



House Primary and Secondary Education Committee  
House Bill 432 Written Proponent Testimony  
Buckeye Association of School Administrators  
Ohio School Boards Association

Chairman Bird, Vice Chair Fowler Arthur, Ranking Member Robinson, and members of the House Primary and Secondary Education Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of House Bill (HB) 432. On behalf of Ohio's public school superintendents and school board members, we are proud to support this common-sense approach that will help place qualified and trained professionals in our career-technical education (CTE) programs to prepare our students for the in-demand jobs of today and the future.

The demand for CTE programs is growing in Ohio and nationwide, but there is a shortage of industry professionals who are eligible to provide CTE services to students. Far too often, our members report to us that the certification process is one of the largest barriers to becoming a CTE teacher. HB 432 acknowledges the valuable contributions of experienced professionals in Ohio's workforce by providing them with new and flexible opportunities to transition into teaching roles. Not only does HB 432 further align Ohio's education and workforce fields, it also provides students access to real-world professionals from in-demand fields, equipping them with the skills, knowledge, and training they need to succeed in the jobs of the future.

HB 432 makes essential changes to the state's career-technical educator licensure laws to better assist career professionals in obtaining career-technical licenses and connecting them with students to prepare them for the jobs of the future. HB 432 makes several necessary changes, including:

- permitting an individual to apply for an initial career-technical workforce development educator license instead of only permitting an employing school district to apply on the applicant's behalf;
  - permitting an individual with an employment offer to enroll in one of two alternative educator preparation programs in lieu of a career-technical workforce development educator preparation program offered by a higher education institution; and
- requiring the State Board of Education to issue an advanced career-technical educator license to licensed educators who complete four years of teaching under the existing two-year technical educator license.

HB 432 helps strengthen and expand access to career-technical education in Ohio. By expanding the pool of qualified educators, HB 432 will further expand access to CTE programs

for students and help begin filling many of the jobs employers tell us are going unfilled. We urge you to support House Bill 432.

Chairman Bird and members of the committee, thank you for reviewing our testimony. Please contact us if you have any questions.

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