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135th General Assembly

Bill Analysis

[Click here for H.B. 238's Fiscal Note](#)

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OCCUPATIONAL REGULATION REVIEW

General provisions

- Expands the definition of “occupational licensing board” for purposes of the General Assembly’s statutorily required review of those boards to include boards that issue certifications and business licenses that require an applicant to satisfy a personal qualification.
- Requires that an occupational licensing board be triggered to expire on December 31 of the sixth year after it was created or last renewed, rather than on that date or on December 31, 2024, whichever is later, as under current law.
- Expands the scope of the Legislative Service Commission’s (LSC) statutorily required review of occupational regulations to include business licenses that require an applicant to satisfy a personal qualification.
- Clarifies that LSC shall continue to issue reports regarding all occupations subject to regulation by the state, including business licenses that require the applicant to satisfy a personal qualification, after January 1, 2025.
- Renews for six years the occupational licensing boards reviewed this biennium by the House State and Local Government committee.
- Prohibits an occupational licensing board from adopting, providing, approving for credit, counting for credit, or requiring completion of continuing education curriculum or coursework, seminars, webinars, or online instruction that promote specified concepts related to protected class membership.

General Assembly review

The bill expands the definition of “occupational licensing board” for purposes of the General Assembly’s statutorily required review of those boards to include boards that issue certifications and business licenses that require an applicant to satisfy a personal qualification. A “certification” is a voluntary program in which a private organization or the state grants nontransferable recognition to an individual who meets personal qualifications established by the private organization or state law. “Personal qualification” means criteria related to an

applicant’s personal background and characteristics including completion of an approved educational program, satisfactory performance on an examination, work experience, other evidence of attainment of requisite skills or knowledge, moral standing, criminal history, and completion of continuing education. However, the term “personal qualification” does not include a requirement that an owner or controlling persons of a business submit to a criminal records check or meet requirements related to criminal history or moral standing, unless that owner or controlling person is the applicant.¹

Under continuing law, The House of Representatives and the Senate must review one-third of the state’s occupational licensing boards each biennium – including all boards that are scheduled to expire at the end of the biennium. The bill requires that an occupational licensing board be triggered for expiration on December 31 of the sixth year after it was created or last renewed by an act of the General Assembly, rather than on that date or on December 31, 2024, whichever is later, as under current law.

Under current law, an “occupational licensing board” for purposes of the General Assembly’s review is a board, commission, committee, council, or any other similar public body, agency, division, or office of state government that issues one or more occupational licenses. Current law defines an “occupational license” as a nontransferable authorization in law that an individual must possess to perform a lawful occupation for compensation based on meeting personal qualifications established by law.²

LSC review

Similarly, the bill expands the scope of the Legislative Service Commission’s (LSC) statutorily required review of occupational regulations to include business licenses that require an applicant to satisfy a personal qualification. The bill also clarifies that LSC must continue to issue reports regarding all occupations subject to regulation by the state, including business licenses that require the applicant to satisfy a personal qualification, after January 1, 2025.³

Current law requires LSC, over a six-year period including calendar years 2019 through 2024, to publish a biennial report comparing one-third of the state’s occupational regulations with the general state policy outlined in continuing law. For purposes of the law governing LSC’s review, the term “occupational regulation” is defined as a statute or rule that controls an individual’s practice of a trade or profession.⁴

¹ R.C. 101.62.

² R.C. 101.62 and R.C. 101.63 and 4798.01, not in the bill.

³ R.C. 103.27.

⁴ R.C. 103.27 and R.C. 103.26, not in the bill.

Renewal of occupational licensing boards

The bill renews for six years the occupational licensing boards that were reviewed by the House State and Local Government Committee during the 135th General Assembly.⁵ Those boards are as follows:

- The Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission;
- The State Cosmetology and Barber Board;
- The Accountancy Board;
- The Department of Agriculture;
- The Architects Board;
- The Ohio Landscape Architects Board;
- The Ohio Casino Control Commission;
- The following divisions within the Department of Commerce:
 - Division of Financial Institutions;
 - Division of Real Estate and Professional Licensing;
 - Division of Industrial Compliance; and
 - Division of Unclaimed Funds.
- The Department of Public Safety;
- The Department of Public Safety Bureau of Motor Vehicles;
- The State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors;
- The Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services;
- The State Racing Commission;
- The Secretary of State;
- The Motor Vehicle Repair Board.⁶

Continuing education – prohibited topics

The bill prohibits an occupational licensing board from adopting, providing, approving for credit, counting for credit, or requiring completion of continuing education curriculum or

⁵ Section 4.

⁶ See the [House State and Local Government Committee Occupational License Review Report \(PDF\)](#) and the [Senate Government Oversight Committee Occupational Licensure Review Report \(PDF\)](#), which are available on the respective committee's pages on the General Assembly's website: legislature.ohio.gov.

coursework, seminars, webinars, or online instruction that promotes any of the following concepts:

- An individual of a protected class is inherently superior or inferior to another protected class, and members of a protected class should be discriminated against solely or partly because of the individual's membership in a protected class.
- An individual, by virtue of the individual's membership in a protected class, is inherently racist, sexist, or oppressive, whether consciously or unconsciously.
- An individual's moral standing or worth is necessarily determined by the individual's membership in any protected class.
- An individual, by virtue of the individual's membership in any protected class, bears responsibility for the actions committed in the past by other members of the same protected class.
- Meritocracy or traits such as hard work ethic are racist or sexist, or were created by individuals of a particular protected class to oppress members of another protected class.

For purposes of the bill's prohibition, "protected class" means an individual's race, color, religion, sex, military status, national origin, disability, age, or ancestry, as those terms are used in Ohio's Civil Rights Law. "Occupational licensing board" means a board, commission, committee, council, or any other similar public body, agency, division, or office of state government that issues one or more occupational licenses, excluding the Supreme Court with respect to governing the practice of law. An "occupational license" is a nontransferable authorization in law that an individual must possess to perform a lawful occupation for compensation based on meeting personal qualifications established by law.⁷

Accountancy Board

- Beginning January 1, 2026, modifies the requirements a person must satisfy to receive a certified public accountant (CPA) certificate, and changes the standard a person must meet to sit for the CPA examination.
- Allows a CPA certified in another state whose principal place of business is not in Ohio to act as an Ohio CPA without an Ohio certificate, provided the person has obtained a bachelor's degree or higher, completed an educational program with an accounting concentration, and passed all parts of the Uniform CPA Examination.

Requirements to obtain a certified public account certificate

Beginning January 1, 2026, the bill makes the following changes to the educational requirements a person must satisfy to receive a certified public account (CPA) certificate:

⁷ R.C. 4743.06, by reference to R.C. 4112.02 and 4798.01, not in the bill.

- Eliminates a requirement that the Accountancy Board adopt rules specifying graduate degrees that satisfy the education requirement for a CPA certificate (continuing law requires the Board adopt rules identifying appropriate subjects).
- Eliminates a requirement that the Board waive the CPA educational requirements for a person who possesses an associate degree or a nonapproved bachelor's degree and passes a special examination.
- Requires a candidate for a CPA certificate who completes an educational program that includes an accounting concentration with related business administration courses to possess a bachelor's, master's, or higher degree (thus eliminating the ability of an individual who holds an associate degree and meets other requirements from obtaining a certificate).
- Eliminates a requirement that, to be a Board-approved degree, the degree must include successful completion of 150 semester hours of undergraduate or graduate education.⁸

Also beginning January 1, 2026, the bill modifies the work experience requirement a person must satisfy to receive a CPA certificate. Currently, a person who holds a Board-approved bachelor's degree or higher that includes 150 semester hours of higher education must have one year of Board-approved experience in a public accounting firm, government, business, or academia. A person who receives the education requirement waiver eliminated by the bill must have four years of relevant experience.

