

S. B. No. 144

As Introduced

_____ moved to amend as follows:

In line 2 of the title, delete "license grade" 1

In line 3 of the title, delete "bands" and insert "licensure" 2

Delete lines 6 through 46 3

After line 46, insert: 4

"Sec. 3319.079. (A) The holder of a valid educator 5
license with a grade band specification prescribed under 6
division (A)(1) of section 3319.22 of the Revised Code, as that 7
division existed prior to October 3, 2023, who renews that 8
license may receive either of the following: 9

(1) A grade band specification prescribed under division 10
(A)(1) of section 3319.22 of the Revised Code, as that division 11
existed prior to October 3, 2023; 12

(2) A grade band specification prescribed under ~~division~~ 13
~~(A)(1) of section 3319.22 of the Revised Code as that division~~ 14
section exists on the date of its renewal. 15

(B) The holder of a valid educator license with a grade 16



band specification prescribed under division (A) (1) of section 17
3319.22 of the Revised Code, as that division existed on and 18
after October 3, 2023, but prior to ~~the effective date of this~~ 19
~~amendment~~ October 24, 2024, who renews that license may receive 20
either of the following: 21

(1) A grade band specification prescribed under division 22
(A) (1) of section 3319.22 of the Revised Code, as that division 23
existed on and after October 3, 2023, but prior to ~~the effective~~ 24
~~date of this amendment~~ October 24, 2024; 25

(2) A grade band specification prescribed under ~~division~~ 26
~~(A) (1)~~ of section 3319.22 of the Revised Code as that ~~division~~ 27
section exists on the date of its renewal. 28

(C) Upon renewal of a license under this section, the 29
holder of a valid educator license shall receive a grade band 30
specification that includes one or more of the grades the holder 31
was authorized to teach under the prior license." 32

Delete lines 47 through 417 33

After line 417, insert: 34

"Sec. 3319.22. (A) (1) The state board of education shall 35
issue the following educator licenses: 36

(a) A resident educator license, which shall be valid for 37
two years and shall be renewable for reasons specified by rules 38
adopted by the state board pursuant to division (A) (3) of this 39
section. The state board, on a case-by-case basis, may extend 40
the license's duration as necessary to enable the license holder 41
to complete the Ohio teacher residency program established under 42
section 3319.223 of the Revised Code~~7~~. 43

(b) A professional educator license, which shall be valid 44

for five years and shall be renewable; 45

(c) A senior professional educator license, which shall be 46
valid for five years and shall be renewable; 47

(d) A lead professional educator license, which shall be 48
valid for five years and shall be renewable. 49

~~Subject to division (A) (4) of this section, licenses 50
issued under division (A) (1) of this section on and after the 51
effective date of this amendment shall specify whether the 52
educator is licensed to teach grades pre-kindergarten through 53
eight or grades seven through twelve. The changes to the grade 54
band specifications under this section shall not apply to a 55
person who holds a license under division (A) (1) of this section 56
prior to the effective date of this amendment . Further, the 57
changes to the grade band specifications under this section 58
shall not apply to any license issued to teach in the area of 59
computer information science, bilingual education, dance, drama 60
or theater, world language, health, library or media, music, 61
physical education, teaching English to speakers of other 62
languages, career-technical education, or visual arts or to any 63
license issued to an intervention specialist, including a gifted 64
intervention specialist, or to any other license that does not 65
align to the grade band specifications. 66~~

(2) (a) Except as provided in division (A) (2) (b) of this 67
section, the state board may issue any additional educator 68
licenses of categories, types, and levels the board elects to 69
provide. 70

(b) Not later than December 31, 2024, the state board 71
shall cease licensing school psychologists. The state board 72
shall coordinate with the state board of psychology to 73

transition to licensure under Chapter 4732. of the Revised Code 74
any school psychologists licensed under rules adopted in 75
accordance with sections 3301.07 and 3319.22 of the Revised 76
Code. 77

(3) Except as provided in division (I) of this section, 78
the state board shall adopt rules establishing the standards and 79
requirements for obtaining each educator license issued under 80
this section. The rules shall also include the reasons for which 81
a resident educator license may be renewed under division (A) (1) 82
(a) of this section. 83

