplicate, or at any election held during the ensuing year. For purposes of this section, a levy shall be considered to be an "existing levy" through the year following the last year it can be placed on the real and public utility property tax list and duplicate.

The submission of questions to the electors under this section is subject to the limitation on the number of election dates established by section 5705.214 of the Revised Code.

The resolution shall go into immediate effect upon its passage, and no publication of the resolution shall be necessary other than that provided for in the notice of election. A copy of the resolution shall immediately after its passing be certified to the county auditor of the proper county. Section 5705.195 of the Revised Code shall govern the arrangements for the submission of questions to the electors under this section and other matters concerning the election. Publication of notice of the election shall be made in one ~~or more newspapers~~ 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, prior to the election, ~~and, if~~. If the board of elections operates and maintains a web site, the board of elections shall post notice of the election on its web site for thirty days prior to the election. If a majority of the electors voting on the question submitted in an election vote in favor of the levy, the board of education of the school district may make the additional levy necessary to raise the amount specified in the resolution for the purpose stated in the resolution. The tax levy shall be included in the next tax budget that is certified to the county budget commission.

After the approval of the levy and prior to the time when the first tax

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

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

Sec. 5705.196. The election provided for in section 5705.194 of the Revised Code shall be held at the regular places for voting in the district, and shall be conducted, canvassed, and certified in the same manner as regular elections in the district for the election of county officers, provided that in any such election in which only part of the electors of a precinct are qualified to vote, the board of elections may assign voters in such part to an adjoining precinct. Such an assignment may be made to an adjoining precinct in another county with the consent and approval of the board of elections of such other county. Notice of the election shall be published in one ~~or more newspapers~~ newspaper of general circulation in the 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 of elections operates and maintains a web site, the board of elections shall post notice of the election on its web site for thirty days prior to the election. Such notice shall state the annual proceeds of the proposed levy, the purpose for which such proceeds are to be used, the number of years during which the levy shall run, and the estimated average additional tax rate expressed in dollars and cents for each one hundred dollars of valuation as well as in mills for each one dollar of valuation, outside the limitation imposed by Section 2 of Article XII, Ohio Constitution, as certified by the county auditor.

Sec. 5705.21. (A) At any time, the board of education of any city, local, exempted village, cooperative education, or joint vocational school district, by a vote of two-thirds of all its members, may declare by resolution that the amount of taxes which may be raised within the ten-mill limitation by levies on the current tax duplicate will be insufficient to provide an adequate amount for the necessary requirements of the school district, that it is necessary to levy a tax in excess of such limitation for one of the purposes specified in division (A), (D), (F), (H), or (DD) of section 5705.19 of the Revised Code, for general permanent improvements, for the purpose of operating a cultural center, or for the purpose of providing education technology, and that the question of such additional tax levy shall be submitted to the electors of the school district at a special election on a day

to be specified in the resolution. If the resolution states that the levy is for the purpose of operating a cultural center, the ballot shall state that the levy is "for the purpose of operating the (name of cultural center)."

As used in this section, "cultural center" means a freestanding building, separate from a public school building, that is open to the public for educational, musical, artistic, and cultural purposes; "education technology" means, but is not limited to, computer hardware, equipment, materials, and accessories, equipment used for two-way audio or video, and software; and "general permanent improvements" means permanent improvements without regard to the limitation of division (F) of section 5705.19 of the Revised Code that the improvements be a specific improvement or a class of improvements that may be included in a single bond issue.

The submission of questions to the electors under this section is subject to the limitation on the number of election dates established by section 5705.214 of the Revised Code.

(B) Such resolution shall be confined to a single purpose and shall specify the amount of the increase in rate that it is necessary to levy, the purpose of the levy, and the number of years during which the increase in rate shall be in effect. The number of years may be any number not exceeding five or, if the levy is for current expenses of the district or for general permanent improvements, for a continuing period of time. The resolution shall specify the date of holding such election, which shall not be earlier than ninety days after the adoption and certification of the resolution and which shall be consistent with the requirements of section 3501.01 of the Revised Code.

The resolution may propose to renew one or more existing levies imposed under this section or to increase or decrease a single levy imposed under this section. If the board of education imposes one or more existing levies for the purpose specified in division (F) of section 5705.19 of the Revised Code, the resolution may propose to renew one or more of those existing levies, or to increase or decrease a single such existing levy, for the purpose of general permanent improvements. If the resolution proposes to renew two or more existing levies, the levies shall be levied for the same purpose. The resolution shall identify those levies and the rates at which they are levied. The resolution also shall specify that the existing levies shall not be extended on the tax lists after the year preceding the year in which the renewal levy is first imposed, regardless of the years for which those levies originally were authorized to be levied.

The resolution shall go into immediate effect upon its passage, and no publication of the resolution shall be necessary other than that provided for

in the notice of election. A copy of the resolution shall immediately after its passing be certified to the board of elections of the proper county in the manner provided by section 5705.25 of the Revised Code, and that section shall govern the arrangements for the submission of such question and other matters concerning such election, to which that section refers, except that such election shall be held on the date specified in the resolution. Publication of notice of that election shall be made in ~~one or more newspapers~~ 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, prior to the election, ~~and, if~~. If the board of elections operates and maintains a web site, the board of elections shall post notice of the election on its web site for thirty days prior to the election. If a majority of the electors voting on the question so submitted in an election vote in favor of the levy, the board of education may make the necessary levy within the school district at the additional rate, or at any lesser rate in excess of the ten-mill limitation on the tax list, for the purpose stated in the resolution. A levy for a continuing period of time may be reduced pursuant to section 5705.261 of the Revised Code. The tax levy shall be included in the next tax budget that is certified to the county budget commission.

(C)(1) After the approval of a levy on the current tax list and duplicate for current expenses, for recreational purposes, for community centers provided for in section 755.16 of the Revised Code, or for a public library of the district and prior to the time when the first tax collection from the levy can be made, the board of education may anticipate a fraction of the proceeds of the levy and issue anticipation notes in a principal amount not exceeding fifty per cent of the total estimated proceeds of the levy to be collected during the first year of the levy.

(2) After the approval of a levy for general permanent improvements for a specified number of years, or for permanent improvements having the purpose specified in division (F) of section 5705.19 of the Revised Code, the board of education may anticipate a fraction of the proceeds of the levy and issue anticipation notes in a principal amount not exceeding fifty per cent of the total estimated proceeds of the levy remaining to be collected in each year over a period of five years after the issuance of the notes.

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

(3) After approval of a levy for general permanent improvements for a continuing period of time, the board of education may anticipate a fraction

of the proceeds of the levy and issue anticipation notes in a principal amount not exceeding fifty per cent of the total estimated proceeds of the levy to be collected in each year over a specified period of years, not exceeding ten, after the issuance of the notes.

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

Sec. 5705.211. (A) As used in this section:

(1) "Adjusted charge-off increase" for a tax year means two and two-tenths per cent of the cumulative carryover property value increase. ~~If the cumulative carryover property value increase is computed on the basis of a school district's recognized valuation for a fiscal year before fiscal year 2014, the adjusted charge-off increase shall be adjusted to account for the greater charge-off rates prescribed for such fiscal years under sections 3317.022 and 3306.13 of the Revised Code.~~

(2) "Cumulative carryover property value increase" means the sum of the increases in carryover value certified under division (B)(2) of section 3317.015 of the Revised Code and included in a school district's total taxable value in the computation of recognized valuation under division (B) of that section for all fiscal years from the fiscal year that ends in the first tax year a levy under this section is extended on the tax list of real and public utility property until and including the fiscal year that ends in the current tax year.

(3) "Taxes charged and payable" means the taxes charged and payable from a tax levy extended on the real and public utility property tax list and the general list of personal property before any reduction under section 319.302, 323.152, or 323.158 of the Revised Code.

(B) The board of education of a city, local, or exempted village school district may adopt a resolution proposing the levy of a tax in excess of the ten-mill limitation for the purpose of paying the current operating expenses of the district. If the resolution is approved as provided in division (D) of this section, the tax may be levied at such a rate each tax year that the total taxes charged and payable from the levy equals the adjusted charge-off increase for the tax year or equals a lesser amount as prescribed under division (C) of this section. The tax may be levied for a continuing period of time or for a specific number of years, but not fewer than five years, as provided in the resolution. The tax may not be placed on the tax list for a tax year beginning before the first day of January following adoption of the resolution. A board of education may not adopt a resolution under this

section proposing to levy a tax under this section concurrently with any other tax levied by the board under this section.

(C) After the first year a tax is levied under this section, the rate of the tax in any year shall not exceed the rate, estimated by the county auditor, that would cause the sums levied from the tax against carryover property to exceed one hundred four per cent of the sums levied from the tax against carryover property in the preceding year. A board of education imposing a tax under this section may specify in the resolution imposing the tax that the percentage shall be less than one hundred four per cent, but the percentage shall not be less than one hundred per cent. At any time after a resolution adopted under this section is approved by a majority of electors as provided in division (D) of this section, the board of education, by resolution, may decrease the percentage specified in the resolution levying the tax.

(D) A resolution adopted under this section shall state that the purpose of the tax is to pay current operating expenses of the district, and shall specify the first year in which the tax is to be levied, the number of years the tax will be levied or that it will be levied for a continuing period of time, and the election at which the question of the tax is to appear on the ballot, which shall be a general or special election consistent with the requirements of section 3501.01 of the Revised Code. If the board of education specifies a percentage less than one hundred four per cent pursuant to division (C) of this section, the percentage shall be specified in the resolution.

Upon adoption of the resolution, the board of education may certify a copy of the resolution to the proper county board of elections. The copy of the resolution shall be certified to the board of elections not later than ninety days before the day of the election at which the question of the tax is to appear on the ballot. Upon receiving a timely certified copy of such a resolution, the board of elections shall make the necessary arrangements for the submission of the question to the electors of the school district, and the election shall be conducted, canvassed, and certified in the same manner as regular elections in the school district for the election of members of the board of education. Notice of the election shall be published in ~~one or more newspapers~~ a newspaper of general circulation in the school district once per week for four consecutive weeks or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code. The notice shall state that the purpose of the tax is for the current operating expenses of the school district, the first year the tax is to be levied, the number of years the tax is to be levied or that it is to be levied for a continuing period of time, that the tax is to be levied each year in an amount estimated to offset decreases in state base cost funding caused by appreciation in real estate values, and that the estimated additional tax in any

year shall not exceed the previous year's by more than four per cent, or a lesser percentage specified in the resolution levying the tax, except for increases caused by the addition of new taxable property.

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.

The form of the ballot shall be substantially as follows:

"An additional tax for the benefit of (name of school district) for the purpose of paying the current operating expenses of the district, for (number of years or for continuing period of time), at a rate sufficient to offset any reduction in basic state funding caused by appreciation in real estate values? This levy will permit variable annual growth in revenue up to (amount specified by school district) per cent for the duration of the levy.

	For the tax levy
	Against the tax levy

"

If a majority of the electors of the school district voting on the question vote in favor of the question, the board of elections shall certify the results of the election to the board of education and to the tax commissioner immediately after the canvass.

(E) When preparing any estimate of the contemplated receipts from a tax levied pursuant to this section for the purposes of sections 5705.28 to 5705.40 of the Revised Code, and in preparing to certify the tax under section 5705.34 of the Revised Code, a board of education authorized to levy such a tax shall use information supplied by the department of education to determine the adjusted charge-off increase for the tax year for which that certification is made. If the board levied a tax under this section in the preceding tax year, the sum to be certified for collection from the tax shall not exceed the sum that would exceed the limitation imposed under division (C) of this section. At the request of the board of education or the treasurer of the school district, the county auditor shall assist the board of education in determining the rate or sum that may be levied under this section.

The board of education shall certify the sum authorized to be levied to the county auditor, and, for the purpose of the county auditor determining the rate at which the tax is to be levied in the tax year, the sum so certified shall be the sum to be raised by the tax unless the sum exceeds the limitation imposed by division (C) of this section. A tax levied pursuant to this section

shall not be levied at a rate in excess of the rate estimated by the county auditor to produce the sum certified by the board of education before the reductions under sections 319.302, 323.152, and 323.158 of the Revised Code. Notwithstanding section 5705.34 of the Revised Code, a board of education authorized to levy a tax under this section shall certify the tax to the county auditor before the first day of October of the tax year in which the tax is to be levied, or at a later date as approved by the tax commissioner.

Sec. 5705.214. Not more than three elections during any calendar year shall include the questions by a school district of tax levies proposed under any one or any combination of the following sections: sections 5705.194, 5705.199, 5705.21, 5705.212, 5705.213, 5705.217, 5705.218, ~~and~~ 5705.219, and 5748.09 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 5705.218. (A) The board of education of a city, local, or exempted village school district, at any time by a vote of two-thirds of all its members, may declare by resolution that it may be necessary for the school district to issue general obligation bonds for permanent improvements. The resolution shall state all of the following:

- (1) The necessity and purpose of the bond issue;
- (2) The date of the special election at which the question shall be submitted to the electors;
- (3) The amount, approximate date, estimated rate of interest, and maximum number of years over which the principal of the bonds may be paid;
- (4) The necessity of levying a tax outside the ten-mill limitation to pay debt charges on the bonds and any anticipatory securities.

On adoption of the resolution, the board shall certify a copy of it to the county auditor. The county auditor promptly shall estimate and certify to the board the average annual property tax rate required throughout the stated maturity of the bonds to pay debt charges on the bonds, in the same manner as under division (C) of section 133.18 of the Revised Code.

(B) After receiving the county auditor's certification under division (A) of this section, the board of education of the city, local, or exempted village school district, by a vote of two-thirds of all its members, may declare by resolution that the amount of taxes that can be raised within the ten-mill limitation will be insufficient to provide an adequate amount for the present and future requirements of the school district; that it is necessary to issue general obligation bonds of the school district for permanent improvements and to levy an additional tax in excess of the ten-mill limitation to pay debt charges on the bonds and any anticipatory securities; that it is necessary for

a specified number of years or for a continuing period of time to levy additional taxes in excess of the ten-mill limitation to provide funds for the acquisition, construction, enlargement, renovation, and financing of permanent improvements or to pay for current operating expenses, or both; and that the question of the bonds and taxes shall be submitted to the electors of the school district at a special election, which shall not be earlier than ninety days after certification of the resolution to the board of elections, and the date of which shall be consistent with section 3501.01 of the Revised Code. The resolution shall specify all of the following:

(1) The county auditor's estimate of the average annual property tax rate required throughout the stated maturity of the bonds to pay debt charges on the bonds;

(2) The proposed rate of the tax, if any, for current operating expenses, the first year the tax will be levied, and the number of years it will be levied, or that it will be levied for a continuing period of time;

(3) The proposed rate of the tax, if any, for permanent improvements, the first year the tax will be levied, and the number of years it will be levied, or that it will be levied for a continuing period of time.

The resolution shall apportion the annual rate of the tax between current operating expenses and permanent improvements, if both taxes are proposed. The apportionment may but need not be the same for each year of the tax, but the respective portions of the rate actually levied each year for current operating expenses and permanent improvements shall be limited by the apportionment. The resolution shall go into immediate effect upon its passage, and no publication of it is necessary other than that provided in the notice of election. The board of education shall certify a copy of the resolution, along with copies of the auditor's estimate and its resolution under division (A) of this section, to the board of elections immediately after its adoption.

(C) The board of elections shall make the arrangements for the submission of the question to the electors of the school district, and the election shall be conducted, canvassed, and certified in the same manner as regular elections in the district for the election of county officers. The resolution shall be put before the electors as one ballot question, with a favorable vote indicating approval of the bond issue, the levy to pay debt charges on the bonds and any anticipatory securities, the current operating expenses levy, and the permanent improvements levy, if either or both levies are proposed. The board of elections shall publish notice of the election in ~~one or more newspapers~~ a newspaper of general circulation in the school 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 a board of elections operates and maintains a web site, that board also shall post notice of the election on its web site for thirty days prior to the election. The notice of election shall state all of the following:

- (1) The principal amount of the proposed bond issue;
 - (2) The permanent improvements for which the bonds are to be issued;
 - (3) The maximum number of years over which the principal of the bonds may be paid;
 - (4) The estimated additional average annual property tax rate to pay the debt charges on the bonds, as certified by the county auditor;
 - (5) The proposed rate of the additional tax, if any, for current operating expenses;
 - (6) The number of years the current operating expenses tax will be in effect, or that it will be in effect for a continuing period of time;
 - (7) The proposed rate of the additional tax, if any, for permanent improvements;
 - (8) The number of years the permanent improvements tax will be in effect, or that it will be in effect for a continuing period of time;
 - (9) The time and place of the special election.
- (D) The form of the ballot for an election under this section is as follows:

"Shall the school district be authorized to do the following:

(1) Issue bonds for the purpose of in the principal amount of \$....., to be repaid annually over a maximum period of years, and levy a property tax outside the ten-mill limitation, estimated by the county auditor to average over the bond repayment period mills for each one dollar of tax valuation, which amounts to (rate expressed in cents or dollars and cents, such as "36 cents" or "\$1.41") for each \$100 of tax valuation, to pay the annual debt charges on the bonds, and to pay debt charges on any notes issued in anticipation of those bonds?"

If either a levy for permanent improvements or a levy for current operating expenses is proposed, or both are proposed, the ballot also shall contain the following language, as appropriate:

"(2) Levy an additional property tax to provide funds for the acquisition, construction, enlargement, renovation, and financing of permanent improvements at a rate not exceeding mills for each one dollar of tax valuation, which amounts to (rate expressed in cents or dollars and cents) for each \$100 of tax valuation, for (number of years of the levy, or a continuing period of time)?

(3) Levy an additional property tax to pay current operating expenses at

a rate not exceeding mills for each one dollar of tax valuation, which amounts to (rate expressed in cents or dollars and cents) for each \$100 of tax valuation, for (number of years of the levy, or a continuing period of time)?

	FOR THE BOND ISSUE AND LEVY (OR LEVIES)	
	AGAINST THE BOND ISSUE AND LEVY (OR LEVIES)	"

(E) The board of elections promptly shall certify the results of the election to the tax commissioner and the county auditor of the county in which the school district is located. If a majority of the electors voting on the question vote for it, the board of education may proceed with issuance of the bonds and with the levy and collection of the property tax or taxes at the additional rate or any lesser rate in excess of the ten-mill limitation. Any securities issued by the board of education under this section are Chapter 133. securities, as that term is defined in section 133.01 of the Revised Code.

(F)(1) After the approval of a tax for current operating expenses under this section and prior to the time the first collection and distribution from the levy can be made, the board of education may anticipate a fraction of the proceeds of such levy and issue anticipation notes in a principal amount not exceeding fifty per cent of the total estimated proceeds of the tax to be collected during the first year of the levy.

(2) After the approval of a tax under this section for permanent improvements having a specific purpose, the board of education may anticipate a fraction of the proceeds of such tax and issue anticipation notes in a principal amount not exceeding fifty per cent of the total estimated proceeds of the tax remaining to be collected in each year over a period of five years after issuance of the notes.

(3) After the approval of a tax for general, on-going permanent improvements under this section, the board of education may anticipate a fraction of the proceeds of such tax and issue anticipation notes in a principal amount not exceeding fifty per cent of the total estimated proceeds of the tax to be collected in each year over a specified period of years, not exceeding ten, after issuance of the notes.

Anticipation notes under this section shall be issued as provided in section 133.24 of the Revised Code. Notes issued under division (F)(1) or (2) of this section shall have principal payments during each year after the

year of their issuance over a period not to exceed five years, and may have a principal payment in the year of their issuance. Notes issued under division (F)(3) of this section shall have principal payments during each year after the year of their issuance over a period not to exceed ten years, and may have a principal payment in the year of their issuance.

(G) A tax for current operating expenses or for permanent improvements levied under this section for a specified number of years may be renewed or replaced in the same manner as a tax for current operating expenses or for permanent improvements levied under section 5705.21 of the Revised Code. A tax for current operating expenses or for permanent improvements levied under this section for a continuing period of time may be decreased in accordance with section 5705.261 of the Revised Code.

(H) The submission of a question to the electors under this section is subject to the limitation on the number of elections that can be held in a year under section 5705.214 of the Revised Code.

(I) A school district board of education proposing a ballot measure under this section to generate local resources for a project under the school building assistance expedited local partnership program under section 3318.36 of the Revised Code may combine the questions under division (D) of this section with a question for the levy of a property tax to generate moneys for maintenance of the classroom facilities acquired under that project as prescribed in section 3318.361 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 5705.25. (A) A copy of any resolution adopted as provided in section 5705.19 or 5705.2111 of the Revised Code shall be certified by the taxing authority to the board of elections of the proper county not less than ninety days before the general election in any year, and the board shall submit the proposal to the electors of the subdivision at the succeeding November election. Except as otherwise provided in this division, a resolution to renew an existing levy, regardless of the section of the Revised Code under which the tax was imposed, shall 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 or replaced may be extended on the real and public utility property tax list and duplicate, or at any election held in the ensuing year. The limitation of the foregoing sentence does not apply to a resolution to renew and increase or to renew part of an existing levy that was imposed under section 5705.191 of the Revised Code to supplement the general fund for the purpose of making appropriations for one or more of the following purposes: for public assistance, human or social services, relief, welfare, hospitalization, health, and support of general hospitals. The limitation of the second preceding sentence also does not apply to a

resolution that proposes to renew two or more existing levies imposed under section 5705.21 of the Revised Code, in which case the question shall be submitted on the date of the general or primary election held during the last year at least one of the levies to be renewed may be extended on the real and public utility property tax list and duplicate, or at any election held during the ensuing year. For purposes of this section, a levy shall be considered to be an "existing levy" through the year following the last year it can be placed on that tax list and duplicate.

The board shall make the necessary arrangements for the submission of such questions to the electors of such subdivision, and the election shall be conducted, canvassed, and certified in the same manner as regular elections in such subdivision for the election of county officers. Notice of the election shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the subdivision 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 of elections operates and maintains a web site, the board of elections shall post notice of the election on its web site for thirty days prior to the election. The notice shall state the purpose, the proposed increase in rate 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 years during which the increase will be in effect, the first month and year in which the tax will be levied, and the time and place of the election.

(B) The form of the ballots cast at an election held pursuant to division (A) of this section shall be as follows:

"An additional tax for the benefit of (name of subdivision or public library) for the purpose of (purpose stated in the resolution) 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 (life of indebtedness or number of years the levy is to run).

	For the Tax Levy
	Against the Tax Levy

"

(C) If the levy is to be in effect for a continuing period of time, the notice of election and the form of ballot shall so state instead of setting forth a specified number of years for the 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)."

If the levy submitted is a proposal to renew, increase, or decrease an existing levy, the form of the ballot specified in division (B) of 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 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 proposed levy.

If the levy submitted is a proposal to renew two or more existing levies imposed under section 5705.21 of the Revised Code, the form of the ballot specified in division (B) of this section shall be modified by substituting for the words "an additional tax" the words "a renewal of(insert the number of levies to be renewed) existing taxes."

The question covered by such resolution 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.

(D) A levy voted in excess of the ten-mill limitation under this section shall be certified to the tax commissioner. In the first year of the levy, it shall be extended on the tax lists after the February settlement succeeding the election. If the additional tax is to be placed upon the tax list of the current year, as specified in the resolution providing for its submission, the result of the election shall be certified immediately after the canvass by the board of elections to the taxing authority, who shall make the necessary levy and certify it to the county auditor, who shall extend it on the tax lists for collection. After the first year, the tax levy shall be included in the annual tax budget that is certified to the county budget commission.

Sec. 5705.251. (A) A copy of a resolution adopted under section 5705.212 or 5705.213 of the Revised Code shall be certified by the board of education to the board of elections of the proper county not less than ninety days before the date of the election specified in the resolution, and the board of elections shall submit the proposal to the electors of the school district at a special election to be held on that date. The board of elections shall make the necessary arrangements for the submission of the question or questions to the electors of the school district, and the election shall be conducted, canvassed, and certified in the same manner as regular elections in the school district for the election of county officers. Notice of the election shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the subdivision 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 of elections operates and maintains a web site, the board of elections shall post notice of the election on its web site for thirty days prior to the election.

(1) In the case of a resolution adopted under section 5705.212 of the Revised Code, the notice shall state separately, for each tax being proposed, the purpose; the proposed increase in rate, 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 years during which the increase will be in effect; and the first calendar year in which the tax will be due. For an election on the question of a renewal levy, the notice shall state the purpose; the proposed rate, expressed in dollars and cents for each one hundred dollars of valuation as well as in mills for each one dollar of valuation; and the number of years the tax will be in effect.

(2) In the case of a resolution adopted under section 5705.213 of the Revised Code, the notice shall state the purpose; the amount proposed to be raised by the tax in the first year it is levied; the estimated average additional tax rate for the first year it is proposed to be levied, expressed in mills for each one dollar of valuation and in dollars and cents for each one hundred dollars of valuation; the number of years during which the increase will be in effect; and the first calendar year in which the tax will be due. The notice also shall state the amount by which the amount to be raised by the tax may be increased in each year after the first year. The amount of the allowable increase may be expressed in terms of a dollar increase over, or a percentage of, the amount raised by the tax in the immediately preceding year. For an election on the question of a renewal levy, the notice shall state the purpose; the amount proposed to be raised by the tax; the estimated tax rate, expressed in mills for each one dollar of valuation and in dollars and cents for each one hundred dollars of valuation; and the number of years the tax will be in effect.

In any case, the notice also shall state the time and place of the election.

(B) The form of the ballot in an election on taxes proposed under section 5705.212 of the Revised Code shall be as follows:

"Shall the school district be authorized to levy taxes for current expenses, the aggregate rate of which may increase in (number) increment(s) of not more than mill(s) for each dollar of valuation, from an original rate of mill(s) for each dollar of valuation, which amounts to (rate expressed in dollars and cents) for each one hundred dollars of valuation, to a maximum rate of mill(s) for each dollar of valuation, which amounts to (rate expressed in dollars and cents) for each one

hundred dollars of valuation? The original tax is first proposed to be levied in (the first year of the tax), and the incremental tax in (the first year of the increment) (if more than one incremental tax is proposed in the resolution, the first year that each incremental tax is proposed to be levied shall be stated in the preceding format, and the increments shall be referred to as the first, second, third, or fourth increment, depending on their number). The aggregate rate of tax so authorized will (insert either, "expire with the original rate of tax which shall be in effect for years" or "be in effect for a continuing period of time").

	FOR THE TAX LEVIES	
	AGAINST THE TAX LEVIES	"

The form of the ballot in an election on the question of a renewal levy under section 5705.212 of the Revised Code shall be as follows:

"Shall the school district be authorized to renew a tax for current expenses at a rate not exceeding mills for each 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 shall be in effect, or a continuing period of time)?

	FOR THE TAX LEVY	
	AGAINST THE TAX 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 be in effect, 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)."

(C) The form of the ballot in an election on a tax proposed under section 5705.213 of the Revised Code shall be as follows:

"Shall the school district be authorized to levy the following tax for current expenses? The tax will first be levied in (year) to raise (dollars). In the (number of years) following years, the tax will increase by not more than (per cent or dollar amount of increase) each year, so that, during (last year of the tax), the tax will raise approximately (dollars). The county auditor estimates that the rate of the tax per dollar of valuation will be mill(s), which amounts to \$..... per one hundred dollars of valuation, both during (first year of the tax) and mill(s), which

amounts to \$..... per one hundred dollars of valuation, during (last year of the tax). The tax will not be levied after (year).

	FOR THE TAX LEVY	"
	AGAINST THE TAX LEVY	

The form of the ballot in an election on the question of a renewal levy under section 5705.213 of the Revised Code shall be as follows:

"Shall the school district be authorized to renew a tax for current expenses which will raise (dollars), estimated by the county auditor to be mills for each dollar of valuation, which amounts to (rate expressed in dollars and cents) for each one hundred dollars of valuation? The tax shall be in effect for (the number of years the levy shall be in effect, or a continuing period of time).

	FOR THE TAX LEVY	"
	AGAINST THE TAX 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 be in effect, 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)."

(D) The question covered by a resolution adopted under section 5705.212 or 5705.213 of the Revised Code shall be submitted as a separate question, but may be printed on the same ballot with any other question submitted at the same election, other than the election of officers. More than one question may be submitted at the same election.

(E) Taxes voted in excess of the ten-mill limitation under division (B) or (C) of this section shall be certified to the tax commissioner. If an additional tax is to be placed upon the tax list of the current year, as specified in the resolution providing for its submission, the result of the election shall be certified immediately after the canvass by the board of elections to the board of education. The board of education immediately shall make the necessary levy and certify it to the county auditor, who shall extend it on the tax list for collection. After the first year, the levy shall be included in the annual tax budget that is certified to the county budget commission.

Sec. 5705.261. The question of decrease of an increased rate of levy

approved for a continuing period of time by the voters of a subdivision may be initiated by the filing of a petition with the board of elections of the proper county not less than ninety days before the general election in any year requesting that an election be held on such question. Such petition shall state the amount of the proposed decrease in the rate of levy and shall be signed by qualified electors residing in the subdivision equal in number to at least ten per cent of the total number of votes cast in the subdivision for the office of governor at the most recent general election for that office. Only one such petition may be filed during each five-year period following the election at which the voters approved the increased rate for a continuing period of time.

After determination by it that such petition is valid, the board of elections shall submit the question to the electors of the district at the succeeding general election. The election shall be conducted, canvassed, and certified in the same manner as regular elections in such subdivision for county offices. Notice of the election shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the 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 of elections operates and maintains a web site, the board of elections shall post notice of the election on its web site for thirty days prior to the election. The notice shall state the purpose, the amount of the proposed decrease in rate, and the 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 propositions submitted at the same election other than the election of officers. If a majority of the qualified electors voting on the question of a decrease at such election approve the proposed decrease in rate, the result of the election shall be certified immediately after the canvass by the board of elections to the subdivision's taxing authority, which shall thereupon, after the current year, cease to levy such increased rate or levy such tax at such reduced rate upon the duplicate of the subdivision. If notes have been issued in anticipation of the collection of such levy, the taxing authority shall continue to levy and collect under authority of the election authorizing the original levy such amounts as will be sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such anticipation notes as the same fall due.

Sec. 5705.29. This section does not apply to a subdivision or taxing unit for which the county budget commission has waived the requirement to adopt a tax budget pursuant to section 5705.281 of the Revised Code. The tax budget shall present the following information in such detail as is

prescribed by the auditor of state:

(A)(1) A statement of the necessary current operating expenses for the ensuing fiscal year for each department and division of the subdivision, classified as to personal services and other expenses, and the fund from which such expenditures are to be made. Except in the case of a school district, this estimate may include a contingent expense not designated for any particular purpose, and not to exceed three per cent of the total amount of appropriations for current expenses. In the case of a school district, this estimate may include a contingent expense not designated for any particular purpose and not to exceed thirteen per cent of the total amount of appropriations for current expenses.

(2) A statement of the expenditures for the ensuing fiscal year necessary for permanent improvements, exclusive of any expense to be paid from bond issues, classified as to the improvements contemplated by the subdivision and the fund from which such expenditures are to be made;

(3) The amounts required for the payment of final judgments;

(4) A statement of expenditures for the ensuing fiscal year necessary for any purpose for which a special levy is authorized, and the fund from which such expenditures are to be made;

(5) Comparative statements, so far as possible, in parallel columns of corresponding items of expenditures for the current fiscal year and the two preceding fiscal years.

(B)(1) An estimate of receipts from other sources than the general property tax during the ensuing fiscal year, which shall include an estimate of unencumbered balances at the end of the current fiscal year, and the funds to which such estimated receipts are credited;

(2) The amount each fund requires from the general property tax, which shall be the difference between the contemplated expenditure from the fund and the estimated receipts, as provided in this section. The section of the Revised Code under which the tax is authorized shall be set forth.

(3) Comparative statements, so far as possible, in parallel columns of taxes and other revenues for the current fiscal year and the two preceding fiscal years.

(C)(1) The amount required for debt charges;

(2) The estimated receipts from sources other than the tax levy for payment of such debt charges, including the proceeds of refunding bonds to be issued to refund bonds maturing in the next succeeding fiscal year;

(3) The net amount for which a tax levy shall be made, classified as to bonds authorized and issued prior to January 1, 1922, and those authorized and issued subsequent to such date, and as to what portion of the levy will

be within and what in excess of the ten-mill limitation.

(D) An estimate of amounts from taxes authorized to be levied in excess of the ten-mill limitation on the tax rate, and the fund to which such amounts will be credited, together with the sections of the Revised Code under which each such tax is exempted from all limitations on the tax rate.

(E)(1) A board of education may include in its budget for the fiscal year in which a levy proposed under section 5705.194, 5705.199, 5705.21, 5705.213, or 5705.219, a property tax levy proposed under section 5748.09, or the original levy under section 5705.212 of the Revised Code is first extended on the tax list and duplicate an estimate of expenditures to be known as a voluntary contingency reserve balance, which shall not be greater than twenty-five per cent of the total amount of the levy estimated to be available for appropriation in such year.

(2) A board of education may include in its budget for the fiscal year following the year in which a levy proposed under section 5705.194, 5705.199, 5705.21, 5705.213, or 5705.219, a property tax levy proposed under section 5748.09, or the original levy under section 5705.212 of the Revised Code is first extended on the tax list and duplicate an estimate of expenditures to be known as a voluntary contingency reserve balance, which shall not be greater than twenty per cent of the amount of the levy estimated to be available for appropriation in such year.

(3) Except as provided in division (E)(4) of this section, the full amount of any reserve balance the board includes in its budget shall be retained by the county auditor and county treasurer out of the first semiannual settlement of taxes until the beginning of the next succeeding fiscal year, and thereupon, with the depository interest apportioned thereto, it shall be turned over to the board of education, to be used for the purposes of such fiscal year.

(4) A board of education, by a two-thirds vote of all members of the board, may appropriate any amount withheld as a voluntary contingency reserve balance during the fiscal year for any lawful purpose, provided that prior to such appropriation the board of education has authorized the expenditure of all amounts appropriated for contingencies under section 5705.40 of the Revised Code. Upon request by the board of education, the county auditor shall draw a warrant on the district's account in the county treasury payable to the district in the amount requested.

(F)(1) A board of education may include a spending reserve in its budget for fiscal years ending on or before June 30, 2002. The spending reserve shall consist of an estimate of expenditures not to exceed the district's spending reserve balance. A district's spending reserve balance is

the amount by which the designated percentage of the district's estimated personal property taxes to be settled during the calendar year in which the fiscal year ends exceeds the estimated amount of personal property taxes to be so settled and received by the district during that fiscal year. Moneys from a spending reserve shall be appropriated in accordance with section 133.301 of the Revised Code.

(2) For the purposes of computing a school district's spending reserve balance for a fiscal year, the designated percentage shall be as follows:

Fiscal year ending in:	Designated percentage
1998	50%
1999	40%
2000	30%
2001	20%
2002	10%

(G) Except as otherwise provided in this division, the county budget commission shall not reduce the taxing authority of a subdivision as a result of the creation of a reserve balance account. Except as otherwise provided in this division, the county budget commission shall not consider the amount in a reserve balance account of a township, county, or municipal corporation as an unencumbered balance or as revenue for the purposes of division (E)(3) or (4) of section 5747.51 of the Revised Code. The county budget commission may require documentation of the reasonableness of the reserve balance held in any reserve balance account. The commission shall consider any amount in a reserve balance account that it determines to be unreasonable as unencumbered and as revenue for the purposes of section 5747.51 of the Revised Code and may take such amounts into consideration when determining whether to reduce the taxing authority of a subdivision.

Sec. 5705.314. If the board of education of a city, local, or exempted village school district proposes to change its levy within the ten-mill limitation in a manner that will result in an increase in the amount of real property taxes levied by the board in the tax year the change takes effect, the board shall hold a public hearing solely on the proposal before adopting a resolution to implement the proposal. The board shall publish notice of the hearing in a newspaper of general circulation in the school district once a week for two consecutive weeks or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code. The second publication shall be not less than ten nor more than thirty days before the date of the hearing. ~~The, and the~~ notice shall include the date, time, place, and subject of the hearing, and a statement that the change proposed by the board may result in an increase in the amount of real property taxes levied by the board. At the time the board submits the

notice for publication, the board shall send a copy of the notice to the auditor of the county where the school district is located or, if the school district is located in more than one county, to the auditor of each of those counties.

Sec. 5705.392. (A) A board of county commissioners may adopt as a part of its annual appropriation measure a spending plan, or in the case of an amended appropriation measure, an amended spending plan, setting forth a quarterly schedule of expenses and expenditures of all appropriations for the fiscal year from the county general fund. The spending plan shall be classified to set forth separately a quarterly schedule of expenses and expenditures for each office, department, and division, and within each, the amount appropriated for personal services. Each office, department, and division shall be limited in its expenses and expenditures of moneys appropriated from the general fund during any quarter by the schedule established in the spending plan. The schedule established in the spending plan shall serve as a limitation during a quarter on the making of contracts and giving of orders involving the expenditure of money during that quarter for purposes of division (D) of section 5705.41 of the Revised Code.

(B)(1) A board of county commissioners, by resolution, may adopt a spending plan or an amended spending plan setting forth separately a quarterly schedule of expenses and expenditures of appropriations from any county fund, for the second half of a fiscal year and any subsequent fiscal year, for any county office, department, or division that has spent or encumbered more than six-tenths of the amount appropriated for personal services and payrolls during the first half of any fiscal year.

(2) During any fiscal year, a board of county commissioners, by resolution, may adopt a spending plan or an amended spending plan setting forth separately a quarterly schedule of expenses and expenditures of appropriations from any county fund, for any county office, department, or division that, during the previous fiscal year, spent one hundred ten per cent or more of the total amount appropriated for personal services and payrolls by the board in its annual appropriation measure required by section 5705.38 of the Revised Code. The spending plan or amended spending plan shall remain in effect two fiscal years, or until the county officer of the office for which the plan was adopted is no longer in office, including terms of office to which the county officer is re-elected, whichever is later.

(3) At least thirty days before adopting a resolution under division (B)(1) or (2) of this section, the board of county commissioners shall provide written notice to each county office, department, or division for which it intends to adopt a spending plan or an amended spending plan. The

notice shall be sent by regular first class mail or provided by personal service, and shall include a copy of the proposed spending plan or proposed amended spending plan. The county office, department, or division may meet with the board at any regular session of the board to comment on the notice, or to express concerns or ask questions about the proposed spending plan or proposed amended spending plan.

Sec. 5705.412. (A) As used in this section, "qualifying contract" means any agreement for the expenditure of money under which aggregate payments from the funds included in the school district's five-year forecast under section 5705.391 of the Revised Code will exceed the lesser of the following amounts:

(1) Five hundred thousand dollars;

(2) One per cent of the total revenue to be credited in the current fiscal year to the district's general fund, as specified in the district's most recent certificate of estimated resources certified under section 5705.36 of the Revised Code.

(B)(1) Notwithstanding section 5705.41 of the Revised Code, no school district shall adopt any appropriation measure, make any qualifying contract, or increase during any school year any wage or salary schedule unless there is attached thereto a certificate, signed as required by this section, that the school district has in effect the authorization to levy taxes including the renewal or replacement of existing levies which, when combined with the estimated revenue from all other sources available to the district at the time of certification, are sufficient to provide the operating revenues necessary to enable the district to maintain all personnel and programs for all the days set forth in its adopted school calendars for the current fiscal year and for a number of days in succeeding fiscal years equal to the number of days instruction was held or is scheduled for the current fiscal year, as follows:

~~(1)~~(a) A certificate attached to an appropriation measure under this section shall cover only the fiscal year in which the appropriation measure is effective and shall not consider the renewal or replacement of an existing levy as the authority to levy taxes that are subject to appropriation in the current fiscal year unless the renewal or replacement levy has been approved by the electors and is subject to appropriation in the current fiscal year.

~~(2)~~(b) A certificate attached, in accordance with this section, to any qualifying contract shall cover the term of the contract.

~~(3)~~(c) A certificate attached under this section to a wage or salary schedule shall cover the term of the schedule.

If the board of education has not adopted a school calendar for the school year beginning on the first day of the fiscal year in which a certificate

is required, the certificate attached to an appropriation measure shall include the number of days on which instruction was held in the preceding fiscal year and other certificates required under this section shall include that number of days for the fiscal year in which the certificate is required and any succeeding fiscal years that the certificate must cover.

The certificate shall be signed by the treasurer and president of the board of education and the superintendent of the school district, unless the district is in a state of fiscal emergency declared under Chapter 3316. of the Revised Code. In that case, the certificate shall be signed by a member of the district's financial planning and supervision commission who is designated by the commission for this purpose.

(2) In lieu of the certificate required under division (B) of this section, an alternative certificate stating the following may be attached:

(a) The contract is a multi-year contract for materials, equipment, or nonpayroll services essential to the education program of the district;

(b) The multi-year contract demonstrates savings over the duration of the contract as compared to costs that otherwise would have been demonstrated in a single year contract, and the terms will allow the district to reduce the deficit it is currently facing in future years as demonstrated in its five-year forecast adopted in accordance with section 5705.391 of the Revised Code.

The certificate shall be signed by the treasurer and president of the board of education and the superintendent of the school district, unless the district is in a state of fiscal emergency declared under Chapter 3316. of the Revised Code. In that case, the certificate shall be signed by a member of the district's financial planning and supervision commission who is designated by the commission for this purpose.

(C) Every qualifying contract made or wage or salary schedule adopted or put into effect without such a certificate shall be void, and no payment of any amount due thereon shall be made.

(D) The department of education and the auditor of state jointly shall adopt rules governing the methods by which treasurers, presidents of boards of education, superintendents, and members of financial planning and supervision commissions shall estimate revenue and determine whether such revenue is sufficient to provide necessary operating revenue for the purpose of making certifications required by this section.

(E) The auditor of state shall be responsible for determining whether school districts are in compliance with this section. At the time a school district is audited pursuant to section 117.11 of the Revised Code, the auditor of state shall review each certificate issued under this section since

the district's last audit, and the appropriation measure, contract, or wage and salary schedule to which such certificate was attached. If the auditor of state determines that a school district has not complied with this section with respect to any qualifying contract or wage or salary schedule, the auditor of state shall notify the prosecuting attorney for the county, the city director of law, or other chief law officer of the school district. That officer may file a civil action in any court of appropriate jurisdiction to seek a declaration that the contract or wage or salary schedule is void, to recover for the school district from the payee the amount of payments already made under it, or both, except that the officer shall not seek to recover payments made under any collective bargaining agreement entered into under Chapter 4117. of the Revised Code. If the officer does not file such an action within one hundred twenty days after receiving notice of noncompliance from the auditor of state, any taxpayer may institute the action in the taxpayer's own name on behalf of the school district.

(F) This section does not apply to any contract or increase in any wage or salary schedule that is necessary in order to enable a board of education to comply with division (B) of section 3317.13 of the Revised Code, provided the contract or increase does not exceed the amount required to be paid to be in compliance with such division.

(G) Any officer, employee, or other person who expends or authorizes the expenditure of any public funds or authorizes or executes any contract or schedule contrary to this section, expends or authorizes the expenditure of any public funds on the void contract or schedule, or issues a certificate under this section which contains any false statements is liable to the school district for the full amount paid from the district's funds on the contract or schedule. The officer, employee, or other person is jointly and severally liable in person and upon any official bond that the officer, employee, or other person has given to the school district to the extent of any payments on the void claim, not to exceed ten thousand dollars. However, no officer, employee, or other person shall be liable for a mistaken estimate of available resources made in good faith and based upon reasonable grounds. If an officer, employee, or other person is found to have complied with rules jointly adopted by the department of education and the auditor of state under this section governing methods by which revenue shall be estimated and determined sufficient to provide necessary operating revenue for the purpose of making certifications required by this section, the officer, employee, or other person shall not be liable under this section if the estimates and determinations made according to those rules do not, in fact, conform with actual revenue. The prosecuting attorney of the county, the city director of

law, or other chief law officer of the district shall enforce this liability by civil action brought in any court of appropriate jurisdiction in the name of and on behalf of the school district. If the prosecuting attorney, city director of law, or other chief law officer of the district fails, upon the written request of any taxpayer, to institute action for the enforcement of the liability, the attorney general, or the taxpayer in the taxpayer's own name, may institute the action on behalf of the subdivision.

(H) This section does not require the attachment of an additional certificate beyond that required by section 5705.41 of the Revised Code for current payrolls of, or contracts of employment with, any employees or officers of the school district.

This section does not require the attachment of a certificate to a temporary appropriation measure if all of the following apply:

(1) The amount appropriated does not exceed twenty-five per cent of the total amount from all sources available for expenditure from any fund during the preceding fiscal year;

(2) The measure will not be in effect on or after the thirtieth day following the earliest date on which the district may pass an annual appropriation measure;

(3) An amended official certificate of estimated resources for the current year, if required, has not been certified to the board of education under division (B) of section 5705.36 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 5705.71. (A) The electors of a county may initiate the question of a tax levy for support of senior citizens services or facilities by the filing of a petition with the board of elections of that county not less than ninety days before the date of any primary or general election requesting that an election be held on such question. The petition shall be signed by at least ten per cent of the qualified electors residing in the county and voting for the office of governor at the last general election.

(B) The petition shall state the purpose for which the senior citizens tax levy is being proposed, shall specify the amount of the proposed increase in rate, the period of time during which the increase is to be in effect, and whether the levy is to be imposed in the current year. The number of years may be any number not exceeding five, except that when the additional rate is for the payment of debt charges the increased rate shall be for the life of the indebtedness.

(C) 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 succeeding primary or general election.

(D) The election shall be conducted, canvassed, and certified in the

same manner as regular elections in such county for county offices. Notice of the election shall be published 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, prior to the election, ~~and, if~~. If the board of elections operates and maintains a web site, the board of elections shall post notice of the election on its web site for thirty days prior to the election. The notice shall state the purpose, the amount of the proposed increase in rate, and the time and place of the election.

(E) The form of the ballot cast at such election shall be prescribed by the secretary of state. If the tax is to be placed on the tax list of the current tax year, the form of the ballot shall include a statement to that effect and shall indicate the first calendar year the tax will be due. 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 propositions submitted at the same election other than the election of officers.

(F) If a majority of electors voting on the question vote in favor of the levy, the board of county commissioners shall levy a tax, for the period and the purpose stated within the petition. If the tax is to be placed upon the tax list of the current year, as specified in the petition, the result of the election shall be certified immediately after the canvass by the board of elections to the board of county commissioners, which shall forthwith make the necessary levy and certify it to the county auditor, who shall extend it on the tax list for collection. After the first year, the tax levy shall be included in the annual tax budget that is certified to the county budget commission.

Sec. 5707.031. As used in this section, "qualifying dealer in intangibles" ~~has the same meaning as "qualifying dealer" in section 5725.24 of the Revised Code~~ means a dealer in intangibles that is a qualifying dealer in intangibles as defined in section 5733.45 of the Revised Code or a member of a qualifying controlled group, as defined in section 5733.04 of the Revised Code, of which an insurance company also is a member on the first day of January of the year in and for which the tax imposed by section 5707.03 of the Revised Code is required to be paid by the dealer.

Upon the issuance of a tax credit certificate by the Ohio venture capital authority under section 150.07 of the Revised Code, a refundable credit may be claimed against the tax imposed on a qualifying dealer in intangibles under section 5707.03 and Chapter 5725. of the Revised Code. The credit shall be claimed on a return due under section 5725.14 of the Revised Code after the certificate is issued by the authority.

Sec. 5709.07. (A) The following property shall be exempt from taxation:

(1) ~~Public schoolhouses, the books and furniture in them, and the ground attached to them necessary for the proper occupancy, use, and enjoyment of the schoolhouses, and not leased or otherwise used with a view to profit; Real property used by a school for primary or secondary educational purposes, including only so much of the land as is necessary for the proper occupancy, use, and enjoyment of such real property by the school for primary or secondary educational purposes. The exemption under division (A)(1) of this section does not apply to any portion of the real property not used for primary or secondary educational purposes.~~

For purposes of division (A)(1) of this section:

(a) "School" means a public or nonpublic school. "School" excludes home instruction as authorized under section 3321.04 of the Revised Code.

(b) "Public school" includes schools of a school district, STEM schools established under Chapter 3326. of the Revised Code, community schools established under Chapter 3314. of the Revised Code, and educational service centers established under section 3311.05 of the Revised Code.

(c) "Nonpublic school" means a nonpublic school for which the state board of education has issued a charter pursuant to section 3301.16 of the Revised Code and prescribes minimum standards under division (D)(2) of section 3301.07 of the Revised Code.

(2) Houses used exclusively for public worship, the books and furniture in them, and the ground attached to them that is not leased or otherwise used with a view to profit and that is necessary for their proper occupancy, use, and enjoyment;

(3) Real property owned and operated by a church that is used primarily for church retreats or church camping, and that is not used as a permanent residence. Real property exempted under division (A)(3) of this section may be made available by the church on a limited basis to charitable and educational institutions if the property is not leased or otherwise made available with a view to profit.

(4) Public colleges and academies and all buildings connected with them, and all lands connected with public institutions of learning, not used with a view to profit, including those buildings and lands that satisfy all of the following:

(a) The buildings are used for housing for full-time students or housing-related facilities for students, faculty, or employees of a state university, or for other purposes related to the state university's educational purpose, and the lands are underneath the buildings or are used for common space, walkways, and green spaces for the state university's students, faculty, or employees. As used in this division, "housing-related facilities"

includes both parking facilities related to the buildings and common buildings made available to students, faculty, or employees of a state university. The leasing of space in housing-related facilities shall not be considered an activity with a view to profit for purposes of division (A)(4) of this section.

(b) The buildings and lands are supervised or otherwise under the control, directly or indirectly, of an organization that is exempt from federal income taxation under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, 100 Stat. 2085, 26 U.S.C. 1, as amended, and the state university has entered into a qualifying joint use agreement with the organization that entitles the students, faculty, or employees of the state university to use the lands or buildings;

(c) The state university has agreed, under the terms of the qualifying joint use agreement with the organization described in division (A)(4)(b) of this section, that the state university, to the extent applicable under the agreement, will make payments to the organization in amounts sufficient to maintain agreed-upon debt service coverage ratios on bonds related to the lands or buildings.

(B) This section shall not extend to leasehold estates or real property held under the authority of a college or university of learning in this state; but leaseholds, or other estates or property, real or personal, the rents, issues, profits, and income of which is given to a municipal corporation, school district, or subdistrict in this state exclusively for the use, endowment, or support of schools for the free education of youth without charge shall be exempt from taxation as long as such property, or the rents, issues, profits, or income of the property is used and exclusively applied for the support of free education by such municipal corporation, district, or subdistrict. Division (B) of this section shall not apply with respect to buildings and lands that satisfy all of the requirements specified in divisions (A)(4)(a) to (c) of this section.

(C) For purposes of this section, if the requirements specified in divisions (A)(4)(a) to (c) of this section are satisfied, the buildings and lands with respect to which exemption is claimed under division (A)(4) of this section shall be deemed to be used with reasonable certainty in furthering or carrying out the necessary objects and purposes of a state university.

(D) As used in this section:

(1) "Church" means a fellowship of believers, congregation, society, corporation, convention, or association that is formed primarily or exclusively for religious purposes and that is not formed for the private profit of any person.

(2) "State university" has the same meaning as in section 3345.011 of the Revised Code.

(3) "Qualifying joint use agreement" means an agreement that satisfies all of the following:

(a) The agreement was entered into before June 30, 2004;

(b) The agreement is between a state university and an organization that is exempt from federal income taxation under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, 100 Stat. 2085, 26 U.S.C. 1, as amended; and

(c) The state university that is a party to the agreement reported to the Ohio board of regents that the university maintained a headcount of at least twenty-five thousand students on its main campus during the academic school year that began in calendar year 2003 and ended in calendar year 2004.

