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# OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research  
and Drafting

Legislative Budget  
Office

H.B. 492  
134<sup>th</sup> General Assembly

## Bill Analysis

**Version:** As Introduced

**Primary Sponsor:** Reps. Loychik and Pavliga

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### SUMMARY

- Prohibits an individual from coaching an athletic activity at a public or chartered nonpublic school unless the individual has completed a student mental health training course approved and certified by the Department of Mental Health.

### DETAILED ANALYSIS

#### Mental health training for athletic coaches

The bill prohibits an individual from coaching an athletic activity at a public or chartered nonpublic school unless the individual has completed a student mental health training course approved and certified by the Department of Mental Health. On and after the bill's effective date, an individual must (1) complete the training each time the individual applies for or renews a pupil-activity program permit and (2) present evidence of each successful completion to the State Board of Education. However, the individual may complete the training at any time within the duration of the individual's new or renewed permit.<sup>1</sup>

The bill also directs the State Board to require each individual applying for a pupil-activity program permit renewal on or after the bill's effective date to present evidence that the individual has completed the training.<sup>2</sup>

See "**Background on pupil activity program permits**" below.

#### "Athletic activity"

For purposes of the bill's requirements, "athletic activity" includes all of the following:

<sup>1</sup> R.C. 3313.5317, 3314.03(A)(11)(d), 3326.11, and 3328.24.

<sup>2</sup> R.C. 3319.303(C)(3).

1. Interscholastic athletics;
2. An athletic contest or competition that is sponsored by or associated with a school, including cheerleading, club-sponsored sports activities, and sports activities sponsored by school-affiliated organizations;
3. Noncompetitive cheerleading that is sponsored by school-affiliated organizations; and
4. Practices, interschool practices, and scrimmages.<sup>3</sup>

## Background on pupil activity program permits

Pupil activity permits are required for licensed educators and nonlicensed school employees who direct, supervise, or coach a student activity program that involves athletics, routine or regular physical activity, or activities with health and safety considerations. The holder of a four-year resident or alternative resident educator license must renew an associated pupil activity permit every four years. The holder of a five-year professional, senior professional, or lead professional license must renew an associated pupil activity permit every five years. All other permit holders are required to renew the permit every three years.<sup>4</sup>

## HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	11-16-21

H0492-I-134/ts

<sup>3</sup> See R.C. 3313.5310(A)(2), not in bill.

<sup>4</sup> R.C. 3319.303. See also R.C. 3319.22, 3319.26, and 3319.27, none in bill, and for more information about the permit on the Department of Education website, see <https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Teaching/Licensure/Audiences/Coaching-Permits>.