

As Introduced

136th General Assembly

Regular Session

2025-2026

S. B. No. 332

Senators Cutrona, Smith

To amend sections 133.06, 505.431, 3302.036, 1
3302.042, 3302.16, 3302.17, 3310.03, 3311.29, 2
3313.951, and 3314.102; to enact new section 3
3302.10; and to repeal sections 3302.10, 4
3302.103, 3302.11, 3302.111, and 3302.12 of the 5
Revised Code and to repeal Sections 4, 5, and 6 6
of H.B. 70 of the 131st General Assembly to 7
dissolve academic distress commissions and to 8
instead require student support teams for 9
certain low-performing school buildings and to 10
authorize a law enforcement agency to provide 11
school resource officer services to a chartered 12
nonpublic school. 13

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

Section 1. That sections 133.06, 505.431, 3302.036, 14
3302.042, 3302.16, 3302.17, 3310.03, 3311.29, 3313.951, and 15
3314.102 be amended and new section 3302.10 of the Revised Code 16
be enacted to read as follows: 17

Sec. 133.06. (A) A school district shall not incur, 18
without a vote of the electors, net indebtedness that exceeds an 19
amount equal to one-tenth of one per cent of its tax valuation, 20
except as provided in divisions (G) and (H) of this section and 21

in division (D) of section 3313.372 of the Revised Code, or as 22
prescribed in section 3318.052 or 3318.44 of the Revised Code, 23
or as provided in division (J) of this section. 24

(B) Except as provided in divisions (E), (F), and (I) of 25
this section, a school district shall not incur net indebtedness 26
that exceeds an amount equal to nine per cent of its tax 27
valuation. 28

(C) A school district shall not submit to a vote of the 29
electors the question of the issuance of securities in an amount 30
that will make the district's net indebtedness after the 31
issuance of the securities exceed an amount equal to four per 32
cent of its tax valuation, unless the director of education and 33
workforce, acting under policies adopted by the department of 34
education and workforce, and the tax commissioner, acting under 35
written policies of the commissioner, consent to the submission. 36
A request for the consents shall be made at least one hundred 37
twenty days prior to the election at which the question is to be 38
submitted. 39

The director of education and workforce shall certify to 40
the district the director's and the tax commissioner's decisions 41
within thirty days after receipt of the request for consents. 42

If the electors do not approve the issuance of securities 43
at the election for which the director of education and 44
workforce and tax commissioner consented to the submission of 45
the question, the school district may submit the same question 46
to the electors on the date that the next special election may 47
be held under section 3501.01 of the Revised Code without 48
submitting a new request for consent. If the school district 49
seeks to submit the same question at any other subsequent 50
election, the district shall first submit a new request for 51

consent in accordance with this division. 52

(D) In calculating the net indebtedness of a school 53
district, none of the following shall be considered: 54

(1) Securities issued to acquire school buses and other 55
equipment used in transporting pupils or issued pursuant to 56
division (D) of section 133.10 of the Revised Code; 57

(2) Securities issued under division (F) of this section 58
and, to the extent in excess of the limitation stated in 59
division (B) of this section, under division (E) of this 60
section; 61

(3) Indebtedness resulting from the dissolution of a joint 62
vocational school district under section 3311.217 of the Revised 63
Code, evidenced by outstanding securities of that joint 64
vocational school district; 65

(4) Loans, evidenced by any securities, received under 66
sections 3313.483, 3317.0210, and 3317.0211 of the Revised Code; 67

(5) Debt incurred under section 3313.374 of the Revised 68
Code; 69

(6) Debt incurred pursuant to division (B) (4) of section 70
3313.37 of the Revised Code to acquire computers and related 71
hardware; 72

(7) Debt incurred under section 3318.042 of the Revised 73
Code; 74

(8) Debt incurred under section 5705.2112 or 5705.2113 of 75
the Revised Code by the fiscal board of a qualifying partnership 76
of which the school district is a participating school district. 77

(E) A school district may become a special needs district 78

as to certain securities as provided in division (E) of this 79
section. 80

(1) A board of education, by resolution, may declare its 81
school district to be a special needs district by determining 82
both of the following: 83

(a) The student population is not being adequately 84
serviced by the existing permanent improvements of the district. 85

(b) The district cannot obtain sufficient funds by the 86
issuance of securities within the limitation of division (B) of 87
this section to provide additional or improved needed permanent 88
improvements in time to meet the needs. 89

(2) The board of education shall certify a copy of that 90
resolution to the director of education and workforce with a 91
statistical report showing all of the following: 92

(a) The history of and a projection of the growth of the 93
tax valuation; 94

(b) The projected needs; 95

(c) The estimated cost of permanent improvements proposed 96
to meet such projected needs. 97

(3) The director of education and workforce shall certify 98
the district as an approved special needs district if the 99
director finds both of the following: 100

(a) The district does not have available sufficient 101
additional funds from state or federal sources to meet the 102
projected needs. 103

(b) The projection of the potential average growth of tax 104
valuation during the next five years, according to the 105

information certified to the director and any other information 106
the director obtains, indicates a likelihood of potential 107
average growth of tax valuation of the district during the next 108
five years of an average of not less than one and one-half per 109
cent per year. The findings and certification of the director 110
shall be conclusive. 111

(4) An approved special needs district may incur net 112
indebtedness by the issuance of securities in accordance with 113
the provisions of this chapter in an amount that does not exceed 114
an amount equal to the greater of the following: 115

(a) Twelve per cent of the sum of its tax valuation plus 116
an amount that is the product of multiplying that tax valuation 117
by the percentage by which the tax valuation has increased over 118
the tax valuation on the first day of the sixtieth month 119
preceding the month in which its board determines to submit to 120
the electors the question of issuing the proposed securities; 121

(b) Twelve per cent of the sum of its tax valuation plus 122
an amount that is the product of multiplying that tax valuation 123
by the percentage, determined by the director of education and 124
workforce, by which that tax valuation is projected to increase 125
during the next ten years. 126

(F) A school district may issue securities for emergency 127
purposes, in a principal amount that does not exceed an amount 128
equal to three per cent of its tax valuation, as provided in 129
this division. 130

(1) A board of education, by resolution, may declare an 131
emergency if it determines both of the following: 132

(a) School buildings or other necessary school facilities 133
in the district have been wholly or partially destroyed, or 134

condemned by a constituted public authority, or that such 135
buildings or facilities are partially constructed, or so 136
constructed or planned as to require additions and improvements 137
to them before the buildings or facilities are usable for their 138
intended purpose, or that corrections to permanent improvements 139
are necessary to remove or prevent health or safety hazards. 140

(b) Existing fiscal and net indebtedness limitations make 141
adequate replacement, additions, or improvements impossible. 142

(2) Upon the declaration of an emergency, the board of 143
education may, by resolution, submit to the electors of the 144
district pursuant to section 133.18 of the Revised Code the 145
question of issuing securities for the purpose of paying the 146
cost, in excess of any insurance or condemnation proceeds 147
received by the district, of permanent improvements to respond 148
to the emergency need. 149

(3) The procedures for the election shall be as provided 150
in section 133.18 of the Revised Code, except that: 151

(a) The form of the ballot shall describe the emergency 152
existing, refer to this division as the authority under which 153
the emergency is declared, and state that the amount of the 154
proposed securities exceeds the limitations prescribed by 155
division (B) of this section; 156