Under the bill, a person with a bachelor's degree of any kind must have two years of relevant experience. A person with a master's degree or higher of any kind must have one year of relevant experience.⁹

Continuing law requires a person seeking a CPA certificate pass a uniform certified public accountant examination. However, beginning January 1, 2026, the bill allows a person to sit for the examination before meeting the education or experience requirements if both of the following apply:

- The person is enrolled in an educational program that will satisfy the education requirement when the person completes the program;
- The person is 180 days or fewer from completing the program on the date the person applies to take the examination.

Currently, a person may take the examination before satisfying the education and experience requirements if the person has graduated with a bachelor's or a higher degree

⁸ R.C. 4701.06(A)(2)(a) and (B)(2) and Section 8.

⁹ R.C. 4701.06(A)(2)(b) and (B) and Section 8.

approved in rules adopted by the Board that includes successful completion of at least 120 hours of higher education.¹⁰

Combining the bill's changes with continuing law, after January 1, 2026, a person seeking a CPA certificate will need to satisfy all the following requirements:

- Be at least 18 years old;
- Possess a bachelor's, master's, or higher degree with an educational concentration in accounting and related business administration courses;
- Complete two years of relevant work experience if the candidate has a bachelor's degree, or one year if the candidate has a higher degree;
- Achieve a passing score on the uniform CPA examination.¹¹

Interstate CPA mobility

The bill allows a person who holds a license, permit, certificate, or registration issued by another state who has an office in another state (an "out-of-state CPA") to act as an Ohio CPA without obtaining an Ohio certificate and permit if all the following apply:

- The person has obtained a bachelor's degree or higher;
- The person has completed an educational program with an accounting concentration;
- The person has passed all parts of the Uniform CPA Examination.

Currently, an out-of-state CPA may act as an Ohio CPA without an Ohio certificate and permit only if the CPA is certified in a state with "substantially equivalent" CPA requirements as determined in rules adopted by the Board.¹²

Department of Agriculture

- Eliminates the requirement that an agricultural commodity tester be certified by the Director of Agriculture and replaces it with a requirement that a tester do both of the following:
 - Successfully complete training based on a USDA manual on grain inspecting; and
 - Successfully complete three hours of continuing education every five years.
- Requires a licensed agricultural commodity handler to submit to the Director a list of names of individuals who complete the training and continuing education and requires the Director to maintain the list along with records of the handler's license.

¹⁰ R.C. 4701.06(A)(3) and (C) and Section 8.

¹¹ R.C. 4701.06(A) and Section (8).

¹² R.C. 4701.14.

- Alters the existing licensure exemption under the auctioneers law for auctions conducted via an auction mediation company (e.g., eBay) by specifying that the exemption applies to all sales of personal property, provided certain buyer financial protections are met.
- Eliminates the following stipulations from the existing exemption:
 - That exempt sales are limited to \$10,000 per calendar year; and
 - That the person conducting the sale cannot receive any compensation for sales made on behalf of another person.

Agricultural commodity tester

The bill eliminates the requirement that an agricultural commodity tester be certified by the Director of Agriculture and replaces it with a new requirement that a tester complete periodic training. Under current law, an agricultural commodity tester is a person who operates a moisture meter and other quality testing devices to determine the quality of an agricultural commodity (generally corn, soybeans, or wheat). For initial certification and renewal, a person must pass an examination on commodity testing and pay a \$25 application fee. In lieu of the examination for renewal, current law allows a person to complete training approved by the Director.

The bill requires an agricultural commodity tester to do both of the following:

1. Successfully complete three hours of training based on the USDA's "Inspecting Grain Practical Procedures for Grain Handlers" manual and approved by the Director of Agriculture; and
2. Successfully complete three hours of continuing education every five years.

A licensed agricultural commodity handler must submit to the Director a list of names of individuals who complete the training and continuing education. The Director must issue an official grader's identification number to each of those individuals. The Director also must maintain the list along with records of the handler's license.¹³

Internet sales exemption from auction laws

The bill alters the existing licensure exemption under the auctioneers law for auctions conducted via an auction mediation company (e.g., eBay). The bill does so by specifying that the exemption applies to all sales of personal property, provided that the auction mediation company provides a fraud protection or money-back guarantee to the buyer of the property being sold.

It eliminates the following stipulations from the existing exemption:

- That exempt sales are limited to \$10,000 per calendar year; and

¹³ R.C. 926.12, 926.19, and 926.30, repealed and reenacted; Ohio Administrative Code (O.A.C.) 901:7-2-11.

- That the person conducting the sale cannot receive any compensation for sales made on behalf of another person.¹⁴

Current law defines an “auction” as a method of sale of real or personal property, goods, or chattels, at a predetermined date and time, by means of a verbal exchange, regular mail, telecommunications, the internet, an electronic transmission, or a physical gesture between an auctioneer and members of the audience or prospective purchasers, the exchanges and gestures consisting of a series of invitations for offers made by the auctioneer and offers by members of the audience or prospective purchasers, with the right to acceptance of offers with the auctioneer. “Auction” includes a sale of real or personal property, goods, or chattels in which there has been a solicitation or invitation by advertisement to the public for an advance in bidding using sealed bidding, provided that the bids are opened and there is a call for an advancement of the bids.¹⁵

Architects Board

- Prohibits the Architects Board from charging a fee to obtain an initial certificate of qualification to practice architecture.

Architects Board

The bill prohibits the Architects Board from charging a fee to obtain an initial certificate of qualification to practice architecture. Under current law, the Architects Board must adopt a rule establishing the fee. The Board has set the application fee for an individual seeking a traditional license at \$50. An applicant licensed or registered in another jurisdiction seeking an Ohio certificate through reciprocal recognition of the other license or registration currently must pay \$250. The bill removes the requirement that the Board establish the fee in rule.¹⁶

Casino Control Commission

- Requires the Ohio Casino Control Commission to set the key employee license application fee at no more than \$1,750.

Key employee license application fee

The bill specifies the fee amount for a key employee license application. Under current law, the Ohio Casino Control Commission is required to set the fee amount by rule in an amount “to cover all actual costs generated by each licensee and all background checks.”¹⁷ At the time of writing this analysis, the Commission has adopted a rule stating that the key

¹⁴ R.C. 4707.02(B)(10).

¹⁵ R.C. 4707.01, not in the bill.

¹⁶ R.C. 4703.16 and O.A.C. 4703-1-04.

¹⁷ R.C. 3772.13(F).

employee license application fee is \$2,000.¹⁸ The bill requires that the Commission set the fee to no more than \$1,750.

The Commission also has stipulated by rule that a casino operator employing the applicant must pay the applicant's key employee license application fee on the applicant's behalf. Furthermore, a casino operator, management company, gaming-related vendor, or holding company otherwise sponsoring the applicant may pay this fee on behalf of the applicant. The bill does not appear to affect these rules, aside from the fee amount.

It may be worth noting that under current law, the Commission also is permitted to set another fee for key employee licensure, separate from the application fee.¹⁹ The key employee license fee is set by the Commission in rule at \$500, and a casino operator employing the applicant must pay the license fee on behalf of the key employee license holder. Furthermore, a casino operator, management company, gaming-related vendor, or holding company otherwise sponsoring the applicant may pay this fee on behalf of the key employee license holder.²⁰ The bill does not appear to affect any provisions of law regarding the key employee license fee.

“Key employee” definition

A “key employee” under continuing law means any executive, employee, agent, or other individual who has the power to exercise significant influence over decisions concerning any part of the operation of a person that has applied for or holds a casino operator, management company, or gaming-related vendor license or the operation of a holding company of a person that has applied for or holds a casino operator, management company, or gaming-related vendor license. Examples of a key employee include:

- An officer, director, trustee, partner, or an equivalent fiduciary;
- An individual who holds a direct or indirect ownership interest of 5% or more;
- An individual who performs the function of a principal executive officer, principal operating officer, principal accounting officer, or an equivalent officer;
- Any other individual the Commission determines to have the power to exercise significant influence over decisions concerning any part of the operation.²¹

Department of Commerce

Division of Industrial Compliance

- Extends the duration of a backflow technician certification to five years from three years.

