



General Assembly

February Session, 2022

Raised Bill No. 105

LCO No. 1200



Referred to Committee on HIGHER EDUCATION AND
EMPLOYMENT ADVANCEMENT

Introduced by:
(HED)

**AN ACT CONCERNING RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE OFFICE OF
HIGHER EDUCATION.**

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

1 Section 1. Section 4-5 of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes,
2 as amended by section 6 of public act 17-237, section 279 of public act
3 17-2 of the June special session, section 20 of public act 18-182, section
4 283 of public act 19-117 and section 254 of public act 21-2 of the June
5 special session, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
6 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

7 As used in sections 4-6, 4-7 and 4-8, the term "department head"
8 means Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, Commissioner
9 of Administrative Services, Commissioner of Revenue Services,
10 Banking Commissioner, Commissioner of Children and Families,
11 Commissioner of Consumer Protection, Commissioner of Correction,
12 Commissioner of Economic and Community Development, State Board
13 of Education, Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public
14 Protection, Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection,

15 Commissioner of Agriculture, Commissioner of Public Health,
16 Insurance Commissioner, Labor Commissioner, Commissioner of
17 Mental Health and Addiction Services, Commissioner of Social Services,
18 Commissioner of Developmental Services, Commissioner of Motor
19 Vehicles, Commissioner of Transportation, Commissioner of Veterans
20 Affairs, Commissioner of Housing, Commissioner of Rehabilitation
21 Services, the Commissioner of Early Childhood, the executive director
22 of the Office of Military Affairs, the executive director of the Technical
23 Education and Career System, [and] the Chief Workforce Officer and the
24 executive director of the Office of Higher Education. As used in sections
25 4-6 and 4-7, "department head" also means the Commissioner of
26 Education.

27 Sec. 2. Section 10a-1d of the general statutes is repealed and the
28 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

29 (a) There is established an Office of Higher Education. The Office of
30 Higher Education shall administer the programs set forth in sections 10-
31 155d, 10a-10a, 10a-11, 10a-11a, 10a-17d, 10a-19g, 10a-34 to 10a-34f,
32 inclusive, as amended by this act, 10a-35, 10a-166, 10a-168a, 10a-169a,
33 10a-169b and 10a-173. The Office of Higher Education shall be
34 responsible for approving any action taken pursuant to sections 10a-34
35 to 10a-34f, inclusive, as amended by this act, and for providing
36 information to prospective students regarding postsecondary education
37 opportunities in the state.

38 (b) The Governor shall appoint an executive director of the Office of
39 Higher Education in accordance with the provisions of sections 4-5 to 4-
40 8, inclusive, as amended by this act. The executive director shall have
41 the responsibility for implementing the policies and directives of the
42 office and shall have additional responsibilities as the board may
43 prescribe.

44 Sec. 3. Section 10a-34 of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes
45 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
46 *October 1, 2022*):

47 (a) For the purposes of this section, (1) "program of higher learning"
 48 means any course of instruction for which it is stated or implied that
 49 college or university-level credit may be given or may be received by
 50 transfer, including any course offered by dual enrollment; (2) "degree"
 51 means any letters or words, diploma, certificate or other symbol or
 52 document which signifies satisfactory completion of the requirements
 53 of a program of higher learning; (3) "institution of higher education"
 54 means any person, school, board, association, limited liability company
 55 or corporation which is [licensed or accredited] authorized to offer one
 56 or more programs of higher learning leading to one or more degrees; (4)
 57 ["license" means the authorization by the Office of Higher Education to
 58 operate a program of higher learning or institution of higher education
 59 for a specified initial period] authorized institution of higher
 60 education" means any proposed new institution of higher education,
 61 any institution of higher education authorized by another state and any
 62 institution of higher education located in this state, but does not mean
 63 any public institution of higher education governed by the Board of
 64 Regents for Higher Education and the Board of Trustees of The
 65 University of Connecticut or any institution of higher education
 66 authorized to award degrees prior to July 1, 1965; (5) ["accreditation"]
 67 authorization" means the [authorization by said office to] approval by
 68 the Office of Higher Education to operate or continue operating a
 69 program of higher learning or institution of higher education for
 70 subsequent periods, and in such periods to confer specified degrees; (6)
 71 "program modification" means (A) a change in a program of higher
 72 learning that does not clearly qualify as a new program of higher
 73 learning or a nonsubstantive change, including, but not limited to, a new
 74 program of higher learning consisting primarily of course work for a
 75 previously approved program of higher learning, (B) an approved
 76 program of higher learning to be offered at an off-campus location, (C)
 77 a change in the title of a degree, or (D) a change in the title of a program
 78 of higher learning; and (7) "nonsubstantive change" means (A) a new
 79 undergraduate certificate program, within an existing program of
 80 higher learning, of not more than thirty semester credit hours that falls
 81 under an approved program of higher learning, (B) a new baccalaureate

82 minor of not more than eighteen semester credit hours, (C) a new
83 undergraduate option or certificate program of not more than fifteen
84 semester credit hours, or (D) a new graduate option or certificate
85 program of not more than twelve semester credit hours.

86 (b) The Office of Higher Education shall establish regulations, in
87 accordance with chapter 54, concerning the requirements for [licensure
88 and accreditation, such regulations to concern] authorization,
89 administration, finance, faculty, curricula, library, student admission
90 and graduation, plant and equipment, records, catalogs, program
91 announcements and any other criteria pertinent thereto, as well as the
92 periods for which [licensure and accreditation] authorization may be
93 granted, and the costs and procedures of evaluations as provided in
94 subsections (c), (d) and (i) of this section. [Said office shall establish
95 academic review commissions to hear each appeal of a denial by said
96 office of an application by an institution of higher education for
97 licensure or accreditation of a program of higher learning or institution
98 of higher education. For each individual appeal, the executive director
99 of said office, or the executive director's designee, shall select a
100 commission that is comprised of four higher education representatives
101 and five business and industry representatives chosen from a panel of
102 thirty-five members, who shall be appointed as follows: (1) The
103 Governor shall appoint five members; (2) the speaker of the House of
104 Representatives shall appoint five members; (3) the president pro
105 tempore of the Senate shall appoint five members; (4) the majority
106 leader of the House of Representatives shall appoint five members; (5)
107 the majority leader of the Senate shall appoint five members; (6) the
108 minority leader of the House of Representatives shall appoint five
109 members; and (7) the minority leader of the Senate shall appoint five
110 members. The executive director of said office, or the executive
111 director's designee, shall ensure that each commission contains at least
112 one member appointed by each of the appointing authorities. Each
113 appointing authority shall select both higher education representatives
114 and business and industry representatives, but not more than three from
115 either category of representatives.] The office may establish an advisory

116 council for the purpose of advising on issues related to the authorization
117 of institutions of higher education pursuant to the provisions of this
118 section and private career schools pursuant to sections 10a-22a to 10a-
119 22o, inclusive, as amended by this act. The members of the advisory
120 council shall be appointed by the executive director and consist of
121 representatives with (1) expertise in the quality assurance and relevance
122 of programs of higher learning, (2) knowledge of and experience in the
123 business operations and financing of institutions of higher education,
124 (3) knowledge of the laws and regulations applicable to institutions of
125 higher education, and (4) expertise in consumer protection for students
126 and prospective students of institutions of higher education.

127 (c) No person, school, board, association or corporation shall confer
128 any degree unless authorized by act of the General Assembly. No
129 application for authority to confer any such degree shall be approved
130 by the General Assembly or any committee thereof, nor shall any such
131 authority be included in any charter of incorporation until such
132 application has been evaluated and approved by the Office of Higher
133 Education in accordance with regulations established by the Office of
134 Higher Education.

135 (d) The Office of Higher Education shall review all requests and
136 applications for program modifications, nonsubstantive changes [,
137 licensure and accreditation] and authorizations. The office shall review
138 each application in consideration of the academic standards set forth in
139 the regulations for [licensure and accreditation] program approval
140 adopted by said office in accordance with the provisions of subsection
141 (b) of this section. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 10a-34e, as
142 amended by this act, any application that is determined by the office to
143 be for (1) a program modification that meets all such academic
144 standards, (2) a nonsubstantive change, [(3) licensure, or (4)
145 accreditation] or (3) authorization shall be deemed approved, and the
146 office shall notify the institution of such approval, not later than forty-
147 five days from the date the office receives such application without
148 requiring any further action from the applicant.

149 (e) If the executive director of the Office of Higher Education, or the
150 executive director's designee, determines that further review of an
151 application is needed due at least in part to the applicant offering
152 instruction in a new program of higher learning or new degree level or
153 the financial condition of the institution of higher education, then the
154 executive director or the executive director's designee shall conduct a
155 focused or on-site review. Such applicant shall have an opportunity to
156 state any objection regarding any individual selected to review an
157 application on behalf of the executive director. For purposes of this
158 subsection and subsection (f) of this section, "focused review" means a
159 review by an out-of-state curriculum expert; and "on-site review" means
160 a full team evaluation by the office at the institution of higher education.

161 (f) The executive director of the Office of Higher Education, or the
162 executive director's designee, may require (1) a focused or on-site
163 review of any program application in a field requiring a license to
164 practice in Connecticut, and (2) evidence that a program application in
165 a field requiring a license to practice in Connecticut meets the state or
166 federal licensing requirements for such license.

167 (g) Any application for [licensure] authorization of a new institution
168 in this state shall be subject to an on-site review upon a determination
169 by the Office of Higher Education that the application is complete and
170 shall be reviewed at the institutional level for each program as described
171 in subsection (b) of this section. Such process shall be completed not
172 later than nine months from the date said office receives the application.

173 (h) If the Office of Higher Education denies an application for
174 [licensure or accreditation] authorization of a program or institution of
175 higher education, the applicant may appeal the denial not later than ten
176 days from the date of denial. [The academic review commission shall
177 review the appeal and make a decision on such appeal not later than
178 thirty days from the date the applicant submits the appeal to said office.]

179 (i) No person, school, board, association or corporation shall operate
180 a program of higher learning or an institution of higher education unless

181 it has been [licensed or accredited] authorized by the Office of Higher
182 Education, nor shall it confer any degree unless it has been [accredited]
183 authorized in accordance with this section. The office shall accept
184 [regional] accreditation, in satisfaction of the requirements of this
185 subsection unless the office finds cause not to rely upon such
186 accreditation. [If any institution of higher education provides evidence
187 of programmatic accreditation, the office may consider such
188 accreditation in satisfaction of the requirements of this subsection and
189 deem the program at issue in the application for accreditation to be
190 accredited in accordance with this section. National accreditation for
191 Connecticut institutions of higher education accredited prior to July 1,
192 2013, shall be accepted as being in satisfaction of the requirements of
193 this subsection unless the office finds cause not to rely on such national
194 accreditation.]

195 (j) No person, school, board, association or corporation shall use in
196 any way the term "junior college" or "college" or "university" or use any
197 other name, title, literature, catalogs, pamphlets or descriptive matter
198 tending to designate that it is an institution of higher education, or that
199 it may grant academic or professional degrees, unless the institution
200 [possesses a license from, or] has been [accredited] authorized by [,] the
201 office, nor shall it offer any program of higher learning without
202 [approval] authorization of the Office of Higher Education.

