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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research
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Legislative Budget
Office

H.B. 447
133rd General Assembly

Bill Analysis

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsor: Rep. Jordan

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SUMMARY

- Creates the School Safety Advisory Committee, a seven-member committee that must review the laws, policies, and practices of other states regarding school safety.
- Requires the Committee, by November 1 of each even-numbered year, to submit a report to the General Assembly, the Governor, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and the Director of Public Safety suggesting improvements to Ohio's laws, policies, and practices regarding school safety.
- Requires the Department of Education to provide administrative assistance to the Committee.
- Specifies that the bill takes effect on January 1, 2021.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

School Safety Advisory Committee

The bill creates the School Safety Advisory Committee, a seven-member committee that must review the laws, policies, and practices of other states regarding school safety.¹ The committee consists of the following members:

1. The Governor, or the Governor's designee;
2. The Superintendent of Public Instruction, or the Superintendent's designee;
3. The Director of Public Safety, or the Director's designee;
4. A member representing teachers appointed by the Governor;

¹ R.C. 3301.41(A).

5. A member representing local law enforcement appointed by the Governor;
6. A member of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate;
7. A member of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House.

Initial appointments to the Committee must be completed by March 1, 2021, and then by March 1 in each subsequent odd-numbered year. The Committee must hold its first meeting by April 1 of its appointing year and select a chairperson from among its members.

Committee members serve for two years from the date of appointment. If a vacancy occurs prior to the expiration of a member's term, the vacancy must be filled in the same manner as the original appointment. The new member then must serve for the remainder of the original member's term. Members receive no compensation for serving on the Committee.²

Review topics

The Committee must focus on the following topics in its review:

1. Reduction of harassment, including hazing, bullying, and intimidation, both on and off school grounds;
2. Violence prevention;
3. Mental health of students and staff;
4. Increased parental involvement.³

Biennial reports

The bill requires the Committee, beginning November 1, 2022, and then annually every two years thereafter, to submit a report to the General Assembly, the Governor, the state Superintendent, and the Director of Public Safety that suggests improvements to the state's laws, policies, and practices regarding school safety.⁴

Effective date

The bill specifies that it takes effect on January 1, 2021.⁵

² R.C. 3301.41(B).

³ R.C. 3301.41(A).

⁴ R.C. 3301.41(D).

⁵ Section 2.

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	12-12-19
