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Bill Analysis

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Primary Sponsor: Sen. Cirino

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SUMMARY

Chancellor approval of degree programs

- Requires the Chancellor of Higher Education, when considering approval of a new degree or degree program for a state institution of higher education, to take into account the extent to which it aligns with the state's workforce development priorities.

Student tuition and fees

- Prohibits a state institution of higher education from charging an additional fee to a student for academic activity associated with regular coursework, such as grading student assignments.
- Prohibits a state institution from charging more in tuition and fees for an online course than for a course taught in an in-person, classroom setting.
- Requires special fees for online courses at state institutions to be based on the actual demonstrated cost incurred by the institution.

Student financial aid

- Establishes the Second Chance Grant Program, under which an eligible student enrolled in a "qualifying institution" who has a remaining cost of attendance after other financial aid is applied to the student's account must receive a one-time of not more than \$2,000 grant.

*This analysis was prepared before the report of the House Higher Education and Career Readiness appeared in the House Journal. Note that the legislative history may be incomplete.

- Establishes a supplemental grant for OCOG recipients who have completed at least two years of a bachelor's degree program and are making progress toward completing that program.

Accommodations for students unable to enroll in a course

- Requires a state institution to offer prescribed accommodations to a qualifying student who was unable to register for a course necessary to complete the student's bachelor's degree program in the student's final two academic years, rather than requiring the institution only to waive tuition and fees for a necessary course as under current law.

Guaranteed pathways, joint programming, and dual enrollment

- Establishes the Ohio Guaranteed Transfer Pathways Initiative to permit community college students to transfer credits to state universities pursuant to the system of articulation and transfer policies and procedures prescribed under continuing law.
- Requires state universities to enter into agreements with multiple community colleges, state community colleges, or technical colleges to establish joint academic programming and dual enrollment opportunities.

Reporting requirements

- Requires each state institution of higher education to issue an annual report about the institution's tuition and fees, average cost of attendance, and certain other post-graduation data and requires the Chancellor to post that report on the Chancellors website.
- Requires the Chancellor to issue a report about the mental health and wellness services and initiatives of state institutions of higher education.
- Permits the Chancellor to require a state institution to conduct a viability analysis of any program it offers, if the Chancellor determines the program meets prescribed criteria, and requires the institution to submit its findings to the Chancellor.
- Changes from every five to every three years the frequency with which a state institution must, in accordance with continuing law, evaluate its programs based on enrollment and duplication with other state institutions in the region.

Due process for disciplinary actions

- Requires a state university to provide a student who is subject to a disciplinary action with a notice of the action, the reasons for it, and the student's right to appeal it.
- Requires a state university to afford a student with a fair and impartial hearing within a reasonable time if the student opts to appeal a disciplinary action.

Contracts without a nonboycott declaration are prohibited

- Prohibits a state institution of higher education from entering into or renewing a contract with a company for the acquisition or provision of supplies, equipment, or

services, or for construction services, unless the contract declares that the company is not boycotting Israel or other jurisdictions with whom Ohio can enjoy open trade.

Free speech policies

- Requires each state institution of higher education to adopt a policy that affirms prescribed principles regarding the regulation of free speech on campuses and to include that policy in the institution's handbook, website, and orientation programs.
- Requires each state institution of higher education to establish a process under which a student, student group, or faculty member may submit a complaint about an alleged violation by an employee of its policy.

Other higher education provisions

- Requires each state university to endeavor to avoid prioritizing the admission of out-of-state applicants over in-state applicants if both applicants apply in the same general timeframe and have substantially similar qualifications.
- Requires each state institution of higher education to generally accept and provide credit for coursework in the same manner across all instructional methods, unless a course requires in-person observations and experiences.
- Authorizes the Director of Administrative Services to sell state-owned land, held for the benefit of an institution of higher education, provided:
 - The institution's board of trustees adopts a resolution approving the sale;
 - The land is appraised at not more than \$10 million by an independent third-party appraiser;
 - The Controlling Board approves the sale.

K-12 career advising policy

- Modifies the law on K-12 career advising policies.

