



General Assembly

Amendment

February Session, 2022

LCO No. 5776



Offered by:

SEN. SLAP, 5th Dist.

REP. ELLIOTT, 88th Dist.

SEN. WITKOS, 8th Dist.

REP. HAINES I., 34th Dist.

To: Senate Bill No. 105

File No. 254

Cal. No. 209

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

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

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7 special session, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu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

9 As used in sections 4-6, 4-7 and 4-8, the term "department head"
10 means Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, Commissioner
11 of Administrative Services, Commissioner of Revenue Services,
12 Banking Commissioner, Commissioner of Children and Families,

13 Commissioner of Consumer Protection, Commissioner of Correction,
14 Commissioner of Economic and Community Development, State Board
15 of Education, Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public
16 Protection, Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection,
17 Commissioner of Agriculture, Commissioner of Public Health,
18 Insurance Commissioner, Labor Commissioner, Commissioner of
19 Mental Health and Addiction Services, Commissioner of Social Services,
20 Commissioner of Developmental Services, Commissioner of Motor
21 Vehicles, Commissioner of Transportation, Commissioner of Veterans
22 Affairs, Commissioner of Housing, Commissioner of Rehabilitation
23 Services, the Commissioner of Early Childhood, the executive director
24 of the Office of Military Affairs, the executive director of the Technical
25 Education and Career System, [and] the Chief Workforce Officer and the
26 executive director of the Office of Higher Education. As used in sections
27 4-6 and 4-7, "department head" also means the Commissioner of
28 Education.

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 Section 10a-1d of the general statutes is repealed and the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

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

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

46 Sec. 3. Section 10a-34 of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes
47 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
48 *1, 2022*):

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

80 semester credit hours.

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

111 (c) No person, school, board, association or corporation shall confer
112 any degree unless authorized by act of the General Assembly. No
113 application for authority to confer any such degree shall be approved

114 by the General Assembly or any committee thereof, nor shall any such
115 authority be included in any charter of incorporation until such
116 application has been evaluated and approved by the Office of Higher
117 Education in accordance with regulations established by the Office of
118 Higher Education.

119 (d) The Office of Higher Education shall review all requests and
120 applications for program modifications, nonsubstantive changes [,
121 licensure and accreditation] and authorizations. The office shall review
122 each application in consideration of the academic standards set forth in
123 the regulations for [licensure and accreditation] authorization adopted
124 by said office in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of this
125 section. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 10a-34e, as amended
126 by this act, any application that is determined by the office to be for (1)
127 a program modification that meets all such academic standards, (2) a
128 nonsubstantive change, [(3) licensure, or (4) accreditation] or (3)
129 authorization shall be deemed approved, and the office shall notify the
130 institution of such approval, not later than forty-five days from the date
131 the office receives such application without requiring any further action
132 from the applicant.

133 (e) If the executive director of the Office of Higher Education, or the
134 executive director's designee, determines that further review of an
135 application is needed due at least in part to the applicant offering
136 instruction in a new program of higher learning or new degree level or
137 the financial condition of the institution of higher education is
138 determined to be at risk of imminent closure as a result of a financial
139 screening conducted pursuant to the provisions of section 4 of this act,
140 then the executive director or the executive director's designee shall
141 conduct a focused or on-site review. Such applicant shall have an
142 opportunity to state any objection regarding any individual selected to
143 review an application on behalf of the executive director. For purposes
144 of this subsection and subsection (f) of this section, "focused review"
145 means a review by an out-of-state curriculum expert; and "on-site
146 review" means a full team evaluation by the office at the institution of
147 higher education.

148 (f) The executive director of the Office of Higher Education, or the
149 executive director's designee, may require (1) a focused or on-site
150 review of any program application in a field requiring a license to
151 practice in Connecticut, and (2) evidence that a program application in
152 a field requiring a license to practice in Connecticut meets the state or
153 federal licensing requirements for such license.

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

160 (h) If the Office of Higher Education denies an application for
161 [licensure or accreditation] authorization of a program or institution of
162 higher education, the applicant may appeal the denial not later than ten
163 days from the date of denial. [The academic review commission shall
164 review the appeal and make a decision on such appeal not later than
165 thirty days from the date the applicant submits the appeal to said office]
166 The office shall conduct a hearing in accordance with the requirements
167 of chapter 54 to hear such appeal.

