



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Synopsis of House Committee Amendments*

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Sub. S.B. 3

131st General Assembly
(As Reported by H. Education)

I. State assessments

Limitations on test administration

Changes to 2017-2018, instead of 2015-2016 under the Senate-passed version, the initial school year in which the cumulative amount of time spent on state and district-wide assessments are limited to 2%.

Third-grade English language arts assessment

Reinstates the fall administration of the third-grade English language arts assessment, which was removed under the Senate-passed version of the bill.

College and career readiness assessment exemption

Exempts the following students who are enrolled in public and nonpublic high schools from the requirement to take the college and career readiness assessment: (1) students with significant cognitive disabilities to whom an alternate assessment is administered in accordance with the student's individual education plan, (2) students with an intellectual disability, as outlined by the Department of Education, (3) limited English proficient students who have been enrolled in United States schools for less than two years and for whom no appropriate accommodations are available, and (4) students who received a "remediation-free" score on the assessment.

Scoring levels for high school substitute end-of-course exams

Specifies that, in order to calculate a student's score on a substitute end-of-course exam, a score of 2 on an Advanced Placement (AP) exam or a score of 2 or 3 on an International Baccalaureate (IB) exam is equivalent to a proficient level of skill.

* This synopsis does not address amendments that may have been adopted on the House Floor.

Diagnostic assessments

Changes to 2017-2018, instead of 2015-2016 under the Senate-passed version, the initial school year in which the cumulative amount of time used for taking practice or diagnostic assessments used to prepare for state and district-wide assessments are limited to 1%.

Mathematics credit for career-technical education students

Specifies that the career-based pathway mathematics course used by students pursuing a "career-technical instructional track," in lieu of completing one unit of Algebra II, as permitted under current law, must be approved by the Department of Education.

Alternative measures of career-technical skill attainment

Requires the Department of Education to consider an industry-recognized credential or a state agency- or board-issued license for practice in a vocation that requires an exam for issuance of that license as an acceptable measure of technical skill attainment, except as otherwise required by federal law.

Prohibits the Department from (1) requiring a student with such a credential or license to take additional technical assessments, and (2) requiring a student, who has participated in or will be participating in a credentialing assessment aligned to the student's career-technical education program or has participated in or will be participating in taking an examination for issuance of such a license aligned to the student's career-technical education program to take additional technical assessments.

Specifies that, if a student does not participate in the credentialing assessment or the license examination, then the student must take the applicable technical assessments required by the Department.

Requires the Department to develop procedures (1) for identifying industry-recognized credentials and licenses aligned to a student's career-technical education program that can be used as an acceptable measure of technical skill, and (2) for identifying students in the process of earning such credentials or licenses.

Requires that the procedures described above be developed in consultation with the Ohio Association for Career and Technical Education, the Ohio Association of Career-Technical Superintendents, the Ohio Association of City Career-Technical Schools, and "other stakeholders."

Kindergarten readiness assessment for chartered nonpublic schools

Authorizes chartered nonpublic schools to administer the kindergarten readiness assessment beginning with the 2018-2019 school year.

Requires the Department of Education to furnish the kindergarten readiness assessment to chartered nonpublic schools.

II. Exemptions for qualified school districts

Duration of exemption

Specifies that a school district that is qualified for the bill's exemptions remains a qualified district for three school years, beginning with the school year in which the qualifying report card is issued.

Exemptions permitting employment of unlicensed teachers

Modifies the bill's conditions under which an individual may be employed to teach without a valid educator license in a qualified school district, so long as the individual is otherwise qualified based on experience, including a requirement that such a teacher be registered with the Department of Education and be included in the Retained Applicant Fingerprint Database (Rapback).

Specifies that the exemption from teacher licensure does not apply to special education teachers.

III. Teacher licensure and evaluations

Teacher licensure

Specifies which components an individual who is teaching career-technical education courses under an alternative resident educator license must fulfill under the Ohio Teacher Residency Program.

Exempts an individual who is teaching career-technical courses under an alternative resident educator license from taking the performance-based assessment prescribed by the State Board for resident educators.

Requires the Department, not later than December 31, 2017, and in collaboration with interested parties, to establish a method to assess if career-technical teachers teaching under an alternative resident educator license are qualified for a professional educator license.

Permits school districts and schools, beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, to not conduct teacher evaluations for teachers participating in the Ohio Teacher

Residency Program for the year during which those teachers take the majority of the required performance-based assessment for resident educators.

Qualifies for an alternative resident educator license an individual who has not completed coursework in the subject area for which the individual is applying to teach.

Teacher evaluations

Removes the Senate-passed provisions that (1) revised the alternative framework for the evaluation of teachers and (2) revised the framework for the evaluation of principals and assistant principals. (These provisions were enacted by H.B. 64 of the 131st General Assembly.)

IV. Community schools

Community schools governing authority membership

Modifies the membership requirements for community school governing authorities.

Community school admission

Permits community schools to offer admission preference to students who are the children of full-time staff members employed by the community school, provided the total number of students receiving the preference is less than 5% of the school's total enrollment.

Community schools and sheriff-contracted services

Permits a county sheriff to enter into contracts with a community school governing authority under which the sheriff may exercise any police power or render any police service for the school.

Community school credit based on subject area competency

Changes the school year by which a community school must comply with the plan for awarding high school credit based on demonstration of subject area competency from the 2016-2017 school year (under current law) to the 2017-2018 school year (under the bill).

