



Senate Bill No. 26

Public Act No. 19-26

AN ACT MAKING PERMANENT THE MORATORIUM ON THE APPROVAL OF PROGRAMS AT INDEPENDENT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

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

Section 1. Subsection (l) of section 10a-34 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2019*):

(l) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (b) to (j), inclusive, of this section and subject to the authority of the State Board of Education to regulate teacher education programs, up to twelve new programs of higher learning in any academic year and any program modifications proposed by an independent institution of higher education, as defined in section 10a-173, shall not be subject to approval by the Office of Higher Education, [until July 1, 2020,] provided (1) the institution maintains eligibility to participate in financial aid programs governed by Title IV, Part B of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended from time to time, (2) the United States Department of Education has not determined that the institution has a financial responsibility score that is less than 1.5 for the most recent fiscal year for which the data necessary for determining the score is available, and (3) the institution has been located in the state

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and accredited as a degree-granting institution in good standing for ten years or more by a regional accrediting association recognized by the Secretary of the United States Department of Education and maintains such accreditation status. Each institution that is exempt from program approval by the Office of Higher Education under this subsection shall file with the office (A) an application for approval of any new program of higher learning in excess of twelve new programs in any academic year, (B) a program actions form, as created by the office, prior to students enrolling in any new program of higher learning or any existing program subject to a program modification, and (C) not later than July first, and annually thereafter, (i) a list and brief description of any new programs of higher learning introduced by the institution in the preceding academic year and any existing programs of higher learning discontinued by the institution in the preceding academic year, (ii) the institution's current program approval process and all actions of the governing board concerning approval of any new program of higher learning, and (iii) the institution's financial responsibility composite score, as determined by the United States Department of Education, for the most recent fiscal year for which the data necessary for determining the score is available.