



H.B. 155

124th General Assembly
(As Introduced)

Reps. Barnes, D. Miller, Key, Strahorn, Redfern, Woodard, Lendrum, Allen

BILL SUMMARY

- Requires state universities to admit certain substitute teachers, free of tuition charge and for credit, to courses required for teaching mathematics, science, or special education, if there are vacancies in the courses.
- Mandates the Ohio Board of Regents to adopt rules necessary to administer the program.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Reporting requirements of state universities

The bill requires all state universities authorized by the Department of Education to train teachers to annually report to the Department and the Board of Regents the classes they will offer in the upcoming year that satisfy the Department's licensing requirements to teach math, science, and special education.¹ In addition, the universities must notify the Board of the number of student vacancies in those classes within five days of the beginning of each academic term.

Eligibility of substitute teachers

Substitute teachers meeting the bill's prerequisites are entitled to fill one of the class vacancies. The primary prerequisite is that the teacher holds a current

¹ R.C. 3345.011. *These universities are: the University of Akron, Bowling Green State University, Central State University, University of Cincinnati, Cleveland State University, Kent State University, Miami University, Ohio University, Ohio State University, Shawnee State University, University of Toledo, Wright State University, and Youngstown State University. Currently all 13 of these universities are approved by the Department to train teachers.*

educator license that is valid only for substitute teaching and has worked full-time as a substitute teacher (in one or more school districts) each of the five school years preceding application for qualification. The teacher must apply for qualification in accordance with the rules adopted by the Board. Upon meeting these conditions the teacher will be qualified to take vacant spots in classes for one year. Teachers may annually apply to renew qualification. The Board must notify all qualifying substitute teachers of state university class vacancies in the areas of math, science, and special education.

Ranking of substitute teachers

The Board must rank all applicants who qualify as eligible substitute teachers. This ranking determines priority for admittance to class vacancies. When assigning a ranking, the Board may only consider the applicant's length of experience in full-time teaching and must assign the highest ranking to those with the most experience. The Board must provide a list of applicants and their rankings to each state university annually.

Class admission

Each state university must admit the lesser of three or the number of teachers equal to the reported number of vacancies to each class for which it has reported vacancies. Universities must give first priority for admittance to teachers who previously have successfully completed a teacher preparation course offered by the university. Teachers with the highest rankings, as assigned by the Board, receive the next priority. Eligible substitute teachers must be admitted to these vacancies free of tuition charge and must receive academic credit for the course upon successful completion.

If a teacher is admitted to a class but does not successfully complete it, that teacher is ineligible for admittance to another such class until the teacher completes two more years of full-time substitute teaching. There is, however, an exception to this rule: the Board may determine that the teacher had good cause for not completing the class.

Authority of the Board of Regents

The bill requires the Board to adopt all rules necessary to administer the program. Among the determinations the Board must make are: what constitutes a class vacancy, what constitutes full-time substitute teaching, how substitute teachers will apply for qualification, and any other policies or procedures the Board deems necessary.

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE	JOURNAL ENTRY
Introduced	03-13-01	p. 220

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