Sec. 5709.084. Real and personal property comprising a convention center that is constructed or, in the case of personal property, acquired, after January 1, 2010, are exempt from taxation if the convention center is located in a county having a population, when construction of the convention center commences, of more than one million two hundred thousand according to the most recent federal decennial census, and if the convention center, or the land upon which the convention center is situated, is owned or leased by the county. For the purposes of this section, construction of the convention center commences upon the earlier of issuance of debt to finance all or a portion of the convention center, demolition of existing structures on the site, or grading of the site in preparation for construction.

Real and personal property comprising a convention center owned by the largest city in a county having a population greater than seven hundred thousand but less than nine hundred thousand according to the most recent federal decennial census is exempt from taxation, regardless of whether the property is leased to or otherwise operated or managed by a person other than the city.

As used in this section, "convention center" has the same meaning as in section 307.695 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 5709.40. (A) As used in this section:

(1) "Blighted area" and "impacted city" have the same meanings as in section 1728.01 of the Revised Code.

(2) "Business day" means a day of the week excluding Saturday, Sunday, and a legal holiday as defined under section 1.14 of the Revised Code.

(3) "Housing renovation" means a project carried out for residential

purposes.

(4) "Improvement" means the increase in the assessed value of any real property that would first appear on the tax list and duplicate of real and public utility property after the effective date of an ordinance adopted under this section were it not for the exemption granted by that ordinance.

(5) "Incentive district" means an area not more than three hundred acres in size enclosed by a continuous boundary in which a project is being, or will be, undertaken and having one or more of the following distress characteristics:

(a) At least fifty-one per cent of the residents of the district have incomes of less than eighty per cent of the median income of residents of the political subdivision in which the district is located, as determined in the same manner specified under section 119(b) of the "Housing and Community Development Act of 1974," 88 Stat. 633, 42 U.S.C. 5318, as amended;

(b) The average rate of unemployment in the district during the most recent twelve-month period for which data are available is equal to at least one hundred fifty per cent of the average rate of unemployment for this state for the same period.

(c) At least twenty per cent of the people residing in the district live at or below the poverty level as defined in the federal Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, 42 U.S.C. 5301, as amended, and regulations adopted pursuant to that act.

(d) The district is a blighted area.

(e) The district is in a situational distress area as designated by the director of development under division (F) of section 122.23 of the Revised Code.

(f) As certified by the engineer for the political subdivision, the public infrastructure serving the district is inadequate to meet the development needs of the district as evidenced by a written economic development plan or urban renewal plan for the district that has been adopted by the legislative authority of the subdivision.

(g) The district is comprised entirely of unimproved land that is located in a distressed area as defined in section 122.23 of the Revised Code.

(6) "Project" means development activities undertaken on one or more parcels, including, but not limited to, construction, expansion, and alteration of buildings or structures, demolition, remediation, and site development, and any building or structure that results from those activities.

(7) "Public infrastructure improvement" includes, but is not limited to, public roads and highways; water and sewer lines; environmental

remediation; land acquisition, including acquisition in aid of industry, commerce, distribution, or research; demolition, including demolition on private property when determined to be necessary for economic development purposes; stormwater and flood remediation projects, including such projects on private property when determined to be necessary for public health, safety, and welfare; the provision of gas, electric, and communications service facilities; and the enhancement of public waterways through improvements that allow for greater public access.

(B) The legislative authority of a municipal corporation, by ordinance, may declare improvements to certain parcels of real property located in the municipal corporation to be a public purpose. Improvements with respect to a parcel that is used or to be used for residential purposes may be declared a public purpose under this division only if the parcel is located in a blighted area of an impacted city. Except with the approval under division (D) of this section of the board of education of each city, local, or exempted village school district within which the improvements are located, not more than seventy-five per cent of an improvement thus declared to be a public purpose may be exempted from real property taxation for a period of not more than ten years. The ordinance shall specify the percentage of the improvement to be exempted from taxation and the life of the exemption.

An ordinance adopted or amended under this division shall designate the specific public infrastructure improvements made, to be made, or in the process of being made by the municipal corporation that directly benefit, or that once made will directly benefit, the parcels for which improvements are declared to be a public purpose. The service payments provided for in section 5709.42 of the Revised Code shall be used to finance the public infrastructure improvements designated in the ordinance, for the purpose described in division (D)(1) of this section or as provided in section 5709.43 of the Revised Code.

(C)(1) The legislative authority of a municipal corporation may adopt an ordinance creating an incentive district and declaring improvements to parcels within the district to be a public purpose and, except as provided in division (F) of this section, exempt from taxation as provided in this section, but no legislative authority of a municipal corporation that has a population that exceeds twenty-five thousand, as shown by the most recent federal decennial census, shall adopt an ordinance that creates an incentive district if the sum of the taxable value of real property in the proposed district for the preceding tax year and the taxable value of all real property in the municipal corporation that would have been taxable in the preceding year were it not for the fact that the property was in an existing incentive district

and therefore exempt from taxation exceeds twenty-five per cent of the taxable value of real property in the municipal corporation for the preceding tax year. The ordinance shall delineate the boundary of the district and specifically identify each parcel within the district. A district may not include any parcel that is or has been exempted from taxation under division (B) of this section or that is or has been within another district created under this division. An ordinance may create more than one such district, and more than one ordinance may be adopted under division (C)(1) of this section.

(2) Not later than thirty days prior to adopting an ordinance under division (C)(1) of this section, if the municipal corporation intends to apply for exemptions from taxation under section 5709.911 of the Revised Code on behalf of owners of real property located within the proposed incentive district, the legislative authority of a municipal corporation shall conduct a public hearing on the proposed ordinance. Not later than thirty days prior to the public hearing, the legislative authority shall give notice of the public hearing and the proposed ordinance by first class mail to every real property owner whose property is located within the boundaries of the proposed incentive district that is the subject of the proposed ordinance.

(3)(a) An ordinance adopted under division (C)(1) of this section shall specify the life of the incentive district and the percentage of the improvements to be exempted, shall designate the public infrastructure improvements made, to be made, or in the process of being made, that benefit or serve, or, once made, will benefit or serve parcels in the district. The ordinance also shall identify one or more specific projects being, or to be, undertaken in the district that place additional demand on the public infrastructure improvements designated in the ordinance. The project identified may, but need not be, the project under division (C)(3)(b) of this section that places real property in use for commercial or industrial purposes. Except as otherwise permitted under that division, the service payments provided for in section 5709.42 of the Revised Code shall be used to finance the designated public infrastructure improvements, for the purpose described in division (D)(1) or (E) of this section, or as provided in section 5709.43 of the Revised Code.

An ordinance adopted under division (C)(1) of this section on or after ~~the effective date of this amendment~~ March 30, 2006, shall not designate police or fire equipment as public infrastructure improvements, and no service payment provided for in section 5709.42 of the Revised Code and received by the municipal corporation under the ordinance shall be used for police or fire equipment.

(b) An ordinance adopted under division (C)(1) of this section may authorize the use of service payments provided for in section 5709.42 of the Revised Code for the purpose of housing renovations within the incentive district, provided that the ordinance also designates public infrastructure improvements that benefit or serve the district, and that a project within the district places real property in use for commercial or industrial purposes. Service payments may be used to finance or support loans, deferred loans, and grants to persons for the purpose of housing renovations within the district. The ordinance shall designate the parcels within the district that are eligible for housing renovation. The ordinance shall state separately the amounts or the percentages of the expected aggregate service payments that are designated for each public infrastructure improvement and for the general purpose of housing renovations.

(4) Except with the approval of the board of education of each city, local, or exempted village school district within the territory of which the incentive district is or will be located, and subject to division (E) of this section, the life of an incentive district shall not exceed ten years, and the percentage of improvements to be exempted shall not exceed seventy-five per cent. With approval of the board of education, the life of a district may be not more than thirty years, and the percentage of improvements to be exempted may be not more than one hundred per cent. The approval of a board of education shall be obtained in the manner provided in division (D) of this section.

(D)(1) If the ordinance declaring improvements to a parcel to be a public purpose or creating an incentive district specifies that payments in lieu of taxes provided for in section 5709.42 of the Revised Code shall be paid to the city, local, or exempted village, and joint vocational school district in which the parcel or incentive district is located in the amount of the taxes that would have been payable to the school district if the improvements had not been exempted from taxation, the percentage of the improvement that may be exempted from taxation may exceed seventy-five per cent, and the exemption may be granted for up to thirty years, without the approval of the board of education as otherwise required under division (D)(2) of this section.

(2) Improvements with respect to a parcel may be exempted from taxation under division (B) of this section, and improvements to parcels within an incentive district may be exempted from taxation under division (C) of this section, for up to ten years or, with the approval under this paragraph of the board of education of the city, local, or exempted village school district within which the parcel or district is located, for up to thirty

years. The percentage of the improvement exempted from taxation may, with such approval, exceed seventy-five per cent, but shall not exceed one hundred per cent. Not later than forty-five business days prior to adopting an ordinance under this section declaring improvements to be a public purpose that is subject to approval by a board of education under this division, the legislative authority shall deliver to the board of education a notice stating its intent to adopt an ordinance making that declaration. The notice regarding improvements with respect to a parcel under division (B) of this section shall identify the parcels for which improvements are to be exempted from taxation, provide an estimate of the true value in money of the improvements, specify the period for which the improvements would be exempted from taxation and the percentage of the improvement that would be exempted, and indicate the date on which the legislative authority intends to adopt the ordinance. The notice regarding improvements to parcels within an incentive district under division (C) of this section shall delineate the boundaries of the district, specifically identify each parcel within the district, identify each anticipated improvement in the district, provide an estimate of the true value in money of each such improvement, specify the life of the district and the percentage of improvements that would be exempted, and indicate the date on which the legislative authority intends to adopt the ordinance. The board of education, by resolution adopted by a majority of the board, may approve the exemption for the period or for the exemption percentage specified in the notice; may disapprove the exemption for the number of years in excess of ten, may disapprove the exemption for the percentage of the improvement to be exempted in excess of seventy-five per cent, or both; or may approve the exemption on the condition that the legislative authority and the board negotiate an agreement providing for compensation to the school district equal in value to a percentage of the amount of taxes exempted in the eleventh and subsequent years of the exemption period or, in the case of exemption percentages in excess of seventy-five per cent, compensation equal in value to a percentage of the taxes that would be payable on the portion of the improvement in excess of seventy-five per cent were that portion to be subject to taxation, or other mutually agreeable compensation. If an agreement is negotiated between the legislative authority and the board to compensate the school district for all or part of the taxes exempted, including agreements for payments in lieu of taxes under section 5709.42 of the Revised Code, the legislative authority shall compensate the joint vocational school district within which the parcel or district is located at the same rate and under the same terms received by the city, local, or exempted village school district.

(3) The board of education shall certify its resolution to the legislative authority not later than fourteen days prior to the date the legislative authority intends to adopt the ordinance as indicated in the notice. If the board of education and the legislative authority negotiate a mutually acceptable compensation agreement, the ordinance may declare the improvements a public purpose for the number of years specified in the ordinance or, in the case of exemption percentages in excess of seventy-five per cent, for the exemption percentage specified in the ordinance. In either case, if the board and the legislative authority fail to negotiate a mutually acceptable compensation agreement, the ordinance may declare the improvements a public purpose for not more than ten years, and shall not exempt more than seventy-five per cent of the improvements from taxation. If the board fails to certify a resolution to the legislative authority within the time prescribed by this division, the legislative authority thereupon may adopt the ordinance and may declare the improvements a public purpose for up to thirty years, or, in the case of exemption percentages proposed in excess of seventy-five per cent, for the exemption percentage specified in the ordinance. The legislative authority may adopt the ordinance at any time after the board of education certifies its resolution approving the exemption to the legislative authority, or, if the board approves the exemption on the condition that a mutually acceptable compensation agreement be negotiated, at any time after the compensation agreement is agreed to by the board and the legislative authority.

(4) If a board of education has adopted a resolution waiving its right to approve exemptions from taxation under this section and the resolution remains in effect, approval of exemptions by the board is not required under division (D) of this section. If a board of education has adopted a resolution allowing a legislative authority to deliver the notice required under division (D) of this section fewer than forty-five business days prior to the legislative authority's adoption of the ordinance, the legislative authority shall deliver the notice to the board not later than the number of days prior to such adoption as prescribed by the board in its resolution. If a board of education adopts a resolution waiving its right to approve agreements or shortening the notification period, the board shall certify a copy of the resolution to the legislative authority. If the board of education rescinds such a resolution, it shall certify notice of the rescission to the legislative authority.

(5) If the legislative authority is not required by division (D) of this section to notify the board of education of the legislative authority's intent to declare improvements to be a public purpose, the legislative authority shall comply with the notice requirements imposed under section 5709.83 of the

Revised Code, unless the board has adopted a resolution under that section waiving its right to receive such a notice.

(E)(1) If a proposed ordinance under division (C)(1) of this section exempts improvements with respect to a parcel within an incentive district for more than ten years, or the percentage of the improvement exempted from taxation exceeds seventy-five per cent, not later than forty-five business days prior to adopting the ordinance the legislative authority of the municipal corporation shall deliver to the board of county commissioners of the county within which the incentive district will be located a notice that states its intent to adopt an ordinance creating an incentive district. The notice shall include a copy of the proposed ordinance, identify the parcels for which improvements are to be exempted from taxation, provide an estimate of the true value in money of the improvements, specify the period of time for which the improvements would be exempted from taxation, specify the percentage of the improvements that would be exempted from taxation, and indicate the date on which the legislative authority intends to adopt the ordinance.

(2) The board of county commissioners, by resolution adopted by a majority of the board, may object to the exemption for the number of years in excess of ten, may object to the exemption for the percentage of the improvement to be exempted in excess of seventy-five per cent, or both. If the board of county commissioners objects, the board may negotiate a mutually acceptable compensation agreement with the legislative authority. In no case shall the compensation provided to the board exceed the property taxes ~~foregone~~ forgone due to the exemption. If the board of county commissioners objects, and the board and legislative authority fail to negotiate a mutually acceptable compensation agreement, the ordinance adopted under division (C)(1) of this section shall provide to the board compensation in the eleventh and subsequent years of the exemption period equal in value to not more than fifty per cent of the taxes that would be payable to the county or, if the board's objection includes an objection to an exemption percentage in excess of seventy-five per cent, compensation equal in value to not more than fifty per cent of the taxes that would be payable to the county, on the portion of the improvement in excess of seventy-five per cent, were that portion to be subject to taxation. The board of county commissioners shall certify its resolution to the legislative authority not later than thirty days after receipt of the notice.

(3) If the board of county commissioners does not object or fails to certify its resolution objecting to an exemption within thirty days after receipt of the notice, the legislative authority may adopt the ordinance, and

no compensation shall be provided to the board of county commissioners. If the board timely certifies its resolution objecting to the ordinance, the legislative authority may adopt the ordinance at any time after a mutually acceptable compensation agreement is agreed to by the board and the legislative authority, or, if no compensation agreement is negotiated, at any time after the legislative authority agrees in the proposed ordinance to provide compensation to the board of fifty per cent of the taxes that would be payable to the county in the eleventh and subsequent years of the exemption period or on the portion of the improvement in excess of seventy-five per cent, were that portion to be subject to taxation.

(F) Service payments in lieu of taxes that are attributable to any amount by which the effective tax rate of either a renewal levy with an increase or a replacement levy exceeds the effective tax rate of the levy renewed or replaced, or that are attributable to an additional levy, for a levy authorized by the voters for any of the following purposes on or after January 1, 2006, and which are provided pursuant to an ordinance creating an incentive district under division (C)(1) of this section that is adopted on or after January 1, 2006, shall be distributed to the appropriate taxing authority as required under division (C) of section 5709.42 of the Revised Code in an amount equal to the amount of taxes from that additional levy or from the increase in the effective tax rate of such renewal or replacement levy that would have been payable to that taxing authority from the following levies were it not for the exemption authorized under division (C) of this section:

(1) A tax levied under division (L) of section 5705.19 or section 5705.191 of the Revised Code for community mental retardation and developmental disabilities programs and services pursuant to Chapter 5126. of the Revised Code;

(2) A tax levied under division (Y) of section 5705.19 of the Revised Code for providing or maintaining senior citizens services or facilities;

(3) A tax levied under section 5705.22 of the Revised Code for county hospitals;

(4) A tax levied by a joint-county district or by a county under section 5705.19, 5705.191, or 5705.221 of the Revised Code for alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health services or facilities;

(5) A tax levied under section 5705.23 of the Revised Code for library purposes;

(6) A tax levied under section 5705.24 of the Revised Code for the support of children services and the placement and care of children;

(7) A tax levied under division (Z) of section 5705.19 of the Revised Code for the provision and maintenance of zoological park services and

facilities under section 307.76 of the Revised Code;

(8) A tax levied under section 511.27 or division (H) of section 5705.19 of the Revised Code for the support of township park districts;

(9) A tax levied under division (A), (F), or (H) of section 5705.19 of the Revised Code for parks and recreational purposes of a joint recreation district organized pursuant to division (B) of section 755.14 of the Revised Code;

(10) A tax levied under section 1545.20 or 1545.21 of the Revised Code for park district purposes;

(11) A tax levied under section 5705.191 of the Revised Code for the purpose of making appropriations for public assistance; human or social services; public relief; public welfare; public health and hospitalization; and support of general hospitals;

(12) A tax levied under section 3709.29 of the Revised Code for a general health district program.

(G) An exemption from taxation granted under this section commences with the tax year specified in the ordinance so long as the year specified in the ordinance commences after the effective date of the ordinance. If the ordinance specifies a year commencing before the effective date of the resolution or specifies no year whatsoever, the exemption commences with the tax year in which an exempted improvement first appears on the tax list and duplicate of real and public utility property and that commences after the effective date of the ordinance. Except as otherwise provided in this division, the exemption ends on the date specified in the ordinance as the date the improvement ceases to be a public purpose or the incentive district expires, or ends on the date on which the public infrastructure improvements and housing renovations are paid in full from the municipal public improvement tax increment equivalent fund established under division (A) of section 5709.43 of the Revised Code, whichever occurs first. The exemption of an improvement with respect to a parcel or within an incentive district may end on a later date, as specified in the ordinance, if the legislative authority and the board of education of the city, local, or exempted village school district within which the parcel or district is located have entered into a compensation agreement under section 5709.82 of the Revised Code with respect to the improvement, and the board of education has approved the term of the exemption under division (D)(2) of this section, but in no case shall the improvement be exempted from taxation for more than thirty years. Exemptions shall be claimed and allowed in the same manner as in the case of other real property exemptions. If an exemption status changes during a year, the procedure for the apportionment of the

taxes for that year is the same as in the case of other changes in tax exemption status during the year.

(H) Additional municipal financing of public infrastructure improvements and housing renovations may be provided by any methods that the municipal corporation may otherwise use for financing such improvements or renovations. If the municipal corporation issues bonds or notes to finance the public infrastructure improvements and housing renovations and pledges money from the municipal public improvement tax increment equivalent fund to pay the interest on and principal of the bonds or notes, the bonds or notes are not subject to Chapter 133. of the Revised Code.

(I) The municipal corporation, not later than fifteen days after the adoption of an ordinance under this section, shall submit to the director of development a copy of the ordinance. On or before the thirty-first day of March of each year, the municipal corporation shall submit a status report to the director of development. The report shall indicate, in the manner prescribed by the director, the progress of the project during each year that an exemption remains in effect, including a summary of the receipts from service payments in lieu of taxes; expenditures of money from the funds created under section 5709.43 of the Revised Code; a description of the public infrastructure improvements and housing renovations financed with such expenditures; and a quantitative summary of changes in employment and private investment resulting from each project.

(J) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit a legislative authority from declaring to be a public purpose improvements with respect to more than one parcel.

Sec. 5709.41. (A) As used in this section:

(1) "Business day" means a day of the week excluding Saturday, Sunday, and a legal holiday as defined under section 1.14 of the Revised Code.

(2) "Improvement" means the increase in assessed value of any parcel of property subsequent to the acquisition of the parcel by a municipal corporation engaged in urban redevelopment.

(B) The legislative authority of a municipal corporation, by ordinance, may declare to be a public purpose any improvement to a parcel of real property if both of the following apply:

(1) The municipal corporation held fee title to the parcel prior to the adoption of the ordinance;

(2) The parcel is leased, or the fee of the parcel is conveyed, to any person either before or after adoption of the ordinance.

Improvements used or to be used for residential purposes may be declared a public purpose under this section only if the parcel is located in a blighted area of an impacted city as those terms are defined in section 1728.01 of the Revised Code.

(C) Except as otherwise provided in division (C)(1), (2), or (3) of this section, not more than seventy-five per cent of an improvement thus declared to be a public purpose may be exempted from real property taxation. The ordinance shall specify the percentage of the improvement to be exempted from taxation.

(1) If the ordinance declaring improvements to a parcel to be a public purpose specifies that payments in lieu of taxes provided for in section 5709.42 of the Revised Code shall be paid to the city, local, or exempted village school district in which the parcel is located in the amount of the taxes that would have been payable to the school district if the improvements had not been exempted from taxation, the percentage of the improvement that may be exempted from taxation may exceed seventy-five per cent, and the exemption may be granted for up to thirty years, without the approval of the board of education as otherwise required under division (C)(2) of this section.

(2) Improvements may be exempted from taxation for up to ten years or, with the approval of the board of education of the city, local, or exempted village school district within the territory of which the improvements are or will be located, for up to thirty years. The percentage of the improvement exempted from taxation may, with such approval, exceed seventy-five per cent, but shall not exceed one hundred per cent. Not later than forty-five business days prior to adopting an ordinance under this section, the legislative authority shall deliver to the board of education a notice stating its intent to declare improvements to be a public purpose under this section. The notice shall describe the parcel and the improvements, provide an estimate of the true value in money of the improvements, specify the period for which the improvements would be exempted from taxation and the percentage of the improvements that would be exempted, and indicate the date on which the legislative authority intends to adopt the ordinance. The board of education, by resolution adopted by a majority of the board, may approve the exemption for the period or for the exemption percentage specified in the notice, may disapprove the exemption for the number of years in excess of ten, may disapprove the exemption for the percentage of the improvements to be exempted in excess of seventy-five per cent, or both, or may approve the exemption on the condition that the legislative authority and the board negotiate an agreement providing for compensation

to the school district equal in value to a percentage of the amount of taxes exempted in the eleventh and subsequent years of the exemption period, or, in the case of exemption percentages in excess of seventy-five per cent, compensation equal in value to a percentage of the taxes that would be payable on the portion of the improvement in excess of seventy-five per cent were that portion to be subject to taxation. The board of education shall certify its resolution to the legislative authority not later than fourteen days prior to the date the legislative authority intends to adopt the ordinance as indicated in the notice. If the board of education approves the exemption on the condition that a compensation agreement be negotiated, the board in its resolution shall propose a compensation percentage. If the board of education and the legislative authority negotiate a mutually acceptable compensation agreement, the ordinance may declare the improvements a public purpose for the number of years specified in the ordinance or, in the case of exemption percentages in excess of seventy-five per cent, for the exemption percentage specified in the ordinance. In either case, if the board and the legislative authority fail to negotiate a mutually acceptable compensation agreement, the ordinance may declare the improvements a public purpose for not more than ten years, but shall not exempt more than seventy-five per cent of the improvements from taxation. If the board fails to certify a resolution to the legislative authority within the time prescribed by this division, the legislative authority thereupon may adopt the ordinance and may declare the improvements a public purpose for up to thirty years. The legislative authority may adopt the ordinance at any time after the board of education certifies its resolution approving the exemption to the legislative authority, or, if the board approves the exemption on the condition that a mutually acceptable compensation agreement be negotiated, at any time after the compensation agreement is agreed to by the board and the legislative authority. If a mutually acceptable compensation agreement is negotiated between the legislative authority and the board, including agreements for payments in lieu of taxes under section 5709.42 of the Revised Code, the legislative authority shall compensate the joint vocational school district within the territory of which the improvements are or will be located at the same rate and under the same terms received by the city, local, or exempted village school district.

(3) If a board of education has adopted a resolution waiving its right to approve exemptions from taxation and the resolution remains in effect, approval of exemptions by the board is not required under this division. If a board of education has adopted a resolution allowing a legislative authority to deliver the notice required under this division fewer than forty-five

business days prior to the legislative authority's adoption of the ordinance, the legislative authority shall deliver the notice to the board not later than the number of days prior to such adoption as prescribed by the board in its resolution. If a board of education adopts a resolution waiving its right to approve exemptions or shortening the notification period, the board shall certify a copy of the resolution to the legislative authority. If the board of education rescinds such a resolution, it shall certify notice of the rescission to the legislative authority.

(4) If the legislative authority is not required by division (C)(1), (2), or (3) of this section to notify the board of education of the legislative authority's intent to declare improvements to be a public purpose, the legislative authority shall comply with the notice requirements imposed under section 5709.83 of the Revised Code, unless the board has adopted a resolution under that section waiving its right to receive such a notice.

(D) The exemption commences on the effective date of the ordinance and ends on the date specified in the ordinance as the date the improvement ceases to be a public purpose. The exemption shall be claimed and allowed in the same or a similar manner as in the case of other real property exemptions. If an exemption status changes during a tax year, the procedure for the apportionment of the taxes for that year is the same as in the case of other changes in tax exemption status during the year.

(E) A municipal corporation, not later than fifteen days after the adoption of an ordinance granting a tax exemption under this section, shall submit to the director of development a copy of the ordinance. On or before the thirty-first day of March each year, the municipal corporation shall submit a status report to the director of development outlining the progress of the project during each year that the exemption remains in effect.

Sec. 5709.62. (A) In any municipal corporation that is defined by the United States office of management and budget as a principal city of a metropolitan statistical area, the legislative authority of the municipal corporation may designate one or more areas within its municipal corporation as proposed enterprise zones. Upon designating an area, the legislative authority shall petition the director of development for certification of the area as having the characteristics set forth in division (A)(1) of section 5709.61 of the Revised Code as amended by Substitute Senate Bill No. 19 of the 120th general assembly. Except as otherwise provided in division (E) of this section, on and after July 1, 1994, legislative authorities shall not enter into agreements under this section unless the legislative authority has petitioned the director and the director has certified the zone under this section as amended by that act; however, all agreements

entered into under this section as it existed prior to July 1, 1994, and the incentives granted under those agreements shall remain in effect for the period agreed to under those agreements. Within sixty days after receiving such a petition, the director shall determine whether the area has the characteristics set forth in division (A)(1) of section 5709.61 of the Revised Code, and shall forward the findings to the legislative authority of the municipal corporation. If the director certifies the area as having those characteristics, and thereby certifies it as a zone, the legislative authority may enter into an agreement with an enterprise under division (C) of this section.

(B) Any enterprise that wishes to enter into an agreement with a municipal corporation under division (C) of this section shall submit a proposal to the legislative authority of the municipal corporation on a form prescribed by the director of development, together with the application fee established under section 5709.68 of the Revised Code. The form shall require the following information:

(1) An estimate of the number of new employees whom the enterprise intends to hire, or of the number of employees whom the enterprise intends to retain, within the zone at a facility that is a project site, and an estimate of the amount of payroll of the enterprise attributable to these employees;

(2) An estimate of the amount to be invested by the enterprise to establish, expand, renovate, or occupy a facility, including investment in new buildings, additions or improvements to existing buildings, machinery, equipment, furniture, fixtures, and inventory;

(3) A listing of the enterprise's current investment, if any, in a facility as of the date of the proposal's submission.

The enterprise shall review and update the listings required under this division to reflect material changes, and any agreement entered into under division (C) of this section shall set forth final estimates and listings as of the time the agreement is entered into. The legislative authority may, on a separate form and at any time, require any additional information necessary to determine whether an enterprise is in compliance with an agreement and to collect the information required to be reported under section 5709.68 of the Revised Code.

(C) Upon receipt and investigation of a proposal under division (B) of this section, if the legislative authority finds that the enterprise submitting the proposal is qualified by financial responsibility and business experience to create and preserve employment opportunities in the zone and improve the economic climate of the municipal corporation, the legislative authority, on or before October 15, ~~2011~~ 2012, may do one of the following:

(1) Enter into an agreement with the enterprise under which the enterprise agrees to establish, expand, renovate, or occupy a facility and hire new employees, or preserve employment opportunities for existing employees, in return for one or more of the following incentives:

(a) Exemption for a specified number of years, not to exceed fifteen, of a specified portion, up to seventy-five per cent, of the assessed value of tangible personal property first used in business at the project site as a result of the agreement. If an exemption for inventory is specifically granted in the agreement pursuant to this division, the exemption applies to inventory required to be listed pursuant to sections 5711.15 and 5711.16 of the Revised Code, except that, in the instance of an expansion or other situations in which an enterprise was in business at the facility prior to the establishment of the zone, the inventory that is exempt is that amount or value of inventory in excess of the amount or value of inventory required to be listed in the personal property tax return of the enterprise in the return for the tax year in which the agreement is entered into.

(b) Exemption for a specified number of years, not to exceed fifteen, of a specified portion, up to seventy-five per cent, of the increase in the assessed valuation of real property constituting the project site subsequent to formal approval of the agreement by the legislative authority;

(c) Provision for a specified number of years, not to exceed fifteen, of any optional services or assistance that the municipal corporation is authorized to provide with regard to the project site.

(2) Enter into an agreement under which the enterprise agrees to remediate an environmentally contaminated facility, to spend an amount equal to at least two hundred fifty per cent of the true value in money of the real property of the facility prior to remediation as determined for the purposes of property taxation to establish, expand, renovate, or occupy the remediated facility, and to hire new employees or preserve employment opportunities for existing employees at the remediated facility, in return for one or more of the following incentives:

(a) Exemption for a specified number of years, not to exceed fifteen, of a specified portion, not to exceed fifty per cent, of the assessed valuation of the real property of the facility prior to remediation;

(b) Exemption for a specified number of years, not to exceed fifteen, of a specified portion, not to exceed one hundred per cent, of the increase in the assessed valuation of the real property of the facility during or after remediation;

(c) The incentive under division (C)(1)(a) of this section, except that the percentage of the assessed value of such property exempted from taxation

shall not exceed one hundred per cent;

(d) The incentive under division (C)(1)(c) of this section.

(3) Enter into an agreement with an enterprise that plans to purchase and operate a large manufacturing facility that has ceased operation or announced its intention to cease operation, in return for exemption for a specified number of years, not to exceed fifteen, of a specified portion, up to one hundred per cent, of the assessed value of tangible personal property used in business at the project site as a result of the agreement, or of the assessed valuation of real property constituting the project site, or both.

(D)(1) Notwithstanding divisions (C)(1)(a) and (b) of this section, the portion of the assessed value of tangible personal property or of the increase in the assessed valuation of real property exempted from taxation under those divisions may exceed seventy-five per cent in any year for which that portion is exempted if the average percentage exempted for all years in which the agreement is in effect does not exceed sixty per cent, or if the board of education of the city, local, or exempted village school district within the territory of which the property is or will be located approves a percentage in excess of seventy-five per cent.

(2) Notwithstanding any provision of the Revised Code to the contrary, the exemptions described in divisions (C)(1)(a), (b), and (c), (C)(2)(a), (b), and (c), and (C)(3) of this section may be for up to fifteen years if the board of education of the city, local, or exempted village school district within the territory of which the property is or will be located approves a number of years in excess of ten.

(3) For the purpose of obtaining the approval of a city, local, or exempted village school district under division (D)(1) or (2) of this section, the legislative authority shall deliver to the board of education a notice not later than forty-five days prior to approving the agreement, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays as defined in section 1.14 of the Revised Code. The notice shall state the percentage to be exempted, an estimate of the true value of the property to be exempted, and the number of years the property is to be exempted. The board of education, by resolution adopted by a majority of the board, shall approve or disapprove the agreement and certify a copy of the resolution to the legislative authority not later than fourteen days prior to the date stipulated by the legislative authority as the date upon which approval of the agreement is to be formally considered by the legislative authority. The board of education may include in the resolution conditions under which the board would approve the agreement, including the execution of an agreement to compensate the school district under division (B) of section 5709.82 of the Revised Code.

The legislative authority may approve the agreement at any time after the board of education certifies its resolution approving the agreement to the legislative authority, or, if the board approves the agreement conditionally, at any time after the conditions are agreed to by the board and the legislative authority.

If a board of education has adopted a resolution waiving its right to approve agreements and the resolution remains in effect, approval of an agreement by the board is not required under this division. If a board of education has adopted a resolution allowing a legislative authority to deliver the notice required under this division fewer than forty-five business days prior to the legislative authority's approval of the agreement, the legislative authority shall deliver the notice to the board not later than the number of days prior to such approval as prescribed by the board in its resolution. If a board of education adopts a resolution waiving its right to approve agreements or shortening the notification period, the board shall certify a copy of the resolution to the legislative authority. If the board of education rescinds such a resolution, it shall certify notice of the rescission to the legislative authority.

(4) The legislative authority shall comply with section 5709.83 of the Revised Code unless the board of education has adopted a resolution under that section waiving its right to receive such notice.

(E) This division applies to zones certified by the director of development under this section prior to July 22, 1994.

On or before October 15, ~~2011~~ 2012, the legislative authority that designated a zone to which this division applies may enter into an agreement with an enterprise if the legislative authority finds that the enterprise satisfies one of the criteria described in divisions (E)(1) to (5) of this section:

(1) The enterprise currently has no operations in this state and, subject to approval of the agreement, intends to establish operations in the zone;

(2) The enterprise currently has operations in this state and, subject to approval of the agreement, intends to establish operations at a new location in the zone that would not result in a reduction in the number of employee positions at any of the enterprise's other locations in this state;

(3) The enterprise, subject to approval of the agreement, intends to relocate operations, currently located in another state, to the zone;

(4) The enterprise, subject to approval of the agreement, intends to expand operations at an existing site in the zone that the enterprise currently operates;

(5) The enterprise, subject to approval of the agreement, intends to

relocate operations, currently located in this state, to the zone, and the director of development has issued a waiver for the enterprise under division (B) of section 5709.633 of the Revised Code.

The agreement shall require the enterprise to agree to establish, expand, renovate, or occupy a facility in the zone and hire new employees, or preserve employment opportunities for existing employees, in return for one or more of the incentives described in division (C) of this section.

(F) All agreements entered into under this section shall be in the form prescribed under section 5709.631 of the Revised Code. After an agreement is entered into under this section, if the legislative authority revokes its designation of a zone, or if the director of development revokes a zone's certification, any entitlements granted under the agreement shall continue for the number of years specified in the agreement.

(G) Except as otherwise provided in this division, an agreement entered into under this section shall require that the enterprise pay an annual fee equal to the greater of one per cent of the dollar value of incentives offered under the agreement or five hundred dollars; provided, however, that if the value of the incentives exceeds two hundred fifty thousand dollars, the fee shall not exceed two thousand five hundred dollars. The fee shall be payable to the legislative authority once per year for each year the agreement is effective on the days and in the form specified in the agreement. Fees paid shall be deposited in a special fund created for such purpose by the legislative authority and shall be used by the legislative authority exclusively for the purpose of complying with section 5709.68 of the Revised Code and by the tax incentive review council created under section 5709.85 of the Revised Code exclusively for the purposes of performing the duties prescribed under that section. The legislative authority may waive or reduce the amount of the fee charged against an enterprise, but such a waiver or reduction does not affect the obligations of the legislative authority or the tax incentive review council to comply with section 5709.68 or 5709.85 of the Revised Code.

(H) When an agreement is entered into pursuant to this section, the legislative authority authorizing the agreement shall forward a copy of the agreement to the director of development and to the tax commissioner within fifteen days after the agreement is entered into. If any agreement includes terms not provided for in section 5709.631 of the Revised Code affecting the revenue of a city, local, or exempted village school district or causing revenue to be forgone by the district, including any compensation to be paid to the school district pursuant to section 5709.82 of the Revised Code, those terms also shall be forwarded in writing to the director of

development along with the copy of the agreement forwarded under this division.

(I) After an agreement is entered into, the enterprise shall file with each personal property tax return required to be filed, or annual report required to be filed under section 5727.08 of the Revised Code, while the agreement is in effect, an informational return, on a form prescribed by the tax commissioner for that purpose, setting forth separately the property, and related costs and values, exempted from taxation under the agreement.

(J) Enterprises may agree to give preference to residents of the zone within which the agreement applies relative to residents of this state who do not reside in the zone when hiring new employees under the agreement.

(K) An agreement entered into under this section may include a provision requiring the enterprise to create one or more temporary internship positions for students enrolled in a course of study at a school or other educational institution in the vicinity, and to create a scholarship or provide another form of educational financial assistance for students holding such a position in exchange for the student's commitment to work for the enterprise at the completion of the internship.

(L) The tax commissioner's authority in determining the accuracy of any exemption granted by an agreement entered into under this section is limited to divisions (C)(1)(a) and (b), (C)(2)(a), (b), and (c), (C)(3), (D), and (I) of this section and divisions (B)(1) to (10) of section 5709.631 of the Revised Code and, as authorized by law, to enforcing any modification to, or revocation of, that agreement by the legislative authority of a municipal corporation or the director of development.

Sec. 5709.63. (A) With the consent of the legislative authority of each affected municipal corporation or of a board of township trustees, a board of county commissioners may, in the manner set forth in section 5709.62 of the Revised Code, designate one or more areas in one or more municipal corporations or in unincorporated areas of the county as proposed enterprise zones. A board of county commissioners may designate no more than one area within a township, or within adjacent townships, as a proposed enterprise zone. The board shall petition the director of development for certification of the area as having the characteristics set forth in division (A)(1) or (2) of section 5709.61 of the Revised Code as amended by Substitute Senate Bill No. 19 of the 120th general assembly. Except as otherwise provided in division (D) of this section, on and after July 1, 1994, boards of county commissioners shall not enter into agreements under this section unless the board has petitioned the director and the director has certified the zone under this section as amended by that act; however, all

agreements entered into under this section as it existed prior to July 1, 1994, and the incentives granted under those agreements shall remain in effect for the period agreed to under those agreements. The director shall make the determination in the manner provided under section 5709.62 of the Revised Code.

Any enterprise wishing to enter into an agreement with the board under division (B) or (D) of this section shall submit a proposal to the board on the form and accompanied by the application fee prescribed under division (B) of section 5709.62 of the Revised Code. The enterprise shall review and update the estimates and listings required by the form in the manner required under that division. The board may, on a separate form and at any time, require any additional information necessary to determine whether an enterprise is in compliance with an agreement and to collect the information required to be reported under section 5709.68 of the Revised Code.

(B) If the board of county commissioners finds that an enterprise submitting a proposal is qualified by financial responsibility and business experience to create and preserve employment opportunities in the zone and to improve the economic climate of the municipal corporation or municipal corporations or the unincorporated areas in which the zone is located and to which the proposal applies, the board, on or before October 15, ~~2011~~ 2012, and with the consent of the legislative authority of each affected municipal corporation or of the board of township trustees may do either of the following:

(1) Enter into an agreement with the enterprise under which the enterprise agrees to establish, expand, renovate, or occupy a facility in the zone and hire new employees, or preserve employment opportunities for existing employees, in return for the following incentives:

(a) When the facility is located in a municipal corporation, the board may enter into an agreement for one or more of the incentives provided in division (C) of section 5709.62 of the Revised Code, subject to division (D) of that section;

(b) When the facility is located in an unincorporated area, the board may enter into an agreement for one or more of the following incentives:

(i) Exemption for a specified number of years, not to exceed fifteen, of a specified portion, up to sixty per cent, of the assessed value of tangible personal property first used in business at a project site as a result of the agreement. If an exemption for inventory is specifically granted in the agreement pursuant to this division, the exemption applies to inventory required to be listed pursuant to sections 5711.15 and 5711.16 of the Revised Code, except, in the instance of an expansion or other situations in

which an enterprise was in business at the facility prior to the establishment of the zone, the inventory that is exempt is that amount or value of inventory in excess of the amount or value of inventory required to be listed in the personal property tax return of the enterprise in the return for the tax year in which the agreement is entered into.

(ii) Exemption for a specified number of years, not to exceed fifteen, of a specified portion, up to sixty per cent, of the increase in the assessed valuation of real property constituting the project site subsequent to formal approval of the agreement by the board;

(iii) Provision for a specified number of years, not to exceed fifteen, of any optional services or assistance the board is authorized to provide with regard to the project site;

(iv) The incentive described in division (C)(2) of section 5709.62 of the Revised Code.

(2) Enter into an agreement with an enterprise that plans to purchase and operate a large manufacturing facility that has ceased operation or has announced its intention to cease operation, in return for exemption for a specified number of years, not to exceed fifteen, of a specified portion, up to one hundred per cent, of tangible personal property used in business at the project site as a result of the agreement, or of real property constituting the project site, or both.

(C)(1)(a) Notwithstanding divisions (B)(1)(b)(i) and (ii) of this section, the portion of the assessed value of tangible personal property or of the increase in the assessed valuation of real property exempted from taxation under those divisions may exceed sixty per cent in any year for which that portion is exempted if the average percentage exempted for all years in which the agreement is in effect does not exceed fifty per cent, or if the board of education of the city, local, or exempted village school district within the territory of which the property is or will be located approves a percentage in excess of sixty per cent.

(b) Notwithstanding any provision of the Revised Code to the contrary, the exemptions described in divisions (B)(1)(b)(i), (ii), (iii), and (iv) and (B)(2) of this section may be for up to fifteen years if the board of education of the city, local, or exempted village school district within the territory of which the property is or will be located approves a number of years in excess of ten.

(c) For the purpose of obtaining the approval of a city, local, or exempted village school district under division (C)(1)(a) or (b) of this section, the board of county commissioners shall deliver to the board of education a notice not later than forty-five days prior to approving the

agreement, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays as defined in section 1.14 of the Revised Code. The notice shall state the percentage to be exempted, an estimate of the true value of the property to be exempted, and the number of years the property is to be exempted. The board of education, by resolution adopted by a majority of the board, shall approve or disapprove the agreement and certify a copy of the resolution to the board of county commissioners not later than fourteen days prior to the date stipulated by the board of county commissioners as the date upon which approval of the agreement is to be formally considered by the board of county commissioners. The board of education may include in the resolution conditions under which the board would approve the agreement, including the execution of an agreement to compensate the school district under division (B) of section 5709.82 of the Revised Code. The board of county commissioners may approve the agreement at any time after the board of education certifies its resolution approving the agreement to the board of county commissioners, or, if the board of education approves the agreement conditionally, at any time after the conditions are agreed to by the board of education and the board of county commissioners.

If a board of education has adopted a resolution waiving its right to approve agreements and the resolution remains in effect, approval of an agreement by the board of education is not required under division (C) of this section. If a board of education has adopted a resolution allowing a board of county commissioners to deliver the notice required under this division fewer than forty-five business days prior to approval of the agreement by the board of county commissioners, the board of county commissioners shall deliver the notice to the board of education not later than the number of days prior to such approval as prescribed by the board of education in its resolution. If a board of education adopts a resolution waiving its right to approve agreements or shortening the notification period, the board of education shall certify a copy of the resolution to the board of county commissioners. If the board of education rescinds such a resolution, it shall certify notice of the rescission to the board of county commissioners.

(2) The board of county commissioners shall comply with section 5709.83 of the Revised Code unless the board of education has adopted a resolution under that section waiving its right to receive such notice.

(D) This division applies to zones certified by the director of development under this section prior to July 22, 1994.

On or before October 15, ~~2011~~ 2012, and with the consent of the legislative authority of each affected municipal corporation or board of

township trustees of each affected township, the board of county commissioners that designated a zone to which this division applies may enter into an agreement with an enterprise if the board finds that the enterprise satisfies one of the criteria described in divisions (D)(1) to (5) of this section:

(1) The enterprise currently has no operations in this state and, subject to approval of the agreement, intends to establish operations in the zone;

(2) The enterprise currently has operations in this state and, subject to approval of the agreement, intends to establish operations at a new location in the zone that would not result in a reduction in the number of employee positions at any of the enterprise's other locations in this state;

(3) The enterprise, subject to approval of the agreement, intends to relocate operations, currently located in another state, to the zone;

(4) The enterprise, subject to approval of the agreement, intends to expand operations at an existing site in the zone that the enterprise currently operates;

(5) The enterprise, subject to approval of the agreement, intends to relocate operations, currently located in this state, to the zone, and the director of development has issued a waiver for the enterprise under division (B) of section 5709.633 of the Revised Code.

The agreement shall require the enterprise to agree to establish, expand, renovate, or occupy a facility in the zone and hire new employees, or preserve employment opportunities for existing employees, in return for one or more of the incentives described in division (B) of this section.

(E) All agreements entered into under this section shall be in the form prescribed under section 5709.631 of the Revised Code. After an agreement under this section is entered into, if the board of county commissioners revokes its designation of a zone, or if the director of development revokes a zone's certification, any entitlements granted under the agreement shall continue for the number of years specified in the agreement.

(F) Except as otherwise provided in this division, an agreement entered into under this section shall require that the enterprise pay an annual fee equal to the greater of one per cent of the dollar value of incentives offered under the agreement or five hundred dollars; provided, however, that if the value of the incentives exceeds two hundred fifty thousand dollars, the fee shall not exceed two thousand five hundred dollars. The fee shall be payable to the board of county commissioners once per year for each year the agreement is effective on the days and in the form specified in the agreement. Fees paid shall be deposited in a special fund created for such purpose by the board and shall be used by the board exclusively for the

purpose of complying with section 5709.68 of the Revised Code and by the tax incentive review council created under section 5709.85 of the Revised Code exclusively for the purposes of performing the duties prescribed under that section. The board may waive or reduce the amount of the fee charged against an enterprise, but such waiver or reduction does not affect the obligations of the board or the tax incentive review council to comply with section 5709.68 or 5709.85 of the Revised Code, respectively.

(G) With the approval of the legislative authority of a municipal corporation or the board of township trustees of a township in which a zone is designated under division (A) of this section, the board of county commissioners may delegate to that legislative authority or board any powers and duties of the board of county commissioners to negotiate and administer agreements with regard to that zone under this section.

(H) When an agreement is entered into pursuant to this section, the board of county commissioners authorizing the agreement or the legislative authority or board of township trustees that negotiates and administers the agreement shall forward a copy of the agreement to the director of development and to the tax commissioner within fifteen days after the agreement is entered into. If any agreement includes terms not provided for in section 5709.631 of the Revised Code affecting the revenue of a city, local, or exempted village school district or causing revenue to be foregone by the district, including any compensation to be paid to the school district pursuant to section 5709.82 of the Revised Code, those terms also shall be forwarded in writing to the director of development along with the copy of the agreement forwarded under this division.

(I) After an agreement is entered into, the enterprise shall file with each personal property tax return required to be filed, or annual report that is required to be filed under section 5727.08 of the Revised Code, while the agreement is in effect, an informational return, on a form prescribed by the tax commissioner for that purpose, setting forth separately the property, and related costs and values, exempted from taxation under the agreement.

(J) Enterprises may agree to give preference to residents of the zone within which the agreement applies relative to residents of this state who do not reside in the zone when hiring new employees under the agreement.

(K) An agreement entered into under this section may include a provision requiring the enterprise to create one or more temporary internship positions for students enrolled in a course of study at a school or other educational institution in the vicinity, and to create a scholarship or provide another form of educational financial assistance for students holding such a position in exchange for the student's commitment to work for the enterprise

at the completion of the internship.

(L) The tax commissioner's authority in determining the accuracy of any exemption granted by an agreement entered into under this section is limited to divisions (B)(1)(b)(i) and (ii), (B)(2), (C), and (I) of this section, division (B)(1)(b)(iv) of this section as it pertains to divisions (C)(2)(a), (b), and (c) of section 5709.62 of the Revised Code, and divisions (B)(1) to (10) of section 5709.631 of the Revised Code and, as authorized by law, to enforcing any modification to, or revocation of, that agreement by the board of county commissioners or the director of development or, if the board's powers and duties are delegated under division (G) of this section, by the legislative authority of a municipal corporation or board of township trustees.

Sec. 5709.632. (A)(1) The legislative authority of a municipal corporation defined by the United States office of management and budget as a principal city of a metropolitan statistical area may, in the manner set forth in section 5709.62 of the Revised Code, designate one or more areas in the municipal corporation as a proposed enterprise zone.

(2) With the consent of the legislative authority of each affected municipal corporation or of a board of township trustees, a board of county commissioners may, in the manner set forth in section 5709.62 of the Revised Code, designate one or more areas in one or more municipal corporations or in unincorporated areas of the county as proposed urban jobs and enterprise zones, except that a board of county commissioners may designate no more than one area within a township, or within adjacent townships, as a proposed urban jobs and enterprise zone.

(3) The legislative authority or board of county commissioners may petition the director of development for certification of the area as having the characteristics set forth in division (A)(3) of section 5709.61 of the Revised Code. Within sixty days after receiving such a petition, the director shall determine whether the area has the characteristics set forth in that division and forward the findings to the legislative authority or board of county commissioners. If the director certifies the area as having those characteristics and thereby certifies it as a zone, the legislative authority or board may enter into agreements with enterprises under division (B) of this section. Any enterprise wishing to enter into an agreement with a legislative authority or board of county commissioners under this section and satisfying one of the criteria described in divisions (B)(1) to (5) of this section shall submit a proposal to the legislative authority or board on the form prescribed under division (B) of section 5709.62 of the Revised Code and shall review and update the estimates and listings required by the form in the

manner required under that division. The legislative authority or board may, on a separate form and at any time, require any additional information necessary to determine whether an enterprise is in compliance with an agreement and to collect the information required to be reported under section 5709.68 of the Revised Code.

(B) Prior to entering into an agreement with an enterprise, the legislative authority or board of county commissioners shall determine whether the enterprise submitting the proposal is qualified by financial responsibility and business experience to create and preserve employment opportunities in the zone and to improve the economic climate of the municipal corporation or municipal corporations or the unincorporated areas in which the zone is located and to which the proposal applies, and whether the enterprise satisfies one of the following criteria:

(1) The enterprise currently has no operations in this state and, subject to approval of the agreement, intends to establish operations in the zone;

(2) The enterprise currently has operations in this state and, subject to approval of the agreement, intends to establish operations at a new location in the zone that would not result in a reduction in the number of employee positions at any of the enterprise's other locations in this state;

(3) The enterprise, subject to approval of the agreement, intends to relocate operations, currently located in another state, to the zone;

(4) The enterprise, subject to approval of the agreement, intends to expand operations at an existing site in the zone that the enterprise currently operates;

(5) The enterprise, subject to approval of the agreement, intends to relocate operations, currently located in this state, to the zone, and the director of development has issued a waiver for the enterprise under division (B) of section 5709.633 of the Revised Code.

(C) If the legislative authority or board determines that the enterprise is so qualified and satisfies one of the criteria described in divisions (B)(1) to (5) of this section, the legislative authority or board may, after complying with section 5709.83 of the Revised Code and on or before October 15, ~~2011~~ 2012, and, in the case of a board of commissioners, with the consent of the legislative authority of each affected municipal corporation or of the board of township trustees, enter into an agreement with the enterprise under which the enterprise agrees to establish, expand, renovate, or occupy a facility in the zone and hire new employees, or preserve employment opportunities for existing employees, in return for the following incentives:

(1) When the facility is located in a municipal corporation, a legislative authority or board of commissioners may enter into an agreement for one or

more of the incentives provided in division (C) of section 5709.62 of the Revised Code, subject to division (D) of that section;

(2) When the facility is located in an unincorporated area, a board of commissioners may enter into an agreement for one or more of the incentives provided in divisions (B)(1)(b), (B)(2), and (B)(3) of section 5709.63 of the Revised Code, subject to division (C) of that section.

(D) All agreements entered into under this section shall be in the form prescribed under section 5709.631 of the Revised Code. After an agreement under this section is entered into, if the legislative authority or board of county commissioners revokes its designation of the zone, or if the director of development revokes the zone's certification, any entitlements granted under the agreement shall continue for the number of years specified in the agreement.

