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H.B. 554
134th General Assembly

Bill Analysis

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Version: As Reported by House Primary & Secondary Education

Primary Sponsors: Reps. Lightbody and Bird

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SUMMARY

- Requires the State Board of Education, upon application, to issue nonrenewable, two-year temporary educator licenses to, individuals with expired professional teacher's certificates or professional educator licenses.
- Requires the State Board to issue professional educator licenses to those temporary license holders who complete specified continuing education coursework.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Temporary educator licenses

The bill requires the State Board of Education, upon application, to issue nonrenewable, two-year temporary educator licenses to individuals with expired professional teacher's certificates (issued under former law) or professional educator licenses. To qualify for a temporary license, an individual must not have any disciplinary sanctions on the expired certificate or license. Further, an individual who receives a temporary educator license must complete any training required by the district or school prior to providing instruction.¹

The temporary license is valid for teaching in the same subject areas and grades for which the expired certificate or license was issued, including any endorsements attached to the certificate or license.

Conversion to a professional educator license

The bill requires the State Board to issue a professional educator license with any applicable endorsements to an individual who, during the duration of the temporary license, completes either 18 continuing education units (180 contact hours) or 6 semester hours of

¹ R.C. 3319.222(G).

coursework in the area of licensure or in an area related to the teaching field. The professional educator license and any endorsements are valid for teaching in the same subject areas and grades for which individual's expired certificate or license was issued.²

Administrative rule on reinstatement of expired educator licenses

Recently, the State Board revised its rule regarding professional educator license reinstatement. The revised rule, effective November 4, 2021, allows for the issuance of a one-year, nonrenewable "reinstatement license" valid in the same grade levels and curriculum areas as an individual's expired license, at the request of an employing school district. The reinstatement license is available to an individual whose professional educator license has been expired for at least one year from the effective date of the reinstatement license.

The holder of a reinstatement license must design a professional development plan to complete, prior to its expiration, either 9 semester hours of coursework or 27 continuing education units (270 contact hours) or other equivalent activities related to classroom teaching or the area of licensure. Upon completion of the professional development requirements, the expired professional educator license then may be renewed.

The rule, however, does not seem to address whether expired professional educator's "certificates," issued under former law, are eligible for reinstatement.³

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	02-01-22
Reported, H. Primary & Secondary Education	05-18-22

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² R.C. 3319.222(G)(3).

³ Ohio Administrative Code 3301-24-08(C), (I) and (J).