Statewide apprenticeship program proposal

- Requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and other specified stakeholders, to develop a proposal for a statewide apprenticeship program for high school students and submit it to the Governor and General Assembly by June 1, 2023.

Renewable energy facility tax exemption

- Modifies the career training requirement that certain qualified renewable energy facilities must meet in order to obtain continuing law's property tax exemption for such facilities.

Appropriation

- Makes an appropriation

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DETAILED ANALYSIS

The bill revises several laws on the operation of state institutions of higher education, including those regarding degree programs, tuition and fees, student financial aid, accommodations for students unable to enroll in certain courses, reporting requirements, and disciplinary due process. It also expressly adds state institutions of higher education to the Non-Boycott Law and requires them to adopt prescribed policies regarding free speech on campus.

Finally, the bill modifies the law on K-12 career advising polices and requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to develop a proposal to establish a statewide apprenticeship program for high school students. It also changes the career training requirement that certain qualified renewable energy facilities must meet in order to obtain continuing law’s property tax exemption for such facilities.

Under continuing law, a “state institution of higher education” is any of the 13 state universities, the Northeast Ohio Medical University, a community college, state community college, university branch, or technical college. The 13 state universities are the University of Akron, Bowling Green State University, Central State University, University of Cincinnati, Cleveland State University, Kent State University, Miami University, Ohio University, Ohio State University, Shawnee State University, University of Toledo, Wright State University, and Youngstown State University.¹

Chancellor approval of degree programs

The bill requires the Chancellor of Higher Education, when considering approval of a new degree or degree program for a state institution of higher education, to take into account the extent to which that degree or program aligns with the state’s workforce development priorities.²

Under continuing law, the Chancellor must approve or disapprove all new degrees or degree programs at state institutions of higher education. Such institutions are prohibited from offering a new degree or degree program without the approval of the Chancellor.³

¹ R.C. 3345.011, not in the bill.

² R.C. 3333.04(N). See also R.C. 3333.94(A)(1), not in the bill.

³ R.C. 3333.04(N). See also R.C. 3333.07(C), not in the bill.

Student tuition and fees

Prohibit additional fees for academic activities

The bill prohibits a state institution of higher education from charging an additional fee to a student for an employee or an entity contracting with the institution to complete any academic activity associated with regular coursework, including grading student assignments.⁴

Tuition and fees for online courses

The bill prohibits a state institution of higher education from charging more in tuition and fees for an online course than for a course taught in an in-person, classroom setting. It further requires that special fees charged for an online course, if applicable, must be based on the actual demonstrated cost incurred by the state institution to provide the course.⁵

Student financial aid

Second Chance Grant Program

Operations

The bill requires the Chancellor to establish and operate the Second Chance Grant Program. Under the program, the Chancellor must award a one-time grant of not more than \$2,000 to each eligible student approved to participate. A student must apply in a form and manner prescribed by the Chancellor. To be approved, the student must enroll in a “qualifying institution” and have a remaining cost of attendance, as defined under federal law, after all other financial aid for which the applicant qualifies has been applied to the applicant’s account. The Chancellor must approve applications in the order in which they are received.⁶

The Chancellor must pay grants to the institution in which a participating student is enrolled in the academic year in which the student’s application is approved. The institution must apply the grant to the participant’s cost of attendance for that year. If any amount of the grant remains after it is applied to the student’s cost of attendance for that year, the institution must apply the remaining grant amount to the student’s cost of attendance for any other academic year in which the student is enrolled in the institution. The institution must return to the Chancellor any grant amount remaining after the participant graduates or disenrolls from the institution.⁷

⁴ R.C. 3345.028.

⁵ R.C. 3345.461.

⁶ R.C. 3333.127(A), (B), and (C).

⁷ R.C. 3333.127(D).

