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H.B. 756
133rd General Assembly

Bill Analysis

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsor: Rep. Cross

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SUMMARY

- Permits a school district board of education, for the 2020-2021 school year only, to employ an individual as a substitute teacher according to the district's own educational requirements.
- Declares an emergency.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Licensure and employment of substitute teachers

The bill permits a school district board of education, for the 2020-2021 school year only, to employ an individual as a substitute teacher in accordance with the district's own education requirements, as long as all other requirements and procedures of statutory law and administrative rules are satisfied.¹ Presumably this permits a district to employ an individual who does not have a particular post-secondary degree or any degree at all as a substitute teacher. However, a substitute teacher employed under the bill must be of good moral character, as prescribed for licensure, and must submit to a criminal records check and not have a record of disqualifying offences for school employment, as required under continuing law.² On the other hand, the bill does not state whether a substitute teacher employed under the bill must be licensed by the State Board of Education. Generally, educator licenses, permits, or certificates issued by the State Board for teaching in grades K-12, except those for career-technical educators, require at least a bachelor's degree.³

¹ Section 1.

² R.C. 3319.31, not in the bill.

³ See R.C. 3301.071, 3319.22, 3319.225, 3319.26, 3319.261, 3319.262, and 3319.28, none in the bill.

Background: requirements for substitute teaching licensure

Current statutory law and administrative rules permit substitute teaching licenses for one- or five-year terms to be issued to qualified individuals upon the request of an employing superintendent or governing authority. Substitute teaching licenses must be issued to individuals of good moral character as follows:

1. Applicants who hold a post-secondary degree in education will be issued a substitute teaching license to teach in all subject areas and teaching fields and may work for an unlimited number of school days;
2. Applicants who hold a post-secondary degree in a subject area that aligns with a teaching field as determined by the Department of Education will be issued a substitute license in that teaching field and may work for an unlimited number of days;
3. Applicants who hold a post-secondary degree in a subject area that is unrelated to any teaching field will be issued a substitute teaching license with a nondesignated teaching field and may work for one full semester.⁴

Substitute career-technical teaching licenses

Current statutory law and administrative rules also specify that a substitute career-technical workforce development teaching license may be issued to an individual deemed to be of good moral character and who has the appropriate education and experience, as determined by the Department of Education. However, a post-secondary degree is not required for the license. Holders of a substitute career-technical teaching license may work for an unlimited number of school days.⁵

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	09-01-20

H0756-I-133/ks

⁴ R.C. 3319.226, not in the bill, and Ohio Administrative Code (O.A.C.) 3301-23-44(D)(1).

⁵ R.C. 3319.229(F), not in the bill, and O.A.C. 3301-23-44(D)(2).