

**As Introduced**

**135th General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2023-2024**

**S. B. No. 14**

**Senator Hoagland**

**Cosponsors: Senators Lang, Schaffer, O'Brien, Cirino**

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**A BILL**

To amend sections 3319.074 and 3319.283 of the  
Revised Code to expand eligibility for veterans  
of the U.S. Armed Forces to be employed as  
teachers without licenses.

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

**Section 1.** That sections 3319.074 and 3319.283 of the  
Revised Code be amended to read as follows:

**Sec. 3319.074.** (A) As used in this section:

(1) "Core subject area" means reading and English language  
arts, mathematics, science, social studies, foreign language,  
and fine arts.

(2) "Properly certified or licensed teacher" means a  
classroom teacher who has successfully completed all  
requirements for certification or licensure under this chapter  
applicable to the subject areas and grade levels in which the  
teacher provides instruction and the students to whom the  
teacher provides the instruction.

(3) "Properly certified paraprofessional" means a

paraprofessional who holds an educational aide permit issued 18  
under section 3319.088 of the Revised Code and satisfies at 19  
least one of the following conditions: 20

(a) Has a designation of "ESEA qualified" on the 21  
educational aide permit; 22

(b) Has successfully completed at least two years of 23  
coursework at an accredited institution of higher education; 24

(c) Holds an associate degree or higher from an accredited 25  
institution of higher education; 26

(d) Meets a rigorous standard of quality as demonstrated 27  
by attainment of a qualifying score on an academic assessment 28  
specified by the department of education. 29

(B) Beginning July 1, 2019, no city, exempted village, 30  
local, joint vocational, or cooperative education school 31  
district shall do either of the following: 32

(1) Employ any classroom teacher to provide instruction in 33  
a core subject area to any student, unless such teacher is a 34  
properly certified or licensed teacher or employed in accordance 35  
with section 3319.283 of the Revised Code; 36

(2) Employ any paraprofessional in a program supported 37  
with funds received under Title I of the "Elementary and 38  
Secondary Education Act of 1965," 20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq., to 39  
provide academic support in a core subject area to any student, 40  
unless such paraprofessional is a properly certified 41  
paraprofessional. 42

(C) At the start of each school year, each school district 43  
shall notify the parent or guardian of each student enrolled in 44  
the district that the parent or guardian may request information 45

on the professional qualifications of each classroom teacher who provides instruction to the student. The district shall provide the information on each applicable teacher in a timely manner to any parent or guardian who requests it. Such information shall include at least the following:

(1) Whether the teacher has satisfied all requirements for certification or licensure under this chapter applicable to the subject areas and grade levels in which the teacher provides instruction and the students to whom the teacher provides the instruction, or whether the teacher provides instruction under a waiver of any such requirements;

(2) Whether a paraprofessional provides any services to the student and, if so, the qualifications of the paraprofessional.

**Sec. 3319.283.** (A) The As used in this section, "school governing authority" means any of the following:

(1) The board of education of any a school district may;

(2) The governing authority of a community school established under Chapter 3314. of the Revised Code;

(3) The governing body of a STEM school established under Chapter 3326. of the Revised Code.

(B) A school governing authority may employ an individual who is not certificated or licensed as required by Chapter 3319. of the Revised Code, but who meets the following qualifications, as a teacher in the schools of the district, a school operated by the school governing authority:

(1) The individual is a veteran of the armed forces of the United States and was honorably discharged within three years of

<del>June 30, 1997;</del> <u>to whom all of the following apply:</u>	74
<u>(a) The individual completed at least forty-eight months</u>	75
<u>of active duty military service.</u>	76
<u>(b) The individual received an honorable discharge or a</u>	77
<u>medical separation from the armed forces.</u>	78
<u>(c) The individual satisfies at least one of the following</u>	79
<u>conditions:</u>	80
<u>(i) The individual has a letter from a former commanding</u>	81
<u>officer that states that the individual is qualified to teach.</u>	82
<u>(ii) The individual earned a master training specialist</u>	83
<u>certification from the United States navy.</u>	84
<u>(iii) The individual served as a training officer or a</u>	85
<u>lead instructor while in the armed forces.</u>	86
<u>(iv) The individual served as a noncommissioned officer, a</u>	87
<u>warrant officer, or a senior enlisted person.</u>	88
<del>(2) While in the armed forces the individual had</del>	89
<del>meaningful teaching or other instructional experience;</del> <u>Subject</u>	90
<u>to division (E) of this section, the individual has demonstrated</u>	91
<u>mastery of the subject area to be taught, as determined by the</u>	92
<u>school governing authority.</u>	93
<del>(3) The individual holds</del> <u>completed at least a</u>	94
<del>baccalaureate degree;</del> <u>sixty college credits with a grade point</u>	95
<u>average of at least 2.5 out of 4.0 from one or more accredited</u>	96
<u>institutions of higher education.</u>	97
<del>(B)</del> <u>(C) An individual employed under this section shall be</u>	98
<u>deemed to hold a teaching certificate or educator license for</u>	99
<u>the purposes of state and federal law and rules and regulations</u>	100