168 (i) No person, school, board, association or corporation shall operate
169 a program of higher learning or an institution of higher education unless
170 it has been [licensed or accredited] authorized by the Office of Higher
171 Education, nor shall it confer any degree unless it has been [accredited]
172 authorized in accordance with this section. The office shall accept
173 [regional] accreditation recognized by the Secretary of the United States
174 Department of Education, in satisfaction of the requirements of this
175 subsection unless the office finds cause not to rely upon such
176 accreditation. If any institution of higher education provides evidence
177 of programmatic accreditation, the office may consider such
178 accreditation in satisfaction of the requirements of this subsection and
179 deem the program at issue in the application for accreditation to be
180 accredited in accordance with this section. [National accreditation for

181 Connecticut institutions of higher education accredited prior to July 1,
182 2013, shall be accepted as being in satisfaction of the requirements of
183 this subsection unless the office finds cause not to rely on such national
184 accreditation.]

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

193 (k) [Accreditation] Authorization of any program or institution or
194 authority to award degrees granted in accordance with law prior to July
195 1, 1965, shall continue in effect unless the Office of Higher Education
196 determines that an institution is at risk of imminent closure as a result
197 of a financial screening conducted pursuant to the provisions of section
198 4 of this act.

199 (l) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (b) to (j), inclusive,
200 of this section and subject to the authority of the State Board of
201 Education to regulate teacher education programs, an independent
202 institution of higher education, as defined in section 10a-173, shall not
203 require approval by the Office of Higher Education for any new
204 programs of higher learning or any program modifications proposed by
205 such institution until June 30, 2023, and for up to fifteen new programs
206 of higher learning in any academic year or any program modifications
207 proposed by such institution on and after July 1, 2023, provided (1) the
208 institution maintains eligibility to participate in financial aid programs
209 governed by Title IV, Part B of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as
210 amended from time to time, (2) the United States Department of
211 Education has not determined that the institution has a financial
212 responsibility score that is less than 1.5 for the most recent fiscal year for
213 which the data necessary for determining the score is available, and (3)

214 the institution has been located in the state and accredited as a degree-
215 granting institution in good standing for ten years or more by a regional
216 accrediting association recognized by the Secretary of the United States
217 Department of Education and maintains such accreditation status. Each
218 institution that is exempt from program approval by the Office of
219 Higher Education under this subsection shall file with the office (A) on
220 and after July 1, 2023, an application for approval of any new program
221 of higher learning in excess of fifteen new programs in any academic
222 year, (B) a program actions form, as created by the office, prior to
223 students enrolling in any new program of higher learning or any
224 existing program subject to a program modification, and (C) not later
225 than July first, and annually thereafter, (i) until June 30, 2024, a list and
226 brief description of any new programs of higher learning introduced by
227 the institution in the preceding academic year and any existing
228 programs of higher learning discontinued by the institution in the
229 preceding academic year, (ii) the institution's current program approval
230 process and all actions of the governing board concerning approval of
231 any new program of higher learning, and (iii) the institution's financial
232 responsibility composite score, as determined by the United States
233 Department of Education, for the most recent fiscal year for which the
234 data necessary for determining the score is available.

235 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) (a) For the purposes of this
236 section:

237 (1) "Accrediting agency" means an accrediting association recognized
238 by the Secretary of the United States Department of Education,

239 (2) "At risk of imminent closure" means a determination made by the
240 Office of Higher Education as a result of an annual financial screening
241 that an independent institution of higher education is at risk of being
242 unable to continue operations or substantially fulfill its obligations to
243 enrolled and admitted students for the balance of the current and
244 subsequent academic year, and

245 (3) "Financial screening" means a review and evaluation of financial

246 information for the purpose of determining whether the financial status
247 of an institution of higher education indicates that such institution may
248 be at risk of imminent closure.

249 (b) The Office of Higher Education shall enter into a memorandum of
250 understanding with one or more accrediting agencies to conduct an
251 annual financial screening of each independent institution of higher
252 education in the state. If an independent institution of higher education
253 does not complete an annual financial screening with an accrediting
254 agency, such financial screening shall be conducted by the office in the
255 form and manner prescribed by the executive director of said office. The
256 office may determine that an independent institution of higher
257 education is at risk of imminent closure through (1) a financial screening
258 conducted by the office, or (2) acceptance by the office of such
259 determination made by an accrediting agency. Upon determining that
260 an independent institution of higher education is at risk of imminent
261 closure, the office shall submit a summary of the reasons for such
262 determination to such institution.

