

**As Reported by the Senate Insurance Committee**

**131st General Assembly**

**Regular Session**

**2015-2016**

**Sub. S. B. No. 11**

**Senators Eklund, LaRose**

**Cosponsors: Senators Seitz, Cafaro, Patton, Hughes, Jones, Williams, Uecker,  
Schiavoni, Beagle, Yuko, Hite, Gardner, Oelslager**

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**A BILL**

To amend sections 742.63 and 2329.66 and to enact 1  
sections 143.01 to 143.11 of the Revised Code to 2  
enact the "Jason Gresko Act" to create the 3  
Volunteer Peace Officers' Dependents Fund to 4  
provide death benefits to survivors of volunteer 5  
peace officers killed in the line of duty and 6  
disability benefits to disabled volunteer peace 7  
officers and to make survivors of gaming agents 8  
and Department of Taxation investigators 9  
eligible for benefits from the Ohio Public 10  
Safety Officers Death Benefit Fund. 11

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

**Section 1.** That sections 742.63 and 2329.66 be amended and 12  
sections 143.01, 143.02, 143.03, 143.04, 143.05, 143.06, 143.07, 13  
143.08, 143.09, 143.10, and 143.11 of the Revised Code be 14  
enacted to read as follows: 15

**Sec. 143.01. As used in this chapter:** 16

**(A) "Killed in the line of duty" means either of the** 17

following: 18

(1) Death in the line of duty; 19

(2) Death from injury sustained in the line of duty, 20  
including heart attack or other fatal injury or illness caused 21  
while in the line of duty. 22

(B) "Totally and permanently disabled" means unable to 23  
engage in any substantial gainful employment for a period of not 24  
less than twelve months by reason of a medically determinable 25  
physical impairment that is permanent or presumed to be 26  
permanent. 27

(C) "Volunteer peace officer" means any person who is 28  
employed as a police officer, sheriff's deputy, constable, or 29  
deputy marshal in a part-time, reserve, or volunteer capacity by 30  
a county sheriff's department or the police department of a 31  
municipal corporation, township, township police district, or 32  
joint police district and is not a member of the public 33  
employees retirement system, Ohio police and fire pension fund, 34  
state highway patrol retirement system, or the Cincinnati 35  
retirement system. 36

**Sec. 143.02.** (A) There is hereby established the volunteer 37  
peace officers dependents fund. 38

Each county, municipal corporation, township, township 39  
police district, and joint police district with a police or 40  
sheriff's department that employs volunteer peace officers is a 41  
member of the volunteer peace officers' dependents fund and 42  
shall establish a volunteer peace officers' dependents fund 43  
board. Each board shall consist of the following board members: 44

(1) Two board members, elected by the legislative 45  
authority of the fund member that maintains the police or 46

sheriff's department; 47

(2) Two board members, elected by the volunteer peace 48  
officers of the police or sheriff's department; 49

(3) One board member, elected by the board members elected 50  
pursuant to divisions (A) (1) and (2) of this section. The board 51  
member must be an elector of the fund member in which the police 52  
or sheriff's department is located, but not a public employee, 53  
member of the legislative authority, or peace officer of that 54  
police or sheriff's department. 55

(B) The term of office of a board member begins the first 56  
day of January and is one year. 57

(C) (1) The election of the board members specified in 58  
division (A) (1) of this section shall be held each year not 59  
earlier than the first day of November and not later than the 60  
second Monday in December. The election of the member specified 61  
in division (A) (3) of this section shall be held each year on or 62  
before the thirty-first day of December. 63

(2) The members specified in division (A) (2) of this 64  
section shall be elected on or before the second Monday in 65  
December, as follows: 66

(a) The secretary of the board shall give notice of the 67  
election by posting it in a conspicuous place at the 68  
headquarters of the police or sheriff's department. Between nine 69  
a.m. and nine p.m. on the day designated, each person eligible 70  
to vote shall send in writing the name of two persons eligible 71  
to be elected to the board who are the person's choices. 72

(b) All votes cast at the election shall be counted and 73  
recorded by the board, which shall announce the result. The two 74  
persons receiving the highest number of votes are elected. If 75

there is a tie vote for any two persons, the election shall be 76  
decided by lot or in any other way agreed on by the persons for 77  
whom the tie vote was cast. 78

(D) Any vacancy occurring on a board shall be filled at a 79  
special election called by the board's secretary. 80

**Sec. 143.03.** A volunteer peace officers' dependents fund 81  
board shall meet promptly after election of the board's members 82  
and organize. The board shall select from among its members a 83  
chairperson and a secretary. 84

The secretary of the board shall keep a complete record of 85  
the board's proceedings, which shall be maintained as a 86  
permanent file. 87

Board members shall serve without compensation. 88

The legislative authority of the fund member shall provide 89  
sufficient meeting space and supplies for the board to carry out 90  
its duties. 91

The secretary shall submit all of the following to the 92  
director of commerce: 93

(A) The name and address of each board member and an 94  
indication of the group or authority that elected the member; 95

(B) The names of the chairperson and secretary; 96

(C) A certificate indicating the current assessed property 97  
valuation of the fund member that is prepared by the clerk of 98  
the fund member. 99

**Sec. 143.04.** Each volunteer peace officers' dependents 100  
fund board may adopt rules as necessary for handling and 101  
processing claims for benefits. 102

The board shall perform such other duties as are necessary 103  
to implement this chapter. 104

**Sec. 143.05.** The prosecuting attorney of the county in 105  
which a fund member is located shall serve as the legal advisor 106  
for the volunteer peace officer's dependents' board. 107

**Sec. 143.06.** (A) The volunteer peace officers' dependents 108  
fund shall be maintained in the state treasury. All investment 109  
earnings of the fund shall be collected by the treasurer of 110  
state and placed to the credit of the fund. 111

(B) Each fund member shall pay to the treasurer of state, 112  
to the credit of the fund, an initial premium as follows: 113

(1) Each member with an assessed property valuation of 114  
less than seven million dollars, three hundred dollars; 115

(2) Each member with an assessed property valuation of 116  
seven million dollars but less than fourteen million dollars, 117  
three hundred fifty dollars; 118

(3) Each member with an assessed property valuation of 119  
fourteen million dollars but less than twenty-one million 120  
dollars, four hundred dollars; 121

