



OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

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Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

Bill: H.B. 628 of the 132nd G.A.

Status: As Introduced

Sponsor: Reps. Stein and Retherford

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Subject: Alternative qualifications for a resident educator license

State & Local Fiscal Highlights

- The bill permits an individual to qualify for a resident educator license under an alternative pathway. If the bill encourages more individuals to obtain a license, the Ohio Department of Education's licensing fee revenue as well as its administrative costs will increase. The fee for the four-year license is \$160.

Detailed Fiscal Analysis

The bill creates an alternative pathway for a person to qualify for a resident educator license, the standard entry-level teaching license issued by the State Board of Education. Under current law, a resident educator license requires a person to hold a bachelor's degree from an accredited teacher preparation program at a higher education institution or to participate in the Teach for America program. Under the bill, a person may also apply for this license if that person holds at least any other bachelor's degree and has successfully completed an alternative teacher certification program operated by a private, nonprofit organization. The organization must: (1) operate in at least five states, (2) have been operating an alternative teacher certification program for at least ten years, and (3) require candidates to pass a subject area examination and the Professional Teaching Knowledge Pedagogy Examination, or an equivalent pedagogy examination as determined by the Ohio Department of Education (ODE).

The bill's alternative pathway may encourage additional individuals to seek a resident educator license, which would increase licensing fee revenues and the administrative costs associated with licensure. The State Board's current fee for the four-year resident educator license is \$160. Educator license fees are paid into the State Board of Education Licensure Fund (Fund 4L20), which supports the administrative costs associated with ODE's licensure functions. One of these costs is an annual fee of \$5 that is paid to the Attorney General for enrollment in the Retained Applicant Fingerprint Database (RAPBACK), a continuous criminal record-monitoring service.