¹⁸ O.A.C. 3772-5-03(A).

¹⁹ R.C. 3772.17(E), not in the bill.

²⁰ O.A.C. 3772-5-03(D).

²¹ R.C. 3772.01(P), not in the bill.

- Establishes a \$75 fee for the five-year renewal, which is the fee for the current three-year renewal.
- Reduces the application fee to take the examination for a boiler and pressure vessel inspector certification from \$150 to \$100.
- Caps the annual fee the Director of Commerce may charge for a certificate of competency or commission as a boiler and pressure vessel inspector at \$50.
- Reduces the application fee for a steam engineer, high pressure boiler operator, or low pressure boiler operator license from \$75 to \$25.
- Reduces the initial and renewal fee for a manufactured home installer's license to \$150 from \$250.

Division of Real Estate and Professional Licensing

- Modifies the initial education requirement for an individual to become a licensed real estate broker.
- Eliminates the requirement that an applicant for a real estate broker license must complete a minimum of two years of post-secondary education as part of the individual's initial education requirement.
- Reduces the initial education required for an individual to become a licensed real estate salesperson from 120 hours in specified categories of instruction to 100 hours.
- Authorizes real estate brokers and salespersons to meet the specific topic-related education requirements for licensure by taking courses that are a part of a certificate program, not just a degree program, as under current law.
- Allows an institution with a certificate of registration from the Ohio Board of Career Colleges and Schools to offer certificate programs to offer the pre-licensure education required for real estate brokers and salespersons.
- Requires, if an institution of higher education is approved by the Board to offer only certificate programs through distance education, that a prelicensure education course be certified by the Association of Real Estate License Law Officials, the International Distance Education Certification Center, or another recognized certifying body.
- Extends the duration of a general real estate appraiser certificate, residential real estate appraiser license, residential real estate appraiser certificate, and real estate appraiser assistant registration from one to two years.
- Reduces the initial fee for a residential real estate appraiser certificate to an amount up to a maximum of \$300 over a two-year period from the current law amount of up to a maximum of \$350 over a two-year period.
- Reduces the fee for a real estate appraiser assistant registration from an amount up to a maximum of \$100 annually to an amount up to a maximum of \$100 over a two-year period.

- Requires the Superintendent of Real Estate and Professional Licensing to establish a method by which a certificate holder, registrant, or licensee under the Real Estate Appraiser Law may electronically file the renewal application and pay the fee and the assessed amount required for renewal.

Division of Industrial Compliance

Backflow technicians

The bill extends the duration of a backflow technician certification to five years from three years. Under continuing law, the Superintendent of Industrial Compliance adopts rules regulating the certification of backflow technicians. Among other requirements, the rules the Superintendent adopts must include specifications and procedures for renewing a certification. Current rules specify a three-year renewal cycle and a \$75 renewal fee. The bill requires the Superintendent to adopt a rule specifying that a backflow technician certification be renewed every five years and establish the five-year renewal fee at \$75.²²

A backflow technician certification issued before the bill's effective date must be renewed in accordance with any rules adopted before the bill's effective date.²³

Boiler and pressure vessel inspectors

The bill reduces the application fee to take the examination for a boiler and pressure vessel inspector certification from \$150 to \$100. It also caps the annual fee the Director of Commerce may charge to renew a boiler or pressure vessel inspector certificate of competency or commission at \$50.²⁴

Steam engineers and boiler operators

The bill reduces the application fee for a steam engineer, high pressure boiler operator, or low pressure boiler operator license to \$25.

Currently, the application fee is \$75. However, the Superintendent may increase the fee if the increase bears a reasonable relationship to the cost of administering and enforcing the state's boiler regulations. The bill prohibits the Superintendent from increasing the steam engineer, high pressure boiler operator, or low pressure boiler operator license application fee.²⁵

Manufactured home installers

The bill reduces the initial and renewal fees for a manufactured home installer's license to \$150. Under current law, the Superintendent establishes initial and renewal fees in rule and

²² R.C. 3703.21 and O.A.C. 1301:3-7-05.

²³ Section 5.

²⁴ R.C. 4104.07 and 4104.08.

²⁵ R.C. 4104.18.

has set both the initial fee and the renewal fee at \$250. The bill removes the Superintendent's authority to set the fee and instead sets it at \$150.²⁶

Division of Real Estate and Professional Licensing

Real estate broker education

The bill modifies the initial education requirement for an individual to become a licensed real estate broker by requiring an applicant to complete 30 hours of instruction in each of the following categories:

- Financial management;
- Human resources;
- Applied business economics;
- Business law.

Current law requires an applicant to complete three quarter hours, or its equivalent in semester hours, of instruction in each of those categories. Under continuing law, an applicant also must complete specified hours of instruction in real estate practice; Ohio and other local real estate laws; appraisal (if the applicant does not have an Ohio real estate appraisal license or certificate); and real estate finance.²⁷

The bill eliminates the current law requirement that an applicant for a real estate broker license must complete a minimum of two years of post-secondary education as part of the individual's initial education requirement.²⁸

Real estate salesperson education

The bill reduces the initial education requirement for an individual to become a licensed real estate salesperson from 120 hours in specified categories of instruction to 100 hours as follows:

- Reduces the hours of instruction on the topic of real estate appraisal (if the applicant does not have an Ohio real estate appraisal license or certificate) from 20 to ten hours;
- Reduces the hours of instruction on the topic of real estate finance from 20 to ten hours.

The bill retains the requirement that an individual must complete 40 hours of instruction on the topic of real estate practice and 40 hours of instruction on the topic of Ohio and other local real estate laws.²⁹

²⁶ R.C. 4781.08 and O.A.C. 4781-8-01.

²⁷ R.C. 4735.07(B)(6).

²⁸ R.C. 4735.07(B)(7).

²⁹ R.C. 4735.09(F)(6).

Real estate broker and salesperson eligible courses

The bill authorizes real estate brokers and salespersons to meet the specific topic-related education requirements for licensure by taking courses that are a part of a certificate program, not just a degree program, as under current law. Under current law, applicants for a real estate broker or salesperson license must complete specified courses at an “institution of higher education.” The bill expands the definition of “institution of higher education” to include an institution with a certificate of registration from the State Board of Career Colleges and Schools that is approved to offer certificate programs. Under current law, “institution of higher education” means all of the following:

- A state institution of higher education;
- A nonprofit institution issued a certificate of authorization under Ohio’s Educational Corporations Law;³⁰
- Certain private institutions exempt from regulation by the State Board of Career Colleges and Schools;³¹
- An institution with a certificate of registration from the State Board of Career Colleges and Schools that is approved to offer degree programs.³²

However, if an institution of higher education is approved by the State Board of Career Colleges and Schools to offer only certificate programs through distance education, the design and delivery method of a course offered by the institution must be certified by the Association of Real Estate License Law Officials, the International Distance Education Certification Center, or another recognized certifying body to be considered an eligible course to meet the education requirements for licensure as a real estate broker or salesperson.³³

The bill expands continuing law allowing the Department of Higher Education, in consultation with the Division of Real Estate and Professional Licensing within the Department of Commerce, to perform a review of real estate education programs offered by an institution of higher education to allow the State Board of Career Colleges and Schools with respect to an institution that offers a certificate program to perform such a review.³⁴

Real estate appraisers

The bill extends the duration of a general real estate appraiser certificate, residential real estate appraiser license, residential real estate appraiser certificate, and real estate

³⁰ R.C. Chapter 1713, not in the bill.

³¹ R.C. 3333.046, not in the bill.

³² R.C. 4735.01, 4735.07, and 4735.09.

³³ R.C. 4735.01 and 4735.011.

