
OLR Bill Analysis

sSB 17 (File 209, as amended by Senate "A")*

AN ACT PROHIBITING AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION FROM WITHHOLDING TRANSCRIPTS.

SUMMARY

This bill prohibits Connecticut higher education institutions from doing the following:

1. refusing to provide a transcript to a student's employer or prospective employer upon the request or permission of a current or formerly enrolled student because he or she owes the institution a debt,
2. conditioning a transcript's release to an employer or prospective employer upon debt payment,
3. charging a higher fee for providing a transcript to a student's employer or prospective employer because the student owes a debt, or
4. using a transcript release to an employer or prospective employer as a debt collection method.

Under the bill, "debt" is an obligation, claim, or sum that a student owes or allegedly owes to a higher education institution. The bill specifies that "debt" excludes any fee that may be related to the actual cost of releasing a transcript to a student.

*Senate Amendment "A" (1) specifies that transcript release to an employer or prospective employer is prohibited as a debt collection method and (2) makes a technical change.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2022

COMMITTEE ACTION

Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 20 Nay 3 (03/17/2022)