263 (c) Upon receiving a summary from the Office of Higher Education
264 that an independent institution of higher education has been
265 determined to be at risk of imminent closure, such institution shall
266 submit to the office, in the form and manner prescribed by the executive
267 director of said office, (1) notice of any known financial liability or risk,
268 (2) any information necessary to accurately determine and monitor the
269 institution's financial status and risk of imminent closure, and (3) an
270 updated closure plan approved by the governing board of such
271 institution pursuant to subsection (c) of section 10a-34e of the general
272 statutes, as amended by this act.

273 (d) If any independent institution of higher education in the state fails
274 to comply with the requirements of this section, the executive director
275 of the Office of Higher Education may request the suspension of any
276 state funding designated for such institution, establish a date to suspend
277 or revoke such institution's degree-granting authority or impose such
278 other penalties the executive director deems appropriate.

279 (e) No financial information or record submitted to the Office of
280 Higher Education pursuant to this section shall be deemed a public
281 record for the purposes of the Freedom of Information Act, as defined
282 in section 1-200 of the general statutes, and shall not be subject to
283 disclosure under the provisions of section 1-210 of the general statutes.

284 Sec. 5. Section 10a-34c of the general statutes is repealed and the
285 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

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

293 Sec. 6. Section 10a-34e of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes
294 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
295 *1, 2022*):

296 (a) The Office of Higher Education may conduct any necessary
297 review, inspection or investigation regarding applications for [licensure
298 or accreditation] authorization or possible violations of this section,
299 sections 10a-34 to 10a-34d, inclusive, as amended by this act, section 10a-
300 34g, as amended by this act, or any applicable regulations of
301 Connecticut state agencies. In connection with any investigation, the
302 executive director or the executive director's designee, may administer
303 oaths, issue subpoenas, compel testimony and order the production of
304 any record or document. If any person refuses to appear, testify or
305 produce any record or document when so ordered, the executive
306 director may seek relief pursuant to section 10a-34d.

307 (b) If the executive director of the Office of Higher Education
308 determines that an institution of higher education that is not regionally
309 accredited is exhibiting financial and administrative indicators that such
310 institution is in danger of closing, the executive director may require

311 such institution to facilitate a teach-out, as defined in section 10a-22m,
312 provided the executive director and such institution previously
313 discussed a teach-out that ensures that current students of such
314 institution are able to complete their programs without significant
315 impact.

316 (c) ~~(1)~~ Not later than January 1, 2022, each independent institution of
317 higher education shall submit to the Office of Higher Education a
318 closure plan, which shall include, but need not be limited to, ~~[(1)]~~ (A)
319 how such institution will respond to a natural disaster, pandemic, data
320 security threat or other catastrophic event that impacts the operations of
321 such institution, and ~~[(2)]~~ (B) how such institution will manage student
322 records, provide a continuity of education for enrolled students and
323 administer student financial aid and refunds. An independent
324 institution of higher education that is regionally accredited may comply
325 with the requirements of this subsection by submitting to said office the
326 same closure plan that the institution submitted to the regional
327 accreditation agency. If an independent institution of higher education
328 updates its closure plan, then such institution shall submit such updated
329 closure plan not later than thirty days after the governing board of such
330 institution approves such updated closure plan.

331 (2) On an after July 1, 2023, upon receiving a summary from the Office
332 of Higher Education that an independent institution of higher education
333 has been determined to be at risk of imminent closure as a result of a
334 financial screening conducted pursuant to the provisions of section 4 of
335 this act, the governing board of such institution shall update its closure
336 plan to include plans for the following: (A) Providing notice of
337 impending closure to relevant stakeholders of the institution, including,
338 but not limited to, enrolled students, applicants for admission, recent
339 graduates, faculty, staff and surrounding communities, (B)
340 disseminating information regarding the rights and responsibilities of
341 student borrowers, (C) managing the institution's finances,
342 accreditation status and any compliance issues with federal or state
343 financial aid programs, (D) refunding student deposits and paying the
344 cost of student record maintenance through means such as the provision

345 of a bond with surety or a letter of credit in an amount sufficient to meet
346 the costs of such refunds and costs.