(E) Except as otherwise provided in this division, an agreement entered into under this section shall require that the enterprise pay an annual fee equal to the greater of one per cent of the dollar value of incentives offered under the agreement or five hundred dollars; provided, however, that if the value of the incentives exceeds two hundred fifty thousand dollars, the fee shall not exceed two thousand five hundred dollars. The fee shall be payable to the legislative authority or board of commissioners once per year for each year the agreement is effective on the days and in the form specified in the agreement. Fees paid shall be deposited in a special fund created for such purpose by the legislative authority or board and shall be used by the legislative authority or board exclusively for the purpose of complying with section 5709.68 of the Revised Code and by the tax incentive review council created under section 5709.85 of the Revised Code exclusively for the purposes of performing the duties prescribed under that section. The legislative authority or board may waive or reduce the amount of the fee charged against an enterprise, but such waiver or reduction does not affect the obligations of the legislative authority or board or the tax incentive review council to comply with section 5709.68 or 5709.85 of the Revised Code, respectively.

(F) With the approval of the legislative authority of a municipal corporation or the board of township trustees of a township in which a zone is designated under division (A)(2) of this section, the board of county commissioners may delegate to that legislative authority or board any powers and duties of the board to negotiate and administer agreements with regard to that zone under this section.

(G) When an agreement is entered into pursuant to this section, the legislative authority or board of commissioners authorizing the agreement

shall forward a copy of the agreement to the director of development and to the tax commissioner within fifteen days after the agreement is entered into. If any agreement includes terms not provided for in section 5709.631 of the Revised Code affecting the revenue of a city, local, or exempted village school district or causing revenue to be forgone by the district, including any compensation to be paid to the school district pursuant to section 5709.82 of the Revised Code, those terms also shall be forwarded in writing to the director of development along with the copy of the agreement forwarded under this division.

(H) After an agreement is entered into, the enterprise shall file with each personal property tax return required to be filed while the agreement is in effect, an informational return, on a form prescribed by the tax commissioner for that purpose, setting forth separately the property, and related costs and values, exempted from taxation under the agreement.

(I) An agreement entered into under this section may include a provision requiring the enterprise to create one or more temporary internship positions for students enrolled in a course of study at a school or other educational institution in the vicinity, and to create a scholarship or provide another form of educational financial assistance for students holding such a position in exchange for the student's commitment to work for the enterprise at the completion of the internship.

Sec. 5709.73. (A) As used in this section and section 5709.74 of the Revised Code:

(1) "Business day" means a day of the week excluding Saturday, Sunday, and a legal holiday as defined in section 1.14 of the Revised Code.

(2) "Further improvements" or "improvements" means the increase in the assessed value of real property that would first appear on the tax list and duplicate of real and public utility property after the effective date of a resolution adopted under this section were it not for the exemption granted by that resolution. For purposes of division (B) of this section, "improvements" do not include any property used or to be used for residential purposes.

(3) "Housing renovation" means a project carried out for residential purposes.

(4) "Incentive district" has the same meaning as in section 5709.40 of the Revised Code, except that a blighted area is in the unincorporated area of a township.

(5) "Project" and "public infrastructure improvement" have the same meanings as in section 5709.40 of the Revised Code.

(B) A board of township trustees may, by unanimous vote, adopt a

resolution that declares to be a public purpose any public infrastructure improvements made that are necessary for the development of certain parcels of land located in the unincorporated area of the township. Except with the approval under division (D) of this section of the board of education of each city, local, or exempted village school district within which the improvements are located, the resolution may exempt from real property taxation not more than seventy-five per cent of further improvements to a parcel of land that directly benefits from the public infrastructure improvements, for a period of not more than ten years. The resolution shall specify the percentage of the further improvements to be exempted and the life of the exemption.

(C)(1) A board of township trustees may adopt, by unanimous vote, a resolution creating an incentive district and declaring improvements to parcels within the district to be a public purpose and, except as provided in division (F) of this section, exempt from taxation as provided in this section, but no board of township trustees of a township that has a population that exceeds twenty-five thousand, as shown by the most recent federal decennial census, shall adopt a resolution that creates an incentive district if the sum of the taxable value of real property in the proposed district for the preceding tax year and the taxable value of all real property in the township that would have been taxable in the preceding year were it not for the fact that the property was in an existing incentive district and therefore exempt from taxation exceeds twenty-five per cent of the taxable value of real property in the township for the preceding tax year. The district shall be located within the unincorporated area of the township and shall not include any territory that is included within a district created under division (B) of section 5709.78 of the Revised Code. The resolution shall delineate the boundary of the district and specifically identify each parcel within the district. A district may not include any parcel that is or has been exempted from taxation under division (B) of this section or that is or has been within another district created under this division. A resolution may create more than one district, and more than one resolution may be adopted under division (C)(1) of this section.

(2) Not later than thirty days prior to adopting a resolution under division (C)(1) of this section, if the township intends to apply for exemptions from taxation under section 5709.911 of the Revised Code on behalf of owners of real property located within the proposed incentive district, the board shall conduct a public hearing on the proposed resolution. Not later than thirty days prior to the public hearing, the board shall give notice of the public hearing and the proposed resolution by first class mail to

every real property owner whose property is located within the boundaries of the proposed incentive district that is the subject of the proposed resolution.

(3)(a) A resolution adopted under division (C)(1) of this section shall specify the life of the incentive district and the percentage of the improvements to be exempted, shall designate the public infrastructure improvements made, to be made, or in the process of being made, that benefit or serve, or, once made, will benefit or serve parcels in the district. The resolution also shall identify one or more specific projects being, or to be, undertaken in the district that place additional demand on the public infrastructure improvements designated in the resolution. The project identified may, but need not be, the project under division (C)(3)(b) of this section that places real property in use for commercial or industrial purposes.

A resolution adopted under division (C)(1) of this section on or after ~~the effective date of this amendment~~ March 30, 2006, shall not designate police or fire equipment as public infrastructure improvements, and no service payment provided for in section 5709.74 of the Revised Code and received by the township under the resolution shall be used for police or fire equipment.

(b) A resolution adopted under division (C)(1) of this section may authorize the use of service payments provided for in section 5709.74 of the Revised Code for the purpose of housing renovations within the incentive district, provided that the resolution also designates public infrastructure improvements that benefit or serve the district, and that a project within the district places real property in use for commercial or industrial purposes. Service payments may be used to finance or support loans, deferred loans, and grants to persons for the purpose of housing renovations within the district. The resolution shall designate the parcels within the district that are eligible for housing renovations. The resolution shall state separately the amount or the percentages of the expected aggregate service payments that are designated for each public infrastructure improvement and for the purpose of housing renovations.

(4) Except with the approval of the board of education of each city, local, or exempted village school district within the territory of which the incentive district is or will be located, and subject to division (E) of this section, the life of an incentive district shall not exceed ten years, and the percentage of improvements to be exempted shall not exceed seventy-five per cent. With approval of the board of education, the life of a district may be not more than thirty years, and the percentage of improvements to be

exempted may be not more than one hundred per cent. The approval of a board of education shall be obtained in the manner provided in division (D) of this section f.

(D) Improvements with respect to a parcel may be exempted from taxation under division (B) of this section, and improvements to parcels within an incentive district may be exempted from taxation under division (C) of this section, for up to ten years or, with the approval of the board of education of the city, local, or exempted village school district within which the parcel or district is located, for up to thirty years. The percentage of the improvements exempted from taxation may, with such approval, exceed seventy-five per cent, but shall not exceed one hundred per cent. Not later than forty-five business days prior to adopting a resolution under this section declaring improvements to be a public purpose that is subject to approval by a board of education under this division, the board of township trustees shall deliver to the board of education a notice stating its intent to adopt a resolution making that declaration. The notice regarding improvements with respect to a parcel under division (B) of this section shall identify the parcels for which improvements are to be exempted from taxation, provide an estimate of the true value in money of the improvements, specify the period for which the improvements would be exempted from taxation and the percentage of the improvements that would be exempted, and indicate the date on which the board of township trustees intends to adopt the resolution. The notice regarding improvements made under division (C) of this section to parcels within an incentive district shall delineate the boundaries of the district, specifically identify each parcel within the district, identify each anticipated improvement in the district, provide an estimate of the true value in money of each such improvement, specify the life of the district and the percentage of improvements that would be exempted, and indicate the date on which the board of township trustees intends to adopt the resolution. The board of education, by resolution adopted by a majority of the board, may approve the exemption for the period or for the exemption percentage specified in the notice; may disapprove the exemption for the number of years in excess of ten, may disapprove the exemption for the percentage of the improvements to be exempted in excess of seventy-five per cent, or both; or may approve the exemption on the condition that the board of township trustees and the board of education negotiate an agreement providing for compensation to the school district equal in value to a percentage of the amount of taxes exempted in the eleventh and subsequent years of the exemption period or, in the case of exemption percentages in excess of seventy-five per cent, compensation equal in value to a percentage

of the taxes that would be payable on the portion of the improvements in excess of seventy-five per cent were that portion to be subject to taxation, or other mutually agreeable compensation.

The board of education shall certify its resolution to the board of township trustees not later than fourteen days prior to the date the board of township trustees intends to adopt the resolution as indicated in the notice. If the board of education and the board of township trustees negotiate a mutually acceptable compensation agreement, the resolution may declare the improvements a public purpose for the number of years specified in the resolution or, in the case of exemption percentages in excess of seventy-five per cent, for the exemption percentage specified in the resolution. In either case, if the board of education and the board of township trustees fail to negotiate a mutually acceptable compensation agreement, the resolution may declare the improvements a public purpose for not more than ten years, and shall not exempt more than seventy-five per cent of the improvements from taxation. If the board of education fails to certify a resolution to the board of township trustees within the time prescribed by this section, the board of township trustees thereupon may adopt the resolution and may declare the improvements a public purpose for up to thirty years or, in the case of exemption percentages proposed in excess of seventy-five per cent, for the exemption percentage specified in the resolution. The board of township trustees may adopt the resolution at any time after the board of education certifies its resolution approving the exemption to the board of township trustees, or, if the board of education approves the exemption on the condition that a mutually acceptable compensation agreement be negotiated, at any time after the compensation agreement is agreed to by the board of education and the board of township trustees. If a mutually acceptable compensation agreement is negotiated between the board of township trustees and the board of education, including agreements for payments in lieu of taxes under section 5709.74 of the Revised Code, the board of township trustees shall compensate the joint vocational school district within which the parcel or district is located at the same rate and under the same terms received by the city, local, or exempted village school district.

If a board of education has adopted a resolution waiving its right to approve exemptions from taxation under this section and the resolution remains in effect, approval of such exemptions by the board of education is not required under division (D) of this section. If a board of education has adopted a resolution allowing a board of township trustees to deliver the notice required under division (D) of this section fewer than forty-five

business days prior to adoption of the resolution by the board of township trustees, the board of township trustees shall deliver the notice to the board of education not later than the number of days prior to the adoption as prescribed by the board of education in its resolution. If a board of education adopts a resolution waiving its right to approve exemptions or shortening the notification period, the board of education shall certify a copy of the resolution to the board of township trustees. If the board of education rescinds the resolution, it shall certify notice of the rescission to the board of township trustees.

If the board of township trustees is not required by division (D) of this section to notify the board of education of the board of township trustees' intent to declare improvements to be a public purpose, the board of township trustees shall comply with the notice requirements imposed under section 5709.83 of the Revised Code before taking formal action to adopt the resolution making that declaration, unless the board of education has adopted a resolution under that section waiving its right to receive the notice.

(E)(1) If a proposed resolution under division (C)(1) of this section exempts improvements with respect to a parcel within an incentive district for more than ten years, or the percentage of the improvement exempted from taxation exceeds seventy-five per cent, not later than forty-five business days prior to adopting the resolution the board of township trustees shall deliver to the board of county commissioners of the county within which the incentive district is or will be located a notice that states its intent to adopt a resolution creating an incentive district. The notice shall include a copy of the proposed resolution, identify the parcels for which improvements are to be exempted from taxation, provide an estimate of the true value in money of the improvements, specify the period of time for which the improvements would be exempted from taxation, specify the percentage of the improvements that would be exempted from taxation, and indicate the date on which the board of township trustees intends to adopt the resolution.

(2) The board of county commissioners, by resolution adopted by a majority of the board, may object to the exemption for the number of years in excess of ten, may object to the exemption for the percentage of the improvement to be exempted in excess of seventy-five per cent, or both. If the board of county commissioners objects, the board may negotiate a mutually acceptable compensation agreement with the board of township trustees. In no case shall the compensation provided to the board of county commissioners exceed the property taxes foregone due to the exemption. If

the board of county commissioners objects, and the board of county commissioners and board of township trustees fail to negotiate a mutually acceptable compensation agreement, the resolution adopted under division (C)(1) of this section shall provide to the board of county commissioners compensation in the eleventh and subsequent years of the exemption period equal in value to not more than fifty per cent of the taxes that would be payable to the county or, if the board of county commissioner's objection includes an objection to an exemption percentage in excess of seventy-five per cent, compensation equal in value to not more than fifty per cent of the taxes that would be payable to the county, on the portion of the improvement in excess of seventy-five per cent, were that portion to be subject to taxation. The board of county commissioners shall certify its resolution to the board of township trustees not later than thirty days after receipt of the notice.

(3) If the board of county commissioners does not object or fails to certify its resolution objecting to an exemption within thirty days after receipt of the notice, the board of township trustees may adopt its resolution, and no compensation shall be provided to the board of county commissioners. If the board of county commissioners timely certifies its resolution objecting to the trustees' resolution, the board of township trustees may adopt its resolution at any time after a mutually acceptable compensation agreement is agreed to by the board of county commissioners and the board of township trustees, or, if no compensation agreement is negotiated, at any time after the board of township trustees agrees in the proposed resolution to provide compensation to the board of county commissioners of fifty per cent of the taxes that would be payable to the county in the eleventh and subsequent years of the exemption period or on the portion of the improvement in excess of seventy-five per cent, were that portion to be subject to taxation.

(F) Service payments in lieu of taxes that are attributable to any amount by which the effective tax rate of either a renewal levy with an increase or a replacement levy exceeds the effective tax rate of the levy renewed or replaced, or that are attributable to an additional levy, for a levy authorized by the voters for any of the following purposes on or after January 1, 2006, and which are provided pursuant to a resolution creating an incentive district under division (C)(1) of this section that is adopted on or after January 1, 2006, shall be distributed to the appropriate taxing authority as required under division (C) of section 5709.74 of the Revised Code in an amount equal to the amount of taxes from that additional levy or from the increase in the effective tax rate of such renewal or replacement levy that would have

been payable to that taxing authority from the following levies were it not for the exemption authorized under division (C) of this section:

(1) A tax levied under division (L) of section 5705.19 or section 5705.191 of the Revised Code for community mental retardation and developmental disabilities programs and services pursuant to Chapter 5126. of the Revised Code;

(2) A tax levied under division (Y) of section 5705.19 of the Revised Code for providing or maintaining senior citizens services or facilities;

(3) A tax levied under section 5705.22 of the Revised Code for county hospitals;

(4) A tax levied by a joint-county district or by a county under section 5705.19, 5705.191, or 5705.221 of the Revised Code for alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health services or families;

(5) A tax levied under section 5705.23 of the Revised Code for library purposes;

(6) A tax levied under section 5705.24 of the Revised Code for the support of children services and the placement and care of children;

(7) A tax levied under division (Z) of section 5705.19 of the Revised Code for the provision and maintenance of zoological park services and facilities under section 307.76 of the Revised Code;

(8) A tax levied under section 511.27 or division (H) of section 5705.19 of the Revised Code for the support of township park districts;

(9) A tax levied under division (A), (F), or (H) of section 5705.19 of the Revised Code for parks and recreational purposes of a joint recreation district organized pursuant to division (B) of section 755.14 of the Revised Code;

(10) A tax levied under section 1545.20 or 1545.21 of the Revised Code for park district purposes;

(11) A tax levied under section 5705.191 of the Revised Code for the purpose of making appropriations for public assistance; human or social services; public relief; public welfare; public health and hospitalization; and support of general hospitals;

(12) A tax levied under section 3709.29 of the Revised Code for a general health district program.

(G) An exemption from taxation granted under this section commences with the tax year specified in the resolution so long as the year specified in the resolution commences after the effective date of the resolution. If the resolution specifies a year commencing before the effective date of the resolution or specifies no year whatsoever, the exemption commences with the tax year in which an exempted improvement first appears on the tax list

and duplicate of real and public utility property and that commences after the effective date of the resolution. Except as otherwise provided in this division, the exemption ends on the date specified in the resolution as the date the improvement ceases to be a public purpose or the incentive district expires, or ends on the date on which the public infrastructure improvements and housing renovations are paid in full from the township public improvement tax increment equivalent fund established under section 5709.75 of the Revised Code, whichever occurs first. The exemption of an improvement with respect to a parcel or within an incentive district may end on a later date, as specified in the resolution, if the board of township trustees and the board of education of the city, local, or exempted village school district within which the parcel or district is located have entered into a compensation agreement under section 5709.82 of the Revised Code with respect to the improvement and the board of education has approved the term of the exemption under division (D) of this section, but in no case shall the improvement be exempted from taxation for more than thirty years. The board of township trustees may, by majority vote, adopt a resolution permitting the township to enter into such agreements as the board finds necessary or appropriate to provide for the construction or undertaking of public infrastructure improvements and housing renovations. Any exemption shall be claimed and allowed in the same or a similar manner as in the case of other real property exemptions. If an exemption status changes during a tax year, the procedure for the apportionment of the taxes for that year is the same as in the case of other changes in tax exemption status during the year.

(H) The board of township trustees may issue the notes of the township to finance all costs pertaining to the construction or undertaking of public infrastructure improvements and housing renovations made pursuant to this section. The notes shall be signed by the board and attested by the signature of the township fiscal officer, shall bear interest not to exceed the rate provided in section 9.95 of the Revised Code, and are not subject to Chapter 133. of the Revised Code. The resolution authorizing the issuance of the notes shall pledge the funds of the township public improvement tax increment equivalent fund established pursuant to section 5709.75 of the Revised Code to pay the interest on and principal of the notes. The notes, which may contain a clause permitting prepayment at the option of the board, shall be offered for sale on the open market or given to the vendor or contractor if no sale is made.

(I) The township, not later than fifteen days after the adoption of a resolution under this section, shall submit to the director of development a

copy of the resolution. On or before the thirty-first day of March of each year, the township shall submit a status report to the director of development. The report shall indicate, in the manner prescribed by the director, the progress of the project during each year that the exemption remains in effect, including a summary of the receipts from service payments in lieu of taxes; expenditures of money from the fund created under section 5709.75 of the Revised Code; a description of the public infrastructure improvements and housing renovations financed with the expenditures; and a quantitative summary of changes in private investment resulting from each project.

(J) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit a board of township trustees from declaring to be a public purpose improvements with respect to more than one parcel.

(K) A board of township trustees that adopted a resolution under this section prior to July 21, 1994, may amend that resolution to include any additional public infrastructure improvement. A board of township trustees that seeks by the amendment to utilize money from its township public improvement tax increment equivalent fund for land acquisition in aid of industry, commerce, distribution, or research, demolition on private property, or stormwater and flood remediation projects may do so provided that the board currently is a party to a hold-harmless agreement with the board of education of the city, local, or exempted village school district within the territory of which are located the parcels that are subject to an exemption. For the purposes of this division, a "hold-harmless agreement" means an agreement under which the board of township trustees agrees to compensate the school district for one hundred per cent of the tax revenue that the school district would have received from further improvements to parcels designated in the resolution were it not for the exemption granted by the resolution.

Sec. 5709.78. (A) A board of county commissioners may, by resolution, declare improvements to certain parcels of real property located in the unincorporated territory of the county to be a public purpose. Except with the approval under division (C) of this section of the board of education of each city, local, or exempted village school district within which the improvements are located, not more than seventy-five per cent of an improvement thus declared to be a public purpose may be exempted from real property taxation, for a period of not more than ten years. The resolution shall specify the percentage of the improvement to be exempted and the life of the exemption.

A resolution adopted under this division shall designate the specific

public infrastructure improvements made, to be made, or in the process of being made by the county that directly benefit, or that once made will directly benefit, the parcels for which improvements are declared to be a public purpose. The service payments provided for in section 5709.79 of the Revised Code shall be used to finance the public infrastructure improvements designated in the resolution, or as provided in section 5709.80 of the Revised Code.

(B)(1) A board of county commissioners may adopt a resolution creating an incentive district and declaring improvements to parcels within the district to be a public purpose and, except as provided in division (E) of this section, exempt from taxation as provided in this section, but no board of county commissioners of a county that has a population that exceeds twenty-five thousand, as shown by the most recent federal decennial census, shall adopt a resolution that creates an incentive district if the sum of the taxable value of real property in the proposed district for the preceding tax year and the taxable value of all real property in the county that would have been taxable in the preceding year were it not for the fact that the property was in an existing incentive district and therefore exempt from taxation exceeds twenty-five per cent of the taxable value of real property in the county for the preceding tax year. The district shall be located within the unincorporated territory of the county and shall not include any territory that is included within a district created under division (C) of section 5709.73 of the Revised Code. The resolution shall delineate the boundary of the district and specifically identify each parcel within the district. A district may not include any parcel that is or has been exempted from taxation under division (A) of this section or that is or has been within another district created under this division. A resolution may create more than one such district, and more than one resolution may be adopted under division (B)(1) of this section.

(2) Not later than thirty days prior to adopting a resolution under division (B)(1) of this section, if the county intends to apply for exemptions from taxation under section 5709.911 of the Revised Code on behalf of owners of real property located within the proposed incentive district, the board of county commissioners shall conduct a public hearing on the proposed resolution. Not later than thirty days prior to the public hearing, the board shall give notice of the public hearing and the proposed resolution by first class mail to every real property owner whose property is located within the boundaries of the proposed incentive district that is the subject of the proposed resolution. The board also shall provide the notice by first class mail to the clerk of each township in which the proposed incentive district will be located.

(3)(a) A resolution adopted under division (B)(1) of this section shall specify the life of the incentive district and the percentage of the improvements to be exempted, shall designate the public infrastructure improvements made, to be made, or in the process of being made, that benefit or serve, or, once made, will benefit or serve parcels in the district. The resolution also shall identify one or more specific projects being, or to be, undertaken in the district that place additional demand on the public infrastructure improvements designated in the resolution. The project identified may, but need not be, the project under division (B)(3)(b) of this section that places real property in use for commercial or industrial purposes.

A resolution adopted under division (B)(1) of this section on or after ~~the effective date of this amendment~~ March 30, 2006, shall not designate police or fire equipment as public infrastructure improvements, and no service payment provided for in section 5709.79 of the Revised Code and received by the county under the resolution shall be used for police or fire equipment.

(b) A resolution adopted under division (B)(1) of this section may authorize the use of service payments provided for in section 5709.79 of the Revised Code for the purpose of housing renovations within the incentive district, provided that the resolution also designates public infrastructure improvements that benefit or serve the district, and that a project within the district places real property in use for commercial or industrial purposes. Service payments may be used to finance or support loans, deferred loans, and grants to persons for the purpose of housing renovations within the district. The resolution shall designate the parcels within the district that are eligible for housing renovations. The resolution shall state separately the amount or the percentages of the expected aggregate service payments that are designated for each public infrastructure improvement and for the purpose of housing renovations.

(4) Except with the approval of the board of education of each city, local, or exempted village school district within the territory of which the incentive district is or will be located, and subject to division (D) of this section, the life of an incentive district shall not exceed ten years, and the percentage of improvements to be exempted shall not exceed seventy-five per cent. With approval of the board of education, the life of a district may be not more than thirty years, and the percentage of improvements to be exempted may be not more than one hundred per cent. The approval of a board of education shall be obtained in the manner provided in division (C) of this section.

(C)(1) Improvements with respect to a parcel may be exempted from

taxation under division (A) of this section, and improvements to parcels within an incentive district may be exempted from taxation under division (B) of this section, for up to ten years or, with the approval of the board of education of ~~the~~ each city, local, or exempted village school district within which the parcel or district is located, for up to thirty years. The percentage of the improvements exempted from taxation may, with such approval, exceed seventy-five per cent, but shall not exceed one hundred per cent. Not later than forty-five business days prior to adopting a resolution under this section declaring improvements to be a public purpose that is subject to the approval of a board of education under this division, the board of county commissioners shall deliver to the board of education a notice stating its intent to adopt a resolution making that declaration. The notice regarding improvements with respect to a parcel under division (A) of this section shall identify the parcels for which improvements are to be exempted from taxation, provide an estimate of the true value in money of the improvements, specify the period for which the improvements would be exempted from taxation and the percentage of the improvements that would be exempted, and indicate the date on which the board of county commissioners intends to adopt the resolution. The notice regarding improvements to parcels within an incentive district under division (B) of this section shall delineate the boundaries of the district, specifically identify each parcel within the district, identify each anticipated improvement in the district, provide an estimate of the true value in money of each such improvement, specify the life of the district and the percentage of improvements that would be exempted, and indicate the date on which the board of county commissioners intends to adopt the resolution. The board of education, by resolution adopted by a majority of the board, may approve the exemption for the period or for the exemption percentage specified in the notice; may disapprove the exemption for the number of years in excess of ten, may disapprove the exemption for the percentage of the improvements to be exempted in excess of seventy-five per cent, or both; or may approve the exemption on the condition that the board of county commissioners and the board of education negotiate an agreement providing for compensation to the school district equal in value to a percentage of the amount of taxes exempted in the eleventh and subsequent years of the exemption period or, in the case of exemption percentages in excess of seventy-five per cent, compensation equal in value to a percentage of the taxes that would be payable on the portion of the improvements in excess of seventy-five per cent were that portion to be subject to taxation, or other mutually agreeable compensation.

(2) The board of education shall certify its resolution to the board of county commissioners not later than fourteen days prior to the date the board of county commissioners intends to adopt its resolution as indicated in the notice. If the board of education and the board of county commissioners negotiate a mutually acceptable compensation agreement, the resolution of the board of county commissioners may declare the improvements a public purpose for the number of years specified in that resolution or, in the case of exemption percentages in excess of seventy-five per cent, for the exemption percentage specified in the resolution. In either case, if the board of education and the board of county commissioners fail to negotiate a mutually acceptable compensation agreement, the resolution may declare the improvements a public purpose for not more than ten years, and shall not exempt more than seventy-five per cent of the improvements from taxation. If the board of education fails to certify a resolution to the board of county commissioners within the time prescribed by this section, the board of county commissioners thereupon may adopt the resolution and may declare the improvements a public purpose for up to thirty years or, in the case of exemption percentages proposed in excess of seventy-five per cent, for the exemption percentage specified in the resolution. The board of county commissioners may adopt the resolution at any time after the board of education certifies its resolution approving the exemption to the board of county commissioners, or, if the board of education approves the exemption on the condition that a mutually acceptable compensation agreement be negotiated, at any time after the compensation agreement is agreed to by the board of education and the board of county commissioners. If a mutually acceptable compensation agreement is negotiated between the board of county commissioners and the board of education, including agreements for payments in lieu of taxes under section 5709.79 of the Revised Code, the board of county commissioners shall compensate the joint vocational school district within which the parcel or district is located at the same rate and under the same terms received by the city, local, or exempted village school district.

(3) If a board of education has adopted a resolution waiving its right to approve exemptions from taxation under this section and the resolution remains in effect, approval of such exemptions by the board of education is not required under division (C) of this section. If a board of education has adopted a resolution allowing a board of county commissioners to deliver the notice required under division (C) of this section fewer than forty-five business days prior to approval of the resolution by the board of county commissioners, the board of county commissioners shall deliver the notice

to the board of education not later than the number of days prior to such approval as prescribed by the board of education in its resolution. If a board of education adopts a resolution waiving its right to approve exemptions or shortening the notification period, the board of education shall certify a copy of the resolution to the board of county commissioners. If the board of education rescinds such a resolution, it shall certify notice of the rescission to the board of county commissioners.

(D)(1) If a proposed resolution under division (B)(1) of this section exempts improvements with respect to a parcel within an incentive district for more than ten years, or the percentage of the improvement exempted from taxation exceeds seventy-five per cent, not later than forty-five business days prior to adopting the resolution the board of county commissioners shall deliver to the board of township trustees of any township within which the incentive district is or will be located a notice that states its intent to adopt a resolution creating an incentive district. The notice shall include a copy of the proposed resolution, identify the parcels for which improvements are to be exempted from taxation, provide an estimate of the true value in money of the improvements, specify the period of time for which the improvements would be exempted from taxation, specify the percentage of the improvements that would be exempted from taxation, and indicate the date on which the board intends to adopt the resolution.

(2) The board of township trustees, by resolution adopted by a majority of the board, may object to the exemption for the number of years in excess of ten, may object to the exemption for the percentage of the improvement to be exempted in excess of seventy-five per cent, or both. If the board of township trustees objects, the board of township trustees may negotiate a mutually acceptable compensation agreement with the board of county commissioners. In no case shall the compensation provided to the board of township trustees exceed the property taxes ~~foregone~~ forgone due to the exemption. If the board of township trustees objects, and the board of township trustees and the board of county commissioners fail to negotiate a mutually acceptable compensation agreement, the resolution adopted under division (B)(1) of this section shall provide to the board of township trustees compensation in the eleventh and subsequent years of the exemption period equal in value to not more than fifty per cent of the taxes that would be payable to the township or, if the board of township trustee's objection includes an objection to an exemption percentage in excess of seventy-five per cent, compensation equal in value to not more than fifty per cent of the taxes that would be payable to the township on the portion of the

improvement in excess of seventy-five per cent, were that portion to be subject to taxation. The board of township trustees shall certify its resolution to the board of county commissioners not later than thirty days after receipt of the notice.

(3) If the board of township trustees does not object or fails to certify a resolution objecting to an exemption within thirty days after receipt of the notice, the board of county commissioners may adopt its resolution, and no compensation shall be provided to the board of township trustees. If the board of township trustees certifies its resolution objecting to the commissioners' resolution, the board of county commissioners may adopt its resolution at any time after a mutually acceptable compensation agreement is agreed to by the board of county commissioners and the board of township trustees. If the board of township trustees certifies a resolution objecting to the commissioners' resolution, the board of county commissioners may adopt its resolution at any time after a mutually acceptable compensation agreement is agreed to by the board of county commissioners and the board of township trustees, or, if no compensation agreement is negotiated, at any time after the board of county commissioners in the proposed resolution to provide compensation to the board of township trustees of fifty per cent of the taxes that would be payable to the township in the eleventh and subsequent years of the exemption period or on the portion of the improvement in excess of seventy-five per cent, were that portion to be subject to taxation.

(E) Service payments in lieu of taxes that are attributable to any amount by which the effective tax rate of either a renewal levy with an increase or a replacement levy exceeds the effective tax rate of the levy renewed or replaced, or that are attributable to an additional levy, for a levy authorized by the voters for any of the following purposes on or after January 1, 2006, and which are provided pursuant to a resolution creating an incentive district under division (B)(1) of this section that is adopted on or after January 1, 2006, shall be distributed to the appropriate taxing authority as required under division (D) of section 5709.79 of the Revised Code in an amount equal to the amount of taxes from that additional levy or from the increase in the effective tax rate of such renewal or replacement levy that would have been payable to that taxing authority from the following levies were it not for the exemption authorized under division (B) of this section:

(1) A tax levied under division (L) of section 5705.19 or section 5705.191 of the Revised Code for community mental retardation and developmental disabilities programs and services pursuant to Chapter 5126. of the Revised Code;

(2) A tax levied under division (Y) of section 5705.19 of the Revised Code for providing or maintaining senior citizens services or facilities;

(3) A tax levied under section 5705.22 of the Revised Code for county hospitals;

(4) A tax levied by a joint-county district or by a county under section 5705.19, 5705.191, or 5705.221 of the Revised Code for alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health services or facilities;

(5) A tax levied under section 5705.23 of the Revised Code for library purposes;

(6) A tax levied under section 5705.24 of the Revised Code for the support of children services and the placement and care of children;

(7) A tax levied under division (Z) of section 5705.19 of the Revised Code for the provision and maintenance of zoological park services and facilities under section 307.76 of the Revised Code;

(8) A tax levied under section 511.27 or division (H) of section 5705.19 of the Revised Code for the support of township park districts;

(9) A tax levied under division (A), (F), or (H) of section 5705.19 of the Revised Code for parks and recreational purposes of a joint recreation district organized pursuant to division (B) of section 755.14 of the Revised Code;

(10) A tax levied under section 1545.20 or 1545.21 of the Revised Code for park district purposes;

(11) A tax levied under section 5705.191 of the Revised Code for the purpose of making appropriations for public assistance; human or social services; public relief; public welfare; public health and hospitalization; and support of general hospitals;

(12) A tax levied under section 3709.29 of the Revised Code for a general health district program.

(F) An exemption from taxation granted under this section commences with the tax year specified in the resolution so long as the year specified in the resolution commences after the effective date of the resolution. If the resolution specifies a year commencing before the effective date of the resolution or specifies no year whatsoever, the exemption commences with the tax year in which an exempted improvement first appears on the tax list and duplicate of real and public utility property and that commences after the effective date of the resolution. Except as otherwise provided in this division, the exemption ends on the date specified in the resolution as the date the improvement ceases to be a public purpose or the incentive district expires, or ends on the date on which the county can no longer require annual service payments in lieu of taxes under section 5709.79 of the

Revised Code, whichever occurs first. The exemption of an improvement with respect to a parcel or within an incentive district may end on a later date, as specified in the resolution, if the board of commissioners and the board of education of the city, local, or exempted village school district within which the parcel or district is located have entered into a compensation agreement under section 5709.82 of the Revised Code with respect to the improvement, and the board of education has approved the term of the exemption under division (C)(1) of this section, but in no case shall the improvement be exempted from taxation for more than thirty years. Exemptions shall be claimed and allowed in the same or a similar manner as in the case of other real property exemptions. If an exemption status changes during a tax year, the procedure for the apportionment of the taxes for that year is the same as in the case of other changes in tax exemption status during the year.

(G) If the board of county commissioners is not required by this section to notify the board of education of the board of county commissioners' intent to declare improvements to be a public purpose, the board of county commissioners shall comply with the notice requirements imposed under section 5709.83 of the Revised Code before taking formal action to adopt the resolution making that declaration, unless the board of education has adopted a resolution under that section waiving its right to receive such a notice.

(H) The county, not later than fifteen days after the adoption of a resolution under this section, shall submit to the director of development a copy of the resolution. On or before the thirty-first day of March of each year, the county shall submit a status report to the director of development. The report shall indicate, in the manner prescribed by the director, the progress of the project during each year that an exemption remains in effect, including a summary of the receipts from service payments in lieu of taxes; expenditures of money from the fund created under section 5709.80 of the Revised Code; a description of the public infrastructure improvements and housing renovations financed with such expenditures; and a quantitative summary of changes in employment and private investment resulting from each project.

(I) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit a board of county commissioners from declaring to be a public purpose improvements with respect to more than one parcel.

Sec. 5709.82. (A) As used in this section:

(1) "New employee" means both of the following:

(a) Persons employed in the construction of real property exempted

from taxation under the chapters or sections of the Revised Code enumerated in division (B) of this section;

(b) Persons not described by division (A)(1)(a) of this section who are first employed at the site of such property and who within the two previous years have not been subject, prior to being employed at that site, to income taxation by the municipal corporation within whose territory the site is located on income derived from employment for the person's current employer. "New employee" does not include any person who replaces a person who is not a new employee under division (A)(1) of this section.

(2) "Infrastructure costs" means costs incurred by a municipal corporation in a calendar year to acquire, construct, reconstruct, improve, plan, or equip real or tangible personal property that directly benefits or will directly benefit the exempted property. If the municipal corporation finances the acquisition, construction, reconstruction, improvement, planning, or equipping of real or tangible personal property that directly benefits the exempted property by issuing debt, "infrastructure costs" means the annual debt charges incurred by the municipal corporation from the issuance of such debt. Real or tangible personal property directly benefits exempted property only if the exempted property places or will place direct, additional demand on the real or tangible personal property for which such costs were or will be incurred.

(3) "Taxing unit" has the same meaning as in division (H) of section 5705.01 of the Revised Code.

(B)(1) Except as otherwise provided under division (C) of this section, the legislative authority of any political subdivision that has acted under the authority of Chapter 725. or 1728., sections 3735.65 to 3735.70, or section 5709.40, 5709.41, 5709.62, 5709.63, 5709.632, 5709.73, 5709.78, 5709.84, or 5709.88 of the Revised Code to grant an exemption from taxation for real or tangible personal property may negotiate with the board of education of each city, local, exempted village, or joint vocational school district or other taxing unit within the territory of which the exempted property is located, and enter into an agreement whereby the school district or taxing unit is compensated for tax revenue foregone by the school district or taxing unit as a result of the exemption. Except as otherwise provided in division (B)(1) of this section, if a political subdivision enters into more than one agreement under this section with respect to a tax exemption, the political subdivision shall provide to each school district or taxing unit with which it contracts the same percentage of tax revenue foregone by the school district or taxing unit, which may be based on a good faith projection made at the time the exemption is granted. Such percentage shall be calculated on the basis of

amounts paid by the political subdivision and any amounts paid by an owner under division (B)(2) of this section. A political subdivision may provide a school district or other taxing unit with a smaller percentage of foregone tax revenue than that provided to other school districts or taxing units only if the school district or taxing unit expressly consents in the agreement to receiving a smaller percentage. If a subdivision has acted under the authority of section 5709.40, 5709.41, 5709.73, or 5709.78 of the Revised Code and enters into a compensation agreement with a city, local, or exempted village school district, the subdivision shall provide compensation to the joint vocational school district within the territory of which the exempted property is located at the same rate and under the same terms as received by the city, local, or exempted village school district.

(2) An owner of property exempted from taxation under the authority described in division (B)(1) of this section may, by becoming a party to an agreement described in division (B)(1) of this section or by entering into a separate agreement with a school district or other taxing unit, agree to compensate the school district or taxing unit by paying cash or by providing property or services by gift, loan, or otherwise. If the owner's property is exempted under the authority of section 5709.40, 5709.41, 5709.73, or 5709.78 of the Revised Code and the owner enters into a compensation agreement with a city, local, or exempted village school district, the owner shall provide compensation to the joint vocational school district within the territory of which the owner's property is located at the same rate and under the same terms as received by the city, local, or exempted village school district.

(C) This division does not apply to the following:

(1) The legislative authority of a municipal corporation that has acted under the authority of division (H) of section 715.70 or section 715.81 of the Revised Code to consent to the granting of an exemption from taxation for real or tangible personal property in a joint economic development district.

(2) The legislative authority of a municipal corporation that has specified in an ordinance adopted under section 5709.40 or 5709.41 of the Revised Code that payments in lieu of taxes provided for under section 5709.42 of the Revised Code shall be paid to the city, local, or exempted village school district in which the improvements are located in the amount of taxes that would have been payable to the school district if the improvements had not been exempted from taxation, as directed in the ordinance.

If the legislative authority of any municipal corporation has acted under the authority of Chapter 725. or 1728. or section 3735.671, 5709.40,

5709.41, 5709.62, 5709.63, 5709.632, or 5709.88, or a housing officer under section 3735.67 of the Revised Code, to grant or consent to the granting of an exemption from taxation for real or tangible personal property on or after July 1, 1994, the municipal corporation imposes a tax on incomes, and the payroll of new employees resulting from the exercise of that authority equals or exceeds one million dollars in any tax year for which such property is exempted, the legislative authority and the board of education of each city, local, or exempted village school district within the territory of which the exempted property is located shall attempt to negotiate an agreement providing for compensation to the school district for all or a portion of the tax revenue the school district would have received had the property not been exempted from taxation. The agreement may include as a party the owner of the property exempted or to be exempted from taxation and may include provisions obligating the owner to compensate the school district by paying cash or providing property or services by gift, loan, or otherwise. Such an obligation is enforceable by the board of education of the school district pursuant to the terms of the agreement.

If the legislative authority and board of education fail to negotiate an agreement that is mutually acceptable within six months of formal approval by the legislative authority of the instrument granting the exemption, the legislative authority shall compensate the school district in the amount and manner prescribed by division (D) of this section.

(D) Annually, the legislative authority of a municipal corporation subject to this division shall pay to the city, local, or exempted village school district within the territory of which the exempted property is located an amount equal to fifty per cent of the difference between the amount of taxes levied and collected by the municipal corporation on the incomes of new employees in the calendar year ending on the day the payment is required to be made, and the amount of any infrastructure costs incurred in that calendar year. For purposes of such computation, the amount of infrastructure costs shall not exceed thirty-five per cent of the amount of those taxes unless the board of education of the school district, by resolution adopted by a majority of the board, approves an amount in excess of that percentage. If the amount of those taxes or infrastructure costs must be estimated at the time the payment is made, payments in subsequent years shall be adjusted to compensate for any departure of those estimates from the actual amount of those taxes.

A municipal corporation required to make a payment under this section shall make the payment from its general fund or a special fund established for the purpose. The payment is payable on the thirty-first day of December

of the tax year for or in which the exemption from taxation commences and on that day for each subsequent tax year property is exempted and the legislative authority and board fail to negotiate an acceptable agreement under division (C) of this section.

Sec. 5709.83. (A) Except as otherwise provided in division (B) or (C) of this section, prior to taking formal action to adopt or enter into any instrument granting a tax exemption under section 725.02, 1728.06, 5709.40, 5709.41, 5709.62, 5709.63, 5709.632, 5709.73, 5709.78, 5709.84, or 5709.88 of the Revised Code or formally approving an agreement under section 3735.671 of the Revised Code, or prior to forwarding an application for a tax exemption for residential property under section 3735.67 of the Revised Code to the county auditor, the legislative authority of the political subdivision or housing officer shall notify the board of education of each city, local, exempted village, or joint vocational school district in which the proposed tax-exempted property is located. The notice shall include a copy of the instrument or application. The notice shall be delivered not later than fourteen days prior to the day the legislative authority takes formal action to adopt or enter into the instrument, or not later than fourteen days prior to the day the housing officer forwards the application to the county auditor. If the board of education comments on the instrument or application to the legislative authority or housing officer, the legislative authority or housing officer shall consider the comments. If the board of education of the city, local, ~~or~~ exempted village, or joint vocational school district so requests, the legislative authority or the housing officer shall meet in person with a representative designated by the board of education to discuss the terms of the instrument or application.

(B) The notice otherwise required to be provided to boards of education under division (A) of this section is not required if the board has adopted a resolution waiving its right to receive such notices, and that resolution remains in effect. If a board of education adopts such a resolution, the board shall cause a copy of the resolution to be certified to the legislative authority. If the board of education rescinds such a resolution, it shall certify notice of the rescission to the legislative authority. A board of education may adopt such a resolution with respect to any one or more counties, townships, or municipal corporations situated in whole or in part within the school district.

(C) If a legislative authority is required to provide notice to a city, local, or exempted village school district of its intent to grant such an exemption as required by section 5709.40, 5709.41, 5709.73, or 5709.78 of the Revised Code, the legislative authority, before adopting a resolution or ordinance

under that section, shall notify the board of education of each joint vocational school district in which the property to be exempted is located. The notice shall be delivered not later than forty-five days before the day the legislative authority adopts a resolution or ordinance under any of those sections. The content of the notice and procedures for responding to the notice are the same as required in division (A) of this section.

Sec. 5713.01. (A) Each county shall be the unit for assessing real estate for taxation purposes. The county auditor shall be the assessor of all the real estate in the auditor's county for purposes of taxation, but this section does not affect the power conferred by Chapter 5727. of the Revised Code upon the tax commissioner regarding the valuation and assessment of real property used in railroad operations.

(B) The auditor shall assess all the real estate situated in the county at its taxable value in accordance with sections 5713.03, 5713.31, and 5715.01 of the Revised Code and with the rules and methods applicable to the auditor's county adopted, prescribed, and promulgated by the tax commissioner. The auditor shall view and appraise or cause to be viewed and appraised at its true value in money, each lot or parcel of real estate, including land devoted exclusively to agricultural use, and the improvements located thereon at least once in each six-year period and the taxable values required to be derived therefrom shall be placed on the auditor's tax list and the county treasurer's duplicate for the tax year ordered by the commissioner pursuant to section 5715.34 of the Revised Code. The commissioner may grant an extension of one year or less if the commissioner finds that good cause exists for the extension. When the auditor so views and appraises, the auditor may enter each structure located thereon to determine by actual view what improvements have been made therein or additions made thereto since the next preceding valuation. The auditor shall revalue and assess at any time all or any part of the real estate in such county, including land devoted exclusively to agricultural use, where the auditor finds that the true or taxable values thereof have changed, and when a conservation easement is created under sections 5301.67 to 5301.70 of the Revised Code. The auditor may increase or decrease the true or taxable value of any lot or parcel of real estate in any township, municipal corporation, or other taxing district by an amount which will cause all real property on the tax list to be valued as required by law, or the auditor may increase or decrease the aggregate value of all real property, or any class of real property, in the county, township, municipal corporation, or other taxing district, or in any ward or other division of a municipal corporation by a per cent or amount which will cause all property to be properly valued and assessed for taxation in

accordance with Section 36, Article II, Section 2, Article XII, Ohio Constitution, this section, and sections 5713.03, 5713.31, and 5715.01 of the Revised Code.

(C) When the auditor determines to reappraise all the real estate in the county or any class thereof, when the tax commissioner orders an increase in the aggregate true or taxable value of the real estate in any taxing subdivision, or when the taxable value of real estate is increased by the application of a uniform taxable value per cent of true value pursuant to the order of the commissioner, the auditor shall advertise the completion of the reappraisal or equalization action in a newspaper of general circulation in the county once a week for the three consecutive weeks next preceding the issuance of the tax bills, or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code for the two consecutive weeks next preceding the issuance of the tax bills. When the auditor changes the true or taxable value of any individual parcels of real estate, the auditor shall notify the owner of the real estate, or the person in whose name the same stands charged on the duplicate, by mail or in person, of the changes the auditor has made in the assessments of such property. Such notice shall be given at least thirty days prior to the issuance of the tax bills. Failure to receive notice shall not invalidate any proceeding under this section.

(D) The auditor shall make the necessary abstracts from books of the auditor's office containing descriptions of real estate in such county, together with such platbooks and lists of transfers of title to land as the auditor deems necessary in the performance of the auditor's duties in valuing such property for taxation. Such abstracts, platbooks, and lists shall be in such form and detail as the tax commissioner prescribes.

(E) The auditor, with the approval of the tax commissioner, may appoint and employ such experts, deputies, clerks, or other employees as the auditor deems necessary to the performance of the auditor's duties as assessor, or, with the approval of the tax commissioner, the auditor may enter into a contract with an individual, partnership, firm, company, or corporation to do all or any part of the work; the amount to be expended in the payment of the compensation of such employees shall be fixed by the board of county commissioners. If, in the opinion of the auditor, the board of county commissioners fails to provide a sufficient amount for the compensation of such employees, the auditor may apply to the tax commissioner for an additional allowance, and the additional amount of compensation allowed by the commissioner shall be certified to the board of county commissioners, and the same shall be final. The salaries and compensation of such experts, deputies, clerks, and employees shall be paid upon the

warrant of the auditor out of the general fund or the real estate assessment fund of the county, or both. If the salaries and compensation are in whole or in part fixed by the commissioner, they shall constitute a charge against the county regardless of the amount of money in the county treasury levied or appropriated for such purposes.

(F) Any contract for goods or services related to the auditor's duties as assessor, including contracts for mapping, computers, and reproduction on any medium of any documents, records, photographs, microfiche, or magnetic tapes, but not including contracts for the professional services of an appraiser, shall be awarded pursuant to the competitive bidding procedures set forth in sections 307.86 to 307.92 of the Revised Code and shall be paid for, upon the warrant of the auditor, from the real estate assessment fund.

(G) Experts, deputies, clerks, and other employees, in addition to their other duties, shall perform such services as the auditor directs in ascertaining such facts, description, location, character, dimensions of buildings and improvements, and other circumstances reflecting upon the value of real estate as will aid the auditor in fixing its true and taxable value and, in the case of land valued in accordance with section 5713.31 of the Revised Code, its current agricultural use value. The auditor may also summon and examine any person under oath in respect to any matter pertaining to the value of any real property within the county.

Sec. 5715.17. When the county board of revision has completed its work of equalization and transmitted the returns to ~~him~~ the county auditor, the ~~county~~ auditor shall give notice by advertising in ~~two newspapers of opposite politics published in and~~ a newspaper of general circulation throughout the county that the tax returns for the current year have been revised and the valuations have been completed and are open for public inspection in ~~his~~ the auditor's office, and that complaints against any valuation or assessment, except the valuations fixed and assessments made by the department of taxation, will be heard by the board, stating in the notice the time and place of the meeting of such board. Such advertisement shall be inserted in a conspicuous place in ~~each~~ such newspaper and be published daily for ten days, ~~unless there is no daily newspaper published in and of general circulation throughout such county, in which event such advertisement shall be so published once each week for two weeks or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code.~~

The auditor shall, upon request, furnish to any person a certificate setting forth the assessment and valuation of any tract, lot, or parcel of real estate or any specific personal property, and mail the same when requested

to do so upon receipt of sufficient postage.

The auditor shall furnish notice to boards of education of school districts within the county of all hearings, and the results of such hearings, held in regard to the reduction or increasing of tax valuations in excess of one hundred thousand dollars directly affecting the revenue of such district.

Sec. 5715.23. Annually, immediately after the county board of revision has acted upon the assessments for the current year as required under section 5715.16 of the Revised Code and the county auditor has given notice by advertisement in ~~two newspapers~~ a newspaper of general circulation in the county that the valuations have been revised and are open for public inspection as provided in section 5715.17 of the Revised Code, each auditor shall make out and transmit to the tax commissioner an abstract of the real property of each taxing district in ~~his~~ the auditor's county, in which ~~he~~ the auditor shall set forth the aggregate amount and valuation of each class of real property in such county and in each taxing district therein as it appears on ~~his~~ the auditor's tax list or the statements and returns on file in ~~his~~ the auditor's office and an abstract of the current year's true value of land valued for such year under section 5713.31 of the Revised Code as it appears in the current year's agricultural land tax list.

Sec. 5715.26. (A)(1) Upon receiving the statement required by section 5715.25 of the Revised Code, the county auditor shall forthwith add to or deduct from each tract, lot, or parcel of real property or class of real property the required percentage or amount of the valuation thereof, adding or deducting any sum less than five dollars so that the value of any separate tract, lot, or parcel of real property shall be ten dollars or some multiple thereof.

(2) After making the additions or deductions required by this section, the auditor shall transmit to the tax commissioner the appropriate adjusted abstract of the real property of each taxing district in the auditor's county in which an adjustment was required.

(3) If the commissioner increases or decreases the aggregate value of the real property or any class thereof in any county or taxing district thereof and does not receive within ninety days thereafter an adjusted abstract conforming to its statement for such county or taxing district therein, the commissioner shall withhold from such county or taxing district therein fifty per cent of its share in the distribution of state revenues to local governments pursuant to sections 5747.50 to 5747.55 of the Revised Code and 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 funds until such county auditor has complied with this division, and the department shall withhold the distribution of such funds until the commissioner has notified the department that such county auditor has complied with this division.

(B)(1) If the commissioner's determination is appealed under section 5715.251 of the Revised Code, the county auditor, treasurer, and all other officers shall forthwith proceed with the levy and collection of the current year's taxes in the manner prescribed by law. The taxes shall be determined and collected as if the commissioner had determined under section 5715.24 of the Revised Code that the real property and the various classes thereof in the county as shown in the auditor's abstract were assessed for taxation and the true and agricultural use values were recorded on the agricultural land tax list as required by law.

