



General Assembly

January Session, 2019

Committee Bill No. 26

LCO No. 5129



Referred to Committee on HIGHER EDUCATION AND
EMPLOYMENT ADVANCEMENT

Introduced by:
(HED)

***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:

1 Section 1. Subsection (l) of section 10a-34 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3 *1, 2019*):

4 (l) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (b) to (j),
5 inclusive, of this section and subject to the authority of the State Board
6 of Education to regulate teacher education programs, up to twelve new
7 programs of higher learning in any academic year and any program
8 modifications proposed by an independent institution of higher
9 education, as defined in section 10a-173, shall not be subject to
10 approval by the Office of Higher Education, [until July 1, 2020,]
11 provided (1) the institution maintains eligibility to participate in
12 financial aid programs governed by Title IV, Part B of the Higher
13 Education Act of 1965, as amended from time to time, (2) the United
14 States Department of Education has not determined that the institution

15 has a financial responsibility score that is less than 1.5 for the most
16 recent fiscal year for which the data necessary for determining the
17 score is available, and (3) the institution has been located in the state
18 and accredited as a degree-granting institution in good standing for
19 ten years or more by a regional accrediting association recognized by
20 the Secretary of the United States Department of Education and
21 maintains such accreditation status. Each institution that is exempt
22 from program approval by the Office of Higher Education under this
23 subsection shall file with the office (A) an application for approval of
24 any new program of higher learning in excess of twelve new programs
25 in any academic year, (B) a program actions form, as created by the
26 office, prior to students enrolling in any new program of higher
27 learning or any existing program subject to a program modification,
28 and (C) not later than July first, and annually thereafter, (i) a list and
29 brief description of any new programs of higher learning introduced
30 by the institution in the preceding academic year and any existing
31 programs of higher learning discontinued by the institution in the
32 preceding academic year, (ii) the institution's current program
33 approval process and all actions of the governing board concerning
34 approval of any new program of higher learning, and (iii) the
35 institution's financial responsibility composite score, as determined by
36 the United States Department of Education, for the most recent fiscal
37 year for which the data necessary for determining the score is
38 available.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2019	10a-34(l)

Statement of Purpose:

To permanently allow independent institutions of higher education to create up to twelve new programs of higher learning in any academic year and any program modifications without the approval of the Office of Higher Education.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

Co-Sponsors: SEN. LOONEY, 11th Dist.; SEN. FASANO, 34th Dist.
REP. MCCARTHY VAHEY, 133rd Dist.; REP. YACCARINO,
87th Dist.
REP. STAFSTROM, 129th Dist.; REP. GILCHREST, 18th Dist.
REP. GENGA, 10th Dist.; SEN. FORMICA, 20th Dist.

S.B. 26, 131