A BILL

To make changes to the law regarding peace officer and firefighter certifications during the declaration of an emergency regarding COVID-19 and to declare an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. (A) Subject to division (B) of this section, during the period of the emergency declared by Executive Order 2020-01D, issued on March 9, 2020, all of the following shall apply:

(1) Any person in a law enforcement agency in this state who holds the rank of captain or higher may administer any test or examination for a certification required for a peace officer to carry out the officer's duties, including any certification that the peace officer training commission issues under Chapter 109. of the Revised Code.

(2) Any person holding the rank of captain or higher in any fire department or volunteer fire department in this state may administer any licensing or certification test or
examination that a firefighter or volunteer firefighter requires for the firefighter or volunteer firefighter to carry out the person's duties, including any licensing or certification examination the state fire marshal may administer under section 3737.22 of the Revised Code.

(3) The medical director of the state board of emergency medical, fire, and transportation services may appoint a designee to administer any licensing or certification test or examination that an EMR, EMT, or AEMT, as described in section 4765.011 of the Revised Code, requires in order for an EMR, EMT, or AEMT to carry out the person's duties, including any certification that the board issues under Chapter 4765. of the Revised Code.

(B) Any test or examination administered under division (A)(1), (2), or (3) of this section shall comply with every order signed by the Governor and the Director of Health.

Section 2. This act is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety. The reason for the necessity is to have sufficient peace officer and firefighter personnel to protect the people of this state. Therefore, this act shall go into immediate effect.