³⁴ R.C. 4735.23.

appraiser assistant registration from one to two years. Certificates, licenses, and registrations issued before the bill's effective date expire on the date it would have under current law.³⁵

The bill reduces the initial fee for a residential real estate appraiser certificate to an amount up to a maximum of \$300 over a two-year period from the current law amount of up to a maximum of \$350 over a two-year period. The bill retains the current law renewal fee for a residential real estate appraiser certificate, which is an amount of up to a maximum of \$350 over a two-year period. The bill reduces the initial and renewal fee for a real estate appraiser assistant registration from an amount up to a maximum of \$100 annually to an amount up to a maximum of \$100 over a two-year period. The bill retains the current law initial and renewal fee for general real estate appraiser certificates and residential real estate appraiser licenses of up to a maximum of \$350 over a two-year period.³⁶

The bill requires the Superintendent of Real Estate and Professional Licensing to establish a method by which a certificate holder, registrant, or licensee under the Real Estate Appraiser Law may electronically file the renewal application and pay the fee and the assessed amount required for renewal.³⁷

State Cosmetology and Barber Board

- Expands the services that a licensed natural hair stylist can provide to include arranging, dressing, pressing, curling, cutting, or singeing hair and styling wigs or hairpieces.
- Removes the requirement that an applicant for a boutique services registration have undergone formal training or an apprenticeship in boutique services.
- Eliminates the requirements that a boutique services registrant perform shampooing under a licensed individual's supervision and in preparation for a service from that individual.

Practice of natural hair styling

The bill expands the definition of the "practice of natural hair styling" to include embellishing or beautifying hair, wigs, or hairpieces by arranging, dressing, pressing, curling, cutting, singeing, braiding, weaving, bonding and fusion of individual strands or wefts, or similar work. Currently, only a licensed hair designer or cosmetologist may style wigs or hairpieces and arrange, dress, press, curl, cut, or singe hair. Under continuing law, the practice of natural hair styling includes utilizing techniques performed by hand that result in tension on hair roots such as twisting, wrapping, weaving, bonding and fusion of individual strands or wefts, extending, locking, or braiding of the hair.

³⁵ R.C. 4763.08, with conforming changes in R.C 4763.05, 4763.06, and 4763.07; Section 7.

³⁶ R.C. 4763.09.

³⁷ R.C. 4763.06.

The bill maintains the prohibition on natural hair stylists using dyes or reactive chemicals to alter the color or to straighten, curl, or alter the structure of the hair, which requires a hair designer or cosmetologist license under continuing law.³⁸

Boutique services registration

The bill removes the requirement that an applicant for a boutique services registration include an affidavit or certificate proving that the applicant underwent formal training or an apprenticeship in boutique services in the applicant's application. Under continuing law, to receive a boutique services registration an applicant must be at least 16 years old and submit a written application with the applicant's contact information, birthdate, out-of-state license information, and a record of the applicant's disciplinary history with occupational licenses.³⁹

The bill also eliminates the requirements that a boutique services registrant perform shampooing under the supervision of a licensed individual and in preparation for a service from that individual.⁴⁰

Board of Nursing

Doulas

- Replaces the title *certified doula* with the title *state of Ohio certified doula* for purposes of the law prohibiting an individual from using such a title without holding a Board of Nursing-issued doula certificate.
- Requires the member of the Doula Advisory Group who represents the Board of Nursing to serve as the group's chairperson.

Multistate nursing licenses

- Authorizes the Board of Nursing to display on its website the names of employers that employ nurses holding multistate licenses and that have reported to the Board the number of those nurses that they employ.

Doulas

Use of title – certified doulas

The bill replaces the title *certified doula* with the title *state of Ohio certified doula* for purposes of the law prohibiting an individual from using or assuming the title unless the individual holds a doula certificate issued by the Board of Nursing.⁴¹ At present, an individual who is certified as a doula by a private doula certification organization or if not certified, has the education and experience considered appropriate by the Board, may apply to the Board for

³⁸ R.C. 4713.01(FF), (HH), and (JJ).

³⁹ R.C. 4713.69.

⁴⁰ R.C. 4713.01(EE) and (NN).

⁴¹ R.C. 4723.89(B).

a doula certificate. Holding a Board-issued certificate is required only in order to use the authorized title; it is not required in order to practice as a doula in Ohio.

Doula Advisory Group

The bill requires the member of the Doula Advisory Group who represents the Board of Nursing to serve as the group's chairperson. In establishing this requirement, the bill eliminates current law provisions that (1) require the group, by a majority vote of a quorum of its members, to select an individual to serve as its chairperson and (2) authorize the group to replace a chairperson in the same manner as a chair is selected.⁴² Under existing law, the Advisory Group is charged with providing advice, guidance, and recommendations to the Board regarding doula certification and to the Department of Medicaid regarding Medicaid coverage of doula services.⁴³

Multistate nursing licenses

Employer reporting

The bill authorizes the Board of Nursing to display on its website the names of persons or governmental entities that employ nurses holding multistate licenses and that have reported to the Board, as required by current law, the number of those nurses that the persons or entities employ. The bill further authorizes the Board to update the list annually to reflect any changes in employer reporting.⁴⁴ Note that a multistate license is issued to a registered nurse or licensed practical nurse by the nurse's home state licensing board. Holding such a license authorizes the nurse to practice in all states that are parties to the Nurse Licensure Compact.⁴⁵ Ohio has been a party to the Compact since January 1, 2023.⁴⁶

Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission

- Prohibits the adoption of administrative rules requiring jail support staff to obtain an occupational license.

Jail support staff

The bill prohibits the Director of Rehabilitation and Correction from adopting any rule requiring support staff in a jail to obtain an "occupational license."⁴⁷ Under continuing law, an occupational license is any nontransferable authorization in law that an individual must possess

⁴² R.C. 4723.90(C).

⁴³ R.C. 4723.90(J).

⁴⁴ R.C. 4723.114(D).

⁴⁵ R.C. 4723.11, not in the bill.

⁴⁶ Section 3 of S.B. 3 of the 134th General Assembly.

⁴⁷ R.C. 5120.10.

in order to perform a lawful occupation for compensation based on meeting personal qualifications established by a statute or rule.⁴⁸

As part of the Director's general duty to establish minimum standards for Ohio's jails, the Director has adopted rules requiring jail support staff to meet personal qualifications. Under the rules, support staff having routine contact with inmates must have general training in jail policies and procedures, 24 hours of specialized training, and two hours of in-service training per year. Jail support staff that have occasional inmate contact must receive only jail policy and procedure training. The Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy offers this training.⁴⁹

Department of Public Safety

- Extends the duration of private investigation and security licenses to two years from one year under current law.
- Increases the maximum renewal fee for private investigation and security licenses from \$275 to \$550 for a two-year license.
- Reduces the maximum fee for initial private investigation and security licenses from \$375 to \$200.

Private investigation and security services licenses

The bill extends the duration of private investigation and security services licenses from one year to two years. Currently, all private investigation and security services licenses expire on the first day of March after issuance, and on March 1 annually thereafter. A license issued before the bill's effective date expires on the first day of March after it was issued in accordance with current law. After being renewed, the license expires on the first day of March every two years. A license issued after the bill's effective date expires two years after the date of issuance.

Under the bill, the maximum renewal fee for private investigation and security licenses is \$550 for a two-year license. Currently, the maximum renewal fee is \$275 for a one-year license.

The bill also reduces the maximum fee for an initial private investigation and security license from \$375 to \$200.

Under continuing law, an individual or business may obtain one the following licenses:

- A "Class A" license to engage in the business of private investigation and the business of security services;
- A "Class B" license to engage only in the business of private investigation;
- A "Class C" license to engage only in the business of security services.

⁴⁸ R.C. 4798.01, not in the bill.

⁴⁹ R.C. 5120.10 and O.A.C. 109:2-9-02 and 5120:1-8-18.

Each class A, B, and C licensee must register the licensee's investigator or security guard employees with the Department of Public Safety. The Department maintains a record of each licensee and its registered employees.⁵⁰

Department of Public Safety – Bureau of Motor Vehicles

- Eliminates the requirement that a motor vehicle salesperson be licensed to sell motor vehicles in Ohio.
- Eliminates the application fee for a salvage motor vehicle auction license.