203 (k) Accreditation of any program or institution or authority to award
204 degrees granted in accordance with law prior to July 1, 1965, shall
205 continue in effect unless the Office of Higher Education finds the
206 institution is in an unsound financial condition or exhibiting financial
207 indicators that such institution is in danger of closure.

208 (l) On and after July 1, 2023, and annually thereafter, each authorized
209 institution of higher education shall submit to the Office of Higher
210 Education, at such time and in such manner as the office prescribes, a
211 report that includes, but need not be limited to, (1) a list of the programs
212 of higher learning offered by such institution, (2) a single point of
213 contact at such institution for student complaints, (3) the schedule of

214 tuition, fees and all other charges and expenses necessary for the
215 completion of a program of higher learning, (4) any decisions by such
216 institution's accreditation agency or the federal government that
217 adversely affects the status of such institution, (5) any change in
218 ownership, (6) a copy of the most recent audited financial statements
219 detailing the financial status of such institution, (7) any other
220 information necessary to determine whether such institution is in an
221 unsound financial condition or exhibiting financial indicators that such
222 institution is in danger of closure, and (8) the retention and graduation
223 rates of students, information concerning the employment outcomes of
224 graduates and any other information, as determined by the office in
225 consultation with such institution, to determine whether such
226 institution is maintaining quality programs of higher learning. Any
227 information submitted pursuant to subdivision (7) of this subsection
228 shall not be deemed to be a public record for purposes of the Freedom
229 of Information Act, as defined in section 1-200, and shall not be subject
230 to disclosure under the provisions of section 1-210.

231 [(l)] (m) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (b) to (j),
232 inclusive, of this section and subject to the authority of the State Board
233 of Education to regulate teacher education programs, an independent
234 institution of higher education, as defined in section 10a-173, shall not
235 require approval by the Office of Higher Education for any new
236 programs of higher learning or any program modifications proposed by
237 such institution until June 30, 2023, and for up to fifteen new programs
238 of higher learning in any academic year or any program modifications
239 proposed by such institution on and after July 1, 2023, provided (1) the
240 institution maintains eligibility to participate in financial aid programs
241 governed by Title IV, Part B of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as
242 amended from time to time, (2) the United States Department of
243 Education has not determined that the institution has a financial
244 responsibility score that is less than 1.5 for the most recent fiscal year for
245 which the data necessary for determining the score is available, and (3)
246 the institution has been located in the state and accredited as a degree-
247 granting institution in good standing for ten years or more by a regional

248 accrediting association recognized by the Secretary of the United States
249 Department of Education and maintains such accreditation status. Each
250 institution that is exempt from program approval by the Office of
251 Higher Education under this subsection shall file with the office (A) on
252 and after July 1, 2023, an application for approval of any new program
253 of higher learning in excess of fifteen new programs in any academic
254 year, (B) a program actions form, as created by the office, prior to
255 students enrolling in any new program of higher learning or any
256 existing program subject to a program modification, and (C) not later
257 than July first, and annually thereafter, (i) until June 30, 2024, a list and
258 brief description of any new programs of higher learning introduced by
259 the institution in the preceding academic year and any existing
260 programs of higher learning discontinued by the institution in the
261 preceding academic year, (ii) the institution's current program approval
262 process and all actions of the governing board concerning approval of
263 any new program of higher learning, and (iii) the institution's financial
264 responsibility composite score, as determined by the United States
265 Department of Education, for the most recent fiscal year for which the
266 data necessary for determining the score is available.

267 Sec. 4. Section 10a-34c of the general statutes is repealed and the
268 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

269 The executive director of the Office of Higher Education may conduct
270 an investigation and, through the Attorney General, maintain an action
271 in the name of the state against any person, school, board, association or
272 corporation to restrain or prevent the establishment or operation of an
273 institution that is not [licensed, accredited or] authorized to award
274 degrees by the Office of Higher Education pursuant to the provisions of
275 section 10a-34, as amended by this act.

276 Sec. 5. Subsection (a) of section 10a-34e of the 2022 supplement to the
277 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
278 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

279 (a) The Office of Higher Education may conduct any necessary

280 review, inspection or investigation regarding applications for [licensure
281 or accreditation] authorization or possible violations of this section,
282 sections 10a-34 to 10a-34d, inclusive, as amended by this act, section 10a-
283 34g, as amended by this act, or any applicable regulations of
284 Connecticut state agencies. In connection with any investigation, the
285 executive director or the executive director's designee, may administer
286 oaths, issue subpoenas, compel testimony and order the production of
287 any record or document. If any person refuses to appear, testify or
288 produce any record or document when so ordered, the executive
289 director may seek relief pursuant to section 10a-34d.

290 Sec. 6. Subsection (a) of section 10a-34g of the general statutes is
291 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
292 *1, 2022*):

293 (a) On and after January 1, 2020, any for-profit institution of higher
294 education licensed to operate in the state that requires any student, as a
295 condition of enrollment, to enter into an agreement that (1) limits
296 participation in a class action against such institution, (2) limits any
297 claim the student may have against such institution or the damages for
298 such claim, or (3) requires the student to assert any claim against such
299 institution in a forum that is less convenient, more costly or more
300 dilatory for the resolution of a dispute than a judicial forum established
301 in the state where the student may otherwise properly bring a claim,
302 shall include in its application to the Office of Higher Education for
303 [initial or renewed institutional licensure or accreditation] authorization
304 pursuant to section 10a-34, as amended by this act, a statement (A)
305 disclosing the number of claims made against the institution, including
306 claims made against a parent organization or subsidiary of the
307 institution, by a student currently or formerly enrolled at the institution,
308 (B) a description of the nature of the rights asserted, and (C) the status
309 of such claims. The institution shall submit additional details regarding
310 such claims as the executive director of the Office of Higher Education
311 may require.

312 Sec. 7. Subdivision (4) of section 10-67 of the general statutes is

313 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
314 *1, 2022*):

315 (4) "Cooperating eligible entity" means any corporation or other
316 business entity, nonprofit organization, private [occupational] career
317 school authorized pursuant to sections 10a-22a to 10a-22o, inclusive, as
318 amended by this act, institution of higher education [licensed or
319 accredited pursuant to the provisions of] authorized pursuant to section
320 10a-34, as amended by this act, technical education and career school or
321 library [which] that provides classes or services specified under
322 subparagraph (A) of subsection (a) of section 10-69, in conformance with
323 the program standards applicable to boards of education, through a
324 written cooperative arrangement with a local or regional board of
325 education or regional educational service center;

326 Sec. 8. Subparagraph (J) of subdivision (37) of subsection (a) of section
327 12-407 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted
328 in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

329 (J) Business analysis, management, management consulting and
330 public relations services, excluding (i) any environmental consulting
331 services, (ii) any training services provided by an institution of higher
332 education licensed or accredited by the Board of Regents for Higher
333 Education or authorized by the Office of Higher Education pursuant to
334 sections 10a-35a and 10a-34, as amended by this act, respectively, and
335 (iii) on and after January 1, 1994, any business analysis, management,
336 management consulting and public relations services when such
337 services are rendered in connection with an aircraft leased or owned by
338 a certificated air carrier or in connection with an aircraft which has a
339 maximum certificated take-off weight of six thousand pounds or more;

340 Sec. 9. Subsection (k) of section 30-22a of the 2022 supplement to the
341 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
342 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

343 (k) For purposes of compliance with this section, "cafe" includes: (1)

344 A room or building that is subject to the care, custody and control of The
 345 University of Connecticut Board of Trustees; (2) land and buildings
 346 which are subject to the care, custody and control of an institution
 347 offering a program of higher learning, as defined in section 10a-34, as
 348 amended by this act, which has been accredited by the Board of Regents
 349 for Higher Education or [Office of Higher Education or otherwise] is
 350 authorized by the Office of Higher Education to award a degree
 351 pursuant to section 10a-34, as amended by this act; or (3) on land or in a
 352 building situated on or abutting a golf course which is subject to the
 353 care, custody and control of an institution offering a program of higher
 354 learning, as defined in section 10a-34, as amended by this act, which has
 355 been accredited by the Board of Regents for Higher Education or [Office
 356 of Higher Education or otherwise] is authorized by the Office of Higher
 357 Education to award a degree pursuant to section 10a-34, as amended by
 358 this act.

359 Sec. 10. Section 10a-22a of the general statutes is repealed and the
 360 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

361 As used in this section and sections [10a-22a to 10a-22y] 10a-22b to
 362 10a-22x, inclusive, as amended by this act:

363 (1) ["Private occupational school"] "Private career school" means a
 364 postsecondary career school operated by a person, board, association,
 365 partnership, corporation, limited liability company or other entity
 366 offering or advertising vocational instruction in any form or manner in
 367 any trade, industrial, commercial, service, professional or other
 368 occupation for any remuneration, consideration, reward or fee of
 369 whatever nature, including, but not limited to, a hospital-based
 370 occupational school, or any program, school or entity offering
 371 postsecondary instruction in barbering, hairdressing and cosmetology
 372 or the occupation of esthetician, nail technician or eyelash technician, as
 373 such terms are defined in section 20-265a. ["Private occupational
 374 school"] "Private career school" does not include (A) instruction offered
 375 under public supervision and control, (B) instruction conducted by a
 376 firm or organization solely for the training of its own employees or

377 members, (C) instruction offered by a school authorized by the General
378 Assembly to confer degrees, or (D) instruction offered in the arts or
379 recreation, including, but not limited to, the training of students to
380 provide such instruction;

381 (2) "Additional classroom site" means a facility that (A) is
382 geographically located close to the school or branch that oversees the
383 site, such that students must utilize services provided at such school or
384 branch, (B) conducts permanent or temporary educational activities,
385 and (C) offers courses or full programs of study;

386 (3) "Branch" means a subdivision of a school (A) located at a different
387 facility and geographical site from the school, except for a site that is an
388 additional classroom site as determined by the executive director, or the
389 executive director's designee, and (B) that (i) offers one or more
390 complete programs leading to a diploma or certificate; (ii) operates
391 under the school's certificate of operation; (iii) meets the same
392 conditions of authorization as the school; and (iv) exercises
393 administrative control and is responsible for its own academic affairs;

394 (4) "Executive director" means the executive director of the Office of
395 Higher Education; and

396 (5) "Postsecondary career school" means an institution authorized to
397 operate educational programs beyond secondary education.

398 Sec. 11. Section 10a-22b of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes
399 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
400 *October 1, 2022*):

401 (a) No person, board, association, partnership, corporation, limited
402 liability company or other entity shall offer instruction in any form or
403 manner in any trade or in any industrial, commercial, service,
404 professional or other occupation unless such person, board, association,
405 partnership, corporation, limited liability company or other entity first
406 receives from the executive director a certificate authorizing the
407 occupational instruction to be offered.