(2) If as a result of the appeal to the board it is finally determined either that all real property and the various classes thereof have not been assessed as required by law or that the values set forth in the agricultural land tax list do not correctly reflect the true and agricultural use values of the lands contained therein, the county auditor shall forthwith add to or deduct from each tract, lot, or parcel of real property or class of real property the required percentage or amount of the valuation in accordance with the order of the board or judgment of the court to which the board's order was appealed, and the taxes on each tract, lot, or parcel and the percentages required by section 319.301 of the Revised Code shall be recomputed using the valuation as finally determined. The order or judgment making the final determination shall prescribe the time and manner for collecting, crediting, or refunding the resultant increases or decreases in taxes.

Sec. 5719.04. (A) Immediately after each settlement required by division (D) of section 321.24 of the Revised Code the county auditor shall make a tax list and duplicates thereof of all general personal and classified property taxes remaining unpaid, as shown by the county treasurer's books and the list of taxes returned as delinquent by the treasurer to the auditor at such settlement. The county auditor shall also include in such list all taxes assessed by the tax commissioner pursuant to law which were not charged upon the tax lists and duplicates on which such settlements were made nor previously charged upon a delinquent tax list and duplicates pursuant to this section, but the auditor shall not include taxes specifically excepted from collection pursuant to section 5711.32 of the Revised Code. Such tax list and duplicates shall contain the name of the person charged and the amount of such taxes, and the penalty, due and unpaid, and shall set forth separately the amount charged or chargeable on the general and on the classified list

and duplicate. The auditor shall deliver one such duplicate to the treasurer on the first day of December, annually. Upon receipt of the duplicate the treasurer may prepare and mail tax bills to all persons charged with such delinquent taxes. Each bill shall include a notice that the interest charge prescribed by section 5719.041 of the Revised Code has begun to accrue.

The auditor shall cause a copy of the delinquent personal and classified property tax list and duplicate provided for in this division to be published twice within sixty days after delivery of such duplicate to the treasurer in a newspaper ~~published in the English language in the county and of general circulation therein; provided that before~~ in the county. The newspaper shall meet the requirements of section 7.12 of the Revised Code. The auditor may publish the tax list on a pre-printed insert in the newspaper. The cost of the second publication of the list shall not exceed three-fourths of the cost of the first publication of the list.

Before such publication, the auditor shall cause a display notice of the forthcoming publication of such delinquent personal and classified property tax list to be inserted once a week for two consecutive weeks in a newspaper ~~published in the English language in the county and of general circulation therein~~ in the county. Copy for such display notice shall be furnished by the auditor to the newspaper selected to publish such delinquent tax lists simultaneously with the delivery of the duplicate to the treasurer. ~~If there is only one newspaper published in the county, such display notice and delinquent personal and classified property tax lists shall be published in it.~~ Publication of the delinquent lists may be made by a newspaper in installments, provided that complete publication thereof is made twice during said sixty-day period.

The office of the county treasurer shall be kept open to receive the payment of delinquent general and classified property taxes from the day of delivery of the duplicate thereof until the final publication of the delinquent tax list. The name of any taxpayer who prior to seven days before either the first or second publication of said list pays such taxes in full or enters into a delinquent tax contract to pay such taxes in installments pursuant to section 5719.05 of the Revised Code shall be stricken from such list, and the taxpayer's name shall not be included in the list for that publication.

The other such duplicate, from which shall first be eliminated the names of persons whose total liability for taxes and penalty is less than one hundred dollars, shall be filed by the auditor on the first day of December, annually, in the office of the county recorder, and the same shall constitute a notice of lien and operate as of the date of delivery as a lien on the lands and tenements, vested legal interests therein, and permanent leasehold estates of

each person named therein having such real estate in such county. Such notice of lien and such lien shall not be valid as against any mortgagee, pledgee, purchaser, or judgment creditor whose rights have attached prior to the date of such delivery. Such duplicate shall be kept by the recorder, designated as the personal tax lien record, and indexed under the name of the person charged with such tax. No fee shall be charged by the recorder for the services required under this section.

The auditor shall add to the tax list made pursuant to this section all such taxes omitted in a previous year when assessed by the auditor or finally assessed by the tax commissioner pursuant to law, and by proper certificates cause the same to be added to the treasurer's delinquent tax duplicate provided for in this section, and, in proper cases, file notice of the lien with the recorder, as provided in this section.

If the authority making any assessment believes that the collection of such taxes will be jeopardized by delay, such assessing authority shall so certify on the assessment certificate thereof, and the auditor shall include a certificate of such jeopardy in the certificate given by the auditor to the treasurer. In such event the treasurer shall proceed immediately to collect such taxes, and to enforce the collection thereof by any means provided by law, and the treasurer may not accept a tender of any part of such taxes; but the person or the representatives of the person against whom such assessment is made may, in the event of an appeal to the tax commissioner therefrom, obtain a stay of collection of the whole or any part of the amount of such assessment by filing with the treasurer a bond in an amount not exceeding double the amount as to which the stay is desired, with such surety as the treasurer deems necessary, conditioned upon the payment of the amount determined to be due by the decision of the commissioner which has become final, and further conditioned that if an appeal is not filed within the period provided by law, the amount of collection which is stayed by the bond will be paid on notice and demand of the treasurer at any time after the expiration of such period. The taxpayer may waive such stay as to the whole or any part of the amount covered by the bond, and if as the result of such waiver any part of the amount covered by the bond is paid, then the bond shall be proportionately reduced on the request of the taxpayer.

(B) Immediately after each settlement required by division (D) of section 321.24 of the Revised Code the auditor shall make a separate list and duplicate, prepared as prescribed in division (A) of this section, of all general personal and classified property taxes that remain unpaid but are excepted from collection pursuant to section 5711.32 of the Revised Code. The duplicate of such list shall be delivered to the treasurer at the time of

delivery of the delinquent personal and classified property tax duplicate.

Sec. 5721.01. (A) As used in this chapter:

(1) "Delinquent lands" means all lands upon which delinquent taxes, as defined in section 323.01 of the Revised Code, remain unpaid at the time a settlement is made between the county treasurer and auditor pursuant to division (C) of section 321.24 of the Revised Code.

(2) "Delinquent vacant lands" means all lands that have been delinquent lands for at least one year and that are unimproved by any dwelling.

(3) "County land reutilization corporation" means a county land reutilization corporation organized under Chapter 1724. of the Revised Code.

(B) As used in sections 5719.04, 5721.03, and 5721.31 of the Revised Code and in any other sections of the Revised Code to which those sections are applicable, a "newspaper" or "newspaper of general circulation ~~shall be a publication bearing a title or name, regularly issued as frequently as once a week for a definite price or consideration paid for by not less than fifty per cent of those to whom distribution is made, having a second class mailing privilege, being not less than four pages, published continuously during the immediately preceding one-year period, and circulated generally in the political subdivision in which it is published. Such publication shall be of a type to which the general public resorts for passing events of a political, religious, commercial, and social nature, current happenings, announcements, miscellaneous reading matter, advertisements, and other notices~~" has the same meaning as in section 7.12 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 5721.03. (A) At the time of making the delinquent land list, as provided in section 5721.011 of the Revised Code, the county auditor shall compile a delinquent tax list consisting of all lands on the delinquent land list on which taxes have become delinquent at the close of the collection period immediately preceding the making of the delinquent land list. The auditor shall also compile a delinquent vacant land tax list of all delinquent vacant lands prior to the institution of any foreclosure and forfeiture actions against delinquent vacant lands under section 5721.14 of the Revised Code or any foreclosure actions against delinquent vacant lands under section 5721.18 of the Revised Code.

The delinquent tax list, and the delinquent vacant land tax list if one is compiled, shall contain all of the information included on the delinquent land list, except that, if the auditor's records show that the name of the person in whose name the property currently is listed is not the name that appears on the delinquent land list, the name used in the delinquent tax list or the delinquent vacant land tax list shall be the name of the person the

auditor's records show as the person in whose name the property currently is listed.

Lands that have been included in a previously published delinquent tax list shall not be included in the delinquent tax list so long as taxes have remained delinquent on such lands for the entire intervening time.

In either list, there may be included lands that have been omitted in error from a prior list and lands with respect to which the auditor has received a certification that a delinquent tax contract has become void since the publication of the last previously published list, provided the name of the owner was stricken from a prior list under section 5721.02 of the Revised Code.

(B)(1) The auditor shall cause the delinquent tax list and the delinquent vacant land tax list, if one is compiled, to be published twice within sixty days after the delivery of the delinquent land duplicate to the county treasurer, in a newspaper of general circulation in the county. The newspaper shall meet the requirements of section 7.12 of the Revised Code. The publication shall be printed in the English language auditor may publish the list or lists on a pre-printed insert in the newspaper. The cost of the second publication of the list or lists shall not exceed three-fourths of the cost of the first publication of the list or lists.

The auditor shall insert display notices of the forthcoming publication of the delinquent tax list and, if it is to be published, the delinquent vacant land tax list once a week for two consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the county. The display notices shall contain the times and methods of payment of taxes provided by law, including information concerning installment payments made in accordance with a written delinquent tax contract. The display notice for the delinquent tax list also shall include a notice that an interest charge will accrue on accounts remaining unpaid after the last day of November unless the taxpayer enters into a written delinquent tax contract to pay such taxes in installments. The display notice for the delinquent vacant land tax list if it is to be published also shall include a notice that delinquent vacant lands in the list are lands on which taxes have remained unpaid for one year after being certified delinquent, and that they are subject to foreclosure proceedings as provided in section 323.25, sections 323.65 to 323.79, or section 5721.18 of the Revised Code, or foreclosure and forfeiture proceedings as provided in section 5721.14 of the Revised Code. Each display notice also shall state that the lands are subject to a tax certificate sale under section 5721.32 or 5721.33 of the Revised Code or assignment to a county land reutilization corporation, as the case may be, and shall include any other information that

the auditor considers pertinent to the purpose of the notice. The display notices shall be furnished by the auditor to the ~~newspapers~~ newspaper selected to publish the lists at least ten days before their first publication.

(2) Publication of the list or lists may be made by a newspaper in installments, provided the complete publication of each list is made twice during the sixty-day period.

(3) There shall be attached to the delinquent tax list a notice that the delinquent lands will be certified for foreclosure by the auditor unless the taxes, assessments, interest, and penalties due and owing on them are paid. There shall be attached to the delinquent vacant land tax list, if it is to be published, a notice that delinquent vacant lands will be certified for foreclosure or foreclosure and forfeiture by the auditor unless the taxes, assessments, interest, and penalties due and owing on them are paid within twenty-eight days after the final publication of the notice.

(4) The auditor shall review the first publication of each list for accuracy and completeness and may correct any errors appearing in the list in the second publication.

(C) For the purposes of section 5721.18 of the Revised Code, land is first certified delinquent on the date of the certification of the delinquent land list containing that land.

Sec. 5721.04. The proper and necessary expenses of publishing the delinquent tax lists, delinquent vacant land tax lists, and display notices provided for by sections 5719.04 and 5721.03 of the Revised Code shall be paid from the county treasury as county expenses are paid, and the board of county commissioners shall make provision for them in the annual budget of the county submitted to the budget commission, and shall make the necessary appropriations. If the board fails to make such appropriations, or if an appropriation is insufficient to meet such an expense, any person interested may apply to the court of common pleas of the county for an allowance to cover the expense, and the court shall issue an order instructing the county auditor to issue ~~his~~ a warrant upon the county treasurer for the amount necessary. The order by the court shall be final and shall be complied with immediately.

The aggregate amount paid ~~shall~~ for publication may be apportioned by the county auditor among the taxing districts in which the lands on each list are located in proportion to the amount of delinquent taxes so advertised in such subdivision, or the county auditor may charge the property owner of land on a list a flat fee established under section 319.54 of the Revised Code for the cost of publishing the list and, if the fee is not paid, may place the fee upon the tax duplicate as a lien on the land, to be collected as other taxes.

Thereafter, the auditor, in making ~~his~~ the auditor's semiannual apportionment of funds, shall retain at each semiannual apportionment one half the amount apportioned to each such taxing district. The amounts retained shall be credited to the general fund of the county until the aggregate of all amounts paid in the first instance out of the treasury have been fully reimbursed.

Sec. 5721.18. The county prosecuting attorney, upon the delivery to the prosecuting attorney by the county auditor of a delinquent land or delinquent vacant land tax certificate, or of a master list of delinquent or delinquent vacant tracts, shall institute a foreclosure proceeding under this section in the name of the county treasurer to foreclose the lien of the state, in any court with jurisdiction or in the county board of revision with jurisdiction pursuant to section 323.66 of the Revised Code, unless the taxes, assessments, charges, penalties, and interest are paid prior to the time a complaint is filed, or unless a foreclosure or foreclosure and forfeiture action has been or will be instituted under section 323.25, sections 323.65 to 323.79, or section 5721.14 of the Revised Code. If the delinquent land or delinquent vacant land tax certificate or the master list of delinquent or delinquent vacant tracts lists minerals or rights to minerals listed pursuant to sections 5713.04, 5713.05, and 5713.06 of the Revised Code, the county prosecuting attorney may institute a foreclosure proceeding in the name of the county treasurer, in any court with jurisdiction, to foreclose the lien of the state against such minerals or rights to minerals, unless the taxes, assessments, charges, penalties, and interest are paid prior to the time the complaint is filed, or unless a foreclosure or foreclosure and forfeiture action has been or will be instituted under section 323.25, sections 323.65 to 323.79, or section 5721.14 of the Revised Code.

The prosecuting attorney shall prosecute the proceeding to final judgment and satisfaction. Within ten days after obtaining a judgment, the prosecuting attorney shall notify the treasurer in writing that judgment has been rendered. If there is a copy of a written delinquent tax contract attached to the certificate or an asterisk next to an entry on the master list, or if a copy of a delinquent tax contract is received from the auditor prior to the commencement of the proceeding under this section, the prosecuting attorney shall not institute the proceeding under this section, unless the prosecuting attorney receives a certification of the treasurer that the delinquent tax contract has become void.

(A) This division applies to all foreclosure proceedings not instituted and prosecuted under section 323.25 of the Revised Code or division (B) or (C) of this section. The foreclosure proceedings shall be instituted and

prosecuted in the same manner as is provided by law for the foreclosure of mortgages on land, except that, if service by publication is necessary, such publication shall be made once a week for three consecutive weeks instead of as provided by the Rules of Civil Procedure, and the service shall be complete at the expiration of three weeks after the date of the first publication. In any proceeding prosecuted under this section, if the prosecuting attorney determines that service upon a defendant may be obtained ultimately only by publication, the prosecuting attorney may cause service to be made simultaneously by certified mail, return receipt requested, ordinary mail, and publication.

In any county that has adopted a permanent parcel number system, the parcel may be described in the notice by parcel number only, instead of also with a complete legal description, if the prosecuting attorney determines that the publication of the complete legal description is not necessary to provide reasonable notice of the foreclosure proceeding to the interested parties. If the complete legal description is not published, the notice shall indicate where the complete legal description may be obtained.

It is sufficient, having been made a proper party to the foreclosure proceeding, for the treasurer to allege in the treasurer's complaint that the certificate or master list has been duly filed by the auditor, that the amount of money appearing to be due and unpaid is due and unpaid, and that there is a lien against the property described in the certificate or master list, without setting forth in the complaint any other or special matter relating to the foreclosure proceeding. The prayer of the complaint shall be that the court or the county board of revision with jurisdiction pursuant to section 323.66 of the Revised Code issue an order that the property be sold or conveyed by the sheriff or otherwise be disposed of, and the equity of redemption be extinguished, according to the alternative redemption procedures prescribed in sections 323.65 to 323.79 of the Revised Code, or if the action is in the municipal court by the bailiff, in the manner provided in section 5721.19 of the Revised Code.

In the foreclosure proceeding, the treasurer may join in one action any number of lots or lands, but the decree shall be rendered separately, and any proceedings may be severed, in the discretion of the court or board of revision, for the purpose of trial or appeal, and the court or board of revision shall make such order for the payment of costs as is considered proper. The certificate or master list filed by the auditor with the prosecuting attorney is prima-facie evidence at the trial of the foreclosure action of the amount and validity of the taxes, assessments, charges, penalties, and interest appearing due and unpaid and of their nonpayment.

(B) Foreclosure proceedings constituting an action in rem may be commenced by the filing of a complaint after the end of the second year from the date on which the delinquency was first certified by the auditor. Prior to filing such an action in rem, the prosecuting attorney shall cause a title search to be conducted for the purpose of identifying any lienholders or other persons with interests in the property subject to foreclosure. Following the title search, the action in rem shall be instituted by filing in the office of the clerk of a court with jurisdiction a complaint bearing a caption substantially in the form set forth in division (A) of section 5721.181 of the Revised Code.

Any number of parcels may be joined in one action. Each separate parcel included in a complaint shall be given a serial number and shall be separately indexed and docketed by the clerk of the court in a book kept by the clerk for such purpose. A complaint shall contain the permanent parcel number of each parcel included in it, the full street address of the parcel when available, a description of the parcel as set forth in the certificate or master list, the name and address of the last known owner of the parcel if they appear on the general tax list, the name and address of each lienholder and other person with an interest in the parcel identified in the title search relating to the parcel that is required by this division, and the amount of taxes, assessments, charges, penalties, and interest due and unpaid with respect to the parcel. It is sufficient for the treasurer to allege in the complaint that the certificate or master list has been duly filed by the auditor with respect to each parcel listed, that the amount of money with respect to each parcel appearing to be due and unpaid is due and unpaid, and that there is a lien against each parcel, without setting forth any other or special matters. The prayer of the complaint shall be that the court issue an order that the land described in the complaint be sold in the manner provided in section 5721.19 of the Revised Code.

(1) Within thirty days after the filing of a complaint, the clerk of the court in which the complaint was filed shall cause a notice of foreclosure substantially in the form of the notice set forth in division (B) of section 5721.181 of the Revised Code to be published once a week for three consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the county. The newspaper shall meet the requirements of section 7.12 of the Revised Code. In any county that has adopted a permanent parcel number system, the parcel may be described in the notice by parcel number only, instead of also with a complete legal description, if the prosecuting attorney determines that the publication of the complete legal description is not necessary to provide reasonable notice of the foreclosure proceeding to the interested parties. If

the complete legal description is not published, the notice shall indicate where the complete legal description may be obtained.

After the third publication, the publisher shall file with the clerk of the court an affidavit stating the fact of the publication and including a copy of the notice of foreclosure as published. Service of process for purposes of the action in rem shall be considered as complete on the date of the last publication.

Within thirty days after the filing of a complaint and before the final date of publication of the notice of foreclosure, the clerk of the court also shall cause a copy of a notice substantially in the form of the notice set forth in division (C) of section 5721.181 of the Revised Code to be mailed by certified mail, with postage prepaid, to each person named in the complaint as being the last known owner of a parcel included in it, or as being a lienholder or other person with an interest in a parcel included in it. The notice shall be sent to the address of each such person, as set forth in the complaint, and the clerk shall enter the fact of such mailing upon the appearance docket. If the name and address of the last known owner of a parcel included in a complaint is not set forth in it, the auditor shall file an affidavit with the clerk stating that the name and address of the last known owner does not appear on the general tax list.

(2)(a) An answer may be filed in an action in rem under this division by any person owning or claiming any right, title, or interest in, or lien upon, any parcel described in the complaint. The answer shall contain the caption and number of the action and the serial number of the parcel concerned. The answer shall set forth the nature and amount of interest claimed in the parcel and any defense or objection to the foreclosure of the lien of the state for delinquent taxes, assessments, charges, penalties, and interest as shown in the complaint. The answer shall be filed in the office of the clerk of the court, and a copy of the answer shall be served on the prosecuting attorney, not later than twenty-eight days after the date of final publication of the notice of foreclosure. If an answer is not filed within such time, a default judgment may be taken as to any parcel included in a complaint as to which no answer has been filed. A default judgment is valid and effective with respect to all persons owning or claiming any right, title, or interest in, or lien upon, any such parcel, notwithstanding that one or more of such persons are minors, incompetents, absentees or nonresidents of the state, or convicts in confinement.

(b)(i) A receiver appointed pursuant to divisions (C)(2) and (3) of section 3767.41 of the Revised Code may file an answer pursuant to division (B)(2)(a) of this section, but is not required to do so as a condition of

receiving proceeds in a distribution under division (B)(1) of section 5721.17 of the Revised Code.

(ii) When a receivership under section 3767.41 of the Revised Code is associated with a parcel, the notice of foreclosure set forth in division (B) of section 5721.181 of the Revised Code and the notice set forth in division (C) of that section shall be modified to reflect the provisions of division (B)(2)(b)(i) of this section.

(3) At the trial of an action in rem under this division, the certificate or master list filed by the auditor with the prosecuting attorney shall be prima-facie evidence of the amount and validity of the taxes, assessments, charges, penalties, and interest appearing due and unpaid on the parcel to which the certificate or master list relates and their nonpayment. If an answer is properly filed, the court may, in its discretion, and shall, at the request of the person filing the answer, grant a severance of the proceedings as to any parcel described in such answer for purposes of trial or appeal.

(C) In addition to the actions in rem authorized under division (B) of this section and section 5721.14 of the Revised Code, an action in rem may be commenced under this division. An action commenced under this division shall conform to all of the requirements of division (B) of this section except as follows:

(1) The prosecuting attorney shall not cause a title search to be conducted for the purpose of identifying any lienholders or other persons with interests in the property subject to foreclosure, except that the prosecuting attorney shall cause a title search to be conducted to identify any receiver's lien.

(2) The names and addresses of lienholders and persons with an interest in the parcel shall not be contained in the complaint, and notice shall not be mailed to lienholders and persons with an interest as provided in division (B)(1) of this section, except that the name and address of a receiver under section 3767.41 of the Revised Code shall be contained in the complaint and notice shall be mailed to the receiver.

(3) With respect to the forms applicable to actions commenced under division (B) of this section and contained in section 5721.181 of the Revised Code:

(a) The notice of foreclosure prescribed by division (B) of section 5721.181 of the Revised Code shall be revised to exclude any reference to the inclusion of the name and address of each lienholder and other person with an interest in the parcel identified in a statutorily required title search relating to the parcel, and to exclude any such names and addresses from the published notice, except that the revised notice shall refer to the inclusion of

the name and address of a receiver under section 3767.41 of the Revised Code and the published notice shall include the receiver's name and address. The notice of foreclosure also shall include the following in boldface type:

"If pursuant to the action the parcel is sold, the sale shall not affect or extinguish any lien or encumbrance with respect to the parcel other than a receiver's lien and other than the lien for land taxes, assessments, charges, interest, and penalties for which the lien is foreclosed and in satisfaction of which the property is sold. All other liens and encumbrances with respect to the parcel shall survive the sale."

(b) The notice to the owner, lienholders, and other persons with an interest in a parcel shall be a notice only to the owner and to any receiver under section 3767.41 of the Revised Code, and the last two sentences of the notice shall be omitted.

(4) As used in this division, a "receiver's lien" means the lien of a receiver appointed pursuant to divisions (C)(2) and (3) of section 3767.41 of the Revised Code that is acquired pursuant to division (H)(2)(b) of that section for any unreimbursed expenses and other amounts paid in accordance with division (F) of that section by the receiver and for the fees of the receiver approved pursuant to division (H)(1) of that section.

(D) If the prosecuting attorney determines that an action in rem under division (B) or (C) of this section is precluded by law, then foreclosure proceedings shall be filed pursuant to division (A) of this section, and the complaint in the action in personam shall set forth the grounds upon which the action in rem is precluded.

(E) The conveyance by the owner of any parcel against which a complaint has been filed pursuant to this section at any time after the date of publication of the parcel on the delinquent tax list but before the date of a judgment of foreclosure pursuant to section 5721.19 of the Revised Code shall not nullify the right of the county to proceed with the foreclosure.

Sec. 5721.19. (A) In its judgment of foreclosure rendered with respect to actions filed pursuant to section 5721.18 of the Revised Code, the court or the county board of revision with jurisdiction pursuant to section 323.66 of the Revised Code shall enter a finding with respect to each parcel of the amount of the taxes, assessments, charges, penalties, and interest, and the costs incurred in the foreclosure proceeding instituted against it, that are due and unpaid. The court or the county board of revision shall order such premises to be transferred pursuant to division (I) of this section or may order each parcel to be sold, without appraisal, for not less than either of the following:

(1) The fair market value of the parcel, as determined by the county

auditor, plus the costs incurred in the foreclosure proceeding;

(2) The total amount of the finding entered by the court or the county board of revision, including all taxes, assessments, charges, penalties, and interest payable subsequent to the delivery to the county prosecuting attorney of the delinquent land tax certificate or master list of delinquent tracts and prior to the transfer of the deed of the parcel to the purchaser following confirmation of sale, plus the costs incurred in the foreclosure proceeding. For purposes of determining such amount, the county treasurer may estimate the amount of taxes, assessments, interest, penalties, and costs that will be payable at the time the deed of the property is transferred to the purchaser.

Notwithstanding the minimum sales price provisions of divisions (A)(1) and (2) of this section to the contrary, a parcel sold pursuant to this section shall not be sold for less than the amount described in division (A)(2) of this section if the highest bidder is the owner of record of the parcel immediately prior to the judgment of foreclosure or a member of the following class of parties connected to that owner: a member of that owner's immediate family, a person with a power of attorney appointed by that owner who subsequently transfers the parcel to the owner, a sole proprietorship owned by that owner or a member of that owner's immediate family, or a partnership, trust, business trust, corporation, or association in which the owner or a member of the owner's immediate family owns or controls directly or indirectly more than fifty per cent. If a parcel sells for less than the amount described in division (A)(2) of this section, the officer conducting the sale shall require the buyer to complete an affidavit stating that the buyer is not the owner of record immediately prior to the judgment of foreclosure or a member of the specified class of parties connected to that owner, and the affidavit shall become part of the court records of the proceeding. If the county auditor discovers within three years after the date of the sale that a parcel was sold to that owner or a member of the specified class of parties connected to that owner for a price less than the amount so described, and if the parcel is still owned by that owner or a member of the specified class of parties connected to that owner, the auditor within thirty days after such discovery shall add the difference between that amount and the sale price to the amount of taxes that then stand charged against the parcel and is payable at the next succeeding date for payment of real property taxes. As used in this paragraph, "immediate family" means a spouse who resides in the same household and children.

(B) Each parcel affected by the court's finding and order of sale shall be separately sold, unless the court orders any of such parcels to be sold

together.

Each parcel shall be advertised and sold by the officer to whom the order of sale is directed in the manner provided by law for the sale of real property on execution. The advertisement for sale of each parcel shall be published once a week for three consecutive weeks and shall include the date on which a second sale will be conducted if no bid is accepted at the first sale. Any number of parcels may be included in one advertisement.

The notice of the advertisement shall be substantially in the form of the notice set forth in section 5721.191 of the Revised Code. In any county that has adopted a permanent parcel number system, the parcel may be described in the notice by parcel number only, instead of also with a complete legal description, if the prosecuting attorney determines that the publication of the complete legal description is not necessary to provide reasonable notice of the foreclosure sale to potential bidders. If the complete legal description is not published, the notice shall indicate where the complete legal description may be obtained.

(C)(1) Whenever the officer charged to conduct the sale offers any parcel for sale the officer first shall read aloud a complete legal description of the parcel, or in the alternative, may read aloud only a summary description, including the complete street address of the parcel, if any, and a parcel number if the county has adopted a permanent parcel number system and if the advertising notice prepared pursuant to this section includes a complete legal description or indicates where the complete legal description may be obtained. Whenever the officer charged to conduct the sale offers any parcel for sale and no bids are made equal to the lesser of the amounts described in divisions (A)(1) and (2) of this section, the officer shall adjourn the sale of the parcel to the second date that was specified in the advertisement of sale. The second date shall be not less than two weeks or more than six weeks from the day on which the parcel was first offered for sale. The second sale shall be held at the same place and commence at the same time as set forth in the advertisement of sale. The officer shall offer any parcel not sold at the first sale. Upon the conclusion of any sale, or if any parcel remains unsold after being offered at two sales, the officer conducting the sale shall report the results to the court.

(2)(a) If a parcel remains unsold after being offered at two sales, or one sale in the case of abandoned lands foreclosed under sections 323.65 to 323.79 of the Revised Code, or if a parcel sells at any sale but the amount of the price is less than the costs incurred in the proceeding instituted against the parcel under section 5721.18 of the Revised Code, then the clerk of the court shall certify to the county auditor the amount of those costs that

remains unpaid. At the next semiannual apportionment of real property taxes that occurs following any such certification, the auditor shall reduce the real property taxes that the auditor otherwise would distribute to each taxing district. In making the reductions, the auditor shall subtract from the otherwise distributable real property taxes to a taxing district an amount that shall be determined by multiplying the certified costs by a fraction the numerator of which shall be the amount of the taxes, assessments, charges, penalties, and interest on the parcel owed to that taxing district at the time the parcel first was offered for sale pursuant to this section, and the denominator of which shall be the total of the taxes, assessments, charges, penalties, and interest on the parcel owed to all the taxing districts at that time. The auditor promptly shall pay to the clerk of the court the amounts of the reductions.

(b) If reductions occur pursuant to division (C)(2)(a) of this section, and if at a subsequent time a parcel is sold at a foreclosure sale or a forfeiture sale pursuant to Chapter 5723. of the Revised Code, then, notwithstanding other provisions of the Revised Code, except section 5721.17 of the Revised Code, governing the distribution of the proceeds of a foreclosure or forfeiture sale, the proceeds first shall be distributed to reimburse the taxing districts subjected to reductions in their otherwise distributable real property taxes. The distributions shall be based on the same proportions used for purposes of division (C)(2)(a) of this section.

(3) The court, in its discretion, may order any parcel not sold pursuant to the original order of sale to be advertised and offered for sale at a subsequent foreclosure sale. For such purpose, the court may direct the parcel to be appraised and fix a minimum price for which it may be sold.

(D) Except as otherwise provided in division (B)(1) of section 5721.17 of the Revised Code, upon the confirmation of a sale, the proceeds of the sale shall be applied as follows:

(1) The costs incurred in any proceeding filed against the parcel pursuant to section 5721.18 of the Revised Code shall be paid first.

(2) Following the payment required by division (D)(1) of this section, the part of the proceeds that is equal to five per cent of the taxes and assessments due shall be deposited in equal shares into each of the delinquent tax and assessment collection ~~fund~~ funds created pursuant to section 321.261 of the Revised Code. If a county land reutilization corporation is operating in the county, the board of county commissioners, by resolution, may provide that an additional amount, not to exceed five per cent of such taxes and assessments, shall be credited to the county land reutilization corporation fund created by section 321.263 of the Revised

Code to pay for the corporation's expenses. If such a resolution is in effect, the percentage of such taxes and assessments so provided shall be credited to that fund.

(3) Following the payment required by division (D)(2) of this section, the amount found due for taxes, assessments, charges, penalties, and interest shall be paid, including all taxes, assessments, charges, penalties, and interest payable subsequent to the delivery to the county prosecuting attorney of the delinquent land tax certificate or master list of delinquent tracts and prior to the transfer of the deed of the parcel to the purchaser following confirmation of sale. If the proceeds available for distribution pursuant to division (D)(3) of this section are sufficient to pay the entire amount of those taxes, assessments, charges, penalties, and interest, the portion of the proceeds representing taxes, interest, and penalties shall be paid to each claimant in proportion to the amount of taxes levied by the claimant in the preceding tax year, and the amount representing assessments and other charges shall be paid to each claimant in the order in which they became due. If the proceeds are not sufficient to pay that entire amount, the proportion of the proceeds representing taxes, penalties, and interest shall be paid to each claimant in the same proportion that the amount of taxes levied by the claimant against the parcel in the preceding tax year bears to the taxes levied by all such claimants against the parcel in the preceding tax year, and the proportion of the proceeds representing items of assessments and other charges shall be credited to those items in the order in which they became due.

(E) If the proceeds from the sale of a parcel are insufficient to pay in full the amount of the taxes, assessments, charges, penalties, and interest which are due and unpaid; the costs incurred in the foreclosure proceeding instituted against it which are due and unpaid; and, if division (B)(1) of section 5721.17 of the Revised Code is applicable, any notes issued by a receiver pursuant to division (F) of section 3767.41 of the Revised Code and any receiver's lien as defined in division (C)(4) of section 5721.18 of the Revised Code, the court, pursuant to section 5721.192 of the Revised Code, may enter a deficiency judgment against the owner of record of the parcel for the unpaid amount. If that owner of record is a corporation, the court may enter the deficiency judgment against the stockholder holding a majority of that corporation's stock.

If after distribution of proceeds from the sale of the parcel under division (D) of this section the amount of proceeds to be applied to pay the taxes, assessments, charges, penalties, interest, and costs is insufficient to pay them in full, and the court does not enter a deficiency judgment against

the owner of record pursuant to this division, the taxes, assessments, charges, penalties, interest, and costs shall be deemed satisfied.

(F)(1) Upon confirmation of a sale, a spouse of the party charged with the delinquent taxes or assessments shall thereby be barred of the right of dower in the property sold, though such spouse was not a party to the action. No statute of limitations shall apply to such action. When the land or lots stand charged on the tax duplicate as certified delinquent, it is not necessary to make the state a party to the foreclosure proceeding, but the state shall be deemed a party to such action through and be represented by the county treasurer.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in divisions (F)(3) and (G) of this section, unless such land or lots were previously redeemed pursuant to section 5721.25 of the Revised Code, upon the filing of the entry of confirmation of any sale or the expiration of the alternative redemption period as defined in section 323.65 of the Revised Code, if applicable, the title to such land or lots shall be incontestable in the purchaser and shall be free and clear of all liens and encumbrances, except a federal tax lien notice of which is properly filed in accordance with section 317.09 of the Revised Code prior to the date that a foreclosure proceeding is instituted pursuant to division (B) of section 5721.18 of the Revised Code and the easements and covenants of record running with the land or lots that were created prior to the time the taxes or assessments, for the nonpayment of which the land or lots are sold at foreclosure, became due and payable.

(3) When proceedings for foreclosure are instituted under division (C) of section 5721.18 of the Revised Code, unless the land or lots were previously redeemed pursuant to section 5721.25 of the Revised Code or before the expiration of the alternative redemption period, upon the filing of the entry of confirmation of sale or after the expiration of the alternative redemption period, as may apply to the case, the title to such land or lots shall be incontestable in the purchaser and shall be free of any receiver's lien as defined in division (C)(4) of section 5721.18 of the Revised Code and, except as otherwise provided in division (G) of this section, the liens for land taxes, assessments, charges, interest, and penalties for which the lien was foreclosed and in satisfaction of which the property was sold. All other liens and encumbrances with respect to the land or lots shall survive the sale.

(4) The title shall not be invalid because of any irregularity, informality, or omission of any proceedings under this chapter, or in any processes of taxation, if such irregularity, informality, or omission does not abrogate the provision for notice to holders of title, lien, or mortgage to, or other interests

in, such foreclosed lands or lots, as prescribed in this chapter.

(G) If a parcel is sold under this section for the amount described in division (A)(2) of this section, and the county treasurer's estimate exceeds the amount of taxes, assessments, interest, penalties, and costs actually payable when the deed is transferred to the purchaser, the officer who conducted the sale shall refund to the purchaser the difference between the estimate and the amount actually payable. If the amount of taxes, assessments, interest, penalties, and costs actually payable when the deed is transferred to the purchaser exceeds the county treasurer's estimate, the officer shall certify the amount of the excess to the treasurer, who shall enter that amount on the real and public utility property tax duplicate opposite the property; the amount of the excess shall be payable at the next succeeding date prescribed for payment of taxes in section 323.12 of the Revised Code.

(H) If a parcel is sold or transferred under this section or sections 323.28 and 323.65 to 323.78 of the Revised Code, the officer who conducted the sale or made the transfer of the property shall collect the recording fee and any associated costs to cover the recording from the purchaser or transferee at the time of the sale or transfer and, following confirmation of the sale or transfer, shall execute and record the deed conveying title to the parcel to the purchaser or transferee. For purposes of recording such deed, by placement of a bid or making a statement of interest by any party ultimately awarded the parcel, that purchaser or transferee thereby appoints the officer who makes the sale or is charged with executing and delivering the deed as agent for the purchaser or transferee for the sole purpose of accepting delivery of the deed. For such purposes, the confirmation of any such sale or order to transfer the parcel without appraisal or sale shall be deemed delivered upon the confirmation of such sale or transfer.

(I) Notwithstanding section 5722.03 of the Revised Code, if the complaint alleges that the property is delinquent vacant land as defined in section 5721.01 of the Revised Code, abandoned lands as defined in section 323.65 of the Revised Code, or lands described in division (E) of section 5722.01 of the Revised Code, and the value of the taxes, assessments, penalties, interest, and all other charges and costs of the action exceed the auditor's fair market value of the parcel, then the court or board of revision having jurisdiction over the matter on motion of the plaintiff, or on the court's or board's own motion, shall, upon any adjudication of foreclosure, order, without appraisal and without sale, the fee simple title of the property to be transferred to and vested in an electing subdivision as defined in division (A) of section 5722.01 of the Revised Code. For purposes of determining whether the taxes, assessments, penalties, interest, and all other

charges and costs of the action exceed the actual fair market value of the parcel, the auditor's most current valuation shall be rebuttably presumed to be, and constitute prima-facie evidence of, the fair market value of the parcel. In such case, the filing for journalization of a decree of foreclosure ordering that direct transfer without appraisal or sale shall constitute confirmation of the transfer and thereby terminate any further statutory or common law right of redemption.

Sec. 5721.30. As used in sections 5721.30 to 5721.43 of the Revised Code:

(A) "Tax certificate," "certificate," or "duplicate certificate" means a document that may be issued as a physical certificate, in book-entry form, or through an electronic medium, at the discretion of the county treasurer. Such document shall contain the information required by section 5721.31 of the Revised Code and shall be prepared, transferred, or redeemed in the manner prescribed by sections 5721.30 to 5721.43 of the Revised Code. As used in those sections, "tax certificate," "certificate," and "duplicate certificate" do not refer to the delinquent land tax certificate or the delinquent vacant land tax certificate issued under section 5721.13 of the Revised Code.

(B) "Certificate parcel" means the parcel of delinquent land that is the subject of and is described in a tax certificate.

(C) "Certificate holder" means a person, including a county land reutilization corporation, that purchases or otherwise acquires a tax certificate under section 5721.32, 5721.33, or 5721.42 of the Revised Code, or a person to whom a tax certificate has been transferred pursuant to section 5721.36 of the Revised Code.

(D) "Certificate purchase price" means, with respect to the sale of tax certificates under sections 5721.32, 5721.33, and 5721.42 of the Revised Code, the amount equal to delinquent taxes charged against a certificate parcel at the time the tax certificate respecting that parcel is sold or transferred, not including any delinquent taxes the lien for which has been conveyed to a certificate holder through a prior sale of a tax certificate respecting that parcel. Payment of the certificate purchase price in a sale under section 5721.33 of the Revised Code may be made wholly in cash or partially in cash and partially by noncash consideration acceptable to the county treasurer from the purchaser, and, in the case of a county land reutilization corporation, with notes. In the event that any such noncash consideration is delivered to pay a portion of the certificate purchase price, such noncash consideration may be subordinate to the rights of the holders of other obligations whose proceeds paid the cash portion of the certificate purchase price.

"Certificate purchase price" also includes the amount of the fee charged by the county treasurer to the purchaser of the certificate under division (H) of section 5721.32 of the Revised Code.

(E)(1) With respect to a sale of tax certificates under section 5721.32 of the Revised Code, and except as provided in division (E)(2) of this section, "certificate redemption price" means the certificate purchase price plus the greater of the following:

(a) Simple interest, at the certificate rate of interest, accruing during the certificate interest period on the certificate purchase price, calculated in accordance with section 5721.41 of the Revised Code;

(b) Six per cent of the certificate purchase price.

(2) If the certificate rate of interest equals zero, the certificate redemption price equals the certificate purchase price plus the fee charged by the county treasurer to the purchaser of the certificate under division (H) of section 5721.32 of the Revised Code.

(F) With respect to a sale or transfer of tax certificates under section 5721.33 of the Revised Code, "certificate redemption price" means the amount equal to the sum of the following:

(1) The certificate purchase price;

(2) Interest accrued on the certificate purchase price at the certificate rate of interest from the date on which a tax certificate is delivered through and including the day immediately preceding the day on which the certificate redemption price is paid;

(3) The fee, if any, charged by the county treasurer to the purchaser of the certificate under division (J) of section 5721.33 of the Revised Code;

(4) Any other fees charged by any county office in connection with the recording of tax certificates.

(G) "Certificate rate of interest" means the rate of simple interest per year bid by the winning bidder in an auction of a tax certificate held under section 5721.32 of the Revised Code, or the rate of simple interest per year not to exceed eighteen per cent per year fixed pursuant to section 5721.42 of the Revised Code or by the county treasurer with respect to any tax certificate sold or transferred pursuant to a negotiated sale under section 5721.33 of the Revised Code. The certificate rate of interest shall not be less than zero per cent per year.

(H) "Cash" means United States currency, certified checks, money orders, bank drafts, electronic transfer of funds, or other forms of payment authorized by the county treasurer, and excludes any other form of payment not so authorized.

(I) "The date on which a tax certificate is sold or transferred," "the date

the certificate was sold or transferred," "the date the certificate is purchased," and any other phrase of similar content mean, with respect to a sale pursuant to an auction under section 5721.32 of the Revised Code, the date designated by the county treasurer for the submission of bids and, with respect to a negotiated sale or transfer under section 5721.33 of the Revised Code, the date of delivery of the tax certificates to the purchasers thereof pursuant to a tax certificate sale/purchase agreement.

(J) "Certificate interest period" means, with respect to a tax certificate sold under section 5721.32 or 5721.42 of the Revised Code and for the purpose of accruing interest under section 5721.41 of the Revised Code, the period beginning on the date on which the certificate is purchased and, with respect to a tax certificate sold or transferred under section 5721.33 of the Revised Code, the period beginning on the date of delivery of the tax certificate, and in either case ending on one of the following dates:

(1) The date the certificate holder files a request for foreclosure or notice of intent to foreclose under division (A) of section 5721.37 of the Revised Code and submits the payment required under division (B) of that section;

(2) The date the owner of record of the certificate parcel, or any other person entitled to redeem that parcel, redeems the certificate parcel under division (A) or (C) of section 5721.38 of the Revised Code or redeems the certificate under section 5721.381 of the Revised Code.

(K) "Qualified trustee" means a trust company within the state or a bank having the power of a trust company within the state with a combined capital stock, surplus, and undivided profits of at least one hundred million dollars.

(L) "Tax certificate sale/purchase agreement" means the purchase and sale agreement described in division (C) of section 5721.33 of the Revised Code setting forth the certificate purchase price, plus any applicable premium or less any applicable discount, including, without limitation, the amount to be paid in cash and the amount and nature of any noncash consideration, the date of delivery of the tax certificates, and the other terms and conditions of the sale, including, without limitation, the rate of interest that the tax certificates shall bear.

(M) "Noncash consideration" means any form of consideration other than cash, including, but not limited to, promissory notes whether subordinate or otherwise.

(N) "Private attorney" means any attorney licensed to practice law in this state whose license has not been revoked and is not currently suspended, and who is retained to bring foreclosure proceedings pursuant to section

5721.37 of the Revised Code on behalf of a certificate holder.

(O) "Related certificate parcel" means, with respect to a certificate holder, the certificate parcel with respect to which the certificate holder has purchased and holds a tax certificate pursuant to sections 5721.30 to 5721.43 of the Revised Code and, with respect to a tax certificate, the certificate parcel against which the tax certificate has been sold pursuant to those sections.

(P) "Delinquent taxes" means delinquent taxes as defined in section 323.01 of the Revised Code and includes assessments and charges, and penalties and interest computed under section 323.121 of the Revised Code.

(Q) "Certificate period" means the period of time after the sale or delivery of a tax certificate within which a certificate holder must initiate an action to foreclose the tax lien represented by the certificate as specified under division (A) of section 5721.32 of the Revised Code or as negotiated under section 5721.33 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 5721.31. (A)(1) After receipt of a duplicate of the delinquent land list compiled under section 5721.011 of the Revised Code, or a delinquent land list compiled previously under that section, the county treasurer may select from the list parcels of delinquent land the lien against which the county treasurer may attempt to transfer by the sale of tax certificates under sections 5721.30 to 5721.43 of the Revised Code. None of the following parcels may be selected for a tax certificate sale:

(a) A parcel for which the full amount of taxes, assessments, penalties, interest, and charges have been paid;

(b) A parcel for which a valid contract under section 323.122, 323.31, or 5713.20 of the Revised Code is in force;

(c) A parcel the owner of which has filed a petition in bankruptcy, so long as the parcel is property of the bankruptcy estate.

(2) The county treasurer shall compile a separate list of parcels selected for tax certificate sales, including the same information as is required to be included in the delinquent land list.

Upon compiling the list of parcels selected for tax certificate sales, the county treasurer may conduct a title search for any parcel on the list.

(B)(1) Except as otherwise provided in division (B)(3) of this section, when tax certificates are to be sold under section 5721.32 of the Revised Code with respect to parcels, the county treasurer shall send written notice by certified mail to either the owner of record or all interested parties discoverable through a title search, or both, of each parcel on the list. A notice to an owner shall be sent to the owner's last known tax-mailing address. The notice shall inform the owner or interested parties that a tax

certificate will be offered for sale on the parcel, and that the owner or interested parties may incur additional expenses as a result of the sale.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in division (B)(3) of this section, when tax certificates are to be sold or transferred under section 5721.33 of the Revised Code with respect to parcels, the county treasurer, at least thirty days prior to the date of sale or transfer of such tax certificates, shall send written notice of the sale or transfer by certified mail to the last known tax-mailing address of the record owner of the property or parcel and may send such notice to all parties with an interest in the property that has been recorded in the property records of the county pursuant to section 317.08 of the Revised Code. The notice shall state that a tax certificate will be offered for sale or transfer on the parcel, and that the owner or interested parties may incur additional expenses as a result of the sale or transfer.

(3) The county treasurer is not required to send a notice under division (B)(1) or (B)(2) of this section if the treasurer previously has attempted to send such notice to the owner of the parcel and the notice has been returned by the post office as undeliverable. The absence of a valid tax-mailing address for the owner of a parcel does not preclude the county treasurer from selling or transferring a tax certificate for the parcel.

(C) The county treasurer shall advertise the sale of tax certificates under section 5721.32 of the Revised Code in a newspaper of general circulation in the county; once a week for two consecutive weeks. The newspaper shall meet the requirements of section 7.12 of the Revised Code. The advertisement shall include the date, the time, and the place of the public auction, abbreviated legal descriptions of the parcels, and the names of the owners of record of the parcels. The advertisement also shall include the certificate purchase prices of the parcels or the total purchase price of tax certificates for sale in blocks of tax certificates.

(D) After the county treasurer has compiled the list of parcels selected for tax certificate sales but before a tax certificate respecting a parcel is sold or transferred, if the owner of record of the parcel pays to the county treasurer in cash the delinquent taxes respecting the parcel or otherwise acts so that any condition in division (A)(1)(a), (b), or (c) of this section applies to the parcel, the owner of record of the parcel also shall pay a fee in an amount prescribed by the treasurer to cover the administrative costs of the treasurer under this section respecting the parcel. The fee shall be deposited in the county treasury to the credit of the tax certificate administration fund.

(E) A tax certificate administration fund shall be created in the county treasury of each county selling tax certificates under sections 5721.30 to 5721.43 of the Revised Code. The fund shall be administered by the county

treasurer, and used solely for the purposes of sections 5721.30 to 5721.43 of the Revised Code or as otherwise permitted in this division. Any fee received by the treasurer under sections 5721.30 to 5721.43 of the Revised Code shall be credited to the fund, except the bidder registration fee under division (B) of section 5721.32 of the Revised Code and the county prosecuting attorney's fee under division (B)(3) of section 5721.37 of the Revised Code. To the extent there is a surplus in the fund from time to time, the surplus may, with the approval of the county treasurer, be utilized for the purposes of a county land reutilization corporation operating in the county.

(F) The county treasurers of more than one county may jointly conduct a regional sale of tax certificates under section 5721.32 of the Revised Code. A regional sale shall be held at a single location in one county, where the tax certificates from each of the participating counties shall be offered for sale at public auction. Before the regional sale, each county treasurer shall advertise the sale for the parcels in the treasurer's county as required by division (C) of this section. At the regional sale, tax certificates shall be sold on parcels from one county at a time, with all of the certificates for one county offered for sale before any certificates for the next county are offered for sale.

(G) The tax commissioner shall prescribe the form of the tax certificate under this section, and county treasurers shall use the form so prescribed.

Sec. 5721.32. (A) The sale of tax certificates by public auction may be conducted at any time after completion of the advertising of the sale under section 5721.31 of the Revised Code, on the date and at the time and place designated in the advertisements, and may be continued from time to time as the county treasurer directs. The county treasurer may offer the tax certificates for sale in blocks of tax certificates, consisting of any number of tax certificates as determined by the county treasurer, and may specify a certificate period of not less than three years and not more than six years.

(B)(1) The sale of tax certificates under this section shall be conducted at a public auction by the county treasurer or a designee of the county treasurer.

(2) No person shall be permitted to bid without completing a bidder registration form, in the form prescribed by the tax commissioner, and without filing the form with the county treasurer prior to the start of the auction, together with remittance of a registration fee, in cash, of five hundred dollars. The bidder registration form shall include a tax identification number of the registrant. The registration fee is refundable at the end of bidding on the day of the auction, unless the registrant is the winning bidder for one or more tax certificates or one or more blocks of tax

certificates, in which case the fee may be applied toward the deposit required by this section.

(3) The county treasurer may require a person who wishes to bid on one or more parcels to submit a letter from a financial institution stating that the bidder has sufficient funds available to pay the purchase price of the parcels and a written authorization for the treasurer to verify such information with the financial institution. The county treasurer may require submission of the letter and authorization sufficiently in advance of the auction to allow for verification. No person who fails to submit the required letter and authorization, or whose financial institution fails to provide the requested verification, shall be permitted to bid.

(C) At the public auction, the county treasurer or the treasurer's designee or agent shall begin the bidding at eighteen per cent per year simple interest, and accept lower bids in even increments of one-fourth of one per cent to the rate of zero per cent. The county treasurer, designee, or agent shall award the tax certificate to the person bidding the lowest certificate rate of interest. The county treasurer shall decide which person is the winning bidder in the event of a tie for the lowest bid offered, or if a person contests the lowest bid offered. The county treasurer's decision is not appealable.

(D)(1) The winning bidder shall pay the county treasurer a cash deposit of at least ten per cent of the certificate purchase price not later than the close of business on the day of the sale. The winning bidder shall pay the balance and the fee required under division (H) of this section not later than five business days after the day on which the certificate is sold. Except as provided under division (D)(2) of this section, if the winning bidder fails to pay the balance and fee within the prescribed time, the bidder forfeits the deposit, and the county treasurer shall retain the tax certificate and may attempt to sell it at any auction conducted at a later date.

(2) At the request of a winning bidder, the county treasurer may release the bidder from the bidder's tax certificate purchase obligation. The county treasurer may retain all or any portion of the deposit of a bidder granted a release. After granting a release under this division, the county treasurer may award the tax certificate to the person that submitted the second lowest bid at the auction.

(3) The county treasurer shall deposit the deposit forfeited or retained under divisions (D)(1) or (2) of this section in the county treasury to the credit of the tax certificate administration fund.

(E) Upon receipt of the full payment of the certificate purchase price from the purchaser, the county treasurer shall issue the tax certificate and record the tax certificate sale by entering into a tax certificate register the

certificate purchase price, the certificate rate of interest, the date the certificate was sold, the certificate period, the name and address of the certificate holder, and any other information the county treasurer considers necessary. The county treasurer may keep the tax certificate register in a hard-copy format or in an electronic format. The name and address of the certificate holder may be, upon receipt of instructions from the purchaser, that of the secured party of the actual purchaser, or an agent or custodian for the purchaser or secured party. The county treasurer also shall transfer the tax certificate to the certificate holder. The county treasurer shall apportion the part of the proceeds from the sale representing taxes, penalties, and interest among the several taxing districts in the same proportion that the amount of taxes levied by each district against the certificate parcel in the preceding tax year bears to the taxes levied by all such districts against the certificate parcel in the preceding tax year, and credit the part of the proceeds representing assessments and other charges to the items of assessments and charges in the order in which those items became due. Upon issuing a tax certificate, the delinquent taxes that make up the certificate purchase price are transferred, and the superior lien of the state and its taxing districts for those delinquent taxes is conveyed intact to the certificate holder.

