

As Introduced

136th General Assembly

Regular Session

H. B. No. 684

2025-2026

Representatives Hiner, John

Cosponsor: Representative Johnson

To amend sections 755.16, 3311.05, 3311.053, 1
3311.0510, 3313.01, 3313.376, 3313.843, 2
3313.845, 3313.846, 3313.848, 3313.849, 3317.11, 3
3319.80, 3326.45, 3513.255, and 3513.256; to 4
amend, for the purpose of adopting a new section 5
number as indicated in parentheses, section 6
3326.45 (3313.847); to enact section 3311.052; 7
and to repeal sections 3311.054, 3311.056, 8
3311.057, and 3311.059 of the Revised Code 9
regarding the territory, operation, and 10
governance of educational service centers. 11

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

Section 1. That sections 755.16, 3311.05, 3311.053, 12
3311.0510, 3313.01, 3313.376, 3313.843, 3313.845, 3313.846, 13
3313.848, 3313.849, 3317.11, 3319.80, 3326.45, 3513.255, and 14
3513.256 be amended; section 3326.45 (3313.847) be amended for 15
the purpose of adopting a new section number as indicated in 16
parentheses; and section 3311.052 of the Revised Code be enacted 17
to read as follows: 18

Sec. 755.16. (A) Any contracting subdivision, jointly with 19
one or more other contracting subdivisions, in any combination, 20

may acquire property for, construct, operate, and maintain any 21
parks, playgrounds, playfields, gymnasiums, public baths, 22
swimming pools, indoor recreation centers, educational 23
facilities, or community centers. Any school district, 24
educational service center, or state institution of higher 25
education may provide by the erection of any school, educational 26
service center, or state institution of higher education 27
building or premises, or by the enlargement of, addition to, or 28
reconstruction or improvement of any school, educational service 29
center, or state institution of higher education building or 30
premises, for the inclusion of any such parks, recreational 31
facilities, educational facilities, and community centers to be 32
jointly acquired, constructed, operated, and maintained. Any 33
contracting subdivision, jointly with one or more other 34
contracting subdivisions, in any combination, may equip, 35
operate, and maintain those parks, recreational facilities, 36
educational facilities, and community centers and may 37
appropriate money for those purposes. 38

Any contracting subdivision agreeing to jointly acquire, 39
construct, operate, or maintain parks, recreational facilities, 40
educational facilities, and community centers pursuant to this 41
section may contribute lands, money, other personal property, or 42
services to the joint venture, as may be agreed upon. Any 43
agreement shall specify the rights of the parties in any lands 44
or personal property contributed. 45

Any lands acquired by a township park district pursuant to 46
Chapter 511. of the Revised Code and established as a public 47
park or parks may be contributed to a joint venture authorized 48
by this section. Fees may be charged in connection with the use 49
of any recreational facilities, educational facilities, and 50
community centers that may be constructed on those lands. 51

(B) Any township may, jointly with a private land owner,	52
construct, operate, equip, and maintain free public playgrounds	53
and playfields. Any equipment provided by a township pursuant to	54
this division shall remain township property and shall be used	55
subject to a right of removal by the township.	56
(C) As used in this section and in sections 755.17 and	57
755.18 of the Revised Code:	58
(1) "Community centers" means facilities characterized by	59
all of the following:	60
(a) They are acquired, constructed, operated, or	61
maintained by contracting subdivisions pursuant to division (A)	62
of this section.	63
(b) They may be used for governmental, civic, or	64
educational operations or purposes, or recreational activities.	65
(c) They may be used only by the contracting subdivisions	66
that acquire, construct, operate, or maintain them or by any	67
other person upon terms and conditions determined by those	68
contracting subdivisions.	69
(2) "Educational service center" has the same meaning as	70
in division (A) of section 3311.05 of the Revised Code.	71
(3) "Contracting subdivision" means a municipal	72
corporation, township, joint recreation district, township park	73
district, a park district created under Chapter 1545. of the	74
Revised Code, county, school district, educational service	75
center, or state institution of higher education.	76
(4) "School district" means any of the school districts or	77
joint vocational school districts referred to in section 3311.01	78
of the Revised Code.	79

(5) "State institution of higher education" has the same meaning as in section 3345.011 of the Revised Code. 80
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Sec. 3311.05. (A) The territory within the territorial limits of a As used in this section and sections 3311.051 to 82
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3311.0510 of the Revised Code, "client," "primary service 84
agreement," and "service agreement" have the same meanings as in 85
section 3313.843 of the Revised Code. 86

