

Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee

JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.: HB-5237

AN ACT REQUIRING STUDENT SURVEYS DURING EVALUATION OF A PRIVATE CAREER SCHOOL TO RENEW A CERTIFICATE OF

Title: AUTHORIZATION.

Vote Date: 3/14/2024

Vote Action: Joint Favorable Substitute

PH Date: 3/5/2024

File No.:

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee.

REASONS FOR BILL:

This bill would require student surveys as part of the evaluation of private career schools during the process for renewal of a certificate of authorization. This would help to ensure that schools remain compliant with statutes and regulations, while also ensuring that students receive a quality education. This would also add another layer of accountability to the reauthorization process and help to better protect student interests.

SUBSTITUTE LANGUAGE:

The substitute language in this bill eliminated the requirement to include questions on the ability of a student, upon completion of a program of study, to obtain the credential or licensing required to work in the occupation advertised by such private career school.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

[Office of Higher Education, Executive Director, Timothy Larson](#): supports this bill stating that it will ensure that schools remain compliant with statutes and regulations and ensure that students receive a quality education. They state that student survey results will provide another layer of accountability to the reauthorization process and assist in protecting student interests. They request that some language, cited in their testimony, found in lines 10 through 13 be removed as the bill requires that the Office of Higher Education survey career school students and not graduates who may have already taken licensing exams and are employed. They state that they do not believe that a student enrolled in a program will have the

knowledge or experience to assess whether their current program of study will result in a credential or occupational license, and they do not have the capacity to survey graduates from career schools.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

See response from administration/agency.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

None expressed.

Reported by: Patrick Buckley

Date: 3/20/2024