



General Assembly

Amendment

February Session, 2016

LCO No. 4974



Offered by:

SEN. LOONEY, 11th Dist.
SEN. DUFF, 25th Dist.
SEN. COLEMAN, 2nd Dist.
SEN. DOYLE, 9th Dist.
SEN. SLOSSBERG, 14th Dist.

SEN. GERRATANA, 6th Dist.
SEN. BARTOLOMEO, 13th Dist.
REP. WILLIS, 64th Dist.
SEN. WITKOS, 8th Dist.
REP. BETTS, 78th Dist.

To: Senate Bill No. 24

File No. 13

Cal. No. 64

**"AN ACT CONCERNING PROGRAM APPROVAL FOR
INDEPENDENT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION."**

1 Strike lines 138 to 155, inclusive, and insert the following in lieu
2 thereof:

3 "(l) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (b) to (j),
4 inclusive, of this section and subject to the authority of the State Board
5 of Education to regulate teacher education programs, new programs of
6 higher learning and program modifications proposed by an
7 independent institution of higher education, as defined in section 10a-
8 173, shall not be subject to approval by the Office of Higher Education,
9 until July 1, 2018, provided (1) the institution maintains eligibility to
10 participate in financial aid programs governed by Title IV, Part B of the
11 Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended from time to time, (2) the
12 United States Department of Education has not determined that the

13 institution has a financial responsibility score that is less than 1.5 for
14 the most recent fiscal year for which the data necessary for
15 determining the score is available, and (3) the institution has been
16 located in the state and accredited as a degree-granting institution in
17 good standing for ten years or more by a regional accrediting
18 association recognized by the Secretary of the United States
19 Department of Education and maintains such accreditation status. All
20 institutions that are exempt from program approval by the Office of
21 Higher Education under this subsection shall annually file with said
22 office not later than July first, annually, (A) a list and brief description
23 of any new programs of higher learning introduced by the institution
24 in the preceding academic year and any existing programs of higher
25 learning discontinued by the institution in the preceding academic
26 year, (B) the institution's current program approval process, and (C)
27 the institution's financial responsibility composite score, as determined
28 by the United States Department of Education, for the most recent
29 fiscal year for which the data necessary for determining the score is
30 available.

31 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2016*) Not later than December 31,
32 2017, the Office of Higher Education shall report to the Governor and,
33 in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general
34 statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly
35 having cognizance of matters relating to higher education regarding
36 the appropriate roles and responsibilities of a state higher education
37 regulatory agency in the protection of student interests and outcomes,
38 including, but not limited to, such agency's role in the implementation
39 of the strategic master plan for higher education developed pursuant
40 to section 10a-11b of the general statutes and of the goals set forth in
41 section 10a-11c of the general statutes."