(B) There is in each county, or the territory included in a district each group of counties formed under section 3311.053 of the Revised Code, exclusive of the territory embraced in any city school district or exempted village school district, and excluding the territory detached therefrom for school purposes and including the territory attached thereto for school purposes constitutes an educational service center. If the educational service center in which the territory of a local school district is located is dissolved under section 3311.0510 of the Revised Code, the territory of that local school district shall not constitute part of any educational service center. 87
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(B) (C) (1) During the period beginning on the effective date of this amendment and ending on the next thirtieth day of June of an odd-numbered year, the territory of an educational service center is as it existed immediately before the effective date of this amendment. 98
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(2) (a) Beginning on the first day of July of an odd-numbered year after the effective date of this amendment, the territory of an educational service center consists of the combined territory of all of the school districts that have primary service agreements with the educational service center under section 3313.843 of the Revised Code, regardless of whether that territory is located in the county or group of 103
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<u>counties for which the educational service center was established.</u>	110 111
<u>(b) The territory or service area of any client that has a service agreement with an educational service center under section 3313.844, 3313.845, 3313.846, or 3313.847 of the Revised Code is not part of the territory of the educational service center unless the territory is also part of the territory of a school district that has a primary service agreement with the educational service center under section 3313.843 of the Revised Code.</u>	112 113 114 115 116 117 118 119
<u>(3) Not later than the first day of May of each odd-numbered year, an educational service center shall send a written notice to the board of elections of each county in which the educational service center will have territory as of the first day of July of that year. The notice shall identify each school district that has a primary service agreement with the educational service center under section 3313.843 of the Revised Code as of the first day of July of that year.</u>	120 121 122 123 124 125 126 127
<u>(D) A county school financing district created under section 3311.50 of the Revised Code is not the school district described in division (A) of this section an educational service center or any other school district but is a taxing district.</u>	128 129 130 131
<u>Sec. 3311.052. (A) During the period beginning on the effective date of this section and ending on the next thirtieth day of December of an odd-numbered year after the effective date of this section, the membership of the governing board of an educational service center is as it existed immediately before the effective date of this section, and any vacancy on the board shall be filled in accordance with the law as it existed immediately before the effective date of this section.</u>	132 133 134 135 136 137 138 139

(B) Beginning on the first day of January of an even-numbered year after the effective date of this section, subject to divisions (C) and (D) of this section, all of the following apply: 140
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(1) The governing board of an educational service center consists of members equal to the number of school districts that have primary service agreements with the educational service center under section 3313.843 of the Revised Code as of the first day of July of the previous year, with one member elected by the electors of each such school district. Each member shall be an elector of the school district the member represents on the governing board. 144
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(2) The members of the governing board shall be elected at regular municipal elections to serve two-year terms beginning on the first day of January after the election and ending on the last day of December of the year following the year of the election. 152
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(3) A vacancy in the office of member of the governing board shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term by appointment by a majority vote of the board of education of the school district the member represents. Within ten days after the vacancy is filled, the educational service center shall send a written notice of the appointment to the board of elections of each county in which the educational service center has territory. 157
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(4) If a school district terminates its primary service agreement with the educational service center, the school district remains entitled to be represented by a member of the governing board for the remainder of the member's unexpired term. 165
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<u>(5) When a school district that does not currently have a primary service agreement with the educational service center enters into such an agreement, the electors of the school district are first entitled to elect a member of the governing board of the educational service center for a term beginning on the first day of January after the primary service agreement takes effect.</u>	170 171 172 173 174 175 176
<u>(6) The fact that any client has a service agreement with an educational service center under section 3313.844, 3313.845, 3313.846, or 3313.847 of the Revised Code does not entitle the client to be represented on the governing board of the educational service center.</u>	177 178 179 180 181
<u>(C) A member of the governing board of an educational service center who is serving as of the effective date of this section retains the member's position until the expiration of the member's existing term. If the member's seat becomes vacant before the expiration of the existing term, the vacancy shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term in accordance with the law as it existed immediately before the effective date of this section.</u>	182 183 184 185 186 187 188 189
<u>(D) (1) If, under divisions (B) and (C) of this section, the governing board of an educational service center would have an even number of members, then not later than the tenth day of January of an even-numbered year, the members shall, by a majority vote, appoint one additional member who is an elector of the territory of the educational service center to serve a term of office ending on the last day of December of the following year. If the members fail to appoint the additional member not later than the tenth day of January, the probate judge of the county in which the greatest number of pupils under</u>	190 191 192 193 194 195 196 197 198 199

the supervision of the educational service center reside shall 200
appoint the additional member. 201

(2) A vacancy in the seat of the additional member shall 202
be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term in the same 203
manner as the initial appointment was required to be made under 204
division (D) (1) of this section. 205

(3) Within ten days after an appointment is made under 206
division (D) (1) or (2) of this section, the educational service 207
center shall send a written notice of the appointment to the 208
board of elections of each county in which the educational 209
service center has territory. 210

Sec. 3311.053. ~~(A)~~ Beginning on the first day 211
of July of an odd-numbered year after the effective date of this 212
amendment, the boards of education of up to five adjoining 213
educational service centers may, by identical resolutions 214
adopted by a majority of the members of each governing board 215
within any sixty-day period, combine such educational service 216
centers into one educational service center for the combined 217
territory. No such combination shall occur during the period 218
beginning on the effective date of this amendment and ending on 219
the next thirtieth day of June of an odd-numbered year. 220

(2) The resolutions shall state the name of the new 221
center, which may be styled as a "joint educational service 222
center." The resolutions shall also indicate whether the 223
governing board of the new educational service center is to be 224
formed in accordance with division (B) of this section, in 225
accordance with division (A) of section 3311.054 of the Revised 226
Code, or in accordance with section 3311.057 of the Revised 227
Code. 228

(3) A copy of each resolution shall be filed with the state board of education and with the board of elections of each county in which the new educational service center has territory. The

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(B) (1) Subject to division (B) (2) of this section, the new educational service center shall be created and the members of the governing boards of the participating educational service centers ~~shall be dissolved and a new~~ are members of the governing board ~~established thirty days after the date on which the last resolution was filed with the state board of the new educational service center for the duration of their original terms of office.~~

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(B) The initial members of a new governing board established in accordance with this division shall be appointed as follows:

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(1) If two educational service centers combine, each center's governing board, prior to its dissolution, shall appoint two members to the new governing board and the four members so selected shall select a fifth member within ten days of the date on which the last of the four members is appointed.