For the purposes of the program, a “qualifying institution” is a state university or branch campus, community college, state community college, or technical college, a private nonprofit college or university, a private for-profit career college, or an Ohio Technical Center.⁸

Student eligibility

A student is eligible for the program if the student:

1. Is an Ohio resident;
2. Has not attained a bachelor’s degree from a “qualifying institution” or an institution of higher education in another state prior to applying for a Second Chance grant;
3. Disenrolled from a “qualifying institution,” while being in good standing including with respect to academics and the student’s disciplinary record, and did not transfer to a “qualifying institution” or an institution of higher education in another state in the two semesters immediately following that disenrollment;
4. Enrolls in a “qualifying institution” within five years of disenrolling from the “qualifying institution”;
5. Is not enrolled in the College Credit Plus Program; and
6. Meets any other eligibility criteria determined necessary by the Chancellor.⁹

Reporting requirements

In each academic year, the Chancellor must submit to the General Assembly a report that contains:

1. The number of eligible students participating in the program who received a grant in that academic year;
2. The “qualifying institutions” from which participants disenrolled;
3. The types of academic programs in which participants were enrolled prior to disenrolling from “qualifying institutions”;
4. The types of academic programs in which participants were enrolled when they received grants under the program;
5. Information regarding how the grants were used;
6. If the participant completed a degree program with the grant.¹⁰

⁸ R.C. 3333.127(A)(3).

⁹ R.C. 3333.127(A)(2).

¹⁰ R.C. 3333.127(E).

Second Chance Grant Program Fund

The bill establishes the Second Chance Grant Program Fund in the state treasury to consist of amounts designated for the purposes of the fund by the General Assembly. The fund must be administered by the Chancellor and used to pay grants under the program. The Chancellor also may use the fund to implement and administer the program.¹¹

Rules

The bill requires the Chancellor to adopt rules to administer the program.¹²

Supplemental OCOG awards

In addition to the need-based Ohio College Opportunity Grant (OCOG) awarded under continuing law, the bill requires the Chancellor to use funds appropriated for OCOG, if a sufficient amount remains after those grants are awarded, to award eligible students a supplemental grant. To be eligible, a student must receive an OCOG award, have completed at least two years of a bachelor's degree program, and be making progress toward completing that program. Supplemental grants are subject to the same requirements prescribed under continuing law for OCOG. Finally, the Chancellor must adopt rules to implement this provision, which must include a method to calculate supplemental grant amounts.¹³

The OCOG Program provides need-based financial aid for higher education students based on their expected family contribution (EFC). EFC is calculated using the information that students provide when they fill out their Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form, and, generally, is the same method that the federal government uses to determine the federal government's need-based Pell Grants.¹⁴

Accommodations for students unable to enroll in a course

The bill changes a provision of current law that requires state institutions of higher education to waive tuition and fees for a final course necessary for a student to complete a bachelor's degree program if the student was unable to enroll in that course in the student's final year. Under the bill, a state institution must offer one of several prescribed accommodations to a student if the student was unable to register for a course that is necessary to complete the student's bachelor's degree program, but that is not a general elective, in the student's final *two* academic years.¹⁵

¹¹ R.C. 3333.127(F).

¹² R.C. 3333.127(G).

¹³ R.C. 3333.126; conforming change in R.C. 3333.122.

¹⁴ R.C. 3333.122.

¹⁵ R.C. 3345.481.

Student eligibility

Specifically, a state institution must provide a prescribed accommodation to a student if the student was unable to register for a course in one of the last two years of full-time study a bachelor's degree is typically designed to require and the student:

1. Has not completed the course prior to that academic year;
2. Was enrolled full time, as defined by the Chancellor, in that academic year;
3. Was unable to register for the course because it was not offered or circumstances beyond the student's control made registration unfeasible, as determined by the Chancellor;
4. Successfully paid all tuition and fees and did not receive a refund for the courses for which the student registered in that academic year at the start of the academic year; and
5. Did not enroll in the maximum amount of credit hours in that academic year, as determined by the state institution.¹⁶

Accommodations

The accommodations that a state institution must offer a student are:

1. Waive the student's tuition and fees for that course if the student successfully registers for it in the next academic year in which it is offered. However, such waiver must not grant a student guaranteed or priority registration for that course.
2. Reimburse the student for any tuition and fees the student paid to register for an equivalent course offered by an institution of higher education with a similar accreditation. To qualify for that reimbursement, a student must register for the equivalent course in the same year in which the student was unable to register for the course.
3. Permit the student to complete an independent study that meets specified guidelines in lieu of the course in order to meet the requirements of the student's bachelor's degree program.¹⁷

Guaranteed pathways, joint programming, and dual enrollment

Ohio Guaranteed Transfer Pathways Initiative

The bill requires the Chancellor, pursuant to the system of transfer and articulation policies and procedures prescribed under continuing law, to establish the Ohio Guaranteed Transfer Pathways Initiative. It also requires each state university to participate in that Initiative.