408 (b) Except for initial authorizations, the executive director may accept
409 institutional accreditation by an accrediting agency recognized by the
410 United States Department of Education, in satisfaction of the
411 requirements of this section and section 10a-22d, as amended by this act,
412 including the evaluation and attendance requirement. Except for initial
413 authorizations, the executive director may accept programmatic
414 accreditation in satisfaction of the requirements of this section and
415 section 10a-22d, as amended by this act, with regard to instruction
416 offered by a hospital [pursuant to subsection (h) of this section] unless
417 the executive director finds reasonable cause not to rely upon such
418 accreditation.

419 (c) Each person, board, association, partnership, corporation, limited
420 liability company or other entity which seeks to offer occupational
421 instruction shall submit to the executive director, or the executive
422 director's designee, in such manner and on such forms as the executive
423 director, or the executive director's designee, prescribes, an application
424 for a certificate of authorization. [which includes, but need not be
425 limited to, (1) the proposed name of the school; (2) ownership and
426 organization of the school including the names and addresses of all
427 principals, officers, members and directors; (3) names and addresses of
428 all stockholders of the school, except for applicants which are listed on
429 a national securities exchange; (4) addresses of any building or premises
430 on which the school will be located; (5) description of the occupational
431 instruction to be offered; (6) the proposed student enrollment
432 agreement, which includes for each program of occupational instruction
433 offered a description, in plain language, of any requirements for
434 employment in such occupation or barriers to such employment
435 pursuant to state law or regulations; (7) the proposed school catalog,
436 which includes for each program of occupational instruction offered a
437 description of any requirements for employment in such occupation or
438 barriers to such employment pursuant to state law or regulations; (8)
439 financial statements detailing the financial condition of the school
440 pursuant to subsection (d) of this section and subsection (g) of section
441 10a-22d prepared by management and reviewed or audited, or, for a

442 nonaccredited school annually receiving less than fifty thousand dollars
443 in tuition revenue, compiled, by an independent licensed certified
444 public accountant or independent licensed public accountant; and (9) an
445 agent for service of process.] Each application for initial authorization
446 shall be accompanied by a nonrefundable application fee made payable
447 to the private [occupational] career school student protection account.
448 Such application fee shall be in the amount of two thousand dollars for
449 the private occupational school and two hundred dollars for each
450 branch of a private occupational school in this state, except that, on and
451 after the effective date of the regulations adopted pursuant to section
452 10a-22k, such application fee shall be in the amount specified in such
453 regulations. Any application for initial authorization that remains
454 incomplete six months after the date such application was first
455 submitted to the [Office of Higher Education] office shall expire and the
456 office shall not approve such expired application for authorization.

457 (d) Each person, board, association, partnership, corporation, limited
458 liability company or other entity seeking to offer occupational
459 instruction shall have a net worth consisting of sufficient liquid assets
460 or produce other evidence of fiscal soundness to demonstrate the ability
461 of the proposed private [occupational] career school to operate, achieve
462 all of its objectives and meet all of its obligations, including those
463 concerning staff and students, during the period of time for which the
464 authorization is sought.

465 (e) Upon receipt of a complete application pursuant to subsection (c)
466 of this section, the executive director shall cause to be conducted an
467 evaluation of the applicant school. Not later than sixty days (1) after
468 receipt of a complete application for initial authorization, or (2) prior to
469 expiration of the authorization of a private [occupational] career school
470 applying to renew its certificate of authorization pursuant to section
471 10a-22d, as amended by this act, the executive director, or the executive
472 director's designee, shall appoint an evaluation team, pursuant to
473 [subsection (f) of this section] regulations adopted pursuant to section
474 10a-22k, to conduct such evaluation of the applicant school. The

475 evaluation team shall submit a written report to the executive director
476 recommending authorization or nonauthorization after an on-site
477 inspection. Not later than one hundred twenty days following the
478 completed appointment of the evaluation team, the executive director
479 shall notify the applicant school of authorization or nonauthorization.
480 The executive director may consult with the Labor Department and may
481 request the advice of any other state agency which may be of assistance
482 in making a determination. In the event of nonauthorization, the
483 executive director shall set forth the reasons therefor in writing and the
484 applicant school may request in writing a hearing before the executive
485 director. Such hearing shall be held in accordance with the provisions of
486 chapter 54.

487 [(f) For purposes of an evaluation of an applicant school, the
488 executive director, or the executive director's designee, shall appoint an
489 evaluation team which shall include (1) at least two members
490 representing the Office of Higher Education, and (2) at least one member
491 for each of the areas of occupational instruction for which authorization
492 is sought who shall be experienced in such occupation. The applicant
493 school shall have the right to challenge any proposed member of the
494 evaluation team for good cause shown. A written challenge shall be filed
495 with the executive director within ten business days following the
496 appointment of such evaluation team. In the event of a challenge, a
497 decision shall be made thereon by the executive director within ten
498 business days from the date such challenge is filed, and if the challenge
499 is upheld the executive director shall appoint a replacement. Employees
500 of the state or any political subdivision of the state may be members of
501 evaluation teams. The executive director, or the executive director's
502 designee, shall not appoint any person to an evaluation team unless the
503 executive director, or such designee, has received from such person a
504 statement that the person has no interest which is in conflict with the
505 proper discharge of the duties of evaluation team members as described
506 in this section. The statement shall be on a form prescribed by the
507 executive director and shall be signed under penalty of false statement.
508 Except for any member of the evaluation team who is a state employee,

509 members may be compensated for their service at the discretion of the
510 executive director and shall be reimbursed for actual expenses, which
511 expenses shall be charged to and paid by the applicant school.

512 (g) The evaluation team appointed pursuant to subsection (f) of this
513 section shall: (1) Conduct an on-site inspection; (2) submit a written
514 report outlining any evidence of noncompliance; (3) give the school
515 thirty days from the date of the report to provide evidence of
516 compliance; and (4) submit to the executive director a written report
517 recommending authorization or nonauthorization not later than one
518 hundred twenty days after the on-site inspection. The evaluation team
519 shall determine whether (A) the quality and content of each course or
520 program of instruction, including, but not limited to, residential, on-
521 line, home study and correspondence, training or study shall reasonably
522 and adequately achieve the stated objective for which such course or
523 program is offered; (B) the school has adequate space, equipment,
524 instructional materials and personnel for the instruction offered; (C) the
525 qualifications of directors, administrators, supervisors and instructors
526 shall reasonably and adequately assure that students receive education
527 consistent with the stated objectives for which a course or program is
528 offered; (D) students and other interested persons shall be provided
529 with a catalog or similar publication describing the courses and
530 programs offered, course and program objectives, length of courses and
531 programs, schedule of tuition, fees and all other charges and expenses
532 necessary for completion of the course or program, and termination,
533 withdrawal and refund policies; (E) upon satisfactory completion of the
534 course or program, each student shall be provided appropriate
535 educational credentials by the school; (F) adequate records shall be
536 maintained by the school to show attendance and grades, or other
537 indicators of student progress, and standards shall be enforced relating
538 to attendance and student performance; (G) the applicant school shall
539 be financially sound and capable of fulfilling its commitments to
540 students; (H) any student housing owned, leased, rented or otherwise
541 maintained by the applicant school shall be safe and adequate; and (I)
542 the school and any branch of the school in this state has a director

543 located at the school or branch who is responsible for daily oversight of
544 the school's or branch's operations. The evaluation team may also
545 indicate in its report such recommendations as may improve the
546 operation of the applicant school.

547 (h) Any hospital offering postsecondary career instruction in any
548 form or manner in any trade, industrial, commercial, service,
549 professional or other occupation for any remuneration, consideration,
550 reward or promise, except to hospital employees, members of the
551 medical staff and training for contracted workers, shall obtain a
552 certificate of authorization from the executive director for the
553 occupational instruction offered. Each hospital-based occupational
554 school submitting an application for initial authorization shall pay an
555 application fee of two hundred dollars made payable to the private
556 occupational school student protection account. The executive director
557 shall develop a process for prioritizing the authorization of hospital-
558 based occupational schools based on size and scope of occupational
559 instruction offered. Such schools shall be in compliance with this section
560 when required pursuant to the executive director's process, or by 2012,
561 whichever is earlier.

562 (i) Any program, school or other entity offering postsecondary career
563 instruction in any form or manner in barbering or hairdressing for any
564 remuneration, consideration, reward or fee shall obtain a certificate of
565 authorization from the executive director of the Office of Higher
566 Education for the occupational instruction offered. Each program,
567 school or entity approved on or before July 1, 2013, by the Connecticut
568 Examining Board for Barbers, Hairdressers and Cosmeticians pursuant
569 to chapter 368 or 387 that submits an application for initial authorization
570 shall pay an application fee of five hundred dollars made payable to the
571 private occupational school student protection account. The executive
572 director of the Office of Higher Education shall develop a process for
573 prioritizing the authorization of such barber and hairdressing
574 programs, schools and entities. Such programs, schools and entities
575 shall be in compliance with this section on or before July 1, 2015, or when

576 required pursuant to the executive director's process, whichever is
577 earlier. No person, board, association, partnership corporation, limited
578 liability company or other entity shall establish a new program, school
579 or other entity that offers instruction in any form or manner in barbering
580 or hairdressing on or after July 1, 2013, unless such person, board,
581 association, partnership, corporation, limited liability company or other
582 entity first receives from the executive director of the Office of Higher
583 Education a certificate authorizing the barbering or hairdressing
584 occupational instruction to be offered in accordance with the provisions
585 of this section.]

586 Sec. 12. Section 10a-22c of the general statutes is repealed and the
587 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

588 (a) No certificate to operate a private [occupational] career school
589 shall be authorized by the executive director, or the executive director's
590 designee, if (1) any principal, officer, member or director of the applicant
591 school has acted in a similar capacity for a private [occupational] career
592 school which has had its authorization revoked pursuant to section 10a-
593 22f, as amended by this act; (2) the applicant school does not have a net
594 worth consisting of sufficient liquid assets or other evidence of fiscal
595 soundness to operate for the period of time for which authorization is
596 sought; (3) the applicant school or any of its agents engages in
597 advertising, sales, collection, credit or other practices which are false,
598 deceptive, misleading or unfair; (4) the applicant school has any policy
599 which discourages or prohibits the filing of inquiries or complaints
600 regarding the school's operation with the executive director; (5) the
601 applicant school fails to satisfactorily meet the criteria set forth in
602 [subsection (g) of section 10a-22b] regulations adopted pursuant to
603 section 10a-22k; (6) a private [occupational] career school that has
604 previously closed fails to follow the procedures for school closure under
605 section 10a-22m, as amended by this act; or (7) the applicant school does
606 not have a director located at the school and at each of its branches in
607 this state.

608 (b) The executive director may deny a certificate of authorization if

609 the person who owns or intends to operate a private [occupational]
610 career school has been convicted in this state, or any other state, of
611 larceny in violation of section 53a-122 or 53a-123; identity theft in
612 violation of section 53a-129b or 53a-129c; forgery in violation of section
613 53a-138 or 53a-139; or has a criminal record in this state, or any other
614 state, that the executive director reasonably believes renders the person
615 unsuitable to own and operate a private [occupational] career school. A
616 refusal of a certificate of authorization under this subsection shall be
617 made in accordance with the provisions of sections 46a-79 to 46a-81,
618 inclusive.