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(2) If three educational service centers combine, each center's governing board, prior to its dissolution, shall appoint one member to the new governing board and the three members so selected shall select the remaining two members of the governing board within ten days of the date on which the last of the three members is appointed.

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(3) If four educational service centers combine, each center's governing board, prior to its dissolution, shall appoint one member to the new governing board and the four

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~~members so selected shall select the remaining member of the governing board within ten days of the date on which the last of the four members is appointed.~~ 258
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~~(4) If five educational service centers combine, each center's governing board, prior to its dissolution, shall appoint one member to the new governing board.~~ 261
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~~If the members appointed to a new governing board by the governing boards of the combining educational service centers are unable to agree on the selection of the remaining members of the new governing board within ten days, the probate judge of the county in which the greatest number of pupils under the supervision of the new educational service center reside shall appoint the remaining members.~~ 264
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~~Electors of the new educational service center shall elect a new governing board at the next general election occurring in an odd numbered year and more than ninety days after the date of the appointment of the last member to the initial governing board. Members shall serve for the duration of the term to which they are elected or until their successors are elected and qualified. At such election, two members shall be elected to terms of two years and three members shall be elected to terms of four years. Thereafter, their successors shall be elected in the same manner and for the same terms as members of governing boards of all educational service centers. Each candidate for election as a member of the educational service center governing board shall file a nominating petition in accordance with section 3513.255 of the Revised Code.~~ 271
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~~(2) If the governing board of the new educational service center has an even number of members, the members shall, by a majority vote, appoint one additional member who is an elector~~ 285
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of the territory of the educational service center to serve the 288
same term of office as the elected members. If the members are 289
unable to agree on the appointment of the additional member 290
within ten days after the board forms, the probate judge of the 291
county in which the greatest number of pupils under the 292
supervision of the new educational service center reside shall 293
appoint the additional member. Within ten days after an 294
appointment is made under this division, the educational service 295
center shall send a written notice of the appointment to the 296
board of elections of each county in which the educational 297
service center has territory. 298

(C) The funds of each former educational service center 299
shall be paid over in full to the governing board of the new 300
educational service center, and the legal title to all property 301
of the former governing boards shall become vested in the new 302
governing board. 303

The governing board of an educational service center 304
created under this section shall honor all service agreements 305
and other contracts made by the former governing boards. 306

Sec. 3311.0510. (A) If all of the client school districts 307
of an educational service center have terminated their primary 308
service agreements with the service center under ~~division (D) of~~ 309
section 3313.843 of the Revised Code, upon the latest effective 310
date of the terminations, the governing board of that service 311
center shall be abolished and such service center shall be 312
dissolved by order of the director of education and workforce. 313
The director's order shall provide for the equitable division 314
and disposition of the assets, property, debts, and obligations 315
of the service center among the school districts that were 316
client school districts of the service center for the service 317

center's last fiscal year of operation. The director's order 318
shall provide that the tax duplicate of each of those school 319
districts shall be bound for and assume the district's equitable 320
share of the outstanding indebtedness of the service center. The 321
director's order is final and is not appealable. 322

Immediately upon the abolishment of the service center 323
governing board pursuant to this section, the director shall 324
appoint a qualified individual to administer the dissolution of 325
the service center and to implement the terms of the director's 326
dissolution order. 327

Prior to distributing assets to any school district under 328
this section, but after paying in full other debts and 329
obligations of the service center under this section, the 330
director may assess against the remaining assets of the service 331
center the amount of the costs incurred by the department of 332
education and workforce in performing the director's duties 333
under this division, including the fees, if any, owed to the 334
individual appointed to administer the director's dissolution 335
order. Any excess cost incurred by the department under this 336
division shall be divided equitably among the school districts 337
that were client school districts of the service center for the 338
service center's last fiscal year of operation. Each district's 339
share of that excess cost shall be bound against the tax 340
duplicate of that district. 341

(B) A final audit of the former service center shall be 342
performed in accordance with procedures established by the 343
auditor of state. 344

(C) The public records of an educational service center 345
that is dissolved under this section shall be transferred in 346
accordance with this division. Public records maintained by the 347

service center in connection with services provided by the 348
service center to local school districts ~~of which the territory~~ 349
~~of the service center is or previously was made up~~ shall be 350
transferred to each of the respective local school districts. 351
Public records maintained by the service center in connection 352
with services provided to client school districts shall be 353
transferred to each of the respective client school districts. 354
All other public records maintained by the service center at the 355
time the service center ceases operations shall be transferred 356
to the Ohio history connection for analysis and disposition by 357
the Ohio history connection in its capacity as archives 358
administrator for the state and its political subdivisions 359
pursuant to division (C) of section 149.30 and section 149.31 of 360
the Revised Code. 361

~~(D) As used in this section, "client school district"~~ 362
~~means a city, exempted village, or local school district that~~ 363
~~has entered into an agreement under section 3313.843 or 3313.845~~ 364
~~of the Revised Code to receive any services from an educational~~ 365
~~service center.~~ 366