¹⁶ R.C. 3345.481(A) and (B).

¹⁷ R.C. 3345.481(C).

Under the Initiative, a student must be permitted to complete an associate's degree at a community college, state community college, or technical college and transfer those credits to a state university to continue making progress toward a bachelor's degree. Similarly, a student must be permitted to transfer credits from a community college, state community college, or technical college to a state university, regardless of the geographic proximity between the college and university.¹⁸

Furthermore, the bill defines a "guaranteed pathway" as an articulation or transfer agreement included in the Initiative that a state university and a community college, state community college, or technical college enter into in accordance with the system of transfer and articulation policies and procedures prescribed under continuing law.¹⁹

Joint academic programming and dual enrollment opportunities

The bill requires each state university to enter into agreements with multiple community colleges to establish both joint academic programming and dual enrollment opportunities to assist students in completing their degrees in a timely and cost-effective manner.²⁰

For the bill's purposes, "joint academic programming" is defined as a structured pathway curriculum agreement that permits an individual to attain a specific degree that has been jointly developed by at least one state university and at least one community college, state community college, or technical college.²¹

Similarly, "dual enrollment" is defined as concurrent enrollment by an individual at both a state university and a community college, state community college, or technical college.²²

Reporting requirement

The bill requires each state university, community college, state community college, and technical college to annually report to the Ohio Articulation and Transfer Network Oversight Board the number of guaranteed pathways and joint academic programming and dual enrollment opportunities the university or college offers. The Oversight Board must compile that information and provide a summary of it to the Chancellor. The summary must include a confirmation that each college and university is in compliance with the provision's requirements and any recommendations necessary to enhance and strengthen the guaranteed pathways and joint academic programming or dual enrollment opportunities.

¹⁸ R.C. 3333.168(A)(3).

¹⁹ R.C. 3333.168(A) and (B).

²⁰ R.C. 3333.168(C).

²¹ R.C. 3333.168(A)(4).

²² R.C. 3333.168(A)(2).

Rules

The bill requires the Chancellor to adopt rules regarding the Ohio Guaranteed Transfer Pathways Initiative and the bill's joint academic programming and dual enrollment requirements.²³

Additional reporting requirements

Posting of cost and postgraduate data

Beginning in the next academic year following the bill's effective date, each state institution of higher education annually must prepare and post on its website a report that, to the extent practicable, includes at least:

1. An itemized list of the estimated or actual charges of the tuition, general fees, special fees, service charges, fines, and other fees or surcharges for enrolled students;
2. The estimated or actual average cost of attendance;
3. Student degree completion rates;
4. Post-graduation student debt rates;
5. Post-graduation student loan default rates; and
6. Post-graduation employment rates.

Each state institution annually must submit to the Chancellor, in a form and manner prescribed by the Chancellor, the institution's report, and the Chancellor must post that report on the Chancellor's website.

The Chancellor may adopt rules to implement the report.²⁴

Mental health and wellness report

The bill requires the Chancellor, to the extent practicable, to issue an annual report about the mental health and wellness services and initiatives of state institutions. The report must include:

1. A description of each institution's mental health and wellness services and initiatives;
2. A summary of how much funding each institution dedicates to mental health and wellness services and initiatives, including the percentage of that funding that is used for administrative costs; and
3. Any other information the Chancellor determines appropriate.

The Chancellor must submit that report to the General Assembly. Each state institution must submit to the Chancellor, in a form and manner the Chancellor prescribes, any

²³ R.C. 3333.168(E).

²⁴ R.C. 3345.024.

information or data the Chancellor requires to issue these reports. Finally, the Chancellor may adopt rules to implement this provision.²⁵

Viability analysis of programs

The bill authorizes the Chancellor to require a state institution of higher education to conduct a viability analysis of any program it offers if the Chancellor determines the program:

1. Has a low completion rate;
2. Has a low enrollment rate; or
3. Meets other criteria the Chancellor determines relevant.

