AN ACT CONCERNING ACCEPTANCE OF INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITATION OF PRIVATE OCCUPATIONAL SCHOOLS BY THE OFFICE OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. Subsections (b) and (c) of section 10a-22b of the 2018 supplement to the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2018):

(b) Except for initial authorizations, the executive director [shall] may accept institutional accreditation by an accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education, in satisfaction of the requirements of this section and section 10a-22d, including the evaluation and attendance requirement, unless the executive director finds reasonable cause not to rely upon such accreditation. Except for initial authorizations, the executive director may accept programmatic accreditation in satisfaction of the requirements of this section and section 10a-22d with regard to instruction offered by a hospital pursuant to subsection (h) of this
section unless the executive director finds reasonable cause not to rely
upon such accreditation.

(c) Each person, board, association, partnership, corporation, limited
liability company or other entity which seeks to offer occupational
instruction shall submit to the executive director, or the executive
director's designee, in such manner as the executive director, or the
executive director's designee, prescribes, an application for a certificate
of authorization which includes, but need not be limited to, (1) the
proposed name of the school; (2) ownership and organization of the
school including the names and addresses of all principals, officers,
members and directors; (3) names and addresses of all stockholders of
the school, except for applicants which are listed on a national
securities exchange; (4) addresses of any building or premises on
which the school will be located; (5) description of the occupational
instruction to be offered; (6) the proposed student enrollment
agreement, which includes for each program of occupational
instruction offered a description, in plain language, of any
requirements for employment in such occupation or barriers to such
employment pursuant to state law or regulations; (7) the proposed
school catalog, which includes for each program of occupational
instruction offered a description of any requirements for employment
in such occupation or barriers to such employment pursuant to state
law or regulations; (8) financial statements detailing the financial
condition of the school pursuant to subsection (d) of this section and
subsection (g) of section 10a-22d prepared by management and
reviewed or audited, or, for a nonaccredited school annually enrolling
fewer than ten students, compiled, by an independent licensed
certified public accountant or independent licensed public accountant;
and (9) an agent for service of process. Each application for initial
authorization shall be accompanied by a nonrefundable application fee
made payable to the private occupational school student protection
account in the amount of two thousand dollars for the private
occupational school and two hundred dollars for each branch of a
private occupational school in this state. Each application for initial
authorization shall expire six months from the date such application was first submitted to the Office of Higher Education.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

| Section 1 | July 1, 2018 | 10a-22b(b) and (c) |

**Statement of Purpose:**
To make permissive the requirement that executive directors of private occupational schools accept third-party institutional accreditation, and to establish a six-month deadline for the submission of an initial application for authorization for a private occupational school.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]