Sec. 3313.01. In local and exempted village school 367
districts ~~an educational service centers, except as provided in~~ 368
~~section 3311.054 and 3311.056 of the Revised Code, the board of~~ 369
~~education or governing board of an educational service center~~ 370
shall consist of five members who shall be electors residing in 371
the territory composing the respective districts and shall be 372
elected at large in their respective districts. 373

Sec. 3313.376. As used in this section, "client school 374
district" means a city, exempted village, or local school 375
district that has entered into an agreement under " has the same 376
meaning as in section 3313.843 or 3313.845 of the Revised Code- 377

to receive any services from an educational service center.	378
For the purpose of obtaining quantity discounts in purchasing textbooks; computer equipment, including computer software; school buses; and natural gas, electricity, and other utility services, the governing boards of two or more educational service centers may enter into agreements, including installment purchase and lease-purchase contracts, to jointly purchase such commodities to be utilized by client school districts the clients of the educational service centers.	379 380 381 382 383 384 385 386
Sec. 3313.843. (A) Notwithstanding division (D) of section 3311.52 of the Revised Code, this section does not apply to any cooperative education school district. As used in this section and sections 3313.844 to 3313.849 of the Revised Code:	387 388 389 390
(1) <u>"Client"</u> means any of the following that has a service agreement with an educational service center: a city, local, or exempted village school district, a joint vocational school district, a community school established under Chapter 3314. of the Revised Code, a STEM school established under Chapter 3326. of the Revised Code, or a political subdivision.	391 392 393 394 395 396
(2) <u>"Governing body"</u> means the board of education of a school district, the governing authority of a community school, the governing body of a STEM school, or the governing body of a political subdivision.	397 398 399 400
(3) <u>"Political subdivision"</u> has the same meaning as in section 2744.01 of the Revised Code but does not include a school district, community school, or STEM school.	401 402 403
(4) <u>"Primary service agreement"</u> means a service agreement between a city, local, or exempted village school district and an educational service center entered into under this section	404 405 406

but does not include a supplemental service agreement entered 407
into under section 3313.845 of the Revised Code. 408

(5) "Service agreement" or "agreement" means an agreement 409
between a client and an educational service center under section 410
3313.843, 3313.844, 3313.845, 3313.846, 3313.847, or former 411
section 3326.45 of the Revised Code for the educational service 412
center to provide services to the client and any subsequent 413
amendment to that agreement. 414

(B) (1) The board of education of each-a city, exempted 415
village, or local school district with an average daily student 416
enrollment of sixteen thousand or less, reported for the 417
district on the most recent report card issued under section 418
3302.03 of the Revised Code, shall may enter into an-a primary 419
service agreement with the governing board of an-any educational 420
service center, under which the educational service center 421
governing board will provide services to the district. 422

(2) The board of education of a city, exempted village, or 423
local school district with an average daily student enrollment 424
of more than sixteen thousand may enter into an agreement with 425
the governing board of an educational service center, under 426
which the educational service center governing board will 427
provide services to the district. 428

(3) (2) A primary service agreement under this section 429
shall be for a renewable period of two consecutive school years, 430
beginning on the first day of July of an odd-numbered year and 431
ending on the last day of June of the next odd-numbered year. 432

(3) A school district board of education and an 433
educational service center that enter into or renew a primary 434
service agreement shall execute the initial or renewed service 435

<u>agreement not later than the first day of May of the year in</u>	436
<u>which the service agreement takes effect.</u>	437
<u>(4) If a school district board does not intend to renew</u>	438
<u>its primary service agreement with an educational service</u>	439
<u>center, it shall notify the educational service center of that</u>	440
<u>fact in writing not later than the first day of January of the</u>	441
<u>year in which the service agreement expires. If the school</u>	442
<u>district board fails to notify the educational service center by</u>	443
<u>that deadline, the service agreement is automatically renewed</u>	444
<u>for an additional period of two consecutive school years.</u>	445
<u>(C) Services provided under an a primary service agreement</u>	446
<u>entered into under division (B)(1) or (2) of this section shall</u>	447
<u>be specified in the agreement, and may include any of the</u>	448
<u>following: supervisory teachers; in-service and continuing</u>	449
<u>education programs for district personnel; curriculum services;</u>	450
<u>research and development programs; academic instruction for</u>	451
<u>which the governing board employs teachers pursuant to section</u>	452
<u>3319.02 of the Revised Code; assistance in the provision of</u>	453
<u>special accommodations and classes for students with</u>	454
<u>disabilities; or any other services the district board and</u>	455
<u>service center governing board agree can be better provided by</u>	456
<u>the service center and are not provided under an agreement</u>	457
<u>entered into under section 3313.845 of the Revised Code.</u>	458
<u>Services included in the agreement shall be provided to the</u>	459
<u>district in the manner specified in the agreement. The district</u>	460
<u>board of education shall reimburse the educational service</u>	461
<u>center governing board pursuant to division (H) (I) of this</u>	462
<u>section.</u>	463
<u>(C) Any agreement entered into pursuant to this section</u>	464
<u>(D) Not later than the first day of May of each odd-numbered</u>	465

year, an educational service center shall be filed file a copy
of each of its primary service agreements entered into under
this section that take effect in that year with the department
of education and workforce by the first day of July of the
school year for which the agreement is in effect.