The state institution must submit the findings of the analysis to the Chancellor. The Chancellor may adopt rules to implement the provision.²⁶

Evaluation and report regarding courses and programs

The bill changes from every five years to every three years the frequency with which a state institution of higher education must, in accordance with continuing law, evaluate its courses and programs based on enrollment and duplication with other state institutions in the geographic region. Continuing law requires each state institution to submit its findings to the Chancellor within 30 days of completing its evaluations or as part of its annual efficiency report.²⁷

Due process for disciplinary actions

The bill expressly requires a state university to provide a student who is subject to a disciplinary action by the university with a notice of the action, the reasons for it, and the student's right to appeal it. If the student chooses to appeal the action, the state university must afford the student with a fair and impartial hearing within a reasonable time under the university's regular procedures.²⁸

The bill does not affect provisions of continuing law that establish specific due process procedures for students, faculty, and staff members who have been arrested for certain criminal offenses.²⁹

Contracts without a nonboycott declaration are prohibited

The bill expands Non-Boycott Law to include state institutions of higher education. Under current law, a state agency may not enter into or renew a contract with a company for

²⁵ R.C. 3333.0418.

²⁶ R.C. 3333.073.

²⁷ R.C. 3345.35.

²⁸ R.C. 3345.241.

²⁹ See R.C. 3345.22 to 3345.24, none in the bill.

the acquisition or provision of supplies, equipment, or services, or for construction services, unless the contract declares that it is not boycotting any jurisdiction with whom Ohio can enjoy open trade, including Israel, and will not do so during the contract period. The bill expressly states that, for purposes of this law, “state agency” includes a state institution of higher education.³⁰

Free speech policies

In addition to complying with other state laws regarding the regulation of free speech on campuses,³¹ the bill requires each state institution of higher education to adopt a policy that affirms certain prescribed principles, which the bill specifies are the public policy of this state.³²

The bill states that those principles are:

1. Students have a fundamental constitutional right to free speech;
2. A state institution must be committed to giving students broad latitude to speak, write, listen, challenge, learn, and discuss any issue;
3. A state institution must be committed to maintaining a campus as marketplace of ideas for students and faculty in which the free exchange of ideas is not suppressed because the ideas put forth are thought by some or most members of the institution’s community to be offensive, unwise, immoral, indecent, disagreeable, conservative, liberal, traditional, radical, or wrong-headed;
4. It is for individual students and faculty to make judgements about ideas for themselves, and to act on those judgements by openly and vigorously contesting the ideas they oppose and not by seeking to suppress free speech;
5. It is not the proper role of a state institution to attempt to shield individuals from free speech, including ideas and opinions they find offensive, unwise, immoral, indecent, disagreeable, conservative, liberal, traditional, radical, or wrong-headed;
6. Although a state institution should greatly value civility and mutual respect, concerns about civility and respect must not be used by an institution as a justification for closing off the discussion of ideas, however offensive, unwise, immoral, indecent, disagreeable, conservative, liberal, traditional, radical, or wrong-headed those ideas may be to some students or faculty;
7. Although students and faculty are free to state their views about and contest the views expressed on campus, and to state their views about and contest speakers who are invited to express their views on campus, they may not substantially obstruct or

³⁰ R.C. 9.76.

³¹ See R.C. 3345.0212 to 3345.0214 (as enacted by S.B. 40 of the 133rd General Assembly, effective March 24, 2021), none in the bill.

³² R.C. 3345.0215; conforming change in R.C. 3345.21.

otherwise substantially interfere with the freedom of others to express views they reject or even loathe. To that end, a state institution has a responsibility to promote lively and fearless freedom of debate and deliberation and protect that freedom.