(4) Subject to division (A) (5) of this section, licenses 84
issued under division (A) (1) of this section on and after the 85
effective date of this amendment shall specify whether the 86
educator is licensed to teach one of the following: 87

(a) Grades pre-kindergarten through five. The state board 88
shall at least issue licenses for grades pre-kindergarten 89
through five that authorize a license holder to provide either 90
general education instruction or both general and special 91
education instruction. 92

(b) Grades four through eight. The state board shall at 93
least issue a license for grades four through eight that 94
authorizes license holders to provide general education 95
instruction. 96

(c) Grades seven through twelve. 97

The changes to the grade band specifications under this 98
section do not apply to a person who holds a license under 99
division (A) (1) of this section prior to the effective date of 100
this amendment. Further, the changes to the grade band 101
specifications under this section do not apply to any license 102

issued to teach in the area of computer information science, 103
bilingual education, dance, drama or theater, world language, 104
health, library or media, music, physical education, teaching 105
English to speakers of other languages, career-technical 106
education, or visual arts or to any license issued to an 107
intervention specialist, including a gifted intervention 108
specialist, or to any other license that does not align to the 109
grade band specifications. 110

(5) Notwithstanding the requirement that each license 111
issued under division (A) (1) of this section specify the grade 112
band in which the educator is licensed to teach, a school 113
district or community school may employ an educator who has at 114
least one year of experience as a licensed classroom teacher to 115
teach outside of the designated grade band by not more than two 116
grade levels and for not more than two school years at a time. 117
The school district superintendent or governing authority of the 118
community school may renew that teacher's eligibility to teach 119
in accordance with this division on a biennial basis. Any 120
educator to whom division ~~(A) (4)~~ (A) (5) of this section applies 121
shall be considered a "properly certified or licensed teacher" 122
for the purposes of section 3319.074 of the Revised Code. 123

(B) Except as provided in division (I) of this section, 124
the rules adopted under this section shall require at least the 125
following standards and qualifications for the educator licenses 126
described in division (A) (1) of this section: 127

(1) An applicant for a resident educator license shall 128
hold at least a bachelor's degree from an accredited teacher 129
preparation program or be a participant in the teach for America 130
program and meet the qualifications required under section 131
3319.227 of the Revised Code. 132

(2) An applicant for a professional educator license	133
shall:	134
(a) Hold at least a bachelor's degree from an institution	135
of higher education accredited by a regional accrediting	136
organization;	137
(b) Have successfully completed the Ohio teacher residency	138
program established under section 3319.223 of the Revised Code,	139
if the applicant's current or most recently issued license is a	140
resident educator license issued under this section or an	141
alternative resident educator license issued under section	142
3319.26 of the Revised Code.	143
(3) An applicant for a senior professional educator	144
license shall:	145
(a) Hold at least a bachelor's degree from an institution	146
of higher education accredited by a regional accrediting	147
organization;	148
(b) Have previously held a professional educator license	149
issued under this section or section 3319.222 or under former	150
section 3319.22 of the Revised Code;	151
(c) Meet the criteria for the accomplished or	152
distinguished level of performance, as described in the	153
standards for teachers adopted by the state board under section	154
3319.61 of the Revised Code.	155
(4) An applicant for a lead professional educator license	156
shall:	157
(a) Hold at least a bachelor's degree from an institution	158
of higher education accredited by a regional accrediting	159
organization;	160

(b) Have previously held a professional educator license 161
or a senior professional educator license issued under this 162
section or a professional educator license issued under section 163
3319.222 or former section 3319.22 of the Revised Code; 164

(c) Meet the criteria for the distinguished level of 165
performance, as described in the standards for teachers adopted 166
by the state board under section 3319.61 of the Revised Code; 167

(d) Either hold a valid certificate issued by the national 168
board for professional teaching standards or meet the criteria 169
for a master teacher or other criteria for a lead teacher 170
adopted by the educator standards board under division (F) (4) or 171
(5) of section 3319.61 of the Revised Code. 172