(b) The resolution required by division (B) of section 157
133.18 of the Revised Code shall be certified to the county 158
auditor and the board of elections at least one hundred days 159
prior to the election; 160

(c) The county auditor shall advise and, not later than 161
ninety-five days before the election, confirm that advice by 162
certification to, the board of education of the information 163

required by division (C) of section 133.18 of the Revised Code; 164

(d) The board of education shall then certify its 165
resolution and the information required by division (D) of 166
section 133.18 of the Revised Code to the board of elections not 167
less than ninety days prior to the election. 168

(4) Notwithstanding division (B) of section 133.21 of the 169
Revised Code, the first principal payment of securities issued 170
under this division may be set at any date not later than sixty 171
months after the earliest possible principal payment otherwise 172
provided for in that division. 173

(G) (1) The board of education may contract with an 174
architect, professional engineer, or other person experienced in 175
the design and implementation of energy conservation measures 176
for an analysis and recommendations pertaining to installations, 177
modifications of installations, or remodeling that would 178
significantly reduce energy consumption in buildings owned by 179
the district. The report shall include estimates of all costs of 180
such installations, modifications, or remodeling, including 181
costs of design, engineering, installation, maintenance, 182
repairs, measurement and verification of energy savings, and 183
debt service, forgone residual value of materials or equipment 184
replaced by the energy conservation measure, as defined by the 185
Ohio facilities construction commission, a baseline analysis of 186
actual energy consumption data for the preceding three years 187
with the utility baseline based on only the actual energy 188
consumption data for the preceding twelve months, and estimates 189
of the amounts by which energy consumption and resultant 190
operational and maintenance costs, as defined by the commission, 191
would be reduced. 192

If the board finds after receiving the report that the 193

amount of money the district would spend on such installations, 194
modifications, or remodeling is not likely to exceed the amount 195
of money it would save in energy and resultant operational and 196
maintenance costs over the ensuing fifteen years, the board may 197
submit to the commission a copy of its findings and a request 198
for approval to incur indebtedness to finance the making or 199
modification of installations or the remodeling of buildings for 200
the purpose of significantly reducing energy consumption. 201

The facilities construction commission, in consultation 202
with the auditor of state, may deny a request under division (G) 203
(1) of this section by the board of education of any school 204
district that is in a state of fiscal watch pursuant to division 205
(A) of section 3316.03 of the Revised Code, if it determines 206
that the expenditure of funds is not in the best interest of the 207
school district. 208

No district board of education of a school district that 209
is in a state of fiscal emergency pursuant to division (B) of 210
section 3316.03 of the Revised Code shall submit a request 211
without submitting evidence that the installations, 212
modifications, or remodeling have been approved by the 213
district's financial planning and supervision commission 214
established under section 3316.05 of the Revised Code. 215

~~No board of education of a school district for which an 216
academic distress commission has been established under section 217
3302.10 of the Revised Code shall submit a request without first 218
receiving approval to incur indebtedness from the district's 219
academic distress commission established under that section, for 220
so long as such commission continues to be required for the 221
district. 222~~

(2) The board of education may contract with a person 223

experienced in the implementation of student transportation to 224
produce a report that includes an analysis of and 225
recommendations for the use of alternative fuel vehicles by 226
school districts. The report shall include cost estimates 227
detailing the return on investment over the life of the 228
alternative fuel vehicles and environmental impact of 229
alternative fuel vehicles. The report also shall include 230
estimates of all costs associated with alternative fuel 231
transportation, including facility modifications and vehicle 232
purchase costs or conversion costs. 233

If the board finds after receiving the report that the 234
amount of money the district would spend on purchasing 235
alternative fuel vehicles or vehicle conversion is not likely to 236
exceed the amount of money it would save in fuel and resultant 237
operational and maintenance costs over the ensuing five years, 238
the board may submit to the commission a copy of its findings 239
and a request for approval to incur indebtedness to finance the 240
purchase of new alternative fuel vehicles or vehicle conversions 241
for the purpose of reducing fuel costs. 242

The facilities construction commission, in consultation 243
with the auditor of state, may deny a request under division (G) 244
(2) of this section by the board of education of any school 245
district that is in a state of fiscal watch pursuant to division 246
(A) of section 3316.03 of the Revised Code, if it determines 247
that the expenditure of funds is not in the best interest of the 248
school district. 249

No district board of education of a school district that 250
is in a state of fiscal emergency pursuant to division (B) of 251
section 3316.03 of the Revised Code shall submit a request 252
without submitting evidence that the purchase or conversion of 253

alternative fuel vehicles has been approved by the district's 254
financial planning and supervision commission established under 255
section 3316.05 of the Revised Code. 256

~~No board of education of a school district for which an 257
academic distress commission has been established under section 258
3302.10 of the Revised Code shall submit a request without first 259
receiving approval to incur indebtedness from the district's 260
academic distress commission established under that section, for 261
so long as such commission continues to be required for the 262
district. 263~~

(3) The facilities construction commission shall approve 264
the board's request provided that the following conditions are 265
satisfied: 266

(a) The commission determines that the board's findings 267
are reasonable. 268

(b) The request for approval is complete. 269

(c) If the request was submitted under division (G) (1) of 270
this section, the installations, modifications, or remodeling 271
are consistent with any project to construct or acquire 272
classroom facilities, or to reconstruct or make additions to 273
existing classroom facilities under sections 3318.01 to 3318.20 274
or sections 3318.40 to 3318.45 of the Revised Code. 275

Upon receipt of the commission's approval, the district 276
may issue securities without a vote of the electors in a 277
principal amount not to exceed nine-tenths of one per cent of 278
its tax valuation for the purpose specified in division (G) (1) 279
or (2) of this section, but the total net indebtedness of the 280
district without a vote of the electors incurred under this and 281
all other sections of the Revised Code, except section 3318.052 282

of the Revised Code, shall not exceed one per cent of the 283
district's tax valuation. 284

(4) (a) So long as any securities issued under division (G) 285
(1) of this section remain outstanding, the board of education 286
shall monitor the energy consumption and resultant operational 287
and maintenance costs of buildings in which installations or 288
modifications have been made or remodeling has been done 289
pursuant to that division. Except as provided in division (G) (4) 290
(b) of this section, the board shall maintain and annually 291
update a report in a form and manner prescribed by the 292
facilities construction commission documenting the reductions in 293
energy consumption and resultant operational and maintenance 294
cost savings attributable to such installations, modifications, 295
or remodeling. The resultant operational and maintenance cost 296
savings shall be certified by the school district treasurer. The 297
report shall be submitted annually to the commission. 298

(b) If the facilities construction commission verifies 299
that the certified annual reports submitted to the commission by 300
a board of education under division (G) (4) (a) of this section 301
fulfill the guarantee required under division (B) of section 302
3313.372 of the Revised Code for three consecutive years, the 303
board of education shall no longer be subject to the annual 304
reporting requirements of division (G) (4) (a) of this section. 305

(5) So long as any securities issued under division (G) (2) 306
of this section remain outstanding, the board of education shall 307
monitor the purchase of new alternative fuel vehicles or vehicle 308
conversions pursuant to that division. The board shall maintain 309
and annually update a report in a form and manner prescribed by 310
the facilities construction commission documenting the purchase 311
of new alternative fuel vehicles or vehicle conversions, the 312

associated environmental impact, and return on investment. The 313
resultant fuel and operational and maintenance cost savings 314
shall be certified by the school district treasurer. The report 315
shall be submitted annually to the commission. 316

