

1 HB429
2 216650-2
3 By Representatives Ledbetter and Collins
4 RFD: Ways and Means Education
5 First Read: 01-MAR-22

SYNOPSIS: This bill would authorize the State Board of Education to phase in the employment of auxiliary teachers to assist classroom teachers with instructional and noninstructional activities in all public schools in the state providing instruction in grades K-3.

A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to public K-12 schools; to require the State Board of Education to phase in the employment of auxiliary teachers to assist classroom teachers with instructional and noninstructional activities in all public schools in the state providing instruction in grades K-3.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. (a) The State Board of Education shall establish and maintain a comprehensive plan to phase in the employment of auxiliary teachers in public schools to partner

1 with certificated classroom teachers in the daily care and
2 instruction of children in grades K-3.

3 (b) The minimum education requirement for an
4 auxiliary teacher is a Child Development Associate credential
5 or the equivalent of nine hours of coursework in childhood
6 development as approved by the State Board of Education. The
7 State Board of Education shall prescribe the duties of
8 auxiliary teachers and shall also establish standards which
9 provide for a determination of how and when auxiliary teachers
10 may be used as an appropriate and necessary part of classroom
11 instruction. An auxiliary teacher employed under this section
12 shall be under the direction of a certificated teacher and the
13 immediate supervision of a school administrator, and may not
14 be utilized to carry out administrative duties other than
15 those administrative duties which may be assigned by the
16 classroom teacher or pursuant to policy of the local board of
17 education as prescribed by State Board of Education standards.

18 (c) The number of auxiliary teachers provided to
19 each school shall be based on a formula developed by the
20 board, taking into consideration average daily membership and
21 student proficiency on the Alabama Comprehensive Assessment
22 Program, or any successor program.

23 (d) (1) Commencing with the 2023-2024 school year,
24 the plan shall initially provide for the employment of
25 auxiliary teachers in those schools where 75 percent or more
26 of the student population are scoring at or below level 1

1 proficiency on the Alabama Comprehensive Assessment Program,
2 or any successor assessment program.

3 (2) Commencing with the 2024-2025 school year, in
4 addition to the auxiliary teachers provided for those schools
5 described in subdivision (1), the plan shall phase in the
6 employment of auxiliary teachers for the remaining public
7 schools in the state providing instruction in grades K-3, with
8 preference given to those schools with a high percentage of
9 the student population scoring below level 1 proficiency on
10 the Alabama Comprehensive Assessment Program, or any successor
11 program.

12 (3) On or before July 1, 2030, all public schools in
13 the state providing instruction in grades K-3 shall employ
14 auxiliary teachers.

15 (e) Nothing in this section shall be construed to
16 prohibit either of the following:

17 (1) A local board of education from utilizing an
18 individual who has completed, or is in the process of
19 completing, a school youth registered apprenticeship program
20 or internship in education pursuant to the Alabama College and
21 Career Readiness Act or who is credentialed or earning
22 credential pursuant to the Alabama Credential Quality and
23 Transparency Act.

24 (2) A local board of education from utilizing
25 students in attendance in high school grades, or students in
26 attendance in two-year or four-year institutions of higher

1 education, as volunteer aides or assistants to teachers and
2 other school personnel in addition to auxiliary teachers.

3 (f) The funding for this requirement is contingent
4 upon available revenue in the Education Trust Fund and
5 appropriation by the Legislature.

6 Section 2. This act shall become effective on the
7 first day of the third month following its passage and
8 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.