

As Reported by the Senate Education Committee

136th General Assembly

Regular Session

2025-2026

Sub. H. B. No. 57

Representatives Jarrells, Williams

Cosponsors: Representatives McNally, Brewer, Russo, Baker, Isaacsohn, Grim, Somani, Upchurch, Brennan, Thomas, C., Rogers, Deeter, Denson, Piccolantonio, Sigrist, Mohamed, Miller, J., Abdullahi, Abrams, Barhorst, Bird, Brent, Brownlee, Cockley, Fischer, Ghanbari, Glassburn, Gross, Hall, D., Hall, T., Hiner, Jones, Kishman, LaRe, Lawson-Rowe, Lett, Mathews, A., Mathews, T., Newman, Richardson, Robb Blasdel, Salvo, Schmidt, Stephens, Synenberg, White, E.

Senators Huffman, Brenner

To amend section 3313.6022 and to enact sections	1
3313.7119, 3313.7120, 3314.148, 3326.62, and	2
3328.40 of the Revised Code regarding school	3
policies on the administration of overdose	4
reversal drugs and limits on student attendance	5
in released time courses in religious	6
instruction.	7

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

Section 1. That section 3313.6022 be amended and sections	8
3313.7119, 3313.7120, 3314.148, 3326.62, and 3328.40 of the	9
Revised Code be enacted to read as follows:	10

Sec. 3313.6022. (A) As used in this section, "released	11
time" means a period of time during which a student is excused	12
from school to attend a course in religious instruction	13
conducted by a private entity off school district property.	14

(B) A school district board of education shall adopt a	15
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policy that authorizes a student to be excused from school to 16
attend a released time course in religious instruction for at 17
least one period per week, provided that each of the following 18
applies: 19

(1) The student's parent or guardian gives written 20
consent. 21

(2) The sponsoring entity maintains attendance records and 22
makes them available to the school district the student attends. 23

(3) Transportation to and from the place of instruction, 24
including transportation for students with disabilities, is the 25
complete responsibility of the sponsoring entity, parent, 26
guardian, or student. 27

(4) The sponsoring entity makes provisions for and assumes 28
liability for the student. 29

(5) No public funds are expended and no public school 30
personnel are involved in providing the religious instruction. 31

(6) The student assumes responsibility for any missed 32
schoolwork. 33

While in attendance in a released time course in religious 34
instruction, a student shall not be considered absent from 35
school. No student may be released from a core curriculum 36
subject course to attend a religious instruction course. 37

(C) A school district board of education shall collaborate 38
with a sponsoring entity of a released time course in religious 39
instruction to identify a time to offer the course during the 40
school day. 41

(D) A policy adopted under division (B) of this section 42
shall not prohibit students from bringing external educational 43

and program materials into school. 44

(E) A-Unless otherwise specified in a school district's 45
policy adopted under division (B) of this section, a student 46
shall not exceed-be excused from school to attend a released 47
time course in religious instruction for longer than either of 48
the following: 49

(1) For students in an elementary or middle school, two 50
periods in total per week; 51

(2) For students in high school, the amount of time that 52
is equivalent to attending two units of high school credit per 53
week. 54

(F) A policy adopted under division (B) of this section 55
may authorize high school students to earn up to two units of 56
high school credit for the completion of a released time course 57
in religious instruction. In determining whether to award credit 58
for completion of such a course, the board shall evaluate the 59
course based on purely secular criteria that are substantially 60
the same criteria used to evaluate similar nonpublic high school 61
courses for purposes of determining whether to award credit for 62
such courses to a student transferring from a nonpublic high 63
school to a public high school. However, there shall be no 64
criteria requiring that released time courses be completed only 65
at a nonpublic school. The decision to award credit for a 66
released time course of religious instruction shall be neutral 67
to, and shall not involve any test for, religious content or 68
denominational affiliation. 69

For purposes of this division, secular criteria may 70
include, but are not limited to, the following: 71

(1) The number of hours of classroom instruction time; 72

(2) A review of the course syllabus that reflects course requirements and materials used;

(3) The methods of assessment used in the course;

(4) The qualifications of the course instructor, which shall be similar to the qualifications of other teachers within the district.

Notwithstanding division (C) (8) of section 3313.603 of the Revised Code, high school credit awarded to a student for a released time course in religious instruction may substitute for the same amount of credit in subjects listed in that division.

(G) A school district, member of a school district board of education, or school district employee is not liable in damages in a civil action for injury allegedly arising during a student's transportation to or from a place of instruction when private transportation is used under a released time policy adopted under this section. This division does not eliminate, limit, or reduce any other immunity or defense that a school district, member of a school district board of education, or school district employee may be entitled to under Chapter 2744. or any other provision of the Revised Code or under the common law of this state.