(H) With the consent of the director of education and 317
workforce, a school district may incur without a vote of the 318
electors net indebtedness that exceeds the amounts stated in 319
divisions (A) and (G) of this section for the purpose of paying 320
costs of permanent improvements, if and to the extent that both 321
of the following conditions are satisfied: 322

(1) The fiscal officer of the school district estimates 323
that receipts of the school district from payments made under or 324
pursuant to agreements entered into pursuant to section 725.02, 325
1728.10, 3735.671, 5709.081, 5709.082, 5709.40, 5709.41, 326
5709.45, 5709.57, 5709.62, 5709.63, 5709.632, 5709.73, 5709.78, 327
or 5709.82 of the Revised Code, or distributions under division 328
(C) of section 5709.43 or division (B) of section 5709.47 of the 329
Revised Code, or any combination thereof, are, after accounting 330
for any appropriate coverage requirements, sufficient in time 331
and amount, and are committed by the proceedings, to pay the 332
debt charges on the securities issued to evidence that 333
indebtedness and payable from those receipts, and the taxing 334
authority of the district confirms the fiscal officer's 335
estimate, which confirmation is approved by the director of 336
education and workforce; 337

(2) The fiscal officer of the school district certifies, 338
and the taxing authority of the district confirms, that the 339
district, at the time of the certification and confirmation, 340
reasonably expects to have sufficient revenue available for the 341
purpose of operating such permanent improvements for their 342

intended purpose upon acquisition or completion thereof, and the 343
director of education and workforce approves the taxing 344
authority's confirmation. 345

The maximum maturity of securities issued under division 346
(H) of this section shall be the lesser of twenty years or the 347
maximum maturity calculated under section 133.20 of the Revised 348
Code. 349

(I) A school district may incur net indebtedness by the 350
issuance of securities in accordance with the provisions of this 351
chapter in excess of the limit specified in division (B) or (C) 352
of this section when necessary to raise the school district 353
portion of the basic project cost and any additional funds 354
necessary to participate in a project under Chapter 3318. of the 355
Revised Code, including the cost of items designated by the 356
facilities construction commission as required locally funded 357
initiatives, the cost of other locally funded initiatives in an 358
amount that does not exceed fifty per cent of the district's 359
portion of the basic project cost, and the cost for site 360
acquisition. A school district shall notify the director of 361
education and workforce whenever that district will exceed 362
either limit pursuant to this division. 363

(J) A school district whose portion of the basic project 364
cost of its classroom facilities project under sections 3318.01 365
to 3318.20 of the Revised Code is greater than or equal to one 366
hundred million dollars may incur without a vote of the electors 367
net indebtedness in an amount up to two per cent of its tax 368
valuation through the issuance of general obligation securities 369
in order to generate all or part of the amount of its portion of 370
the basic project cost if the controlling board has approved the 371
facilities construction commission's conditional approval of the 372

project under section 3318.04 of the Revised Code. The school 373
district board and the Ohio facilities construction commission 374
shall include the dedication of the proceeds of such securities 375
in the agreement entered into under section 3318.08 of the 376
Revised Code. No state moneys shall be released for a project to 377
which this section applies until the proceeds of any bonds 378
issued under this section that are dedicated for the payment of 379
the school district portion of the project are first deposited 380
into the school district's project construction fund. 381

Sec. 505.431. (A) The police department of any township or 382
township police district may provide police protection to any 383
county, municipal corporation, or township of this state, to a 384
park district created pursuant to section 511.18 or 1545.01 of 385
the Revised Code, or to a governmental entity of an adjoining 386
state without a contract to provide police protection, upon the 387
approval, by resolution, of the board of township trustees of 388
the township in which the department is located and upon 389
authorization by an officer or employee of the police department 390
providing the police protection who is designated by title of 391
office or position, pursuant to the resolution of the board of 392
township trustees, to give such authorization. 393

(B) The police department of any township or township 394
police district may, pursuant to a memorandum of understanding 395
under division (C) of section 3313.951 of the Revised Code, and 396
upon the approval, by resolution, of the board of township 397
trustees, provide school resource officer services to a 398
chartered nonpublic school located in the department's 399
territorial jurisdiction. 400

(C) Chapter 2744. of the Revised Code, insofar as it 401
applies to the operation of police departments, shall apply to 402

any township police department or township police district and 403
to its members when such members are rendering police services 404
pursuant to this section outside the township or township police 405
district by which they are employed. 406

Police department members acting, as provided in this 407
section, outside the township or township police district by 408
which they are employed shall be entitled to participate in any 409
pension or indemnity fund established by their employer to the 410
same extent as while acting within the township or township 411
police district by which they are employed. Those members shall 412
be entitled to all the rights and benefits of Chapter 4123. of 413
the Revised Code to the same extent as while performing services 414
within the township or township police district by which they 415
are employed. 416

Sec. 3302.036. (A) Notwithstanding anything in the Revised 417
Code to the contrary, the department of education and workforce 418
shall not assign an overall letter grade under division (C) (3) 419
of section 3302.03 of the Revised Code for any school district 420
or building for the 2014-2015, 2015-2016, ~~or~~and 2016-2017 school 421
years, may, at the discretion of the department, not assign an 422
individual grade to any component prescribed under division (C) 423
(3) of section 3302.03 of the Revised Code, and shall not rank 424
school districts, community schools established under Chapter 425
3314. of the Revised Code, or STEM schools established under 426
Chapter 3326. of the Revised Code under section 3302.21 of the 427
Revised Code for those school years. The report card ratings 428
issued for the 2014-2015, 2015-2016, ~~or~~and 2016-2017 school 429
years shall not be considered in determining whether a school 430
district or a school is subject to sanctions or penalties. 431
However, the report card ratings of any previous or subsequent 432
years shall be considered in determining whether a school 433

district or building is subject to sanctions or penalties. 434
Accordingly, the report card ratings for the 2014-2015, 2015- 435
2016, ~~or~~and 2016-2017 school years shall have no effect in 436
determining sanctions or penalties, but shall not create a new 437
starting point for determinations that are based on ratings over 438
multiple years. 439

(B) The provisions from which a district or school is 440
exempt under division (A) of this section shall be the 441
following: 442

(1) Any restructuring provisions established under this 443
chapter, except as required under the "No Child Left Behind Act 444
of 2001"; 445

(2) Provisions for the Columbus city school pilot project 446
under section 3302.042 of the Revised Code; 447

~~(3) Provisions for academic distress commissions under 448
former section 3302.10 of the Revised Code as it existed prior 449
to October 15, 2015. The provisions of this section do not apply 450
to academic distress commissions under the version of that 451
section as it exists on or after October 15, 2015. 452~~

~~(4) Provisions prescribing new buildings where students 453
are eligible for the educational choice scholarships under 454
section 3310.03 of the Revised Code; 455~~

~~(5)~~(4) Provisions defining "challenged school districts" 456
in which new start-up community schools were required to be 457
located, as prescribed in section 3314.02 of the Revised Code as 458
it existed prior to September 30, 2021; 459

~~(6)~~(5) Provisions prescribing community school closure 460
requirements under section 3314.35 or 3314.351 of the Revised 461
Code. 462

(C) Notwithstanding anything in the Revised Code to the contrary and except as provided in Section 3 of H.B. 7 of the 131st general assembly, no school district, community school, or STEM school shall utilize at any time during a student's academic career a student's score on any assessment administered under division (A) of section 3301.0710 or division (B) (2) of section 3301.0712 of the Revised Code in the 2014-2015, 2015-2016, ~~or~~and 2016-2017 school years as a factor in any decision to promote or to deny the student promotion to a higher grade level or in any decision to grant course credit. No individual student score reports on such assessments administered in the 2014-2015, 2015-2016, or 2016-2017 school years shall be released, except to a student's school district or school or to the student or the student's parent or guardian.