(4) Each member with an assessed property valuation of 122  
twenty-one million dollars but less than twenty-eight million 123  
dollars, four hundred fifty dollars; 124

(5) Each member with an assessed property valuation of 125  
twenty-eight million dollars or over, five hundred dollars. 126

**Sec. 143.07.** The total of all initial premiums collected 127  
by the treasurer of state under section 143.06 of the Revised 128  
Code is the basic capital account of the volunteer peace 129  
officers' dependents fund. No further contributions are required 130

of fund members until claims against the fund have reduced it to 131  
ninety-five per cent or less of its basic capital account. In 132  
that event, the director of commerce shall cause the following 133  
assessments, based on current property valuation, to be made and 134  
certified to the legislative authority of each member of the 135  
fund: 136

(A) Each member with an assessed property valuation of 137  
less than seven million dollars, ninety dollars; 138

(B) Each member with an assessed property valuation of 139  
seven million dollars but less than fourteen million dollars, 140  
one hundred five dollars; 141

(C) Each member with an assessed property valuation of 142  
fourteen million dollars but less than twenty-one million 143  
dollars, one hundred twenty dollars; 144

(D) Each member with an assessed property valuation of 145  
twenty-one million dollars but less than twenty-eight million 146  
dollars, one hundred thirty-five dollars; 147

(E) Each member with an assessed property valuation of 148  
twenty-eight million dollars or more, one hundred fifty dollars. 149

**Sec. 143.08.** (A) If a premium is not paid as provided in 150  
section 143.06 of the Revised Code, the director of commerce 151  
shall certify the failure as an assessment against the fund 152  
member to the auditor of the county within which the member is 153  
located. The county auditor shall withhold the amount of the 154  
assessment, together with interest at the rate of six per cent 155  
from the due date of the premium, from the next ensuing tax 156  
settlement due the member and pay the amount to the treasurer of 157  
state to the credit of the volunteer peace officers' dependents 158  
fund. 159

If the secretary of a volunteer peace officers' dependents fund board fails to submit to the director a certificate of the current assessed property valuation in accordance with section 143.03 of the Revised Code, the director shall use division (B) (5) of section 143.06 of the Revised Code as a basis for the assessment. 160  
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(B) If a fund member does not pay the assessment provided in section 143.07 of the Revised Code within forty-five days after notice, the director shall proceed with collection in accordance with division (A) of this section. 166  
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**Sec. 143.09.** (A) A volunteer peace officer who is totally and permanently disabled as a result of discharging the duties of a volunteer peace officer shall receive a benefit from the volunteer peace officers' dependents fund of three hundred dollars per month, except that no payment shall be made to a volunteer peace officer who is receiving the officer's full salary during the time of the officer's disability. 170  
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(B) Regardless of whether the volunteer peace officer received a benefit under division (A) of this section, death benefits shall be paid from the fund to the surviving spouse or dependent children of a volunteer peace officer who is killed in the line of duty. Death benefits shall be paid as follows: 177  
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(1) To the surviving spouse of a volunteer peace officer killed in the line of duty, an award of one thousand dollars, and in addition, a benefit of three hundred dollars per month; 182  
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(2) To the parent, guardian, or other persons on whom a child of a volunteer peace officer killed in the line of duty is dependent for chief financial support, a benefit of one hundred twenty-five dollars per month for each dependent child under age 185  
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eighteen, or under age twenty-two if attending an institution of 189  
learning or training pursuant to a program designed to complete 190  
in each school year the equivalent of at least two-thirds of the 191  
full-time curriculum requirements of the institution. 192

(C) An individual eligible for benefits payable under this 193  
section shall file a claim for benefits with the appropriate 194  
volunteer peace officers' dependents fund board on a form 195  
provided by the board. All of the following information shall be 196  
submitted with the claim: 197

(1) In the case of a totally and permanently disabled 198  
volunteer peace officer, the following: 199

(a) The name of the police or sheriff's department for 200  
which the officer was a volunteer peace officer; 201

(b) The date of the injury; 202

(c) Satisfactory medical evidence that the officer is 203  
totally and permanently disabled. 204

(2) In the case of a surviving spouse or a parent, 205  
guardian, or other person in charge of a dependent child, the 206  
following: 207

(a) The full name of the deceased volunteer peace officer; 208

(b) The name of the police or sheriff's department for 209  
which the deceased officer was a volunteer peace officer; 210

(c) The name and address of the surviving spouse, as 211  
applicable; 212

(d) The names, ages, and addresses of any dependent 213  
children; 214

(e) Any other evidence required by the board. 215



(D) All claimants shall certify that neither the claimant 216  
nor the person on whose behalf the claim is filed qualifies for 217  
other benefits from any of the following based on the officer's 218  
service as a volunteer peace officer: the public employees 219  
retirement system, Ohio police and fire pension fund, state 220  
highway patrol retirement system, Cincinnati retirement system, 221  
or Ohio public safety officers death benefit fund. 222

(E) Initial claims shall be filed with the volunteer peace 223  
officers' dependents fund board of the fund member in which the 224  
officer was a volunteer peace officer. Thereafter, on request of 225  
the claimant or the board, claims may be transferred to a board 226  
near the claimant's current residence, if the boards concerned 227  
agree to the transfer. 228

**Sec. 143.10.** (A) (1) Not later than five days after receipt 229  
of a claim for benefits, a volunteer peace officers' dependents 230  
fund board shall meet and determine the validity of the claim. 231  
If the board determines that the claim is valid, it shall make a 232  
determination of the amount due and certify its determination to 233  
the director of commerce for payment. The certificate shall show 234  
the name and address of the board, the name and address of each 235  
beneficiary, the amount to be received by or on behalf of each 236  
beneficiary, and the name and address of the person to whom 237  
payments are to be made. 238

(2) If the board determines that a claimant is ineligible 239  
for benefits, the board shall deny the claim and issue to the 240  
claimant a copy of its order. 241

(B) The board may make a continuing order for monthly 242  
payments to a claimant for a period not exceeding three months 243  
from the date of the determination. The determination may be 244  
modified after issuance to reflect any changes in the claimant's 245

eligibility. If no changes occur at the end of the three-month 246  
period, the director may provide for payment if the board 247  
certifies that the original certificate is continued for an 248  
additional three-month period. 249