(C) The state board shall align the standards and 173
qualifications for obtaining a principal license with the 174
standards for principals adopted by the state board under 175
section 3319.61 of the Revised Code. 176

(D) If the state board requires any examinations for 177
educator licensure, the state board shall provide the results of 178
such examinations received by the state board to the chancellor 179
of higher education, in the manner and to the extent permitted 180
by state and federal law. 181

(E) Any rules the state board of education adopts, amends, 182
or rescinds for educator licenses under this section or any 183
other law shall be adopted, amended, or rescinded under Chapter 184
119. of the Revised Code except as follows: 185

(1) Notwithstanding division (E) of section 119.03 and 186
division (A) (1) of section 119.04 of the Revised Code, in the 187
case of the adoption of any rule or the amendment or rescission 188
of any rule that necessitates institutions' offering preparation 189

programs for educators and other school personnel that are 190
approved by the chancellor of higher education under section 191
3333.048 of the Revised Code to revise the curriculum of those 192
programs, the effective date shall not be as prescribed in 193
division (E) of section 119.03 and division (A)(1) of section 194
119.04 of the Revised Code. Instead, the effective date of such 195
rules, or the amendment or rescission of such rules, shall be 196
the date prescribed by section 3333.048 of the Revised Code. 197

(2) Notwithstanding the authority to adopt, amend, or 198
rescind emergency rules in division (G) of section 119.03 of the 199
Revised Code, this authority shall not apply to the state board 200
of education with regard to rules for educator licenses. 201

(F)(1) The rules adopted under this section establishing 202
standards requiring additional coursework for the renewal of any 203
educator license shall require a school district and a chartered 204
nonpublic school to establish local professional development 205
committees. In a nonpublic school, the chief administrative 206
officer shall establish the committees in any manner acceptable 207
to such officer. The committees established under this division 208
shall determine whether coursework that a district or chartered 209
nonpublic school teacher proposes to complete meets the 210
requirement of the rules. The state board shall provide 211
technical assistance and support to committees as the committees 212
incorporate the professional development standards adopted 213
pursuant to section 3319.61 of the Revised Code into their 214
review of coursework that is appropriate for license renewal. 215
The rules shall establish a procedure by which a teacher may 216
appeal the decision of a local professional development 217
committee. 218

(2) In any school district in which there is no exclusive 219

representative established under Chapter 4117. of the Revised 220
Code, the professional development committees shall be 221
established as described in division (F)(2) of this section. 222

Not later than the effective date of the rules adopted 223
under this section, the board of education of each school 224
district shall establish the structure for one or more local 225
professional development committees to be operated by such 226
school district. The committee structure so established by a 227
district board shall remain in effect unless within thirty days 228
prior to an anniversary of the date upon which the current 229
committee structure was established, the board provides notice 230
to all affected district employees that the committee structure 231
is to be modified. Professional development committees may have 232
a district-level or building-level scope of operations, and may 233
be established with regard to particular grade or age levels for 234
which an educator license is designated. 235

Each professional development committee shall consist of 236
at least three classroom teachers employed by the district, one 237
principal employed by the district, and one other employee of 238
the district appointed by the district superintendent. For 239
committees with a building-level scope, the teacher and 240
principal members shall be assigned to that building, and the 241
teacher members shall be elected by majority vote of the 242
classroom teachers assigned to that building. For committees 243
with a district-level scope, the teacher members shall be 244
elected by majority vote of the classroom teachers of the 245
district, and the principal member shall be elected by a 246
majority vote of the principals of the district, unless there 247
are two or fewer principals employed by the district, in which 248
case the one or two principals employed shall serve on the 249
committee. If a committee has a particular grade or age level 250

scope, the teacher members shall be licensed to teach such grade 251
or age levels, and shall be elected by majority vote of the 252
classroom teachers holding such a license and the principal 253
shall be elected by all principals serving in buildings where 254
any such teachers serve. The district superintendent shall 255
appoint a replacement to fill any vacancy that occurs on a 256
professional development committee, except in the case of 257
vacancies among the elected classroom teacher members, which 258
shall be filled by vote of the remaining members of the 259
committee so selected. 260

