

As Passed by the House

134th General Assembly

Regular Session

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Sub. H. B. No. 442

Representatives Stephens, Ray

**Cosponsors: Representatives Kick, LaRe, Seitz, Cross, Schmidt, Baldrige,
Young, T., Lipps, Fowler Arthur, White, Hillyer, McClain, Abrams, Brown,
Callender, Carfagna, Carruthers, Crossman, Ginter, Gross, Jones, Leland,
Loychik, Pavliga, Riedel, Swearingen, Troy**

A BILL

To amend section 3107.014 and to enact section 1
5103.57 of the Revised Code regarding 2
qualifications for adoption and foster care home 3
assessors and professional treatment staff. 4

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

Section 1. That section 3107.014 be amended and section 5
5103.57 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as follows: 6

Sec. 3107.014. (A) Except as provided in division (B) of 7
this section, only an individual who meets all of the following 8
requirements may perform the duties of an assessor under 9
sections 3107.031, 3107.032, 3107.082, 3107.09, 3107.101, 10
3107.12, 5103.0324, and 5103.152 of the Revised Code: 11

(1) The individual must be in the employ of, appointed by, 12
or under contract with a court, public children services agency, 13
private child placing agency, or private noncustodial agency; 14

(2) The individual must be one of the following: 15

(a) A licensed professional clinical counselor, licensed professional counselor, independent social worker, social worker, independent marriage and family therapist, or marriage and family therapist licensed under Chapter 4757. of the Revised Code;

(b) A psychologist licensed under Chapter 4732. of the Revised Code;

(c) A student working to earn a four-year, post-secondary degree, or higher, in a social or behavior science, or both, who conducts assessor's duties under the supervision of a licensed professional clinical counselor, licensed professional counselor, independent social worker, social worker, independent marriage and family therapist, or marriage and family therapist licensed under Chapter 4757. of the Revised Code or a psychologist licensed under Chapter 4732. of the Revised Code. Beginning July 1, 2009, a student is eligible under this division only if the supervising licensed professional clinical counselor, licensed professional counselor, independent social worker, social worker, independent marriage and family therapist, marriage and family therapist, or psychologist has completed training in accordance with rules adopted under section 3107.015 of the Revised Code.

(d) A civil service employee engaging in social work without a license under Chapter 4757. of the Revised Code, as permitted by division (A) (5) of section 4757.41 of the Revised Code;

(e) A former employee of a public children services agency who, while so employed, conducted the duties of an assessor or the duties of a PCSA caseworker or PCSA caseworker supervisor as defined in section 5153.01 of the Revised Code;

(f) An employee of a court or public children services agency who is employed to conduct the duties of an assessor;	46 47
<u>(g) A PCSA caseworker or PCSA caseworker supervisor as defined in section 5153.01 of the Revised Code;</u>	48 49
<u>(h) A person who holds at least a bachelor's degree in any of the following human services fields and has at least one year of experience working with families and children:</u>	50 51 52
<u>(i) Social work;</u>	53
<u>(ii) Sociology;</u>	54
<u>(iii) Psychology;</u>	55
<u>(iv) Guidance and counseling;</u>	56
<u>(v) Education;</u>	57
<u>(vi) Religious education;</u>	58
<u>(vii) Business administration;</u>	59
<u>(viii) Criminal justice;</u>	60
<u>(ix) Public administration;</u>	61
<u>(x) Child care administration;</u>	62
<u>(xi) Nursing;</u>	63
<u>(xii) Family studies;</u>	64
<u>(xiii) Any other human services field related to working with children and families.</u>	65 66
(3) The individual must complete training in accordance with rules adopted under section 3107.015 of the Revised Code.	67 68
(B) An individual in the employ of, appointed by, or under	69

contract with a court prior to September 18, 1996, to conduct 70
adoption investigations of prospective adoptive parents may 71
perform the duties of an assessor under sections 3107.031, 72
3107.032, 3107.082, 3107.09, 3107.101, 3107.12, 5103.0324, and 73
5103.152 of the Revised Code if the individual complies with 74
division (A) (3) of this section regardless of whether the 75
individual meets the requirement of division (A) (2) of this 76
section. 77

(C) A court, public children services agency, private 78
child placing agency, or private noncustodial agency may employ, 79
appoint, or contract with an assessor in the county in which a 80
petition for adoption is filed and in any other county or 81
location outside this state where information needed to complete 82
or supplement the assessor's duties may be obtained. More than 83
one assessor may be utilized for an adoption. 84

(D) Not later than January 1, 2008, the department of job 85
and family services shall develop and maintain an assessor 86
registry. The registry shall list all individuals who are 87
employed, appointed by, or under contract with a court, public 88
children services agency, private child placing agency, or 89
private noncustodial agency and meet the requirements of an 90
assessor as described in this section. A public children 91
services agency, private child placing agency, private 92
noncustodial agency, court, or any other person may contact the 93
department to determine if an individual is listed in the 94
assessor registry. An individual listed in the assessor registry 95
shall immediately inform the department when that individual is 96
no longer employed, appointed by, or under contract with a 97
court, public children services agency, private child placing 98
agency, or private noncustodial agency to perform the duties of 99
an assessor as described in this section. The director of job 100

and family services shall adopt rules in accordance with Chapter 101
119. of the Revised Code necessary for the implementation, 102
contents, and maintenance of the registry, and any sanctions 103
related to the provision of information, or the failure to 104
provide information, that is needed for the proper operation of 105
the assessor registry. 106

Sec. 5103.57. (A) As used in this section: 107

(1) "Professional treatment staff" means a specialized 108
foster home program agency employee or contractor with 109
responsibility for any of the following: 110

(a) Providing rehabilitative services to a child placed in 111
a specialized foster home program or to the child's family; 112

(b) Conducting home studies as an assessor for specialized 113
foster homes; 114

(c) Providing clinical direction to specialized foster 115
caregivers; 116

(d) Supervision of treatment team leaders. 117

(2) "Specialized foster home" has the same meaning as in 118
section 5103.02 of the Revised Code. 119

(B) Professional treatment staff employed by a public 120
children services agency, private child placing agency, or 121
private noncustodial agency who are not subject to the licensing 122
requirements of Chapter 4757. of the Revised Code shall meet the 123
requirements of sections 5153.112 and 5153.122 of the Revised 124
Code. 125

Section 2. That existing section 3107.014 of the Revised 126
Code is hereby repealed. 127