**Sec. 143.11.** The right of an individual to a benefit under 250  
this chapter shall not be subject to execution, garnishment, 251  
attachment, the operation of bankruptcy or insolvency laws, or 252  
other process of law whatsoever, and shall be unassignable 253  
except as specifically provided in this chapter and sections 254  
3105.171, 3105.65, and 3115.32 and Chapters 3119., 3121., 3123., 255  
and 3125. of the Revised Code. 256

**Sec. 742.63.** The board of trustees of the Ohio police and 257  
fire pension fund shall adopt rules for the management of the 258  
Ohio public safety officers death benefit fund and for 259  
disbursements of benefits as set forth in this section. 260

(A) As used in this section: 261

(1) "Member" means all of the following: 262

(a) A member of the Ohio police and fire pension fund, 263  
including a member of the fund who has elected to participate in 264  
the deferred retirement option plan established under section 265  
742.43 of the Revised Code or a member of or contributor to a 266  
police or firemen's relief and pension fund established under 267  
former Chapter 521. or 741. of the Revised Code; 268

(b) A member of the state highway patrol retirement 269  
system, including a member who is participating in the deferred 270  
retirement option plan established under section 5505.50 of the 271  
Revised Code; 272

(c) A member of the public employees retirement system who 273  
at the time of the member's death was one of the following: 274

(i) A county sheriff or deputy sheriff;	275
(ii) A full-time regular police officer in a municipal corporation or township;	276 277
(iii) A full-time regular firefighter employed by the state, an instrumentality of the state, a municipal corporation, a township, a joint fire district, or another political subdivision;	278 279 280 281
(iv) A full-time park district ranger or patrol trooper;	282
(v) A full-time law enforcement officer of the department of natural resources;	283 284
(vi) A full-time department of public safety enforcement agent;	285 286
(vii) A full-time law enforcement officer of parks, waterway lands, or reservoir lands under the control of a municipal corporation;	287 288 289
(viii) A full-time law enforcement officer of a conservancy district;	290 291
(ix) A correction officer at an institution under the control of a county, a group of counties, a municipal corporation, or the department of rehabilitation and correction;	292 293 294
(x) A state university law enforcement officer;	295
(xi) An investigator, as defined in section 109.541 of the Revised Code, or an investigator commissioned as a special agent of the bureau of criminal identification and investigation;	296 297 298
(xii) A drug agent, as defined in section 145.01 of the Revised Code;	299 300
<u>(xiii) A gaming agent, as defined in section 3772.01 of</u>	301

<u>the Revised Code;</u>	302
<u>(xiv) An employee of the department of taxation who has</u>	303
<u>been delegated investigation powers pursuant to section 5743.45</u>	304
<u>of the Revised Code for the enforcement of Chapters 5728.,</u>	305
<u>5735., 5739., 5741., 5743., and 5747. of the Revised Code.</u>	306
(d) A member of a retirement system operated by a	307
municipal corporation who at the time of death was a full-time	308
law enforcement officer of parks, waterway lands, or reservoir	309
lands under the control of the municipal corporation.	310
(2) Notwithstanding section 742.01 of the Revised Code,	311
"fire or police department" includes a fire department of the	312
state or an instrumentality of the state or of a municipal	313
corporation, township, joint fire district, or other political	314
subdivision, the state highway patrol, a county sheriff's	315
office, the security force of an institution under the control	316
of the department of rehabilitation and correction, the security	317
force of a jail or workhouse under the control of a county,	318
group of counties, or municipal corporation, the security force	319
of a metropolitan, county, or township park district, the	320
security force of lands under the control of the department of	321
natural resources, department of public safety enforcement	322
agents, the security force of parks, waterway lands, or	323
reservoir lands under the control of a municipal corporation,	324
the security force of a conservancy district, the police	325
department of a township or municipal corporation, and the	326
police force of a state university.	327
(3) "Firefighter or police officer" includes a state	328
highway patrol trooper, a county sheriff or deputy sheriff, a	329
correction officer at an institution under the control of a	330
county, a group of counties, a municipal corporation, or the	331

department of rehabilitation and correction, a police officer 332  
employed by a township or municipal corporation, a firefighter 333  
employed by the state, an instrumentality of the state, a 334  
municipal corporation, a township, a joint fire district, or 335  
another political subdivision, a full-time park district ranger 336  
or patrol trooper, a full-time law enforcement officer of the 337  
department of natural resources, a full-time department of 338  
public safety enforcement agent, a full-time law enforcement 339  
officer of parks, waterway lands, or reservoir lands under the 340  
control of a municipal corporation, a full-time law enforcement 341  
officer of a conservancy district, and a state university law 342  
enforcement officer. 343

(4) "Correction officer" includes, in addition to any 344  
correction officer, any correction corporal, sergeant, 345  
lieutenant, or captain, and the equivalents of all such persons. 346

(5) "A park district ranger or patrol trooper" means a 347  
peace officer commissioned to make arrests, execute warrants, 348  
and preserve the peace upon lands under the control of a board 349  
of park commissioners of a metropolitan, county, or township 350  
park district. 351

(6) "Metropolitan, county, or township park district" 352  
means a park district created under the authority of Chapter 353  
511. or 1545. of the Revised Code. 354

(7) "Conservancy district" means a conservancy district 355  
created under the authority of Chapter 6101. of the Revised 356  
Code. 357

(8) "Law enforcement officer" means an officer 358  
commissioned to make arrests, execute warrants, and preserve the 359  
peace upon lands under the control of the governmental entity 360

granting the commission. 361

(9) "Department of natural resources law enforcement 362  
officer" includes a forest officer designated pursuant to 363  
section 1503.29 of the Revised Code, a preserve officer 364  
designated pursuant to section 1517.10 of the Revised Code, a 365  
wildlife officer designated pursuant to section 1531.13 of the 366  
Revised Code, a park officer designated pursuant to section 367  
1541.10 of the Revised Code, and a state watercraft officer 368  
designated pursuant to section 1547.521 of the Revised Code. 369

(10) "Retirement eligibility date" means the last day of 370  
the month in which a deceased member would have first become 371  
eligible, had the member lived, for the retirement pension 372  
provided under section 145.332, Chapter 145., 521., or 741., 373  
division (C)(1) of section 742.37, or division (A)(1) of section 374  
5505.17 of the Revised Code or provided by a retirement system 375  
operated by a municipal corporation. 376