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~~(D) (1) An agreement for services from an educational service center entered into under this section may be terminated by the school district board of education, at its option, by notifying the governing board of the service center by March 1, 2012, or by the first day of January of any odd-numbered year thereafter, that the district board intends to terminate the agreement in that year, and that termination shall be effective on the thirtieth day of June of that year. The failure of a district board to notify an educational service center of its intent to terminate an agreement by March 1, 2012, shall result in renewal of the existing agreement for the following school year. Thereafter, the failure of a district board to notify an educational service center of its intent to terminate an agreement by the first day of January of an odd-numbered year shall result in renewal of the existing agreement for the following two school years.~~

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~~(2) If the school district that terminates an agreement for services under division (D) (1) of this section is also subject to the requirement of division (B) (1) of this section, the district board shall enter into a new agreement with any educational service center so that the new agreement is effective on the first day of July of that same year.~~

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~~(3) (E) If all moneys owed by a school district to an educational service center under an a primary service agreement for services terminated under division (D) (1) (B) (4) of this~~

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section have been paid in full by the effective date of the 496
termination, the governing board of the service center shall 497
submit an affidavit to the department certifying that fact not 498
later than fifteen days after the termination's effective date. 499
Notwithstanding anything in the Revised Code to the contrary, 500
until the department receives such an affidavit, it shall not 501
make any payments to any other educational service center with 502
which the district enters into an agreement under this section 503
for services that the educational service center provides to the 504
district. 505

~~(E)~~ (F) An educational service center may apply to any 506
state or federal agency for competitive grants. It may also 507
apply to any private entity for additional funds. 508

~~(F)~~ Not later than January 1, 2014, each (G) Each 509
educational service center shall post on its web site a list of 510
all of the services that it provides and the corresponding cost 511
for each of those services. 512

~~(G)~~ (1) (H) (1) For purposes of calculating any state 513
operating subsidy to be paid to an educational service center 514
for the operation of that service center and any services 515
required under Title XXXIII of the Revised Code to be provided 516
by the service center to a school district, the service center's 517
student count shall be the sum of the total student counts of 518
all the school districts with which the educational service 519
center has entered into an agreement under this section. 520

(2) When a district enters into a new primary service 521
agreement with a new educational service center, the department 522
shall ensure that the state operating subsidy for services 523
provided to the district is paid to the new educational service 524
center and that the educational service center with which the 525

district previously had an agreement is no longer paid a state
operating subsidy for providing services to that district. 526
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(H)—(I) Pursuant to division (B) of section 3317.023 of
the Revised Code, the department annually shall deduct from each
school district that enters into an—a primary service agreement
with an educational service center under this section, and pay
to the service center, an amount equal to six dollars and fifty
cents times the school district's total student count. The
district board of education, or the district superintendent
acting on behalf of the district board, may agree to pay an
amount in excess of six dollars and fifty cents per student in
total student count. If a majority of the boards of education,
or superintendents acting on behalf of the boards, of the
districts that entered into an agreement under this section
approve an amount in excess of six dollars and fifty cents per
student in total student count, each district shall pay the
excess amount to the service center. 528
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(I)(1)—(J)(1) An educational service center may enter into
a contract to purchase supplies, materials, equipment, and
services, which may include those specified in division (B)(C)
of this section or Chapter 3312. of the Revised Code, or the
delivery of such services, on behalf of a school district,
community school, STEM school, or political subdivision that has
entered into an agreement with the service center under this
section or section 3313.844, 3313.845, or 3313.846, or 3313.847
of the Revised Code. 543
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(2) Purchases made by a school district, community school,
STEM school, or political subdivision that has entered into an
agreement with the service center as described in this division
are exempt from competitive bidding required by law for the 552
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purchase of supplies, materials, equipment, or services. No 556
political subdivision shall make any purchase under this 557
division when the political subdivision has received bids for 558
such purchase, unless the same terms, conditions, and 559
specifications at a lower price can be made for such purchase 560
under this division. 561

(J)—(K) Any school district, community school, or STEM 562
school that has entered into an agreement with an educational 563
service center under this section or section 3313.844—or, 564
3313.845, or 3313.847 of the Revised Code shall be in compliance 565
with federal law and exempt from competitive bidding 566
requirements for personnel-based services pursuant to the 567
authority granted to the Ohio department of education and 568
workforce under federal law, provided the service center has met 569
the following conditions: 570

(1) It is in compliance with division (F)—(G) of this 571
section. 572

(2) It has been designated "high performing" under rule of 573
the department. 574

(3) It has been found to be substantially in compliance 575
with audit rules and guidelines in its most recent audit by the 576
auditor of state. 577

(K)—(L) For purposes of this section, a school district's 578
"total student count" means the average daily student enrollment 579
reported on the most recent report card issued for the district 580
pursuant to section 3302.03 of the Revised Code. 581

(M) Notwithstanding division (D) of section 3311.52 of the 582
Revised Code, this section does not apply to any cooperative 583
education school district. 584

Sec. 3313.845. (A) The board of education of a ~~city, exempted village, local, or joint~~ vocational school district and the governing board of an educational service center may enter into an agreement under which the educational service center will provide services to the school district. Services provided under the agreement and the amount to be paid for such services shall be mutually agreed to by the district board of education and the service center governing board, and shall be specified in the agreement. Payment for services specified in the agreement shall be made pursuant to the terms of that agreement. If specified in the agreement as the manner of payment, the department of education and workforce shall pay the service center the amount due to it under the agreement and shall deduct that amount from the payments made to the ~~city, exempted village, local, or joint~~ vocational school district under Chapter 3317. of the Revised Code. Any agreement entered into pursuant to this section shall be valid only if a copy is filed with the department.

