



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Bill Analysis

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H.B. 541

129th General Assembly
(As Introduced)

Reps. C. Hagan and Sprague, J. Adams, Baker, Derickson, Hackett, Newbold, Wachtmann, Garland

BILL SUMMARY

- Changes the minimum age at which an individual may be an apprentice to account for situations where a minimum age standard higher than 16 years of age is otherwise fixed by law.
 - Permits the Ohio Apprenticeship Council to recommend, rather than establish as under current law, minimum standards for apprenticeship programs and rules as may be necessary to carry out the Ohio Apprenticeship Law.
 - Eliminates the Council's authority to terminate registered apprenticeship agreements that are not in compliance with the applicable standards and instead requires the Council to consult with the Executive Secretary regarding that termination.
 - Separates the Executive Secretary from the Council by placing the Executive Secretary in the Council Office, and modifies the Executive Secretary's duties to reflect that separation.
 - Eliminates the Executive Secretary's duty to issue certificates of completion of apprenticeship in accordance with the Council's standards.
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CONTENT AND OPERATION

Administration of Ohio's registered apprenticeship system

Apprentices

The bill changes the minimum age at which an individual may be an apprentice for purposes of having a registered apprenticeship program to account for situations

where a minimum age standard higher than 16 years of age is otherwise fixed by law. In the absence of such a higher standard, the minimum age for apprenticeship remains at 16 years. Additionally, under the bill an individual, to be considered an apprentice, must participate in a registered apprenticeship program to learn a skilled occupation pursuant to a registered apprenticeship agreement, rather than being "covered" by an agreement as specified under current law.¹

Ohio Apprenticeship Council duties

The bill permits the Ohio Apprenticeship Council to recommend, rather than establish as under current law, minimum standards for apprenticeship programs and recommend, rather than issue, rules as may be necessary to carry out the Ohio Apprenticeship Law.² The Executive Secretary of the Council, under the bill, must register programs that meet the minimum standards established in federal regulations and state rules rather than the Council's minimum standards.³

Additionally, the bill eliminates the Council's authority to order the Executive Secretary to terminate registered apprenticeship agreements that are not in compliance with the applicable standards. Instead, the Executive Secretary may make such terminations in consultation with the Council.⁴

Executive Secretary of the Council

The bill separates the Executive Secretary from the Council. Under continuing law the Director of Job and Family Services appoints the Executive Secretary, and that appointment is subject to confirmation by a majority of the Council. The bill places the Executive Secretary within the Council Office, which is the unit within the Department of Job and Family Services that staffs the Council and performs the administrative and oversight functions concerning Ohio's registered apprenticeship system, rather than the Council.⁵

The bill also modifies the Executive Secretary's duties. The bill eliminates the Executive Secretary's duty to issue certificates of completion of apprenticeship in accordance with the Council's standards. In addition to continuing law duties, under the bill the Executive Secretary must implement administrative rules adopted by the

¹ R.C. 4139.01(A).

² R.C. 4139.03.

³ R.C. 4139.05(B).

⁴ R.C. 4319.05(C).

⁵ R.C. 4319.01(C) and 4319.05.

Director as necessary for the administration of the registered apprenticeship system. Additionally, the bill expands the Executive Secretary's duties with respect to procedures, requiring the Executive Secretary to devise and implement all procedures and minimum standards as are necessary for the administration of the registered apprenticeship system, rather than devising only all necessary procedures and records under current law. Under the bill the Executive Secretary must perform other duties as appropriate under the applicable rules and regulations rather than as the Council directs.⁶

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	05-08-12

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⁶ R.C. 4319.05(I).

