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H.B. 361
135th General Assembly

Bill Analysis

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsors: Reps. Abrams and Santucci

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SUMMARY

- Requires the State Board of Education to issue a 40-hour teaching permit to an individual teaching practical exercises in a public safety officer course offered by a career-technical provider.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

40-hour teaching permit for public safety officer courses

The bill generally requires the State Board of Education to issue a 40-hour teaching permit to an individual teaching practical exercises in a public safety officer course offered by a career-technical provider.

Career-technical provider

The bill defines “career-technical provider” as: (1) a joint vocational school district (JVSD), (2) a participant in a compact career-technical education provider, (3) a comprehensive career-technical education provider, or (4) a school district that provides career-technical courses.¹

Public safety officer

Under the bill, “public safety officer” means any of the following:²

1. A person employed by a detention facility as a corrections officer;
2. Emergency medical services personnel;

¹ R.C. 3319.301(A)(1).

² R.C. 3319.301(A)(4). See also R.C. 2941.1412, 2133.21, and 3937.41, latter three not in the bill.

3. An emergency service telecommunicator;³
4. Any regular, paid member of a fire department of a municipal corporation or township;
5. A law enforcement officer as that term is defined in the law regarding motor vehicle insurance (see “**Law enforcement officer**” below);
6. A dispatcher employed by a police, fire, or sheriff’s department or the state highway patrol or a civilian dispatcher employed by a public employer other than a police, fire, or sheriff’s department to dispatch police, fire, sheriff’s department, or emergency medical or rescue personnel and units.

Law enforcement officer

For purposes of the bill, “law enforcement officer” means any of the following:⁴

1. A sheriff, deputy sheriff, constable, marshal, deputy marshal, municipal police officer, police officer of a township or joint police district, state highway patrol trooper, or member of a police force employed by a metropolitan housing authority;
2. A police officer employed by a qualified nonprofit police department or police officer employed by a proprietary police department or security department of a hospital operated by a public hospital agency or nonprofit hospital agency;
3. An officer, agent, or employee of the state with a duty to conserve the peace or to enforce laws and the authority to arrest violators;
4. A veterans’ home police officer;
5. A member of a police force employed by a regional transit authority.

Background

40-hour teaching permit

Under current law, the State Board issues 40-hour temporary teaching permits to nonlicensed individuals who have a minimum of a bachelor’s degree majoring in, or with significant work experience, in the subject area to be taught.⁵ It is valid only for teaching the subject area listed on the permit and only in the school district or school that has engaged the individual to teach. Currently, the State Board must issue a 40-hour permit for (1) qualified individuals teaching in a STEM school, (2) qualified individuals teaching an industry-recognized

³ The definition of “emergency service telecommunicator” refers to a definition in a section of law that was repealed by H.B. 33 of the 135th General Assembly. A corrective amendment could be drafted to update the reference to reflect the recent repeal.

⁴ R.C. 3937.41(A)(4), not in the bill.

⁵ R.C. 3319.301.

credential program in a requesting dropout prevention and recovery community school, or (3) industry professionals teaching computer science courses.⁶

The bill would add a fourth 40-hour permit for public safety officers teaching public safety officer courses.

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	12-12-23

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⁶ R.C. 3319.301 and 3319.236, latter section not in the bill.