(F) If a tax certificate is offered for sale under this section but is not sold, the county treasurer may sell the certificate in a negotiated sale authorized under section 5721.33 of the Revised Code, or may strike the corresponding certificate parcel from the list of parcels selected for tax certificate sales. The lien for taxes, assessments, charges, penalties, and interest against a parcel stricken from the list thereafter may be foreclosed in the manner prescribed by section 323.25, sections 323.65 to 323.79, or section 5721.14 or 5721.18 of the Revised Code unless, prior to the institution of such proceedings against the parcel, the county treasurer restores the parcel to the list of parcels selected for tax certificate sales.

(G) A certificate holder shall not be liable for damages arising from a violation of sections 3737.87 to 3737.891 or Chapter 3704., 3734., 3745., 3746., 3750., 3751., 3752., 6109., or 6111. of the Revised Code, or a rule adopted or order, permit, license, variance, or plan approval issued under any of those chapters, that is or was committed by another person in connection with the parcel for which the tax certificate is held.

(H) When selling a tax certificate under this section, the county treasurer shall charge a fee to the purchaser of the certificate. The county treasurer shall set the fee at a reasonable amount that covers the treasurer's costs of administering the sale of the tax certificate. The county treasurer

shall deposit the fee in the county treasury to the credit of the tax certificate administration fund.

(I) After selling a tax certificate under this section, the county treasurer shall send written notice by certified mail to the owner of the certificate parcel at the owner's last known tax-mailing address. The notice shall inform the owner that the tax certificate was sold, shall describe the owner's options to redeem the parcel, including entering into a redemption payment plan under division (C)(1) of section 5721.38 of the Revised Code, and shall name the certificate holder and its secured party, if any. However, the county treasurer is not required to send a notice under this division if the treasurer previously has attempted to send a notice to the owner of the parcel at the owner's last known tax-mailing address, and the postal service has returned the notice as undeliverable.

(J) A tax certificate shall not be sold to the owner of the certificate parcel.

Sec. 5721.37. ~~(A)(1) Division (A)(1) of this section applies to tax certificates purchased under section 5721.32 of the Revised Code, or under section 5721.42 of the Revised Code by the holder of a certificate issued under section 5721.32 of the Revised Code.~~ At any time after one year from the date shown on the tax certificate as the date the tax certificate was sold, and not later than ~~six years after that date~~ the end of the certificate period, a certificate holder, except for a county land reutilization corporation, may file with the county treasurer a request for foreclosure, or a private attorney on behalf of the certificate holder may file with the county treasurer a notice of intent to foreclose, on a form prescribed by the tax commissioner, provided the certificate parcel has not been redeemed under division (A) or (C) of section 5721.38 of the Revised Code and at least one certificate respecting the certificate parcel, held by the certificate holder filing the request for foreclosure or notice of intent to foreclose and eligible to be enforced through a foreclosure proceeding, has not been voided under section 5721.381 of the Revised Code. If the certificate holder is a county land reutilization corporation, the corporation may institute a foreclosure action under the statutes pertaining to the foreclosure of mortgages or as permitted under sections 323.65 to 323.79 of the Revised Code at any time after it acquires the tax certificate.

~~(2) Division (A)(2) of this section applies to tax certificates purchased under section 5721.33 of the Revised Code or under section 5721.42 of the Revised Code by the holder of a certificate issued under section 5721.33 of the Revised Code. At any time after one year from the date shown on the tax certificate as the date the tax certificate was sold, and not later than six years~~

~~after that date or any extension of that date pursuant to division (C)(2) of section 5721.38 of the Revised Code, or not earlier or later than the dates negotiated by the county treasurer and specified in the tax certificate sale/purchase agreement, the certificate holder may file with the county treasurer a request for foreclosure, or a private attorney on behalf of a certificate holder other than a county land reutilization corporation may file with the county treasurer a notice of intent to foreclose, on a form prescribed by the tax commissioner, provided the parcel has not been redeemed under division (A) or (C) of section 5721.38 of the Revised Code and at least one certificate respecting the certificate parcel, held by the certificate holder filing the request for foreclosure or notice of intent to foreclose and eligible to be enforced through a foreclosure proceeding, has not been voided under section 5721.381 of the Revised Code. If the certificate holder is a county land reutilization corporation, the corporation may institute a foreclosure action under the statutes pertaining to the foreclosure of mortgages or as permitted under sections 323.65 to 323.79 of the Revised Code at any time after it acquires the tax certificate.~~

~~(3)(a) Division (A)(3)(a) of this section applies to a tax certificate purchased under section 5721.32 of the Revised Code, or under section 5721.42 of the Revised Code by the holder of a certificate issued under section 5721.32 of the Revised Code, and not held by a county land reutilization corporation. If, before the expiration of six years after the date a tax certificate was sold, the owner of the property for which the certificate was sold files a petition in bankruptcy, the county treasurer, upon being notified of the filing of the petition, shall notify the certificate holder by ordinary first class or certified mail or by binary means of the filing of the petition. It is the obligation of the certificate holder to file a proof of claim with the bankruptcy court to protect the holder's interest in the certificate parcel. The last day on which the certificate holder may file a request for foreclosure or the private attorney may file a notice of intent to foreclose is the later of six years after the date the certificate was sold or one hundred eighty days after the certificate parcel is no longer property of the bankruptcy estate; however, the six year period measured from the date the certificate was sold is tolled while the property owner's bankruptcy case remains open.~~

~~(b) Division (A)(3)(b) of this section applies to a tax certificate purchased under section 5721.33 of the Revised Code, or under section 5721.42 of the Revised Code by the holder of a certificate issued under section 5721.33 of the Revised Code, and not held by a county land reutilization corporation. If, before six years after the date a tax certificate~~

~~was sold or before the date negotiated by the county treasurer~~ If, before the expiration of the certificate period, the owner of the property files a petition in bankruptcy, the county treasurer, upon being notified of the filing of the petition, shall notify the certificate holder by ordinary first-class or certified mail or by binary means of the filing of the petition. It is the obligation of the certificate holder to file a proof of claim with the bankruptcy court to protect the holder's interest in the certificate parcel. The last day on which the certificate holder may file a request for foreclosure or a notice of intent to foreclose is the later of ~~six years after the date the tax certificate was sold or the date negotiated by the county treasurer~~, the expiration of the certificate period or one hundred eighty days after the certificate parcel is no longer property of the bankruptcy estate; however, the ~~six-year or negotiated period being measured after the date the certificate was sold~~ certificate period is tolled while the property owner's bankruptcy case remains open. If the certificate holder is a county land reutilization corporation, the corporation may institute a foreclosure action under the statutes pertaining to the foreclosure of mortgages or as permitted under sections 323.65 to 323.79 of the Revised Code at any time after it acquires such tax certificate, subject to any restrictions under such bankruptcy law or proceeding.

(e) Interest at the certificate rate of interest continues to accrue during any extension of time required by division ~~(A)(3)(a) or (b)(A)(2)~~ of this section unless otherwise provided under Title 11 of the United States Code.

~~(4)(3)~~ If, before the expiration of three years from the date a tax certificate was sold, the owner of property for which the certificate was sold applies for an exemption under section 3735.67 or 5715.27 of the Revised Code or under any other section of the Revised Code under the jurisdiction of the director of environmental protection, the county treasurer shall notify the certificate holder by ordinary first-class or certified mail or by binary means of the filing of the application. Once a determination has been made on the exemption application, the county treasurer shall notify the certificate holder of the determination by ordinary first-class or certified mail or by binary means. Except with respect to a county land reutilization corporation, the last day on which the certificate holder may file a request for foreclosure shall be the later of three years from the date the certificate was sold or forty-five days after notice of the determination was provided.

(B) When a request for foreclosure or a notice of intent to foreclose is filed under ~~division (A)(1) or (2)~~ of this section, the certificate holder shall submit a payment to the county treasurer equal to the sum of the following:

(1) The certificate redemption prices of all outstanding tax certificates that have been sold on the parcel, other than tax certificates held by the

person requesting foreclosure;

(2) Any taxes, assessments, penalties, interest, and charges appearing on the tax duplicate charged against the certificate parcel that is the subject of the foreclosure proceedings and that are not covered by a tax certificate, but such amounts are not payable if the certificate holder is a county land reutilization corporation;

(3) If the foreclosure proceedings are filed by the county prosecuting attorney pursuant to section 323.25, sections 323.65 to 323.79, or section 5721.14 or 5721.18 of the Revised Code, a fee in the amount prescribed by the county prosecuting attorney to cover the prosecuting attorney's legal costs incurred in the foreclosure proceeding.

(C)(1) With respect to a certificate purchased under section 5721.32, 5721.33, or 5721.42 of the Revised Code, if the certificate parcel has not been redeemed and at least one certificate respecting the certificate parcel, held by the certificate holder filing the request for foreclosure and eligible to be enforced through a foreclosure proceeding, has not been voided under section 5721.381 of the Revised Code, the county treasurer, within five days after receiving a foreclosure request and the payment required under division (B) of this section, shall certify notice to that effect to the county prosecuting attorney and shall provide a copy of the foreclosure request. The county treasurer also shall send notice by ordinary first class or certified mail to all certificate holders other than the certificate holder requesting foreclosure that foreclosure has been requested by a certificate holder and that payment for the tax certificates is forthcoming. Within ninety days of receiving the copy of the foreclosure request, the prosecuting attorney shall commence a foreclosure proceeding in the name of the county treasurer in the manner provided under section 323.25, sections 323.65 to 323.79, or section 5721.14 or 5721.18 of the Revised Code, to enforce the lien vested in the certificate holder by the certificate. The prosecuting attorney shall attach to the complaint the foreclosure request and the county treasurer's written certification.

(2) With respect to a certificate purchased under section 5721.32, 5721.33, or 5721.42 of the Revised Code, if the certificate parcel has not been redeemed, at least one certificate respecting the certificate parcel, held by the certificate holder filing the notice of intent to foreclose and eligible to be enforced through a foreclosure proceeding, has not been voided under section 5721.381 of the Revised Code, a notice of intent to foreclose has been filed, and the payment required under division (B) of this section has been made, the county treasurer shall certify notice to that effect to the private attorney. The county treasurer also shall send notice by ordinary first

class or certified mail or by binary means to all certificate holders other than the certificate holder represented by the attorney that a notice of intent to foreclose has been filed and that payment for the tax certificates is forthcoming. After receipt of the treasurer's certification and not later than one hundred twenty days after the filing of the intent to foreclose or the number of days specified under the terms of a negotiated sale under section 5721.33 of the Revised Code, the private attorney shall commence a foreclosure proceeding in the name of the certificate holder in the manner provided under division (F) of this section to enforce the lien vested in the certificate holder by the certificate. The private attorney shall attach to the complaint the notice of intent to foreclose and the county treasurer's written certification.

(D) The county treasurer shall credit the amount received under division (B)(1) of this section to the tax certificate redemption fund. The tax certificates respecting the payment shall be paid as provided in division (D) of section 5721.38 of the Revised Code. The amount received under division (B)(2) of this section shall be distributed to the taxing districts to which the delinquent and unpaid amounts are owed. The county treasurer shall deposit the fee received under division (B)(3) of this section in the county treasury to the credit of the delinquent tax and assessment collection fund.

~~(E)(1)(a) Except with respect to a county land reutilization corporation, if, in the case of a certificate purchased under section 5721.32 of the Revised Code, or under section 5721.42 of the Revised Code by the holder of a certificate issued under section 5721.32 of the Revised Code, the certificate holder does not file with the county treasurer a request for foreclosure or a notice of intent to foreclose with the required payment within six years after the date shown on the tax certificate as the date the certificate was sold or within the period provided under division (A)(3)(a) of this section, and during that time the certificate has not been voided under section 5721.381 of the Revised Code and the parcel has not been redeemed or foreclosed upon, the certificate holder's lien against the parcel is canceled, and the certificate is voided, subject to division (E)(1)(b) of this section.~~

~~(b) In the case of any tax certificate purchased under section 5721.32 of the Revised Code or under section 5721.42 of the Revised Code by the holder of a certificate issued under section 5721.32 of the Revised Code prior to June 24, 2008, the county treasurer, upon application by the certificate holder, may sell to the certificate holder a new certificate extending the three-year period prescribed by division (E)(1) of this section, as that division existed prior to that date, to six years after the date shown on~~

the original certificate as the date it was sold or any extension of that date.

~~(2)(a)~~ Except with respect to a county land reutilization corporation, if, ~~in the case of a certificate purchased under section 5721.33 of the Revised Code, or under section 5721.42 of the Revised Code by the holder of a certificate issued under section 5721.33 of the Revised Code,~~ the certificate holder does not file with the county treasurer a request for foreclosure or a notice of intent to foreclose with respect to a certificate parcel with the required payment within ~~six years after the date shown on the tax certificate as the date the certificate was sold~~ the certificate period or any extension of that ~~date~~ period pursuant to division (C)(2) of section 5721.38 of the Revised Code, or within the period provided under division ~~(A)(3)(b)~~ (A)(2) of this section ~~or as specified under the terms of a negotiated sale under section 5721.33 of the Revised Code,~~ and during that time the certificate has not been voided under section 5721.381 of the Revised Code and the certificate parcel has not been redeemed or foreclosed upon, the certificate holder's lien against the parcel is canceled and the certificate is voided, subject to division ~~(E)(2)(b)~~ (E)(2) of this section.

~~(b)(2)~~ In the case of any tax certificate purchased under section ~~5721.33~~ 5721.32 of the Revised Code ~~or under section 5721.42 of the Revised Code~~ by the holder of a certificate issued under section 5721.32 of the Revised Code prior to ~~October 10, 2000~~ June 24, 2008, the county treasurer, upon application by the certificate holder, may sell to the certificate holder a new certificate extending the three-year period prescribed by division ~~(E)(2)(E)(1)~~ of this section, as that division existed prior to ~~October 10, 2000~~ that date, to six years after the date shown on the original certificate as the date it was sold or any extension of that date.

~~(3)~~ The county treasurer and the certificate holder shall negotiate the premium, in cash, to be paid for a new certificate sold under division ~~(E)(1)(b) or (2)(b)(E)(2)~~ of this section. If the county treasurer and certificate holder do not negotiate a mutually acceptable premium, the county treasurer and certificate holder may agree to engage a person experienced in the valuation of financial assets to appraise a fair premium for the new certificate. The certificate holder has the option to purchase the new certificate for the fair premium so appraised. Not less than one-half of the fee of the person so engaged shall be paid by the certificate holder requesting the new certificate; the remainder of the fee shall be paid from the proceeds of the sale of the new certificate. If the certificate holder does not purchase the new certificate for the premium so appraised, the certificate holder shall pay the entire fee. The county treasurer shall credit the remaining proceeds from the sale to the items of taxes, assessments,

penalties, interest, and charges in the order in which they became due.

(4) A certificate issued under division ~~(E)(1)(b) or (2)(b)(E)(2)~~ of this section vests in the certificate holder and its secured party, if any, the same rights, interests, privileges, and immunities as are vested by the original certificate under sections 5721.30 to 5721.43 of the Revised Code. The certificate shall be issued in the same form as the form prescribed for the original certificate issued except for any modifications necessary, in the county treasurer's discretion, to reflect the extension under this division of the certificate holder's lien to six years after the date shown on the original certificate as the date it was sold or any extension of that date. The certificate holder may record a certificate issued under division ~~(E)(1)(b) or (2)(b)(E)(2)~~ of this section or memorandum thereof as provided in division (B) of section 5721.35 of the Revised Code, and the county recorder shall index the certificate and record any subsequent cancellation of the lien as provided in that section. The sale of a certificate extending the lien under division ~~(E)(1)(b) or (2)(b)(E)(2)~~ of this section does not impair the right of redemption of the owner of record of the certificate parcel or of any other person entitled to redeem the property.

~~(5)~~(3) If the holder of a certificate purchased under section 5721.32, 5721.33, or 5721.42 of the Revised Code submits a notice of intent to foreclose to the county treasurer but fails to file a foreclosure action in a court of competent jurisdiction within the time specified in division (C)(2) of this section, the liens represented by all tax certificates respecting the certificate parcel held by that certificate holder, and for which the deadline for filing a notice of intent to foreclose has passed, are canceled and the certificates voided, and the certificate holder forfeits the payment of the amounts described in division (B)(2) of this section.

(F) With respect to tax certificates purchased under section 5721.32, 5721.33, or 5721.42 of the Revised Code, upon the delivery to the private attorney by the county treasurer of the certification provided for under division (C)(2) of this section, the private attorney shall institute a foreclosure proceeding under this division in the name of the certificate holder to enforce the holder's lien, in any court or board of revision with jurisdiction, unless the certificate redemption price is paid prior to the time a complaint is filed. The attorney shall prosecute the proceeding to final judgment and satisfaction, whether through sale of the property or the vesting of title and possession in the certificate holder or other disposition under sections 323.65 to 323.79 of the Revised Code or as may otherwise be provided by law.

The foreclosure proceedings under this division, except as otherwise

provided in this division, shall be instituted and prosecuted in the same manner as is provided by law for the foreclosure of mortgages on land, except that, if service by publication is necessary, such publication shall be made once a week for three consecutive weeks and the service shall be complete at the expiration of three weeks after the date of the first publication.

Any notice given under this division shall include the name of the owner of the parcel as last set forth in the records of the county recorder, the owner's last known mailing address, the address of the subject parcel if different from that of the owner, and a complete legal description of the subject parcel. In any county that has adopted a permanent parcel number system, such notice may include the permanent parcel number in addition to a complete legal description.

It is sufficient, having been made a proper party to the foreclosure proceeding, for the certificate holder to allege in such holder's complaint that the tax certificate has been duly purchased by the certificate holder, that the certificate redemption price is due and unpaid, that there is a lien against the property described in the tax certificate, and, if applicable, that the certificate holder desires to invoke the alternative redemption period prescribed in sections 323.65 to 323.79 of the Revised Code, without setting forth in such holder's complaint any other special matter relating to the foreclosure proceeding. The complaint shall pray for an order directing the sheriff, or the bailiff if the complaint is filed in municipal court, to offer the property for sale in the manner provided in section 5721.19 of the Revised Code or otherwise transferred according to any applicable procedures provided in sections 323.65 to 323.79 of the Revised Code, unless the complaint documents that the county auditor has determined that the true value of the certificate parcel is less than the certificate purchase price. In that case, the prayer of the complaint shall request that fee simple title to the property be transferred to and vested in the certificate holder free and clear of all subordinate liens.

In the foreclosure proceeding, the certificate holder may join in one action any number of tax certificates relating to the same owner. However, the decree for each tax certificate shall be rendered separately and any proceeding may be severed, in the discretion of the court or board of revision, for the purpose of trial or appeal. Except as may otherwise be provided in sections 323.65 to 323.79 of the Revised Code, upon confirmation of sale, the court or board of revision shall order payment of all costs related directly or indirectly to the tax certificate, including, without limitation, attorney's fees of the holder's attorney in accordance with section

5721.371 of the Revised Code. The tax certificate purchased by the certificate holder is presumptive evidence in all courts and boards of revision and in all proceedings, including, without limitation, at the trial of the foreclosure action, of the amount and validity of the taxes, assessments, charges, penalties by the court and added to such principal amount, and interest appearing due and unpaid and of their nonpayment.

(G) If a parcel is sold under this section, the officer who conducted the sale shall collect the recording fee from the purchaser at the time of the sale and, following confirmation of the sale, shall prepare and record the deed conveying the title to the parcel to the purchaser.

Sec. 5721.38. (A) At any time prior to payment to the county treasurer by the certificate holder to initiate foreclosure proceedings under division (B) of section 5721.37 of the Revised Code, the owner of record of the certificate parcel, or any other person entitled to redeem that parcel, may redeem the parcel by paying to the county treasurer an amount equal to the total of the certificate redemption prices of all tax certificates respecting that parcel.

(B) At any time after payment to the county treasurer by the certificate holder to initiate foreclosure proceedings under section 5721.37 of the Revised Code, and before the filing of the entry of confirmation of sale of a certificate parcel, or the expiration of the alternative redemption period defined in section 323.65 of the Revised Code under foreclosure proceedings filed by the county prosecuting attorney, and before the decree conveying title to the certificate holder is rendered as provided for in division (F) of section 5721.37 of the Revised Code, the owner of record of the certificate parcel or any other person entitled to redeem that parcel may redeem the parcel by paying to the county treasurer the sum of the following amounts:

- (1) The amount described in division (A) of this section;
- (2) Interest on the certificate purchase price for each tax certificate sold respecting the parcel at the rate of eighteen per cent per year for the period beginning on the day on which the payment was submitted by the certificate holder and ending on the day the parcel is redeemed under this division;
- (3) An amount equal to the sum of the county prosecuting attorney's fee under division (B)(3) of section 5721.37 of the Revised Code plus interest on that amount at the rate of eighteen per cent per year beginning on the day on which the payment was submitted by the certificate holder and ending on the day the parcel is redeemed under this division. If the parcel is redeemed before the complaint has been filed, the prosecuting attorney shall adjust the fee to reflect services performed to the date of redemption, and the county

treasurer shall calculate the interest based on the adjusted fee and refund any excess fee to the certificate holder.

(4) Reasonable attorney's fees in accordance with section 5721.371 of the Revised Code if the certificate holder retained a private attorney to foreclose the lien;

(5) Any other costs and fees of the proceeding allocable to the certificate parcel as determined by the court or board of revision.

The county treasurer may collect the total amount due under divisions (B)(1) to (5) of this section in the form of guaranteed funds acceptable to the treasurer. Immediately upon receipt of such payments, the county treasurer shall reimburse the certificate holder who initiated foreclosure proceedings as provided in division (D) of this section. The county treasurer shall pay the certificate holder interest at the rate of eighteen per cent per year on amounts paid under divisions (B)(2) and (3) of section 5721.37 of the Revised Code, beginning on the day the certificate holder paid the amounts under those divisions and ending on the day the parcel is redeemed under this section.

(C)(1) During the period beginning on the date a tax certificate is sold under section 5721.32 of the Revised Code and ending one year from that date, the county treasurer may enter into a redemption payment plan with the owner of record of the certificate parcel or any other person entitled to redeem that parcel. The plan shall require the owner or other person to pay the certificate redemption price for the tax certificate in installments, with the final installment due no later than one year after the date the tax certificate is sold. The certificate holder may at any time, by written notice to the county treasurer, agree to accept installments collected to the date of notice as payment in full. Receipt of such notice by the treasurer shall constitute satisfaction of the payment plan and redemption of the tax certificate.

(2) During the period beginning on the date a tax certificate is sold under section 5721.33 of the Revised Code and ending on the date the decree is rendered on the foreclosure proceeding under division (F) of section 5721.37 of the Revised Code, the owner of record of the certificate parcel, or any other person entitled to redeem that parcel, may enter into a redemption payment plan with the certificate holder and all secured parties of the certificate holder. The plan shall require the owner or other person to pay the certificate redemption price for the tax certificate, an administrative fee not to exceed one hundred dollars per year, and the actual fees and costs incurred, in installments, with the final installment due no later than ~~six years after the date the tax certificate is sold~~ the expiration of the certificate period. The certificate holder shall give written notice of the plan to the

applicable county treasurer within sixty days after entering into the plan and written notice of default under the plan within ninety days after the default. If such a plan is entered into, the time period for filing a request for foreclosure or a notice of intent to foreclose under section 5721.37 of the Revised Code is extended by the length of time the plan is in effect and not in default.

(D)(1) Immediately upon receipt of full payment under division (A) or (B) of this section, the county treasurer shall make an entry to that effect in the tax certificate register, credit the payment to the tax certificate redemption fund created in the county treasury, and shall notify the certificate holder or holders by ordinary first class or certified mail or by binary means that the parcel has been redeemed and the lien or liens canceled, and that payment on the certificate or certificates is forthcoming. The treasurer shall pay the tax certificate holder or holders promptly.

The county treasurer shall administer the tax certificate redemption fund for the purpose of redeeming tax certificates. Interest earned on the fund shall be credited to the county general fund. If the county has established a county land reutilization corporation, the county treasurer may apply interest earned on the fund to the payment of the expenses of such corporation.

(2) If a redemption payment plan is entered into pursuant to division (C)(1) of this section, the county treasurer immediately shall notify each certificate holder by ordinary first class or certified mail or by binary means of the terms of the plan. Installment payments made pursuant to the plan shall be deposited in the tax certificate redemption fund. Any overpayment of the installments shall be refunded to the person responsible for causing the overpayment if the person applies for a refund under this section. If the person responsible for causing the overpayment fails to apply for a refund under this section within five years from the date the plan is satisfied, an amount equal to the overpayment shall be deposited into the general fund of the county. If the county has established a county land reutilization corporation, the county treasurer may apply such overpayment to the payment of the expenses of the corporation.

Upon satisfaction of the plan, the county treasurer shall indicate in the tax certificate register that the plan has been satisfied, and shall notify each certificate holder by ordinary first class or certified mail or by binary means that the plan has been satisfied and that payment on the certificate or certificates is forthcoming. The treasurer shall pay each certificate holder promptly.

If a redemption payment plan becomes void, the county treasurer shall notify each certificate holder by ordinary first class or certified mail or by

binary means. If a certificate holder files a request for foreclosure under section 5721.37 of the Revised Code, upon the filing of the request for foreclosure, any money paid under the plan shall be refunded to the person that paid the money under the plan.

(3) Upon receipt of the payment required under division (B)(1) of section 5721.37 of the Revised Code, the treasurer shall pay all other certificate holders and indicate in the tax certificate register that such certificates have been satisfied. If a county has organized a county land reutilization corporation, the county treasurer may apply the redemption price and any applicable interest payable under division (B) of this section to the payment of the expenses of the corporation.

Sec. 5721.42. After the settlement required under division (C) of section 321.24 of the Revised Code, the county treasurer shall notify the certificate holder of the most recently issued tax certificate, by ordinary first class or certified mail or by binary means, that the certificate holder may purchase a subsequent tax certificate by paying all delinquent taxes on the related certificate parcel; the lien against which has not been transferred by the sale of a tax certificate. During the thirty days after receiving the notice, the certificate holder possesses the exclusive right to purchase the subsequent tax certificate by paying those amounts to the county treasurer. The amount of the payment shall constitute a separate lien against the certificate parcel that shall be evidenced by the issuance by the treasurer to the certificate holder of an additional tax certificate with respect to the delinquent taxes so paid on the related certificate parcel. The amount of the payment as set forth in the tax certificate shall earn interest at the rate of eighteen per cent per year. The certificate period of each subsequent tax certificate shall terminate on the expiration date of the certificate period of the most recent tax certificate for the same certificate parcel.

Sec. 5722.13. Real property acquired and held by an electing subdivision pursuant to this chapter that is not sold or otherwise transferred within fifteen years after such acquisition shall be offered for sale at public auction during the sixteenth year after acquisition. If the real property is not sold at that time, it may be disposed of or retained for any lawful purpose without further application of this chapter.

Notice of the sale shall contain a description of each parcel, the permanent parcel number, and the full street address when available. The notice shall be published once a week for three consecutive weeks prior to the sale in a newspaper of general circulation within the electing subdivision. The newspaper shall meet the requirements of section 7.12 of the Revised Code.

Each parcel subsequent to the fifteenth year after its acquisition as part of a land reutilization program shall be sold for an amount equal to not less than the greater of:

(A) Two-thirds of its fair market value;

(B) The total amount of accrued taxes, assessments, penalties, interest, charges, and costs incurred by the electing subdivision in the acquisition, maintenance, and disposal of each parcel and the parcel's share of the costs and expenses of the land reutilization program.

The sale requirements of this section do not apply to real property acquired and held by a county land reutilization corporation.

Sec. 5723.05. If the taxes, assessments, charges, penalties, interest, and costs due on the forfeited lands have not been paid when the county auditor fixes the date for the sale of forfeited lands, the auditor shall give notice of them once a week for two consecutive weeks prior to the date fixed by the auditor for the sale, ~~in two newspapers~~ as provided in section 5721.03 of the Revised Code. The notice shall state that if the taxes, assessments, charges, penalties, interest, and costs charged against the lands forfeited to the state for nonpayment of taxes are not paid into the county treasury, and the county treasurer's receipt produced for the payment before the time specified in the notice for the sale of the lands, which day shall be named in the notice, each forfeited tract on which the taxes, assessments, charges, penalties, interest, and costs remain unpaid will be offered for sale beginning on the date set by the auditor, at the courthouse in the county, in order to satisfy the unpaid taxes, assessments, charges, penalties, interest, and costs, and that the sale will continue from day to day until each of the tracts is sold or offered for sale.

The notice also shall state that, if the forfeited land is sold for an amount that is less than the amount of the delinquent taxes, assessments, charges, penalties, and interest against it, and, if division (B)(2) of section 5721.17 of the Revised Code is applicable, any notes issued by a receiver pursuant to division (F) of section 3767.41 of the Revised Code and any receiver's lien as defined in division (C)(4) of section 5721.18 of the Revised Code, the court, in a separate order, may enter a deficiency judgment against the last owner of record of the land before its forfeiture to the state, for the amount of the difference; and that, if that owner of record is a corporation, the court may enter the deficiency judgment against the stockholder holding a majority of that corporation's stock.

Sec. 5723.18. (A) Except as otherwise provided in division (B)(2) of section 5721.17 and division (B) of section 319.43 of the Revised Code, the proceeds from a forfeiture sale shall be distributed as follows:

(1) The county auditor shall deduct all costs pertaining to the forfeiture and sale of forfeited lands, including costs pertaining to a foreclosure and forfeiture proceeding instituted under section 5721.14 of the Revised Code, except those paid under section 5721.04 of the Revised Code, from the moneys received from the sale of land and town lots forfeited to the state for the nonpayment of taxes, and shall pay such costs into the proper fund. In the case of the forfeiture sale of a parcel against which a foreclosure and forfeiture proceeding was instituted under section 5721.14 of the Revised Code, if the proceeds from the forfeiture sale are insufficient to pay the costs pertaining to such proceeding, the county auditor, at the next semiannual apportionment of real property taxes, shall reduce the amount of real property taxes that the auditor otherwise would distribute to each subdivision to which taxes, assessments, charges, penalties, or interest charged against the parcel are due. The reduction in each subdivision's real property tax distribution shall equal the amount of the unpaid costs multiplied by a fraction, the numerator of which is the amount of taxes, assessments, charges, penalties, and interest due the subdivision, and the denominator of which is the total amount of taxes, assessments, charges, penalties, and interest due all such subdivisions.

(2) Following the payment required by division (A)(1) of this section, the part of the proceeds that is equal to ten per cent of the taxes and assessments due shall be deposited in equal shares into each of the delinquent tax and assessment collection fund funds created pursuant to section 321.261 of the Revised Code.

(3) Following the payment required by division (A)(2) of this section, the remaining proceeds shall be distributed by the auditor to the appropriate subdivisions to pay the taxes, assessments, charges, penalties, and interest which are due and unpaid. If the proceeds available for distribution under this division are insufficient to pay the entire amount of those taxes, assessments, charges, penalties, and interest, the auditor shall distribute the proceeds available for distribution under this division to the appropriate subdivisions in proportion to the amount of those taxes, assessments, charges, penalties, and interest that each is due.

(B) If the proceeds from the sale of forfeited land are insufficient to pay in full the amount of the taxes, assessments, charges, penalties, and interest; the costs incurred in the proceedings instituted pursuant to this chapter and section 5721.18 of the Revised Code, or the foreclosure and forfeiture proceeding instituted pursuant to section 5721.14 of the Revised Code; and, if division (B)(2) of section 5721.17 of the Revised Code is applicable, any notes issued by a receiver pursuant to division (F) of section 3767.41 of the

Revised Code and any receiver's lien as defined in division (C)(4) of section 5721.18 of the Revised Code, the court may enter a deficiency judgment against the last owner of record of the land before its forfeiture to the state, for the unpaid amount. The court shall enter the judgment pursuant to section 5721.192 of the Revised Code. Except as otherwise provided in division (B) of section 319.43 of the Revised Code, the proceeds paid pursuant to the entry and satisfaction of such a judgment shall be distributed as if they had been received as a part of the proceeds from the sale of the land to satisfy the amount of the taxes, assessments, charges, penalties, and interest which are due and unpaid; the costs incurred in the associated proceedings which were due and unpaid; and, if division (B)(2) of section 5721.17 of the Revised Code is applicable, any notes issued by a receiver pursuant to division (F) of section 3767.41 of the Revised Code and any receiver's lien as defined in division (C)(4) of section 5721.18 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 5725.151. (A) As used in this section, "certificate owner" has the same meaning as in section 149.311 of the Revised Code.

(B) There is allowed a credit against the tax imposed by section 5707.03 and assessed under section 5725.15 of the Revised Code for a dealer in intangibles subject to that tax that is a certificate owner of a rehabilitation tax credit certificate issued under section 149.311 of the Revised Code. The credit shall equal twenty-five per cent of the dollar amount indicated on the certificate, but the amount of the credit allowed for any dealer for any year shall not exceed five million dollars. The credit shall be claimed in the calendar year specified in the certificate. If the credit exceeds the amount of tax otherwise due in that year, the excess shall be refunded to the dealer but, if any amount of the credit is refunded, the sum of the amount refunded and the amount applied to reduce the tax otherwise due in that year shall not exceed three million dollars. The dealer may carry forward any balance of the credit in excess of the amount claimed in that year for not more than five ensuing years, and shall deduct any amount claimed in any such year from the amount claimed in an ensuing year.

(C) A dealer in intangibles claiming a credit under this section shall retain the rehabilitation tax credit certificate for four years following the end of the year in which the credit was claimed, and shall make the certificate available for inspection by the tax commissioner upon the request of the tax commissioner during that period.

~~(D) For the purpose of division (C) of section 5725.24 of the Revised Code, reductions in the amount of taxes collected on account of credits allowed under this section shall be applied to reduce the amount credited to~~

~~the general revenue fund and shall not be applied to reduce the amount to be credited to the undivided local government funds of the counties in which such taxes originate.~~

~~Sec. 5725.24. (A) As used in this section, "qualifying dealer" means a dealer in intangibles that is a qualifying dealer in intangibles as defined in section 5733.45 of the Revised Code or a member of a qualifying controlled group, as defined in section 5733.04 of the Revised Code, of which an insurance company also is a member on the first day of January of the year in and for which the tax imposed by section 5707.03 of the Revised Code is required to be paid by the dealer.~~

~~(B) The taxes levied by section 5725.18 of the Revised Code and collected pursuant to this chapter shall be paid into the state treasury to the credit of the general revenue fund.~~

~~(C)(B) The taxes levied by section 5707.03 of the Revised Code on the value of shares in and capital employed by all dealers in intangibles other than those that are qualifying dealers shall be for the use of paid into the state treasury to the credit of the general revenue fund of the state and the local government funds of the several counties in which the taxes originate as provided in this division.~~

~~During each month for which there is money in the state treasury for disbursement under this division, the tax commissioner shall provide for payment to the county treasurer of each county of five eighths of the amount of the taxes collected on account of shares in and capital employed by dealers in intangibles other than those that are qualifying dealers, representing capital employed in the county. The balance of the money received and credited on account of taxes assessed on shares in and capital employed by such dealers in intangibles shall be credited to the general revenue fund.~~

~~Reductions in the amount of taxes collected on account of credits allowed under section 5725.151 of the Revised Code shall be applied to reduce the amount credited to the general revenue fund and shall not be applied to reduce the amount to be credited to the undivided local government funds of the counties in which such taxes originate.~~

~~For the purpose of this division, such taxes are deemed to originate in the counties in which such dealers in intangibles have their offices.~~

~~Money received into the treasury of a county pursuant to this section shall be credited to the undivided local government fund of the county and shall be distributed by the budget commission as provided by law.~~

~~(D) All of the taxes levied under section 5707.03 of the Revised Code on the value of the shares in and capital employed by dealers in intangibles~~

~~that are qualifying dealers shall be paid into the state treasury to the credit of the general revenue fund.~~

Sec. 5725.34. (A) As used in this section, "certificate owner" has the same meaning as in section 149.311 of the Revised Code.

(B) There is allowed a credit against the tax imposed by section 5725.18 of the Revised Code for an insurance company subject to that tax that is a certificate owner of a rehabilitation tax credit certificate issued under section 149.311 of the Revised Code. The credit shall equal twenty-five per cent of the dollar amount indicated on the certificate, but the amount of the credit allowed for any company for any year shall not exceed five million dollars. The credit shall be claimed in the calendar year specified in the certificate and in the order required under section 5725.98 of the Revised Code. If the credit exceeds the amount of tax otherwise due in that year, the excess shall be refunded to the company but, if any amount of the credit is refunded, the sum of the amount refunded and the amount applied to reduce the tax otherwise due in that year shall not exceed three million dollars. The company may carry forward any balance of the credit in excess of the amount claimed in that year for not more than five ensuing years, and shall deduct any amount claimed in any such year from the amount claimed in an ensuing year.

(C) An insurance company claiming a credit under this section shall retain the rehabilitation tax credit certificate for four years following the end of the year in which the credit was claimed, and shall make the certificate available for inspection by the tax commissioner upon the request of the tax commissioner during that period.

Sec. 5725.98. (A) To provide a uniform procedure for calculating the amount of tax imposed by section 5725.18 of the Revised Code that is due under this chapter, a taxpayer shall claim any credits and offsets against tax liability to which it is entitled in the following order:

(1) The credit for an insurance company or insurance company group under section 5729.031 of the Revised Code;

(2) The credit for eligible employee training costs under section 5725.31 of the Revised Code;

(3) The credit for purchasers of qualified low-income community investments under section 5725.33 of the Revised Code;

(4) The nonrefundable job retention credit under division (B)(1) of section 122.171 of the Revised Code;

(5) The offset of assessments by the Ohio life and health insurance guaranty association permitted by section 3956.20 of the Revised Code;

(6) The refundable credit for rehabilitating a historic building under

section 5725.34 of the Revised Code.

(7) The refundable credit for Ohio job retention under division (B)(2) or (3) of section 122.171 of the Revised Code;

~~(7)~~(8) The refundable credit for Ohio job creation under section 5725.32 of the Revised Code;

~~(8)~~(9) The refundable credit under section 5725.19 of the Revised Code for losses on loans made under the Ohio venture capital program under sections 150.01 to 150.10 of the Revised Code.

(B) For any credit except the refundable credits enumerated in this section, the amount of the credit for a taxable year shall not exceed the tax due after allowing for any other credit that precedes it in the order required under this section. Any excess amount of a particular credit may be carried forward if authorized under the section creating that credit. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to allow a taxpayer to claim, directly or indirectly, a credit more than once for a taxable year.

Sec. 5727.57. In addition to all other remedies for the collection of any taxes or penalties due under law, whenever any taxes, fees, or penalties due from any public utility have remained unpaid for a period of ninety days, or whenever any public utility has failed for a period of ninety days to make any report or return required by law, or to pay any penalty for failure to make or file such report or return, the attorney general, upon the request of the tax commissioner, shall file a petition in the court of common pleas in the county of the state in which such public utility has its principal place of business for a judgment for the amount of the taxes and penalties appearing to be due, the enforcement of any lien in favor of the state, and an injunction to restrain such public utility and its officers, directors, and managing agents from the transaction of any business within this state, other than such acts as are incidental to liquidation or winding up, until the payment of such taxes, fees, penalties, and the costs of the proceeding, which shall be fixed by the court, or the making and filing of such report or return.

Such petition shall be in the name of the state. All or any of the public utilities having their principal places of business in the county may be joined in one suit. On the motion of the attorney general, the court of common pleas shall enter an order requiring all defendants to answer by a day certain, and may appoint a special master commissioner to take testimony, with such other power and authority as the court confers, and permit process to be served by certified mail and by publication in a newspaper of general circulation ~~published~~ in the county, which publication need not be made more than once, setting forth the name of each delinquent public utility, the matter in which such public utility is delinquent, the names of its officers,

directors, and managing agents, if set forth in the petition, and the amount of any taxes, fees, or penalties claimed to be owing by said public utility.

All of the officers, directors, shareholders, or managing agents of any public utility may be joined as defendants with such public utility.

If it appears to the court upon hearing that any public utility which is a party to such proceeding is indebted to the state for taxes, fees, or penalties, judgment shall be entered therefor with interest, which shall be computed at the rate per annum prescribed by section 5703.47 of the Revised Code; and if it appears that any public utility has failed to make or file any report or return, a mandatory injunction may be issued against such public utility, its officers, directors, and managing agents, as such enjoining them from the transaction of any business within this state, other than acts incidental to liquidation or winding up, until the making and filing of all proper reports or returns and the payment in full of all taxes, fees, and penalties.

If the officers, directors, shareholders, or managing agents of a public utility are not made parties in the first instance, and a judgment or an injunction is rendered or issued against such public utility, such officers, directors, shareholders, or managing agents, or any of them, may be made parties to such proceedings upon the motion of the attorney general, and, upon notice to them of the form and terms of such injunction, they shall be bound thereby as fully as if they had been made parties in the first instance.

In any action authorized by this section, a statement of the commissioner or the secretary of state, when duly certified shall be prima-facie evidence of the amount of taxes, fees, or penalties due from any public utility, or of the failure of any public utility to file with the commissioner or the secretary of state any report required by law, and any such certificate of the commissioner or the secretary of state may be required in evidence in any such proceeding.

On the application of any defendant and for good cause shown, the court may order a separate hearing of the issues as to any defendant.

The costs of the proceeding shall be apportioned among the parties as the court deems proper.

The court in such proceeding may make, enter, and enforce such other judgments and orders and grant such other relief as is necessary or incidental to the enforcement of the claims and lien of the state.

In the performance of the duties enjoined ~~upon him~~ by this section the attorney general may direct any prosecuting attorney to bring an action, as authorized by this section, in the name of the state with respect to any delinquent public utilities within ~~his~~ the prosecuting attorney's county, and like proceedings and orders shall be had as if such action were instituted by

the attorney general.

Sec. 5727.75. (A) For purposes of this section:

(1) "Qualified energy project" means an energy project certified by the director of development pursuant to this section.

(2) "Energy project" means a project to provide electric power through the construction, installation, and use of an energy facility.

(3) "Alternative energy zone" means a county declared as such by the board of county commissioners under division (E)(1)(b) or (c) of this section.

(4) "Full-time equivalent employee" means the total number of employee-hours for which compensation was paid to individuals employed at a qualified energy project for services performed at the project during the calendar year divided by two thousand eighty hours.

(5) "Solar energy project" means an energy project composed of an energy facility using solar panels to generate electricity.

(B)(1) Tangible personal property of a qualified energy project using renewable energy resources is exempt from taxation for tax years 2011 ~~and~~, 2012, 2013, and 2014 if all of the following conditions are satisfied:

(a) On or before December 31, ~~2014~~ 2013, the owner or a lessee pursuant to a sale and leaseback transaction of the project submits an application to the power siting board for a certificate under section 4906.20 of the Revised Code, or if that section does not apply, submits an application for any approval, consent, permit, or certificate or satisfies any condition required by a public agency or political subdivision of this state for the construction or initial operation of an energy project.

(b) Construction or installation of the energy facility begins on or after January 1, 2009, and before January 1, ~~2012~~ 2014. For the purposes of this division, construction begins on the earlier of the date of application for a certificate or other approval or permit described in division (B)(1)(a) of this section, or the date the contract for the construction or installation of the energy facility is entered into.

(c) For a qualified energy project with a nameplate capacity of five megawatts or greater, a board of county commissioners of a county in which property of the project is located has adopted a resolution under division (E)(1)(b) or (c) of this section to approve the application submitted under division (E) of this section to exempt the property located in that county from taxation. A board's adoption of a resolution rejecting an application or its failure to adopt a resolution approving the application does not affect the tax-exempt status of the qualified energy project's property that is located in another county.

(2) If tangible personal property of a qualified energy project using renewable energy resources was exempt from taxation under this section ~~for beginning in any of tax years 2011 and 2012, 2013, or 2014,~~ and the certification under division (E)(2) of this section has not been revoked, the tangible personal property of the qualified energy project is exempt from taxation for tax year ~~2013~~ 2015 and all ensuing tax years if the property was placed into service before January 1, ~~2013~~ 2015, as certified in the construction progress report required under division (F)(2) of this section. Tangible personal property that has not been placed into service before that date is taxable property subject to taxation. An energy project for which certification has been revoked is ineligible for further exemption under this section. Revocation does not affect the tax-exempt status of the project's tangible personal property for the tax year in which revocation occurs or any prior tax year.

(C) Tangible personal property of a qualified energy project using clean coal technology, advanced nuclear technology, or cogeneration technology is exempt from taxation for the first tax year that the property would be listed for taxation and all subsequent years if all of the following circumstances are met:

(1) The property was placed into service before January 1, ~~2017~~ 2019. Tangible personal property that has not been placed into service before that date is taxable property subject to taxation.

(2) For such a qualified energy project with a nameplate capacity of five megawatts or greater, a board of county commissioners of a county in which property of the qualified energy project is located has adopted a resolution under division (E)(1)(b) or (c) of this section to approve the application submitted under division (E) of this section to exempt the property located in that county from taxation. A board's adoption of a resolution rejecting the application or its failure to adopt a resolution approving the application does not affect the tax-exempt status of the qualified energy project's property that is located in another county.

(3) The certification for the qualified energy project issued under division (E)(2) of this section has not been revoked. An energy project for which certification has been revoked is ineligible for exemption under this section. Revocation does not affect the tax-exempt status of the project's tangible personal property for the tax year in which revocation occurs or any prior tax year.

(D) Except as otherwise provided in this ~~division~~ section, real property of a qualified energy project is exempt from taxation for any tax year for which the tangible personal property of the qualified energy project is

exempted under this section.

(E)(1)(a) A person may apply to the director of development for certification of an energy project as a qualified energy project on or before the following dates:

(i) December 31, ~~2014~~ 2013, for an energy project using renewable energy resources;

(ii) December 31, ~~2013~~ 2015, for an energy project using clean coal technology, advanced nuclear technology, or cogeneration technology.

(b) The director shall forward a copy of each application for certification of an energy project with a nameplate capacity of five megawatts or greater to the board of county commissioners of each county in which the project is located and to each taxing unit with territory located in each of the affected counties. Any board that receives from the director a copy of an application submitted under this division shall adopt a resolution approving or rejecting the application unless it has adopted a resolution under division (E)(1)(c) of this section. A resolution adopted under division (E)(1)(b) or (c) of this section may require an annual service payment to be made in addition to the service payment required under division (G) of this section. The sum of the service payment required in the resolution and the service payment required under division (G) of this section shall not exceed nine thousand dollars per megawatt of nameplate capacity located in the county. The resolution shall specify the time and manner in which the payments required by the resolution shall be paid to the county treasurer. The county treasurer shall deposit the payment to the credit of the county's general fund to be used for any purpose for which money credited to that fund may be used.

The board shall send copies of the resolution by certified mail to the owner of the facility and the director within thirty days after receipt of the application, or a longer period of time if authorized by the director.

(c) A board of county commissioners may adopt a resolution declaring the county to be an alternative energy zone and declaring all applications submitted to the director of development under this division after the adoption of the resolution, and prior to its repeal, to be approved by the board.

All tangible personal property and real property of an energy project with a nameplate capacity of five megawatts or greater is taxable if it is located in a county in which the board of county commissioners adopted a resolution rejecting the application submitted under this division or failed to adopt a resolution approving the application under division (E)(1)(b) or (c) of this section.

(2) The director shall certify an energy project if all of the following circumstances exist:

(a) The application was timely submitted.

(b) For an energy project with a nameplate capacity of five megawatts or greater, a board of county commissioners of at least one county in which the project is located has adopted a resolution approving the application under division (E)(1)(b) or (c) of this section.

(c) No portion of the project's facility was used to supply electricity before December 31, 2009.

(3) The director shall deny a certification application if the director determines the person has failed to comply with any requirement under this section. The director may revoke a certification if the director determines the person, or subsequent owner or lessee pursuant to a sale and leaseback transaction of the qualified energy project, has failed to comply with any requirement under this section. Upon certification or revocation, the director shall notify the person, owner, or lessee, the tax commissioner, and the county auditor of a county in which the project is located of the certification or revocation. Notice shall be provided in a manner convenient to the director.

(F) The owner or a lessee pursuant to a sale and leaseback transaction of a qualified energy project shall do each of the following:

(1) Comply with all applicable regulations;

(2) File with the director of development a certified construction progress report before the first day of March of each year during the energy facility's construction or installation indicating the percentage of the project completed, and the project's nameplate capacity, as of the preceding thirty-first day of December. Unless otherwise instructed by the director of development, the owner or lessee of an energy project shall file a report with the director on or before the first day of March each year after completion of the energy facility's construction or installation indicating the project's nameplate capacity as of the preceding thirty-first day of December. Not later than sixty days after ~~the effective date of this section~~ June 17, 2010, the owner or lessee of an energy project, the construction of which was completed before ~~the effective date of this section~~ June 17, 2010, shall file a certificate indicating the project's nameplate capacity.

(3) File with the director of development, in a manner prescribed by the director, a report of the total number of full-time equivalent employees, and the total number of full-time equivalent employees domiciled in Ohio, who are employed in the construction or installation of the energy facility;

(4) For energy projects with a nameplate capacity of five megawatts or

greater, repair all roads, bridges, and culverts affected by construction as reasonably required to restore them to their preconstruction condition, as determined by the county engineer in consultation with the local jurisdiction responsible for the roads, bridges, and culverts. In the event that the county engineer deems any road, bridge, or culvert to be inadequate to support the construction or decommissioning of the energy facility, the road, bridge, or culvert shall be rebuilt or reinforced to the specifications established by the county engineer prior to the construction or decommissioning of the facility. The owner or lessee of the facility shall post a bond in an amount established by the county engineer and to be held by the board of county commissioners to ensure funding for repairs of roads, bridges, and culverts affected during the construction. The bond shall be released by the board not later than one year after the date the repairs are completed. The energy facility owner or lessee pursuant to a sale and leaseback transaction shall post a bond, as may be required by the Ohio power siting board in the certificate authorizing commencement of construction issued pursuant to section 4906.10 of the Revised Code, to ensure funding for repairs to roads, bridges, and culverts resulting from decommissioning of the facility. The energy facility owner or lessee and the county engineer may enter into an agreement regarding specific transportation plans, reinforcements, modifications, use and repair of roads, financial security to be provided, and any other relevant issue.

(5) Provide or facilitate training for fire and emergency responders for response to emergency situations related to the energy project and, for energy projects with a nameplate capacity of five megawatts or greater, at the person's expense, equip the fire and emergency responders with proper equipment as reasonably required to enable them to respond to such emergency situations;

(6) Maintain a ratio of Ohio-domiciled full-time equivalent employees employed in the construction or installation of the energy project to total full-time equivalent employees employed in the construction or installation of the energy project of not less than eighty per cent in the case of a solar energy project, and not less than fifty per cent in the case of any other energy project. In the case of an energy project for which certification from the power siting board is required under section 4906.20 of the Revised Code, the number of full-time equivalent employees employed in the construction or installation of the energy project equals the number actually employed or the number projected to be employed in the certificate application, if such projection is required under regulations adopted pursuant to section 4906.03 of the Revised Code, whichever is greater. For

all other energy projects, the number of full-time equivalent employees employed in the construction or installation of the energy project equals the number actually employed or the number projected to be employed by the director of development, whichever is greater. To estimate the number of employees to be employed in the construction or installation of an energy project, the director shall use a generally accepted job-estimating model in use for renewable energy projects, including but not limited to the job and economic development impact model. The director may adjust an estimate produced by a model to account for variables not accounted for by the model.