V. Other K-12 education provisions

Proposal for assisting districts to receive facilities funding

Changes to December 15, 2017, instead of December 15, 2015, under the Senate-passed version, the bill's deadline by which the Ohio School Facilities

Commission must develop and submit to the General Assembly a legislative proposal assisting school districts to receive funding under the Classroom Facilities Assistance Program.

Educational Choice Scholarship Program

Provides that a school district or building that is designated as eligible at the time of the bill's effective date for the Educational Choice Scholarship Program continues to be Ed Choice-designated through the 2018-2019 school year, regardless of whether the district or building meets the conditions that would remove the designation.

Correction of tax certifications for foundation funding

Requires the adjustment, for purposes of foundation funding, of countywide tax certifications for tax years 2012, 2013, and 2014 on the abstracts of real property or real and public utility property if the certified valuations in any of those tax years vary from the countywide aggregate amount of valuation by more than \$30 million.

Performance audits and operations study of ESCs

Permits the Auditor of State to conduct a performance audit of any educational service center (ESC).

Requires the Auditor of State to conduct a comprehensive operational study of all ESCs in the state within three years after the bill's effective date.

Requires the study to (1) contain standards and benchmarks unique to educational service centers for further study and that may inform future performance audits of educational service centers, and (2) be submitted to the Department of Education, the State Board of Education, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Governor, the ESCs, the Speaker and Minority Leader of the House of Representatives, and the President and Minority Leader of the Senate.

Joint vocational school district board membership

Allows either a board member of a school district that is part of a joint vocational school district (JVSD) or an individual with experience or knowledge of the labor needs of the region to be a JVSD board member.

Removes term limits for JVSD board members.

Permits all JVSD boards, instead of just those with more than 30 members as under current law, to submit an application to the Superintendent of Public Instruction for approval to stagger its members' terms of office.

Interscholastic athletics participation

Permits a student enrolled in a nonpublic school to participate in interscholastic activities at the school district in which the student's nonpublic school is located, so long as certain criteria are met.

Prohibits a student who participates in the College Credit Plus (CCP) program from being denied the opportunity to participate in interscholastic athletics offered by the student's school, solely due to the student's participation in the program.

Diplomas for home-schooled students

Removes the alternative requirement that a diploma for a home-schooled student include a certification signed by the superintendent of the student's resident school district stating that the student and the student's parents have complied with state law regarding home instruction.

State Seal of Biliteracy

Requires the State Board of Education to establish the State Seal of Biliteracy, which may be attached or affixed to the transcripts of qualifying public and nonpublic high school students and to the diplomas of homeschooled students, to demonstrate the attainment of a high level of proficiency in one or more languages in addition to English sufficient for meaningful use in college and a career.

Requires each district and school to identify students who have completed the requirements to earn a State Seal of Biliteracy.

Prohibits a district or school from charging a fee for assigning a State Seal of Biliteracy on a student's transcript, but permits a student to be required to pay a fee to demonstrate proficiency in a language.

Grades offered by STEM schools and STEM school equivalents

Expands the grades that STEM schools and STEM school equivalents may offer to any of grades K-12, rather than grades 6-12 as under current law.

Information on advanced standing programs

Expands the grade levels, from grades 8 through 11 under current law to grades 6 through 11 under the bill, for which each public and chartered nonpublic school must provide information to students about the advanced standing programs offered by that school.

Bright New Leaders for Ohio Schools Program

Codifies and revises a provision of uncodified law that specifies the requirements for the nonprofit corporation that implements the Bright New Leaders for Ohio Schools Program, and adds two representatives of Ohio businesses to the organization's board of directors.

Online lessons and blizzard bags

Eliminates the Department of Education's responsibilities for approval of online lessons and paper blizzard bags used for purposes of making up school hours in the case of a calamity day.

VI. Other education provisions

Sheriff services at private schools and higher education institutions

Permits the sheriff to enter into contracts with a chartered nonpublic school to provide community preventive education programs.

Permits the sheriff to enter into contracts with a private institution of higher education to provide police services.

Workforce grants

Revises the Workforce Grant Program to require institutions of higher education, rather than the Chancellor of Higher Education, to award grants to eligible students.

VII. Tax provisions

Arena property tax exemption

Authorizes a property tax exemption for an arena that is owned by the Convention Facilities Authority of Franklin County and that is leased to a private enterprise.

Ballot error correction

Validates a property tax levy that was approved by a ballot measure that stated an erroneous term regarding duration.

VIII. Insurance pools

State university or college joint self-insurance pools

Permits a state university or college to participate in a joint self-insurance pool to provide personal liability coverage to protect the institution and its employees against loss incurred while undertaking official duties.

Authorizes the joint self-insurance pool to also provide certain types of property or casualty coverage to cover other risks of pool members.

Permits the board of trustees of the university or college to contract with a pool administrator to administer the joint self-insurance pool.

Exempts a joint self-insurance pool from the application of Ohio's Insurance Laws and its records from Ohio's Public Records Law.

Permits a joint self-insurance pool to issue obligations and notes to pay claims expenses.

Requires the pool administrator to prepare and maintain a public report on pool funds.

Limits the liability of a state university or college to the amounts payable pursuant to its written agreement with the pool.

Establishes civil immunities and defenses under the Court of Claims Law with respect to individuals involved in administering a joint self-insurance pool.

Specifies that an employee of a state university or college who becomes a member of the governing body of a joint self-insurance pool does not violate certain state employee ethics laws.

Political subdivision joint self-insurance pools

Modifies the reporting requirements for joint self-insurance health and liability programs administered by political subdivisions.