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# OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research  
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Office

## Synopsis of Senate Committee Amendments

(This synopsis does not address amendments that may have been adopted on the Senate Floor.)

### H.B. 2 of the 133<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly

#### Senate Finance

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### Individual Microcredential Assistance Program

Removes the proposal in the As Passed by the House version that would have provided an eligible individual with a grant to pay for training costs to receive a microcredential and instead reimburses training providers for training costs for individuals to earn a microcredential.

Defines a “training provider” as a state institution of higher education, an Ohio technical center, or a private business or institution that offers training to allow an individual to earn one or more microcredentials.

#### Application

Specifies the information a training provider must include in the provider’s application to the Director of Development Services to participate in the Individual Microcredential Assistance Program (IMAP), including the number of individuals that the provider has accepted into the training program and proof that each individual was accepted into the provider’s program to earn the microcredential.

Lists information the Director must consider in approving an application.

Prohibits the Director from approving an application unless the microcredentials identified in it are included in the Chancellor of Higher Education’s approved list.

#### Reimbursement amount and requirements

Prohibits a training provider from charging an individual participating in a training program to earn a microcredential for which the provider is seeking a reimbursement for any costs associated with the individual’s participation in the program or any costs to the provider because the individual did not complete the program.

Requires the training provider to submit a reimbursement application to the Director after the individual or individuals the provider is seeking a reimbursement for have earned a microcredential.

Specifies that the training provider may receive a reimbursement of not more than \$2,000 for each microcredential an individual receives and a total reimbursement of \$250,000 in a fiscal year.

Prohibits a training provider from receiving a reimbursement for any additional individual in a training program who earns a microcredential beyond the number the provider included in the provider's IMAP application.

### **Director powers and duties**

Requires the Director to create applications for the IMAP and to create and distribute a survey to each individual who successfully earned a microcredential because of a reimbursement inquiring as to the individual's occupation and wages at the time of completing the survey.

### **Public records exemption**

Exempts from the Public Records Law an individual's personal information the Director receives in connection with IMAP.

### **Income tax**

Removes the House Passed provision that would have allowed an individual to deduct any amount included in the individual's federal adjusted gross income attributable to payments made to cover the cost of a training program from the individual's adjusted gross income for Ohio income tax purposes.

### **TechCred Program**

Removes the proposed requirement in the House Passed version for the Chancellor to adopt rules establishing a list of approved training providers and microcredentials and instead requires the Chancellor to establish a list of approved microcredentials.

Requires the Director, within 90 days after the bill's effective date, to create a list of training providers offering microcredentials included on the Chancellor's list and update the list annually.

Removes the proposed requirement in the House Passed version for the Director to include a list of the Chancellor's approved training providers, categorized by each region and statewide, in the Director's annual report to the General Assembly.

Specifies that an employer's approved application to participate in the program is valid as long as the employer maintains accurate application information with the Director and that updated information must be submitted to the Director at the beginning of the employer's third fiscal year participating in the program and every other subsequent fiscal year after that.

Removes the proposed minimum \$500 amount of a reimbursement an employer may receive for each microcredential an employee receives.

Removes the proposed requirement in the House Passed version for the Director to establish one application period in rule for employers to submit an application and instead requires the Director to establish multiple application periods.

## **Demographic analysis**

Allows an employer to submit specified demographic information to the Director as part of an application to participate in the TechCred Program.

Allows a training provider to include any demographic information that a participating individual provides to the provider in the provider's IMAP application.

Requires the Director to include any of the above information in the annual written report the Director must submit to the General Assembly.

## **Sector partnership networks**

Changes the name of "regional sector partnerships" in the House Passed version to "sector partnership networks" and changes the name of current law appropriation line item for industry sector partnerships to "sector partnership networks."

## **Appropriations**

Specifies that the appropriation for the TechCred Program made in H.B. 166 of the 133<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly, the main appropriations act, be divided between the TechCred Program, IMAP, and marketing for the bill's programs.

Specifies that \$12.3 million of the \$15 million appropriation is for the TechCred Program in FY 2020 and FY 2021 and allocates the appropriation among three funding tiers based on the employer's size.

Allows the Director to request Controlling Board approval in each fiscal year of the biennium to reallocate unused portions from one or two of the above funding tiers to one or two of the other tiers if the full amount allocated under the other tier has been approved for reimbursements under the program.

Allocates \$2.5 million in FY 2020 and FY 2021 from the TechCred appropriation to be used for reimbursements under IMAP.

Allocates \$200,000 in FY 2020 and FY 2021 from the TechCred appropriation to be used for marketing the bill's programs.