

**As Reported by the House State and Local Government Committee**

**134th General Assembly**

**Regular Session**

**2021-2022**

**Sub. H. B. No. 442**

**Representatives Stephens, Ray**

**Cosponsors: Representatives Kick, LaRe, Seitz, Cross, Schmidt, Baldrige,  
Young, T., Lipps, Fowler Arthur, White, Hillyer, McClain**

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**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 16

professional counselor, independent social worker, social 17  
worker, independent marriage and family therapist, or marriage 18  
and family therapist licensed under Chapter 4757. of the Revised 19  
Code; 20

(b) A psychologist licensed under Chapter 4732. of the 21  
Revised Code; 22

(c) A student working to earn a four-year, post-secondary 23  
degree, or higher, in a social or behavior science, or both, who 24  
conducts assessor's duties under the supervision of a licensed 25  
professional clinical counselor, licensed professional 26  
counselor, independent social worker, social worker, independent 27  
marriage and family therapist, or marriage and family therapist 28  
licensed under Chapter 4757. of the Revised Code or a 29  
psychologist licensed under Chapter 4732. of the Revised Code. 30  
Beginning July 1, 2009, a student is eligible under this 31  
division only if the supervising licensed professional clinical 32  
counselor, licensed professional counselor, independent social 33  
worker, social worker, independent marriage and family 34  
therapist, marriage and family therapist, or psychologist has 35  
completed training in accordance with rules adopted under 36  
section 3107.015 of the Revised Code. 37

(d) A civil service employee engaging in social work 38  
without a license under Chapter 4757. of the Revised Code, as 39  
permitted by division (A) (5) of section 4757.41 of the Revised 40  
Code; 41

(e) A former employee of a public children services agency 42  
who, while so employed, conducted the duties of an assessor or 43  
the duties of a PCSA caseworker or PCSA caseworker supervisor as 44  
defined in section 5153.01 of the Revised Code; 45

(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