Sec. 3302.042. (A) This section shall operate as a pilot project that applies to any school that has been ranked according to performance index score under section 3302.21 of the Revised Code in the lowest five per cent of all public school buildings statewide for three or more consecutive school years and is operated by the Columbus city school district. The pilot project shall commence once the department of education and workforce establishes implementation guidelines for the pilot project in consultation with the Columbus city school district.

(B) Except as provided in division (D), (E), or (F) of this section, if the parents or guardians of at least fifty per cent of the students enrolled in a school to which this section applies, or if the parents or guardians of at least fifty per cent of the total number of students enrolled in that school and the schools of lower grade levels whose students typically matriculate into that school, by the thirty-first day of

December of any school year in which the school is subject to 494
this section, sign and file with the school district treasurer a 495
petition requesting the district board of education to implement 496
one of the following reforms in the school, and if the validity 497
and sufficiency of the petition is certified in accordance with 498
division (C) of this section, the board shall implement the 499
requested reform in the next school year: 500

(1) Reopen the school as a community school under Chapter 501
3314. of the Revised Code; 502

(2) Replace at least seventy per cent of the school's 503
personnel who are related to the school's poor academic 504
performance or, at the request of the petitioners, retain not 505
more than thirty per cent of the personnel; 506

(3) Contract with another school district or a nonprofit 507
or for-profit entity with a demonstrated record of effectiveness 508
to operate the school; 509

(4) Turn operation of the school over to the department; 510

(5) Any other major restructuring of the school that makes 511
fundamental reforms in the school's staffing or governance. 512

(C) Not later than thirty days after receipt of a petition 513
under division (B) of this section, the district treasurer shall 514
verify the validity and sufficiency of the signatures on the 515
petition and certify to the district board whether the petition 516
contains the necessary number of valid signatures to require the 517
board to implement the reform requested by the petitioners. If 518
the treasurer certifies to the district board that the petition 519
does not contain the necessary number of valid signatures, any 520
person who signed the petition may file an appeal with the 521
county auditor within ten days after the certification. Not 522

later than thirty days after the filing of an appeal, the county auditor shall conduct an independent verification of the validity and sufficiency of the signatures on the petition and certify to the district board whether the petition contains the necessary number of valid signatures to require the board to implement the requested reform. If the treasurer or county auditor certifies that the petition contains the necessary number of valid signatures, the district board shall notify the department of the certification.

(D) The district board shall not implement the reform requested by the petitioners in any of the following circumstances:

(1) The district board has determined that the request is for reasons other than improving student academic achievement or student safety.

(2) The department has determined that implementation of the requested reform would not comply with the model of differentiated accountability described in section 3302.041 of the Revised Code.

(3) The petitioners have requested the district board to implement the reform described in division (B)(4) of this section and the department has not agreed to take over the school's operation.

(4) When all of the following have occurred:

(a) After a public hearing on the matter, the district board issued a written statement explaining the reasons that it is unable to implement the requested reform and agreeing to implement one of the other reforms described in division (B) of this section.

(b) The district board submitted its written statement to 552
the department along with evidence showing how the alternative 553
reform the district board has agreed to implement will enable 554
the school to improve its academic performance. 555

(c) The department has approved implementation of the 556
alternative reform. 557

(E) If the provisions of this section conflict in any way 558
with the requirements of federal law, federal law shall prevail 559
over the provisions of this section. 560

(F) If a school is restructured under this section, 561
~~section 3302.10 or 3302.12 of the Revised Code,~~ or federal law, 562
the school shall not be required to restructure again under 563
state law for three consecutive years after the implementation 564
of that prior restructuring. 565

(G) Beginning not later than six months after the first 566
petition under this section has been resolved, the department 567
shall annually evaluate the pilot program and submit a report to 568
the general assembly under section 101.68 of the Revised Code. 569
Such reports shall contain its recommendations to the general 570
assembly with respect to the continuation of the pilot program, 571
its expansion to other school districts, or the enactment of 572
further legislation establishing the program statewide under 573
permanent law. 574

Sec. 3302.10. (A) Any academic distress commission 575
organized for a school district under former section 3302.10 of 576
the Revised Code, as it existed prior to the effective date of 577
this section, is hereby dissolved. The board of education of 578
each district wherein an academic distress commission previously 579
had been established shall reassume all of the powers granted to 580

it under the Revised Code. 581

(B) Beginning with the 2026-2027 school year, the board of 582
education of a school district for which an academic distress 583
commission had been established under former section 3302.10 of 584
the Revised Code, as it existed prior to the effective date of 585
this section and was dissolved on that date, shall establish a 586
student support team for each building operated by the district 587
that received an overall rating of less than two stars on the 588
state report card under division (D) (3) of section 3302.03 of 589
the Revised Code for the 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 school years. 590

The student support team shall remain in effect until the 591
school building receives an overall rating of at least three 592
stars, after which the support team may dissolve or continue at 593
the discretion of the district board. 594

(C) (1) A student support team established under this 595
section shall be comprised of the following individuals: 596

(a) One school board member appointed by the school board; 597

(b) The district superintendent, who shall serve as chair 598
of the support team; 599

(c) The school building principal, who shall serve as co- 600
chair of the support team; 601

(d) One or two school improvement specialists, appointed 602
by the district superintendent, at least one of which must be 603
employed by the district; 604

(e) Three classroom teachers assigned to the school 605
building, appointed by the local association representing 606
teachers; 607

(f) One special education teacher assigned to the 608

building, appointed by the building principal; 609

(g) One intervention specialist assigned to the building, 610
appointed by the building principal; 611

(h) Two parents, selected by the parent-teacher 612
association president of the school building; 613

(i) One individual from the department of education and 614
workforce state support team assigned to the region in which the 615
school district is located. 616

(2) The student support team may request the participation 617
of the following individuals on a meeting-by-meeting basis: 618

(a) School attendance officers; 619

(b) Nurses assigned to the building; 620

(c) Counselors assigned to the building; 621

(d) Mental health professionals assigned to the building; 622

(e) Bus drivers that transport students assigned to the 623
building; 624

(f) Students assigned to the building, with the consent of 625
the student's parent or guardian; 626

(g) Parents or guardians of students assigned to the 627
building. 628

(D) The student support team shall do the following: 629

(1) Conduct a survey of student support needs that 630
includes outreach to students, parents, teachers, and 631
administrators within the school building zone. The student 632
support team may request technical assistance from the state 633
support team assigned to its school district by the department. 634

(2) Develop student support recommendations that propose 635
strategies to support student learning at the school building 636
level, which may include proposals in the following areas: 637