Motor vehicle sales and auction licenses

The bill eliminates the current law licensure requirement for a motor vehicle salesperson. Thus, a person may sell motor vehicles for a licensed motor vehicle dealer (new, used, or leasing) without having a separate motor vehicle salesperson license. The bill makes corresponding changes related to motor vehicle dealers, and eliminates the requirement that they keep lists of their licensed salespersons as proof that their employees are licensed. However, the bill retains current law prohibitions that prohibit the following:

1. A person from acting as a salesperson for more than one licensed motor vehicle dealer at a time (unless the dealerships are owned or operated by the same company);
2. A motor vehicle dealer from soliciting the sale of motor vehicles through or compensating anyone other than a salesperson in connection with the sale of a motor vehicle; and
3. A motor vehicle dealer from knowingly engaging in any wholesale motor vehicle transaction with a person who is required to be licensed as a dealer, but is not, or whose dealer's license has been suspended, revoked, or application denied.⁵¹

The bill additionally eliminates the \$100 application fee for a salvage motor vehicle auction license. Under current law, the fee is due at the time of initial application and at the time of renewal every two years.⁵²

State Racing Commission

- Relocates and makes changes to the law governing the authority of the State Racing Commission (RAC) to issue licenses to persons involved in the horse racing industry.
- Lists each license to be issued and explicitly requires RAC to adopt rules under the Administrative Procedure Act concerning the activities regulated under each license, the

⁵⁰ R.C. 4749.03; Section 6 and R.C. 4749.01 and 4749.06, not in the bill.

⁵¹ R.C. 4517.02, 4517.04, 4517.10, 4517.14, 4517.15, 4517.20, 4517.33, 4517.43, 4549.50, and 4781.17; R.C. 4517.09, repealed.

⁵² R.C. 4738.05.

qualifications and other requirements to receive and maintain the license, and the applicable annual fees.

- Eliminates certain licenses and lowers or eliminates the fees for certain others.

State Racing Commission licenses

The bill relocates and makes changes to the law governing the authority of the State Racing Commission (RAC) to issue licenses to persons involved in the horse racing industry. Current law allows RAC to license persons engaged in horse racing, as well as employees of race tracks, and also allows RAC to adopt administrative rules. But, the law does not explicitly require RAC to adopt all of its licensing requirements by rule. RAC's existing rules name most of the licenses it issues and the associated fees, but for many licenses, the rules do not describe the activities regulated under the license or any qualifications to receive the license. Licensing matters appear to be largely managed by written or unwritten policy instead of by rule.⁵³

Retained and eliminated licenses

The bill lists each license to be issued and explicitly requires RAC to adopt rules under the Administrative Procedure Act concerning the activities regulated under each license, the qualifications and other requirements to receive and maintain the license, and the applicable annual fees. Under the bill, RAC is not permitted to issue any other type of occupational license, and no license is required to hold any position that is not listed in the bill.⁵⁴

The bill requires RAC to continue to issue the licenses listed below in normal text, and eliminates the licenses shown in ~~stricken text~~. The current annual fees for the licenses, as set by RAC rule or policy, are shown in parentheses.⁵⁵

- **Racing officials:** state steward (\$100), steward (\$50), program director (\$50), director of racing (\$100), general manager (decreased by the bill from \$100 to a maximum of \$75), racing secretary (\$100), assistant racing secretary (\$50), horsemen's bookkeeper (\$50), identifier (\$50), presiding judge (\$100), paddock judge (\$50), placing judge (\$50), ~~patrol judge (\$50)~~, judge (\$50), clerk of course (\$50), clerk of scales (\$50), ~~clerical (\$15)~~, ~~admission employee (\$15)~~, jockey room custodian (\$15), announcer (\$50), starter (\$50), ~~assistant starter (\$50)~~, timer (\$15), photographer (\$50), and videographer (\$15).
- **Participants:** primary and secondary stable name (\$50), owner (\$50), ~~owner's reciprocal validation (\$50)~~, partnership (\$25), person eligible to claim (\$25), authorized agent

⁵³ R.C. 3769.03 and 3769.031 and O.A.C. 3769-2-24(A). More generally, see O.A.C. Chapter 3769-2 for RAC's current licensing rules.

⁵⁴ R.C. 3769.031(A) and (B).

⁵⁵ R.C. 3769.031 and O.A.C. 3769-2-24. The program director, director of racing, presiding judge, judge, clerk of course, videographer, thoroughbred breeder, driver-trainer, driver, and dentist licenses do not appear in current RAC rules, but they are included in the [list of licenses on RAC's website](#), available at racingohio.net under "Licensing."

(\$50), thoroughbred breeder (\$10), trainer (\$50), assistant trainer (\$50), driver-trainer (\$50), driver (\$50), jockey (\$50), apprentice jockey (\$50), jockey agent (\$50), outrider (\$15), pony person (\$15), exercise rider (\$15), valet (\$15), ~~supply sales company owner (\$100)~~, and supply salesperson (\$15).

- **Equine care:** veterinarian (\$100), veterinarian's assistant (\$15), dentist (\$50), horseshoer (\$50), groom (\$10), and ~~porter (\$15)~~.
- **Wagering:** totalizator company (\$100), totalizator company management supervisory employee (\$100), totalizator company employee (\$50), ~~mutuel manager (\$50)~~, mutuel employee (\$15), and ~~telephone operator (\$15)~~.
- **Race track facility:** ~~chief of security (\$50)~~, security (\$15), ~~doctor (\$50)~~, medical and first aid (decreased by the bill from \$15 to a maximum of \$10), ~~concession manager (\$50)~~, concession employee (\$15), and maintenance (\$15).
- A **fair license**, which must not require the payment of any fee, to be issued for the following positions: racing official, owner, quarter horse participant, driver-trainer, groom, totalizator, and mutuel employee. The fair license replaces the current restricted licenses: ~~racing official (\$10), owner (\$10), quarter horse participant (\$10), groom (\$5), totalizator (\$100), and mutuel employee (\$10)~~.
- **Special licenses:** special A – professional (\$100), special B – technical (\$50), special C – clerical/miscellaneous (\$15), and special D – miscellaneous restricted (\$10).

OHIO HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY

- Adds to the Ohio Housing Finance Agency four nonvoting members: two members of the Senate (one from each major political party), and two members of the House of Representatives (one from each major political party), to be appointed by the Senate President and the Speaker of the House, respectively.

Ohio Housing Finance Agency membership

The bill adds the following four nonvoting members to the Ohio Housing Finance Agency:

- Two Senate members (one from each major political party) to be appointed by the Senate President;
- Two House of Representatives members (one from each major political party) to be appointed by the Speaker of the House.

Each nonvoting member added by the bill must hold office until the end of that member's term as a General Assembly member. The Speaker of the House may remove a member who is a member of the House of Representatives, and the Senate President may remove a member who is a senator.

Under continuing law, the agency consists of 11 voting members, including the Director of Commerce and the Director of Development, or their respective designees. The other nine members are appointed by the Governor for terms lasting six years. The Governor may remove appointed voting members from office for misfeasance, nonfeasance, or malfeasance in office.

The nonvoting members added by the bill may not be appointed as a chairperson or vice-chairperson of the agency. Additionally, these nonvoting members are excluded from both of the following that apply to voting members:

- Counting towards the six-member quorum necessary for action by the agency;
- Receiving compensation or reimbursement for expenses incurred in the discharge of official duties.⁵⁶

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS – SUNSET REVIEW

- Abolishes or renews various agencies that are subject to expiration under Sunset Review Law.
- Requires the Early Childhood Advisory Council to assume the responsibilities of the abolished Child Care Advisory Council.
- Abolishes the Board of Directors of the Ohio Health Reinsurance Program, and repeals various healthcare programs, which have been under suspension since 2014 following the enactment of the federal Affordable Care Act (ACA).
- Abolishes the Supervisory Investigative Panel of the State Dental Board, by name and requires the Secretary and Vice-Secretary of the Board to continue the panel's supervisory functions.
- Requires the State Dental Board to elect, from among its members, a Vice-President.
- Exempts certain agencies from future review and expiration under Sunset Review Law.
- Renames the Environmental Education Council the Ohio Environmental Education Fund Advisory Council.
- Abolishes the Director of Health's Advisory Group on Violent Deaths, and requires the Director to prepare and publish an annual report summarizing the activities of the Ohio violent death reporting system.
- Abolishes the Ohio Medical Quality Foundation on January 1, 2026, and requires the Treasurer of State to assume the contractual duties of the Foundation and its trustees.

