



356900

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate

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House

Senator Pizzo moved the following:

Senate Amendment (with directory and title amendments)

Delete lines 266 - 276

and insert:

(2) ACCREDITATION.-

(a) By September 1, 2022, the Board of Governors or the State Board of Education, as applicable, shall identify and determine the accrediting agencies or associations best suited to serve as an accreditor for public postsecondary institutions. Such accrediting agencies or associations must be recognized by the database created and maintained by the United States



356900

12 Department of Education. A public postsecondary institution may
13 not be accredited by the same accrediting agency or association
14 for consecutive accreditation cycles. In the year following
15 reaffirmation or fifth-year review by its accrediting agencies
16 or associations, each public postsecondary institution must seek
17 and obtain accreditation from an accrediting agency or
18 association identified by the Board of Governors or State Board
19 of Education, respectively, before its next reaffirmation or
20 fifth-year review date. The requirements of this subsection are
21 not applicable to those professional, graduate, departmental, or
22 certificate programs at public postsecondary institutions that
23 have specific accreditation requirements or best practices,
24 including, but not limited to, law, pharmacy, engineering, or
25 other similarly situated educational programs.

26 (b) Once a public postsecondary institution is required to
27 seek and obtain accreditation from an agency or association
28 identified pursuant to paragraph (a), the institution shall
29 provide quarterly reports of its progress to the Board of
30 Governors or State Board of Education, as applicable. If each
31 accreditation agency or association identified pursuant to
32 paragraph (a) has refused to grant candidacy status to a public
33 postsecondary institution, then the Board of Governors or State
34 Board of Education, as applicable, may identify additional
35 agencies or associations to which an institution may apply. If a
36 public postsecondary institution is not granted candidacy status
37 before its next reaffirmation or fifth-year review date, the
38 institution may remain with its current accrediting agency or
39 association.

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41 ===== D I R E C T O R Y C L A U S E A M E N D M E N T =====

42 And the directory clause is amended as follows:

43 Delete line 259

44 and insert:

45 Section 3. Effective upon this act becoming a law, section
46 1008.47, Florida Statutes, is created to

47

48 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

49 And the title is amended as follows:

50 Delete lines 18 - 27

51 and insert:

52 requiring the Board of Governors and State Board of
53 Education to identify and determine accrediting
54 agencies or associations best suited for public
55 postsecondary institutions by a specified date;
56 providing requirements for such accrediting agencies
57 or associations; prohibiting public postsecondary
58 institutions from being accredited by the same agency
59 or association for consecutive accreditation cycles;
60 requiring public postsecondary institutions to obtain
61 accreditation from accrediting agencies or
62 associations identified by the Board of Governors or
63 State Board of Education, respectively; providing that
64 specified academic programs are exempt from such
65 requirements; requiring institutions to provide
66 specified reports to the Board of Governors or the
67 State Board of Education; authorizing institutions to
68 remain with current accreditors under certain
69 circumstances; creating a cause of