(11) "Death benefit amount" means an amount equal to the 377  
full monthly salary received by a deceased member prior to 378  
death, minus an amount equal to the benefit received under 379  
section 145.45, 742.37, 742.3714, or 5505.17 of the Revised Code 380  
or the benefit received from a retirement system operated by a 381  
municipal corporation, plus any increases in salary that would 382  
have been granted the deceased member. 383

(12) "Killed in the line of duty" means either of the 384  
following: 385

(a) Death in the line of duty; 386

(b) Death from injury sustained in the line of duty, 387  
including heart attack or other fatal injury or illness caused 388  
while in the line of duty. 389

(B) A spouse of a deceased member shall receive a death benefit each month equal to the full death benefit amount, provided that the deceased member was a firefighter or police officer killed in the line of duty and there are no surviving children eligible for a benefit under this section. The spouse shall receive this benefit during the spouse's natural life until the deceased member's retirement eligibility date, on which date the benefit provided under this division shall terminate.

(C) (1) If a member killed in the line of duty as a firefighter or police officer is survived only by a child or children, the child or children shall receive a benefit each month equal to the full death benefit amount. If there is more than one surviving child, the benefit shall be divided equally among these children.

(2) If the death benefit paid under this division is divided among two or more surviving children and any of the children become ineligible to continue receiving a portion of the benefit as provided in division (H) of this section, the full death benefit amount shall be paid to the remaining eligible child or divided among the eligible children so that the benefit paid to the remaining eligible child or children equals the full death benefit amount.

(3) Notwithstanding divisions (C) (1) and (2) of this section, all death benefits paid under this division shall terminate on the deceased member's retirement eligibility date.

(D) If a member killed in the line of duty as a firefighter or police officer is survived by both a spouse and a child or children, the monthly benefit provided shall be as follows:

(1) (a) If there is a surviving spouse and one surviving child, the spouse shall receive an amount each month equal to one-half of the full death benefit amount and the child shall receive an amount equal to one-half of the full death benefit amount.

(b) If the surviving spouse dies or the child becomes ineligible as provided in division (H) of this section, the surviving spouse or child remaining eligible shall receive the full death benefit amount.

(2) (a) If there is a surviving spouse and more than one child, the spouse shall receive an amount each month equal to one-third of the full death benefit amount and the children shall receive an amount, equally divided among them, equal to two-thirds of the full death benefit amount.

(b) If a spouse and more than one child each are receiving a death benefit under division (D) (2) (a) of this section and the spouse dies, the children shall receive an amount each month, equally divided among them, equal to the full death benefit amount.

(c) If a spouse and more than one child each are receiving a benefit under division (D) (2) (a) of this section and any of the children becomes ineligible to receive a benefit as provided in division (H) of this section, the spouse and remaining eligible child or children shall receive a death benefit as follows:

(i) If there are two or more remaining eligible children, the spouse shall receive an amount each month equal to one-third of the full death benefit amount and the children shall receive an amount each month, equally divided among them, equal to two-



thirds of the full death benefit amount; 449

(ii) If there is one remaining eligible child, the spouse 450  
shall receive an amount each month equal to one-half of the full 451  
death benefit amount, and the child shall receive an amount each 452  
month equal to one-half of the full death benefit amount. 453

(d) If a spouse and more than one child each are receiving 454  
a benefit under division (D) (2) (a) of this section and all of 455  
the children become ineligible to receive a benefit as provided 456  
in division (H) of this section, the spouse shall receive the 457  
full death benefit amount. 458

(3) Notwithstanding divisions (D) (1) and (2) of this 459  
section, death benefits paid under this division to a surviving 460  
spouse shall terminate on the member's retirement eligibility 461  
date. Death benefits paid to a surviving child or children shall 462  
terminate on the deceased member's retirement eligibility date 463  
unless earlier terminated pursuant to division (H) of this 464  
section. 465

(E) If a member, on or after January 1, 1980, is killed in 466  
the line of duty as a firefighter or police officer and is 467  
survived by only a parent or parents dependent upon the member 468  
for support, the parent or parents shall receive an amount each 469  
month equal to the full death benefit amount. If there is more 470  
than one surviving parent dependent upon the deceased member for 471  
support, the death benefit amount shall be divided equally among 472  
the surviving parents. On the death of one of the surviving 473  
parents, the full death benefit amount shall be paid to the 474  
other parent. 475

(F) (1) The following shall receive a monthly death benefit 476  
under this division: 477

(a) A surviving spouse whose benefits are terminated in accordance with division (B) or (D) (3) of this section on the deceased member's retirement eligibility date, or who would qualify for a benefit under division (B) or (D) of this section except that the deceased member reached the member's retirement eligibility date prior to the member's death;

(b) A qualified surviving spouse of a deceased member of or contributor to a police or firemen's relief and pension fund established under former Chapter 521. or 741. of the Revised Code who was a firefighter or police officer killed in the line of duty.

(2) The monthly death benefit shall be one-half of an amount equal to the monthly salary received by the deceased member prior to the member's death, plus any salary increases the deceased member would have received prior to the member's retirement eligibility date. The benefit shall terminate on the surviving spouse's death. A death benefit payable under this division shall be reduced by an amount equal to any allowance or benefit payable to the surviving spouse under section 742.3714 of the Revised Code.

(3) A benefit granted to a surviving spouse under division (F) (1) (b) of this section shall commence on the first day of the month immediately following receipt by the board of a completed application on a form provided by the board and any evidence the board may require to establish that the deceased spouse was killed in the line of duty.