⁵⁶ R.C. 175.03 and 175.04.

Boards and commissions – Sunset Review

Continuing law requires that a Sunset Review Committee be convened to function during each general assembly to review agencies, which are subject to Sunset Review Law and which are scheduled to sunset at the end of that general assembly. Agencies expire by operation of Sunset Review Law four years more or less after the effective date of the act that established the agency. The specific expiration date, for an agency scheduled to expire, is December 31 in the second year of a general assembly.

The bill renews certain agencies until December 31, 2026, and other agencies until December 31, 2028, thereby balancing the workload for the next two subsequent Sunset Review Committee's that will be convened during the 136th and 137th general assemblies. The bill also specifies agencies that are abolished on December 31, 2024. The bill maintains the appointment and membership requirements of the Sunset Review Committee under continuing law. And it maintains the stipulation in law that if the General Assembly does not renew or transfer a state "agency" (see "**Definition of agency**," below) before the agency's scheduled expiration date, the agency expires and the Office of Budget and Management cannot authorize the expenditure of any money for the agency on or after the expiration date.⁵⁷

Definition of agency

Under continuing law, the Sunset Review Law applies to an "agency," which generally means any board, commission, committee, or council, or any other similar state public body required to be established under state statutes for the exercise of any function of state government and to which members are appointed or elected. However, the definition specifies several exceptions to the general rule, including, for example, the General Assembly, any court, any public body created by or directly under the Ohio Constitution, the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, and any state board or commission that has the authority to issue any final adjudicatory order that may be appealed to the court of common pleas under the Administrative Procedure Act.⁵⁸

Abolition of specific agencies

Under continuing law, "abolish" means to repeal the statutes creating and empowering an agency, remove its personnel, and transfer its records to the Department of Administrative Services under the State Records Program Law.⁵⁹ The bill abolishes the agencies listed below.⁶⁰

⁵⁷ R.C. 101.83.

⁵⁸ R.C. 101.82.

⁵⁹ R.C. 101.82.

⁶⁰ Sections 3, 8, 10, 11, 12, and 13.

Abolished agencies	
Agency	Citation
Agricultural Commodity Marketing Programs, Coordinating Committee	R.C. 924.14
Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias Task Force	Sections 1, 2, 3, and 4 of S.B. 24 of the 133 rd G.A.
Child Care Advisory Council	R.C. 5104.08
Director of Health's Advisory Group on Violent Deaths	R.C. 3701.932
Electrical Safety Inspector Advisory Committee	R.C. 3783.08 ⁶¹
Engineering Experiment Station Advisory Committee	R.C. 3335.27 ⁶²
Federally Subsidized Housing Study Committee	Section 757.70 of H.B. 110 of the 134 th G.A.
Fireworks Rules, Committee to Assist the State Fire Marshal in Adopting	R.C. 3743.53
Governor's Residence Advisory Commission	R.C. 107.40
Health Reinsurance Program, Board of Directors of the Ohio	R.C. 3924.08
Hemp Marketing Program Operating Committee	R.C. 924.212
Infant Hearing Screening Subcommittee	R.C. 3701.507
Joint Legislative Study Committee Regarding Career Pathways and Post-secondary Workforce Training Programs in Ohio	Section 733.30 of H.B. 110 of the 134 th G.A.
Joint Legislative Task Force to Examine Transportation of Community School and Nonpublic School Students	Section 7 of S.B. 310 of the 133 rd G.A.
Land Use Advisory Committee to the President of	R.C. 3337.16

⁶¹ Conforming changes in R.C. 3783.01 and 3783.02.

⁶² Conforming changes in R.C. 3335.29.

Abolished agencies	
Agency	Citation
Ohio University	
Law Enforcement Training Funding Study Committee	Section 701.70 of H.B. 110 of the 134 th G.A.
Legislative Committee on Public Health Futures	Section 737.40 of H.B. 166 of the 133 rd G.A.
Ohio Aerospace and Aviation Technology Committee	R.C. 122.98
Ohio Business Gateway Steering Committee	R.C. 5703.57 ⁶³
Ohio Children's Behavioral Health Prevention Network Stakeholder Group	Section 1 of H.B. 12 of the 133 rd G.A.
Ohio Fire Code Rule Recommendation Committee	R.C. 3743.67
Ohio Physician and Allied Health Care Workforce Preparation Task Force	Section 381.610 of H.B. 166 of the 133 rd G.A.
Performance Indicators for Children's Hospitals Study Committee	Section 333.67 of H.B. 166 of the 133 rd G.A.
Private Investigation and Security Services Commission, Ohio	R.C. 4749.021
Public Assistance Benefits Accountability Task Force	Section 307.300 of H.B. 110 of the 134 th G.A.
Select Committee on Sports Gaming and Problem Gambling	Section 6 of H.B. 29 of the 134 th G.A.
State Report Card Study Committee	Section 265.510 of H.B. 166 of the 133 rd G.A.
Study Commission on the Future of Gaming in Ohio	Section 5 of H.B. 29 of the 134 th G.A.
Study Committee Regarding Students Retaking Grade 12	Section 733.51 of H.B. 166 of the 133 rd G.A.
Supervisory Investigative Panel of the State Dental Board	R.C. 4715.032
Task Force to Evaluate Current Operational	Section 381.630 of H.B. 110 of the 134 th G.A.

⁶³ Conforming changes in R.C. 718.051.

Abolished agencies	
Agency	Citation
Structures and Procedures at Wright State University's Lake Campus	
Unemployment Compensation Advisory Council	R.C. 4141.08
Unemployment Compensation Modernization Improvement Council	R.C. 4141.12

Renewal of specific agencies

Under continuing law, “renew” means to continue an agency, and may include amendment of the statutes creating and empowering it, or recommendations for changes in its operation or personnel.⁶⁴ The act renews certain agencies as listed below and specifies that they will expire on either December 31, 2026, or December 31, 2028 (as indicated in the table below) unless they are again renewed by subsequent legislation.⁶⁵

Agencies renewed		
Agency	Citation	Expiration year
Advisory Committee on Advance Practice Registered Nursing	R.C. 4723.493	2026
Aging, Ohio Advisory Council for the	R.C. 173.03	2026
Agricultural Commodity Marketing Programs, Operating Committee(s)	R.C. 924.07	2028
AMBER Alert Advisory Committee	R.C. 5502.521	2028
Amusement Ride Safety, Advisory Council of	R.C. 1711.51	2028
Apprenticeship Council	R.C. 4139.02	2026
Automated Title Processing Board	R.C. 4505.09(C)(1)	2028
Backflow Advisory Board	R.C. 3703.21	2028

⁶⁴ R.C. 101.82.

⁶⁵ Section 9.