619 (c) No certificate to operate a private [occupational] career school
620 shall be issued by the executive director pursuant to section 10a-22d, as
621 amended by this act, until such private [occupational] career school
622 seeking authorization files with the executive director certificates
623 indicating that the buildings and premises for such school meet all
624 applicable state and local fire and zoning requirements. Such certificates
625 shall be attested to by the fire marshal and zoning enforcement officer
626 within the municipality in which such school is located.

627 (d) No certificate to operate a new private [occupational] career
628 school shall be issued by the executive director pursuant to section 10a-
629 22d, as amended by this act, until such private [occupational] career
630 school seeking authorization files with the executive director an
631 irrevocable letter of credit issued by a bank with its main office or branch
632 located within this state in the penal amount of forty thousand dollars
633 guaranteeing the payments required of the school to the private
634 [occupational] career school student protection account in accordance
635 with the provisions of section 10a-22u, as amended by this act, except
636 that, on and after the effective date of the regulations adopted pursuant
637 to section 10a-22k, such penal amount shall be in the amount specified
638 in such regulations. The letter of credit shall be payable to the private
639 [occupational] career school student protection account in the event that
640 such school fails to make payments to the account as provided in
641 subsection (a) of section 10a-22u, as amended by this act, or in the event

642 the state takes action to reimburse the account for a tuition refund paid
643 to a student pursuant to the provisions of section 10a-22v, as amended
644 by this act, provided the amount of the letter of credit to be paid into the
645 private [occupational] career school student protection account shall not
646 exceed the amounts owed to the account. In the event a private
647 [occupational] career school fails to close in accordance with the
648 provisions of section 10a-22m, as amended by this act, the executive
649 director may seize the letter of credit, which shall be made payable to
650 the private [occupational] career school protection account. [The letter
651 of credit required by this subsection shall be released twelve years after
652 the date of initial approval, provided evidence of fiscal soundness has
653 been verified.]

654 (e) The executive director shall notify the applicant private
655 [occupational] career school, by certified mail, return receipt requested
656 of the decision to grant or deny a certificate of authorization not later
657 than sixty days after receiving the written report of the evaluation team
658 appointed pursuant to subsection [(f)] (e) of section 10a-22b, as amended
659 by this act.

660 Sec. 13. Section 10a-22d of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes
661 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
662 *October 1, 2022*):

663 (a) After the initial year of approval and for the next three years of
664 operation as a private [occupational] career school, renewal of the
665 certificate of authorization shall be required annually.

666 (b) Following the fourth year of continuous authorization, a renewal
667 of the certificate of authorization, if granted, shall be for a period not to
668 exceed five years and may be subject to an evaluation pursuant to
669 [subsections (f) and (g)] subsection (e) of section 10a-22b, as amended
670 by this act, provided no private [occupational] career school shall
671 operate for more than five additional years from the date of any renewal
672 without the completion of an evaluation pursuant to [subsections (f) and
673 (g)] subsection (e) of section 10a-22b, as amended by this act.

674 (c) Renewal of the certificate of authorization shall be granted only
675 upon (1) payment of a nonrefundable renewal fee to the Office of Higher
676 Education in the amount of two hundred dollars for the private
677 occupational school and two hundred dollars for each branch of a
678 private occupational school, except that, on and after the effective date
679 of the regulations adopted pursuant to section 10a-22k, such renewal fee
680 shall be in the amount specified in such regulations, (2) submission of
681 any reports or audits, as prescribed by the executive director or the
682 executive director's designee, concerning the fiscal condition of the
683 private [occupational] career school or its continuing eligibility to
684 participate in federal student financial aid programs, (3) the filing with
685 the executive director of a complete application for a renewed certificate
686 of authorization not less than one hundred twenty days prior to the
687 termination date of the most recent certificate of authorization, and (4)
688 a determination that the private [occupational] career school meets all
689 the conditions of its recent authorization, including, but not limited to,
690 at the discretion of the executive director, evidence that such school is
691 current on its [rent or mortgage] financial obligations and has adequate
692 financial resources to serve its current students, and the filing of
693 documentation with the executive director that the private
694 [occupational] career school has a passing financial ratio score as
695 required by 34 CFR 668, as amended from time to time.

696 (d) If the executive director, or the executive director's designee,
697 determines, at any time during a school's authorization period, that such
698 school is out of compliance with the conditions of authorization under
699 sections 10a-22a to 10a-22o, inclusive, as amended by this act, and any
700 applicable regulations of Connecticut state agencies, the school may be
701 placed on probation for a period not to exceed one year. If, after the
702 period of one year of probationary status, the school remains out of
703 compliance with the conditions of authorization, the executive director
704 may revoke such school's certificate of authorization to operate as a
705 private [occupational] career school pursuant to section 10a-22f, as
706 amended by this act. During the school's period of probation, the school
707 shall post its probationary certificate of authorization in public view.

708 The Office of Higher Education may publish the school's probationary
709 certificate of authorization status.

710 (e) Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 10a-22a to 10a-22o,
711 inclusive, as amended by this act, the executive director may authorize
712 the extension of the most recent certificate of authorization for a period
713 not to exceed sixty days for good cause shown, provided such extension
714 shall not change the date of the original certificate's issuance or the date
715 for each renewal.

716 (f) After the first year of authorization, each private [occupational]
717 career school shall pay a nonrefundable annual fee to the private
718 [occupational] career school student protection account in the amount
719 of two hundred dollars for the private occupational school and two
720 hundred dollars for each branch of a private occupational school, except
721 that, on and after the effective date of the regulations adopted pursuant
722 to section 10a-22k, such penal amount shall be in the amount specified
723 in such regulations. The annual fee shall be due and payable for each
724 year after the first year of authorization that the private [occupational]
725 career school and any branch of a private [occupational] career school is
726 authorized by the executive director to offer [occupational] career
727 instruction. Such annual fee shall be in addition to any renewal fee
728 assessed under this section.

729 (g) Each private [occupational] career school shall keep financial
730 records in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. An
731 annual financial statement detailing the financial status of the school
732 shall be prepared by school management and reviewed or audited, or,
733 for a nonaccredited school annually receiving less than fifty thousand
734 dollars in tuition revenue, compiled, by a licensed certified public
735 accountant or licensed public accountant in accordance with standards
736 established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.
737 A copy of such financial statement shall be filed with the executive
738 director on or before the last day of the fourth month following the end
739 of the school's fiscal year, except in the case of a nationally accredited
740 school recognized by the United States Department of Education, in

741 which case such financial statement shall be due on or before the last
742 day of the sixth month following the end of the school's fiscal year. Only
743 audited financial statements shall be accepted from a nationally
744 accredited school. Upon a nonaccredited school's written request, the
745 executive director may authorize, for good cause shown, a filing
746 extension for a period not to exceed sixty days. No filing extensions shall
747 be granted to a nationally accredited school.

748 (h) The failure of any private [occupational] career school to submit
749 an application to the Office of Higher Education for the renewal of a
750 certificate of authorization on or before the date on which it is due may
751 result in the loss of authorization under section 10a-22f, as amended by
752 this act. The executive director of said office may deny the renewal of
753 such certificate of authorization if there exists a failure to file such
754 renewal application by the date on which it is due, or the end of any
755 period of extension authorized pursuant to subsection (e) of this section.

756 Sec. 14. Section 10a-22e of the general statutes is repealed and the
757 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

758 (a) During any period of authorization by the executive director to
759 operate as a private [occupational] career school pursuant to sections
760 10a-22a to 10a-22o, inclusive, as amended by this act, and sections 10a-
761 22u to 10a-22w, as amended by this act, inclusive, such private
762 [occupational] career school may request revision of the conditions of
763 its authorization. Such school shall make such request to the executive
764 director, in the manner and on such forms prescribed by the executive
765 director sixty days prior to the proposed implementation date of any
766 intended revision. Such revision shall include, but not be limited to,
767 changes in (1) courses or programs; (2) ownership of the school; (3)
768 name of the school; (4) location of the school's main campus; or (5)
769 location of any of the school's additional classroom sites or branch
770 campuses. A private [occupational] career school requesting revision of
771 the conditions of its authorization based on a change in ownership of
772 the school shall submit an application and letter of credit pursuant to
773 sections 10a-22b, as amended by this act, and 10a-22c, as amended by

774 this act, accompanied by a nonrefundable change of ownership fee
775 made payable to the private [occupational] career school student
776 protection account under section 10a-22u, as amended by this act, in the
777 amount of two thousand dollars for the private occupational school and
778 two hundred dollars for each branch of a private occupational school in
779 this state, except that, on and after the effective date of the regulations
780 adopted pursuant to section 10a-22k, such change of ownership fee shall
781 be in the amount specified in such regulations.

782 (b) The executive director, or the executive director's designee, may,
783 not later than thirty days after receipt of a request to revise the
784 conditions of authorization, issue an order prohibiting any such change
785 if it would constitute a material or substantial deviation from the
786 conditions of authorization.

787 (c) If the executive director, or the executive director's designee, fails
788 to take action upon a request for revision by the thirtieth day following
789 the proposed implementation date of the intended revision, such
790 request shall be deemed approved, and the private [occupational] career
791 school's certificate of authorization shall be so revised for the same
792 period as its current authorization.

793 Sec. 15. Section 10a-22f of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes
794 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
795 *October 1, 2022*):

796 (a) A certificate of authorization issued to a private [occupational]
797 career school pursuant to sections 10a-22a to 10a-22o, inclusive, as
798 amended by this act, and sections 10a-22u to 10a-22w, inclusive, as
799 amended by this act, may be revoked by the executive director if such
800 school (1) ceases to meet the conditions of its authorization; (2) commits
801 a material or substantial violation of sections 10a-22a to 10a-22o,
802 inclusive, as amended by this act, or sections 10a-22u to 10a-22w,
803 inclusive, as amended by this act, or the regulations prescribed
804 thereunder; (3) makes a false statement about a material fact in
805 application for authorization or renewal; (4) fails to make a required

806 payment to the private [occupational] career school student protection
807 account pursuant to section 10a-22u, as amended by this act; or (5) fails
808 to submit a complete application for a renewed certificate of
809 authorization pursuant to section 10a-22d, as amended by this act.

810 (b) The executive director, or the executive director's designee, shall
811 serve written notice, by certified mail, return receipt requested upon a
812 private [occupational] career school indicating that revocation of the
813 school's authorization is under consideration and the executive director
814 shall set forth the reasons such revocation is being considered. Not later
815 than forty-five days after mailing such written notice, the executive
816 director, or the executive director's designee, shall hold a compliance
817 conference with the private [occupational] career school.

818 (c) If, after the compliance conference, the executive director
819 determines that revocation of the certificate of authorization is
820 appropriate, the executive director shall issue an order and serve
821 written notice by certified mail, return receipt requested upon the
822 private [occupational] career school, which notice shall include, but not
823 be limited to, the date of the revocation.

824 (d) A private [occupational] career school aggrieved by the order of
825 the executive director revoking its certificate of authorization pursuant
826 to subsection (c) of this section shall, not later than fifteen days after such
827 order is mailed, request in writing a hearing before the executive
828 director. Such hearing shall be held in accordance with the provisions of
829 chapter 54.