(a) Parent and family engagement; 638

(b) Creating a culture of academic success among students; 639

(c) Building a culture of student support among school 640
faculty and staff; 641

(d) Student attendance; 642

(e) Dismissal and exclusion rates; 643

(f) Student safety and discipline; 644

(g) Student promotion and dropout rates; 645

(h) Graduation rates; 646

(i) Linking community organizations, volunteers, and other 647
resources with student support needs, and any other area the 648
student support team determines is appropriate. 649

(3) Submit the student support recommendations to the 650
district board for approval not later than the final day of the 651
school year in which the process described in division (C) (1) of 652
this section began, though the team may submit the plan prior to 653
that date. The district board and the district superintendent 654
shall review the plan and may change elements of the plan in 655
consultation with the student support team. Prior to approving 656
the plan, the district board may seek community feedback in one 657
or more public hearings. 658

Sec. 3302.16. (A) (1) As used in sections 3302.10, 3302.17, 659
and 3302.18 of the Revised Code, "community learning center" 660
means a school operated by a city, exempted village, or local 661

school district or community school established under Chapter 662
3314. of the Revised Code that participates in a coordinated, 663
community-based effort with community partners to provide 664
comprehensive educational, developmental, family, and health 665
services to students, families, and community members during 666
school hours and hours in which school is not in session. 667

(2) For purposes of this section and sections 3302.10, 668
3302.17, and 3302.18 of the Revised Code, "community partner" 669
means a provider to students, families, or community members of 670
health care services, on-site resource coordinators, and any 671
other services or programs determined appropriate by a school 672
action team created under section 3302.18 of the Revised Code. 673

(B) Prior to providing health services to a student, a 674
community learning center shall obtain the written consent of 675
the student's parent, guardian, or custodian, if the student is 676
less than eighteen years old, or the written consent of the 677
student, if the student is at least eighteen years old. 678

(C) A community learning center and any employee, 679
contractor, or volunteer of a community learning center shall, 680
in accordance with all applicable state and federal laws, 681
maintain the confidentiality of patient-identifying information 682
obtained in the course of providing health services. 683

Sec. 3302.17. (A) Any school building operated by a city, 684
exempted village, or local school district, or a community 685
school established under Chapter 3314. of the Revised Code is 686
eligible to initiate the community learning center process as 687
prescribed by this section. 688

(B) ~~Beginning with the 2015-2016 school year, each~~Each 689
district board of education or community school governing 690

authority may initiate a community learning center process for 691
any school building ~~to which this section applies~~ in the manner 692
prescribed by this section. 693

First, the board or governing authority shall conduct a 694
public information hearing at each school building to which this 695
section applies to inform the community of the community 696
learning center process. The board or governing authority may do 697
all of the following with regard to the public information 698
hearing: 699

(1) Announce the meeting not less than forty-five days in 700
advance at the school and on the school's or district's web 701
sites and using tools to ensure effective communication with 702
individuals with disabilities; 703

(2) Schedule the meeting for an evening or weekend time; 704

(3) Provide interpretation services and written materials 705
in all languages spoken by five per cent or more of the students 706
enrolled in the school; 707

(4) Provide child care services for parents attending the 708
meeting; 709

(5) Provide parents, students, teachers, nonteaching 710
employees, and community members with the opportunity to speak 711
at the meeting; 712

(6) Comply with section 149.43 of the Revised Code. 713

In preparing for the public information hearing, the board 714
or governing authority shall ensure that information about the 715
hearing is broadly distributed throughout the community. 716

The board or governing authority may enter into an 717
agreement with any civic engagement organizations, community 718

organizations, or employee organizations to support the 719
implementation of the community learning center process. 720

The board or governing authority shall conduct a follow-up 721
hearing at least once annually until action is further taken 722
under the section with respect to the school building or until 723
the conditions described in division (A) of this section no 724
longer apply to the school building. 725

(C) Not sooner than forty-five days after the first public 726
information hearing, the board or governing authority shall 727
conduct an election, by paper ballot, to initiate the process to 728
become a community learning center. Only parents or guardians of 729
students enrolled in the school and students enrolled in a 730
different school operated by a joint vocational school district 731
but are otherwise entitled to attend the school, and teachers 732
and nonteaching employees who are assigned to the school may 733
vote in the election. 734

The board or governing authority shall distribute the 735
ballots by mail and shall make copies available at the school 736
and on the web site of the school. The board or governing 737
authority also may distribute the ballots by directly giving 738
ballots to teachers and nonteaching employees and sending home 739
ballots with every student enrolled in the school building. 740

(D) The board or governing authority shall initiate the 741
transition of the building to a community learning center if the 742
results of the election held under division (C) of this section 743
are as follows: 744

(1) At least fifty per cent of parents and guardians of 745
students enrolled in the eligible school building and students 746
enrolled in a different building operated by a joint vocational 747

school district but who are entitled to attend the school cast 748
ballots by a date set by the board or governing authority, and 749
of those ballots at least sixty-seven per cent are in favor of 750
initiating the process; and 751

(2) At least fifty per cent of teachers and nonteaching 752
employees who are assigned to the school cast ballots by a date 753
set by the board or governing authority, and of those ballots at 754
least sixty-seven per cent are in favor of initiating the 755
process. 756

(E) If a community learning center process is initiated 757
under this section, the board or governing authority shall 758
create a school action team under section 3302.18 of the Revised 759
Code. Within four months upon selection, the school action team 760
shall conduct and complete, in consultation with community 761
partners, a performance audit of the school and review, with 762
parental input, the needs of the school with regard to 763
restructuring under section ~~3302.10, 3302.12, or~~ 3302.042 of the 764
Revised Code, or federal law. 765

The school action team shall provide quarterly updates of 766
its work in a public hearing that complies with the same 767
specifications prescribed in division (B) of this section. 768

(F) Upon completion of the audit and review, the school 769
action team shall present its findings at a public hearing that 770
complies with the same specifications prescribed in division (B) 771
of this section. After the school action team presents its 772
findings at the public hearing, it shall create a community 773
learning center improvement plan that designates appropriate 774
interventions, which may be based on the recommendations 775
developed by the department under division (H) (1) (b) of this 776
section. 777

If there is a federally mandated school improvement 778
planning process, the team shall coordinate its work with that 779
plan. 780

The school action team shall approve the plan by a 781
majority vote. 782

(G) Upon approval of the plan by the school action team, 783
the team shall submit the community learning center improvement 784
plan to the same individuals described in division (C) of this 785
section. Ballots shall be distributed and an election shall be 786
conducted in the same manner as indicated under that division. 787

The school action team shall submit the plan to the 788
district board of education or community school governing 789
authority, if the results of the election under division (G) of 790
this section are as follows: 791

(1) At least thirty per cent of parents and guardians of 792
students enrolled in the eligible school building and students 793
enrolled in a different building operated by a joint vocational 794
school district but who are entitled to attend the school cast 795
ballots by a date set by the board or governing authority, and 796
of those ballots at least fifty per cent are in favor of 797
initiating the process; and 798

(2) At least thirty per cent of teachers and nonteaching 799
employees who are assigned to the school cast ballots by a date 800
set by the board or governing authority, and of those ballots at 801
least fifty per cent are in favor of initiating the process. 802