Terms of office on professional development committees 261
shall be prescribed by the district board establishing the 262
committees. The conduct of elections for members of professional 263
development committees shall be prescribed by the district board 264
establishing the committees. A professional development 265
committee may include additional members, except that the 266
majority of members on each such committee shall be classroom 267
teachers employed by the district. Any member appointed to fill 268
a vacancy occurring prior to the expiration date of the term for 269
which a predecessor was appointed shall hold office as a member 270
for the remainder of that term. 271

The initial meeting of any professional development 272
committee, upon election and appointment of all committee 273
members, shall be called by a member designated by the district 274
superintendent. At this initial meeting, the committee shall 275
select a chairperson and such other officers the committee deems 276
necessary, and shall adopt rules for the conduct of its 277
meetings. Thereafter, the committee shall meet at the call of 278
the chairperson or upon the filing of a petition with the 279
district superintendent signed by a majority of the committee 280
members calling for the committee to meet. 281

(3) In the case of a school district in which an exclusive
representative has been established pursuant to Chapter 4117. of
the Revised Code, professional development committees shall be
established in accordance with any collective bargaining
agreement in effect in the district that includes provisions for
such committees.

If the collective bargaining agreement does not specify a
different method for the selection of teacher members of the
committees, the exclusive representative of the district's
teachers shall select the teacher members.

If the collective bargaining agreement does not specify a
different structure for the committees, the board of education
of the school district shall establish the structure, including
the number of committees and the number of teacher and
administrative members on each committee; the specific
administrative members to be part of each committee; whether the
scope of the committees will be district levels, building
levels, or by type of grade or age levels for which educator
licenses are designated; the lengths of terms for members; the
manner of filling vacancies on the committees; and the frequency
and time and place of meetings. However, in all cases, except as
provided in division (F) (4) of this section, there shall be a
majority of teacher members of any professional development
committee, there shall be at least five total members of any
professional development committee, and the exclusive
representative shall designate replacement members in the case
of vacancies among teacher members, unless the collective
bargaining agreement specifies a different method of selecting
such replacements.

(4) Whenever an administrator's coursework plan is being

discussed or voted upon, the local professional development 312
committee shall, at the request of one of its administrative 313
members, cause a majority of the committee to consist of 314
administrative members by reducing the number of teacher members 315
voting on the plan. 316

(5) A professional development committee may grant an 317
individual seeking to renew a license under this section credit 318
towards continuing education requirements for completion of a 319
statutorily required professional development training. Such an 320
individual shall receive continuing education credit for one 321
completed professional development course per licensure renewal 322
period. To qualify for continuing education credit under this 323
division, a professional development course shall be completed 324
during the time in which an individual holds a valid license 325
under this section. 326

(G) (1) The state board of education, educational service 327
centers, county boards of developmental disabilities, college 328
and university departments of education, head start programs, 329
and the Ohio education computer network may establish local 330
professional development committees to determine whether the 331
coursework proposed by their employees who are licensed or 332
certificated under this section or section 3319.222 of the 333
Revised Code, or under the former version of either section as 334
it existed prior to October 16, 2009, meet the requirements of 335
the rules adopted under this section. They may establish local 336
professional development committees on their own or in 337
collaboration with a school district or other agency having 338
authority to establish them. 339

Local professional development committees established by 340
county boards of developmental disabilities shall be structured 341

in a manner comparable to the structures prescribed for school 342
districts in divisions (F) (2) and (3) of this section, as shall 343
the committees established by any other entity specified in 344
division (G) (1) of this section that provides educational 345
services by employing or contracting for services of classroom 346
teachers licensed or certificated under this section or section 347
3319.222 of the Revised Code, or under the former version of 348
either section as it existed prior to October 16, 2009. All 349
other entities specified in division (G) (1) of this section 350
shall structure their committees in accordance with guidelines 351
which shall be issued by the state board. 352

(2) Educational service centers may establish local 353
professional development committees to serve educators who are 354
not employed in schools in this state, including pupil services 355
personnel who are licensed under this section. Local 356
professional development committees shall be structured in a 357
manner comparable to the structures prescribed for school 358
districts in divisions (F) (2) and (3) of this section. 359

