

As Introduced

134th General Assembly
Regular Session
2021-2022

S. B. No. 361

Senator Hoagland

Cosponsors: Senators O'Brien, Cirino, Lang, Schaffer

A BILL

To amend section 3319.283 of the Revised Code to expand eligibility for veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces to be employed as teachers without licenses.

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

Section 1. That section 3319.283 of the Revised Code be amended to read as follows:

Sec. 3319.283. (A) The ~~As~~ used in this section, "school governing authority" means any of the following:

(1) The board of education of any a school district may;

(2) The governing authority of a community school established under Chapter 3314. of the Revised Code;

(3) The governing body of a STEM school established under Chapter 3326. of the Revised Code.

(B) A school governing authority may employ an individual who is not certificated or licensed as required by Chapter 3319. of the Revised Code, but who meets the following qualifications, as a teacher in the schools of the district a school operated by

the school governing authority: 18

(1) The individual is a veteran of the armed forces of the 19
United States ~~and was honorably discharged within three years of~~ 20
~~June 30, 1997;~~ to whom all of the following apply: 21

(a) The individual completed at least forty-eight months 22
of active duty military service. 23

(b) The individual received an honorable discharge or a 24
medical separation from the armed forces. 25

(c) The individual satisfies at least one of the following 26
conditions: 27

(i) The individual has a letter from a former commanding 28
officer that states that the individual is qualified to teach. 29

(ii) The individual earned a master training specialist 30
certification from the United States navy. 31

(iii) The individual served as a training officer or a 32
lead instructor while in the armed forces. 33

(iv) The individual served as a noncommissioned officer, a 34
warrant officer, or a senior enlisted person. 35

(2) ~~While in the armed forces the individual had~~ 36
~~meaningful teaching or other instructional experience~~ Subject to 37
division (E) of this section, the individual has demonstrated 38
mastery of the subject area to be taught, as determined by the 39
school governing authority. 40

(3) The individual ~~holds~~ completed at least a- 41
~~baccalaureate degree~~ sixty college credits with a grade point 42
average of at least 2.5 out of 4.0 from one or more accredited 43
institutions of higher education. 44

~~(B)-(C)~~ An individual employed under this section shall be 45
deemed to hold a teaching certificate or educator license for 46
the purposes of state and federal law and rules and regulations 47
and the school district governing authority's policies, rules, 48
and regulations. However, an individual employed under this 49
section is not a properly certified or licensed teacher for 50
purposes of ~~the a school district's~~ or STEM school's compliance 51
with section 3319.074 of the Revised Code. Each individual 52
employed under this section shall meet the requirement to 53
successfully complete fifteen hours, or the equivalent, of 54
coursework every five years that is approved by the local 55
professional development committee as is required of other 56
teachers licensed in accordance with Chapter 3319. of the 57
Revised Code. 58

~~(C)-(D)~~ As a condition of employment, each individual 59
employed under division (B) of this section shall be subject to 60
a criminal records check as prescribed by section 3319.391 of 61
the Revised Code. In the manner prescribed by the department of 62
education, the individual shall submit the criminal records 63
check to the department and shall register with the department 64
during the period in which the individual is employed by the 65
school governing authority. The department shall use the 66
information submitted to enroll the individual in the retained 67
applicant fingerprint database, established under section 68
109.5721 of the Revised Code, in the same manner as any teacher 69
licensed under sections 3319.22 to 3319.31 of the Revised Code. 70

If the department receives notification of the arrest or 71
conviction of an individual registered under this division, the 72
department shall promptly notify the school governing authority 73
and may take any action authorized under sections 3319.31 and 74
3319.311 of the Revised Code that the department considers 75

appropriate. The department shall not accept the application of 76
any individual under this division if the department learns that 77
the individual has pleaded guilty to, has been found guilty by a 78
jury or court of, or has been convicted of any of the offenses 79
listed in division (C) of section 3319.31 of the Revised Code. 80

(E) The superintendent of public instruction may revoke 81
the right of an individual employed under division ~~(A)~~(B) of 82
this section to teach if, after an investigation and an 83
adjudication conducted pursuant to Chapter 119. of the Revised 84
Code, the superintendent finds that the person is not competent 85
to teach the subject the person has been employed to teach or 86
did not fulfill the requirements of division ~~(A)~~(B) of this 87
section. No individual whose right to teach has been revoked 88
under this division shall teach in a public school, and no ~~board~~ 89
~~of education~~ school governing authority may engage such an 90
individual to teach ~~in the schools of its district~~ a school it 91
operates. 92

Notwithstanding division ~~(B)~~(C) of this section, a board 93
of education is not required to comply with the provisions of 94
sections 3311.81, 3311.82, 3319.11, and 3319.16 of the Revised 95
Code with regard to termination of employment if the 96
superintendent, after an investigation and an adjudication, has 97
revoked the individual's right to teach. 98

(F) The employing school governing authority shall assign 99
a mentor to an individual employed under division (B) of this 100
section for at least the first two years of employment. The 101
assigned mentor shall be a teacher to whom all of the following 102
apply: 103

(1) The teacher holds a valid educator license issued 104
under section 3319.22 of the Revised Code. 105

<u>(2) The teacher has at least three years of teaching</u>	106
<u>experience in any of grades pre-kindergarten through twelve.</u>	107
<u>(3) If the school governing authority is a board of</u>	108
<u>education, the teacher received a rating of skilled or higher on</u>	109
<u>the teacher's most recent evaluation under section 3319.111 of</u>	110
<u>the Revised Code.</u>	111
<u>(G) Any individual employed as a teacher under this</u>	112
<u>section as it existed prior to the effective date of this</u>	113
<u>amendment may continue such employment on and after that date,</u>	114
<u>subject to divisions (C) to (E) of this section.</u>	115
Section 2. That existing section 3319.283 of the Revised	116
Code is hereby repealed.	117