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# OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

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H.B. 432  
135<sup>th</sup> General Assembly

## Bill Analysis

**Version:** As Introduced

**Primary Sponsor:** Rep. Jones

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### SUMMARY

- Permits an applicant to apply for an initial career-technical workforce development educator license instead of only permitting an employing school district to apply on behalf of the applicant.
- Permits an applicant that has received an offer of employment to enroll in one of two alternative educator preparation programs in lieu of a career-technical workforce development educator preparation program offered by a higher education institution.
- Requires the State Board of Education to issue a career-technical educator license to certain individuals who are already validly licensed educators.

### DETAILED ANALYSIS

#### Career-technical license

##### Who may request a license

The bill modifies the way in which an individual may qualify for a career-technical license issued by the State Board of Education. Currently, the superintendent of a school district that has agreed to employ an applicant must make a request to the State Board in order to begin the process of licensure issuance. Under the bill, the applicant may apply for a license without obtaining an offer of employment.<sup>1</sup> Unlike a license issued through a school district, a license issued directly to an applicant does not limit the applicant to teaching in only the district that has agreed to employ the applicant.

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<sup>1</sup> R.C. 3319.229(C).

## **Additional education**

An individual who directly applies to the State Board for a career-technical license must be enrolled in a career-technical workforce development educator preparation program. The program must be approved by the Chancellor of Higher Education, provide classroom support, include at least three semester hours of coursework in the teaching of reading in the subject area, be aligned with career-technical education and workforce development competencies, use a summative performance-based assessment, and consist of at least 24 semester hours of coursework.

### **Alternative programs**

In addition to the educator preparation program described above, the bill creates two alternative programs for individuals whom a district has agreed to employ and for whom the district superintendent requests a license in lieu of enrolling in a career-technical workforce development educator preparation program offered by an institution of higher education.<sup>2</sup>

#### ***Program created by lead district***

An applicant described in the paragraph above may enroll in an alternative educator preparation program created by one or more lead districts, which includes both of the following:

1. At least nine credit hours or three semester hours of coursework in the area to be taught;
2. At least 45 hours of local professional development designed by the employing district

#### ***Two-year alternative license mentoring program***

Such an applicant also may enroll in a two-year alternative career-technical licensure program with a mentoring element provided by the employing school district, provided the program includes the following:

1. A mentor with an educator license or who has served as an administrator;
2. A competency based self-assessment developed by the State Board, in consultation with individuals in the career-technical education field;
3. A personal learning plan approved by the lead district or its designee;
4. Participation in a structured mentoring program aligned to the personal learning plan and consisting of 90 clock hours of professional development during the initial licensure period.

## **Career-technical licenses for teachers licensed in other areas**

Under the bill, the State Board must issue a two-year technical educator license to an individual who holds a valid educator license and who has at least five years of work experience

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<sup>2</sup> R.C. 3319.229(D).

in the subject area the individual will teach, if the superintendent of the employing school district has made an informal recommendation of appointment as a career-technical educator. In lieu of the field work requirement, the individual's work experience may be affirmed by a panel of experts (as required by the State Board). Once employed, the district or school must assign a mentor to that teacher.<sup>3</sup>

This license is renewable only once to enable the educator to obtain a professional career-technical workforce development educator license.

### **Advanced license for teachers licensed in other areas**

The State Board must issue an advanced career-technical workforce development educator license to an educator licensed upon the completion of four years of teaching under the two-year technical educator license. The advanced license is valid for five years and is renewable.<sup>4</sup>

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## **HISTORY**

Action	Date
Introduced	2-27-24

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<sup>3</sup> R.C. 3319.2212(A).

<sup>4</sup> R.C. 3319.2212(B).