(G) (1) If there is not a surviving spouse eligible to receive a death benefit under division (F) of this section or the surviving spouse receiving a death benefit under that division dies, a surviving child or children whose benefits

under division (C) or (D) of this section are or have been 508  
terminated pursuant to division (C) (3) or (D) (3) of this section 509  
or who would qualify for a benefit under division (C) or (D) of 510  
this section except that the deceased member reached the 511  
member's retirement eligibility date prior to the member's death 512  
shall receive a monthly death benefit under this division. The 513  
monthly death benefit shall be one-half of an amount equal to 514  
the monthly salary received by the deceased member prior to the 515  
member's death, plus any salary increases the member would have 516  
received prior to the member's retirement eligibility date. If 517  
there is more than one surviving child, the benefit shall be 518  
divided equally among the surviving children. 519

(2) If two or more surviving children each are receiving a 520  
benefit under this division and any of those children becomes 521  
ineligible to continue receiving a benefit as provided in 522  
division (H) of this section, the remaining eligible child or 523  
children shall receive an amount equal to one-half of the 524  
monthly salary received by the deceased member prior to death, 525  
plus any salary increases the deceased member would have 526  
received prior to the retirement eligibility date. If there is 527  
more than one remaining eligible child, the benefit shall be 528  
divided equally among the eligible children. 529

(3) A death benefit, or portion of a death benefit, 530  
payable to a surviving child under this division shall be 531  
reduced by an amount equal to any allowance or benefit payable 532  
to that child under section 742.3714 of the Revised Code, but 533  
the reduction in that child's benefit shall not affect the 534  
amount payable to any other surviving child entitled to a 535  
portion of the death benefit. 536

(H) A death benefit paid to a surviving child under 537

division (C), (D), or (G) of this section shall terminate on the 538  
death of the child or, unless one of the following is the case, 539  
when the child reaches age eighteen: 540

(1) The child, because of physical or mental disability, 541  
is unable to provide the child's own support, in which case the 542  
death benefit shall terminate when the disability is removed; 543

(2) The child is unmarried, under age twenty-two, and a 544  
student in and attending an institution of learning or training 545  
pursuant to a program designed to complete in each school year 546  
the equivalent of at least two-thirds of the full-time 547  
curriculum requirements of the institution, as determined by the 548  
trustees of the fund. 549

(I) Acceptance of any death benefit under this section 550  
does not prohibit a spouse or child from receiving other 551  
benefits provided under the Ohio police and fire pension fund, 552  
the state highway patrol retirement system, the public employees 553  
retirement system, or a retirement system operated by a 554  
municipal corporation. 555

(J) No person shall receive a benefit under this section 556  
if any of the following occur: 557

(1) The person fails to exercise the right to a monthly 558  
survivor benefit under division (A) or (B) of section 145.45, 559  
division (D), (E), or (F) of section 742.37, or division (A) (3), 560  
(4), or (6) of section 5505.17 of the Revised Code; to a monthly 561  
survivor benefit from a retirement system operated by a 562  
municipal corporation; or to a retirement allowance under 563  
section 742.3714 of the Revised Code. 564

(2) The member's accumulated contributions under this 565  
chapter or Chapter 145. or 5505. of the Revised Code are 566

refunded unless the member had been a member of the public 567  
employees retirement system and had fewer than eighteen months 568  
of total service credit at the time of death. 569

(3) In the case of a full-time park district ranger or 570  
patrol trooper, a full-time law enforcement officer of the 571  
department of natural resources, a full-time law enforcement 572  
officer of parks, waterway lands, or reservoir lands under the 573  
control of a municipal corporation, a full-time law enforcement 574  
officer of a conservancy district, a correction officer at an 575  
institution under the control of a county, group of counties, or 576  
municipal corporation, or a member of a retirement system 577  
operated by a municipal corporation who at the time of the 578  
member's death was a full-time law enforcement officer of parks, 579  
waterway lands, or reservoir lands under the control of the 580  
municipal corporation, the member died prior to April 9, 1981, 581  
in the case of a benefit under division (B), (C), or (D) of this 582  
section, or prior to January 1, 1980, in the case of a benefit 583  
under division (E) of this section. 584

(4) In the case of a full-time department of public safety 585  
enforcement agent who prior to June 30, 1999, was a liquor 586  
control investigator of the department of public safety, the 587  
member died prior to December 23, 1986; 588

(5) In the case of a full-time department of public safety 589  
enforcement agent other than an enforcement agent who, prior to 590  
June 30, 1999, was a liquor control investigator, the member 591  
died prior to June 30, 1999. 592

(K) A surviving spouse whose benefit was terminated prior 593  
to June 30, 1999, due to remarriage shall receive a benefit 594  
under division (B), (D), or (F) of this section beginning on the 595  
first day of the month following receipt by the board of an 596

application on a form provided by the board. The benefit amount 597  
shall be determined as of that date. 598

(1) If the benefit will begin prior to the deceased 599  
member's retirement eligibility date, it shall be paid under 600  
division (B) or (D) of this section and shall terminate as 601  
provided in those divisions. A benefit paid to a surviving 602  
spouse under division (D) of this section shall be determined in 603  
accordance with that division, even if benefits paid to 604  
surviving children are reduced as a result. 605

(2) If the benefit will begin on or after the deceased 606  
member's retirement eligibility date, it shall be paid under 607  
division (F) of this section and shall terminate as provided in 608  
that division. A benefit paid to a surviving spouse under 609  
division (F) of this section shall be determined in accordance 610  
with that division, even if benefits paid to surviving children 611  
are terminated as a result. 612

**Sec. 2329.66.** (A) Every person who is domiciled in this 613  
state may hold property exempt from execution, garnishment, 614  
attachment, or sale to satisfy a judgment or order, as follows: 615

(1) (a) In the case of a judgment or order regarding money 616  
owed for health care services rendered or health care supplies 617  
provided to the person or a dependent of the person, one parcel 618  
or item of real or personal property that the person or a 619  
dependent of the person uses as a residence. Division (A) (1) (a) 620  
of this section does not preclude, affect, or invalidate the 621  
creation under this chapter of a judgment lien upon the exempted 622  
property but only delays the enforcement of the lien until the 623  
property is sold or otherwise transferred by the owner or in 624  
accordance with other applicable laws to a person or entity 625  
other than the surviving spouse or surviving minor children of 626

the judgment debtor. Every person who is domiciled in this state 627  
may hold exempt from a judgment lien created pursuant to 628  
division (A) (1) (a) of this section the person's interest, not to 629  
exceed one hundred twenty-five thousand dollars, in the exempted 630  
property. 631

(b) In the case of all other judgments and orders, the 632  
person's interest, not to exceed one hundred twenty-five 633  
thousand dollars, in one parcel or item of real or personal 634  
property that the person or a dependent of the person uses as a 635  
residence. 636

(c) For purposes of divisions (A) (1) (a) and (b) of this 637  
section, "parcel" means a tract of real property as identified 638  
on the records of the auditor of the county in which the real 639  
property is located. 640