The board or governing authority shall evaluate the plan 803
and determine whether to adopt it. The board or governing 804
authority shall adopt the plan in full or adopt portions of the 805
plan. If the board or governing authority does not adopt the 806

plan in full, it shall provide a written explanation of why 807
portions of the plan were rejected. 808

(H) (1) The department shall do all of the following with 809
respect to this section: 810

(a) Adopt rules regarding the elections required under 811
this section; 812

(b) Develop appropriate interventions for a community 813
learning center improvement plan that may be used by a school 814
action team under division (F) of this section; 815

(c) Publish a menu of programs and services that may be 816
offered by community learning centers. The information shall be 817
posted on the department's web site. To compile this information 818
the department shall solicit input from resource coordinators of 819
existing community learning centers. 820

(d) Provide information regarding implementation of 821
comprehensive community-based programs and supportive services 822
including the community learning center model to school 823
buildings meeting any of the following conditions: 824

(i) The building is in improvement status as defined by 825
the "No Child Left Behind Act of 2001" or under an agreement 826
between the Ohio department of education and workforce and the 827
United States secretary of education. 828

(ii) The building is a secondary school that is among the 829
lowest achieving fifteen per cent of secondary schools 830
statewide, as determined by the department. 831

(iii) The building is a secondary school with a graduation 832
rate of sixty per cent or lower for three or more consecutive 833
years. 834

(iv) The building is a school that the department 835
determines is persistently low-performing. 836

(2) The department may do the following with respect to 837
this section: 838

(a) Provide assistance, facilitation, and training to 839
school action teams in the conducting of the audit required 840
under this section; 841

(b) Provide opportunities for members of school action 842
teams from different schools to share school improvement 843
strategies with parents, teachers, and other relevant 844
stakeholders in higher performing schools; 845

(c) Provide financial support in a school action team's 846
planning process and create a grant program to assist in the 847
implementation of a qualified community learning center plan. 848

(I) Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary in 849
Chapter 4117. of the Revised Code, the requirements of this 850
section prevail over any conflicting provisions of a collective 851
bargaining agreement entered into on or after October 15, 2015. 852
However, the board or governing authority and the teachers' 853
labor organization may negotiate additional factors to be 854
considered in the adoption of a community learning center plan. 855

Sec. 3310.03. For the 2021-2022 school year and each 856
school year thereafter, subject to division (G) of this section, 857
a student is an "eligible student" for purposes of the 858
educational choice scholarship pilot program if the student's 859
resident district is not a school district in which the pilot 860
project scholarship program is operating under sections 3313.974 861
to 3313.979 of the Revised Code, the student satisfies one of 862
the conditions in division (A), (B), or (C) of this section, and 863

the student maintains eligibility to receive a scholarship under 864
division (D) of this section. 865

However, any student who received a scholarship for the 866
2020-2021 school year under this section, as it existed prior to 867
March 2, 2021, shall continue to receive that scholarship until 868
the student completes grade twelve, as long as the student 869
maintains eligibility to receive a scholarship under division 870
(D) of this section. 871

(A) (1) A student is eligible for a scholarship if the 872
student is enrolled in a school building operated by the 873
student's resident district and to which both of the following 874
apply: 875

(a) The building was ranked in the lowest twenty per cent 876
of all buildings operated by city, local, and exempted village 877
school districts according to performance index score as 878
determined by the department of education and workforce, as 879
follows: 880

(i) For a scholarship sought for the 2021-2022 or 2022- 881
2023 school year, the building was ranked in the lowest twenty 882
per cent of buildings for each of the 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 883
school years. 884

(ii) For a scholarship sought for the 2023-2024 school 885
year, the building was ranked in the lowest twenty per cent of 886
buildings for each of the 2018-2019 and 2021-2022 school years. 887

(iii) For a scholarship sought for the 2024-2025 school 888
year, the building was ranked in the lowest twenty per cent of 889
buildings for each of the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 school years. 890

(iv) For a scholarship sought for the 2025-2026 school 891
year or any school year thereafter, the building was ranked in 892

the lowest twenty per cent of buildings for at least two of the 893
three most recent consecutive rankings issued prior to the first 894
day of July of the school year for which a scholarship is 895
sought. 896

(b) The building is operated by a school district in 897
which, for the three consecutive school years prior to the 898
school year for which a scholarship is sought, an average of 899
twenty per cent or more of the students entitled to attend 900
school in the district, under section 3313.64 or 3313.65 of the 901
Revised Code, were qualified to be included in the formula to 902
distribute funds under Title I of the "Elementary and Secondary 903
Education Act of 1965," 20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq. 904

When ranking school buildings under division (A) (1) of 905
this section, the department shall not include buildings 906
operated by a school district in which the pilot project 907
scholarship program is operating in accordance with sections 908
3313.974 to 3313.979 of the Revised Code. 909

(2) A student is eligible for a scholarship if the student 910
will be enrolling in any of grades kindergarten through twelve 911
in this state for the first time in the school year for which a 912
scholarship is sought, will be at least five years of age, as 913
defined in section 3321.01 of the Revised Code, by the first day 914
of January of the school year for which a scholarship is sought, 915
and otherwise would be assigned under section 3319.01 of the 916
Revised Code in the school year for which a scholarship is 917
sought, to a school building described in division (A) (1) of 918
this section. 919

(3) A student is eligible for a scholarship if the student 920
is enrolled in a community school established under Chapter 921
3314. of the Revised Code but otherwise would be assigned under 922

section 3319.01 of the Revised Code to a building described in 923
division (A) (1) of this section. 924

(4) A student is eligible for a scholarship if the student 925
is enrolled in a school building operated by the student's 926
resident district or in a community school established under 927
Chapter 3314. of the Revised Code and otherwise would be 928
assigned under section 3319.01 of the Revised Code to a school 929
building described in division (A) (1) of this section in the 930
school year for which the scholarship is sought. 931

(5) A student is eligible for a scholarship if the student 932
was enrolled in a public or nonpublic school or was homeschooled 933
in the prior school year and completed any of grades eight 934
through eleven in that school year and otherwise would be 935
assigned under section 3319.01 of the Revised Code to a school 936
building described in division (A) (1) of this section in the 937
school year for which the scholarship is sought. 938

(B) A student is eligible for a scholarship if the student 939
is enrolled in a nonpublic school at the time the school is 940
granted a charter by the director of education and workforce 941
under section 3301.16 of the Revised Code and the student meets 942
the standards of division (B) of section 3310.031 of the Revised 943
Code. 944

(C) APrior to the effective date of this amendment, a 945
student is eligible for a scholarship if the student's resident 946
district ~~is~~was subject to former section 3302.10 of the Revised 947
Code ~~and the student either:~~ 948

~~(1) Is enrolled in a school building operated by the~~ 949
~~resident district or in a community school established under~~ 950
~~Chapter 3314. of the Revised Code;~~ 951

~~(2) Will be both enrolling in any of grades kindergarten through twelve in this state for the first time and at least five years of age by the first day of January of the school year for which a scholarship is sought~~ as it existed on that date, and the student remains an eligible student pursuant to division (D) of this section. The department shall cease awarding first-time scholarships pursuant to division (C) of this section on the effective date of this amendment.

(D) A student who receives a scholarship under the educational choice scholarship pilot program remains an eligible student and may continue to receive scholarships in subsequent school years until the student completes grade twelve, so long as all of the following apply:

(1) The student's resident district remains the same, or the student transfers to a new resident district and otherwise would be assigned in the new resident district to a school building described in division (A) (1) or (C) of this section.

