STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

State Board of Education membership

- Reduces the membership of the State Board of Education from eight members appointed by the Governor and 11 elected members to a total of five members, all appointed by the Governor.

Funding

- Abolishes the State Board of Education Licensure Fund.
- Requires the operating expenses of the State Board to be primarily paid from, and the license, certificate, and permit fees it receives to be deposited in, the Occupational Licensing and Regulatory Fund.
- Requires the State Board to establish license, certificate, and permit fee amounts that are sufficient, along with any appropriation made by the General Assembly, to cover all its operating expenses, rather than just the cost of administering its licensure system as under former law.

Ohio Teacher Residency Program

- Eliminates the Resident Educator Summative Assessment (RESA) as a measure of appropriate progression through the Ohio Teacher Residency Program.
- Permits the use of teacher evaluations conducted in accordance with continuing law as a measure of appropriate progression under the program.

Alternative resident educator license

- Permanently permits an individual to receive an alternative resident educator license in any subject area without limitation by the State Board of Education.

School district territory transfers

- Requires the State Board to generally approve a proposed transfer of territory from a school district that has received an overall performance rating of less than two stars on its state report card for two or more consecutive school years.

Ohio Professional Licensing System

- Requires the State Board to consult with the Department of Administrative Services about utilizing the Ohio Professional Licensing System.

State Board of Education membership

(R.C. 3301.01, 3301.02, 3301.03, and 3301.06; conforming changes in R.C. 3.15, 102.02, 3501.02, 3505.03, 3505.04, 3505.33, 3505.38, 3513.04, 3513.052, 3513.10, 3517.092, 3517.10, 3517.102, 3517.103, 3517.104, 3517.108, 3517.109, 3517.11, 3517.13, and 5747.29; R.C. 3513.259, repealed)

The act reduces the membership of the State Board of Education from eight members appointed by the Governor and 11 elected members to a total of five members, all appointed by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate. To that end, the act abolishes the offices of the elected members when their current terms expire or a vacancy in their offices occurs. Similarly, it abolishes the offices of the first three appointed members whose terms expire or who vacate their offices.

The act also removes the chairs of the House and Senate Education Committees as nonvoting members.

The act also modifies the representation requirements for appointed members to require that at least one member represent each of a rural, suburban, and urban school district, a community school, and a chartered nonpublic school. Under former law, at least four of the appointed members had to represent rural school districts.

The act changes the criteria for determining whether absences lead to a vacancy in an office from two absences that are declared insufficient by a vote of 12 members to three absences for any reason.

The act eliminates all requirements regarding the establishment of State Board districts and the election of State Board members.

Funding

(R.C. 3319.51 and 4743.05; conforming in R.C. 3301.071, 3301.074, 3319.088, 3319.29, and 3319.311)

The act abolishes the State Board of Education Licensure Fund. Instead, it requires the State Board's operating expense to be primarily paid from, and the license, certificate, and permit fees it receives to be deposited into, the Occupational Licensing and Regulatory Fund.

In addition, the State Board must establish license, certificate, and permit fee amounts that, along with any appropriations made by the General Assembly, will be sufficient to cover its annual estimated operating expenses, including operating its licensure system and performing any other duty prescribed by law. Former law required the State Board only to establish fee amounts sufficient to cover the cost of operating the licensure system.

The Occupational Licensing and Regulatory Fund serves as an operating fund for various state occupational licensing and regulatory boards that are primarily supported by license fees, fines, penalties, and other assessments.

Ohio Teacher Residency Program

(R.C. 3319.223; conforming changes in R.C. 3319.111)

The act eliminates the Resident Educator Summative Assessment (RESA) as a measure of appropriate progression through the Ohio Teacher Residency Program. Instead, it expressly permits the use of evaluations under a teacher evaluation system established in accordance with continuing law as a measure of appropriate progression under the program.

Alternative resident educator license

(R.C. 3319.263)

H.B. 583 of the 134th General Assembly, effective September 23, 2022, temporarily prohibited the State Board, from July 1, 2023, until July 1, 2028, from limiting the subject areas for which an individual may receive an alternative resident educator license. The act makes that prohibition permanent and, in effect, permits an individual to receive an alternative resident educator license in any subject area.

School district territory transfers

(R.C. 3311.242)

The act requires the State Board to approve a proposed school district territory transfer under continuing law if:

1. The district from which the territory is being transferred has received an overall performance rating of less than two stars on the state report card for two or more consecutive school years;

2. The territory is being transferred to an adjacent school district; and

3. No party opposing the proposed transfer has presented clear and convincing evidence that any information used to facilitate the transfer is incorrect or inaccurate.

Ohio Professional Licensing System

(Section 207.40)

The act requires the State Board to consult with the Department of Administrative Services on utilizing the Ohio Professional Licensing System. As part of the consultation, the State Board must consider opportunities to reduce the number of license and certification types.