(2) The person's interest, not to exceed three thousand 641  
two hundred twenty-five dollars, in one motor vehicle; 642

(3) The person's interest, not to exceed four hundred 643  
dollars, in cash on hand, money due and payable, money to become 644  
due within ninety days, tax refunds, and money on deposit with a 645  
bank, savings and loan association, credit union, public 646  
utility, landlord, or other person, other than personal 647  
earnings. 648

(4) (a) The person's interest, not to exceed five hundred 649  
twenty-five dollars in any particular item or ten thousand seven 650  
hundred seventy-five dollars in aggregate value, in household 651  
furnishings, household goods, wearing apparel, appliances, 652  
books, animals, crops, musical instruments, firearms, and 653  
hunting and fishing equipment that are held primarily for the 654  
personal, family, or household use of the person; 655

(b) The person's aggregate interest in one or more items	656
of jewelry, not to exceed one thousand three hundred fifty	657
dollars, held primarily for the personal, family, or household	658
use of the person or any of the person's dependents.	659
(5) The person's interest, not to exceed an aggregate of	660
two thousand twenty-five dollars, in all implements,	661
professional books, or tools of the person's profession, trade,	662
or business, including agriculture;	663
(6) (a) The person's interest in a beneficiary fund set	664
apart, appropriated, or paid by a benevolent association or	665
society, as exempted by section 2329.63 of the Revised Code;	666
(b) The person's interest in contracts of life or	667
endowment insurance or annuities, as exempted by section 3911.10	668
of the Revised Code;	669
(c) The person's interest in a policy of group insurance	670
or the proceeds of a policy of group insurance, as exempted by	671
section 3917.05 of the Revised Code;	672
(d) The person's interest in money, benefits, charity,	673
relief, or aid to be paid, provided, or rendered by a fraternal	674
benefit society, as exempted by section 3921.18 of the Revised	675
Code;	676
(e) The person's interest in the portion of benefits under	677
policies of sickness and accident insurance and in lump sum	678
payments for dismemberment and other losses insured under those	679
policies, as exempted by section 3923.19 of the Revised Code.	680
(7) The person's professionally prescribed or medically	681
necessary health aids;	682
(8) The person's interest in a burial lot, including, but	683



not limited to, exemptions under section 517.09 or 1721.07 of	684
the Revised Code;	685
(9) The person's interest in the following:	686
(a) Moneys paid or payable for living maintenance or	687
rights, as exempted by section 3304.19 of the Revised Code;	688
(b) Workers' compensation, as exempted by section 4123.67	689
of the Revised Code;	690
(c) Unemployment compensation benefits, as exempted by	691
section 4141.32 of the Revised Code;	692
(d) Cash assistance payments under the Ohio works first	693
program, as exempted by section 5107.75 of the Revised Code;	694
(e) Benefits and services under the prevention, retention,	695
and contingency program, as exempted by section 5108.08 of the	696
Revised Code;	697
(f) Disability financial assistance payments, as exempted	698
by section 5115.06 of the Revised Code;	699
(g) Payments under section 24 or 32 of the "Internal	700
Revenue Code of 1986," 100 Stat. 2085, 26 U.S.C. 1, as amended.	701
(10) (a) Except in cases in which the person was convicted	702
of or pleaded guilty to a violation of section 2921.41 of the	703
Revised Code and in which an order for the withholding of	704
restitution from payments was issued under division (C) (2) (b) of	705
that section, in cases in which an order for withholding was	706
issued under section 2907.15 of the Revised Code, in cases in	707
which an order for forfeiture was issued under division (A) or	708
(B) of section 2929.192 of the Revised Code, and in cases in	709
which an order was issued under section 2929.193 or 2929.194 of	710
the Revised Code, and only to the extent provided in the order,	711

and except as provided in sections 3105.171, 3105.63, 3119.80, 712  
3119.81, 3121.02, 3121.03, and 3123.06 of the Revised Code, the 713  
person's rights to or interests in a pension, benefit, annuity, 714  
retirement allowance, or accumulated contributions, the person's 715  
rights to or interests in a participant account in any deferred 716  
compensation program offered by the Ohio public employees 717  
deferred compensation board, a government unit, or a municipal 718  
corporation, or the person's other accrued or accruing rights or 719  
interests, as exempted by section 143.11, 145.56, 146.13, 720  
148.09, 742.47, 3307.41, 3309.66, or 5505.22 of the Revised 721  
Code, and the person's rights to or interests in benefits from 722  
the Ohio public safety officers death benefit fund; 723

(b) Except as provided in sections 3119.80, 3119.81, 724  
3121.02, 3121.03, and 3123.06 of the Revised Code, the person's 725  
rights to receive or interests in receiving a payment or other 726  
benefits under any pension, annuity, or similar plan or 727  
contract, not including a payment or benefit from a stock bonus 728  
or profit-sharing plan or a payment included in division (A) (6) 729  
(b) or (10) (a) of this section, on account of illness, 730  
disability, death, age, or length of service, to the extent 731  
reasonably necessary for the support of the person and any of 732  
the person's dependents, except if all the following apply: 733

(i) The plan or contract was established by or under the 734  
auspices of an insider that employed the person at the time the 735  
person's rights or interests under the plan or contract arose. 736

(ii) The payment is on account of age or length of 737  
service. 738

(iii) The plan or contract is not qualified under the 739  
"Internal Revenue Code of 1986," 100 Stat. 2085, 26 U.S.C. 1, as 740  
amended. 741

(c) Except for any portion of the assets that were 742  
deposited for the purpose of evading the payment of any debt and 743  
except as provided in sections 3119.80, 3119.81, 3121.02, 744  
3121.03, and 3123.06 of the Revised Code, the person's rights or 745  
interests in the assets held in, or to directly or indirectly 746  
receive any payment or benefit under, any individual retirement 747  
account, individual retirement annuity, "Roth IRA," "529 plan," 748  
or education individual retirement account that provides 749  
payments or benefits by reason of illness, disability, death, 750  
retirement, or age or provides payments or benefits for purposes 751  
of education, to the extent that the assets, payments, or 752  
benefits described in division (A)(10)(c) of this section are 753  
attributable to or derived from any of the following or from any 754  
earnings, dividends, interest, appreciation, or gains on any of 755  
the following: 756