(2) The student takes each assessment prescribed for the student's grade level under section 3301.0710, 3301.0712, or 3313.619 of the Revised Code while enrolled in a chartered nonpublic school, unless one of the following applies to the student:

(a) The student is excused from taking that assessment under federal law, the student's individualized education program, or division (C) (1) (c) (i) of section 3301.0711 of the Revised Code.

(b) The student is enrolled in a chartered nonpublic school that meets the conditions specified in division (K) (2) or (L) (4) of section 3301.0711 of the Revised Code.

(c) The student is enrolled in any of grades three to 981
eight and takes an alternative standardized assessment under 982
division (K) (1) of section 3301.0711 of the Revised Code. 983

(d) The student is excused from taking the assessment 984
prescribed under division (B) (1) of section 3301.0712 of the 985
Revised Code pursuant to division (C) (1) (c) (ii) of section 986
3301.0711 of the Revised Code. 987

(3) In each school year that the student is enrolled in a 988
chartered nonpublic school, the student is absent from school 989
for not more than twenty days that the school is open for 990
instruction, not including excused absences. 991

~~(E) (1)~~ (E) The department shall cease awarding first-time 992
scholarships pursuant to divisions (A) (1) to (5) of this section 993
with respect to a school building that, in the most recent 994
ratings of school buildings under section 3302.03 of the Revised 995
Code prior to the first day of July of the school year, ceases 996
to meet the criteria in division (A) (1) of this section. 997

~~(2) The department shall cease awarding first-time~~ 998
~~scholarships pursuant to division (C) of this section with~~ 999
~~respect to a school district subject to section 3302.10 of the~~ 1000
~~Revised Code when the academic distress commission established~~ 1001
~~for the district ceases to exist.~~ 1002

~~(3)~~ However, students who have received scholarships in 1003
the prior school year remain eligible students pursuant to 1004
division (D) of this section. 1005

(F) The department shall adopt rules defining excused 1006
absences for purposes of division (D) (3) of this section. 1007

(G) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this 1008
section or section 3310.031 of the Revised Code, a student shall 1009

not be required to be enrolled or enrolling in a school building 1010
operated by the student's resident district or a community 1011
school in order to be eligible for a scholarship, as follows: 1012

(1) For a scholarship sought for the 2021-2022 school 1013
year, a student entering any of grades kindergarten through two; 1014

(2) For a scholarship sought for the 2022-2023 school 1015
year, a student entering any of grades kindergarten through 1016
four; 1017

(3) For a scholarship sought for the 2023-2024 school 1018
year, a student entering any of grades kindergarten through six; 1019

(4) For a scholarship sought for the 2024-2025 school 1020
year, a student entering any of grades kindergarten through 1021
eight; 1022

(5) For a scholarship sought for the 2025-2026 school 1023
year, and each school year thereafter, a student entering any of 1024
grades kindergarten through twelve. 1025

(H) Except as provided for in section 3310.13 of the 1026
Revised Code and in division (C) (2) of section 3365.07 of the 1027
Revised Code, the department shall not require the parent of a 1028
student who applies for or receives a scholarship under this 1029
section or section 3310.033, 3310.034, or 3310.035 of the 1030
Revised Code to complete any kind of income verification 1031
regarding the student's family income. 1032

Sec. 3311.29. (A) Except as provided under division (B), 1033
(C), or (D) of this section, no school district shall be created 1034
and no school district shall exist which does not maintain 1035
within such district public schools consisting of grades 1036
kindergarten through twelve and any such existing school 1037
district not maintaining such schools shall be dissolved and its 1038

territory joined with another school district or districts by 1039
order of the state board of education if no agreement is made 1040
among the surrounding districts voluntarily, which order shall 1041
provide an equitable division of the funds, property, and 1042
indebtedness of the dissolved school district among the 1043
districts receiving its territory. The state board of education 1044
may authorize exceptions to school districts where topography, 1045
sparsity of population, and other factors make compliance 1046
impracticable. 1047

The director of education and workforce is without 1048
authority to distribute funds under Chapter 3317. of the Revised 1049
Code to any school district that does not maintain schools with 1050
grades kindergarten through twelve and to which no exception has 1051
been granted by the state board of education. 1052

(B) Division (A) of this section does not apply to any 1053
joint vocational school district or any cooperative education 1054
school district established pursuant to divisions (A) to (C) of 1055
section 3311.52 of the Revised Code. 1056

(C) (1) (a) Except as provided in division (C) (3) of this 1057
section, division (A) of this section does not apply to any 1058
cooperative education school district established pursuant to 1059
section 3311.521 of the Revised Code nor to the city, exempted 1060
village, or local school districts that have territory within 1061
such a cooperative education district. 1062

(b) The cooperative district and each city, exempted 1063
village, or local district with territory within the cooperative 1064
district shall maintain the grades that the resolution adopted 1065
or amended pursuant to section 3311.521 of the Revised Code 1066
specifies. 1067

(2) Any cooperative education school district described 1068
under division (C)(1) of this section that fails to maintain the 1069
grades it is specified to operate shall be dissolved by order of 1070
the state board of education unless prior to such an order the 1071
cooperative district is dissolved pursuant to section 3311.54 of 1072
the Revised Code. Any such order shall provide for the equitable 1073
adjustment, division, and disposition of the assets, property, 1074
debts, and obligations of the district among each city, local, 1075
and exempted village school district whose territory is in the 1076
cooperative district and shall provide that the tax duplicate of 1077
each city, local, and exempted village school district whose 1078
territory is in the cooperative district shall be bound for and 1079
assume its share of the outstanding indebtedness of the 1080
cooperative district. 1081

(3) If any city, exempted village, or local school 1082
district described under division (C)(1) of this section fails 1083
to maintain the grades it is specified to operate the 1084
cooperative district within which it has territory shall be 1085
dissolved in accordance with division (C)(2) of this section and 1086
upon that dissolution any city, exempted village, or local 1087
district failing to maintain grades kindergarten through twelve 1088
shall be subject to the provisions for dissolution in division 1089
(A) of this section. 1090

(D) Division (A) of this section does not apply to any 1091
school district that is or has ever been subject to former 1092
section 3302.10 of the Revised Code, as it ~~exists on and after~~ 1093
~~October 15, 2015~~existed prior to the effective date of this 1094
amendment, and has had a majority of its schools reconstituted 1095
or closed under that section. 1096

Sec. 3313.951. (A) As used in this section: 1097

(1) "Law enforcement agency" has the same meaning as in 1098
section 149.435 of the Revised Code. 1099

(2) "Peace officer" has the same meaning as in division 1100
(A) (1) of section 109.71 of the Revised Code. 1101

(3) "School resource officer" means a peace officer who is 1102
appointed through a memorandum of understanding between a law 1103
enforcement agency and a school district or a chartered 1104
nonpublic school to provide services to a school district or 1105
school as described in this section. 1106

(B) (1) A school resource officer who provides services to 1107
a school district or school on or after November 2, 2018, shall, 1108
except as described in division (B) (2) of this section, satisfy 1109
both of the following conditions: 1110

(a) Complete a basic training program approved by the Ohio 1111
peace officer training commission, as described in division (B) 1112
(1) of section 109.77 of the Revised Code; 1113

