



Am. H.B. 11*

126th General Assembly
(As Reported by S. Education)

Reps. Schlichter, J. Stewart, Latta, Hartnett, C. Evans, S. Patton, Buehrer, Wolpert, Oelslager, Willamowski, Carano, Kearns, Setzer, Reidelbach, Combs, Hughes, Flowers, DeWine, Chandler, Brown, McGregor, Harwood, T. Patton, Calvert, Walcher, Taylor, Raga, Fessler, Seaver, Webster, Peterson, Wagner, Hood, Williams, Garrison, Barrett, Distel, Allen, Aslanides, Beatty, Blessing, Book, Bubp, Carmichael, Cassell, Coley, Collier, Core, Daniels, DeGeeter, Dolan, Domenick, Driehaus, D. Evans, Faber, Fende, Gibbs, Gilb, Hagan, Healy, Hoops, Key, Koziura, Law, Martin, Mason, Miller, Mitchell, Otterman, Perry, Redfern, Reinhard, Sayre, Schaffer, Skindell, G. Smith, D. Stewart, Strahorn, Sykes, Trakas, Uecker, Ujvagi, Wagoner, White, Widener, Widowfield

BILL SUMMARY

- Permits school district boards of education and chartered nonpublic schools to issue high school diplomas to veterans of the Vietnam Conflict (in addition to veterans of World War II and the Korean Conflict, as under current law) who left school to serve in the armed forces or who left school due to family circumstances and subsequently joined the armed forces.
- Permits school districts, educational service centers, and county MR/DD boards in fiscal year 2006 to apply for waivers to use funds appropriated for school bus purchases for purchasing bus fuel.

** This analysis was prepared before the report of the Senate Education Committee appeared in the Senate Journal. Note that the list of co-sponsors and the legislative history may be incomplete.*

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Diplomas for Vietnam veterans

(R.C. 3313.616)

Current law allows a board of education of any city, exempted village, or local school district or the governing authority of any chartered nonpublic school to grant a high school diploma to certain veterans of World War II or the Korean Conflict who do not already have an Ohio high school diploma or a diploma of adult education. A veteran who is an Ohio resident or, if not currently a resident, was previously enrolled in any Ohio high school can qualify for a diploma if the veteran left a public or nonpublic school located in *any* state prior to graduation either (1) in order to serve in the armed forces or (2) because of family circumstances and subsequently entered the armed forces. In addition, the veteran must have been honorably discharged from the armed forces. In the case of a veteran who is deceased, the diploma may be awarded posthumously and presented to a living relative.¹

The bill extends these diploma provisions to veterans of the Vietnam Conflict.

Waivers to use funds appropriated for school bus purchases for payment of bus fuel costs

(Section 3)

School districts, educational service centers, and county MR/DD boards, in accordance with rules adopted by the State Board of Education, may receive state subsidies to aid in the purchase of school buses to provide pupil transportation. Current law appropriates \$8.6 million for fiscal year 2006 for the school bus purchase subsidy.² The bill permits districts, service centers, and county MR/DD boards to apply to the Superintendent of Public Instruction for a waiver, under which, during fiscal year 2006 only, they may use all or a portion of the funds allocated to them for bus purchases to pay the cost of purchasing bus fuel. Under the bill, the Superintendent may grant a waiver to a school district, educational

¹ *The Governor's Office of Veterans' Affairs is directed to adopt rules to implement these provisions, including rules establishing procedures for application and verification of eligible veterans for diplomas. See Ohio Administrative Code 5902-3-01.*

² *R.C. 3317.024(E) and 3317.07 and Section 206.09.21 of Am. Sub. H.B. 66 of the 126th General Assembly, none in the bill.*



service center, or county MR/DD board only if it demonstrates to the Superintendent's satisfaction that it has a sufficient supply of buses or contracted bus service to meet its pupil transportation obligations for the fiscal year without spending all or part of its allocation for bus purchases. The Superintendent must prescribe in the waiver the portion of those funds that may be used for purchasing bus fuel.

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE	JOURNAL ENTRY
Introduced	01-25-05	p. 81
Reported, H. Education	02-09-05	pp. 194-195
Passed House (94-1)	02-15-05	pp. 211-217
Reported, S. Education	---	---

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