(i) Contributions of the person that were less than or 757  
equal to the applicable limits on deductible contributions to an 758  
individual retirement account or individual retirement annuity 759  
in the year that the contributions were made, whether or not the 760  
person was eligible to deduct the contributions on the person's 761  
federal tax return for the year in which the contributions were 762  
made; 763

(ii) Contributions of the person that were less than or 764  
equal to the applicable limits on contributions to a Roth IRA or 765  
education individual retirement account in the year that the 766  
contributions were made; 767

(iii) Contributions of the person that are within the 768  
applicable limits on rollover contributions under subsections 769  
219, 402(c), 403(a)(4), 403(b)(8), 408(b), 408(d)(3), 408A(c)(3) 770  
(B), 408A(d)(3), and 530(d)(5) of the "Internal Revenue Code of 771

1986," 100 Stat. 2085, 26 U.S.C.A. 1, as amended;	772
(iv) Contributions by any person into any plan, fund, or	773
account that is formed, created, or administered pursuant to, or	774
is otherwise subject to, section 529 of the "Internal Revenue	775
Code of 1986," 100 Stat. 2085, 26 U.S.C. 1, as amended.	776
(d) Except for any portion of the assets that were	777
deposited for the purpose of evading the payment of any debt and	778
except as provided in sections 3119.80, 3119.81, 3121.02,	779
3121.03, and 3123.06 of the Revised Code, the person's rights or	780
interests in the assets held in, or to receive any payment	781
under, any Keogh or "H.R. 10" plan that provides benefits by	782
reason of illness, disability, death, retirement, or age, to the	783
extent reasonably necessary for the support of the person and	784
any of the person's dependents.	785
(e) The person's rights to or interests in any assets held	786
in, or to directly or indirectly receive any payment or benefit	787
under, any individual retirement account, individual retirement	788
annuity, "Roth IRA," "529 plan," or education individual	789
retirement account that a decedent, upon or by reason of the	790
decedent's death, directly or indirectly left to or for the	791
benefit of the person, either outright or in trust or otherwise,	792
including, but not limited to, any of those rights or interests	793
in assets or to receive payments or benefits that were	794
transferred, conveyed, or otherwise transmitted by the decedent	795
by means of a will, trust, exercise of a power of appointment,	796
beneficiary designation, transfer or payment on death	797
designation, or any other method or procedure.	798
(f) The exemptions under divisions (A) (10) (a) to (e) of	799
this section also shall apply or otherwise be available to an	800
alternate payee under a qualified domestic relations order	801

(QDRO) or other similar court order. 802

(g) A person's interest in any plan, program, instrument, 803  
or device described in divisions (A)(10)(a) to (e) of this 804  
section shall be considered an exempt interest even if the plan, 805  
program, instrument, or device in question, due to an error made 806  
in good faith, failed to satisfy any criteria applicable to that 807  
plan, program, instrument, or device under the "Internal Revenue 808  
Code of 1986," 100 Stat. 2085, 26 U.S.C. 1, as amended. 809

(11) The person's right to receive spousal support, child 810  
support, an allowance, or other maintenance to the extent 811  
reasonably necessary for the support of the person and any of 812  
the person's dependents; 813

(12) The person's right to receive, or moneys received 814  
during the preceding twelve calendar months from, any of the 815  
following: 816

(a) An award of reparations under sections 2743.51 to 817  
2743.72 of the Revised Code, to the extent exempted by division 818  
(D) of section 2743.66 of the Revised Code; 819

(b) A payment on account of the wrongful death of an 820  
individual of whom the person was a dependent on the date of the 821  
individual's death, to the extent reasonably necessary for the 822  
support of the person and any of the person's dependents; 823

(c) Except in cases in which the person who receives the 824  
payment is an inmate, as defined in section 2969.21 of the 825  
Revised Code, and in which the payment resulted from a civil 826  
action or appeal against a government entity or employee, as 827  
defined in section 2969.21 of the Revised Code, a payment, not 828  
to exceed twenty thousand two hundred dollars, on account of 829  
personal bodily injury, not including pain and suffering or 830

compensation for actual pecuniary loss, of the person or an individual for whom the person is a dependent;	831 832
(d) A payment in compensation for loss of future earnings of the person or an individual of whom the person is or was a dependent, to the extent reasonably necessary for the support of the debtor and any of the debtor's dependents.	833 834 835 836
(13) Except as provided in sections 3119.80, 3119.81, 3121.02, 3121.03, and 3123.06 of the Revised Code, personal earnings of the person owed to the person for services in an amount equal to the greater of the following amounts:	837 838 839 840
(a) If paid weekly, thirty times the current federal minimum hourly wage; if paid biweekly, sixty times the current federal minimum hourly wage; if paid semimonthly, sixty-five times the current federal minimum hourly wage; or if paid monthly, one hundred thirty times the current federal minimum hourly wage that is in effect at the time the earnings are payable, as prescribed by the "Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938," 52 Stat. 1060, 29 U.S.C. 206(a)(1), as amended;	841 842 843 844 845 846 847 848
(b) Seventy-five per cent of the disposable earnings owed to the person.	849 850
(14) The person's right in specific partnership property, as exempted by the person's rights in a partnership pursuant to section 1776.50 of the Revised Code, except as otherwise set forth in section 1776.50 of the Revised Code;	851 852 853 854
(15) A seal and official register of a notary public, as exempted by section 147.04 of the Revised Code;	855 856
(16) The person's interest in a tuition unit or a payment under section 3334.09 of the Revised Code pursuant to a tuition payment contract, as exempted by section 3334.15 of the Revised	857 858 859

Code; 860

(17) Any other property that is specifically exempted from 861  
execution, attachment, garnishment, or sale by federal statutes 862  
other than the "Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1978," 92 Stat. 2549, 863  
11 U.S.C.A. 101, as amended; 864

(18) The person's aggregate interest in any property, not 865  
to exceed one thousand seventy-five dollars, except that 866  
division (A)(18) of this section applies only in bankruptcy 867  
proceedings. 868