(7) For energy projects with a nameplate capacity in excess of two megawatts, establish a relationship with a member of the university system of Ohio as defined in section 3345.011 of the Revised Code or with a person offering an apprenticeship program registered with the employment and training administration within the United States department of labor or with the apprenticeship council created by section 4139.02 of the Revised Code, to educate and train individuals for careers in the wind or solar energy industry. The relationship may include endowments, cooperative programs, internships, apprenticeships, research and development projects, and curriculum development.

(8) Offer to sell power or renewable energy credits from the energy project to electric distribution utilities or electric service companies subject to renewable energy resource requirements under section 4928.64 of the Revised Code that have issued requests for proposal for such power or renewable energy credits. If no electric distribution utility or electric service company issues a request for proposal on or before December 31, 2010, or accepts an offer for power or renewable energy credits within forty-five days after the offer is submitted, power or renewable energy credits from the energy project may be sold to other persons. Division (F)(8) of this section does not apply if:

(a) The owner or lessee is a rural electric company or a municipal power agency as defined in section 3734.058 of the Revised Code.

(b) The owner or lessee is a person that, before completion of the energy project, contracted for the sale of power or renewable energy credits with a rural electric company or a municipal power agency.

(c) The owner or lessee contracts for the sale of power or renewable energy credits from the energy project before ~~the effective date of this section as enacted by this act~~ June 17, 2010.

(9) Make annual service payments as required by division (G) of this section and as may be required in a resolution adopted by a board of county

commissioners under division (E) of this section.

(G) The owner or a lessee pursuant to a sale and leaseback transaction of a qualified energy project shall make annual service payments in lieu of taxes to the county treasurer on or before the final dates for payments of taxes on public utility personal property on the real and public utility personal property tax list for each tax year for which property of the energy project is exempt from taxation under this section. The county treasurer shall allocate the payment on the basis of the project's physical location. Upon receipt of a payment, or if timely payment has not been received, the county treasurer shall certify such receipt or non-receipt to the director of development and tax commissioner in a form determined by the director and commissioner, respectively. Each payment shall be in the following amount:

(1) In the case of a solar energy project, seven thousand dollars per megawatt of nameplate capacity located in the county as of December 31, 2010, for tax year 2011, as of December 31, 2011, for tax year 2012, ~~and as of December 31, 2012, for tax year 2013, as of December 31, 2013, for tax year 2014, and as of December 31, 2014, for tax year 2015~~ and each tax year thereafter;

(2) In the case of any other energy project using renewable energy resources, the following:

(a) If the project maintains during the construction or installation of the energy facility a ratio of Ohio-domiciled full-time equivalent employees to total full-time equivalent employees of not less than seventy-five per cent, six thousand dollars per megawatt of nameplate capacity located in the county as of the thirty-first day of December of the preceding tax year;

(b) If the project maintains during the construction or installation of the energy facility a ratio of Ohio-domiciled full-time equivalent employees to total full-time equivalent employees of less than seventy-five per cent but not less than sixty per cent, seven thousand dollars per megawatt of nameplate capacity located in the county as of the thirty-first day of December of the preceding tax year;

(c) If the project maintains during the construction or installation of the energy facility a ratio of Ohio-domiciled full-time equivalent employees to total full-time equivalent employees of less than sixty per cent but not less than fifty per cent, eight thousand dollars per megawatt of nameplate capacity located in the county as of the thirty-first day of December of the preceding tax year.

(3) In the case of an energy project using clean coal technology, advanced nuclear technology, or cogeneration technology, the following:

(a) If the project maintains during the construction or installation of the

energy facility a ratio of Ohio-domiciled full-time equivalent employees to total full-time equivalent employees of not less than seventy-five per cent, six thousand dollars per megawatt of nameplate capacity located in the county as of the thirty-first day of December of the preceding tax year;

(b) If the project maintains during the construction or installation of the energy facility a ratio of Ohio-domiciled full-time equivalent employees to total full-time equivalent employees of less than seventy-five per cent but not less than sixty per cent, seven thousand dollars per megawatt of nameplate capacity located in the county as of the thirty-first day of December of the preceding tax year;

(c) If the project maintains during the construction or installation of the energy facility a ratio of Ohio-domiciled full-time equivalent employees to total full-time equivalent employees of less than sixty per cent but not less than fifty per cent, eight thousand dollars per megawatt of nameplate capacity located in the county as of the thirty-first day of December of the preceding tax year.

(H) The director of development in consultation with the tax commissioner shall adopt rules pursuant to Chapter 119. of the Revised Code to implement and enforce this section.

Sec. 5727.84. (A) As used in this section and sections 5727.85, 5727.86, and 5727.87 of the Revised Code:

(1) "School district" means a city, local, or exempted village school district.

(2) "Joint vocational school district" means a joint vocational school district created under section 3311.16 of the Revised Code, and includes a cooperative education school district created under section 3311.52 or 3311.521 of the Revised Code and a county school financing district created under section 3311.50 of the Revised Code.

(3) "Local taxing unit" means a subdivision or taxing unit, as defined in section 5705.01 of the Revised Code, a park district created under Chapter 1545. of the Revised Code, or a township park district established under section 511.23 of the Revised Code, but excludes school districts and joint vocational school districts.

(4) "State education aid," for a school district, means the following:

(a) For fiscal years prior to fiscal year 2010, the sum of state aid amounts computed for the district under the following provisions, as they existed for the applicable fiscal year: divisions (A), (C)(1), (C)(4), (D), (E), and (F) of section 3317.022; divisions (B), (C), and (D) of section 3317.023; divisions (G), (L), and (N) of section 3317.024; and sections 3317.029, 3317.0216, 3317.0217, 3317.04, 3317.05, 3317.052, and 3317.053 of the

Revised Code; and the adjustments required by: division (C) of section 3310.08; division (C)(2) of section 3310.41; division (C) of section 3314.08; division (D)(2) of section 3314.091; division (D) of section 3314.13; divisions (E), (K), (L), (M), and (N) of section 3317.023; division (C) of section 3317.20; and sections 3313.979 and 3313.981 of the Revised Code. However, when calculating state education aid for a school district for fiscal years 2008 and 2009, include the amount computed for the district under Section 269.20.80 of H.B. 119 of the 127th general assembly, as subsequently amended, instead of division (D) of section 3317.022 of the Revised Code; and include amounts calculated under Section 269.30.80 of this act H.B. 119 of the 127th general assembly, as subsequently amended.

(b) For fiscal year years 2010 and ~~for each fiscal year thereafter 2011~~, the sum of the amounts computed for the district under former sections 3306.052, 3306.12, 3306.13, 3306.19, 3306.191, and 3306.192; of the Revised Code and the following provisions, as they existed for the applicable fiscal year: division (G) of section 3317.024; sections 3317.05, 3317.052, and 3317.053 of the Revised Code; and the adjustments required by division (C) of section 3310.08; division (C)(2) of section 3310.41; division (C) of section 3314.08; division (D)(2) of section 3314.091; division (D) of section 3314.13; divisions (E), (K), (L), (M), and (N) of section 3317.023; division (C) of section 3317.20; and sections 3313.979 and, 3313.981, and 3326.33 of the Revised Code.

(c) For fiscal years 2012 and 2013, the amount paid in accordance with the section of H.B. 153 of the 129th general assembly entitled "FUNDING FOR CITY, EXEMPTED VILLAGE, AND LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS" and the adjustments required by division (C) of section 3310.08; division (C)(2) of section 3310.41; section 3310.55; division (C) of section 3314.08; division (D)(2) of section 3314.091; division (D) of section 3314.13; divisions (B), (H), (I), (J), and (K) of section 3317.023; division (C) of section 3317.20; and sections 3313.979 and 3313.981 of the Revised Code.

(5) "State education aid," for a joint vocational school district, means the following:

(a) For fiscal years prior to fiscal year 2010, the sum of the state aid amounts computed for the district under division (N) of section 3317.024 and section 3317.16 of the Revised Code. However, when calculating state education aid for a joint vocational school district for fiscal years 2008 and 2009, include the amount computed for the district under Section 269.30.90 of H.B. 119 of the 127th general assembly, as subsequently amended.

(b) For fiscal years 2010 and 2011, the amount computed for the district

in accordance with the section of ~~this act~~ H.B. 1 of the 128th general assembly entitled "FUNDING FOR JOINT VOCATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS".

(c) For fiscal years 2012 and 2013, the amount paid in accordance with the section of H.B. 153 of the 129th general assembly entitled "FUNDING FOR JOINT VOCATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS."

(6) "State education aid offset" means the amount determined for each school district or joint vocational school district under division (A)(1) of section 5727.85 of the Revised Code.

(7) "Recognized valuation" has the same meaning as in section 3317.02 of the Revised Code.

(8) "Electric company tax value loss" means the amount determined under division (D) of this section.

(9) "Natural gas company tax value loss" means the amount determined under division (E) of this section.

(10) "Tax value loss" means the sum of the electric company tax value loss and the natural gas company tax value loss.

(11) "Fixed-rate levy" means any tax levied on property other than a fixed-sum levy.

(12) "Fixed-rate levy loss" means the amount determined under division (G) of this section.

(13) "Fixed-sum levy" means a tax levied on property at whatever rate is required to produce a specified amount of tax money or levied in excess of the ten-mill limitation to pay debt charges, and includes school district emergency levies imposed pursuant to section 5705.194 of the Revised Code.

(14) "Fixed-sum levy loss" means the amount determined under division (H) of this section.

(15) "Consumer price index" means the consumer price index (all items, all urban consumers) prepared by the bureau of labor statistics of the United States department of labor.

(16) "Total resources" has the same meaning as in section 5751.20 of the Revised Code.

(17) "2011 current expense S.B. 3 allocation" means the sum of payments received by a school district or joint vocational school district in fiscal year 2011 for current expense levy losses pursuant to division (C)(2) of section 5727.85 of the Revised Code. If a fixed-rate levy eligible for reimbursement is not imposed in any year after tax year 2010, "2011 current expense S.B. 3 allocation" used to compute payments to be made under division (C)(3) of section 5727.85 of the Revised Code in the tax years

following the last year the levy is imposed shall be reduced by the amount of those payments attributable to the fixed-rate levy loss of that levy.

(18) "2010 current expense S.B. 3 allocation" means the sum of payments received by a municipal corporation in calendar year 2010 for current expense levy losses pursuant to division (A)(1) of section 5727.86 of the Revised Code. If a fixed-rate levy eligible for reimbursement is not imposed in any year after tax year 2010, "2010 current expense S.B. 3 allocation" used to compute payments to be made under division (A)(1)(d) of section 5727.86 of the Revised Code in the tax years following the last year the levy is imposed shall be reduced by the amount of those payments attributable to the fixed-rate levy loss of that levy.

(19) "2010 S.B. 3 allocation" means the sum of payments received by a local taxing unit during calendar year 2010 pursuant to division (A)(1) of section 5727.86 of the Revised Code. If a fixed-rate levy eligible for reimbursement is not imposed in any year after tax year 2010, "2010 S.B. 3 allocation" used to compute payments to be made under division (A)(1)(d) of section 5727.86 of the Revised Code in the tax years following the last year the levy is imposed shall be reduced by the amount of those payments attributable to the fixed-rate levy loss of that levy.

(20) "Total S.B. 3 allocation" means, in the case of a school district or joint vocational school district, the sum of the amounts received in fiscal year 2011 pursuant to divisions (C)(2) and (D) of section 5727.85 of the Revised Code. In the case of a local taxing unit, "total S.B. 3 allocation" means the sum of payments received by the unit in calendar year 2010 pursuant to divisions (A)(1) and (4) of section 5727.86 of the Revised Code. If a fixed-rate levy eligible for reimbursement is not imposed in any year after tax year 2010, "total S.B. 3 allocation" used to compute payments to be made under division (C)(3) of section 5727.85 or division (A)(1)(d) of section 5727.86 of the Revised Code in the tax years following the last year the levy is imposed shall be reduced by the amount of those payments attributable to the fixed-rate levy loss of that levy as would be computed under division (C)(2) of section 5727.85 or division (A)(1)(b) of section 5727.86 of the Revised Code.

(21) "2011 non-current expense S.B. 3 allocation" means the difference of a school district's or joint vocational school district's total S.B. 3 allocation minus the sum of the school district's 2011 current expense S.B. 3 allocation and the portion of the school district's total S.B. 3 allocation constituting reimbursement for debt levies pursuant to division (D) of section 5727.85 of the Revised Code.

(22) "2010 non-current expense S.B. 3 allocation" means the difference

of a municipal corporation's total S.B. 3 allocation minus the sum of its 2010 current expense S.B. 3 allocation and the portion of its total S.B. 3 allocation constituting reimbursement for debt levies pursuant to division (A)(4) of section 5727.86 of the Revised Code.

(23) "Threshold per cent" means, in the case of a school district or joint vocational school district, two per cent for fiscal year 2012 and four per cent for fiscal years 2013 and thereafter. In the case of a local taxing unit, "threshold per cent" means two per cent for calendar year 2011, four per cent for calendar year 2012, and six per cent for calendar years 2013 and thereafter.

(B) The kilowatt-hour tax receipts fund is hereby created in the state treasury and shall consist of money arising from the tax imposed by section 5727.81 of the Revised Code. All money in the kilowatt-hour tax receipts fund shall be credited as follows:

~~(1) Sixty-three per cent shall be credited to the general revenue fund.~~

~~(2) Twenty-five and four-tenths per cent shall be credited to the school district property tax replacement fund, which is hereby created in the state treasury for the purpose of making the payments described in section 5727.85 of the Revised Code.~~

~~(3) Eleven and six-tenths per cent shall be credited to the local government property tax replacement fund, which is hereby created in the state treasury for the purpose of making the payments described in section 5727.86 of the Revised Code.~~

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>General Revenue Fund</u>	<u>School District Property Tax Replacement Fund</u>	<u>Local Government Property Tax Replacement Fund</u>
<u>2001-2011</u>	<u>63.0%</u>	<u>25.4%</u>	<u>11.6%</u>
<u>2012 and thereafter</u>	<u>88.0%</u>	<u>9.0%</u>	<u>3.0%</u>

(C) The natural gas tax receipts fund is hereby created in the state treasury and shall consist of money arising from the tax imposed by section 5727.811 of the Revised Code. All money in the fund shall be credited as follows:

(1) For fiscal years before fiscal year 2012:

(a) Sixty-eight and seven-tenths per cent shall be credited to the school district property tax replacement fund for the purpose of making the payments described in section 5727.85 of the Revised Code.

~~(2)~~(b) Thirty-one and three-tenths per cent shall be credited to the local

government property tax replacement fund for the purpose of making the payments described in section 5727.86 of the Revised Code.

(2) For fiscal years 2012 and thereafter, one hundred per cent to the general revenue fund.

(D) Not later than January 1, 2002, the tax commissioner shall determine for each taxing district its electric company tax value loss, which is the sum of the applicable amounts described in divisions (D)(1) to (4) of this section:

(1) The difference obtained by subtracting the amount described in division (D)(1)(b) from the amount described in division (D)(1)(a) of this section.

(a) The value of electric company and rural electric company tangible personal property as assessed by the tax commissioner for tax year 1998 on a preliminary assessment, or an amended preliminary assessment if issued prior to March 1, 1999, and as apportioned to the taxing district for tax year 1998;

(b) The value of electric company and rural electric company tangible personal property as assessed by the tax commissioner for tax year 1998 had the property been apportioned to the taxing district for tax year 2001, and assessed at the rates in effect for tax year 2001.

(2) The difference obtained by subtracting the amount described in division (D)(2)(b) from the amount described in division (D)(2)(a) of this section.

(a) The three-year average for tax years 1996, 1997, and 1998 of the assessed value from nuclear fuel materials and assemblies assessed against a person under Chapter 5711. of the Revised Code from the leasing of them to an electric company for those respective tax years, as reflected in the preliminary assessments;

(b) The three-year average assessed value from nuclear fuel materials and assemblies assessed under division (D)(2)(a) of this section for tax years 1996, 1997, and 1998, as reflected in the preliminary assessments, using an assessment rate of twenty-five per cent.

(3) In the case of a taxing district having a nuclear power plant within its territory, any amount, resulting in an electric company tax value loss, obtained by subtracting the amount described in division (D)(1) of this section from the difference obtained by subtracting the amount described in division (D)(3)(b) of this section from the amount described in division (D)(3)(a) of this section.

(a) The value of electric company tangible personal property as assessed by the tax commissioner for tax year 2000 on a preliminary assessment, or

an amended preliminary assessment if issued prior to March 1, 2001, and as apportioned to the taxing district for tax year 2000;

(b) The value of electric company tangible personal property as assessed by the tax commissioner for tax year 2001 on a preliminary assessment, or an amended preliminary assessment if issued prior to March 1, 2002, and as apportioned to the taxing district for tax year 2001.

(4) In the case of a taxing district having a nuclear power plant within its territory, the difference obtained by subtracting the amount described in division (D)(4)(b) of this section from the amount described in division (D)(4)(a) of this section, provided that such difference is greater than ten per cent of the amount described in division (D)(4)(a) of this section.

(a) The value of electric company tangible personal property as assessed by the tax commissioner for tax year 2005 on a preliminary assessment, or an amended preliminary assessment if issued prior to March 1, 2006, and as apportioned to the taxing district for tax year 2005;

(b) The value of electric company tangible personal property as assessed by the tax commissioner for tax year 2006 on a preliminary assessment, or an amended preliminary assessment if issued prior to March 1, 2007, and as apportioned to the taxing district for tax year 2006.

(E) Not later than January 1, 2002, the tax commissioner shall determine for each taxing district its natural gas company tax value loss, which is the sum of the amounts described in divisions (E)(1) and (2) of this section:

(1) The difference obtained by subtracting the amount described in division (E)(1)(b) from the amount described in division (E)(1)(a) of this section.

(a) The value of all natural gas company tangible personal property, other than property described in division (E)(2) of this section, as assessed by the tax commissioner for tax year 1999 on a preliminary assessment, or an amended preliminary assessment if issued prior to March 1, 2000, and apportioned to the taxing district for tax year 1999;

(b) The value of all natural gas company tangible personal property, other than property described in division (E)(2) of this section, as assessed by the tax commissioner for tax year 1999 had the property been apportioned to the taxing district for tax year 2001, and assessed at the rates in effect for tax year 2001.

(2) The difference in the value of current gas obtained by subtracting the amount described in division (E)(2)(b) from the amount described in division (E)(2)(a) of this section.

(a) The three-year average assessed value of current gas as assessed by the tax commissioner for tax years 1997, 1998, and 1999 on a preliminary

assessment, or an amended preliminary assessment if issued prior to March 1, 2001, and as apportioned in the taxing district for those respective years;

(b) The three-year average assessed value from current gas under division (E)(2)(a) of this section for tax years 1997, 1998, and 1999, as reflected in the preliminary assessment, using an assessment rate of twenty-five per cent.

(F) The tax commissioner may request that natural gas companies, electric companies, and rural electric companies file a report to help determine the tax value loss under divisions (D) and (E) of this section. The report shall be filed within thirty days of the commissioner's request. A company that fails to file the report or does not timely file the report is subject to the penalty in section 5727.60 of the Revised Code.

(G) Not later than January 1, 2002, the tax commissioner shall determine for each school district, joint vocational school district, and local taxing unit its fixed-rate levy loss, which is the sum of its electric company tax value loss multiplied by the tax rate in effect in tax year 1998 for fixed-rate levies and its natural gas company tax value loss multiplied by the tax rate in effect in tax year 1999 for fixed-rate levies.

(H) Not later than January 1, 2002, the tax commissioner shall determine for each school district, joint vocational school district, and local taxing unit its fixed-sum levy loss, which is the amount obtained by subtracting the amount described in division (H)(2) of this section from the amount described in division (H)(1) of this section:

(1) The sum of the electric company tax value loss multiplied by the tax rate in effect in tax year 1998, and the natural gas company tax value loss multiplied by the tax rate in effect in tax year 1999, for fixed-sum levies for all taxing districts within each school district, joint vocational school district, and local taxing unit. For the years 2002 through 2006, this computation shall include school district emergency levies that existed in 1998 in the case of the electric company tax value loss, and 1999 in the case of the natural gas company tax value loss, and all other fixed-sum levies that existed in 1998 in the case of the electric company tax value loss and 1999 in the case of the natural gas company tax value loss and continue to be charged in the tax year preceding the distribution year. For the years 2007 through 2016 in the case of school district emergency levies, and for all years after 2006 in the case of all other fixed-sum levies, this computation shall exclude all fixed-sum levies that existed in 1998 in the case of the electric company tax value loss and 1999 in the case of the natural gas company tax value loss, but are no longer in effect in the tax year preceding the distribution year. For the purposes of this section, an emergency levy

that existed in 1998 in the case of the electric company tax value loss, and 1999 in the case of the natural gas company tax value loss, continues to exist in a year beginning on or after January 1, 2007, but before January 1, 2017, if, in that year, the board of education levies a school district emergency levy for an annual sum at least equal to the annual sum levied by the board in tax year 1998 or 1999, respectively, less the amount of the payment certified under this division for 2002.

(2) The total taxable value in tax year 1999 less the tax value loss in each school district, joint vocational school district, and local taxing unit multiplied by one-fourth of one mill.

If the amount computed under division (H) of this section for any school district, joint vocational school district, or local taxing unit is greater than zero, that amount shall equal the fixed-sum levy loss reimbursed pursuant to division ~~(E)~~(F) of section 5727.85 of the Revised Code or division (A)(2) of section 5727.86 of the Revised Code, and the one-fourth of one mill that is subtracted under division (H)(2) of this section shall be apportioned among all contributing fixed-sum levies in the proportion of each levy to the sum of all fixed-sum levies within each school district, joint vocational school district, or local taxing unit.

(I) Notwithstanding divisions (D), (E), (G), and (H) of this section, in computing the tax value loss, fixed-rate levy loss, and fixed-sum levy loss, the tax commissioner shall use the greater of the 1998 tax rate or the 1999 tax rate in the case of levy losses associated with the electric company tax value loss, but the 1999 tax rate shall not include for this purpose any tax levy approved by the voters after June 30, 1999, and the tax commissioner shall use the greater of the 1999 or the 2000 tax rate in the case of levy losses associated with the natural gas company tax value loss.

(J) Not later than January 1, 2002, the tax commissioner shall certify to the department of education the tax value loss determined under divisions (D) and (E) of this section for each taxing district, the fixed-rate levy loss calculated under division (G) of this section, and the fixed-sum levy loss calculated under division (H) of this section. The calculations under divisions (G) and (H) of this section shall separately display the levy loss for each levy eligible for reimbursement.

(K) Not later than September 1, 2001, the tax commissioner shall certify the amount of the fixed-sum levy loss to the county auditor of each county in which a school district with a fixed-sum levy loss has territory.

Sec. 5727.85. (A) By the thirty-first day of July of each year, beginning in 2002 and ending in ~~2016~~ 2010, the department of education shall determine the following for each school district and each joint vocational

school district:

(1) The state education aid offset, which, except as provided in division (A)(1)(c) of this section, is the difference obtained by subtracting the amount described in division (A)(1)(b) of this section from the amount described in division (A)(1)(a) of this section:

(a) The state education aid computed for the school district or joint vocational school district for the current fiscal year as of the thirty-first day of July;

(b) The state education aid that would be computed for the school district or joint vocational school district for the current fiscal year as of the thirty-first day of July if the recognized valuation included the tax value loss for the school district or joint vocational school district;

(c) The state education aid offset for fiscal year 2010 and fiscal year 2011 equals the greater of the state education aid offset calculated for that fiscal year under divisions (A)(1)(a) and (b) of this section or the state education aid offset calculated for fiscal year 2009.

(2) The For fiscal years 2008 through 2011, the greater of zero or the difference obtained by subtracting the state education aid offset determined under division (A)(1) of this section from the fixed-rate levy loss certified under division (J) of section 5727.84 of the Revised Code for all taxing districts in each school district and joint vocational school district.

By the fifth day of August of each such year, the department of education shall certify the amount so determined under division (A)(1) of this section to the director of budget and management.

(B) Not later than the thirty-first day of October of the years 2006 through ~~2016~~ 2010, the department of education shall determine all of the following for each school district:

(1) The amount obtained by subtracting the district's state education aid computed for fiscal year 2002 from the district's state education aid computed for the current fiscal year as of the fifteenth day of July, by including in the definition of recognized valuation the machinery and equipment, inventory, furniture and fixtures, and telephone property tax value losses, as defined in section 5751.20 of the Revised Code, for the school district or joint vocational school district for the preceding tax year;

(2) The inflation-adjusted property tax loss. The inflation-adjusted property tax loss equals the fixed-rate levy loss, excluding the tax loss from levies within the ten-mill limitation to pay debt charges, determined under division (G) of section 5727.84 of the Revised Code for all taxing districts in each school district, plus the product obtained by multiplying that loss by the cumulative percentage increase in the consumer price index from

January 1, 2002, to the thirtieth day of June of the current year.

(3) The difference obtained by subtracting the amount computed under division (B)(1) from the amount of the inflation-adjusted property tax loss. If this difference is zero or a negative number, no further payments shall be made under division (C) of this section to the school district from the school district property tax replacement fund.

(C) The Beginning in 2002 for school districts and beginning in August 2011 for joint vocational school districts, the department of education shall pay from the school district property tax replacement fund to each school district all of the following:

(1) In February 2002, one-half of the fixed-rate levy loss certified under division (J) of section 5727.84 of the Revised Code between the twenty-first and twenty-eighth days of February.

(2) From August 2002 through ~~August 2017~~ February 2011, one-half of the amount calculated for that fiscal year under division (A)(2) of this section between the twenty-first and twenty-eighth days of August and of February, provided the difference computed under division (B)(3) of this section is not less than or equal to zero.

~~For~~ (3) For fiscal years 2012 and thereafter, the sum of the amounts in divisions (C)(3)(a) or (b) and (c) of this section shall be paid on or before the thirty-first day of August and the twenty-eighth day of February:

(a) If the ratio of 2011 current expense S.B. 3 allocation to total resources is equal to or less than the threshold per cent, zero;

(b) If the ratio of 2011 current expense S.B. 3 allocation to total resources is greater than the threshold per cent, fifty per cent of the difference of 2011 current expense S.B. 3 allocation minus the product of total resources multiplied by the threshold per cent;

(c) Fifty per cent of the product of 2011 non-current expense S.B. 3 allocation multiplied by seventy-five per cent for fiscal year 2012 and fifty per cent for fiscal years 2013 and thereafter.

The department of education shall report to each school district the apportionment of the payments among the school district's funds based on the certifications under division (J) of section 5727.84 of the Revised Code.

(D) For taxes levied within the ten-mill limitation for debt purposes in tax year 1998 in the case of electric company tax value losses, and in tax year 1999 in the case of natural gas company tax value losses, payments shall be made equal to one hundred per cent of the loss computed as if the tax were a fixed-rate levy, but those payments shall extend from fiscal year 2006 through fiscal year 2016.

~~The department of education shall report to each school district the~~

~~apportionment of the payments among the school district's funds based on the certifications under division (J) of section 5727.84 of the Revised Code.~~

~~(D)~~(E) Not later than January 1, 2002, for all taxing districts in each joint vocational school district, the tax commissioner shall certify to the department of education the fixed-rate levy loss determined under division (G) of section 5727.84 of the Revised Code. From February 2002 ~~to August 2016~~ through February 2011, the department shall pay from the school district property tax replacement fund to the joint vocational school district one-half of the amount calculated for that fiscal year under division (A)(2) of this section between the twenty-first and twenty-eighth days of August and of February.

~~(E)~~(F)(1) Not later than January 1, 2002, for each fixed-sum levy levied by each school district or joint vocational school district and for each year for which a determination is made under division (H) of section 5727.84 of the Revised Code that a fixed-sum levy loss is to be reimbursed, the tax commissioner shall certify to the department of education the fixed-sum levy loss determined under that division. The certification shall cover a time period sufficient to include all fixed-sum levies for which the tax commissioner made such a determination. The department shall pay from the school district property tax replacement fund to the school district or joint vocational school district one-half of the fixed-sum levy loss so certified for each year between the twenty-first and twenty-eighth days of August and of February.

(2) Beginning in 2003, by the thirty-first day of January of each year, the tax commissioner shall review the certification originally made under division ~~(E)~~(F)(1) of this section. If the commissioner determines that a debt levy that had been scheduled to be reimbursed in the current year has expired, a revised certification for that and all subsequent years shall be made to the department of education.

~~(F)~~(G) If the balance of the half-mill equalization fund created under section 3318.18 of the Revised Code is insufficient to make the full amount of payments required under division (D) of that section, the department of education, at the end of the third quarter of the fiscal year, shall certify to the director of budget and management the amount of the deficiency, and the director shall transfer an amount equal to the deficiency from the school district property tax replacement fund to the half-mill equalization fund.

~~(G)~~(H) Beginning in August 2002, and ending in May ~~2017~~ 2011, the director of budget and management shall transfer from the school district property tax replacement fund to the general revenue fund each of the following:

(1) Between the twenty-eighth day of August and the fifth day of September, the lesser of one-half of the amount certified for that fiscal year under division (A)(2) of this section or the balance in the school district property tax replacement fund;

(2) Between the first and fifth days of May, the lesser of one-half of the amount certified for that fiscal year under division (A)(2) of this section or the balance in the school district property tax replacement fund.

~~(H)(I)~~ On the first day of June each year, the director of budget and management shall transfer any balance remaining in the school district property tax replacement fund after the payments have been made under divisions (C), (D), (E), (F), ~~and (G), and (H)~~ of this section to the half-mill equalization fund created under section 3318.18 of the Revised Code to the extent required to make any payments in the current fiscal year under that section, and shall transfer the remaining balance to the general revenue fund.

~~(I) From (J)~~ After fiscal year 2002 ~~through fiscal year 2016~~, if the total amount in the school district property tax replacement fund is insufficient to make all payments under divisions (C), (D), (E), ~~and (F), and (G)~~ of this section at the time the payments are to be made, the director of budget and management shall transfer from the general revenue fund to the school district property tax replacement fund the difference between the total amount to be paid and the total amount in the school district property tax replacement fund, except that no transfer shall be made by reason of a deficiency to the extent that it results from the amendment of section 5727.84 of the Revised Code by Amended Substitute House Bill No. 95 of the 125th general assembly.

~~(J)(K)~~ If all of the territory of a school district or joint vocational school district is merged with an existing district, or if a part of the territory of a school district or joint vocational school district is transferred to an existing or new district, the department of education, in consultation with the tax commissioner, shall adjust the payments made under this section as follows:

(1) For the merger of all of the territory of two or more districts, the ~~fixed-rate levy loss and the total resources, 2011 current expense S.B. 3 allocation, total 2011 S.B. 3 allocation, 2011 non-current expense S.B. 3 allocation, and~~ fixed-sum levy loss of the successor district shall be equal to the sum of the ~~fixed-rate levy losses and the total resources, 2011 current expense S.B. 3 allocation, total 2011 S.B. 3 allocation, 2011 non-current expense S.B. 3 allocation, and~~ fixed-sum levy losses ~~loss~~ for each of the districts involved in the merger.

(2) For the transfer of a part of one district's territory to an existing district, the amount of the ~~fixed-rate levy loss~~ total resources, 2011 current

expense S.B. 3 allocation, total 2011 S.B. 3 allocation, and 2011 non-current expense S.B. 3 allocation that is transferred to the recipient district shall be an amount equal to the transferring district's ~~total fixed-rate levy loss total resources, 2011 current expense S.B. 3 allocation, total 2011 S.B. 3 allocation, and 2011 non-current expense S.B. 3 allocation~~ times a fraction, the numerator of which is the ~~value of electric company tangible personal property located in the part of the territory that was~~ number of pupils being transferred to the recipient district, measured, in the case of a school district, by average daily membership as reported under division (A) of section 3317.03 of the Revised Code or, in the case of a joint vocational school district, by formula ADM as reported in division (D) of that section, and the denominator of which is the ~~total value of electric company tangible personal property located in the entire district from which the territory was transferred.~~ The value of electric company tangible personal property under this division shall be determined for the most recent year for which data is available average daily membership or formula ADM of the transferor district. Fixed-sum levy losses for both districts shall be determined under division ~~(J)~~(K)(4) of this section.

(3) For the transfer of a part of the territory of one or more districts to create a new district:

(a) If the new district is created on or after January 1, 2000, but before January 1, 2005, the new district shall be paid its current fixed-rate levy loss through August 2009. ~~From~~ In February 2010 ~~to, August 2016 2010, and February 2011,~~ the new district shall be paid fifty per cent of the lesser of: (i) the amount calculated under division (C)(2) of this section or (ii) an amount equal to seventy per cent of the new district's fixed-rate levy loss ~~multiplied by the percentage prescribed by the following schedule:~~

YEAR	PERCENTAGE
2010	70%
2011	70%
2012	60%
2013	50%
2014	40%
2015	24%
2016	11.5%
2017 and thereafter	0%.

Beginning in fiscal year 2012, the new district shall be paid as provided in division (C) of this section.

Fixed-sum levy losses for the districts shall be determined under division ~~(J)~~(K)(4) of this section.

(b) If the new district is created on or after January 1, 2005, the new district shall be deemed not to have any fixed-rate levy loss or, except as provided in division ~~(J)~~(K)(4) of this section, fixed-sum levy loss. The district or districts from which the territory was transferred shall have no reduction in their fixed-rate levy loss, or, except as provided in division ~~(J)~~(K)(4) of this section, their fixed-sum levy loss.

(4) If a recipient district under division ~~(J)~~(K)(2) of this section or a new district under division ~~(J)~~(K)(3)(a) or (b) of this section takes on debt from one or more of the districts from which territory was transferred, and any of the districts transferring the territory had fixed-sum levy losses, the department of education, in consultation with the tax commissioner, shall make an equitable division of the fixed-sum levy losses.

~~(K) There is hereby created the public utility property tax study committee, effective January 1, 2011. The committee shall consist of the following seven members: the tax commissioner, three members of the senate appointed by the president of the senate, and three members of the house of representatives appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives. The appointments shall be made not later than January 31, 2011. The tax commissioner shall be the chairperson of the committee.~~

~~The committee shall study the extent to which each school district or joint vocational school district has been compensated, under sections 5727.84 and 5727.85 of the Revised Code as enacted by Substitute Senate Bill No. 3 of the 123rd general assembly and any subsequent acts, for the property tax loss caused by the reduction in the assessment rates for natural gas, electric, and rural electric company tangible personal property. Not later than June 30, 2011, the committee shall issue a report of its findings, including any recommendations for providing additional compensation for the property tax loss or regarding remedial legislation, to the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives, at which time the committee shall cease to exist.~~

~~The department of taxation and department of education shall provide such information and assistance as is required for the committee to carry out its duties.~~

Sec. 5727.86. (A) Not later than January 1, 2002, the tax commissioner shall compute the payments to be made to each local taxing unit for each year according to divisions (A)(1), (2), (3), and (4) and division (E) of this section, and shall distribute the payments in the manner prescribed by division (C) of this section. The calculation of the fixed-sum levy loss shall cover a time period sufficient to include all fixed-sum levies for which the tax commissioner determined, pursuant to division (H) of section 5727.84 of

the Revised Code, that a fixed-sum levy loss is to be reimbursed.

(1) Except as provided in divisions (A)(3) and (4) of this section, ~~for fixed-rate levy losses determined under division (G) of section 5727.84 of the Revised Code, payments shall be made in each of the following years at the following percentage of the fixed-rate levy loss certified under division (A) of this section:~~

YEAR	PERCENTAGE
2002	100%
2003	100%
2004	100%
2005	100%
2006	100%
2007	80%
2008	80%
2009	80%
2010	80%
2011	80%
2012	66.7%
2013	53.4%
2014	40.1%
2015	26.8%
2016	13.5%
2017 and thereafter	0%

the following amounts shall be paid on or before the thirty-first day of August and the twenty-eighth day of February:

(a) For years 2002 through 2006, fifty per cent of the fixed-rate levy loss computed under division (G) of section 5727.84 of the Revised Code;

(b) For years 2007 through 2010, forty per cent of the fixed rate levy loss computed under division (G) of section 5727.84 of the Revised Code;

(c) For the payment in 2011 to be made on or before the twentieth day of February, the amount required to be paid in 2010 on or before the twentieth day of February;

(d) For the payment in 2011 to be made on or before the thirty-first day of August and for all payments to be made in years 2012 and thereafter, the sum of the amounts in divisions (A)(1)(d)(i) or (ii) and (iii) of this section:

(i) If the ratio of fifty per cent of the taxing unit's 2010 S.B. 3 allocation to its total resources is equal to or less than the threshold per cent, zero;

(ii) If the ratio of fifty per cent of the taxing unit's 2010 S.B. 3 allocation to its total resources is greater than the threshold per cent, the difference of fifty per cent of the 2010 S.B. 3 allocation minus the product of total

resources multiplied by the threshold per cent;

(iii) In the case of a municipal corporation, fifty per cent of the product of its 2010 non-current expense S.B. 3 allocation multiplied by seventy-five per cent for year 2011, fifty per cent for year 2012, and twenty-five percent for years 2013 and thereafter.

(2) For fixed-sum levy losses determined under division (H) of section 5727.84 of the Revised Code, payments shall be made in the amount of one hundred per cent of the fixed-sum levy loss for payments required to be made in 2002 and thereafter.

(3) A local taxing unit in a county of less than two hundred fifty square miles that receives eighty per cent or more of its combined general fund and bond retirement fund revenues from property taxes and rollbacks based on 1997 actual revenues as presented in its 1999 tax budget, and in which electric companies and rural electric companies comprise over twenty per cent of its property valuation, shall receive one hundred per cent of its fixed-rate levy losses from electric company tax value losses certified under division (A) of this section in years 2002 to ~~2016~~ 2010. Beginning in 2011, payments for such local taxing units shall be determined under division (A)(1) of this section.

(4) For taxes levied within the ten-mill limitation or pursuant to a municipal charter for debt purposes in tax year 1998 in the case of electric company tax value losses, and in tax year 1999 in the case of natural gas company tax value losses, payments shall be made equal to one hundred per cent of the loss computed as if the tax were a fixed-rate levy, but those payments shall extend from ~~fiscal year 2006~~ 2011 through ~~fiscal year 2016~~ if the levy was imposed for debt purposes in tax year 2010. If the levy is not imposed for debt purposes in tax year 2010 or any following tax year before tax year 2016, payments for that levy shall be made under division (A)(1) of this section beginning with the first year after the year the levy is imposed for a purpose other than debt. For the purposes of this division, taxes levied pursuant to a municipal charter refer to taxes levied pursuant to a provision of a municipal charter that permits the tax to be levied without prior voter approval.

(B) Beginning in 2003, by the thirty-first day of January of each year, the tax commissioner shall review the calculation originally made under division (A) of this section of the fixed-sum levy loss determined under division (H) of section 5727.84 of the Revised Code. If the commissioner determines that a fixed-sum levy that had been scheduled to be reimbursed in the current year has expired, a revised calculation for that and all subsequent years shall be made.

(C) Payments to local taxing units required to be made under divisions (A) and (E) of this section shall be paid from the local government property tax replacement fund to the county undivided income tax fund in the proper county treasury. ~~One half of the amount certified under those divisions shall be paid between the twenty-first and twenty-eighth days of August and of February.~~ The county treasurer shall distribute amounts paid under division (A) of this section to the proper local taxing unit as if they had been levied and collected as taxes, and the local taxing unit shall apportion the amounts so received among its funds in the same proportions as if those amounts had been levied and collected as taxes. Except in the case of amounts distributed to the county as a local taxing unit, amounts distributed under division (E)(2) of this section shall be credited to the general fund of the local taxing unit that receives them. Amounts distributed to each county as a local taxing unit under division (E)(2) of this section shall be credited in the proportion that the current taxes charged and payable from each levy of or by the county bears to the total current taxes charged and payable from all levies of or by the county.

(D) By February 5, 2002, the tax commissioner shall estimate the amount of money in the local government property tax replacement fund in excess of the amount necessary to make payments in that month under division (C) of this section. Notwithstanding division (A) of this section, the tax commissioner may pay any local taxing unit, from those excess funds, nine and four-tenths times the amount computed for 2002 under division (A)(1) of this section. A payment made under this division shall be in lieu of the payment to be made in February 2002 under division (A)(1) of this section. A local taxing unit receiving a payment under this division will no longer be entitled to any further payments under division (A)(1) of this section. A payment made under this division shall be paid from the local government property tax replacement fund to the county undivided income tax fund in the proper county treasury. The county treasurer shall distribute the payment to the proper local taxing unit as if it had been levied and collected as taxes, and the local taxing unit shall apportion the amounts so received among its funds in the same proportions as if those amounts had been levied and collected as taxes.

(E)(1) On the thirty-first day of July of 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, and 2006, and on the thirty-first day of January and July of 2007 ~~and each year thereafter~~ through January 2011, if the amount credited to the local government property tax replacement fund exceeds the amount needed to be distributed from the fund under division (A) of this section in the following month, the tax commissioner shall distribute the excess to each county as

follows:

(a) One-half shall be distributed to each county in proportion to each county's population.

(b) One-half shall be distributed to each county in the proportion that the amounts determined under divisions (G) and (H) of section 5727.84 of the Revised Code for all local taxing units in the county is of the total amounts so determined for all local taxing units in the state.

(2) The amounts distributed to each county under division (E) of this section shall be distributed by the county auditor to each local taxing unit in the county in the proportion that the unit's current taxes charged and payable are of the total current taxes charged and payable of all the local taxing units in the county. If the amount that the county auditor determines to be distributed to a local taxing unit is less than five dollars, that amount shall not be distributed, and the amount not distributed shall remain credited to the county undivided income tax fund. At the time of the next distribution under division (E)(2) of this section, any amount that had not been distributed in the prior distribution shall be added to the amount available for the next distribution prior to calculation of the amount to be distributed. As used in this division, "current taxes charged and payable" means the taxes charged and payable as most recently determined for local taxing units in the county.

~~(3) If, in the opinion of the tax commissioner, the excess remaining in the local government property tax replacement fund in any year is not sufficient to warrant distribution~~ After January 2011, any amount that exceeds the amount needed to be distributed from the fund under division (E)(A) of this section, the excess shall remain to the credit of in the following month shall be transferred to the general revenue fund.

~~(F) From fiscal year 2002 through fiscal year 2016, if~~ If the total amount in the local government property tax replacement fund is insufficient to make all payments under division (C) of this section at the times the payments are to be made, the director of budget and management shall transfer from the general revenue fund to the local government property tax replacement fund the difference between the total amount to be paid and the amount in the local government property tax replacement fund, except that no transfer shall be made by reason of a deficiency to the extent that it results from the amendment of section 5727.84 of the Revised Code by Amended Substitute House Bill 95 of the 125th general assembly.

(G) If all or a part of the territories of two or more local taxing units are merged, or unincorporated territory of a township is annexed by a municipal corporation, the tax commissioner shall adjust the payments made under this

section to each of the local taxing units in proportion to the ~~tax value less square mileage~~ apportioned to the merged or annexed territory, or as otherwise provided by a written agreement between the legislative authorities of the local taxing units certified to the tax commissioner not later than the first day of June of the calendar year in which the payment is to be made.

Sec. 5729.17. (A) As used in this section, "certificate owner" has the same meaning as in section 149.311 of the Revised Code.

(B) There is allowed a credit against the tax imposed by section 5729.03 of the Revised Code for an insurance company subject to that tax that is a certificate owner of a rehabilitation tax credit certificate issued under section 149.311 of the Revised Code. The credit shall equal twenty-five per cent of the dollar amount indicated on the certificate, but the amount of the credit allowed for any company for any year shall not exceed five million dollars. The credit shall be claimed in the calendar year specified in the certificate and in the order required under section 5729.98 of the Revised Code. If the credit exceeds the amount of tax otherwise due in that year, the excess shall be refunded to the company but, if any amount of the credit is refunded, the sum of the amount refunded and the amount applied to reduce the tax otherwise due in that year shall not exceed three million dollars. The company may carry forward any balance of the credit in excess of the amount claimed in that year for not more than five ensuing years, and shall deduct any amount claimed in any such year from the amount claimed in an ensuing year.

(C) An insurance company claiming a credit under this section shall retain the rehabilitation tax credit certificate for four years following the end of the year in which the credit was claimed, and shall make the certificate available for inspection by the tax commissioner upon the request of the tax commissioner during that period.

Sec. 5729.98. (A) To provide a uniform procedure for calculating the amount of tax due under this chapter, a taxpayer shall claim any credits and offsets against tax liability to which it is entitled in the following order:

(1) The credit for an insurance company or insurance company group under section 5729.031 of the Revised Code;

(2) The credit for eligible employee training costs under section 5729.07 of the Revised Code;

(3) The credit for purchases of qualified low-income community investments under section 5729.16 of the Revised Code;

(4) The nonrefundable job retention credit under division (B)(1) of section 122.171 of the Revised Code;

(5) The offset of assessments by the Ohio life and health insurance guaranty association against tax liability permitted by section 3956.20 of the Revised Code;

(6) The refundable credit for rehabilitating a historic building under section 5729.17 of the Revised Code.

(7) The refundable credit for Ohio job retention under division (B)(2) or (3) of section 122.171 of the Revised Code;

~~(7)~~(8) The refundable credit for Ohio job creation under section 5729.032 of the Revised Code;

~~(8)~~(9) The refundable credit under section 5729.08 of the Revised Code for losses on loans made under the Ohio venture capital program under sections 150.01 to 150.10 of the Revised Code.

(B) For any credit except the refundable credits enumerated in this section, the amount of the credit for a taxable year shall not exceed the tax due after allowing for any other credit that precedes it in the order required under this section. Any excess amount of a particular credit may be carried forward if authorized under the section creating that credit. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to allow a taxpayer to claim, directly or indirectly, a credit more than once for a taxable year.

Sec. 5731.02. (A) A tax is hereby levied on the transfer of the taxable estate, determined as provided in section 5731.14 of the Revised Code, of every person dying on or after July 1, 1968, and before January 1, 2013, who at the time of death was a resident of this state, as follows:

If the taxable estate is:	The tax shall be:
Not over \$40,000	2% of the taxable estate
Over \$40,000 but not over \$100,000	\$800 plus 3% of the excess over \$40,000
Over \$100,000 but not over \$200,000	\$2,600 plus 4% of the excess over \$100,000
Over \$200,000 but not over \$300,000	\$6,600 plus 5% of the excess over \$200,000
Over \$300,000 but not over \$500,000	\$11,600 plus 6% of the excess over \$300,000
Over \$500,000	\$23,600 plus 7% of the excess over \$500,000.

(B) A credit shall be allowed against the tax imposed by division (A) of this section equal to the lesser of five hundred dollars or the amount of the tax for persons dying on or after July 1, 1968, but before January 1, 2001; the lesser of six thousand six hundred dollars or the amount of the tax for persons dying on or after January 1, 2001, but before January 1, 2002; or the

lesser of thirteen thousand nine hundred dollars or the amount of the tax for persons dying on or after January 1, 2002.

Sec. 5731.19. (A) A tax is hereby levied upon the transfer of so much of the taxable estate of every person dying on or after July 1, 1968, and before January 1, 2013, who, at the time of ~~his~~ death, was not a resident of this state, as consists of real property situated in this state, tangible personal property having an actual situs in this state, and intangible personal property employed in carrying on a business within this state unless exempted from tax under the provisions of section 5731.34 of the Revised Code.

(B) The amount of the tax on such real and tangible personal property shall be determined as follows:

(1) Determine the amount of tax which would be payable under Chapter 5731. of the Revised Code if the decedent had died a resident of this state with all ~~his~~ the decedent's property situated or located within this state;

(2) Multiply the tax so determined by a fraction, the denominator of which shall be the value of the gross estate wherever situated and the numerator of which shall be the said gross estate value of the real property situated and the tangible personal property having an actual situs in this state and intangible personal property employed in carrying on a business within this state and not exempted from tax under section 5731.34 of the Revised Code. The product shall be the amount of tax payable to this state.

(C) In addition to the tax levied by division (A) of this section, an additional tax is hereby levied on such real and tangible personal property determined as follows:

(1) Determine the amount of tax which would be payable under division (A) of section 5731.18 of the Revised Code, if the decedent had died a resident of this state with all ~~his~~ the decedent's property situated or located within this state;

(2) Multiply the tax so determined by a fraction, the denominator of which shall be the value of the gross estate wherever situated and the numerator of which shall be the said gross estate value of the real property situated and the tangible property having an actual situs in this state and intangible personal property employed in carrying on a business within this state and not exempted from tax under section 5731.34 of the Revised Code. The product so derived shall be credited with the amount of the tax determined under division (B) of this section.

Sec. 5731.21. (A)(1)(a) Except as provided under division (A)(3) of this section, the executor or administrator, or, if no executor or administrator has been appointed, another person in possession of property the transfer of which is subject to estate taxes under section 5731.02 or division (A) of

section 5731.19 of the Revised Code, shall file an estate tax return, within nine months of the date of the decedent's death, in the form prescribed by the tax commissioner, in duplicate, with the probate court of the county. The return shall include all property the transfer of which is subject to estate taxes, whether that property is transferred under the last will and testament of the decedent or otherwise. The time for filing the return may be extended by the tax commissioner.

(b) The estate tax return described in division (A)(1)(a) of this section shall be accompanied by a certificate, in the form prescribed by the tax commissioner, that is signed by the executor, administrator, or other person required to file the return, and that states all of the following:

- (i) The fact that the return was filed;
- (ii) The date of the filing of the return;
- (iii) The fact that the estate taxes under section 5731.02 or division (A) of section 5731.19 of the Revised Code, that are shown to be due in the return, have been paid in full;
- (iv) If applicable, the fact that real property listed in the inventory for the decedent's estate is included in the return;
- (v) If applicable, the fact that real property not listed in the inventory for the decedent's estate, including, but not limited to, survivorship tenancy property as described in section 5302.17 of the Revised Code or transfer on death property as described in sections 5302.22 and 5302.23 of the Revised Code, also is included in the return. In this regard, the certificate additionally shall describe that real property by the same description used in the return.

(2) The probate court shall forward one copy of the estate tax return described in division (A)(1)(a) of this section to the tax commissioner.

(3) A person shall not be required to file a return under division (A) of this section if the decedent was a resident of this state and the value of the decedent's gross estate is twenty-five thousand dollars or less in the case of a decedent dying on or after July 1, 1968, but before January 1, 2001; two hundred thousand dollars or less in the case of a decedent dying on or after January 1, 2001, but before January 1, 2002; or three hundred thirty-eight thousand three hundred thirty-three dollars or less in the case of a decedent dying on or after January 1, 2002. No return shall be filed for estates of decedents dying on or after January 1, 2013.

(4)(a) Upon receipt of the estate tax return described in division (A)(1)(a) of this section and the accompanying certificate described in division (A)(1)(b) of this section, the probate court promptly shall give notice of the return, by a form prescribed by the tax commissioner, to the

county auditor. The auditor then shall make a charge based upon the notice and shall certify a duplicate of the charge to the county treasurer. The treasurer then shall collect, subject to division (A) of section 5731.25 of the Revised Code or any other statute extending the time for payment of an estate tax, the tax so charged.

(b) Upon receipt of the return and the accompanying certificate, the probate court also shall forward the certificate to the auditor. When satisfied that the estate taxes under section 5731.02 or division (A) of section 5731.19 of the Revised Code, that are shown to be due in the return, have been paid in full, the auditor shall stamp the certificate so forwarded to verify that payment. The auditor then shall return the stamped certificate to the probate court.

(5)(a) The certificate described in division (A)(1)(b) of this section is a public record subject to inspection and copying in accordance with section 149.43 of the Revised Code. It shall be kept in the records of the probate court pertaining to the decedent's estate and is not subject to the confidentiality provisions of section 5731.90 of the Revised Code.