830 Sec. 16. Section 10a-22g of the general statutes is repealed and the
831 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

832 (a) A private [occupational] career school which is authorized by the
833 executive director pursuant to sections 10a-22a to 10a-22o, inclusive, as
834 amended by this act, and sections 10a-22u to 10a-22w, inclusive, as
835 amended by this act, may request authorization to establish and operate
836 additional classroom sites or branch schools, or to offer existing or new

837 programs through a distance learning program, as defined in section
838 10a-22h, as amended by this act, for the purpose of offering the
839 occupational instruction authorized by the executive director, provided
840 the additional classroom site or branch school complies with the
841 provisions of subsection (b) of this section. Such school shall make such
842 request for authorization to operate an additional classroom site or
843 branch school or to offer existing or new programs through a distance
844 learning program, in the manner and on such forms as prescribed by the
845 executive director, at least sixty days prior to the proposed
846 establishment of such additional classroom site or branch school or such
847 distance learning program.

848 (b) The buildings and premises for such additional classroom site or
849 branch school shall meet all applicable state and local fire and zoning
850 requirements, and certificates attesting the same signed by the local fire
851 marshal and zoning enforcement officer shall be filed with the executive
852 director prior to offering such occupational instruction. The additional
853 classroom site or branch school shall be in compliance with the relevant
854 requirements set forth in [subsection (g) of section 10a-22b] regulations
855 adopted pursuant to section 10a-22k.

856 (c) The executive director, or the executive director's designee, not
857 later than thirty days after the proposed date for establishment of a
858 branch school, may issue an order prohibiting any such establishment
859 of a branch school if it would constitute a material or substantial
860 deviation from the conditions of authorization or if the private
861 [occupational] career school fails to meet the requirements set forth in
862 subsection (b) of this section.

863 (d) If the executive director, or the executive director's designee, fails
864 to take action upon the request for revision by the thirtieth day after the
865 proposed date for establishment of such additional classroom site or
866 branch school or such distance learning program, such request shall be
867 deemed approved.

868 Sec. 17. Section 10a-22h of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes

869 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
870 *October 1, 2022*):

871 Any out-of-state private [occupational] career school that seeks to
872 operate a distance learning program in the state shall submit an
873 application to the Office of Higher Education in the form and manner
874 prescribed by the office. Each such private [occupational] career school
875 shall agree to abide by standards established by the office. The office
876 shall approve or reject such private [occupational] career school's
877 application in accordance with the standards established by the office.
878 Authorization by the office to operate a distance learning program in
879 the state shall be valid for a period of one year and may be renewed by
880 the office for additional one-year periods. The office shall establish a
881 schedule of application and renewal fees for all out-of-state private
882 [occupational] career schools that are approved by the office. As used in
883 this [subsection] section, "distance learning program" means a program
884 of study in which lectures are broadcast or classes are conducted by
885 correspondence or over the Internet, without requiring a student to
886 attend in person.

887 Sec. 18. Section 10a-22i of the general statutes is repealed and the
888 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

889 (a) The executive director may assess any person, board, partnership,
890 association, corporation, limited liability company or other entity which
891 violates any provision of sections 10a-22a to 10a-22p, inclusive, as
892 amended by this act, sections 10a-22u to 10a-22w, inclusive, as amended
893 by this act, or regulations adopted pursuant to section 10a-22k₂, an
894 administrative penalty in an amount not to exceed five hundred dollars
895 for each day of such violation, except that, on and after the effective date
896 of the regulations adopted pursuant to section 10a-22k, such
897 administrative penalty shall be in the amount specified in such
898 regulations.

899 (b) The executive director shall serve written notice upon a private
900 [occupational] career school when the assessment of such an

901 administrative penalty is under consideration. The notice shall set forth
902 the reasons for the assessment of the penalty. Not later than forty-five
903 days after mailing such notice to the private [occupational] career
904 school, the executive director, or the executive director's designee, shall
905 hold a compliance conference with the private [occupational] career
906 school.

907 (c) If, after the compliance conference, the executive director
908 determines that imposition of an administrative penalty is appropriate,
909 the executive director shall issue an order and serve written notice by
910 certified mail, return receipt requested upon the private [occupational]
911 career school.

912 (d) A private [occupational] career school aggrieved by the order of
913 the executive director imposing an administrative penalty pursuant to
914 subsection (c) of this section shall, not later than fifteen days after such
915 order is mailed, request in writing a hearing before the executive
916 director. Such hearing shall be held in accordance with the provisions of
917 chapter 54.

918 Sec. 19. Section 10a-22*l* of the general statutes is repealed and the
919 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

920 (a) Any private [occupational] career school operating without a
921 certificate of authorization required under section 10a-22*b*, as amended
922 by this act, or operating an additional classroom site or branch school in
923 violation of section 10a-22*g*, as amended by this act, shall be fined not
924 more than five hundred dollars for each day of unauthorized operation,
925 to be paid into the private [occupational] career student protection
926 account, except that, on and after the effective date of the regulations
927 adopted pursuant to section 10a-22*k*, such fine shall be in the amount
928 specified in such regulations.

929 (b) The executive director, or the executive director's designee, may
930 conduct an investigation and, through the Attorney General, maintain
931 an action in the name of the state against any person to restrain or

932 prevent the establishment or operation of an institution that does not
933 have a certificate of authorization.

934 Sec. 20. Section 10a-22m of the general statutes is repealed and the
935 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

936 (a) A private [occupational] career school shall notify the executive
937 director, in writing, at least sixty days prior to closure of such school.
938 The private [occupational] career school shall provide evidence prior to
939 closing that: (1) All course work is or will be completed by current
940 students at the school; (2) there are no refunds due any students; (3) all
941 student records will be maintained as prescribed in section 10a-22n, as
942 amended by this act; (4) final payment has been made to the private
943 [occupational] career school student protection account; (5) a
944 designation of service form has been filed with the executive director;
945 and (6) the certificate of authorization has been returned to the executive
946 director.

947 (b) Any private [occupational] career school that fails to meet the
948 requirements outlined in subsection (a) of this section shall be fined not
949 more than five hundred dollars per day for each day of noncompliance,
950 except that, on and after the effective date of the regulations adopted
951 pursuant to section 10a-22k, such fine shall be in the amount specified
952 in such regulations, and [,] pursuant to subdivision (6) of subsection (a)
953 of section 10a-22c, as amended by this act, shall be ineligible to be issued
954 a certificate of authorization upon application to operate a private
955 [occupational] career school. Funds collected pursuant to this
956 subsection shall be placed in the private [occupational] career student
957 protection account established pursuant to section 10a-22u, as amended
958 by this act.

959 (c) If the executive director revokes a private [occupational] career
960 school's certificate of authorization, such school shall comply with the
961 requirements of subsection (a) of this section. Failure to comply shall
962 result in further penalties at the discretion of the executive director.

963 (d) In the event a private [occupational] career school fails to meet the
964 requirements set forth in subsection (a) of this section and closes prior
965 to graduating all current students, the executive director may seize the
966 letter of credit filed by the private [occupational] career school pursuant
967 to subsection (d) of section 10a-22c, as amended by this act, and such
968 letter of credit shall be made payable to the private [occupational] career
969 school student protection account. The executive director may expend
970 funds from the private [occupational] career school student protection
971 account up to the amount necessary to facilitate a teach-out of any
972 remaining students up to and including the issuance of a certificate of
973 completion pursuant to subsection (e) of this section. For purposes of
974 this subsection and subsection (e) of this section, (1) "teach-out" means
975 the completion of instruction of a course or program of study in which
976 a student was enrolled, provided the teach-out includes instruction of
977 the entire program of study when a course is a part of such program of
978 study, and (2) "certificate of completion" means the credential,
979 documented in writing, that is issued to a student who completes a
980 course or program of study offered by a private [occupational] career
981 school.

982 (e) In the event of a private [occupational] career school closure that
983 fails to meet the requirements set forth in subsection (a) of this section,
984 the executive director may issue a certificate of completion to each
985 student that, in the executive director's determination, has successfully
986 completed the student's course or program of study in which the
987 student was enrolled at the private [occupational] career school.

988 Sec. 21. Section 10a-22n of the general statutes is repealed and the
989 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

990 (a) A private [occupational] career school shall maintain, preserve
991 and protect, in a manner approved by the executive director, or the
992 executive director's designee, all school records including, but not
993 limited to: (1) Student or academic transcripts, including, in a separate
994 file, a duplicate copy of the academic transcript of each student who
995 graduated from such school, and a duplicate copy of the academic

996 transcript of each student enrolled at such school that contains the
997 student's name, address, program of study, length of such program of
998 study, grade point average and courses completed; (2) attendance
999 records or other indicators of student progress; (3) copies of individual
1000 enrollment agreements or contracts; (4) evidence of tuition payments;
1001 and (5) any other documentation as prescribed by the executive director.

1002 (b) The executive director, or the executive director's designee, may
1003 at any time during regular business or school hours, with or without
1004 notice, visit a private [occupational] career school. During such
1005 visitation, the executive director, or the executive director's designee,
1006 may request an officer or director of the school to produce, and shall be
1007 provided with immediate access to, such records or information as are
1008 required to verify that the school continues to meet the conditions of
1009 authorization. If the executive director determines that such private
1010 [occupational] career school has not maintained, preserved or protected
1011 school records in accordance with this section, the executive director
1012 may assess an administrative penalty on such private [occupational]
1013 career school pursuant to section 10a-22i, as amended by this act.

1014 (c) If a school ceases to operate as a private [occupational] career
1015 school, it shall (1) immediately transmit all student or academic
1016 transcripts, described in subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section,
1017 to the executive director, and (2) keep the executive director advised in
1018 writing as to the location and availability of all other student records or
1019 shall file all such other student records with the executive director.

1020 (d) The executive director shall maintain all records, files and other
1021 documents associated with private [occupational] career schools in a
1022 manner consistent with the mission and responsibilities of the Office of
1023 Higher Education.

1024 Sec. 22. Section 10a-22p of the general statutes is repealed and the
1025 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

1026 (a) On and after January 1, [2020, any] 2023, no private [occupational]

1027 career school, as defined in section 10a-22a, [that requires] as amended
1028 by this act, shall require any student, as a condition of enrollment, to
1029 enter into an agreement that (1) limits participation in a class action
1030 against such school, (2) limits any claim the student may have against
1031 such school or the damages for such claim, or (3) requires the student to
1032 assert any claim against such school in a forum that is less convenient,
1033 more costly or more dilatory for the resolution of a dispute than a
1034 judicial forum established in the state where the student may otherwise
1035 properly bring a claim. [,] A private career school shall include in its
1036 application to the Office of Higher Education for initial or renewed
1037 certificate of authorization pursuant to sections 10a-22b, as amended by
1038 this act, and 10a-22d, as amended by this act, a statement (A) disclosing
1039 the number of claims made against the school, including claims made
1040 against a parent organization or subsidiary of the school, by a student
1041 currently or formerly enrolled at the school, (B) describing the nature of
1042 the rights asserted, and (C) updating the status of such claims. The
1043 school shall submit additional details regarding such claims as the
1044 executive director of the Office of Higher Education may require.

