

Ohio cracking down on employer cheating

COLUMBUS (AP) — State agencies plan to compare notes in hopes of stopping employers who pay their workers “off the books” or improperly call them independent contractors.

A report released by Attorney General Richard Cordray says those employers are cheating Ohio out of hundreds of millions of dollars in unemployment insurance money, workers compensation premiums and state income tax revenues. The study says cities, villages and school districts also lose millions.

Cordray this week announced a crackdown involving the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, the state Department of Taxation and the Bureau of Workers' Compensation. He says the agencies have agreed to release and exchange confidential information to try to find the cheaters.