

As Introduced

134th General Assembly

Regular Session

2021-2022

H. B. No. 442

Representatives Stephens, Ray

**Cosponsors: Representatives Kick, LaRe, Seitz, Cross, Schmidt, Baldrige,
Young, T., Lipps, Fowler Arthur, White, Hillyer, McClain**

A BILL

To amend section 3107.014 and to enact section 1
5103.57 of the Revised Code regarding 2
qualifications for adoption and foster care home 3
assessors and professional treatment staff. 4

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

Section 1. That section 3107.014 be amended and section 5
5103.57 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as follows: 6

Sec. 3107.014. (A) Except as provided in division (B) of 7
this section, only an individual who meets all of the following 8
requirements may perform the duties of an assessor under 9
sections 3107.031, 3107.032, 3107.082, 3107.09, 3107.101, 10
3107.12, 5103.0324, and 5103.152 of the Revised Code: 11

(1) The individual must be in the employ of, appointed by, 12
or under contract with a court, public children services agency, 13
private child placing agency, or private noncustodial agency; 14

(2) The individual must be one of the following: 15

(a) A licensed professional clinical counselor, licensed 16

professional counselor, independent social worker, social
worker, independent marriage and family therapist, or marriage
and family therapist licensed under Chapter 4757. of the Revised
Code;

(b) A psychologist licensed under Chapter 4732. of the
Revised Code;

(c) A student working to earn a four-year, post-secondary
degree, or higher, in a social or behavior science, or both, who
conducts assessor's duties under the supervision of a licensed
professional clinical counselor, licensed professional
counselor, independent social worker, social worker, independent
marriage and family therapist, or marriage and family therapist
licensed under Chapter 4757. of the Revised Code or a
psychologist licensed under Chapter 4732. of the Revised Code.
Beginning July 1, 2009, a student is eligible under this
division only if the supervising licensed professional clinical
counselor, licensed professional counselor, independent social
worker, social worker, independent marriage and family
therapist, marriage and family therapist, or psychologist has
completed training in accordance with rules adopted under
section 3107.015 of the Revised Code.

(d) A civil service employee engaging in social work
without a license under Chapter 4757. of the Revised Code, as
permitted by division (A) (5) of section 4757.41 of the Revised
Code;

(e) A former employee of a public children services agency
who, while so employed, conducted the duties of an assessor;

(f) An employee of a court or public children services
agency who is employed to conduct the duties of an assessor;

<u>(g) A person who holds at least a bachelor's degree in any</u>	46
<u>of the following human services fields:</u>	47
<u>(i) Social work;</u>	48
<u>(ii) Sociology;</u>	49
<u>(iii) Psychology;</u>	50
<u>(iv) Guidance and counseling;</u>	51
<u>(v) Education;</u>	52
<u>(vi) Religious education;</u>	53
<u>(vii) Business administration;</u>	54
<u>(viii) Criminal justice;</u>	55
<u>(ix) Public administration;</u>	56
<u>(x) Child care administration;</u>	57
<u>(xi) Nursing;</u>	58
<u>(xii) Family studies;</u>	59
<u>(xiii) Any other human services field related to working</u>	60
<u>with children and families.</u>	61
(3) The individual must complete training in accordance	62
with rules adopted under section 3107.015 of the Revised Code.	63
(B) An individual in the employ of, appointed by, or under	64
contract with a court prior to September 18, 1996, to conduct	65
adoption investigations of prospective adoptive parents may	66
perform the duties of an assessor under sections 3107.031,	67
3107.032, 3107.082, 3107.09, 3107.101, 3107.12, 5103.0324, and	68
5103.152 of the Revised Code if the individual complies with	69
division (A) (3) of this section regardless of whether the	70

individual meets the requirement of division (A) (2) of this 71
section. 72

(C) A court, public children services agency, private 73
child placing agency, or private noncustodial agency may employ, 74
appoint, or contract with an assessor in the county in which a 75
petition for adoption is filed and in any other county or 76
location outside this state where information needed to complete 77
or supplement the assessor's duties may be obtained. More than 78
one assessor may be utilized for an adoption. 79

(D) Not later than January 1, 2008, the department of job 80
and family services shall develop and maintain an assessor 81
registry. The registry shall list all individuals who are 82
employed, appointed by, or under contract with a court, public 83
children services agency, private child placing agency, or 84
private noncustodial agency and meet the requirements of an 85
assessor as described in this section. A public children 86
services agency, private child placing agency, private 87
noncustodial agency, court, or any other person may contact the 88
department to determine if an individual is listed in the 89
assessor registry. An individual listed in the assessor registry 90
shall immediately inform the department when that individual is 91
no longer employed, appointed by, or under contract with a 92
court, public children services agency, private child placing 93
agency, or private noncustodial agency to perform the duties of 94
an assessor as described in this section. The director of job 95
and family services shall adopt rules in accordance with Chapter 96
119. of the Revised Code necessary for the implementation, 97
contents, and maintenance of the registry, and any sanctions 98
related to the provision of information, or the failure to 99
provide information, that is needed for the proper operation of 100
the assessor registry. 101

<u>Sec. 5103.57. (A) As used in this section:</u>	102
<u>(1) "Professional treatment staff" means a specialized</u>	103
<u>foster home program agency employee or contractor with</u>	104
<u>responsibility for any of the following:</u>	105
<u>(a) Providing rehabilitative services to a child placed in</u>	106
<u>a specialized foster home program or to the child's family;</u>	107
<u>(b) Conducting home studies as an assessor for specialized</u>	108
<u>foster homes;</u>	109
<u>(c) Providing clinical direction to specialized foster</u>	110
<u>caregivers;</u>	111
<u>(d) Supervision of treatment team leaders.</u>	112
<u>(2) "Specialized foster home" has the same meaning as in</u>	113
<u>section 5103.02 of the Revised Code.</u>	114
<u>(B) Professional treatment staff employed by a public</u>	115
<u>children services agency, private child placement agency, or</u>	116
<u>private noncustodial agency who are not subject to the licensing</u>	117
<u>requirements of Chapter 4757. of the Revised Code shall meet the</u>	118
<u>requirements of sections 5153.112 and 5153.122 of the Revised</u>	119
<u>Code.</u>	120
Section 2. That existing section 3107.014 of the Revised	121
Code is hereby repealed.	122