1045 (b) The executive director of the Office of Higher Education may deny
1046 the application for initial or renewed certificate of authorization of a
1047 private [occupational] career school or consider a private [occupational]
1048 career school ineligible to receive any public funds, including, but not
1049 limited to, federal funds administered by the office pursuant to section
1050 10a-45 if (1) such school fails to include the statement required under
1051 subsection (a) of this section in its application, or (2) upon review of such
1052 statement, the executive director determines that the public policy of
1053 protecting the interests of students in the state requires such denial.

1054 (c) The executive director of the Office of Higher Education shall have
1055 the authority granted under sections 10a-22i, as amended by this act,
1056 10a-22j and 10a-22o to investigate and enforce the provisions of
1057 subsections (a) and (b) of this section.

1058 Sec. 23. Section 10a-22q of the general statutes is repealed and the
1059 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

1060 After each annual determination of the balance of the private
1061 [occupational] career school student protection account required by
1062 section 10a-22w, if the balance of the account is more than two million
1063 five hundred thousand dollars, the State Treasurer shall transfer to a
1064 separate, nonlapsing account within the General Fund, to be known as
1065 the private [occupational] career school student benefit account, three-
1066 fourths of the annually accrued interest of said student protection
1067 account.

1068 Sec. 24. Section 10a-22r of the general statutes is repealed and the
1069 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

1070 [There is] When there are funds available to award financial aid
1071 grants from the private career school student benefit account, there shall
1072 be established an advisory committee to the executive director
1073 consisting of seven members appointed by the executive director,
1074 including a representative of the private [occupational] career schools,
1075 a representative from the Office of Higher Education and five members
1076 chosen from business or industry, state legislators, private
1077 [occupational] career school alumni and the general public. Three of the
1078 members first appointed to the committee shall be appointed for a term
1079 of three years and four of the members first appointed shall be
1080 appointed for a term of two years. Thereafter, all members shall be
1081 appointed for a term of two years. The executive director shall
1082 administer the private [occupational] career school student benefit
1083 account, established pursuant to section 10a-22u, as amended by this
1084 act, with the advice of the advisory committee in accordance with the
1085 provisions of this section and sections 10a-22s and 10a-22t and may
1086 assess the account for all direct expenses incurred in the implementation
1087 of this section. The account shall be used to award financial aid grants
1088 for the benefit of private [occupational] career school students. The
1089 grants shall be paid to the private [occupational] career school
1090 designated by the grant recipient to be applied against the tuition
1091 expenses of such recipient. If the balance of the student protection
1092 account is five per cent or less of the annual net tuition income of the

1093 schools which make payments to the account pursuant to section 10a-
1094 22u, as amended by this act, any unallocated funds in the student benefit
1095 account shall be transferred to the private career school student
1096 protection account.

1097 Sec. 25. Section 10a-22u of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes
1098 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
1099 *October 1, 2022*):

1100 (a) There shall be an account to be known as the private
1101 [occupational] career school student protection account within the
1102 General Fund. Each private [occupational] career school authorized in
1103 accordance with the provisions of sections 10a-22a to 10a-22o, inclusive,
1104 as amended by this act, shall pay to the State Treasurer an amount equal
1105 to four-tenths of one per cent of the tuition received by such school per
1106 calendar quarter exclusive of any refunds paid, except that distance
1107 learning and correspondence schools authorized in accordance with the
1108 provisions of section 10a-22h, as amended by this act, shall contribute to
1109 said account only for Connecticut residents enrolled in such schools.
1110 Payments shall be made by January thirtieth, April thirtieth, July
1111 thirtieth and October thirtieth in each year for tuition received during
1112 the three months next preceding the month of payment. In addition to
1113 amounts received based on tuition, the account shall also contain any
1114 amount required to be deposited into the account pursuant to sections
1115 10a-22a to 10a-22o, inclusive, as amended by this act. Said account shall
1116 be used for the purposes of section 10a-22v, as amended by this act. Any
1117 interest, income and dividends derived from the investment of the
1118 account shall be credited to the account. All direct expenses for the
1119 maintenance of the account may be charged to the account upon the
1120 order of the State Comptroller. The executive director may assess the
1121 account for all direct expenses incurred in the implementation of the
1122 purposes of this section which are in excess of the normal expenditures
1123 of the Office of Higher Education.

1124 (b) Payments required pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall
1125 be a condition of doing business in the state and failure to make any

1126 such payment within thirty days following the date on which it is due
1127 shall result in the loss of authorization under section 10a-22f, as
1128 amended by this act. Such authorization shall not be issued or renewed
1129 if there exists a failure to make any such payment in excess of thirty days
1130 following the date on which it is due.

1131 (c) If an audit conducted by the Office of Higher Education
1132 determines that a school has paid into the private [occupational] career
1133 school student protection account an amount less than was required, the
1134 school shall pay such amount plus a penalty of ten per cent of the
1135 amount required to the State Treasurer within thirty days of receipt of
1136 notice from the executive director or [his] the executive director's
1137 designee of the amount of the underpayment and penalty, except that,
1138 on and after the effective date of the regulations adopted pursuant to
1139 section 10a-22k, such penalty shall be in the amount specified in such
1140 regulations.

1141 (d) If an audit conducted by the Office of Higher Education
1142 determines that a school has paid into the private [occupational] career
1143 school student protection account an amount more than was required,
1144 subsequent payment or payments by the school shall be appropriately
1145 credited until such credited payment or payments equal the amount of
1146 the overpayment.

1147 Sec. 26. Section 10a-22v of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes
1148 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
1149 *October 1, 2022*):

1150 Any student enrolled in a private [occupational] career school
1151 authorized in accordance with the provisions of sections 10a-22a to 10a-
1152 22o, inclusive, as amended by this act, who is unable to complete an
1153 approved course or unit of instruction at such school because of the
1154 insolvency or cessation of operation of the school and who has paid
1155 tuition for such course or unit of instruction, may, not later than two
1156 years after the date on which such school became insolvent or ceased
1157 operations, make application to the executive director for a refund of

1158 tuition from the account established pursuant to section 10a-22u, as
1159 amended by this act, to the extent that such account exists or has reached
1160 the level necessary to pay outstanding approved claims, except that in
1161 the case of distance learning and correspondence schools authorized in
1162 accordance with the provisions of section 10a-22h, as amended by this
1163 act, only Connecticut residents enrolled in such schools may be eligible
1164 for such refund. Upon such application, the executive director shall
1165 determine whether the applicant is unable to complete a course or unit
1166 of instruction because of the insolvency or cessation of operation of the
1167 school to which tuition has been paid. The executive director may
1168 summon by subpoena any person, records or documents pertinent to
1169 the making of a determination regarding insolvency or cessation of
1170 operation. For the purpose of making any tuition refund pursuant to
1171 this section, a school shall be deemed to have ceased operation
1172 whenever it has failed to complete a course or unit of instruction for
1173 which the student has paid a tuition fee and, as a result, the school's
1174 authorization has been revoked pursuant to section 10a-22f, as amended
1175 by this act. If the executive director finds that the applicant is entitled to
1176 a refund of tuition because of the insolvency or cessation of operation of
1177 the school, the executive director shall determine the amount of an
1178 appropriate refund which shall be equal to the tuition paid for the
1179 uncompleted course or unit of instruction. Thereafter the executive
1180 director shall direct the State Treasurer to pay, per order of the
1181 Comptroller, the refund to the applicant or persons, agencies or
1182 organizations indicated by the applicant who have paid tuition on the
1183 student's behalf. If the student is a minor, payment shall be made to the
1184 student's parent, parents or legal guardian. In no event shall a refund be
1185 made from the student protection account for any financial aid provided
1186 to or on behalf of any student in accordance with the provisions of Title
1187 IV, Part B of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended from time
1188 to time. Each recipient of a tuition refund made in accordance with the
1189 provisions of this section shall assign all rights to the state of any action
1190 against the school or its owner or owners for tuition amounts
1191 reimbursed pursuant to this section. Upon such assignment, the state
1192 may take appropriate action against the school or its owner or owners

1193 in order to reimburse the student protection account for any expenses
1194 or claims that are paid from the account and to reimburse the state for
1195 the reasonable and necessary expenses in undertaking such action. Any
1196 student who falsifies information on an application for tuition
1197 reimbursement shall lose his or her right to any refund from the account.

1198 Sec. 27. Subsection (c) of section 10-95r of the general statutes is
1199 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
1200 *1, 2022*):

1201 (c) The executive director may enter into cooperative arrangements
1202 with local and regional boards of education, private [occupational]
1203 career schools, institutions of higher education, job training agencies
1204 and employers in order to provide (1) general education, (2) vocational,
1205 technical, technological or postsecondary education, and (3) work
1206 experience.

1207 Sec. 28. Subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 10a-11b of the 2022
1208 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is
1209 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

1210 (1) The commission shall consist of the following voting members:
1211 (A) The president of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, the
1212 president of The University of Connecticut, or their designees from the
1213 Board of Regents and Board of Trustees; (B) the provost of the
1214 Connecticut State Colleges and Universities and the provost of The
1215 University of Connecticut; (C) the chair of the Board of Regents for the
1216 Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, and the Board of Trustees
1217 for The University of Connecticut, or the chairs' designees; (D) the
1218 president, vice president or chair of the board of a large independent
1219 institution of higher education in the state, to be selected by the
1220 president of the Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges; (E)
1221 the president, vice president or chair of the board of a small independent
1222 institution of higher education in the state, to be selected by the
1223 president of the Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges; (F) a
1224 representative from a private [occupational] career school, to be selected

1225 by the Commissioner of Education; (G) a teaching faculty representative
1226 from the Connecticut State Universities, to be selected by the president
1227 of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities; (H) a teaching faculty
1228 representative from the regional community-technical colleges, to be
1229 selected by the president of the Connecticut State Colleges and
1230 Universities; (I) a teaching faculty representative from The University of
1231 Connecticut, to be selected by the president of The University of
1232 Connecticut; (J) a teaching faculty representative from a private
1233 [occupational] career school in the state, to be selected by the
1234 Commissioner of Education; (K) one member appointed by the
1235 president pro tempore of the Senate, who shall be a representative of a
1236 large manufacturing employer in the state; (L) one member appointed
1237 by the speaker of the House of Representatives, who shall be a
1238 representative of a large financial or insurance services employer in the
1239 state; (M) one member appointed by the majority leader of the Senate,
1240 who shall be a representative of an information technology or digital
1241 media employer in the state; (N) one member appointed by the minority
1242 leader of the Senate, who shall be a representative of a small business
1243 employer in the state; (O) one member appointed by the majority leader
1244 of the House of Representatives, who shall be a representative of a
1245 health care employer in the state; and (P) one member appointed by the
1246 minority leader of the House of Representatives, who shall be a
1247 representative of a small business employer in the state. The
1248 commission membership shall, where feasible, reflect the state's
1249 geographic, racial and ethnic diversity.

