AN ACT PROHIBITING AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION FROM WITHHOLDING TRANSCRIPTS

SUMMARY: This act prohibits higher education institutions in Connecticut from withholding a current or former student’s transcript from the student’s employer, prospective employer, or a U.S. military branch because the student owes the institution a debt.

Relatedly, the act also bans these higher education institutions from:

1. conditioning a transcript’s release to one of these entities upon debt payment,
2. charging a higher fee for providing the transcript to one of these entities because the student owes a debt, or
3. using transcript release as a debt collection method.

Under the act, “debt” is an obligation, claim, or sum that a student owes or allegedly owes to a higher education institution, but not any fee for the actual cost of providing a transcript.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2023