Agencies renewed		
Agency	Citation	Expiration year
Banking Commission	R.C. 1123.01	2028
Brain Injury Advisory Committee	R.C. 3335.61	2026
Broadcast Educational Media Commission	R.C. 3353.02	2026
Capitol Square Review and Advisory Board	R.C. 105.41	2026
Cemetery Dispute Resolution Commission, Ohio	R.C. 4767.05	2028
Child Abuse and Child Neglect Prevention Regional Councils (8)	R.C. 3109.172(B)	2026
Child Support Guideline Advisory Council	R.C. 3119.023	2026
Children's Trust Fund Board	R.C. 3109.15	2026
Chiropractic Loan Repayment Advisory Board	R.C. 3702.987	2026
Citizen's Advisory Council (for each institution under the control of the Department of Developmental Disabilities)	R.C. 5123.092	2026
Civil Rights Commission Advisory Agencies and Conciliation Councils, Ohio	R.C. 4112.04(B)(4)	2028
Clean Ohio, Trail Advisory Board	R.C. 1519.06	2028
Coal Development Office, Technical Advisory Committee to Assist Director of the Ohio	R.C. 1551.35	2028
College Credit Plus Advisory Committee	R.C. 3365.15	2026
Commercial Dog Breeding Advisory Board	R.C. 956.17	2028
Commercial Insurance Joint Underwriting Association Board of Governors, Ohio	R.C. 3930.03	2026
Commodity Advisory Commission	R.C. 926.32	2028
Continuing Education Committee (concerned with continuing education of sheriffs)	R.C. 109.80(B)	2028
County Law Library Resources Boards, Statewide	R.C. 3375.481	2028

Agencies renewed		
Agency	Citation	Expiration year
Consortium of		
County Sheriff's Standard Car-Marking and Uniform Commission	R.C. 311.25	2028
Credential Review Board	R.C. 3319.65	2026
Credit Union Council	R.C. 1733.329	2028
Criminal Sentencing Commission, State	R.C. 181.21	2028
Cystic Fibrosis Legislative Task Force, Ohio	R.C. 101.38	2026
Dentist Loan Repayment Advisory Board	R.C. 3702.92	2026
Department Advisory Boards	R.C. 121.13	2026
Developmental Disabilities Council, Ohio	R.C. 5123.35	2026
Developmental Disabilities Technology First Task Force	R.C. 5123.026	2026
Dietetics Advisory Council	R.C. 4759.051	2026
Education Management Information System Advisory Council	R.C. 3301.0713	2026
Educator Standards Board	R.C. 3319.60	2026
Employment First Task Force	R.C. 5123.023	2026
Ex-Offender Reentry Coalition	R.C. 5120.07	2028
Expositions Commission, Ohio	R.C. 991.02	2026
Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, Advisory Board of Governor's Office of	R.C. 107.12	2026
Family and Children First Cabinet Council, Ohio	R.C. 121.37	2026
Farmland Preservation Advisory Board	R.C. 901.23	2028
Forestry Advisory Council	R.C. 1503.40	2028
Grain Marketing Program Operating Committee	R.C. 924.22	2028

Agencies renewed		
Agency	Citation	Expiration year
Grape Industries Committee, Ohio	R.C. 924.51	2028
Hispanic-Latino Affairs, Commission on	R.C. 121.31	2026
Historic Site Preservation Advisory Board, Ohio	R.C. 149.301	2026
History Connection, Ohio, Board of Trustees	R.C. 149.30	2026
Holocaust and Genocide Memorial and Education Commission	R.C. 197.03	2026
Home Medical Equipment Services Advisory Council	R.C. 4752.24	2026
Housing Trust Fund Advisory Committee	R.C. 174.06	2028
Industrial Commission Nominating Council	R.C. 4121.04	2028
Interagency Council of the New African Immigrants Commission	R.C. 4112.31	2028
Interagency Workgroup on Autism	R.C. 5123.0419	2026
Judicial Conference, Ohio	R.C. 105.91	2028
Lake Erie Commission, Ohio	R.C. 1506.21	2028
Legislative Programming Committee of the Ohio Government Telecommunications Service	R.C. 3353.07	2026
Livestock Exhibitions, Advisory Committee on	R.C. 901.71	2028
Materials Management Advisory Council	R.C. 3734.49	2028
Medical Liability Underwriting Association, Board of Governors of the	R.C. 3929.64	2026
Medical Liability Underwriting Association, Stabilization Reserve Fund, Directors of the	R.C. 3929.631	2026
Medically Handicapped Children's Medical Advisory Council	R.C. 3701.025	2026
Milk Sanitation Board	R.C. 917.03	2028

Agencies renewed		
Agency	Citation	Expiration year
Mine Subsidence Insurance Governing Board	R.C. 3929.51	2028
Minority Development Financing Advisory Board	R.C. 122.72	2028
Minority Health, Commission on	R.C. 3701.78	2026
New African Immigrants Commission	R.C. 4112.32	2028
Office of Enterprise Development Advisory Board	R.C. 5145.162	2028
Ohioana Library Association, Martha Kinney Cooper Memorial, Board of Trustees	R.C. 3375.62	2026
Ohio Arts Council	R.C. 3379.02	2026
Ohio Center for Autism and Low Incidence, Advisory Board to Assist and Advise in the Operation of the	R.C. 3323.33	2026
Ohio Commission on Service and Volunteerism	R.C. 121.40	2026
Ohio Dyslexia Committee	R.C. 3323.25	2026
Ohio Environmental Education Fund Advisory Council	R.C. 3745.21	2028
Ohio Geographically Referenced Information Program Council	R.C. 125.901	2028
Ohio Livestock Care Standards Board	R.C. 904.02	2028
Ohio Public Library Information Network Board of Trustees	R.C. 3375.65	2026
Ohio Tuition Trust Authority Investment Board	R.C. 3334.03	2026
Ohio War Orphans and Severely Disabled Veterans' Children Scholarship Board	R.C. 5910.02	2026
Oil and Gas Land Management Commission	R.C. 155.31	2028
Oil and Gas Marketing Program, Operating Committee of the	R.C. 1510.06	2028

Agencies renewed		
Agency	Citation	Expiration year
Oil and Gas, Technical Advisory Council on	R.C. 1509.38	2028
Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities Council	R.C. 3304.12	2026
Organized Crime Investigations Commission	R.C. 177.01	2028
Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee of the Department of Medicaid	R.C. 5164.7510	2026
Physician Assistant Policy Committee of the State Medical Board	R.C. 4730.05	2026
Power Siting Board	R.C. 4906.02	2028
Propane Council	R.C. 936.02	2028
Prequalification Review Board	R.C. 5525.07	2028
Public Utilities Commission Nominating Council	R.C. 4901.021	2028
Radiation Advisory Council	R.C. 3748.20	2026
Radio Communications System Steering Committee, Multi-Agency	Section 15.02, H.B. 640 of the 123 rd G.A.	2028
Rare Disease Advisory Council	R.C. 103.60	2026
Reclaim Advisory Committee	R.C. 5139.44	2028
Reclamation Commission	R.C. 1513.05	2028
Reclamation Forfeiture Fund Advisory Board	R.C. 1513.182	2028
Redistricting, Reapportionment, and Demographic Research, Legislative Task Force on	R.C. 103.51	2026
Respiratory Care Advisory Council	R.C. 4761.032	2026
Small Business Advisory Council	R.C. 107.63	2028
Small Business Stationary Source Technical and Environmental Compliance Assistance Council	R.C. 3704.19	2028

Agencies renewed		
Agency	Citation	Expiration year
Small Government Capital Improvements Commission, Ohio	R.C. 164.02(C)	2028
Soil and Water Conservation Commission, Ohio	R.C. 940.02	2028
STABLE Account Program Advisory Board	R.C. 113.56	2026
Standardbred Development Commission, Ohio	R.C. 3769.085	2028
State Audit Committee	R.C. 126.46	2026
State Fire Council	R.C. 3737.81	2028
STEM Committee of the Department of Education	R.C. 3326.02	2026
Student Tuition Recovery Authority	R.C. 3332.081	2026
Tax Credit Authority	R.C. 122.17(M)	2028
Thoroughbred Racing Advisory Committee, Ohio	R.C. 3769.084	2028
TourismOhio Advisory Board	R.C. 122.071	2028
Transportation Review Advisory Council	R.C. 5512.07	2028
Underground Technical Committee	R.C. 3781.34	2028
Uniform State Laws, State Council of	R.C. 105.21	2028
Utility Radiological Safety Board	R.C. 4937.02	2028
Vendors Representative Committee, Ohio	R.C. 3304.34	2026
Veterans Advisory Committee	R.C. 5902.02(J)	2028
Victims Assistance Advisory Council, State	R.C. 109.91	2028
Voting Machine Examiners, Board of	R.C. 3506.05	2028
Waterways Safety Council	R.C. 1547.73	2028
Wild, Scenic, or Recreational River Area, Advisory Council for each	R.C. 1547.84	2028

