



April 5, 2024

SUMMARY OF BILL AS AMENDED (016800, 017983): Requires each governing board of a public institution of higher education to regularly update their policies and practices regarding institutional accreditation to conform with changes made by the United States Department of Education or by the United States Congress.

Requires each governing board by December 31st, 2024 to identify and determine the institutional accrediting agencies eligible to serve as an accreditor for public institutions of higher education in this state. Further requires, by December 31st, 2024 that each governing board of a public institution of higher education in this state to update their policies and practices regarding accreditation to ensure that each institution may freely choose to pursue accreditation by an eligible accreditor recognized by the United States Department of Education.

Prohibits an accrediting agency or association from compelling a public institution of higher education in this state to violate any state law. Authorizes a public institution of higher education in this state that is negatively affected by retaliatory or adverse action taken against the institution by an accrediting agency or association to bring a civil action against the accrediting agency or association in a court of competent jurisdiction.

Requires the governing board of a public institution of higher education to notify the General Assembly in writing within 30 days of any violation that occurred by the accrediting agency or association.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL AS AMENDED:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumption for the bill as amended:

- Each governing board of each public institution of higher education can comply with the provisions of the legislation within existing resources without a significant impact to state government.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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