and ~~the school district governing authority's~~ policies, rules, 101  
and regulations. ~~However, an individual employed under this~~ 102  
~~section is not a properly certified or licensed teacher for~~ 103  
~~purposes of the school district's compliance with section~~ 104  
~~3319.074 of the Revised Code.~~ Each individual employed under 105  
this section shall meet the requirement to successfully complete 106  
fifteen hours, or the equivalent, of coursework every five years 107  
that is approved by the local professional development committee 108  
as is required of other teachers licensed in accordance with 109  
Chapter 3319. of the Revised Code. 110

~~(C)~~ (D) As a condition of employment, each individual 111  
employed under division (B) of this section shall be subject to 112  
a criminal records check as prescribed by section 3319.391 of 113  
the Revised Code. In the manner prescribed by the department of 114  
education, the individual shall submit the criminal records 115  
check to the department and shall register with the department 116  
during the period in which the individual is employed by the 117  
school governing authority. The department shall use the 118  
information submitted to enroll the individual in the retained 119  
applicant fingerprint database, established under section 120  
109.5721 of the Revised Code, in the same manner as any teacher 121  
licensed under sections 3319.22 to 3319.31 of the Revised Code. 122

If the department receives notification of the arrest or 123  
conviction of an individual registered under this division, the 124  
department shall promptly notify the school governing authority 125  
and may take any action authorized under sections 3319.31 and 126  
3319.311 of the Revised Code that the department considers 127  
appropriate. The department shall not accept the application of 128  
any individual under this division if the department learns that 129  
the individual has pleaded guilty to, has been found guilty by a 130  
jury or court of, or has been convicted of any of the offenses 131

listed in division (C) of section 3319.31 of the Revised Code. 132

(E) The superintendent of public instruction may revoke 133  
the right of an individual employed under division ~~(A)~~ (B) of 134  
this section to teach if, after an investigation and an 135  
adjudication conducted pursuant to Chapter 119. of the Revised 136  
Code, the superintendent finds that the person is not competent 137  
to teach the subject the person has been employed to teach or 138  
did not fulfill the requirements of division ~~(A)~~ (B) of this 139  
section. No individual whose right to teach has been revoked 140  
under this division shall teach in a public school, and no ~~board~~ 141  
~~of education~~ school governing authority may engage such an 142  
individual to teach ~~in the schools of its district~~ a school it 143  
operates. 144

Notwithstanding division ~~(B)~~ (C) of this section, a board 145  
of education is not required to comply with the provisions of 146  
sections 3311.81, 3311.82, 3319.11, and 3319.16 of the Revised 147  
Code with regard to termination of employment if the 148  
superintendent, after an investigation and an adjudication, has 149  
revoked the individual's right to teach. 150

(F) The employing school governing authority shall assign 151  
a mentor to an individual employed under division (B) of this 152  
section for at least the first two years of employment. The 153  
assigned mentor shall be a teacher to whom all of the following 154  
apply: 155

(1) The teacher holds a valid educator license issued 156  
under section 3319.22 of the Revised Code. 157

(2) The teacher has at least three years of teaching 158  
experience in any of grades pre-kindergarten through twelve. 159

(3) If the school governing authority is a board of 160

education, the teacher received a rating of skilled or higher on 161  
the teacher's most recent evaluation under section 3319.111 of 162  
the Revised Code. 163

(G) Any individual employed as a teacher under this 164  
section as it existed prior to the effective date of this 165  
amendment may continue such employment on and after that date, 166  
subject to divisions (C) to (E) of this section. 167

**Section 2.** That existing sections 3319.074 and 3319.283 of 168  
the Revised Code are hereby repealed. 169