(B) ~~The authority granted under this section to the boards~~ board of education of a city, exempted village, and or local school districts is in addition to the authority granted to such boards ~~district that has a primary service agreement with an educational service center~~ under section 3313.843 of the Revised Code may enter into a supplemental service agreement with the governing board of another educational service center under which the educational service center will provide services to the school district. ~~Services provided under the supplemental service agreement and the amount to be paid for such services shall be mutually agreed to by the district board of education and the service center governing board and shall be specified in the agreement.~~ Payment for services specified in the agreement

shall be made pursuant to the terms of that agreement. If
specified in the agreement as the manner of payment, the
department of education and workforce shall pay the service
center the amount due to it under the agreement and shall deduct
that amount from the payments made to the city, exempted
village, or local school district under Chapter 3317. of the
Revised Code. Any agreement entered into pursuant to this
division is valid only if a copy is filed with the department.

Sec. 3313.846. The governing board of an educational
service center may enter into a ~~contract~~ service agreement with
~~any~~ a political subdivision as defined in section 2744.01 of the
Revised Code, not including school districts, community schools,
or STEM schools contracting for services under section 3313.843,
3313.844, 3313.845, or 3326.45 of the Revised Code, under which
the educational service center will provide services to the
political subdivision. Services provided under the ~~contract~~
service agreement and the amount to be paid for such services
shall be mutually agreed to by the parties and shall be
specified in the ~~contract~~ agreement. The political subdivision
shall directly pay an educational service center for services
specified in the ~~contract~~ agreement. The board of the
educational service center shall file a copy of each ~~contract~~
service agreement entered into under this section with the
department of education and workforce by the first day the
~~contract~~ agreement is in effect.

Sec. 3326.45 3313.847. (A) The governing body of a
science, technology, engineering, and mathematics school may
~~contract~~ enter into a service agreement with the governing board
of an educational service center or contract with the board of
education of a joint vocational school district for the
provision of services to the STEM school or to any student

enrolled in the school. Services provided under the service 647
agreement or contract and the amount to be paid for those 648
services shall be mutually agreed to by the parties to the 649
service agreement or contract, and shall be specified in the 650
service agreement or contract. 651

(B) A ~~contract~~ service agreement entered into under this 652
section may require an educational service center to provide any 653
one or a combination of the following services to a STEM school: 654

- (1) Supervisory teachers; 655
- (2) In-service and continuing education programs for 656
personnel of the STEM school; 657
- (3) Curriculum services as provided to the client school 658
districts of the service center; 659
- (4) Research and development programs; 660
- (5) Academic instruction for which the service center 661
governing board employs teachers; 662
- (6) Assistance in the provision of special accommodations 663
and classes for students with disabilities. 664

Services described in division (B) of this section shall 665
be provided to the STEM school in the same manner they are 666
provided to ~~client school districts~~ other clients of the service 667
center, unless otherwise specified in the ~~contract~~ service 668
agreement. The ~~contract~~ service agreement shall specify whether 669
the service center will receive a per-pupil payment from the 670
department of education and workforce for the provision of these 671
services and, if so, the amount of the per-pupil payment. 672

(C) For each service agreement or contract entered into 673
under this section, the department shall deduct the amount owed 674

by the STEM school from the state funds due to the STEM school 675
under this chapter and shall pay that amount to the educational 676
service center or joint vocational school district that is party 677
to the service agreement or contract. 678

(D) No service agreement or contract entered into under 679
this section shall be valid unless a copy is filed with the 680
department by the first day of the school year for which the 681
service agreement or contract is in effect. 682

(E) As used in this section, "client school district" 683
means a city, exempted village, or local school district that 684
has entered into an agreement under section 3313.843 or 3313.845 685
of the Revised Code to receive any services from an educational 686
service center. 687

Sec. 3313.848. (A) As used in this section: 688

(1) "Client" means a city, local, or exempted village 689
school district, community school established under Chapter 690
3314. of the Revised Code, STEM school established under Chapter 691
3326. of the Revised Code, or political subdivision. 692

(2) "Governing body" means the board of education of a 693
school district, governing authority of a community school, 694
governing body of a STEM school, or governing body of a 695
political subdivision. 696

(3) "Political subdivision" has the same meaning as used 697
in section 3313.846 of the Revised Code. 698

(4) "Service agreement" means an agreement that a client 699
has entered into with an educational service center under 700
section 3313.843, 3313.844, 3313.845, 3313.846, or 3326.45 of 701
the Revised Code and any subsequent amendment to that agreement. 702

~~(B)~~—If at the end of a fiscal year for which a service agreement is in effect any of the funds paid directly by a client to the educational service center under the agreement are unexpended and unobligated, a client's governing body may elect to have the service center retain the unexpended and unobligated funds for the purpose of applying them toward any payment the client will owe to the service center under a service agreement for the next fiscal year. The treasurer or fiscal officer of the client shall indicate on the client's end-of-year financial report that unexpended funds have been retained by the service center and the amount of those funds.

