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H.B. 523
136th General Assembly

Bill Analysis

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsors: Reps. Brennan and Manning

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SUMMARY

Student teacher wages and other financial assistance

- Allows a public school to pay a student teacher an hourly wage that is no less than the state minimum wage and offer a student teacher healthcare benefits on the same terms and conditions as those offered to the school's teachers.
- Requires the Department of Education and Workforce to provide a cost-of-living stipend and the State Board of Education to provide test fee reimbursements to a student teacher, to the extent that funds are appropriated for that purpose.
- Authorizes a state institution of higher education to establish a lower differential tuition rate, which may include a waiver of general or instructional fees, for an individual enrolled in a teacher preparation program for the period during which the individual is working as a student teacher or participating in any other teacher preparation program field experience.

List of in-demand jobs

- Requires the Department of Job and Family Services to add teachers to the list of in-demand jobs in Ohio.

Bill designation

- Entitles the bill the "Future Educators Support Act."

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Student teacher wages and other financial assistance

Under the bill, a school district, an educational service center (ESC), a community school, a STEM school, or a college-preparatory boarding school may pay a student teacher in the district

an hourly wage that is no less than the state minimum wage (currently, \$10.45 per hour). Additionally, the district, ESC, or school may offer a student teacher healthcare benefits on the same terms and conditions as those offered to the district's teachers.¹

To the extent that funds are appropriated, the bill requires the Department of Education and Workforce and the State Board of Education to provide financial support to an individual enrolled in a teacher preparation program while the individual is working as a student teacher or participating in any similar teacher preparation program field experience. The bill requires the Department to provide a cost-of-living stipend and the State Board to provide test fee reimbursements based on financial need.

If funds are appropriated for a cost-of-living stipend or test fee waivers, the Department and the State Board, respectively, must establish procedures for their implementation.

The bill specifies that a student teacher may simultaneously receive both a wage paid by the district and a cost-of-living stipend paid by the Department.²

Under the bill, a state institution of higher education may establish a lower differential tuition rate, which may include a waiver of general or instructional fees, for an individual enrolled in a teacher preparation program for the period in which the individual is working as a student teacher or participating in any teacher preparation program field experiences the state institution determines to be similar to student teaching.³

In-demand jobs list

The bill requires the Department of Job and Family Services to add teachers to the list of in-demand jobs established under continuing law. The bill specifies that teachers must be added to the list regardless of whether the methodology used to develop the list would include teachers.⁴

Continuing law requires the Governor's Executive Workforce Board, in connection with the Department of Job and Family Services, the Department of Education and Workforce, and higher education institutions, to develop a methodology for identifying in-demand jobs. The Departments and higher education institutions, in consultation with the Board, must use that methodology to create a list of in-demand jobs in Ohio and each region of the state. Both Departments must post that list on their websites.⁵

¹ R.C. 3319.70; see also [State of Ohio 2024 Minimum Wage](#), which may be accessed by conducting a keyword "minimum wage poster" search on the Department of Commerce's website: com.ohio.gov/.

² R.C.3319.66.

³ R.C. 3345.84.

⁴ R.C. 6301.113. See the [In-Demand Jobs List](#), which is available on a website maintained by the Governor's Office of Workforce Transformation: topjobs.ohio.gov.

⁵ R.C. 6301.11, not in the bill.

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	10-15-25