8. A state institution must be committed to providing an atmosphere that is most conducive to speculation, experimentation, and creation by students and faculty, who must remain free to inquire, study, evaluate, and gain new understanding; and
9. The primary responsibility of faculty is to engage an honest, courageous, and persistent effort to search out and communicate the truth that lies in areas of their competence.³³

The policy affirming those principles must be included in the institution's handbook, on its website, and in its orientation programs for students.³⁴

The bill also requires each institution to establish a process under which a student, student group, or faculty member may submit a complaint about an alleged violation by an employee of the institution of its policy, including any penalty imposed on a student's grade for an assignment or coursework that is unrelated to ordinary academic standards of substance and relevance, and is instead based on the contents of the student's free speech. That process must comply with standards adopted by the Chancellor and, under the process, the state institution must investigate the alleged violation and conduct a fair and impartial hearing about it. If the hearing determines the policy was violated, the state institution must determine a resolution to address the violation and prevent any further violation of the policy.³⁵

Each state institution must annually report to the Chancellor, in a form and manner prescribed by the Chancellor, the total number of complaints submitted under the process and, for each submitted complaint, a description of:

1. The state institution's investigation regarding the complaint;
2. The outcome of the hearing conducted by the state institution regarding the complaint; and
3. If the hearing determines the complaint included a violation of the state institution's policy, the resolution determined by the state institution to address the violation.³⁶

The bill specifies that the free speech policies must not be construed as prohibiting a state institution from imposing measures that do not violate the U.S. Constitution or the Ohio Constitution, such as:

1. Constitutional time, place, and manner restrictions;
2. Reasonable viewpoint-neutral restrictions in nonpublic forums;

³³ R.C. 3345.0215(B).

³⁴ R.C. 3345.0212(C)(2).

³⁵ R.C. 3345.0215(C).

³⁶ R.C. 3345.0215(D).

3. Restrictions on the use of the institution’s property to protect the free speech rights of students and teachers and preserve the use of property for the advancement of the institution’s mission;
4. Prohibitions or limitations on speech, expression, or assemblies that are not protected under the U.S. or Ohio constitutions;
5. Content restrictions on speech that are reasonably related to legitimate pedagogical purpose, such as classroom rules enacted by teachers.³⁷

Finally, the bill states that it must not be construed to grant students the right to disrupt previously scheduled or reserved activities occurring in a traditional public forum.³⁸

Other higher education provisions

Admissions and Ohio residents

The bill requires each state university to endeavor to avoid prioritizing the admission of an out-of-state applicant over an in-state applicant if both applicants apply in the same general timeframe, as determined by the university, and have substantially similar qualifications that satisfy the university’s admissions criteria. To the extent practicable, a state university must ensure that in-state applicants are given ample and sufficient opportunity to be admitted, as compared to out-of-state applicants, if the in-state applicants satisfy the university’s admissions criteria.³⁹

Credit for online coursework at other institutions

The bill generally requires each state institution of higher education to accept and provide credit for coursework in the same manner across all instructional models, except in the case of courses that require in-person observations and experiences, such as laboratories and clinicals, which may necessitate instruction through an in-person component rather than online instruction.⁴⁰

Institutions of higher education – land sales

The bill explicitly authorizes the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) to sell real estate on behalf of institutions of higher education. Under current law, DAS is authorized to sell *any* state-owned real estate, so long as it is appraised at not more than \$100,000. Under the bill, DAS is authorized to sell property held for the benefit of an institution of higher education valued up to \$10 million if the sale is approved by both the board of trustees of the institution of higher education and the Ohio Controlling Board. “Institution of higher education” refers to all of the following:

³⁷ R.C. 3345.0215(E).

³⁸ R.C. 3345.0215(F).

³⁹ R.C. 3345.063.

⁴⁰ R.C. 3345.381.

1. A state university or college (University of Akron, Bowling Green State University, Central State University, University of Cincinnati, Cleveland State University, Kent State University, Miami University, Northeast Ohio Medical University, Ohio University, Ohio State University, Shawnee State University, University of Toledo, Wright State University, and Youngstown State University);
2. A community college district, technical college district, university branch district, or state community college;
3. The applicable board of trustees or, in the case of a university branch district, any other managing authority.⁴¹

K-12 provisions

Career advising policies

The bill requires school districts, community schools, and STEM schools to include certain prescribed information in the career advising policies they are required to adopt under continuing law. Specifically, the policy must include information regarding career fields that require an industry-recognized credential, certificate, associate's degree, bachelor's degree, graduate degree, or professional degree.