(b) Complete at least forty hours of school resource 1114
officer training within one year after appointment to provide 1115
those services through one of the following entities, as 1116
approved by the Ohio peace officer training commission: 1117

(i) The national association of school resource officers; 1118

(ii) The Ohio school resource officer association; 1119

(iii) The Ohio peace officer training academy. 1120

(2) A school resource officer who is appointed to provide 1121
services to a school district or school prior to November 2, 1122
2018, shall be exempt from compliance with the training 1123
requirements prescribed in division (B) (1) (b) of this section. 1124

(3) A certified training program provided by an entity 1125
described in division (B) (1) (b) of this section shall include 1126
instruction regarding skills, tactics, and strategies necessary 1127
to address the specific nature of all of the following: 1128

(a) School campuses; 1129

(b) School building security needs and characteristics; 1130

(c) The nuances of law enforcement functions conducted 1131
inside a school environment, including: 1132

(i) Understanding the psychological and physiological 1133
characteristics consistent with the ages of the students in the 1134
assigned building or buildings; 1135

(ii) Understanding the appropriate role of school resource 1136
officers regarding discipline and reducing the number of 1137
referrals to juvenile court; and 1138

(iii) Understanding the use of developmentally appropriate 1139
interview, interrogation, de-escalation, and behavior management 1140
strategies. 1141

(d) The mechanics of being a positive role model for 1142
youth, including appropriate communication techniques which 1143
enhance interactions between the school resource officer and 1144
students; 1145

(e) Providing assistance on topics such as classroom 1146
management tools to provide law-related education to students 1147
and methods for managing the behaviors sometimes associated with 1148
educating children with special needs; 1149

(f) The mechanics of the laws regarding compulsory 1150
attendance, as set forth in Chapter 3321. of the Revised Code; 1151

(g) Identifying the trends in drug use, eliminating the 1152
instance of drug use, and encouraging a drug-free environment in 1153
schools. 1154

(4) The Ohio peace officer training commission shall adopt 1155
rules, in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, for 1156
the approval of school resource officer training provided by an 1157
entity described in division (B)(1)(b) of this section. 1158

(C)(1) If a school district or chartered nonpublic school 1159
decides to utilize school resource officer services, the school 1160
district or chartered nonpublic school and the appropriate law 1161
enforcement agency shall first enter into a memorandum of 1162
understanding that clarifies the purpose of the school resource 1163
officer program and roles and expectations between the 1164
participating entities. If a school district is already 1165
utilizing school resource officer services on November 2, 2018, 1166
the school district and the law enforcement agency shall enter 1167
into a memorandum of understanding within one year after 1168
November 2, 2018. 1169

(2) Each memorandum of understanding shall address the 1170
following items: 1171

(a) Clearly defined set of goals for the school resource 1172
officer program; 1173

(b) Background requirements or suggested expertise for 1174
employing law enforcement in the school setting, including an 1175
understanding of child and adolescent development; 1176

(c) Professional development, including training 1177
requirements that focus on age-appropriate practices for 1178
conflict resolution and developmentally informed de-escalation 1179
and crisis intervention methods; 1180

(d) Clearly defined roles, responsibilities, and 1181
expectations of the parties involved, including school resource 1182
officers, law enforcement, school administrators, staff, and 1183
teachers; 1184

(e) A protocol for how suspected criminal activity versus 1185
school discipline is to be handled; 1186

(f) The requirement for coordinated crisis planning and 1187
updating of school crisis plans; 1188

(g) Any other discretionary items determined by the 1189
parties to foster a school resource officer program that builds 1190
positive relationships between law enforcement, school staff, 1191
and the students, promotes a safe and positive learning 1192
environment, and decreases the number of youth formally referred 1193
to the juvenile justice system. 1194

(3) A school district or school, through its school 1195
administration, may give students an opportunity to provide 1196
input during the drafting process of any memorandum of 1197
understanding being entered into pursuant to division (C) of 1198
this section. 1199

(D) (1) In accordance with the requirements prescribed in 1200
this section, a school resource officer may work in one or more 1201
school districts or schools providing the following services: 1202

(a) Assistance with adoption, implementation, and 1203
amendment of the comprehensive emergency management plan 1204
required under section 5502.262 of the Revised Code; 1205

(b) Carrying out any additional responsibilities assigned 1206
to the school resource officer under the employment engagement, 1207
contract, or memorandum of understanding, including but not 1208
limited to: 1209

(i) Providing a safe learning environment;	1210
(ii) Providing valuable resources to school staff members;	1211
(iii) Fostering positive relationships with students and staff;	1212 1213
(iv) Developing strategies to resolve problems affecting youth and protecting all students.	1214 1215
(2) A school resource officer shall consult with local law enforcement officials and first responders when assisting a school district's <u>or chartered nonpublic school's</u> administrator in the development of a comprehensive emergency management plan.	1216 1217 1218 1219
(E) The school district or school administrator shall have final decision-making authority regarding all matters of school discipline.	1220 1221 1222
Sec. 3314.102. (A) As used in this section:	1223
(1) "Chief executive officer" means a chief executive officer appointed by an academic distress commission pursuant to section 3302.10 of the Revised Code.	1224 1225 1226
(2) "Municipal," "municipal school district" and "mayor" have the same meanings as in section 3311.71 of the Revised Code.	1227 1228 1229
(B) Notwithstanding section 3314.10 and sections 4117.03 to 4117.18 of the Revised Code and Section 4 of Amended Substitute Senate Bill No. 133 of the 115th general assembly, the employees of a conversion community school that is sponsored by the board of education of a municipal school district or a school district for which an academic distress commission has been established under section 3302.10 of the Revised Code shall cease to be subject to any future collective bargaining	1230 1231 1232 1233 1234 1235 1236 1237

agreement, if the mayor ~~or chief executive officer~~ submits to 1238
the board of education sponsoring the school and to the state 1239
employment relations board a statement requesting that all 1240
employees of the community school be removed from a collective 1241
bargaining unit. The employees of the community school who are 1242
covered by a collective bargaining agreement in effect on the 1243
date the mayor ~~or chief executive officer~~ submits the statement 1244
shall remain subject to that collective bargaining agreement 1245
until the collective bargaining agreement expires on its terms. 1246
Upon expiration of that collective bargaining agreement, the 1247
employees of that school are not subject to Chapter 4117. of the 1248
Revised Code and may not organize or collectively bargain 1249
pursuant to that chapter. 1250

Section 2. That existing sections 133.06, 505.431, 1251
3302.036, 3302.042, 3302.16, 3302.17, 3310.03, 3311.29, 1252
3313.951, and 3314.102 of the Revised Code are hereby repealed. 1253

Section 3. That sections 3302.10, 3302.103, 3302.11, 1254
3302.111, and 3302.12 of the Revised Code are hereby repealed. 1255

Section 4. That Sections 4, 5, and 6 of H.B. 70 of the 1256
131st General Assembly are hereby repealed. 1257

Section 5. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in 1258
section 3313.951 of the Revised Code as amended by this act, 1259
prior to the 2026-2027 school year, a chartered nonpublic school 1260
may engage the services of a school resource officer who does 1261
not meet the requirements in division (B) of that section or is 1262
not appointed under a memorandum of understanding under division 1263
(C) of that section. 1264