(b) All persons are entitled to rely on the statements contained in a certificate as described in division (A)(1)(b) of this section if it has been filed in accordance with that division, forwarded to a county auditor and stamped in accordance with division (A)(4) of this section, and placed in the records of the probate court pertaining to the decedent's estate in accordance with division (A)(5)(a) of this section. The real property referred to in the certificate shall be free of, and may be regarded by all persons as being free of, any lien for estate taxes under section 5731.02 and division (A) of section 5731.19 of the Revised Code.

(B) An estate tax return filed under this section, in the form prescribed by the tax commissioner, and showing that no estate tax is due shall result in a determination that no estate tax is due, if the tax commissioner within three months after the receipt of the return by the department of taxation, fails to file exceptions to the return in the probate court of the county in which the return was filed. A copy of exceptions to a return of that nature, when the tax commissioner files them within that period, shall be sent by ordinary mail to the person who filed the return. The tax commissioner is not bound under this division by a determination that no estate tax is due, with respect to property not disclosed in the return.

(C) If the executor, administrator, or other person required to file an estate tax return fails to file it within nine months of the date of the decedent's death, the tax commissioner may determine the estate tax in that estate and issue a certificate of determination in the same manner as is

provided in division (B) of section 5731.27 of the Revised Code. A certificate of determination of that nature has the same force and effect as though a return had been filed and a certificate of determination issued with respect to the return.

Sec. 5731.39. (A) No corporation organized or existing under the laws of this state shall transfer on its books or issue a new certificate for any share of its capital stock registered in the name of a decedent, or in trust for a decedent, or in the name of a decedent and another person or persons, without the written consent of the tax commissioner.

(B) No safe deposit company, trust company, financial institution as defined in division (A) of section 5725.01 of the Revised Code or other corporation or person, having in possession, control, or custody a deposit standing in the name of a decedent, or in trust for a decedent, or in the name of a decedent and another person or persons, shall deliver or transfer an amount in excess of three-fourths of the total value of such deposit, including accrued interest and dividends, as of the date of decedent's death, without the written consent of the tax commissioner. The written consent of the tax commissioner need not be obtained prior to the delivery or transfer of amounts having a value of three-fourths or less of said total value.

(C) No life insurance company shall pay the proceeds of an annuity or matured endowment contract, or of a life insurance contract payable to the estate of a decedent, or of any other insurance contract taxable under Chapter 5731. of the Revised Code, without the written consent of the tax commissioner. Any life insurance company may pay the proceeds of any insurance contract not specified in this division (C) without the written consent of the tax commissioner.

(D) No trust company or other corporation or person shall pay the proceeds of any death benefit, retirement, pension or profit sharing plan in excess of two thousand dollars, without the written consent of the tax commissioner. Such trust company or other corporation or person, however, may pay the proceeds of any death benefit, retirement, pension, or profit-sharing plan which consists of insurance on the life of the decedent payable to a beneficiary other than the estate of the insured without the written consent of the tax commissioner.

(E) No safe deposit company, trust company, financial institution as defined in division (A) of section 5725.01 of the Revised Code, or other corporation or person, having in possession, control, or custody securities, assets, or other property (including the shares of the capital stock of, or other interest in, such safe deposit company, trust company, financial institution as defined in division (A) of section 5725.01 of the Revised Code, or other

corporation), standing in the name of a decedent, or in trust for a decedent, or in the name of a decedent and another person or persons, and the transfer of which is taxable under Chapter 5731. of the Revised Code, shall deliver or transfer any such securities, assets, or other property which have a value as of the date of decedent's death in excess of three-fourths of the total value thereof, without the written consent of the tax commissioner. The written consent of the tax commissioner need not be obtained prior to the delivery or transfer of any such securities, assets, or other property having a value of three-fourths or less of said total value.

(F) No safe deposit company, financial institution as defined in division (A) of section 5725.01 of the Revised Code, or other corporation or person having possession or control of a safe deposit box or similar receptacle standing in the name of a decedent or in the name of the decedent and another person or persons, or to which the decedent had a right of access, except when such safe deposit box or other receptacle stands in the name of a corporation or partnership, or in the name of the decedent as guardian or executor, shall deliver any of the contents thereof unless the safe deposit box or similar receptacle has been opened and inventoried in the presence of the tax commissioner or the commissioner's agent, and a written consent to transfer issued; provided, however, that a safe deposit company, financial institution, or other corporation or person having possession or control of a safe deposit box may deliver wills, deeds to burial lots, and insurance policies to a representative of the decedent, but that a representative of the safe deposit company, financial institution, or other corporation or person must supervise the opening of the box and make a written record of the wills, deeds, and policies removed. Such written record shall be included in the tax commissioner's inventory records.

(G) Notwithstanding any provision of this section:

(1) The tax commissioner may authorize any delivery or transfer or waive any of the foregoing requirements under such terms and conditions as the commissioner may prescribe;

(2) An adult care facility, as defined in section ~~3722.04~~ 5119.70 of the Revised Code, or a home, as defined in section 3721.10 of the Revised Code, may transfer or use the money in a personal needs allowance account in accordance with section 5111.113 of the Revised Code without the written consent of the tax commissioner, and without the account having been opened and inventoried in the presence of the commissioner or the commissioner's agent.

Failure to comply with this section shall render such safe deposit company, trust company, life insurance company, financial institution as

defined in division (A) of section 5725.01 of the Revised Code, or other corporation or person liable for the amount of the taxes and interest due under the provisions of Chapter 5731. of the Revised Code on the transfer of such stock, deposit, proceeds of an annuity or matured endowment contract or of a life insurance contract payable to the estate of a decedent, or other insurance contract taxable under Chapter 5731. of the Revised Code, proceeds of any death benefit, retirement, pension, or profit sharing plan in excess of two thousand dollars, or securities, assets, or other property of any resident decedent, and in addition thereto, to a penalty of not less than five hundred or more than five thousand dollars.

Sec. 5733.0610. (A) A refundable corporation franchise tax credit granted by the tax credit authority under section 122.17 or division (B)(2) or (3) of section 122.171 of the Revised Code may be claimed under this chapter in the order required under section 5733.98 of the Revised Code. For purposes of making tax payments under this chapter, taxes equal to the amount of the refundable credit shall be considered to be paid to this state on the first day of the tax year. The refundable credit shall not be claimed for any tax years following the calendar year in which a relocation of employment positions occurs in violation of an agreement entered into under section 122.171 of the Revised Code.

(B) A nonrefundable corporation franchise tax credit granted by the tax credit authority under division (B)(1) of section 122.171 of the Revised Code may be claimed under this chapter in the order required under section 5733.98 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 5733.23. In addition to all other remedies for the collection of any taxes or penalties due under law, whenever any taxes, fees, or penalties due from any corporation have remained unpaid for a period of ninety days, or whenever any corporation has failed for a period of ninety days to make any report or return required by law, or to pay any penalty for failure to make or file such report or return, the attorney general, upon the request of the tax commissioner, shall file a petition in the court of common pleas in the county of the state in which such corporation has its principal place of business for a judgment for the amount of the taxes or penalties appearing to be due, the enforcement of any lien in favor of the state, and an injunction to restrain such corporation and its officers, directors, and managing agents from the transaction of any business within this state, other than such acts as are incidental to liquidation or winding up, until the payment of such taxes, fees, and penalties, and the costs of the proceeding which shall be fixed by the court, or the making and filing of such report or return.

Such petition shall be in the name of the state. All or any of the

corporations having their principal places of business in the county may be joined in one suit. On the motion of the attorney general, the court of common pleas shall enter an order requiring all defendants to answer by a day certain, and may appoint a special master commissioner to take testimony, with such other power and authority as the court confers, and permitting process to be served by registered mail and by publication in a newspaper of general circulation published in the county, which publication need not be made more than once, setting forth the name of each delinquent corporation, the matter in which such corporation is delinquent, the names of its officers, directors, and managing agents, if set forth in the petition, and the amount of any taxes, fees, or penalties claimed to be owing by said corporation.

All or any of the officers, directors, shareholders, or managing agents of any corporation may be joined as defendants with such corporation.

If it appears to the court upon hearing that any corporation which is a party to such proceeding is indebted to the state for taxes, fees, or penalties, judgment shall be entered therefor with interest; and if it appears that any corporation has failed to make or file any report or return, a mandatory injunction may be issued against such corporation, its officers, directors, and managing agents, enjoining them from the transaction of any business within this state, other than acts incidental to liquidation or winding up, until the making and filing of all proper reports or returns and until the payment in full of all taxes, fees, and penalties.

If the officers, directors, shareholders, or managing agents of a corporation are not made parties in the first instance, and a judgment or an injunction is rendered or issued against such corporation, such officers, directors, shareholders, or managing agents may be made parties to such proceedings upon the motion of the attorney general, and, upon notice to them of the form and terms of such injunction, they shall be bound thereby as fully as if they had been made parties in the first instance.

In any action authorized by this section, a statement of the commissioner, or the secretary of state, when duly certified, shall be prima-facie evidence of the amount of taxes, fees, or penalties due from any corporation, or of the failure of any corporation to file with the commissioner or the secretary of state any report required by law, and any such certificate of the commissioner or the secretary of state may be required in evidence in any such proceeding.

On the application of any defendant and for good cause shown, the court may order a separate hearing of the issues as to any defendant.

The costs of the proceeding shall be apportioned among the parties as

the court deems proper.

The court in such proceeding may make, enter, and enforce such other judgments and orders and grant such other relief as is necessary or incidental to the enforcement of the claims and lien of the state.

In the performance of the duties enjoined upon ~~him~~ the attorney general by this section the attorney general may direct any prosecuting attorney to bring an action, as authorized by this section, in the name of the state with respect to any delinquent corporations within ~~his~~ the prosecuting attorney's county, and like proceedings and orders shall be had as if such action were instituted by the attorney general.

Sec. 5733.351. (A) As used in this section, "qualified research expenses" has the same meaning as in section 41 of the Internal Revenue Code.

(B)(1) A nonrefundable credit is allowed against the tax imposed by section 5733.06 of the Revised Code for tax year 2002 for a taxpayer whose taxable year for tax year 2002 ended before July 1, 2001. The credit shall equal seven per cent of the excess of qualified research expenses incurred in this state by the taxpayer between January 1, 2001, and the end of the taxable year, over the taxpayer's average annual qualified research expenses incurred in this state for the three preceding taxable years.

(2) A nonrefundable credit also is allowed against the tax imposed by section 5733.06 of the Revised Code for each tax year, commencing with tax year 2004, and in the case of a corporation subject to division (G)(2) of section 5733.01 of the Revised Code ending with tax year 2008. The credit shall equal seven per cent of the excess of qualified research expenses incurred in this state by the taxpayer for the taxable year over the taxpayer's average annual qualified research expenses incurred in this state for the three preceding taxable years.

(3) The taxpayer shall claim the credit allowed under division (B)(1) or (2) of this section in the order required by section 5733.98 of the Revised Code. Any credit amount in excess of the tax due under section 5733.06 of the Revised Code, after allowing for any other credits that precede the credit under this section in the order required under section 5733.98 of the Revised Code, may be carried forward for seven taxable years, but the amount of the excess credit allowed in any such year shall be deducted from the balance carried forward to the next year. A corporation subject to division (G)(2) of section 5733.01 of the Revised Code may carry forward any credit not fully utilized by tax year 2008 and apply it against the tax levied by Chapter 5751. of the Revised Code to the extent allowed under section 5751.51 of the Revised Code, provided that the total number of taxable years under this

section and calendar years under Chapter 5751. of the Revised Code for which the credit is carried forward shall not exceed seven.

(C) In the case of a qualifying controlled group, the credit allowed under division (B)(1) or (2) of this section to taxpayers in the qualifying controlled group shall be computed as if all corporations in the qualifying controlled group were a consolidated, single taxpayer. For purposes of this division, an insurance company subject to the tax levied under section 5727.18 or Chapter 5729. of the Revised Code may be considered a member of a qualifying controlled group by the group, even though the insurance company is not subject to the tax levied under section 5733.06 of the Revised Code. The credit shall be allocated to such taxpayers in any amount elected for the taxable year by the qualifying controlled group. The election shall be revocable and amendable during the period prescribed by division (B) of section 5733.12 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 5739.01. As used in this chapter:

(A) "Person" includes individuals, receivers, assignees, trustees in bankruptcy, estates, firms, partnerships, associations, joint-stock companies, joint ventures, clubs, societies, corporations, the state and its political subdivisions, and combinations of individuals of any form.

(B) "Sale" and "selling" include all of the following transactions for a consideration in any manner, whether absolutely or conditionally, whether for a price or rental, in money or by exchange, and by any means whatsoever:

(1) All transactions by which title or possession, or both, of tangible personal property, is or is to be transferred, or a license to use or consume tangible personal property is or is to be granted;

(2) All transactions by which lodging by a hotel is or is to be furnished to transient guests;

(3) All transactions by which:

(a) An item of tangible personal property is or is to be repaired, except property, the purchase of which would not be subject to the tax imposed by section 5739.02 of the Revised Code;

(b) An item of tangible personal property is or is to be installed, except property, the purchase of which would not be subject to the tax imposed by section 5739.02 of the Revised Code or property that is or is to be incorporated into and will become a part of a production, transmission, transportation, or distribution system for the delivery of a public utility service;

(c) The service of washing, cleaning, waxing, polishing, or painting a motor vehicle is or is to be furnished;

(d) Until August 1, 2003, industrial laundry cleaning services are or are to be provided and, on and after August 1, 2003, laundry and dry cleaning services are or are to be provided;

(e) Automatic data processing, computer services, or electronic information services are or are to be provided for use in business when the true object of the transaction is the receipt by the consumer of automatic data processing, computer services, or electronic information services rather than the receipt of personal or professional services to which automatic data processing, computer services, or electronic information services are incidental or supplemental. Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, such transactions that occur between members of an affiliated group are not sales. An "affiliated group" means two or more persons related in such a way that one person owns or controls the business operation of another member of the group. In the case of corporations with stock, one corporation owns or controls another if it owns more than fifty per cent of the other corporation's common stock with voting rights.

(f) Telecommunications service, including prepaid calling service, prepaid wireless calling service, or ancillary service, is or is to be provided, but not including coin-operated telephone service;

(g) Landscaping and lawn care service is or is to be provided;

(h) Private investigation and security service is or is to be provided;

(i) Information services or tangible personal property is provided or ordered by means of a nine hundred telephone call;

(j) Building maintenance and janitorial service is or is to be provided;

(k) Employment service is or is to be provided;

(l) Employment placement service is or is to be provided;

(m) Exterminating service is or is to be provided;

(n) Physical fitness facility service is or is to be provided;

(o) Recreation and sports club service is or is to be provided;

(p) On and after August 1, 2003, satellite broadcasting service is or is to be provided;

(q) On and after August 1, 2003, personal care service is or is to be provided to an individual. As used in this division, "personal care service" includes skin care, the application of cosmetics, manicuring, pedicuring, hair removal, tattooing, body piercing, tanning, massage, and other similar services. "Personal care service" does not include a service provided by or on the order of a licensed physician or licensed chiropractor, or the cutting, coloring, or styling of an individual's hair.

(r) On and after August 1, 2003, the transportation of persons by motor vehicle or aircraft is or is to be provided, when the transportation is entirely

within this state, except for transportation provided by an ambulance service, by a transit bus, as defined in section 5735.01 of the Revised Code, and transportation provided by a citizen of the United States holding a certificate of public convenience and necessity issued under 49 U.S.C. 41102;

(s) On and after August 1, 2003, motor vehicle towing service is or is to be provided. As used in this division, "motor vehicle towing service" means the towing or conveyance of a wrecked, disabled, or illegally parked motor vehicle.

(t) On and after August 1, 2003, snow removal service is or is to be provided. As used in this division, "snow removal service" means the removal of snow by any mechanized means, but does not include the providing of such service by a person that has less than five thousand dollars in sales of such service during the calendar year.

(u) Electronic publishing service is or is to be provided to a consumer for use in business, except that such transactions occurring between members of an affiliated group, as defined in division (B)(3)(e) of this section, are not sales.

(4) All transactions by which printed, imprinted, overprinted, lithographic, multilithic, blueprinted, photostatic, or other productions or reproductions of written or graphic matter are or are to be furnished or transferred;

(5) The production or fabrication of tangible personal property for a consideration for consumers who furnish either directly or indirectly the materials used in the production of fabrication work; and include the furnishing, preparing, or serving for a consideration of any tangible personal property consumed on the premises of the person furnishing, preparing, or serving such tangible personal property. Except as provided in section 5739.03 of the Revised Code, a construction contract pursuant to which tangible personal property is or is to be incorporated into a structure or improvement on and becoming a part of real property is not a sale of such tangible personal property. The construction contractor is the consumer of such tangible personal property, provided that the sale and installation of carpeting, the sale and installation of agricultural land tile, the sale and erection or installation of portable grain bins, or the provision of landscaping and lawn care service and the transfer of property as part of such service is never a construction contract.

As used in division (B)(5) of this section:

(a) "Agricultural land tile" means fired clay or concrete tile, or flexible or rigid perforated plastic pipe or tubing, incorporated or to be incorporated

into a subsurface drainage system appurtenant to land used or to be used ~~directly~~ primarily in production by farming, agriculture, horticulture, or floriculture. The term does not include such materials when they are or are to be incorporated into a drainage system appurtenant to a building or structure even if the building or structure is used or to be used in such production.

(b) "Portable grain bin" means a structure that is used or to be used by a person engaged in farming or agriculture to shelter the person's grain and that is designed to be disassembled without significant damage to its component parts.

(6) All transactions in which all of the shares of stock of a closely held corporation are transferred, if the corporation is not engaging in business and its entire assets consist of boats, planes, motor vehicles, or other tangible personal property operated primarily for the use and enjoyment of the shareholders;

(7) All transactions in which a warranty, maintenance or service contract, or similar agreement by which the vendor of the warranty, contract, or agreement agrees to repair or maintain the tangible personal property of the consumer is or is to be provided;

(8) The transfer of copyrighted motion picture films used solely for advertising purposes, except that the transfer of such films for exhibition purposes is not a sale;

(9) On and after August 1, 2003, all transactions by which tangible personal property is or is to be stored, except such property that the consumer of the storage holds for sale in the regular course of business;

(10) All transactions in which "guaranteed auto protection" is provided whereby a person promises to pay to the consumer the difference between the amount the consumer receives from motor vehicle insurance and the amount the consumer owes to a person holding title to or a lien on the consumer's motor vehicle in the event the consumer's motor vehicle suffers a total loss under the terms of the motor vehicle insurance policy or is stolen and not recovered, if the protection and its price are included in the purchase or lease agreement;

(11)(a) Except as provided in division (B)(11)(b) of this section, on and after October 1, 2009, all transactions by which health care services are paid for, reimbursed, provided, delivered, arranged for, or otherwise made available by a medicaid health insuring corporation pursuant to the corporation's contract with the state.

(b) If the centers for medicare and medicaid services of the United States department of health and human services determines that the taxation

of transactions described in division (B)(11)(a) of this section constitutes an impermissible health care-related tax under section 1903(w) of the "Social Security Act," 49 Stat. 620 (1935), 42 U.S.C. 1396b(w), as amended, and regulations adopted thereunder, the director of job and family services shall notify the tax commissioner of that determination. Beginning with the first day of the month following that notification, the transactions described in division (B)(11)(a) of this section are not sales for the purposes of this chapter or Chapter 5741. of the Revised Code. The tax commissioner shall order that the collection of taxes under sections 5739.02, 5739.021, 5739.023, 5739.026, 5741.02, 5741.021, 5741.022, and 5741.023 of the Revised Code shall cease for transactions occurring on or after that date.

Except as provided in this section, "sale" and "selling" do not include transfers of interest in leased property where the original lessee and the terms of the original lease agreement remain unchanged, or professional, insurance, or personal service transactions that involve the transfer of tangible personal property as an inconsequential element, for which no separate charges are made.

(C) "Vendor" means the person providing the service or by whom the transfer effected or license given by a sale is or is to be made or given and, for sales described in division (B)(3)(i) of this section, the telecommunications service vendor that provides the nine hundred telephone service; if two or more persons are engaged in business at the same place of business under a single trade name in which all collections on account of sales by each are made, such persons shall constitute a single vendor.

Physicians, dentists, hospitals, and veterinarians who are engaged in selling tangible personal property as received from others, such as eyeglasses, mouthwashes, dentifrices, or similar articles, are vendors. Veterinarians who are engaged in transferring to others for a consideration drugs, the dispensing of which does not require an order of a licensed veterinarian or physician under federal law, are vendors.

(D)(1) "Consumer" means the person for whom the service is provided, to whom the transfer effected or license given by a sale is or is to be made or given, to whom the service described in division (B)(3)(f) or (i) of this section is charged, or to whom the admission is granted.

(2) Physicians, dentists, hospitals, and blood banks operated by nonprofit institutions and persons licensed to practice veterinary medicine, surgery, and dentistry are consumers of all tangible personal property and services purchased by them in connection with the practice of medicine, dentistry, the rendition of hospital or blood bank service, or the practice of veterinary medicine, surgery, and dentistry. In addition to being consumers

of drugs administered by them or by their assistants according to their direction, veterinarians also are consumers of drugs that under federal law may be dispensed only by or upon the order of a licensed veterinarian or physician, when transferred by them to others for a consideration to provide treatment to animals as directed by the veterinarian.

(3) A person who performs a facility management, or similar service contract for a contractee is a consumer of all tangible personal property and services purchased for use in connection with the performance of such contract, regardless of whether title to any such property vests in the contractee. The purchase of such property and services is not subject to the exception for resale under division (E)(1) of this section.

(4)(a) In the case of a person who purchases printed matter for the purpose of distributing it or having it distributed to the public or to a designated segment of the public, free of charge, that person is the consumer of that printed matter, and the purchase of that printed matter for that purpose is a sale.

(b) In the case of a person who produces, rather than purchases, printed matter for the purpose of distributing it or having it distributed to the public or to a designated segment of the public, free of charge, that person is the consumer of all tangible personal property and services purchased for use or consumption in the production of that printed matter. That person is not entitled to claim exemption under division (B)(42)(f) of section 5739.02 of the Revised Code for any material incorporated into the printed matter or any equipment, supplies, or services primarily used to produce the printed matter.

(c) The distribution of printed matter to the public or to a designated segment of the public, free of charge, is not a sale to the members of the public to whom the printed matter is distributed or to any persons who purchase space in the printed matter for advertising or other purposes.

(5) A person who makes sales of any of the services listed in division (B)(3) of this section is the consumer of any tangible personal property used in performing the service. The purchase of that property is not subject to the resale exception under division (E)(1) of this section.

(6) A person who engages in highway transportation for hire is the consumer of all packaging materials purchased by that person and used in performing the service, except for packaging materials sold by such person in a transaction separate from the service.

(7) In the case of a transaction for health care services under division (B)(11) of this section, a medicaid health insuring corporation is the consumer of such services. The purchase of such services by a medicaid

health insuring corporation is not subject to the exception for resale under division (E)(1) of this section or to the exemptions provided under divisions (B)(12), (18), (19), and (22) of section 5739.02 of the Revised Code.

(E) "Retail sale" and "sales at retail" include all sales, except those in which the purpose of the consumer is to resell the thing transferred or benefit of the service provided, by a person engaging in business, in the form in which the same is, or is to be, received by the person.

(F) "Business" includes any activity engaged in by any person with the object of gain, benefit, or advantage, either direct or indirect. "Business" does not include the activity of a person in managing and investing the person's own funds.

(G) "Engaging in business" means commencing, conducting, or continuing in business, and liquidating a business when the liquidator thereof holds itself out to the public as conducting such business. Making a casual sale is not engaging in business.

(H)(1)(a) "Price," except as provided in divisions (H)(2), (3), and (4) of this section, means the total amount of consideration, including cash, credit, property, and services, for which tangible personal property or services are sold, leased, or rented, valued in money, whether received in money or otherwise, without any deduction for any of the following:

- (i) The vendor's cost of the property sold;
- (ii) The cost of materials used, labor or service costs, interest, losses, all costs of transportation to the vendor, all taxes imposed on the vendor, including the tax imposed under Chapter 5751. of the Revised Code, and any other expense of the vendor;
- (iii) Charges by the vendor for any services necessary to complete the sale;
- (iv) On and after August 1, 2003, delivery charges. As used in this division, "delivery charges" means charges by the vendor for preparation and delivery to a location designated by the consumer of tangible personal property or a service, including transportation, shipping, postage, handling, crating, and packing.

(v) Installation charges;

(vi) Credit for any trade-in.

(b) "Price" includes consideration received by the vendor from a third party, if the vendor actually receives the consideration from a party other than the consumer, and the consideration is directly related to a price reduction or discount on the sale; the vendor has an obligation to pass the price reduction or discount through to the consumer; the amount of the consideration attributable to the sale is fixed and determinable by the vendor

at the time of the sale of the item to the consumer; and one of the following criteria is met:

(i) The consumer presents a coupon, certificate, or other document to the vendor to claim a price reduction or discount where the coupon, certificate, or document is authorized, distributed, or granted by a third party with the understanding that the third party will reimburse any vendor to whom the coupon, certificate, or document is presented;

(ii) The consumer identifies the consumer's self to the seller as a member of a group or organization entitled to a price reduction or discount. A preferred customer card that is available to any patron does not constitute membership in such a group or organization.

(iii) The price reduction or discount is identified as a third party price reduction or discount on the invoice received by the consumer, or on a coupon, certificate, or other document presented by the consumer.

(c) "Price" does not include any of the following:

(i) Discounts, including cash, term, or coupons that are not reimbursed by a third party that are allowed by a vendor and taken by a consumer on a sale;

(ii) Interest, financing, and carrying charges from credit extended on the sale of tangible personal property or services, if the amount is separately stated on the invoice, bill of sale, or similar document given to the purchaser;

(iii) Any taxes legally imposed directly on the consumer that are separately stated on the invoice, bill of sale, or similar document given to the consumer. For the purpose of this division, the tax imposed under Chapter 5751. of the Revised Code is not a tax directly on the consumer, even if the tax or a portion thereof is separately stated.

(iv) Notwithstanding divisions (H)(1)(b)(i) to (iii) of this section, any discount allowed by an automobile manufacturer to its employee, or to the employee of a supplier, on the purchase of a new motor vehicle from a new motor vehicle dealer in this state.

(v) The dollar value of a gift card that is not sold by a vendor or purchased by a consumer and that is redeemed by the consumer in purchasing tangible personal property or services if the vendor is not reimbursed and does not receive compensation from a third party to cover all or part of the gift card value. For the purposes of this division, a gift card is not sold by a vendor or purchased by a consumer if it is distributed pursuant to an awards, loyalty, or promotional program. Past and present purchases of tangible personal property or services by the consumer shall not be treated as consideration exchanged for a gift card.

(2) In the case of a sale of any new motor vehicle by a new motor vehicle dealer, as defined in section 4517.01 of the Revised Code, in which another motor vehicle is accepted by the dealer as part of the consideration received, "price" has the same meaning as in division (H)(1) of this section, reduced by the credit afforded the consumer by the dealer for the motor vehicle received in trade.

(3) In the case of a sale of any watercraft or outboard motor by a watercraft dealer licensed in accordance with section 1547.543 of the Revised Code, in which another watercraft, watercraft and trailer, or outboard motor is accepted by the dealer as part of the consideration received, "price" has the same meaning as in division (H)(1) of this section, reduced by the credit afforded the consumer by the dealer for the watercraft, watercraft and trailer, or outboard motor received in trade. As used in this division, "watercraft" includes an outdrive unit attached to the watercraft.

(4) In the case of transactions for health care services under division (B)(11) of this section, "price" means the amount of managed care premiums received each month by a medicaid health insuring corporation.

(I) "Receipts" means the total amount of the prices of the sales of vendors, provided that the dollar value of gift cards distributed pursuant to an awards, loyalty, or promotional program, and cash discounts allowed and taken on sales at the time they are consummated are not included, minus any amount deducted as a bad debt pursuant to section 5739.121 of the Revised Code. "Receipts" does not include the sale price of property returned or services rejected by consumers when the full sale price and tax are refunded either in cash or by credit.

(J) "Place of business" means any location at which a person engages in business.

(K) "Premises" includes any real property or portion thereof upon which any person engages in selling tangible personal property at retail or making retail sales and also includes any real property or portion thereof designated for, or devoted to, use in conjunction with the business engaged in by such person.

(L) "Casual sale" means a sale of an item of tangible personal property that was obtained by the person making the sale, through purchase or otherwise, for the person's own use and was previously subject to any state's taxing jurisdiction on its sale or use, and includes such items acquired for the seller's use that are sold by an auctioneer employed directly by the person for such purpose, provided the location of such sales is not the auctioneer's permanent place of business. As used in this division, "permanent place of business" includes any location where such auctioneer

has conducted more than two auctions during the year.

(M) "Hotel" means every establishment kept, used, maintained, advertised, or held out to the public to be a place where sleeping accommodations are offered to guests, in which five or more rooms are used for the accommodation of such guests, whether the rooms are in one or several structures, except as otherwise provided in division (G) of section 5739.09 of the Revised Code.

(N) "Transient guests" means persons occupying a room or rooms for sleeping accommodations for less than thirty consecutive days.

(O) "Making retail sales" means the effecting of transactions wherein one party is obligated to pay the price and the other party is obligated to provide a service or to transfer title to or possession of the item sold. "Making retail sales" does not include the preliminary acts of promoting or soliciting the retail sales, other than the distribution of printed matter which displays or describes and prices the item offered for sale, nor does it include delivery of a predetermined quantity of tangible personal property or transportation of property or personnel to or from a place where a service is performed, regardless of whether the vendor is a delivery vendor.

(P) "Used directly in the rendition of a public utility service" means that property that is to be incorporated into and will become a part of the consumer's production, transmission, transportation, or distribution system and that retains its classification as tangible personal property after such incorporation; fuel or power used in the production, transmission, transportation, or distribution system; and tangible personal property used in the repair and maintenance of the production, transmission, transportation, or distribution system, including only such motor vehicles as are specially designed and equipped for such use. Tangible personal property and services used primarily in providing highway transportation for hire are not used directly in the rendition of a public utility service. In this definition, "public utility" includes a citizen of the United States holding, and required to hold, a certificate of public convenience and necessity issued under 49 U.S.C. 41102.

(Q) "Refining" means removing or separating a desirable product from raw or contaminated materials by distillation or physical, mechanical, or chemical processes.

(R) "Assembly" and "assembling" mean attaching or fitting together parts to form a product, but do not include packaging a product.

(S) "Manufacturing operation" means a process in which materials are changed, converted, or transformed into a different state or form from which they previously existed and includes refining materials, assembling parts,

and preparing raw materials and parts by mixing, measuring, blending, or otherwise committing such materials or parts to the manufacturing process. "Manufacturing operation" does not include packaging.

(T) "Fiscal officer" means, with respect to a regional transit authority, the secretary-treasurer thereof, and with respect to a county that is a transit authority, the fiscal officer of the county transit board if one is appointed pursuant to section 306.03 of the Revised Code or the county auditor if the board of county commissioners operates the county transit system.

(U) "Transit authority" means a regional transit authority created pursuant to section 306.31 of the Revised Code or a county in which a county transit system is created pursuant to section 306.01 of the Revised Code. For the purposes of this chapter, a transit authority must extend to at least the entire area of a single county. A transit authority that includes territory in more than one county must include all the area of the most populous county that is a part of such transit authority. County population shall be measured by the most recent census taken by the United States census bureau.

(V) "Legislative authority" means, with respect to a regional transit authority, the board of trustees thereof, and with respect to a county that is a transit authority, the board of county commissioners.

(W) "Territory of the transit authority" means all of the area included within the territorial boundaries of a transit authority as they from time to time exist. Such territorial boundaries must at all times include all the area of a single county or all the area of the most populous county that is a part of such transit authority. County population shall be measured by the most recent census taken by the United States census bureau.

(X) "Providing a service" means providing or furnishing anything described in division (B)(3) of this section for consideration.

(Y)(1)(a) "Automatic data processing" means processing of others' data, including keypunching or similar data entry services together with verification thereof, or providing access to computer equipment for the purpose of processing data.

(b) "Computer services" means providing services consisting of specifying computer hardware configurations and evaluating technical processing characteristics, computer programming, and training of computer programmers and operators, provided in conjunction with and to support the sale, lease, or operation of taxable computer equipment or systems.

(c) "Electronic information services" means providing access to computer equipment by means of telecommunications equipment for the purpose of either of the following:

(i) Examining or acquiring data stored in or accessible to the computer equipment;

(ii) Placing data into the computer equipment to be retrieved by designated recipients with access to the computer equipment.

For transactions occurring on or after the effective date of the amendment of this section by H.B. 157 of the 127th general assembly, December 21, 2007, "electronic information services" does not include electronic publishing as defined in division (LLL) of this section.

(d) "Automatic data processing, computer services, or electronic information services" shall not include personal or professional services.

(2) As used in divisions (B)(3)(e) and (Y)(1) of this section, "personal and professional services" means all services other than automatic data processing, computer services, or electronic information services, including but not limited to:

(a) Accounting and legal services such as advice on tax matters, asset management, budgetary matters, quality control, information security, and auditing and any other situation where the service provider receives data or information and studies, alters, analyzes, interprets, or adjusts such material;

(b) Analyzing business policies and procedures;

(c) Identifying management information needs;

(d) Feasibility studies, including economic and technical analysis of existing or potential computer hardware or software needs and alternatives;

(e) Designing policies, procedures, and custom software for collecting business information, and determining how data should be summarized, sequenced, formatted, processed, controlled, and reported so that it will be meaningful to management;

(f) Developing policies and procedures that document how business events and transactions are to be authorized, executed, and controlled;

(g) Testing of business procedures;

(h) Training personnel in business procedure applications;

(i) Providing credit information to users of such information by a consumer reporting agency, as defined in the "Fair Credit Reporting Act," 84 Stat. 1114, 1129 (1970), 15 U.S.C. 1681a(f), or as hereafter amended, including but not limited to gathering, organizing, analyzing, recording, and furnishing such information by any oral, written, graphic, or electronic medium;

(j) Providing debt collection services by any oral, written, graphic, or electronic means.

The services listed in divisions (Y)(2)(a) to (j) of this section are not automatic data processing or computer services.

(Z) "Highway transportation for hire" means the transportation of personal property belonging to others for consideration by any of the following:

(1) The holder of a permit or certificate issued by this state or the United States authorizing the holder to engage in transportation of personal property belonging to others for consideration over or on highways, roadways, streets, or any similar public thoroughfare;

(2) A person who engages in the transportation of personal property belonging to others for consideration over or on highways, roadways, streets, or any similar public thoroughfare but who could not have engaged in such transportation on December 11, 1985, unless the person was the holder of a permit or certificate of the types described in division (Z)(1) of this section;

(3) A person who leases a motor vehicle to and operates it for a person described by division (Z)(1) or (2) of this section.

(AA)(1) "Telecommunications service" means the electronic transmission, conveyance, or routing of voice, data, audio, video, or any other information or signals to a point, or between or among points. "Telecommunications service" includes such transmission, conveyance, or routing in which computer processing applications are used to act on the form, code, or protocol of the content for purposes of transmission, conveyance, or routing without regard to whether the service is referred to as voice-over internet protocol service or is classified by the federal communications commission as enhanced or value-added. "Telecommunications service" does not include any of the following:

(a) Data processing and information services that allow data to be generated, acquired, stored, processed, or retrieved and delivered by an electronic transmission to a consumer where the consumer's primary purpose for the underlying transaction is the processed data or information;

(b) Installation or maintenance of wiring or equipment on a customer's premises;

(c) Tangible personal property;

(d) Advertising, including directory advertising;

(e) Billing and collection services provided to third parties;

(f) Internet access service;

(g) Radio and television audio and video programming services, regardless of the medium, including the furnishing of transmission, conveyance, and routing of such services by the programming service provider. Radio and television audio and video programming services include, but are not limited to, cable service, as defined in 47 U.S.C. 522(6),

and audio and video programming services delivered by commercial mobile radio service providers, as defined in 47 C.F.R. 20.3;

(h) Ancillary service;

(i) Digital products delivered electronically, including software, music, video, reading materials, or ring tones.

(2) "Ancillary service" means a service that is associated with or incidental to the provision of telecommunications service, including conference bridging service, detailed telecommunications billing service, directory assistance, vertical service, and voice mail service. As used in this division:

(a) "Conference bridging service" means an ancillary service that links two or more participants of an audio or video conference call, including providing a telephone number. "Conference bridging service" does not include telecommunications services used to reach the conference bridge.

(b) "Detailed telecommunications billing service" means an ancillary service of separately stating information pertaining to individual calls on a customer's billing statement.

(c) "Directory assistance" means an ancillary service of providing telephone number or address information.

(d) "Vertical service" means an ancillary service that is offered in connection with one or more telecommunications services, which offers advanced calling features that allow customers to identify callers and manage multiple calls and call connections, including conference bridging service.

(e) "Voice mail service" means an ancillary service that enables the customer to store, send, or receive recorded messages. "Voice mail service" does not include any vertical services that the customer may be required to have in order to utilize the voice mail service.

(3) "900 service" means an inbound toll telecommunications service purchased by a subscriber that allows the subscriber's customers to call in to the subscriber's prerecorded announcement or live service, and which is typically marketed under the name "900" service and any subsequent numbers designated by the federal communications commission. "900 service" does not include the charge for collection services provided by the seller of the telecommunications service to the subscriber, or services or products sold by the subscriber to the subscriber's customer.

(4) "Prepaid calling service" means the right to access exclusively telecommunications services, which must be paid for in advance and which enables the origination of calls using an access number or authorization code, whether manually or electronically dialed, and that is sold in

predetermined units of dollars of which the number declines with use in a known amount.

(5) "Prepaid wireless calling service" means a telecommunications service that provides the right to utilize mobile telecommunications service as well as other non-telecommunications services, including the download of digital products delivered electronically, and content and ancillary services, that must be paid for in advance and that is sold in predetermined units of dollars of which the number declines with use in a known amount.

(6) "Value-added non-voice data service" means a telecommunications service in which computer processing applications are used to act on the form, content, code, or protocol of the information or data primarily for a purpose other than transmission, conveyance, or routing.

(7) "Coin-operated telephone service" means a telecommunications service paid for by inserting money into a telephone accepting direct deposits of money to operate.

(8) "Customer" has the same meaning as in section 5739.034 of the Revised Code.

(BB) "Laundry and dry cleaning services" means removing soil or dirt from towels, linens, articles of clothing, or other fabric items that belong to others and supplying towels, linens, articles of clothing, or other fabric items. "Laundry and dry cleaning services" does not include the provision of self-service facilities for use by consumers to remove soil or dirt from towels, linens, articles of clothing, or other fabric items.

(CC) "Magazines distributed as controlled circulation publications" means magazines containing at least twenty-four pages, at least twenty-five per cent editorial content, issued at regular intervals four or more times a year, and circulated without charge to the recipient, provided that such magazines are not owned or controlled by individuals or business concerns which conduct such publications as an auxiliary to, and essentially for the advancement of the main business or calling of, those who own or control them.

(DD) "Landscaping and lawn care service" means the services of planting, seeding, sodding, removing, cutting, trimming, pruning, mulching, aerating, applying chemicals, watering, fertilizing, and providing similar services to establish, promote, or control the growth of trees, shrubs, flowers, grass, ground cover, and other flora, or otherwise maintaining a lawn or landscape grown or maintained by the owner for ornamentation or other nonagricultural purpose. However, "landscaping and lawn care service" does not include the providing of such services by a person who has less than five thousand dollars in sales of such services during the calendar

year.

(EE) "Private investigation and security service" means the performance of any activity for which the provider of such service is required to be licensed pursuant to Chapter 4749. of the Revised Code, or would be required to be so licensed in performing such services in this state, and also includes the services of conducting polygraph examinations and of monitoring or overseeing the activities on or in, or the condition of, the consumer's home, business, or other facility by means of electronic or similar monitoring devices. "Private investigation and security service" does not include special duty services provided by off-duty police officers, deputy sheriffs, and other peace officers regularly employed by the state or a political subdivision.

(FF) "Information services" means providing conversation, giving consultation or advice, playing or making a voice or other recording, making or keeping a record of the number of callers, and any other service provided to a consumer by means of a nine hundred telephone call, except when the nine hundred telephone call is the means by which the consumer makes a contribution to a recognized charity.

(GG) "Research and development" means designing, creating, or formulating new or enhanced products, equipment, or manufacturing processes, and also means conducting scientific or technological inquiry and experimentation in the physical sciences with the goal of increasing scientific knowledge which may reveal the bases for new or enhanced products, equipment, or manufacturing processes.

(HH) "Qualified research and development equipment" means capitalized tangible personal property, and leased personal property that would be capitalized if purchased, used by a person primarily to perform research and development. Tangible personal property primarily used in testing, as defined in division (A)(4) of section 5739.011 of the Revised Code, or used for recording or storing test results, is not qualified research and development equipment unless such property is primarily used by the consumer in testing the product, equipment, or manufacturing process being created, designed, or formulated by the consumer in the research and development activity or in recording or storing such test results.

(II) "Building maintenance and janitorial service" means cleaning the interior or exterior of a building and any tangible personal property located therein or thereon, including any services incidental to such cleaning for which no separate charge is made. However, "building maintenance and janitorial service" does not include the providing of such service by a person who has less than five thousand dollars in sales of such service during the

calendar year.

(JJ) "Employment service" means providing or supplying personnel, on a temporary or long-term basis, to perform work or labor under the supervision or control of another, when the personnel so provided or supplied receive their wages, salary, or other compensation from the provider or supplier of the employment service or from a third party that provided or supplied the personnel to the provider or supplier. "Employment service" does not include:

(1) Acting as a contractor or subcontractor, where the personnel performing the work are not under the direct control of the purchaser.

(2) Medical and health care services.

(3) Supplying personnel to a purchaser pursuant to a contract of at least one year between the service provider and the purchaser that specifies that each employee covered under the contract is assigned to the purchaser on a permanent basis.

(4) Transactions between members of an affiliated group, as defined in division (B)(3)(e) of this section.

(5) Transactions where the personnel so provided or supplied by a provider or supplier to a purchaser of an employment service are then provided or supplied by that purchaser to a third party as an employment service, except "employment service" does include the transaction between that purchaser and the third party.

(KK) "Employment placement service" means locating or finding employment for a person or finding or locating an employee to fill an available position.

(LL) "Exterminating service" means eradicating or attempting to eradicate vermin infestations from a building or structure, or the area surrounding a building or structure, and includes activities to inspect, detect, or prevent vermin infestation of a building or structure.

(MM) "Physical fitness facility service" means all transactions by which a membership is granted, maintained, or renewed, including initiation fees, membership dues, renewal fees, monthly minimum fees, and other similar fees and dues, by a physical fitness facility such as an athletic club, health spa, or gymnasium, which entitles the member to use the facility for physical exercise.

(NN) "Recreation and sports club service" means all transactions by which a membership is granted, maintained, or renewed, including initiation fees, membership dues, renewal fees, monthly minimum fees, and other similar fees and dues, by a recreation and sports club, which entitles the member to use the facilities of the organization. "Recreation and sports

club" means an organization that has ownership of, or controls or leases on a continuing, long-term basis, the facilities used by its members and includes an aviation club, gun or shooting club, yacht club, card club, swimming club, tennis club, golf club, country club, riding club, amateur sports club, or similar organization.

(OO) "Livestock" means farm animals commonly raised for food ~~or~~, food production, ~~and includes~~ or other agricultural purposes, including, but is not limited to, cattle, sheep, goats, swine, ~~and~~ poultry, and captive deer. "Livestock" does not include invertebrates, ~~fish~~, amphibians, reptiles, ~~horses~~, domestic pets, animals for use in laboratories or for exhibition, or other animals not commonly raised for food or food production.

(PP) "Livestock structure" means a building or structure used exclusively for the housing, raising, feeding, or sheltering of livestock, and includes feed storage or handling structures and structures for livestock waste handling.

(QQ) "Horticulture" means the growing, cultivation, and production of flowers, fruits, herbs, vegetables, sod, mushrooms, and nursery stock. As used in this division, "nursery stock" has the same meaning as in section 927.51 of the Revised Code.

(RR) "Horticulture structure" means a building or structure used exclusively for the commercial growing, raising, or overwintering of horticultural products, and includes the area used for stocking, storing, and packing horticultural products when done in conjunction with the production of those products.

(SS) "Newspaper" means an unbound publication bearing a title or name that is regularly published, at least as frequently as biweekly, and distributed from a fixed place of business to the public in a specific geographic area, and that contains a substantial amount of news matter of international, national, or local events of interest to the general public.

(TT) "Professional racing team" means a person that employs at least twenty full-time employees for the purpose of conducting a motor vehicle racing business for profit. The person must conduct the business with the purpose of racing one or more motor racing vehicles in at least ten competitive professional racing events each year that comprise all or part of a motor racing series sanctioned by one or more motor racing sanctioning organizations. A "motor racing vehicle" means a vehicle for which the chassis, engine, and parts are designed exclusively for motor racing, and does not include a stock or production model vehicle that may be modified for use in racing. For the purposes of this division:

(1) A "competitive professional racing event" is a motor vehicle racing

event sanctioned by one or more motor racing sanctioning organizations, at which aggregate cash prizes in excess of eight hundred thousand dollars are awarded to the competitors.

(2) "Full-time employee" means an individual who is employed for consideration for thirty-five or more hours a week, or who renders any other standard of service generally accepted by custom or specified by contract as full-time employment.

(UU)(1) "Lease" or "rental" means any transfer of the possession or control of tangible personal property for a fixed or indefinite term, for consideration. "Lease" or "rental" includes future options to purchase or extend, and agreements described in 26 U.S.C. 7701(h)(1) covering motor vehicles and trailers where the amount of consideration may be increased or decreased by reference to the amount realized upon the sale or disposition of the property. "Lease" or "rental" does not include:

(a) A transfer of possession or control of tangible personal property under a security agreement or a deferred payment plan that requires the transfer of title upon completion of the required payments;

(b) A transfer of possession or control of tangible personal property under an agreement that requires the transfer of title upon completion of required payments and payment of an option price that does not exceed the greater of one hundred dollars or one per cent of the total required payments;

(c) Providing tangible personal property along with an operator for a fixed or indefinite period of time, if the operator is necessary for the property to perform as designed. For purposes of this division, the operator must do more than maintain, inspect, or set-up the tangible personal property.

(2) "Lease" and "rental," as defined in division (UU) of this section, shall not apply to leases or rentals that exist before June 26, 2003.

(3) "Lease" and "rental" have the same meaning as in division (UU)(1) of this section regardless of whether a transaction is characterized as a lease or rental under generally accepted accounting principles, the Internal Revenue Code, Title XIII of the Revised Code, or other federal, state, or local laws.

(VV) "Mobile telecommunications service" has the same meaning as in the "Mobile Telecommunications Sourcing Act," Pub. L. No. 106-252, 114 Stat. 631 (2000), 4 U.S.C.A. 124(7), as amended, and, on and after August 1, 2003, includes related fees and ancillary services, including universal service fees, detailed billing service, directory assistance, service initiation, voice mail service, and vertical services, such as caller ID and three-way

calling.

(WW) "Certified service provider" has the same meaning as in section 5740.01 of the Revised Code.

(XX) "Satellite broadcasting service" means the distribution or broadcasting of programming or services by satellite directly to the subscriber's receiving equipment without the use of ground receiving or distribution equipment, except the subscriber's receiving equipment or equipment used in the uplink process to the satellite, and includes all service and rental charges, premium channels or other special services, installation and repair service charges, and any other charges having any connection with the provision of the satellite broadcasting service.

(YY) "Tangible personal property" means personal property that can be seen, weighed, measured, felt, or touched, or that is in any other manner perceptible to the senses. For purposes of this chapter and Chapter 5741. of the Revised Code, "tangible personal property" includes motor vehicles, electricity, water, gas, steam, and prewritten computer software.

(ZZ) "Direct mail" means printed material delivered or distributed by United States mail or other delivery service to a mass audience or to addressees on a mailing list provided by the consumer or at the direction of the consumer when the cost of the items are not billed directly to the recipients. "Direct mail" includes tangible personal property supplied directly or indirectly by the consumer to the direct mail vendor for inclusion in the package containing the printed material. "Direct mail" does not include multiple items of printed material delivered to a single address.

(AAA) "Computer" means an electronic device that accepts information in digital or similar form and manipulates it for a result based on a sequence of instructions.

(BBB) "Computer software" means a set of coded instructions designed to cause a computer or automatic data processing equipment to perform a task.

(CCC) "Delivered electronically" means delivery of computer software from the seller to the purchaser by means other than tangible storage media.

(DDD) "Prewritten computer software" means computer software, including prewritten upgrades, that is not designed and developed by the author or other creator to the specifications of a specific purchaser. The combining of two or more prewritten computer software programs or prewritten portions thereof does not cause the combination to be other than prewritten computer software. "Prewritten computer software" includes software designed and developed by the author or other creator to the specifications of a specific purchaser when it is sold to a person other than

the purchaser. If a person modifies or enhances computer software of which the person is not the author or creator, the person shall be deemed to be the author or creator only of such person's modifications or enhancements. Prewritten computer software or a prewritten portion thereof that is modified or enhanced to any degree, where such modification or enhancement is designed and developed to the specifications of a specific purchaser, remains prewritten computer software; provided, however, that where there is a reasonable, separately stated charge or an invoice or other statement of the price given to the purchaser for the modification or enhancement, the modification or enhancement shall not constitute prewritten computer software.

(EEE)(1) "Food" means substances, whether in liquid, concentrated, solid, frozen, dried, or dehydrated form, that are sold for ingestion or chewing by humans and are consumed for their taste or nutritional value. "Food" does not include alcoholic beverages, dietary supplements, soft drinks, or tobacco.

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

(a) "Alcoholic beverages" means beverages that are suitable for human consumption and contain one-half of one per cent or more of alcohol by volume.

(b) "Dietary supplements" means any product, other than tobacco, that is intended to supplement the diet and that is intended for ingestion in tablet, capsule, powder, softgel, gelcap, or liquid form, or, if not intended for ingestion in such a form, is not represented as conventional food for use as a sole item of a meal or of the diet; that is required to be labeled as a dietary supplement, identifiable by the "supplement facts" box found on the label, as required by 21 C.F.R. 101.36; and that contains one or more of the following dietary ingredients:

- (i) A vitamin;
- (ii) A mineral;
- (iii) An herb or other botanical;
- (iv) An amino acid;
- (v) A dietary substance for use by humans to supplement the diet by increasing the total dietary intake;
- (vi) A concentrate, metabolite, constituent, extract, or combination of any ingredient described in divisions (EEE)(2)(b)(i) to (v) of this section.

(c) "Soft drinks" means nonalcoholic beverages that contain natural or artificial sweeteners. "Soft drinks" does not include beverages that contain milk or milk products, soy, rice, or similar milk substitutes, or that contains greater than fifty per cent vegetable or fruit juice by volume.

(d) "Tobacco" means cigarettes, cigars, chewing or pipe tobacco, or any other item that contains tobacco.

(FFF) "Drug" means a compound, substance, or preparation, and any component of a compound, substance, or preparation, other than food, dietary supplements, or alcoholic beverages that is recognized in the official United States pharmacopoeia, official homeopathic pharmacopoeia of the United States, or official national formulary, and supplements to them; is intended for use in the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment, or prevention of disease; or is intended to affect the structure or any function of the body.

(GGG) "Prescription" means an order, formula, or recipe issued in any form of oral, written, electronic, or other means of transmission by a duly licensed practitioner authorized by the laws of this state to issue a prescription.

(HHH) "Durable medical equipment" means equipment, including repair and replacement parts for such equipment, that can withstand repeated use, is primarily and customarily used to serve a medical purpose, generally is not useful to a person in the absence of illness or injury, and is not worn in or on the body. "Durable medical equipment" does not include mobility enhancing equipment.

