



FAQ FOR SB 168

1. What is the purpose of Senate Bill 168?

- Senate Bill 168 aims to enact various educational reforms and provide regulatory flexibility to schools for more efficient operation while maintaining a focus on providing quality education to children.

2. How was Senate Bill 168 developed?

- The bill was developed through conversations with stakeholders from public schools who identified areas of state law for elimination, adjustments, or revisions to allow schools to better focus on their core mission of educating students.

3. How does Senate Bill 168 address teacher shortages?

- The bill addresses teacher shortages by making necessary changes to the state's educational attainment requirements for specific educational licenses. It adjusts the mandated educational attainment for teachers seeking licensure as senior professional or lead professional educators, among others.

4. What changes does Senate Bill 168 propose regarding master's degree requirements for educators?

- The bill seeks to right-size the requirements by adjusting the mandated educational attainment for teachers seeking licensure as senior professional or lead professional educators, as well as for school

counselors, school psychologists, professional administrators, and alternative superintendents.

5. How does Senate Bill 168 empower educators?

- The bill eliminates mandatory laws that require every teacher to attain a master's degree, providing more flexibility and alleviating pressures on teachers. This is aimed at increasing the likelihood that teachers will remain in the field for many years.

6. Does Senate Bill 168 allow districts to hire individuals without educator licenses?

- Yes, the bill allows districts to hire individuals with at least a master's degree (but without an educator license) to teach, provided they pass a content exam prescribed by the State Board of Education and pass a background check.

7. How does Senate Bill 168 address teacher and principal evaluations?

- The bill permits local school districts to develop an alternative framework for evaluating teachers and principals, giving districts more flexibility while still ensuring that evaluations are conducted.

8. What changes does Senate Bill 168 propose regarding dyslexia training?

- The bill allows a school administrator to determine the number of hours their staff must receive in dyslexia interventions (between 6-18 hours), instead of it being solely decided by the Ohio Dyslexia Committee. It also permits districts to apply for a waiver from the Department of Education & Workforce if a student has already received this screening.

9. How does Senate Bill 168 impact professional development for educators?

- The bill empowers district professional development committees to credit time educators spend completing statutorily prescribed professional development training toward their licensure renewal.

10. What other provisions does Senate Bill 168 propose to eliminate?

- The bill proposes to eliminate several sections or provisions within Title 33 of the Revised Code that have been determined to be obsolete, defunct, or otherwise no longer necessary, in cooperation with the Department of Education & Workforce.

11. How can I get more information or ask questions about Senate Bill 168?

- For more information or to ask questions about Senate Bill 168, you can contact the sponsor or relevant legislative authorities.