(B) On April 1, 2010, and on the first day of April in 869  
each third calendar year after 2010, the Ohio judicial 870  
conference shall adjust each dollar amount set forth in this 871  
section to reflect any increase in the consumer price index for 872  
all urban consumers, as published by the United States 873  
department of labor, or, if that index is no longer published, a 874  
generally available comparable index, for the three-year period 875  
ending on the thirty-first day of December of the preceding 876  
year. Any adjustments required by this division shall be rounded 877  
to the nearest twenty-five dollars. 878

The Ohio judicial conference shall prepare a memorandum 879  
specifying the adjusted dollar amounts. The judicial conference 880  
shall transmit the memorandum to the director of the legislative 881  
service commission, and the director shall publish the 882  
memorandum in the register of Ohio. (Publication of the 883  
memorandum in the register of Ohio shall continue until the next 884  
memorandum specifying an adjustment is so published.) The 885  
judicial conference also may publish the memorandum in any other 886  
manner it concludes will be reasonably likely to inform persons 887  
who are affected by its adjustment of the dollar amounts. 888

(C) As used in this section:	889
(1) "Disposable earnings" means net earnings after the garnishee has made deductions required by law, excluding the deductions ordered pursuant to section 3119.80, 3119.81, 3121.02, 3121.03, or 3123.06 of the Revised Code.	890 891 892 893
(2) "Insider" means:	894
(a) If the person who claims an exemption is an individual, a relative of the individual, a relative of a general partner of the individual, a partnership in which the individual is a general partner, a general partner of the individual, or a corporation of which the individual is a director, officer, or in control;	895 896 897 898 899 900
(b) If the person who claims an exemption is a corporation, a director or officer of the corporation; a person in control of the corporation; a partnership in which the corporation is a general partner; a general partner of the corporation; or a relative of a general partner, director, officer, or person in control of the corporation;	901 902 903 904 905 906
(c) If the person who claims an exemption is a partnership, a general partner in the partnership; a general partner of the partnership; a person in control of the partnership; a partnership in which the partnership is a general partner; or a relative in, a general partner of, or a person in control of the partnership;	907 908 909 910 911 912
(d) An entity or person to which or whom any of the following applies:	913 914
(i) The entity directly or indirectly owns, controls, or holds with power to vote, twenty per cent or more of the outstanding voting securities of the person who claims an	915 916 917



exemption, unless the entity holds the securities in a fiduciary 918  
or agency capacity without sole discretionary power to vote the 919  
securities or holds the securities solely to secure to debt and 920  
the entity has not in fact exercised the power to vote. 921

(ii) The entity is a corporation, twenty per cent or more 922  
of whose outstanding voting securities are directly or 923  
indirectly owned, controlled, or held with power to vote, by the 924  
person who claims an exemption or by an entity to which division 925  
(C) (2) (d) (i) of this section applies. 926

(iii) A person whose business is operated under a lease or 927  
operating agreement by the person who claims an exemption, or a 928  
person substantially all of whose business is operated under an 929  
operating agreement with the person who claims an exemption. 930

(iv) The entity operates the business or all or 931  
substantially all of the property of the person who claims an 932  
exemption under a lease or operating agreement. 933

(e) An insider, as otherwise defined in this section, of a 934  
person or entity to which division (C) (2) (d) (i), (ii), (iii), or 935  
(iv) of this section applies, as if the person or entity were a 936  
person who claims an exemption; 937

(f) A managing agent of the person who claims an 938  
exemption. 939

(3) "Participant account" has the same meaning as in 940  
section 148.01 of the Revised Code. 941

(4) "Government unit" has the same meaning as in section 942  
148.06 of the Revised Code. 943

(D) For purposes of this section, "interest" shall be 944  
determined as follows: 945

(1) In bankruptcy proceedings, as of the date a petition 946  
is filed with the bankruptcy court commencing a case under Title 947  
11 of the United States Code; 948

(2) In all cases other than bankruptcy proceedings, as of 949  
the date of an appraisal, if necessary under section 2329.68 of 950  
the Revised Code, or the issuance of a writ of execution. 951

An interest, as determined under division (D) (1) or (2) of 952  
this section, shall not include the amount of any lien otherwise 953  
valid pursuant to section 2329.661 of the Revised Code. 954

**Section 2.** That existing sections 742.63 and 2329.66 of 955  
the Revised Code are hereby repealed. 956

**Section 3.** This act shall be referred to as the "Jason 957  
Gresko Act." 958

**Section 4.** (A) Not later than thirty days after the 959  
effective date of this section, the legislative authority of the 960  
fund member described in section 143.02 of the Revised Code, as 961  
enacted by this act, that maintains the police or sheriff's 962  
department shall hold the initial election of members to a 963  
volunteer peace officers dependents' fund board. A board member 964  
shall serve an initial term of office beginning on the day after 965  
the member is elected to the board and ending on the thirty- 966  
first day of December of the year in which the member is 967  
elected. Thereafter, members shall be elected to the board and 968  
serve terms of office in accordance with section 143.02 of the 969  
Revised Code, as enacted by this act. 970

(B) For the initial election of board members specified in 971  
division (A) (2) of section 143.02 of the Revised Code, the 972  
legislative authority of the fund member that maintains the 973  
police or sheriff's department shall do both of the following: 974

(1) Give notice of the election by posting it in a 975  
conspicuous place at the headquarters of the police or sheriff's 976  
department. Between nine a.m. and nine p.m. on the day 977  
designated, each person eligible to vote shall send in writing 978  
the name of two persons eligible to be elected to the board who 979  
are the person's choices. 980

(2) Count and record all votes cast at the election and 981  
announce the result. The two persons receiving the highest 982  
number of votes are elected. If there is a tie vote for any two 983  
persons, the election shall be decided by lot or in any other 984  
way agreed on by the persons for whom the tie vote was cast. 985

**Section 5.** This act shall have no impact on the Public 986  
Employees Retirement System, Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund, 987  
or State Highway Patrol Retirement System. 988

**Section 6.** Section 2329.66 of the Revised Code is 989  
presented in this act as a composite of the section as amended 990  
by both Sub. H.B. 479 and Sub. S.B. 343 of the 129th General 991  
Assembly. The General Assembly, applying the principle stated in 992  
division (B) of section 1.52 of the Revised Code that amendments 993  
are to be harmonized if reasonably capable of simultaneous 994  
operation, finds that the composite is the resulting version of 995  
the section in effect prior to the effective date of the section 996  
as presented in this act. 997