These committees may agree to review the coursework, 360
continuing education units, or other equivalent activities 361
related to classroom teaching or the area of licensure that is 362
proposed by an individual who satisfies both of the following 363
conditions: 364

(a) The individual is licensed or certificated under this 365
section or under the former version of this section as it 366
existed prior to October 16, 2009. 367

(b) The individual is not currently employed as an 368
educator or is not currently employed by an entity that operates 369
a local professional development committee under this section. 370

Any committee that agrees to work with such an individual 371
shall work to determine whether the proposed coursework, 372
continuing education units, or other equivalent activities meet 373
the requirements of the rules adopted by the state board under 374
this section. 375

(3) Any public agency that is not specified in division 376
(G) (1) or (2) of this section but provides educational services 377
and employs or contracts for services of classroom teachers 378
licensed or certificated under this section or section 3319.222 379
of the Revised Code, or under the former version of either 380
section as it existed prior to October 16, 2009, may establish a 381
local professional development committee, subject to the 382
approval of the state board. The committee shall be structured 383
in accordance with guidelines issued by the state board. 384

(H) The state board, in accordance with Chapter 119. of 385
the Revised Code, shall adopt rules pursuant to division (A) (3) 386
of this section that do both of the following: 387

(1) Exempt consistently high-performing teachers and 388
school counselors from the requirement to complete any 389
additional coursework for the renewal of an educator license 390
issued under this section or section 3319.26 of the Revised 391
Code. The rules also shall specify that such teachers and school 392
counselors are exempt from any requirements prescribed by 393
professional development committees established under divisions 394
(F) and (G) of this section. 395

(2) For purposes of division (H) (1) of this section, the 396
term "consistently high-performing teacher or school counselor" 397
means any teacher or school counselor who meets both of the 398
following: 399

(a) For at least four of the past five years, the teacher
or school counselor has received the highest level of
performance rating under section 3319.112 or 3319.113 of the
Revised Code, as applicable, or an equivalent performance rating
under section 3311.80 of the Revised Code;

(b) The teacher or school counselor meets at least one, or
any combination, of the following for at least three of the five
years of the current licensure cycle:

(i) Holds a valid senior or lead professional educator
license;

(ii) Holds a locally recognized educational leadership
role that enhances educational practices by providing
professional learning experience at district, regional, state,
or higher educational level;

(iii) Serves in a leadership role for a national or state
professional academic education organization;

(iv) Serves on a state-level committee supporting
education;

(v) Receives a state or national educational recognition
or award.

(I) The state board shall issue a resident educator
license, professional educator license, senior professional
educator license, lead professional educator license, or any
other educator license in accordance with Chapter 4796. of the
Revised Code to an applicant if either of the following applies:

(1) The applicant holds a license in another state.

(2) The applicant has satisfactory work experience, a
government certification, or a private certification as

described in that chapter as a resident educator, professional 428
educator, senior professional educator, lead professional 429
educator, or any other type of educator in a state that does not 430
issue one or more of those licenses." 431

The motion was _____ agreed to.

SYNOPSIS 432

Educator licensure 433

R.C. 3319.22 434

Requires the State Board of Education to specify whether 435
an educator is licensed to teach grades pre-K through 5, grades 436
4 through 8, or grades 7 through 12. 437

Requires the State Board to at least issue licenses for 438
grades pre-K through 5 that authorize a license holder to either 439
provide general education instruction or both general and 440
special education instruction. 441

Requires the State Board to at least issue a license for 442
grades 4 through 8 that authorizes a license holder to provide 443
general education instruction. 444

Permits a school district or community school to employ 445
only individuals who have at least one year of experience as a 446
licensed classroom teacher to teach outside of the educator's 447
designated grade band. 448

License renewal 449

R.C. 3319.079 450

Removes provisions permitting a person who holds a license	451
issued between October 24, 2024, and the bill's effective date	452
to renew it with either the grade bands of the prior license or	453
the new bands established by the bill.	454