~~(C)~~—(B) A client shall expend its funds retained under division ~~(B)~~—(A) of this section only for services specifically set forth under a service agreement. The treasurer of the educational service center shall keep a record of the client's expenditure and the service or services for which the expenditure was made. On at least an annual basis, or upon the request of the client's governing body or its treasurer or fiscal officer, the treasurer of the service center shall notify the client's treasurer or fiscal officer of the expenditures recorded under this division. The client's treasurer or fiscal officer shall include that information in the financial report made by the treasurer or fiscal officer at the next meeting of the client's governing body that occurs following receipt of the information.

Sec. 3313.849. The governing bodies of two or more city, exempted village, local, or joint vocational school districts, community schools established under Chapter 3314. of the Revised Code, or STEM schools established under Chapter 3326. of the Revised Code, may mutually agree to share supervisory, curriculum, teaching, special education, professional

development, or any other services offered by an educational service center and may pool their funding to pay the cost of receiving those services. Each of the governing bodies of the districts or schools participating in shared services pursuant to this section shall specify in its service agreement with the service center under section 3313.843, 3313.844, 3313.845, or ~~3326.45~~3313.847 of the Revised Code which services that the participants have agreed to share, any other districts or schools participating in the shared services, and the amount of funds that the governing body will contribute toward the total cost of the shared services. Each governing body's funding contribution shall be paid to the service center in accordance with section 3313.843, 3313.844, 3313.845, or ~~3326.45~~3313.847 of the Revised Code, as applicable.

The authority granted under this section is in addition to the authority granted to school district boards of education under section 3313.841 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 3317.11. (A) As used in this section:

(1) For fiscal years 2026 and 2027, "base amount" is equal to \$356,250.

(2) For fiscal years 2026 and 2027, "funding base" means an amount calculated by the department of education and workforce that is equal to the amount an educational service center would have received under Section 265.360 of H.B. 166 of the 133rd general assembly for fiscal year 2020 using the student counts of the school districts with which the service center has service agreements for the fiscal year for which payments under this section are being made.

(3) For fiscal years 2026 and 2027, "general phase-in

percentage" for an educational service center means the "general
phase-in percentage" for school districts as defined in section
3317.02 of the Revised Code. 763
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(4) For fiscal years 2026 and 2027, "student count" means
the count calculated under division ~~(C)(1)-(H)(1)~~ of section
3313.843 of the Revised Code. 766
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(B) (1) For fiscal years 2026 and 2027, the department of
education and workforce shall pay the governing board of each
educational service center an amount equal to the following: 769
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The educational service center's funding base + [(the
amount calculated for the educational service center for that
fiscal year under division (C) of this section - the educational
service center's funding base) X the educational service
center's general phase-in percentage for that fiscal year] 772
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(2) For fiscal year 2028 and each fiscal year thereafter,
the department shall pay the governing board of each educational
service center an amount calculated in a manner determined by
the general assembly. 777
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(C) For fiscal years 2026 and 2027, the department shall
calculate an amount for each educational service center as
follows: 781
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(1) If the educational service center has a student count
of 5,000 students or less, the base amount. 784
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(2) If the educational service center has a student count
greater than 5,000 students but less than or equal to 35,000
students, the following sum: 786
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The base amount + [(the educational service center's student
count - 5,000) X \$24.72] 789
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(3) If the educational service center has a student count
greater than 35,000 students, the following sum: 791
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The base amount + (30,000 X \$24.72) + [(the educational service
center's student count - 35,000) X \$30.90] 793
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Sec. 3319.80. (A) The governing board of any educational
service center may engage the services of a dyslexia specialist
to provide training for teachers of grades kindergarten to four
on the indicators of dyslexia and the types of instruction that
children with dyslexia need to learn, read, write, and spell. If
a service center provides this training, it shall make the
training available to local school districts within the service
center's territory and to other school districts, community
schools, and STEM schools that have contracted for the training
from the service center under section 3313.843, 3313.844,
3313.845, or ~~3326.45~~3313.847 of the Revised Code. 795
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If a governing board of any educational service center
does not provide the training, a group of local school districts
within the service center's territory may engage the services of
a dyslexia specialist to provide training for teachers
independently. 806
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A school district or school may require the training
authorized under this section for its teachers as part of the
district's or school's regular in-service training programs. 811
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(B) As used in this section: 814

(1) "Dyslexia" means a specific learning disorder that is
neurological in origin and that is characterized by unexpected
difficulties with accurate or fluent word recognition and by
poor spelling and decoding abilities not consistent with the
person's intelligence, motivation, and sensory capabilities, 815
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which difficulties typically result from a deficit in the phonological component of language.	820 821
(2) "Dyslexia specialist" means a person who is trained and certified in a multisensory structured language program that meets the level II specialist criteria set by the international dyslexia association's knowledge and practice standards or standards from any other nationally recognized organization that specializes in issues surrounding dyslexia, or any subsequently adopted standards.	822 823 824 825 826 827 828
Sec. 3513.255. This section is subject to section 3513.256 of the Revised Code. The name of each candidate for election as a member of a governing board of an educational service center shall appear on the nonpartisan ballot <u>in the school district</u> <u>the candidate seeks to represent on the governing board</u> . Each nominating petition shall be signed by fifty qualified electors who reside in <u>one of the following, as applicable:</u>	829 830 831 832 833 834 835
(A) <u>The school districts over which the educational service center governing board has jurisdiction, in the case of any candidate running for a position on any educational service center governing board other than a governing board established in accordance with section 3311.054 of the Revised Code;</u>	836 837 838 839 840
(B) <u>The subdistrict in which the candidate is running, in the case of a position on a governing board of an educational service center established in accordance with section 3311.054 of the Revised Code</u> <u>the school district.</u>	841 842 843 844
Each nominating petition shall be filed with the board of elections of the county in which the <u>central administrative offices of the educational service center governing board are</u> <u>most populous portion of the school district is located</u> not	845 846 847 848