Agencies renewed		
Agency	Citation	Expiration year
Wildlife Council	R.C. 1531.03	2028
Workers' Compensation Board of Directors Nominating Committee	R.C. 4121.123	2026
Workers' Compensation Board of Directors, Bureau of	R.C. 4121.12	2026

Early Childhood Advisory Council

The bill abolishes the Child Care Advisory Council and requires a different entity, the Early Childhood Advisory Council, to assume the responsibilities of the abolished council. These responsibilities include advising the Director of Children and Youth on matters affecting the licensing of centers, type A homes, and type B homes and the certification of in-home aides. The Council must make an annual report to the Director that addresses the availability, affordability, accessibility, and quality of child care and that summarizes the recommendations and plans of action that the Council has proposed to the Director during the preceding fiscal year. The Director must provide copies of the report to the Governor, Speaker and Minority Leader of the House of Representatives, and the President and Minority Leader of the Senate and, on request, must make copies available to the public.⁶⁶

State Dental Board

The bill abolishes the Supervisory Investigative Panel of the State Dental Board, by name. Under existing law, the Panel consists solely of the Secretary and Vice-Secretary of the Board. Under the bill, the Secretary and Vice-Secretary will have the same supervisory responsibilities currently required of the Panel.

The bill also requires the State Dental Board to elect, from among its members, a Vice-President.⁶⁷

Repeal of Ohio's suspended health care programs

The bill abolishes the Board of Directors of the Ohio Health Reinsurance Program, and repeals the following programs, which have been under suspension since 2014 following the enactment of the federal Affordable Care Act (ACA):

- Ohio's Open Enrollment Program;

⁶⁶ R.C. 5104.39 and 5104.50; Section 7 of the bill; R.C. 5104.08, repealed.

⁶⁷ R.C. 4715.03, 4715.032, 4715.033, 4715.034, 4715.035, and 4715.30.

- Ohio's Health Reinsurance Program;
- Option for conversion from a group to individual contract under existing contract with a HIC;
- Option for conversion from a nongroup contract to a contract issued on a direct payment basis under an existing contract with a HIC.⁶⁸

Agencies exempt from future review and sunset

The bill continues the following agencies and exempts them from future review and automatic expiration under Sunset Review Law:

- Volunteer Fire Fighters' Dependents Fund Boards (private), R.C. 146.02(B);
- Volunteer Fire Fighters' Dependents Fund Boards (public), R.C. 146.02(A).⁶⁹

Agencies with a purpose related to federal law

The bill continues the following agencies and exempts them from future review and automatic expiration under Sunset Review Law. These agencies are deemed to have a purpose related to federal law:

- Early Childhood Advisory Council, R.C. 5104.50;
- Emergency Response Commission, R.C. 3750.02;
- Public Defender Commission, R.C. 120.01;
- Homeland Security Advisory Council, R.C. 5502.011(E);
- Unemployment Compensation Review Commission, R.C. 4141.06.

Under the bill, if federal law is modified to eliminate the purpose or necessity for the agency's existence, the chairperson of the agency must notify the Speaker of the House of Representatives, President of the Senate, and Governor. The notification must be in writing and include the following disclosure:

The agency known as the _____ was exempted from sunset review law because it had a purpose related to federal law. The federal law specifying that purpose has been amended or repealed eliminating the purpose or necessity for the agency. The sunset review committee, next convened under section 101.82 to

⁶⁸ R.C. 1731.03, 1731.05, 1731.09, 1739.05, 1751.18, 3923.51, 3923.57, 3924.01, 3924.02, 3924.06, and 3924.73. Repeal of R.C. 1751.15, 1751.16, 1751.17, 3923.122, 3923.58, 3923.581, 3923.582, 3923.59, 3924.07, 3924.08, 3924.09, 3924.10, 3924.11, 3924.111, 3924.12, 3924.13, and 3924.14, and Section 3 of S.B. 9 of the 130th General Assembly (as amended by H.B. 122 of the 134th General Assembly); Section 9 of the bill.

⁶⁹ R.C. 146.02(C).

101.87 of the Revised Code, shall schedule the agency for review and shall make a recommendation with respect to the agency in accordance with section 101.87 of the Revised Code.⁷⁰

Ohio Environmental Education Fund Advisory Council

The bill changes the name of the Environmental Education Council to the Ohio Environmental Education Fund Advisory Council. Under continuing law, the Council advises and assists the Director of Environmental Protection with administration of the Environmental Education Fund.⁷¹

Ohio violent death reporting system

As stated above, the bill abolishes the Director of Health’s Advisory Group on Violent Deaths.⁷² Under continuing law, the Ohio violent death reporting system, created by the Director of Health, must monitor the incidence and causes of the various types of violent deaths, make appropriate epidemiologic studies, analyze trends and patterns, and make recommendations to the Director. The bill requires the Director, (only for years in which the Department of Health receives sufficient federal funding for the Ohio violent death reporting system), to prepare and publish an annual report summarizing the activities of the Ohio violent death reporting system. The report must be completed by October 1 of the following year and submitted to the General Assembly, the Governor, and the chairpersons of the General Assembly committees having primary jurisdiction over issues relating to health care.⁷³

Ohio Medical Quality Foundation

The bill retains the Ohio Medical Quality Foundation until December 31, 2025, and then abolishes the Foundation as a statutory entity on January 1, 2026. The Foundation, not later than April 1, 2025, must transfer all of its remaining unencumbered funds, to the extent possible under law and contract, to the Medical Quality Assurance Fund, established by the bill, which must be in the custody of the Treasurer of State but not be part of the state treasury. This constitutes what is known as a “custodial fund,” meaning that money can be withdrawn from the fund without an appropriation by the General Assembly.

All money in the fund must be used as directed by the General Assembly, which may include funding of programs that the current Foundation is authorized to fund. This includes programs approved under criteria established to evaluate certain treatment providers licensed by the State Medical Board; programs designed to improve the quality of graduate medical education; programs designed to improve risk management and quality assurance in hospitals

⁷⁰ R.C. 101.82 and 101.83.

⁷¹ R.C. 3745.21 and 3745.22.

⁷² R.C. 3701.932, repealed.

⁷³ R.C. 3701.931.

and in outpatient settings, including physician offices; and other programs, meetings, and educational seminars that are designed to improve the quality of medical care in Ohio.

The bill requires the Foundation, after transferring its unencumbered funds to the Treasurer of State, to prepare a written report identifying: (1) any encumbered funds unable to be transferred, including the amounts still to be distributed pursuant to pending contracts, (2) the duration of any contracts in effect at the time of the report's preparation, and (3) the dates on which any remaining funds will be considered unencumbered.

The bill requires the Foundation to submit the report to the Treasurer of State, Governor, Senate President, and Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The bill requires the Treasurer of State to assume the contractual duties of the Foundation, as identified under any contracts in effect on January 1, 2026. If any payments owed by the Foundation remain in arrears on or after January 1, 2026, the Treasurer of State may make the payments on behalf of the Foundation. For these purposes and any others that the Treasurer of State considers necessary in winding down the affairs of the Foundation, the Treasurer of State must be given access to the Foundation's records.⁷⁴

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	07-11-23
Reported, H. State and Local Government	02-07-24
Passed House (61-30)	02-07-24
Reported, S. Government Oversight	---

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⁷⁴ R.C. 113.78 (enact) and 3701.89 (repeal January 1, 2026); Sections 8 and 14 of the bill.