(III) "Mobility enhancing equipment" means equipment, including repair and replacement parts for such equipment, that is primarily and customarily used to provide or increase the ability to move from one place to another and is appropriate for use either in a home or a motor vehicle, that is not generally used by persons with normal mobility, and that does not include any motor vehicle or equipment on a motor vehicle normally provided by a motor vehicle manufacturer. "Mobility enhancing equipment" does not include durable medical equipment.

(JJJ) "Prosthetic device" means a replacement, corrective, or supportive device, including repair and replacement parts for the device, worn on or in the human body to artificially replace a missing portion of the body, prevent or correct physical deformity or malfunction, or support a weak or deformed portion of the body. As used in this division, "prosthetic device" does not include corrective eyeglasses, contact lenses, or dental prosthesis.

(KKK)(1) "Fractional aircraft ownership program" means a program in which persons within an affiliated group sell and manage fractional ownership program aircraft, provided that at least one hundred airworthy aircraft are operated in the program and the program meets all of the following criteria:

(a) Management services are provided by at least one program manager within an affiliated group on behalf of the fractional owners.

(b) Each program aircraft is owned or possessed by at least one fractional owner.

(c) Each fractional owner owns or possesses at least a one-sixteenth interest in at least one fixed-wing program aircraft.

(d) A dry-lease aircraft interchange arrangement is in effect among all of the fractional owners.

(e) Multi-year program agreements are in effect regarding the fractional ownership, management services, and dry-lease aircraft interchange arrangement aspects of the program.

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

(a) "Affiliated group" has the same meaning as in division (B)(3)(e) of this section.

(b) "Fractional owner" means a person that owns or possesses at least a one-sixteenth interest in a program aircraft and has entered into the agreements described in division (KKK)(1)(e) of this section.

(c) "Fractional ownership program aircraft" or "program aircraft" means a turbojet aircraft that is owned or possessed by a fractional owner and that has been included in a dry-lease aircraft interchange arrangement and agreement under divisions (KKK)(1)(d) and (e) of this section, or an aircraft a program manager owns or possesses primarily for use in a fractional aircraft ownership program.

(d) "Management services" means administrative and aviation support services furnished under a fractional aircraft ownership program in accordance with a management services agreement under division (KKK)(1)(e) of this section, and offered by the program manager to the fractional owners, including, at a minimum, the establishment and implementation of safety guidelines; the coordination of the scheduling of the program aircraft and crews; program aircraft maintenance; program aircraft insurance; crew training for crews employed, furnished, or contracted by the program manager or the fractional owner; the satisfaction of record-keeping requirements; and the development and use of an operations manual and a maintenance manual for the fractional aircraft ownership program.

(e) "Program manager" means the person that offers management services to fractional owners pursuant to a management services agreement under division (KKK)(1)(e) of this section.

(LLL) "Electronic publishing" means providing access to one or more of the following primarily for business customers, including the federal government or a state government or a political subdivision thereof, to conduct research: news; business, financial, legal, consumer, or credit

materials; editorials, columns, reader commentary, or features; photos or images; archival or research material; legal notices, identity verification, or public records; scientific, educational, instructional, technical, professional, trade, or other literary materials; or other similar information which has been gathered and made available by the provider to the consumer in an electronic format. Providing electronic publishing includes the functions necessary for the acquisition, formatting, editing, storage, and dissemination of data or information that is the subject of a sale.

(MMM) "Medicaid health insuring corporation" means a health insuring corporation that holds a certificate of authority under Chapter 1751. of the Revised Code and is under contract with the department of job and family services pursuant to section 5111.17 of the Revised Code.

(NNN) "Managed care premium" means any premium, capitation, or other payment a medicaid health insuring corporation receives for providing or arranging for the provision of health care services to its members or enrollees residing in this state.

(OOO) "Captive deer" means deer and other cervidae that have been legally acquired, or their offspring, that are privately owned for agricultural or farming purposes.

(PPP) "Gift card" means a document, card, certificate, or other record, whether tangible or intangible, that may be redeemed by a consumer for a dollar value when making a purchase of tangible personal property or services.

Sec. 5739.02. For the purpose of providing revenue with which to meet the needs of the state, for the use of the general revenue fund of the state, for the purpose of securing a thorough and efficient system of common schools throughout the state, for the purpose of affording revenues, in addition to those from general property taxes, permitted under constitutional limitations, and from other sources, for the support of local governmental functions, and for the purpose of reimbursing the state for the expense of administering this chapter, an excise tax is hereby levied on each retail sale made in this state.

(A)(1) The tax shall be collected as provided in section 5739.025 of the Revised Code. The rate of the tax shall be five and one-half per cent. The tax applies and is collectible when the sale is made, regardless of the time when the price is paid or delivered.

(2) In the case of the lease or rental, with a fixed term of more than thirty days or an indefinite term with a minimum period of more than thirty days, of any motor vehicles designed by the manufacturer to carry a load of not more than one ton, watercraft, outboard motor, or aircraft, or of any

tangible personal property, other than motor vehicles designed by the manufacturer to carry a load of more than one ton, to be used by the lessee or renter primarily for business purposes, the tax shall be collected by the vendor at the time the lease or rental is consummated and shall be calculated by the vendor on the basis of the total amount to be paid by the lessee or renter under the lease agreement. If the total amount of the consideration for the lease or rental includes amounts that are not calculated at the time the lease or rental is executed, the tax shall be calculated and collected by the vendor at the time such amounts are billed to the lessee or renter. In the case of an open-end lease or rental, the tax shall be calculated by the vendor on the basis of the total amount to be paid during the initial fixed term of the lease or rental, and for each subsequent renewal period as it comes due. As used in this division, "motor vehicle" has the same meaning as in section 4501.01 of the Revised Code, and "watercraft" includes an outdrive unit attached to the watercraft.

A lease with a renewal clause and a termination penalty or similar provision that applies if the renewal clause is not exercised is presumed to be a sham transaction. In such a case, the tax shall be calculated and paid on the basis of the entire length of the lease period, including any renewal periods, until the termination penalty or similar provision no longer applies. The taxpayer shall bear the burden, by a preponderance of the evidence, that the transaction or series of transactions is not a sham transaction.

(3) Except as provided in division (A)(2) of this section, in the case of a sale, the price of which consists in whole or in part of the lease or rental of tangible personal property, the tax shall be measured by the installments of that lease or rental.

(4) In the case of a sale of a physical fitness facility service or recreation and sports club service, the price of which consists in whole or in part of a membership for the receipt of the benefit of the service, the tax applicable to the sale shall be measured by the installments thereof.

(B) The tax does not apply to the following:

(1) Sales to the state or any of its political subdivisions, or to any other state or its political subdivisions if the laws of that state exempt from taxation sales made to this state and its political subdivisions;

(2) Sales of food for human consumption off the premises where sold;

(3) Sales of food sold to students only in a cafeteria, dormitory, fraternity, or sorority maintained in a private, public, or parochial school, college, or university;

(4) Sales of newspapers and of magazine subscriptions and sales or transfers of magazines distributed as controlled circulation publications;

(5) The furnishing, preparing, or serving of meals without charge by an employer to an employee provided the employer records the meals as part compensation for services performed or work done;

(6) Sales of motor fuel upon receipt, use, distribution, or sale of which in this state a tax is imposed by the law of this state, but this exemption shall not apply to the sale of motor fuel on which a refund of the tax is allowable under division (A) of section 5735.14 of the Revised Code; and the tax commissioner may deduct the amount of tax levied by this section applicable to the price of motor fuel when granting a refund of motor fuel tax pursuant to division (A) of section 5735.14 of the Revised Code and shall cause the amount deducted to be paid into the general revenue fund of this state;

(7) Sales of natural gas by a natural gas company, of water by a water-works company, or of steam by a heating company, if in each case the thing sold is delivered to consumers through pipes or conduits, and all sales of communications services by a telegraph company, all terms as defined in section 5727.01 of the Revised Code, and sales of electricity delivered through wires;

(8) Casual sales by a person, or auctioneer employed directly by the person to conduct such sales, except as to such sales of motor vehicles, watercraft or outboard motors required to be titled under section 1548.06 of the Revised Code, watercraft documented with the United States coast guard, snowmobiles, and all-purpose vehicles as defined in section 4519.01 of the Revised Code;

(9)(a) Sales of services or tangible personal property, other than motor vehicles, mobile homes, and manufactured homes, by churches, organizations exempt from taxation under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or nonprofit organizations operated exclusively for charitable purposes as defined in division (B)(12) of this section, provided that the number of days on which such tangible personal property or services, other than items never subject to the tax, are sold does not exceed six in any calendar year, except as otherwise provided in division (B)(9)(b) of this section. If the number of days on which such sales are made exceeds six in any calendar year, the church or organization shall be considered to be engaged in business and all subsequent sales by it shall be subject to the tax. In counting the number of days, all sales by groups within a church or within an organization shall be considered to be sales of that church or organization.

(b) The limitation on the number of days on which tax-exempt sales may be made by a church or organization under division (B)(9)(a) of this

section does not apply to sales made by student clubs and other groups of students of a primary or secondary school, or a parent-teacher association, booster group, or similar organization that raises money to support or fund curricular or extracurricular activities of a primary or secondary school.

(c) Divisions (B)(9)(a) and (b) of this section do not apply to sales by a noncommercial educational radio or television broadcasting station.

(10) Sales not within the taxing power of this state under the Constitution of the United States;

(11) Except for transactions that are sales under division (B)(3)(r) of section 5739.01 of the Revised Code, the transportation of persons or property, unless the transportation is by a private investigation and security service;

(12) Sales of tangible personal property or services to churches, to organizations exempt from taxation under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and to any other nonprofit organizations operated exclusively for charitable purposes in this state, 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; sales to offices administering one or more homes for the aged or one or more hospital facilities exempt under section 140.08 of the Revised Code; and sales to organizations described in division (D) of section 5709.12 of the Revised Code.

"Charitable purposes" means the relief of poverty; the improvement of health through the alleviation of illness, disease, or injury; the operation of an organization exclusively for the provision of professional, laundry, printing, and purchasing services to hospitals or charitable institutions; the operation of a home for the aged, as defined in section 5701.13 of the Revised Code; the operation of a radio or television broadcasting station that is licensed by the federal communications commission as a noncommercial educational radio or television station; the operation of a nonprofit animal adoption service or a county humane society; the promotion of education by an institution of learning that maintains a faculty of qualified instructors, teaches regular continuous courses of study, and confers a recognized diploma upon completion of a specific curriculum; the operation of a parent-teacher association, booster group, or similar organization primarily engaged in the promotion and support of the curricular or extracurricular activities of a primary or secondary school; the operation of a community or area center in which presentations in music, dramatics, the arts, and related fields are made in order to foster public interest and education therein; the

production of performances in music, dramatics, and the arts; or the promotion of education by an organization engaged in carrying on research in, or the dissemination of, scientific and technological knowledge and information primarily for the public.

Nothing in this division shall be deemed to exempt sales to any organization for use in the operation or carrying on of a trade or business, or sales to a home for the aged for use in the operation of independent living facilities as defined in division (A) of section 5709.12 of the Revised Code.

(13) Building and construction materials and services sold to construction contractors for incorporation into a structure or improvement to real property under a construction contract with this state or a political subdivision of this state, or with the United States government or any of its agencies; building and construction materials and services sold to construction contractors for incorporation into a structure or improvement to real property that are accepted for ownership by this state or any of its political subdivisions, or by the United States government or any of its agencies at the time of completion of the structures or improvements; building and construction materials sold to construction contractors for incorporation into a horticulture structure or livestock structure for a person engaged in the business of horticulture or producing livestock; building materials and services sold to a construction contractor for incorporation into a house of public worship or religious education, or a building used exclusively for charitable purposes under a construction contract with an organization whose purpose is as described in division (B)(12) of this section; building materials and services sold to a construction contractor for incorporation into a building under a construction contract with an organization exempt from taxation under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 when the building is to be used exclusively for the organization's exempt purposes; building and construction materials sold for incorporation into the original construction of a sports facility under section 307.696 of the Revised Code; building and construction materials and services sold to a construction contractor for incorporation into real property outside this state if such materials and services, when sold to a construction contractor in the state in which the real property is located for incorporation into real property in that state, would be exempt from a tax on sales levied by that state; and, until one calendar year after the construction of a convention center that qualifies for property tax exemption under section 5709.084 of the Revised Code is completed, building and construction materials and services sold to a construction contractor for incorporation into the real property comprising that convention center;

(14) Sales of ships or vessels or rail rolling stock used or to be used principally in interstate or foreign commerce, and repairs, alterations, fuel, and lubricants for such ships or vessels or rail rolling stock;

(15) Sales to persons primarily engaged in any of the activities mentioned in division (B)(42)(a) ~~or~~, (g), or (h) of this section, to persons engaged in making retail sales, or to persons who purchase for sale from a manufacturer tangible personal property that was produced by the manufacturer in accordance with specific designs provided by the purchaser, of packages, including material, labels, and parts for packages, and of machinery, equipment, and material for use primarily in packaging tangible personal property produced for sale, including any machinery, equipment, and supplies used to make labels or packages, to prepare packages or products for labeling, or to label packages or products, by or on the order of the person doing the packaging, or sold at retail. "Packages" includes bags, baskets, cartons, crates, boxes, cans, bottles, bindings, wrappings, and other similar devices and containers, but does not include motor vehicles or bulk tanks, trailers, or similar devices attached to motor vehicles. "Packaging" means placing in a package. Division (B)(15) of this section does not apply to persons engaged in highway transportation for hire.

(16) Sales of food to persons using supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits to purchase the food. As used in this division, "food" has the same meaning as in 7 U.S.C. 2012 and federal regulations adopted pursuant to the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008.

(17) Sales to persons engaged in farming, agriculture, horticulture, or floriculture, of tangible personal property for use or consumption ~~directly~~ primarily in the production by farming, agriculture, horticulture, or floriculture of other tangible personal property for use or consumption ~~directly~~ primarily in the production of tangible personal property for sale by farming, agriculture, horticulture, or floriculture; or material and parts for incorporation into any such tangible personal property for use or consumption in production; and of tangible personal property for such use or consumption in the conditioning or holding of products produced by and for such use, consumption, or sale by persons engaged in farming, agriculture, horticulture, or floriculture, except where such property is incorporated into real property;

(18) Sales of drugs for a human being that may be dispensed only pursuant to a prescription; insulin as recognized in the official United States pharmacopoeia; urine and blood testing materials when used by diabetics or persons with hypoglycemia to test for glucose or acetone; hypodermic syringes and needles when used by diabetics for insulin injections; epoetin

alfa when purchased for use in the treatment of persons with medical disease; hospital beds when purchased by hospitals, nursing homes, or other medical facilities; and medical oxygen and medical oxygen-dispensing equipment when purchased by hospitals, nursing homes, or other medical facilities;

(19) Sales of prosthetic devices, durable medical equipment for home use, or mobility enhancing equipment, when made pursuant to a prescription and when such devices or equipment are for use by a human being.

(20) Sales of emergency and fire protection vehicles and equipment to nonprofit organizations for use solely in providing fire protection and emergency services, including trauma care and emergency medical services, for political subdivisions of the state;

(21) Sales of tangible personal property manufactured in this state, if sold by the manufacturer in this state to a retailer for use in the retail business of the retailer outside of this state and if possession is taken from the manufacturer by the purchaser within this state for the sole purpose of immediately removing the same from this state in a vehicle owned by the purchaser;

(22) Sales of services provided by the state or any of its political subdivisions, agencies, instrumentalities, institutions, or authorities, or by governmental entities of the state or any of its political subdivisions, agencies, instrumentalities, institutions, or authorities;

(23) Sales of motor vehicles to nonresidents of this state under the circumstances described in division (B) of section 5739.029 of the Revised Code;

(24) Sales to persons engaged in the preparation of eggs for sale of tangible personal property used or consumed directly in such preparation, including such tangible personal property used for cleaning, sanitizing, preserving, grading, sorting, and classifying by size; packages, including material and parts for packages, and machinery, equipment, and material for use in packaging eggs for sale; and handling and transportation equipment and parts therefor, except motor vehicles licensed to operate on public highways, used in intraplant or interplant transfers or shipment of eggs in the process of preparation for sale, when the plant or plants within or between which such transfers or shipments occur are operated by the same person. "Packages" includes containers, cases, baskets, flats, fillers, filler flats, cartons, closure materials, labels, and labeling materials, and "packaging" means placing therein.

(25)(a) Sales of water to a consumer for residential use, except the sale of bottled water, distilled water, mineral water, carbonated water, or ice;

(b) Sales of water by a nonprofit corporation engaged exclusively in the treatment, distribution, and sale of water to consumers, if such water is delivered to consumers through pipes or tubing.

(26) Fees charged for inspection or reinspection of motor vehicles under section 3704.14 of the Revised Code;

(27) Sales to persons licensed to conduct a food service operation pursuant to section 3717.43 of the Revised Code, of tangible personal property primarily used directly for the following:

(a) To prepare food for human consumption for sale;

(b) To preserve food that has been or will be prepared for human consumption for sale by the food service operator, not including tangible personal property used to display food for selection by the consumer;

(c) To clean tangible personal property used to prepare or serve food for human consumption for sale.

(28) Sales of animals by nonprofit animal adoption services or county humane societies;

(29) Sales of services to a corporation described in division (A) of section 5709.72 of the Revised Code, and sales of tangible personal property that qualifies for exemption from taxation under section 5709.72 of the Revised Code;

(30) Sales and installation of agricultural land tile, as defined in division (B)(5)(a) of section 5739.01 of the Revised Code;

(31) Sales and erection or installation of portable grain bins, as defined in division (B)(5)(b) of section 5739.01 of the Revised Code;

(32) The sale, lease, repair, and maintenance of, parts for, or items attached to or incorporated in, motor vehicles that are primarily used for transporting tangible personal property belonging to others by a person engaged in highway transportation for hire, except for packages and packaging used for the transportation of tangible personal property;

(33) Sales to the state headquarters of any veterans' organization in this state that is either incorporated and issued a charter by the congress of the United States or is recognized by the United States veterans administration, for use by the headquarters;

(34) Sales to a telecommunications service vendor, mobile telecommunications service vendor, or satellite broadcasting service vendor of tangible personal property and services used directly and primarily in transmitting, receiving, switching, or recording any interactive, one- or two-way electromagnetic communications, including voice, image, data, and information, through the use of any medium, including, but not limited to, poles, wires, cables, switching equipment, computers, and record storage

devices and media, and component parts for the tangible personal property. The exemption provided in this division shall be in lieu of all other exemptions under division (B)(42)(a) or (n) of this section to which the vendor may otherwise be entitled, based upon the use of the thing purchased in providing the telecommunications, mobile telecommunications, or satellite broadcasting service.

(35)(a) Sales where the purpose of the consumer is to use or consume the things transferred in making retail sales and consisting of newspaper inserts, catalogues, coupons, flyers, gift certificates, or other advertising material that prices and describes tangible personal property offered for retail sale.

(b) Sales to direct marketing vendors of preliminary materials such as photographs, artwork, and typesetting that will be used in printing advertising material; of printed matter that offers free merchandise or chances to win sweepstake prizes and that is mailed to potential customers with advertising material described in division (B)(35)(a) of this section; and of equipment such as telephones, computers, facsimile machines, and similar tangible personal property primarily used to accept orders for direct marketing retail sales.

(c) Sales of automatic food vending machines that preserve food with a shelf life of forty-five days or less by refrigeration and dispense it to the consumer.

For purposes of division (B)(35) of this section, "direct marketing" means the method of selling where consumers order tangible personal property by United States mail, delivery service, or telecommunication and the vendor delivers or ships the tangible personal property sold to the consumer from a warehouse, catalogue distribution center, or similar fulfillment facility by means of the United States mail, delivery service, or common carrier.

(36) Sales to a person engaged in the business of horticulture or producing livestock of materials to be incorporated into a horticulture structure or livestock structure;

(37) Sales of personal computers, computer monitors, computer keyboards, modems, and other peripheral computer equipment to an individual who is licensed or certified to teach in an elementary or a secondary school in this state for use by that individual in preparation for teaching elementary or secondary school students;

(38) Sales to a professional racing team of any of the following:

(a) Motor racing vehicles;

(b) Repair services for motor racing vehicles;

(c) Items of property that are attached to or incorporated in motor racing vehicles, including engines, chassis, and all other components of the vehicles, and all spare, replacement, and rebuilt parts or components of the vehicles; except not including tires, consumable fluids, paint, and accessories consisting of instrumentation sensors and related items added to the vehicle to collect and transmit data by means of telemetry and other forms of communication.

(39) Sales of used manufactured homes and used mobile homes, as defined in section 5739.0210 of the Revised Code, made on or after January 1, 2000;

(40) Sales of tangible personal property and services to a provider of electricity used or consumed directly and primarily in generating, transmitting, or distributing electricity for use by others, including property that is or is to be incorporated into and will become a part of the consumer's production, transmission, or distribution system and that retains its classification as tangible personal property after incorporation; fuel or power used in the production, transmission, or distribution of electricity; energy conversion equipment as defined in section 5727.01 of the Revised Code; and tangible personal property and services used in the repair and maintenance of the production, transmission, or distribution system, including only those motor vehicles as are specially designed and equipped for such use. The exemption provided in this division shall be in lieu of all other exemptions in division (B)(42)(a) or (n) of this section to which a provider of electricity may otherwise be entitled based on the use of the tangible personal property or service purchased in generating, transmitting, or distributing electricity.

(41) Sales to a person providing services under division (B)(3)(r) of section 5739.01 of the Revised Code of tangible personal property and services used directly and primarily in providing taxable services under that section.

(42) Sales where the purpose of the purchaser is to do any of the following:

(a) To incorporate the thing transferred as a material or a part into tangible personal property to be produced for sale by manufacturing, assembling, processing, or refining; or to use or consume the thing transferred directly in producing tangible personal property for sale by mining, including, without limitation, the extraction from the earth of all substances that are classed geologically as minerals, production of crude oil and natural gas, ~~farming, agriculture, horticulture, or floriculture~~, or directly in the rendition of a public utility service, except that the sales tax levied by

this section shall be collected upon all meals, drinks, and food for human consumption sold when transporting persons. Persons engaged in rendering ~~farming, agricultural, horticultural, or floricultural services, and~~ services in the exploration for, and production of, crude oil and natural gas; for others are deemed engaged directly in ~~farming, agriculture, horticulture, and floriculture, or~~ the exploration for, and production of, crude oil and natural gas. This paragraph does not exempt from "retail sale" or "sales at retail" the sale of tangible personal property that is to be incorporated into a structure or improvement to real property.

(b) To hold the thing transferred as security for the performance of an obligation of the vendor;

(c) To resell, hold, use, or consume the thing transferred as evidence of a contract of insurance;

(d) To use or consume the thing directly in commercial fishing;

(e) To incorporate the thing transferred as a material or a part into, or to use or consume the thing transferred directly in the production of, magazines distributed as controlled circulation publications;

(f) To use or consume the thing transferred in the production and preparation in suitable condition for market and sale of printed, imprinted, overprinted, lithographic, multilithic, blueprinted, photostatic, or other productions or reproductions of written or graphic matter;

(g) To use the thing transferred, as described in section 5739.011 of the Revised Code, primarily in a manufacturing operation to produce tangible personal property for sale;

(h) To use the benefit of a warranty, maintenance or service contract, or similar agreement, as described in division (B)(7) of section 5739.01 of the Revised Code, to repair or maintain tangible personal property, if all of the property that is the subject of the warranty, contract, or agreement would not be subject to the tax imposed by this section;

(i) To use the thing transferred as qualified research and development equipment;

(j) To use or consume the thing transferred primarily in storing, transporting, mailing, or otherwise handling purchased sales inventory in a warehouse, distribution center, or similar facility when the inventory is primarily distributed outside this state to retail stores of the person who owns or controls the warehouse, distribution center, or similar facility, to retail stores of an affiliated group of which that person is a member, or by means of direct marketing. This division does not apply to motor vehicles registered for operation on the public highways. As used in this division, "affiliated group" has the same meaning as in division (B)(3)(e) of section

5739.01 of the Revised Code and "direct marketing" has the same meaning as in division (B)(35) of this section.

(k) To use or consume the thing transferred to fulfill a contractual obligation incurred by a warrantor pursuant to a warranty provided as a part of the price of the tangible personal property sold or by a vendor of a warranty, maintenance or service contract, or similar agreement the provision of which is defined as a sale under division (B)(7) of section 5739.01 of the Revised Code;

(l) To use or consume the thing transferred in the production of a newspaper for distribution to the public;

(m) To use tangible personal property to perform a service listed in division (B)(3) of section 5739.01 of the Revised Code, if the property is or is to be permanently transferred to the consumer of the service as an integral part of the performance of the service;

(n) To use or consume the thing transferred primarily in producing tangible personal property for sale by farming, agriculture, horticulture, or floriculture. Persons engaged in rendering farming, agriculture, horticulture, or floriculture services for others are deemed engaged primarily in farming, agriculture, horticulture, or floriculture. This paragraph does not exempt from "retail sale" or "sales at retail" the sale of tangible personal property that is to be incorporated into a structure or improvement to real property.

(o) To use or consume the thing transferred in acquiring, formatting, editing, storing, and disseminating data or information by electronic publishing.

As used in division (B)(42) of this section, "thing" includes all transactions included in divisions (B)(3)(a), (b), and (e) of section 5739.01 of the Revised Code.

(43) Sales conducted through a coin operated device that activates vacuum equipment or equipment that dispenses water, whether or not in combination with soap or other cleaning agents or wax, to the consumer for the consumer's use on the premises in washing, cleaning, or waxing a motor vehicle, provided no other personal property or personal service is provided as part of the transaction.

(44) Sales of replacement and modification parts for engines, airframes, instruments, and interiors in, and paint for, aircraft used primarily in a fractional aircraft ownership program, and sales of services for the repair, modification, and maintenance of such aircraft, and machinery, equipment, and supplies primarily used to provide those services.

(45) Sales of telecommunications service that is used directly and primarily to perform the functions of a call center. As used in this division,

"call center" means any physical location where telephone calls are placed or received in high volume for the purpose of making sales, marketing, customer service, technical support, or other specialized business activity, and that employs at least fifty individuals that engage in call center activities on a full-time basis, or sufficient individuals to fill fifty full-time equivalent positions.

(46) Sales by a telecommunications service vendor of 900 service to a subscriber. This division does not apply to information services, as defined in division (FF) of section 5739.01 of the Revised Code.

(47) Sales of value-added non-voice data service. This division does not apply to any similar service that is not otherwise a telecommunications service.

(48)(a) Sales of machinery, equipment, and software to a qualified direct selling entity for use in a warehouse or distribution center primarily for storing, transporting, or otherwise handling inventory that is held for sale to independent salespersons who operate as direct sellers and that is held primarily for distribution outside this state;

(b) As used in division (B)(48)(a) of this section:

(i) "Direct seller" means a person selling consumer products to individuals for personal or household use and not from a fixed retail location, including selling such product at in-home product demonstrations, parties, and other one-on-one selling.

(ii) "Qualified direct selling entity" means an entity selling to direct sellers at the time the entity enters into a tax credit agreement with the tax credit authority pursuant to section 122.17 of the Revised Code, provided that the agreement was entered into on or after January 1, 2007. Neither contingencies relevant to the granting of, nor later developments with respect to, the tax credit shall impair the status of the qualified direct selling entity under division (B)(48) of this section after execution of the tax credit agreement by the tax credit authority.

(c) Division (B)(48) of this section is limited to machinery, equipment, and software first stored, used, or consumed in this state within the period commencing June 24, 2008, and ending on the date that is five years after that date.

(49) Sales of materials, parts, equipment, or engines used in the repair or maintenance of aircraft or avionics systems of such aircraft, and sales of repair, remodeling, replacement, or maintenance services in this state performed on aircraft or on an aircraft's avionics, engine, or component materials or parts. As used in division (B)(49) of this section, "aircraft" means aircraft of more than six thousand pounds maximum certified takeoff

weight or used exclusively in general aviation.

(50) Sales of full flight simulators that are used for pilot or flight-crew training, sales of repair or replacement parts or components, and sales of repair or maintenance services for such full flight simulators. "Full flight simulator" means a replica of a specific type, or make, model, and series of aircraft cockpit. It includes the assemblage of equipment and computer programs necessary to represent aircraft operations in ground and flight conditions, a visual system providing an out-of-the-cockpit view, and a system that provides cues at least equivalent to those of a three-degree-of-freedom motion system, and has the full range of capabilities of the systems installed in the device as described in appendices A and B of part 60 of chapter 1 of title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

(51) Any transfer or lease of tangible personal property between the state and a successful proposer in accordance with sections 126.60 to 126.605 of the Revised Code, provided the property is part of a project as defined in section 126.60 of the Revised Code and the state retains ownership of the project or part thereof that is being transferred or leased, between the state and JobsOhio in accordance with section 4313.02 of the Revised Code.

(C) For the purpose of the proper administration of this chapter, and to prevent the evasion of the tax, it is presumed that all sales made in this state are subject to the tax until the contrary is established.

(D) The levy of this tax on retail sales of recreation and sports club service shall not prevent a municipal corporation from levying any tax on recreation and sports club dues or on any income generated by recreation and sports club dues.

(E) The tax collected by the vendor from the consumer under this chapter is not part of the price, but is a tax collection for the benefit of the state, and of counties levying an additional sales tax pursuant to section 5739.021 or 5739.026 of the Revised Code and of transit authorities levying an additional sales tax pursuant to section 5739.023 of the Revised Code. Except for the discount authorized under section 5739.12 of the Revised Code and the effects of any rounding pursuant to section 5703.055 of the Revised Code, no person other than the state or such a county or transit authority shall derive any benefit from the collection or payment of the tax levied by this section or section 5739.021, 5739.023, or 5739.026 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 5739.021. (A) For the purpose of providing additional general revenues for the county or supporting criminal and administrative justice

services in the county, or both, and to pay the expenses of administering such levy, any county may levy a tax at the rate of not more than one per cent at any multiple of one-fourth of one per cent upon every retail sale made in the county, except sales of watercraft and outboard motors required to be titled pursuant to Chapter 1548. of the Revised Code and sales of motor vehicles, and may increase the rate of an existing tax to not more than one per cent at any multiple of one-fourth of one per cent.

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

Prior to the adoption of any resolution under this section, the board of county commissioners shall conduct two public hearings on the resolution, 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, or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code, once a week on the same day of the week for two consecutive weeks, the second publication being not less than ten nor more than thirty days prior to the first hearing.

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

If a petition for a referendum is filed, the county auditor with whom the petition was filed shall, within five days, notify the board of county commissioners and the tax commissioner of the filing of the petition by certified mail. If the board of elections with which the petition was filed declares the petition invalid, the board of elections, within five days, shall

notify the board of county commissioners and the tax commissioner of that declaration by certified mail. If the petition is declared to be invalid, the effective date of the tax or increased rate of tax levied by this section shall be the first day of a calendar quarter following the expiration of sixty-five days from the date the commissioner receives notice from the board of elections that the petition is invalid.

(B)(1) A resolution that is not adopted as an emergency measure may direct the board of elections to submit the question of levying the tax or increasing the rate of tax to the electors of the county at a special election held on the date specified by the board of county commissioners in the resolution, provided that the election occurs not less than ninety days after a certified copy of such resolution is transmitted to the board of elections and the election is not held in February or August of any year. Upon transmission of the resolution to the board of elections, the board of county commissioners shall notify the tax commissioner in writing of the levy question to be submitted to the electors. No resolution adopted under this division shall go into effect unless approved by a majority of those voting upon it, and, except as provided in division (B)(3) of this section, shall become effective on the first day of a calendar quarter following the expiration of sixty-five days from the date the tax commissioner receives notice from the board of elections of the affirmative vote.

(2) A resolution that is adopted as an emergency measure shall go into effect as provided in division (A) of this section, but may direct the board of elections to submit the question of repealing the tax or increase in the rate of the tax to the electors of the county at the next general election in the county occurring not less than ninety days after a certified copy of the resolution is transmitted to the board of elections. Upon transmission of the resolution to the board of elections, the board of county commissioners shall notify the tax commissioner in writing of the levy question to be submitted to the electors. The ballot question shall be the same as that prescribed in section 5739.022 of the Revised Code. The board of elections shall notify the board of county commissioners and the tax commissioner of the result of the election immediately after the result has been declared. If a majority of the qualified electors voting on the question of repealing the tax or increase in the rate of the tax vote for repeal of the tax or repeal of the increase, the board of county commissioners, on the first day of a calendar quarter following the expiration of sixty-five days after the date the board and tax commissioner receive notice of the result of the election, shall, in the case of a repeal of the tax, cease to levy the tax, or, in the case of a repeal of an increase in the rate of the tax, cease to levy the increased rate and levy the

tax at the rate at which it was imposed immediately prior to the increase in rate.

(3) If a vendor that is registered with the central electronic registration system provided for in section 5740.05 of the Revised Code makes a sale in this state by printed catalog and the consumer computed the tax on the sale based on local rates published in the catalog, any tax levied or repealed or rate changed under this section shall not apply to such a sale until the first day of a calendar quarter following the expiration of one hundred twenty days from the date of notice by the tax commissioner pursuant to division (H) of this section.

(C) If a resolution is rejected at a referendum or if a resolution adopted after January 1, 1982, as an emergency measure is repealed by the electors pursuant to division (B)(2) of this section or section 5739.022 of the Revised Code, then for one year after the date of the election at which the resolution was rejected or repealed the board of county commissioners may not adopt any resolution authorized by this section as an emergency measure.

(D) The board of county commissioners, at any time while a tax levied under this section is in effect, may by resolution reduce the rate at which the tax is levied to a lower rate authorized by this section. Any reduction in the rate at which the tax is levied shall be made effective on the first day of a calendar quarter next following the sixty-fifth day after a certified copy of the resolution is delivered to the tax commissioner.

(E) The tax on every retail sale subject to a tax levied pursuant to this section shall be in addition to the tax levied by section 5739.02 of the Revised Code and any tax levied pursuant to section 5739.023 or 5739.026 of the Revised Code.

A county that levies a tax pursuant to this section shall levy a tax at the same rate pursuant to section 5741.021 of the Revised Code.

The additional tax levied by the county shall be collected pursuant to section 5739.025 of the Revised Code. If the additional tax or some portion thereof is levied for the purpose of criminal and administrative justice services, the revenue from the tax, or the amount or rate apportioned to that purpose, shall be credited to a special fund created in the county treasury for receipt of that revenue.

Any tax levied pursuant to this section is subject to the exemptions provided in section 5739.02 of the Revised Code and in addition shall not be applicable to sales not within the taxing power of a county under the Constitution of the United States or the Ohio Constitution.

(F) For purposes of this section, a copy of a resolution is "certified" when it contains a written statement attesting that the copy is a true and

exact reproduction of the original resolution.

(G) If a board of commissioners intends to adopt a resolution to levy a tax in whole or in part for the purpose of criminal and administrative justice services, the board shall prepare and make available at the first public hearing at which the resolution is considered a statement containing the following information:

(1) For each of the two preceding fiscal years, the amount of expenditures made by the county from the county general fund for the purpose of criminal and administrative justice services;

(2) For the fiscal year in which the resolution is adopted, the board's estimate of the amount of expenditures to be made by the county from the county general fund for the purpose of criminal and administrative justice services;

(3) For each of the two fiscal years after the fiscal year in which the resolution is adopted, the board's preliminary plan for expenditures to be made from the county general fund for the purpose of criminal and administrative justice services, both under the assumption that the tax will be imposed for that purpose and under the assumption that the tax would not be imposed for that purpose, and for expenditures to be made from the special fund created under division (E) of this section under the assumption that the tax will be imposed for that purpose.

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

(H) Upon receipt from a board of county commissioners of a certified copy of a resolution required by division (A) or (D) of this section, or from the board of elections of a notice of the results of an election required by division (A) or (B)(1) or (2) of this section, the tax commissioner shall provide notice of a tax rate change in a manner that is reasonably accessible to all affected vendors. The commissioner shall provide this notice at least sixty days prior to the effective date of the rate change. The commissioner, by rule, may establish the method by which notice will be provided.

(I) As used in this section, "criminal and administrative justice services" means the exercise by the county sheriff of all powers and duties vested in that office by law; the exercise by the county prosecuting attorney of all powers and duties vested in that office by law; the exercise by any court in

the county of all powers and duties vested in that court; the exercise by the clerk of the court of common pleas, any clerk of a municipal court having jurisdiction throughout the county, or the clerk of any county court of all powers and duties vested in the clerk by law except, in the case of the clerk of the court of common pleas, the titling of motor vehicles or watercraft pursuant to Chapter 1548. or 4505. of the Revised Code; the exercise by the county coroner of all powers and duties vested in that office by law; making payments to any other public agency or a private, nonprofit agency, the purposes of which in the county include the diversion, adjudication, detention, or rehabilitation of criminals or juvenile offenders; the operation and maintenance of any detention facility, as defined in section 2921.01 of the Revised Code; and the construction, acquisition, equipping, or repair of such a detention facility, including the payment of any debt charges incurred in the issuance of securities pursuant to Chapter 133. of the Revised Code for the purpose of constructing, acquiring, equipping, or repairing such a facility.

Sec. 5739.022. (A) The question of repeal of either a county permissive tax or an increase in the rate of a county permissive tax that was adopted as an emergency measure pursuant to section 5739.021 or 5739.026 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 the question. The question of repealing an increase in the rate of the county permissive tax shall be submitted to the electors as a separate question from the repeal of the tax in effect prior to the increase in the rate. Any petition filed under this section 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 the 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. The board of elections shall notify the tax commissioner, in writing, of the election upon determining that the petition is valid. Notice of the election shall also be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the 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 of elections operates and maintains a web site, the board of elections shall post notice of the election on its 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 the election shall be prescribed by the secretary of state; however, the ballot question shall read, "shall the tax (or, increase in the rate of the tax) be retained?"

	Yes
	No

"

The question covered by the 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.

(B) If a majority of the qualified electors voting on the question of repeal of either a county permissive tax or an increase in the rate of a county permissive tax approve the repeal, the board of elections shall notify the board of county commissioners and the tax commissioner of the result of the election immediately after the result has been declared. The board of county commissioners shall, on the first day of the calendar quarter following the expiration of sixty-five days after the date the board and the tax commissioner receive the notice, in the case of a repeal of a county permissive tax, cease to levy the tax, or, in the case of a repeal of an increase in the rate of a county permissive tax, levy the tax at the rate at which it was imposed immediately prior to the increase in rate and cease to levy the increased rate.

(C) Upon receipt from a board of elections of a notice of the results of an election required by division (B) of this section, the tax commissioner shall provide notice of a tax repeal or rate change in a manner that is reasonably accessible to all affected vendors. The commissioner shall provide this notice at least sixty days prior to the effective date of the rate change. The commissioner, by rule, may establish the method by which notice will be provided.

(D) If a vendor that is registered with the central electronic registration system provided for in section 5740.05 of the Revised Code makes a sale in this state by printed catalog and the consumer computed the tax on the sale based on local rates published in the catalog, any tax repealed or rate changed under this section shall not apply to such a sale until the first day of a calendar quarter following the expiration of one hundred twenty days from the date of notice by the tax commissioner pursuant to division (C) of this section.

Sec. 5739.026. (A) A board of county commissioners may levy a tax of one-fourth or one-half of one per cent on every retail sale in the county, except sales of watercraft and outboard motors required to be titled pursuant

to Chapter 1548. of the Revised Code and sales of motor vehicles, and may increase an existing rate of one-fourth of one per cent to one-half of one per cent, to pay the expenses of administering the tax and, except as provided in division (A)(6) of this section, for any one or more of the following purposes provided that the aggregate levy for all such purposes does not exceed one-half of one per cent:

(1) To provide additional revenues for the payment of bonds or notes issued in anticipation of bonds issued by a convention facilities authority established by the board of county commissioners under Chapter 351. of the Revised Code and to provide additional operating revenues for the convention facilities authority;

(2) To provide additional revenues for a transit authority operating in the county;

(3) To provide additional revenue for the county's general fund;

(4) To provide additional revenue for permanent improvements within the county to be distributed by the community improvements board in accordance with section 307.283 and to pay principal, interest, and premium on bonds issued under section 307.284 of the Revised Code;

(5) To provide additional revenue for the acquisition, construction, equipping, or repair of any specific permanent improvement or any class or group of permanent improvements, which improvement or class or group of improvements shall be enumerated in the resolution required by division (D) of this section, and to pay principal, interest, premium, and other costs associated with the issuance of bonds or notes in anticipation of bonds issued pursuant to Chapter 133. of the Revised Code for the acquisition, construction, equipping, or repair of the specific permanent improvement or class or group of permanent improvements;

(6) To provide revenue for the implementation and operation of a 9-1-1 system in the county. If the tax is levied or the rate increased exclusively for such purpose, the tax shall not be levied or the rate increased for more than five years. At the end of the last year the tax is levied or the rate increased, any balance remaining in the special fund established for such purpose shall remain in that fund and be used exclusively for such purpose until the fund is completely expended, and, notwithstanding section 5705.16 of the Revised Code, the board of county commissioners shall not petition for the transfer of money from such special fund, and the tax commissioner shall not approve such a petition.

If the tax is levied or the rate increased for such purpose for more than five years, the board of county commissioners also shall levy the tax or increase the rate of the tax for one or more of the purposes described in

divisions (A)(1) to (5) of this section and shall prescribe the method for allocating the revenues from the tax each year in the manner required by division (C) of this section.

(7) To provide additional revenue for the operation or maintenance of a detention facility, as that term is defined under division (F) of section 2921.01 of the Revised Code;

(8) To provide revenue to finance the construction or renovation of a sports facility, but only if the tax is levied for that purpose in the manner prescribed by section 5739.028 of the Revised Code.

As used in division (A)(8) of this section:

(a) "Sports facility" means a facility intended to house major league professional athletic teams.

(b) "Constructing" or "construction" includes providing fixtures, furnishings, and equipment.

(9) To provide additional revenue for the acquisition of agricultural easements, as defined in section 5301.67 of the Revised Code; to pay principal, interest, and premium on bonds issued under section 133.60 of the Revised Code; and for the supervision and enforcement of agricultural easements held by the county;

(10) To provide revenue for the provision of ambulance, paramedic, or other emergency medical services.

Pursuant to section 755.171 of the Revised Code, a board of county commissioners may pledge and contribute revenue from a tax levied for the purpose of division (A)(5) of this section to the payment of debt charges on bonds issued under section 755.17 of the Revised Code.

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

Prior to the adoption of any resolution to levy the tax or to increase the rate of tax exclusively for the purpose set forth in division (A)(3) of this section, the board of county commissioners shall conduct two public hearings on the resolution, the second hearing to be no fewer 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, or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code, once a week on the same day of the week for two consecutive weeks, ~~the~~. The second publication being shall be no fewer than ten nor more than thirty days prior to the first hearing. Except as provided in division (E) of this section, the resolution shall be subject to a referendum as provided in sections 305.31 to 305.41 of the Revised Code. If the resolution is adopted as an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, it must receive an affirmative vote of all of the members of the board of county commissioners and shall state the reasons for the necessity.

If the tax is for more than one of the purposes set forth in divisions (A)(1) to (7), (9), and (10) of this section, or is exclusively for one of the purposes set forth in division (A)(1), (2), (4), (5), (6), (7), (9), or (10) of this section, the resolution shall not go into effect unless it is approved by a majority of the electors voting on the question of the tax.

(B) The board of county commissioners shall adopt a resolution under section 351.02 of the Revised Code creating the convention facilities authority, or under section 307.283 of the Revised Code creating the community improvements board, before adopting a resolution levying a tax for the purpose of a convention facilities authority under division (A)(1) of this section or for the purpose of a community improvements board under division (A)(4) of this section.

(C)(1) If the tax is to be used for more than one of the purposes set forth in divisions (A)(1) to (7), (9), and (10) of this section, the board of county commissioners shall establish the method that will be used to determine the amount or proportion of the tax revenue received by the county during each year that will be distributed for each of those purposes, including, if applicable, provisions governing the reallocation of a convention facilities authority's allocation if the authority is dissolved while the tax is in effect. The allocation method may provide that different proportions or amounts of the tax shall be distributed among the purposes in different years, but it shall clearly describe the method that will be used for each year. Except as otherwise provided in division (C)(2) of this section, the allocation method established by the board is not subject to amendment during the life of the tax.

(2) Subsequent to holding a public hearing on the proposed amendment, the board of county commissioners may amend the allocation method established under division (C)(1) of this section for any year, if the

amendment is approved by the governing board of each entity whose allocation for the year would be reduced by the proposed amendment. In the case of a tax that is levied for a continuing period of time, the board may not so amend the allocation method for any year before the sixth year that the tax is in effect.

(a) If the additional revenues provided to the convention facilities authority are pledged by the authority for the payment of convention facilities authority revenue bonds for as long as such bonds are outstanding, no reduction of the authority's allocation of the tax shall be made for any year except to the extent that the reduced authority allocation, when combined with the authority's other revenues pledged for that purpose, is sufficient to meet the debt service requirements for that year on such bonds.

(b) If the additional revenues provided to the county are pledged by the county for the payment of bonds or notes described in division (A)(4) or (5) of this section, for as long as such bonds or notes are outstanding, no reduction of the county's or the community improvements board's allocation of the tax shall be made for any year, except to the extent that the reduced county or community improvements board allocation is sufficient to meet the debt service requirements for that year on such bonds or notes.

(c) If the additional revenues provided to the transit authority are pledged by the authority for the payment of revenue bonds issued under section 306.37 of the Revised Code, for as long as such bonds are outstanding, no reduction of the authority's allocation of tax shall be made for any year, except to the extent that the authority's reduced allocation, when combined with the authority's other revenues pledged for that purpose, is sufficient to meet the debt service requirements for that year on such bonds.

(d) If the additional revenues provided to the county are pledged by the county for the payment of bonds or notes issued under section 133.60 of the Revised Code, for so long as the bonds or notes are outstanding, no reduction of the county's allocation of the tax shall be made for any year, except to the extent that the reduced county allocation is sufficient to meet the debt service requirements for that year on the bonds or notes.

(D)(1) The resolution levying the tax or increasing the rate of tax shall state the rate of the tax or the rate of the increase; the purpose or purposes for which it is to be levied; the number of years for which it is to be levied or that it is for a continuing period of time; the allocation method required by division (C) of this section; and if required to be submitted to the electors of the county under division (A) of this section, the date of the election at which the proposal shall be submitted to the electors of the county, which

shall be not less than ninety days after the certification of a copy of the resolution to the board of elections and, if the tax is to be levied exclusively for the purpose set forth in division (A)(3) of this section, shall not occur in February or August of any year. Upon certification of the resolution to the board of elections, the board of county commissioners shall notify the tax commissioner in writing of the levy question to be submitted to the electors. If approved by a majority of the electors, the tax shall become effective on the first day of a calendar quarter next following the sixty-fifth day following the date the board of county commissioners and tax commissioner receive from the board of elections the certification of the results of the election, except as provided in division (E) of this section.

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

(b) A resolution specifying that the tax is to be used exclusively for the purpose set forth in division (A)(3) of this section that is adopted as an emergency measure shall become effective as provided in division (A) of this section, but may direct the board of elections to submit the question of repealing the tax or increase in the rate of the tax to the electors of the county at the next general election in the county occurring not less than ninety days after the resolution is certified to the board of elections. Upon certification of the resolution to the board of elections, the board of county commissioners shall notify the tax commissioner in writing of the levy question to be submitted to the electors. The ballot question shall be the same as that prescribed in section 5739.022 of the Revised Code. The board of elections shall notify the board of county commissioners and the tax commissioner of the result of the election immediately after the result has

been declared. If a majority of the qualified electors voting on the question of repealing the tax or increase in the rate of the tax vote for repeal of the tax or repeal of the increase, the board of county commissioners, on the first day of a calendar quarter following the expiration of sixty-five days after the date the board and tax commissioner received notice of the result of the election, shall, in the case of a repeal of the tax, cease to levy the tax, or, in the case of a repeal of an increase in the rate of the tax, cease to levy the increased rate and levy the tax at the rate at which it was imposed immediately prior to the increase in rate.

(c) A board of county commissioners, by resolution, may reduce the rate of a tax levied exclusively for the purpose set forth in division (A)(3) of this section to a lower rate authorized by this section. Any such reduction shall be made effective on the first day of the calendar quarter next following the sixty-fifth day after the tax commissioner receives a certified copy of the resolution from the board.

(E) If a vendor that is registered with the central electronic registration system provided for in section 5740.05 of the Revised Code makes a sale in this state by printed catalog and the consumer computed the tax on the sale based on local rates published in the catalog, any tax levied or repealed or rate changed under this section shall not apply to such a sale until the first day of a calendar quarter following the expiration of one hundred twenty days from the date of notice by the tax commissioner pursuant to division (G) of this section.

(F) The tax levied pursuant to this section shall be in addition to the tax levied by section 5739.02 of the Revised Code and any tax levied pursuant to section 5739.021 or 5739.023 of the Revised Code.

A county that levies a tax pursuant to this section shall levy a tax at the same rate pursuant to section 5741.023 of the Revised Code.

The additional tax levied by the county shall be collected pursuant to section 5739.025 of the Revised Code.

Any tax levied pursuant to this section is subject to the exemptions provided in section 5739.02 of the Revised Code and in addition shall not be applicable to sales not within the taxing power of a county under the Constitution of the United States or the Ohio Constitution.

(G) Upon receipt from a board of county commissioners of a certified copy of a resolution required by division (A) of this section, or from the board of elections a notice of the results of an election required by division (D)(1), (2)(a), (b), or (c) of this section, the tax commissioner shall provide notice of a tax rate change in a manner that is reasonably accessible to all affected vendors. The commissioner shall provide this notice at least sixty

days prior to the effective date of the rate change. The commissioner, by rule, may establish the method by which notice will be provided.

Sec. 5739.07. (A) When, pursuant to this chapter, a vendor has paid taxes to the treasurer of state or the treasurer of state's agent, or to the tax commissioner or the commissioner's agent, the commissioner shall refund to the vendor the amount of taxes paid if the vendor has refunded to the consumer the full amount of taxes the consumer paid illegally or erroneously or if the vendor has illegally or erroneously billed the consumer but has not collected the taxes from the consumer.

(B) When, pursuant to this chapter, a consumer has paid taxes directly to the treasurer of state or the treasurer of state's agent, or to the tax commissioner or the commissioner's agent, and the payment or assessment was illegal or erroneous, the commissioner shall refund to the consumer the full amount of illegal or erroneous taxes paid.

(C) The commissioner shall refund to the consumer taxes paid illegally or erroneously to a vendor only if:

(1) The commissioner has not refunded the tax to the vendor and the vendor has not refunded the tax to the consumer; or

(2) The consumer has received a refund from a manufacturer or other person, other than the vendor, of the full purchase price, but not the tax, paid to the vendor in settlement of a complaint by the consumer about the property or service purchased.

The commissioner may require the consumer to obtain or the vendor to provide a written statement confirming that the vendor has not refunded the tax to the consumer and has not filed an application for refund of the tax with the commissioner.

(D) ~~An~~ Subject to division (E) of this section, an application for refund shall be filed with the tax commissioner on the form prescribed by the commissioner within four years from the date of the illegal or erroneous payment of the tax, unless the vendor or consumer waives the time limitation under division (A)(3) of section 5739.16 of the Revised Code. If the time limitation is waived, the refund application period shall be extended for the same period as the waiver.

(E) An application for refund shall be filed in accordance with division (D) of this section unless a person is subject to an assessment that is subject to the time limit of division (B) of section 5703.58 of the Revised Code for a tax not reported and paid between the four-year time limit described in division (D) of this section and the seven-year limit described in division (B) of section 5703.58 of the Revised Code, in which case the person may file an application within six months after the date the assessment is issued.