later than four p.m. of the ninetieth day before the day of the 849
general election, provided that no such petition shall be 850
accepted for filing if it appears to contain signatures 851
aggregating in number more than three times the minimum number 852
of signatures required by this section. A board of elections 853
shall not accept for filing a nominating petition of a person if 854
that person, for the same election, has already filed a 855
declaration of candidacy, a declaration of intent to be a write- 856
in candidate, or a nominating petition, or has become a 857
candidate through party nomination at a primary election or by 858
the filling of a vacancy under section 3513.30 or 3513.31 of the 859
Revised Code for any other position as a member of a governing 860
board of an educational service center or position as a member 861
of a city, local, or exempted village board of education, or for 862
a municipal or township office. When a petition of a candidate 863
has been accepted for filing by a board of elections, the 864
petition shall not be deemed invalid if, upon verification of 865
signatures contained in the petition, the board of elections 866
finds the number of signatures accepted exceeds three times the 867
minimum signatures required. A board of elections may 868
discontinue verifying petitions when the number of verified 869
signatures equals the minimum required number of qualified 870
signatures. 871

Sec. 3513.256. (A) Notwithstanding any provision of the 872
Revised Code to the contrary, for the purpose of nominating 873
candidates for a position as a member of the board of education 874
of a city, local, or exempted village school district ~~or a~~ 875
~~position as a member of a governing board of an educational~~ 876
~~service center~~, the board may adopt, by resolution upon a three- 877
fifths majority vote of its total membership, procedures for a 878
nonpartisan primary election. Such procedures shall specify the 879

following: 880

(1) That the primary election for nominating candidates 881
for a position as a member of that board shall be held on the 882
same day as the primary election for nominating all other 883
candidates for public office in that year; 884

(2) That nominating petitions shall be filed with the 885
board of elections not later than four p.m. of the ninetieth day 886
before the day of the primary election; 887

(3) That the primary election shall take place only if the 888
number of candidates for nomination for a position on that 889
board, as verified by the board of elections, is at least one 890
more than two times the number of available positions on that 891
board at the general election; 892

(4) That the number of candidates advancing from the 893
primary election to the general election shall equal two times 894
the number of available positions on that board at the general 895
election. 896

The board shall notify the board of elections upon 897
adoption of a resolution under this division. No such resolution 898
shall apply for a particular election unless the resolution is 899
adopted at least one hundred twenty days prior to the deadline 900
specified in the resolution to become a candidate for nomination 901
at that election. Subject to division (B) of this section, the 902
resolution shall apply to all subsequent nominations for a 903
position as a member of that board. 904

(B) Not earlier than five years after the adoption of a 905
resolution under division (A) of this section, the board of 906
education of a city, local, or exempted village school district 907
~~or the governing board of an educational service center may~~ 908

rescind that resolution by subsequent resolution upon a three-fifths majority vote of its total membership. 909
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The board shall notify the board of elections of any 911
resolution adopted under this division. No such resolution shall 912
apply to a particular election unless the resolution is adopted 913
at least one hundred twenty days prior to the deadline to become 914
a candidate for nomination at that election under the nomination 915
procedures the resolution is rescinding. Subject to division (D) 916
of this section, the requirements of Chapter 3513. of the 917
Revised Code shall apply to all subsequent nominations for a 918
position as a member of that board. 919

(C) Any candidate nominated pursuant to a resolution 920
adopted under division (A) of this section shall appear on the 921
nonpartisan ballot at the general election as prescribed in 922
sections 3505.04, and 3513.254, and 3513.255 of the Revised 923
Code. 924

(D) Nothing in this section prohibits or shall be 925
construed to prohibit the board of education of a city, local, 926
or exempted village school district ~~or the governing board of an~~ 927
~~educational service center~~ that has rescinded a resolution under 928
division (B) of this section from subsequently adopting the same 929
or different procedures for a nonpartisan primary election by 930
adopting a resolution under division (A) of this section. 931

Section 2. That existing sections 755.16, 3311.05, 932
3311.053, 3311.0510, 3313.01, 3313.376, 3313.843, 3313.845, 933
3313.846, 3313.848, 3313.849, 3317.11, 3319.80, 3326.45, 934
3513.255, and 3513.256 of the Revised Code are hereby repealed. 935

Section 3. That sections 3311.054, 3311.056, 3311.057, and 936
3311.059 of the Revised Code are hereby repealed. 937

Section 4. (A) As used in this section, "client" and "service agreement" have the same meanings as in section 3313.843 of the Revised Code.	938 939 940
(B) The requirements of this act apply only to a service agreement between an educational service center and a client that is entered into or renewed on or after the effective date of this section.	941 942 943 944