1250 Sec. 29. Section 10a-34h of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes
1251 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
1252 *October 1, 2022*):

1253 (a) As used in this section:

1254 (1) "Credential" means a documented award issued by an authorized
1255 body, including, but not limited to, a (A) degree or certificate awarded
1256 by an institution of higher education, private [occupational] career
1257 school or provider of an alternate route to certification program

1258 approved by the State Board of Education for teachers, (B) certification
1259 awarded through an examination process designed to demonstrate
1260 acquisition of designated knowledge, skill and ability to perform a
1261 specific job, (C) license issued by a governmental agency which permits
1262 an individual to practice a specific occupation upon verification that
1263 such individual meets a predetermined list of qualifications, and (D)
1264 documented completion of an apprenticeship or job training program;
1265 and

1266 (2) "Credential status type" means the official status of a credential
1267 which is either active, deprecated, probationary or superseded.

1268 (b) Not later than January 1, 2023, the executive director of the Office
1269 of Higher Education, in consultation with the advisory council
1270 established pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, shall create a
1271 database of credentials offered in the state for the purpose of explaining
1272 the skills and competencies earned through a credential in uniform
1273 terms and plain language. In creating the database, the executive
1274 director shall utilize the minimum data policy of the New England
1275 Board of Higher Education's High Value Credentials for New England
1276 initiative, the uniform terms and descriptions of Credentials Engine's
1277 Credential Transparency Description Language and the uniform
1278 standards for comparing and linking credentials in Credential Engine's
1279 Credential Transparency Description Language-Achievement
1280 Standards Network. At a minimum, the database shall include the
1281 following information for each credential: (1) Credential status type, (2)
1282 the entity that owns or offers the credential, (3) the type of credential
1283 being offered, (4) a short description of the credential, (5) the name of
1284 the credential, (6) the Internet web site that provides information
1285 relating to the credential, (7) the language in which the credential is
1286 offered, (8) the estimated duration for completion, (9) the industry
1287 related to the credential which may include its code under the North
1288 American Industry Classification System, (10) the occupation related to
1289 the credential which may include its code under the standard
1290 occupational classification system of the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the

1291 United States Department of Labor or under The Occupational
1292 Information Network, (11) the estimated cost for earning the credential,
1293 and (12) a listing of online or physical locations where the credential is
1294 offered.

1295 (c) There is established an advisory council for the purpose of
1296 advising the executive director of the Office of Higher Education on the
1297 implementation of the database created pursuant to subsection (b) of
1298 this section. The advisory council shall consist of (1) representatives
1299 from the Office of Workforce Strategy, Office of Higher Education,
1300 Office of Policy and Management, Labor Department, Department of
1301 Education, Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, The University
1302 of Connecticut and independent institutions of higher education, and
1303 (2) the Chief Data Officer, or such officer's designee. The Chief
1304 Workforce Officer, the Chief Data Officer and the executive director of
1305 the Office of Higher Education, or their designees, shall be
1306 cochairpersons of the advisory council and shall schedule the meetings
1307 of the advisory council.

1308 (d) Not later than July 1, 2024, and annually thereafter, each regional
1309 workforce development board, community action agency, as defined in
1310 section 17b-885, institution of higher education, private [occupational]
1311 career school, provider of an alternate route to certification program
1312 approved by the State Board of Education, and provider of a training
1313 program listed on the Labor Department's Eligible Training Provider
1314 List shall submit information, in the form and manner prescribed by the
1315 executive director of the Office of Higher Education, about any
1316 credential offered by such institution, school or provider for inclusion
1317 in the database created pursuant to subsection (b) of this section. Such
1318 information shall include, but need not be limited to, the data described
1319 in subdivisions (1) to (12), inclusive, of subsection (b) of this section,
1320 except an institution of higher education may omit the data required
1321 pursuant to subdivisions (6), (9) and (10) of subsection (b) of this section
1322 if such data is not applicable to a credential offered by such institution.

1323 (e) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require any state

1324 agency or department to submit credential information to the database
1325 created pursuant to subsection (b) of this section.

1326 (f) The Labor Department may, in consultation with the advisory
1327 council established pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, require any
1328 program sponsor of a preapprenticeship or apprenticeship program
1329 registered with the department to submit information about such
1330 program to the Office of Higher Education for inclusion in such
1331 database.

1332 Sec. 30. Subsection (c) of section 10a-55a of the 2022 supplement to
1333 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
1334 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

1335 (c) On or before October 1, 2007, each institution of higher education
1336 and private [occupational] career school, as defined in section 10a-22a,
1337 as amended by this act, shall have an emergency response plan. On or
1338 before October 1, 2007, and annually thereafter, each institution of
1339 higher education and private [occupational] career school shall submit
1340 a copy of its emergency response plan to (1) the Commissioner of
1341 Emergency Services and Public Protection, and (2) local first responders.
1342 Such plan shall be developed in consultation with such first responders
1343 and shall include a strategy for notifying students and employees of the
1344 institution or school and visitors to such institution or school of
1345 emergency information.

1346 Sec. 31. Section 10a-161a of the general statutes is repealed and the
1347 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

1348 The president of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities and
1349 the Office of Higher Education shall report, biennially, in accordance
1350 with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committee of
1351 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to higher
1352 education on state, northeast regional and national trends in (1) the cost
1353 of attendance at public and independent institutions of higher education
1354 and private [occupational] career schools, and (2) the availability and

1355 utilization of all forms of student financial aid for academic and
1356 noncredit vocational courses and programs relative to economic
1357 conditions and personal income.

1358 Sec. 32. Subdivisions (21) and (22) of section 10a-223 of the 2022
1359 supplement to the general statutes, as amended by section 273 of public
1360 act 21-2 of the June special session, are repealed and the following is
1361 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

1362 (21) "High-value certificate program" means a noncredit sub-
1363 baccalaureate certificate program offered by an institution of higher
1364 education or a private [occupational] career school that the Chief
1365 Workforce Officer determines to meet the needs of employers in the
1366 state; and

1367 (22) "Connecticut high-value certificate program" means a high-value
1368 certificate program offered by an institution of higher education or a
1369 private [occupational] career school in the state.

1370 Sec. 33. Subdivision (109) of section 12-412 of the 2022 supplement to
1371 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
1372 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

1373 (109) Sales of college textbooks to full and part-time students enrolled
1374 at institutions of higher education or private [occupational] career
1375 schools authorized pursuant to sections 10a-22a to 10a-22o, inclusive, as
1376 amended by this act, provided the student presents a valid student
1377 identification card. For purposes of this subdivision, "college textbooks"
1378 means new or used books and related workbooks required or
1379 recommended for a course at an institution of higher education or a
1380 private [occupational] career school authorized pursuant to sections
1381 10a-22a to 10a-22o, inclusive, as amended by this act.

1382 Sec. 34. Subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 13b-38ee of the
1383 2022 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is
1384 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

1385 (1) "Eligible organization" means any provider of a training program
1386 including, but not limited to, a provider of a training program listed on
1387 the Labor Department's Eligible Training Provider List, an
1388 apprenticeship or preapprenticeship program sponsor, a provider of an
1389 alternate route to certification program approved by the State Board of
1390 Education, an institution of higher education, a private [occupational]
1391 career school, an employer, a state or municipal agency and a public or
1392 nonprofit social service provider in the state; and

1393 Sec. 35. Subsection (a) of section 14-37a of the general statutes is
1394 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
1395 *1, 2022*):

1396 (a) Any person whose operator's license has been suspended
1397 pursuant to any provision of this chapter or chapter 248, except
1398 pursuant to section 14-215 for operating under suspension or pursuant
1399 to section 14-140 for failure to appear for any scheduled court
1400 appearance, and any person identified in subsection (g) of this section
1401 may make application to the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles for (1) a
1402 special "work" permit to operate a motor vehicle to and from such
1403 person's place of employment or, if such person is not employed at a
1404 fixed location, to operate a motor vehicle only in connection with, and
1405 to the extent necessary, to properly perform such person's business or
1406 profession, (2) a special "education" permit to operate a motor vehicle to
1407 and from an institution of higher education or a private [occupational]
1408 career school, as defined in section 10a-22a, as amended by this act, in
1409 which such person is enrolled, provided no such special "education"
1410 permit shall be issued to any student enrolled in a high school under the
1411 jurisdiction of a local or regional board of education, a high school under
1412 the jurisdiction of a regional educational service center, a charter school,
1413 a regional agricultural science and technology education center or a
1414 technical education and career school, or (3) a special "medical" permit
1415 to operate a motor vehicle to and from any ongoing medically necessary
1416 treatment, available upon adoption by the commissioner of regulations
1417 pursuant to chapter 54, that describe qualifications for such permit. Such

1418 application shall be accompanied by an application fee of one hundred
1419 dollars.

1420 Sec. 36. Subsection (a) of section 17b-749 of the 2022 supplement to
1421 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
1422 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

1423 (a) The Commissioner of Early Childhood shall establish and operate
1424 a child care subsidy program to increase the availability, affordability
1425 and quality of child care services for families with a parent or caretaker
1426 who (1) is (A) working or attending high school, or (B) subject to the
1427 provisions of subsection (d) of this section, is enrolled or participating
1428 in (i) a public or independent institution of higher education, (ii) a
1429 private [occupational] career school authorized pursuant to sections
1430 10a-22a to 10a-22o, inclusive, as amended by this act, (iii) a job training
1431 or employment program administered by a regional workforce
1432 development board, (iv) an apprenticeship program administered by
1433 the Labor Department's office of apprenticeship training, (v) an
1434 alternate route to certification program approved by the State Board of
1435 Education, (vi) an adult education program pursuant to section 10-69 or
1436 other high school equivalency program, or (vii) a local Even Start
1437 program or other adult education program approved by the
1438 Commissioner of Early Childhood; or (2) receives cash assistance under
1439 the temporary family assistance program from the Department of Social
1440 Services and is participating in an education, training or other job
1441 preparation activity approved pursuant to subsection (b) of section 17b-
1442 688i or subsection (b) of section 17b-689d. Services available under the
1443 child care subsidy program shall include the provision of child care
1444 subsidies for children under the age of thirteen or children under the
1445 age of nineteen with special needs. The Office of Early Childhood shall
1446 open and maintain enrollment for the child care subsidy program and
1447 shall administer such program within the existing budgetary resources
1448 available. The office shall issue a notice on the office's Internet web site
1449 any time the office closes the program to new applications, changes
1450 eligibility requirements, changes program benefits or makes any other

1451 change to the program's status or terms, except the office shall not be
1452 required to issue such notice when the office expands program
1453 eligibility. Any change in the office's acceptance of new applications,
1454 eligibility requirements, program benefits or any other change to the
1455 program's status or terms for which the office is required to give notice
1456 pursuant to this subsection, shall not be effective until thirty days after
1457 the office issues such notice.

