



# Senate

General Assembly

**File No. 30**

February Session, 2018

Substitute Senate Bill No. 142

*Senate, March 22, 2018*

The Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement reported through SEN. BYE of the 5th Dist. and SEN. LINARES of the 33rd Dist., Chairpersons of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

***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:

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2 supplement to the general statutes are repealed and the following is  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

4 (b) Except for initial authorizations, the executive director [shall]  
5 may accept institutional accreditation by an accrediting agency  
6 recognized by the United States Department of Education, in  
7 satisfaction of the requirements of this section and section 10a-22d,  
8 including the evaluation and attendance requirement. [, unless the  
9 executive director finds reasonable cause not to rely upon such  
10 accreditation.] Except for initial authorizations, the executive director  
11 may accept programmatic accreditation in satisfaction of the

12 requirements of this section and section 10a-22d with regard to  
13 instruction offered by a hospital pursuant to subsection (h) of this  
14 section unless the executive director finds reasonable cause not to rely  
15 upon such accreditation.

16 (c) Each person, board, association, partnership, corporation, limited  
17 liability company or other entity which seeks to offer occupational  
18 instruction shall submit to the executive director, or the executive  
19 director's designee, in such manner as the executive director, or the  
20 executive director's designee, prescribes, an application for a certificate  
21 of authorization which includes, but need not be limited to, (1) the  
22 proposed name of the school; (2) ownership and organization of the  
23 school including the names and addresses of all principals, officers,  
24 members and directors; (3) names and addresses of all stockholders of  
25 the school, except for applicants which are listed on a national  
26 securities exchange; (4) addresses of any building or premises on  
27 which the school will be located; (5) description of the occupational  
28 instruction to be offered; (6) the proposed student enrollment  
29 agreement, which includes for each program of occupational  
30 instruction offered a description, in plain language, of any  
31 requirements for employment in such occupation or barriers to such  
32 employment pursuant to state law or regulations; (7) the proposed  
33 school catalog, which includes for each program of occupational  
34 instruction offered a description of any requirements for employment  
35 in such occupation or barriers to such employment pursuant to state  
36 law or regulations; (8) financial statements detailing the financial  
37 condition of the school pursuant to subsection (d) of this section and  
38 subsection (g) of section 10a-22d prepared by management and  
39 reviewed or audited, or, for a nonaccredited school annually enrolling  
40 fewer than ten students, compiled, by an independent licensed  
41 certified public accountant or independent licensed public accountant;  
42 and (9) an agent for service of process. Each application for initial  
43 authorization shall be accompanied by a nonrefundable application fee  
44 made payable to the private occupational school student protection  
45 account in the amount of two thousand dollars for the private  
46 occupational school and two hundred dollars for each branch of a

47 private occupational school in this state. Any application for initial  
48 authorization that remains incomplete six months after the date such  
49 application was first submitted to the Office of Higher Education shall  
50 expire and the office shall not approve such expired application for  
51 authorization.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2018	10a-22b(b) and (c)

**HED**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

---

***OFA Fiscal Note******State Impact:*** None***Municipal Impact:*** None***Explanation***

The bill does not result in a fiscal impact as it makes procedural changes requiring any initial certification application that the Office of Higher Education (OHE) receives from a private occupational school to expire if it remains incomplete six months after submittal. Additionally, the bill gives OHE greater discretion to accept or reject the accreditation of private occupational schools under certain circumstances.

***The Out Years******State Impact:*** None***Municipal Impact:*** None

---

**OLR Bill Analysis****sSB 142*****AN ACT CONCERNING ACCEPTANCE OF INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITATION OF PRIVATE OCCUPATIONAL SCHOOLS BY THE OFFICE OF HIGHER EDUCATION.*****SUMMARY**

This bill gives the Office of Higher Education (OHE) executive director greater discretion to accept or reject the accreditation of private occupational schools under certain circumstances. These schools are privately controlled and offer instruction in trades or industrial, commercial, professional, or service occupations for remuneration. By law, OHE oversees the state's authorization of these schools, including their initial authorization and subsequent renewals.

Under current law, once the executive director gives a private occupational school its initial authorization to operate, he must accept third-party accreditation of the school if it is given by a U.S. Department of Education-recognized agency unless he finds reasonable cause to reject it. The bill allows the executive director to reject accreditation from this type of agency without finding reasonable cause.

Additionally, the bill requires any initial certification application that OHE receives from a private occupational school to expire if it remains incomplete six months after submittal, thereby prohibiting OHE from approving it.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2018

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 20 Nay 0 (03/06/2018)