Sec. 3313.7119. (A) As used in this section, "overdose reversal drug" has the same meaning as in section 4729.01 of the Revised Code.

(B) A city, local, exempted village, or joint vocational school district that elects under section 3715.50 of the Revised Code to obtain and maintain a supply of an overdose reversal drug for use in an emergency situation shall require the district's board of education to adopt and implement a policy

regarding the supply's maintenance and drug's use at each school 102
operated by the district. A policy adopted under this section 103
shall include all of the following: 104

(1) A requirement that each school conform to the 105
requirements of division (C) (1) of section 3715.50 of the 106
Revised Code; 107

(2) The amount of the drug's supply to be maintained at 108
each school; 109

(3) A requirement that each school's supply be stored in a 110
secure location that is easily accessible to school employees or 111
contractors; 112

(4) A description of any training regarding the supply's 113
maintenance and drug's use that school employees or contractors 114
may be required to complete. 115

(C) A school district board of education may accept 116
donations of money from any person or entity to purchase 117
overdose reversal drugs. A board shall use the donations only 118
for that purpose and shall track the expenditure of donated 119
funds. 120

(D) As soon as practicable after using an overdose 121
reversal drug in an emergency situation, the superintendent of a 122
district described in this section shall report its use to the 123
district board of education and the parent or guardian of the 124
student to whom the drug was administered. The superintendent of 125
a district described in this section shall annually report the 126
district's use of overdose reversal drugs in emergency 127
situations to the department of education and workforce. 128

(E) If the superintendent of a district described in this 129
section determines that a persistent pattern of overdoses at the 130

district's schools has emerged, the superintendent shall notify 131
the parent or guardian of each student enrolled in the district. 132

(F) Not later than August 1, 2026, the department of 133
education and workforce, in consultation with the department of 134
health, shall develop a model policy regarding the maintenance 135
and use of a supply of overdose reversal drugs. A school 136
district board of education may adopt the department's model 137
policy to fulfill the requirements of this section. 138

Sec. 3313.7120. (A) A chartered or nonchartered nonpublic 139
school that elects under section 3715.50 of the Revised Code to 140
obtain and maintain a supply of an overdose reversal drug for 141
use in an emergency situation shall comply with all provisions 142
of section 3313.7119 of the Revised Code as if it were a school 143
district. 144

(B) A chartered or nonchartered nonpublic school may 145
accept donations of money from any person or entity to purchase 146
overdose reversal drugs. A school shall use the donations only 147
for that purpose and shall track the expenditure of donated 148
funds. 149

Sec. 3314.148. (A) A community school established under 150
this chapter that elects under section 3715.50 of the Revised 151
Code to obtain and maintain a supply of an overdose reversal 152
drug for use in an emergency situation shall comply with all 153
provisions of section 3313.7119 of the Revised Code as if it 154
were a school district. 155

(B) A community school may accept donations of money from 156
any person or entity to purchase overdose reversal drugs. A 157
school shall use the donations only for that purpose and shall 158
track the expenditure of donated funds. 159

Sec. 3326.62. (A) A STEM school established under this 160
chapter that elects under section 3715.50 of the Revised Code to 161
obtain and maintain a supply of an overdose reversal drug for 162
use in an emergency situation shall comply with all provisions 163
of section 3313.7119 of the Revised Code as if it were a school 164
district. 165

(B) A STEM school may accept donations of money from any 166
person or entity to purchase overdose reversal drugs. A school 167
shall use the donations only for that purpose and shall track 168
the expenditure of donated funds. 169

Sec. 3328.40. (A) A college-preparatory boarding school 170
established under this chapter that elects under section 3715.50 171
of the Revised Code to obtain and maintain a supply of an 172
overdose reversal drug for use in an emergency situation shall 173
comply with all provisions of section 3313.7119 of the Revised 174
Code as if it were a school district. 175

(B) A college-preparatory boarding school may accept 176
donations of money from any person or entity to purchase 177
overdose reversal drugs. A school shall use the donations only 178
for that purpose and shall track the expenditure of donated 179
funds. 180

Section 2. That existing section 3313.6022 of the Revised 181
Code is hereby repealed. 182

Section 3. No court shall award monetary damages for a 183
claim brought under or otherwise arising out of section 184
3313.6022 of the Revised Code for alleged violations occurring 185
from September 30, 2025, to the effective date of this section. 186
This provision shall not be construed as creating a private 187
right of action. 188