The policy also must provide students with information about ways to offset the costs of a post-secondary education, including:

1. The reserve officer training corps;
2. The College Credit Plus Program;
3. The Ohio Guaranteed Transfer Pathways Initiative; and
4. Joint academic programming or dual enrollment opportunities.

The Chancellor must develop informational materials that illustrate cost saving estimates for each of those options. The Chancellor must also develop a list of individual college courses that are transferable under the system of transfer and articulation policies and procedures prescribed under continuing law.⁴²

Statewide apprenticeship proposal

The bill requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction, in consultation with the Chancellor and the Director of Job and Family Services, to develop a proposal to implement a statewide apprenticeship program for high school students on a pathway to either employment upon graduation or enrollment in a postsecondary educational institution. The state Superintendent, the Chancellor, and the Director must include appropriate stakeholders in the development of the proposal.

⁴¹ R.C. 123.01 and R.C. 3345.12, not in the bill.

⁴² R.C. 3313.6020.

The state Superintendent, and the other specified participants, must consider the following when developing the proposal:

1. Eligibility requirements for students participating in an apprenticeship, including a minimum grade point average or its equivalent;
2. A process by which a student may secure an apprenticeship;
3. A process for approval of each student's apprenticeship, including a method for evaluating the educational benefits of an apprenticeship, and giving consideration to:
 - a. Any apprenticeship that is certified or registered by the U. S. Department of Labor; or
 - b. A preapprenticeship that is aligned with state standards.
4. A limitation on the number of hours per week a student may work in an apprenticeship;
5. A method for determining actual costs of a business participating in an apprenticeship, including workers' compensation and other insurance and training costs;
6. Funding formulas for students enrolled in either public or chartered nonpublic schools, including maximum amounts, to pay businesses for costs associated with employing students under an apprenticeship;
7. A method for making payments to participating businesses; and
8. A method by which college credit for a certificate or certificates earn in an apprenticeship may transfer to an institution of higher education. Though, the bill requires that, under that method, an institution must determine whether to accept work after completing an apprenticeship as eligible college credit for admission purposes.

The bill requires the state Superintendent, the Chancellor, and the Director to submit the proposal to the Governor and the General Assembly for consideration by June 1, 2023.⁴³

Renewable energy facility tax exemption qualifications

The bill modifies one of the qualifications for continuing law's property tax exemption for qualified renewable energy facilities.

Under continuing law, a renewable energy facility may qualify for a real and tangible personal property (TPP) tax exemption. When an exemption is approved, the owner or lessee of the facility is required to make "payments-in-lieu-of-taxes" (PILOTs) to the local governments in whose territory the facility is located.

A facility must meet several requirements to qualify for exemption. One of these requirements is that the owner or lessee of a facility with a nameplate capacity of more than

⁴³ Section 3.

20 megawatts must coordinate with a public Ohio university or college or certified apprenticeship program to train individuals for careers in wind or solar energy. The bill expands the entities with which a facility owner or lessee may coordinate to include career-technical centers, joint vocational school districts, and for-profit or nonprofit training centers.⁴⁴

Appropriation

The bill makes the Second Chance Grant Pilot program created in H.B. 110 of the 134th General Assembly a permanent one. In doing so, it requires the Chancellor to certify to the Director of Budget and Management an amount up to the unexpended, unencumbered balance of that appropriation at the end of FY 2022 to be reappropriated for FY 2023.

H.B. 110 of the 134th General Assembly, the main operating budget of the biennium, appropriated \$3 million in FY 2022 for the Second Chance Grant Pilot Program. It further required the Chancellor to distribute those funds to qualifying institutions of higher education and Ohio Technical Centers.⁴⁵

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	03-17-21
Reported, S. Workforce & Higher Education	06-16-21
Passed Senate (31-2)	06-16-21
Reported, H. Higher Education & Career Readiness	---

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⁴⁴ R.C. 5727.75(F)(7).

⁴⁵ Section 381.480 of H.B. 110 of the 134th General Assembly, as amended in sections 4 and 5.