

As Introduced

131st General Assembly

Regular Session

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H. B. No. 487

Representatives LaTourette, Roegner

Cosponsors: Representatives Blessing, Bocchieri, Ginter, Perales, Smith, K.

A BILL

To amend section 3313.618 and to enact section 1
3313.6111 of the Revised Code to require the 2
State Board of Education to establish the state 3
Seal of Biliteracy to be attached or affixed to 4
the high school transcripts of qualifying 5
students. 6

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

Section 1. That section 3313.618 be amended and section 7
3313.6111 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as follows: 8

Sec. 3313.618. (A) In addition to the applicable 9
curriculum requirements, each student entering ninth grade for 10
the first time on or after July 1, 2014, shall satisfy at least 11
one of the following conditions in order to qualify for a high 12
school diploma: 13

(1) Be remediation-free, in accordance with standards 14
adopted under division (F) of section 3345.061 of the Revised 15
Code, on each of the nationally standardized assessments in 16
English, mathematics, and reading; 17

(2) Attain a score specified under division (B) (5) (c) of 18

section 3301.0712 of the Revised Code on the end-of-course 19
examinations prescribed under division (B) of section 3301.0712 20
of the Revised Code. 21

(3) Attain a score that demonstrates workforce readiness 22
and employability on a nationally recognized job skills 23
assessment selected by the state board of education under 24
division (G) of section 3301.0712 of the Revised Code and obtain 25
either an industry-recognized credential, as described under 26
division (B) (2) (d) of section 3302.03 of the Revised Code, or a 27
license issued by a state agency or board for practice in a 28
vocation that requires an examination for issuance of that 29
license. 30

The state board shall approve the industry-recognized 31
credentials and licenses that may qualify a student for a high 32
school diploma under division (A) (3) of this section. 33

A student may choose to qualify for a high school diploma 34
by satisfying any of the separate requirements prescribed by 35
divisions (A) (1) to (3) of this section. If the student's school 36
district or school does not administer the examination 37
prescribed by one of those divisions that the student chooses to 38
take to satisfy the requirements of this section, the school 39
district or school may require that student to arrange for the 40
applicable scores to be sent directly to the district or school 41
by the company or organization that administers the examination. 42

(B) The state board of education shall not create or 43
require any additional assessment for the granting of any type 44
of high school diploma other than as prescribed by this section. 45
~~The~~ Except as provided in section 3313.6111 of the Revised Code, 46
the state board shall not create any endorsement or designation 47
that may be affiliated with a high school diploma. 48

Sec. 3313.6111. (A) The state board of education shall 49
establish the state seal of biliteracy, which may be attached or 50
affixed to the high school transcript of a student enrolled in a 51
public or chartered nonpublic school. The state seal of 52
biliteracy shall demonstrate the attainment of a high level of 53
proficiency by a graduate of a public or chartered nonpublic 54
high school in one or more languages in addition to English, 55
sufficient for meaningful use in college and a career. The 56
purpose of the state seal of biliteracy shall be to: 57

(1) Encourage students to study languages; 58

(2) Certify the attainment of biliteracy; 59

(3) Provide employers with a method of identifying 60
individuals with language and biliteracy skills; 61

(4) Provide institutions of higher education with an 62
additional method to recognize applicants for admission; 63

(5) Prepare students with twenty-first century skills; 64

(6) Recognize the value of foreign language and native 65
language instruction in public schools; and 66

(7) Strengthen inter-group relationships, affirm the value 67
of diversity, and honor the multiple cultures and languages of a 68
community. 69

(B)(1) A school district, community school established 70
under Chapter 3314. of the Revised Code, STEM school established 71
under Chapter 3326. of the Revised Code, college-preparatory 72
boarding school established under Chapter 3328. of the Revised 73
Code, or chartered nonpublic school may attach or affix the 74
state seal of biliteracy to the transcript of a student enrolled 75
in the school who meets the requirements prescribed under 76

division (C) (1) of this section. A district or school shall not 77
be required to attach or affix the state seal of biliteracy on 78
the transcript of a student enrolled in the school. 79

(2) Each school district, community school, STEM school, 80
college-preparatory boarding school, and chartered nonpublic 81
school shall maintain appropriate records to identify students 82
who have completed the requirements for earning a state seal of 83
biliteracy as prescribed under division (C) (1) of this section, 84
and if the district or school has a policy of attaching or 85
affixing the state seal of biliteracy to student transcripts, 86
the district or school shall make the appropriate designation on 87
the transcript of a student who completes the requirements. 88

(C) The state board of education shall do the following: 89

(1) Establish the requirements and criteria for earning a 90
state seal of biliteracy, including assessments of foreign 91
language and English proficiency. 92

(2) Direct the department of education to prepare and 93
deliver to participating school districts, community schools, 94
STEM schools, college-preparatory boarding schools, and 95
chartered nonpublic schools an appropriate mechanism for 96
assigning a state seal of biliteracy on a student's transcript 97
indicating that the student has been assigned the seal; 98

(3) Direct the department to provide any other information 99
the state board considers necessary for school districts, 100
community schools, STEM schools, college-preparatory boarding 101
schools, and chartered nonpublic schools to participate in the 102
assigning of a state seal of biliteracy; 103

(4) Adopt rules in accordance with Chapter 119. of the 104
Revised Code to implement the provisions of this section. 105

(D) A student shall not be charged a fee to be assigned a 106
state seal of biliteracy on their transcript. A student may be 107
required to pay a fee to demonstrate proficiency in a language, 108
including the cost of a standardized test to determine 109
proficiency in a language. 110

(E) As used in this section, "foreign language" refers to 111
any language other than English, including modern languages, 112
Latin, American sign language, native American languages, and 113
native languages. 114

Section 2. That existing section 3313.618 of the Revised 115
Code is hereby repealed. 116