



# Ohio Legislative Service Commission

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## Bill Analysis

Holly Cantrell Gilman

### **S.B. 21**

130th General Assembly  
(As Introduced)

Sen. Lehner

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## **BILL SUMMARY**

- Removes the requirement that reading teachers under the third-grade reading guarantee must have been actively engaged in the reading instruction of students for the previous three years but retains all other current requirements.

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## **CONTENT AND OPERATION**

### **Third-grade reading guarantee teacher requirements**

The third-grade reading guarantee requires each school district and community school to use State Board – developed diagnostic assessments to assess a student's reading skills at the end of first, second, and third grade to identify students reading below grade level. Upon identification of a student as underperforming, the district or school must notify the student's parent and provide the student with intervention services, including intense remediation during the summer after third grade. To that end, the district or school must develop a reading improvement and monitoring plan within 60 days after receiving the student's results on the diagnostic assessment. Also, the law generally prohibits school districts and community schools from promoting to fourth grade a student scoring in the range designated by the State Board of Education on the third-grade English language arts (reading) achievement assessment, but makes exceptions for students in specific circumstances.

Under current law, a student who is retained or who has a reading improvement monitoring plan must be assigned a teacher who has been actively engaged in the reading instruction of students for the previous three years. The bill removes this three-year teaching requirement.

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Continuing law requiring that such a teacher either: (1) hold a reading endorsement and has attained a passing score on the corresponding assessment, or (2) have obtained a master's degree with a major in reading. In addition, prior to July 1, 2014, a teacher is also qualified to provide reading guarantee services if the teacher (1) demonstrates evidence of a credential earned from a list of scientifically research-based reading instruction programs approved by the Department of Education or (2) was rated "above value added," which means most effective in reading, as determined by the Department, for the last two school years. Effective July 1, 2014, a teacher is also qualified if the teacher has earned a passing score on a rigorous test of principles of scientifically research-based reading instruction.

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## HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	02-12-13

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