1458 Sec. 37. Subsection (a) of section 31-11ss of the 2022 supplement to the
1459 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
1460 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

1461 (a) As used in this section:

1462 (1) "Advanced manufacturing" means a manufacturing process that
1463 makes extensive use of computer, high-precision or information
1464 technologies integrated with a high-performance workforce in a
1465 production system capable of furnishing a heterogeneous mix of
1466 products in small or large volumes with either the efficiency of mass
1467 production or the flexibility of custom manufacturing in order to
1468 respond quickly to customer demands. "Advanced manufacturing"
1469 includes newly developed methods to manufacture existing products
1470 and the manufacture of new products emerging from new advanced
1471 technologies;

1472 (2) "Eligible business" means a business that (A) has operations in
1473 Connecticut, (B) has been registered to conduct business for not less than
1474 twelve months, and (C) is in good standing with respect to the payment
1475 of all state and local taxes. "Eligible business" does not include the state
1476 or any political subdivision thereof;

1477 (3) ["Private occupational school"] "Private career school" has the
1478 same meaning as provided in section 10a-22a, as amended by this act;

1479 (4) "Public institution of higher education" means any of the
1480 institutions of higher education identified in subdivision (2) of section
1481 10a-1;

1482 (5) "Qualifying advanced manufacturing certificate program" means
1483 a for-credit or noncredit sub-baccalaureate advanced manufacturing
1484 certificate program offered by a public institution of higher education
1485 or a private [occupational] career school in which at least seventy-five
1486 per cent of the graduates of such certificate program are employed in a
1487 field related to or requiring such certificate in the year following
1488 graduation; and

1489 (6) "Veteran" has the same meaning as provided in section 27-103.

1490 Sec. 38. Section 46b-56c of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes
1491 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
1492 *October 1, 2022*):

1493 (a) For purposes of this section, an educational support order is an
1494 order entered by a court requiring a parent to provide support for a
1495 child or children to attend for up to a total of four full academic years
1496 an institution of higher education or a private [occupational] career
1497 school for the purpose of attaining a bachelor's or other undergraduate
1498 degree, or other appropriate vocational instruction. An educational
1499 support order may be entered with respect to any child who has not
1500 attained twenty-three years of age and shall terminate not later than the
1501 date on which the child attains twenty-three years of age.

1502 (b) (1) On motion or petition of a parent, the court may enter an
1503 educational support order at the time of entry of a decree of dissolution,
1504 legal separation or annulment, and no educational support order may
1505 be entered thereafter unless the decree explicitly provides that a motion
1506 or petition for an educational support order may be filed by either
1507 parent at a subsequent date. If no educational support order is entered
1508 at the time of entry of a decree of dissolution, legal separation or
1509 annulment, and the parents have a child who has not attained twenty-
1510 three years of age, the court shall inform the parents that no educational
1511 support order may be entered thereafter. The court may accept a
1512 parent's waiver of the right to file a motion or petition for an educational
1513 support order upon a finding that the parent fully understands the

1514 consequences of such waiver.

1515 (2) A waiver of the right to file a motion or petition for an educational
1516 support order may be made in writing by either parent and accepted by
1517 the court, provided the parent making the writing attests, under oath,
1518 that the parent fully understands the consequences of such waiver, and
1519 that no restraining order issued pursuant to section 46b-15 or protective
1520 order issued pursuant to section 46b-38c, between the parties is in effect
1521 or pending before the court. The provisions of this subdivision shall not
1522 preclude the court from requiring that the parties attend a hearing and
1523 that findings be made on the record.

1524 (3) On motion or petition of a parent, the court may enter an
1525 educational support order at the time of entry of an order for support
1526 pendente lite pursuant to section 46b-83.

1527 (4) On motion or petition of a parent, the court may enter an
1528 educational support order at the time of entering an order of support
1529 pursuant to section 46b-61 or 46b-171, or similar section of the general
1530 statutes, or at any time thereafter.

1531 (5) On motion or petition of a parent, the court may enter an
1532 educational support order at the time of entering an order pursuant to
1533 any other provision of the general statutes authorizing the court to make
1534 an order of support for a child, subject to the provisions of sections 46b-
1535 301 to 46b-425, inclusive.

1536 (c) The court may not enter an educational support order pursuant to
1537 this section unless the court finds as a matter of fact that it is more likely
1538 than not that the parents would have provided support to the child for
1539 higher education or private [occupational] career school if the family
1540 were intact. After making such finding, the court, in determining
1541 whether to enter an educational support order, shall consider all
1542 relevant circumstances, including: (1) The parents' income, assets and
1543 other obligations, including obligations to other dependents; (2) the
1544 child's need for support to attend an institution of higher education or

1545 private [occupational] career school considering the child's assets and
1546 the child's ability to earn income; (3) the availability of financial aid from
1547 other sources, including grants and loans; (4) the reasonableness of the
1548 higher education to be funded considering the child's academic record
1549 and the financial resources available; (5) the child's preparation for,
1550 aptitude for and commitment to higher education; and (6) evidence, if
1551 any, of the institution of higher education or private [occupational]
1552 career school the child would attend.

1553 (d) Any finding required to be made by the court, pursuant to this
1554 section may be made on the basis of an affidavit, made under oath, by
1555 either party, provided that the party making the affidavit attests that no
1556 restraining order issued pursuant to section 46b-15 or protective order,
1557 issued pursuant to section 46b-38c, between the parties is in effect or
1558 pending before the court. Nothing in this subsection shall preclude the
1559 court from requiring that the parties attend a hearing and that findings
1560 be made on the record.

1561 (e) At the appropriate time, both parents shall participate in, and
1562 agree upon, the decision as to which institution of higher education or
1563 private [occupational] career school the child will attend. The court may
1564 make an order resolving the matter if the parents fail to reach an
1565 agreement.

1566 (f) To qualify for payments due under an educational support order,
1567 the child must (1) enroll in an accredited institution of higher education
1568 or private [occupational] career school, as defined in section 10a-22a, as
1569 amended by this act, (2) actively pursue a course of study
1570 commensurate with the child's vocational goals that constitutes at least
1571 one-half the course load determined by that institution or school to
1572 constitute full-time enrollment, (3) maintain good academic standing in
1573 accordance with the rules of the institution or school, and (4) make
1574 available all academic records to both parents during the term of the
1575 order. The order shall be suspended after any academic period during
1576 which the child fails to comply with these conditions.

1577 (g) The educational support order may include support for any
1578 necessary educational expense, including room, board, dues, tuition,
1579 fees, registration and application costs, but such expenses shall not be
1580 more than the amount charged by The University of Connecticut for a
1581 full-time in-state student at the time the child for whom educational
1582 support is being ordered matriculates, except this limit may be exceeded
1583 by agreement of the parents. An educational support order may also
1584 include the cost of books and medical insurance for such child.

1585 (h) The court may direct that payments under an educational support
1586 order be made (1) to a parent to be forwarded to the institution of higher
1587 education or private [occupational] career school, (2) directly to the
1588 institution or school, or (3) otherwise as the court determines to be
1589 appropriate.

1590 (i) On motion or petition of a parent, an educational support order
1591 may be modified or enforced in the same manner as is provided by law
1592 for any support order.

1593 (j) This section does not create a right of action by a child for parental
1594 support for higher education.

1595 (k) An educational support order under this section does not include
1596 support for graduate or postgraduate education beyond a bachelor's
1597 degree.

1598 (l) The provisions of this section shall apply only in cases when the
1599 initial order for parental support of the child is entered on or after
1600 October 1, 2002.

1601 Sec. 39. Subsection (a) of section 10a-55i of the 2022 supplement to the
1602 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
1603 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

1604 (a) There is established a Higher Education Consolidation Committee
1605 which shall be convened by the chairpersons of the joint standing
1606 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters

1607 relating to higher education or such chairpersons' designee, who shall
 1608 be a member of such joint standing committee. The membership of the
 1609 Higher Education Consolidation Committee shall consist of the higher
 1610 education subcommittee on appropriations and the chairpersons, vice
 1611 chairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing committees of
 1612 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to higher
 1613 education and appropriations. The Higher Education Consolidation
 1614 Committee shall establish a meeting and public hearing schedule for
 1615 purposes of receiving updates from (1) the Board of Regents for Higher
 1616 Education on the progress of the consolidation of the state system of
 1617 higher education pursuant to this section, section 4-9c, subsection (g) of
 1618 section 5-160, section 5-199d, subsection (a) of section 7-323k, subsection
 1619 (a) of section 7-608, subsection (a) of section 10-9, section 10-155d,
 1620 subdivision (14) of section 10-183b, sections 10a-1a to 10a-1d, inclusive,
 1621 as amended by this act, 10a-3 and 10a-3a, 10a-8, 10a-10a to 10a-11a,
 1622 inclusive, 10a-17d and 10a-22a, as amended by this act, [subsections (f)
 1623 and (h) of] section 10a-22b, as amended by this act, subsections (c) and
 1624 (d) of section 10a-22d, as amended by this act, sections 10a-22h, as
 1625 amended by this act, and 10a-22k, subsection (a) of section 10a-22n, as
 1626 amended by this act, sections 10a-22r, as amended by this act, 10a-22s,
 1627 10a-22u, as amended by this act, 10a-22v, as amended by this act, 10a-
 1628 22x and 10a-34 to 10a-35a, inclusive, as amended by this act, subsection
 1629 (a) of section 10a-48a, sections 10a-71 and 10a-72, subsections (c) and (f)
 1630 of section 10a-77, section 10a-88, subsection (a) of section 10a-89,
 1631 subsection (c) of section 10a-99 and sections 10a-102, 10a-104, 10a-105,
 1632 10a-109e, 10a-143 and 10a-168a, and (2) the Board of Regents for Higher
 1633 Education and The University of Connecticut on the program approval
 1634 process for the constituent units. The Higher Education Consolidation
 1635 Committee shall convene its first meeting on or before September 15,
 1636 2011, and meet not less than once every two months.

1637 Sec. 40. Section 10a-22y of the general statutes is repealed. (*Effective*
 1638 *October 1, 2022*)

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2022</i>	4-5
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	10a-1d
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	10a-34
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	10a-34c
Sec. 5	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	10a-34e(a)
Sec. 6	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	10a-34g(a)
Sec. 7	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	10-67(4)
Sec. 8	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	12-407(a)(37)(J)
Sec. 9	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	30-22a(k)
Sec. 10	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	10a-22a
Sec. 11	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	10a-22b
Sec. 12	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	10a-22c
Sec. 13	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	10a-22d
Sec. 14	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	10a-22e
Sec. 15	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	10a-22f
Sec. 16	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	10a-22g
Sec. 17	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	10a-22h
Sec. 18	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	10a-22i
Sec. 19	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	10a-22l
Sec. 20	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	10a-22m
Sec. 21	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	10a-22n
Sec. 22	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	10a-22p
Sec. 23	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	10a-22q
Sec. 24	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	10a-22r
Sec. 25	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	10a-22u
Sec. 26	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	10a-22v
Sec. 27	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	10-95r(c)
Sec. 28	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	10a-11b(a)(1)
Sec. 29	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	10a-34h
Sec. 30	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	10a-55a(c)
Sec. 31	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	10a-161a
Sec. 32	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	10a-223(21) and (22)
Sec. 33	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	12-412(109)
Sec. 34	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	13b-38ee(a)(1)
Sec. 35	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	14-37a(a)
Sec. 36	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	17b-749(a)
Sec. 37	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	31-11ss(a)

Sec. 38	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	46b-56c
Sec. 39	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	10a-55i(a)
Sec. 40	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	Repealer section

HED *Joint Favorable*