347 (d) Any independent institution of higher education that plans to
348 close permanently shall submit a written notice to the Office of Higher
349 Education not later than thirty days after the governing board of such
350 institution authorizes such closure. Such written notice shall include,
351 but need not be limited to, (1) the planned date of termination of
352 operations; (2) the planned date and location for the transfer of student
353 records; (3) the name and address of the organization that will receive
354 and maintain student records; (4) the name and contact information of
355 the designated office or official who will manage transcript requests; (5)
356 the arrangement for the continued education of enrolled students
357 through the facilitation of a teach-out, as defined in section 10a-22m, or
358 other means; (6) evidence of communication with the United States
359 Department of Education regarding the management of student
360 refunds, state or federal grants and scholarships and state loans; and (7)
361 if such institution is regionally accredited, evidence of communication
362 with the regional accreditation agency regarding such closure.

363 Sec. 7. Subsection (a) of section 10a-34g of the general statutes is
364 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
365 *2022*):

366 (a) On and after January 1, 2020, any for-profit institution of higher
367 education licensed to operate in the state that requires any student, as a
368 condition of enrollment, to enter into an agreement that (1) limits
369 participation in a class action against such institution, (2) limits any
370 claim the student may have against such institution or the damages for
371 such claim, or (3) requires the student to assert any claim against such
372 institution in a forum that is less convenient, more costly or more
373 dilatory for the resolution of a dispute than a judicial forum established
374 in the state where the student may otherwise properly bring a claim,
375 shall include in its application to the Office of Higher Education for
376 [initial or renewed institutional licensure or accreditation] authorization
377 pursuant to section 10a-34, as amended by this act, a statement (A)

378 disclosing the number of claims made against the institution, including
379 claims made against a parent organization or subsidiary of the
380 institution, by a student currently or formerly enrolled at the institution,
381 (B) a description of the nature of the rights asserted, and (C) the status
382 of such claims. The institution shall submit additional details regarding
383 such claims as the executive director of the Office of Higher Education
384 may require.

385 Sec. 8. Subdivision (4) of section 10-67 of the general statutes is
386 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
387 *2022*):

388 (4) "Cooperating eligible entity" means any corporation or other
389 business entity, nonprofit organization, private [occupational] career
390 school authorized pursuant to sections 10a-22a to 10a-22o, inclusive, as
391 amended by this act, institution of higher education [licensed or
392 accredited] authorized pursuant to the provisions of section 10a-34, as
393 amended by this act, technical education and career school or library
394 [which] that provides classes or services specified under subparagraph
395 (A) of subsection (a) of section 10-69, in conformance with the program
396 standards applicable to boards of education, through a written
397 cooperative arrangement with a local or regional board of education or
398 regional educational service center;

399 Sec. 9. Subparagraph (J) of subdivision (37) of subsection (a) of section
400 12-407 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted
401 in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

402 (J) Business analysis, management, management consulting and
403 public relations services, excluding (i) any environmental consulting
404 services, (ii) any training services provided by an institution of higher
405 education licensed or accredited by the Board of Regents for Higher
406 Education or authorized by the Office of Higher Education pursuant to
407 sections 10a-35a and 10a-34, as amended by this act, respectively, and
408 (iii) on and after January 1, 1994, any business analysis, management,
409 management consulting and public relations services when such

410 services are rendered in connection with an aircraft leased or owned by
411 a certificated air carrier or in connection with an aircraft which has a
412 maximum certificated take-off weight of six thousand pounds or more;

413 Sec. 10. Subsection (k) of section 30-22a of the 2022 supplement to the
414 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
415 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

416 (k) For purposes of compliance with this section, "cafe" includes: (1)
417 A room or building that is subject to the care, custody and control of The
418 University of Connecticut Board of Trustees; (2) land and buildings
419 which are subject to the care, custody and control of an institution
420 offering a program of higher learning, as defined in section 10a-34, as
421 amended by this act, which has been accredited by the Board of Regents
422 for Higher Education or [Office of Higher Education or otherwise] is
423 authorized by the Office of Higher Education to award a degree
424 pursuant to section 10a-34, as amended by this act; or (3) on land or in a
425 building situated on or abutting a golf course which is subject to the
426 care, custody and control of an institution offering a program of higher
427 learning, as defined in section 10a-34, as amended by this act, which has
428 been accredited by the Board of Regents for Higher Education or [Office
429 of Higher Education or otherwise] is authorized by the Office of Higher
430 Education to award a degree pursuant to section 10a-34, as amended by
431 this act.

432 Sec. 11. Section 10a-22a of the general statutes is repealed and the
433 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

434 As used in this section and sections [10a-22a to 10a-22y] 10a-22b to
435 10a-22x, inclusive, as amended by this act:

436 (1) ["Private occupational school"] "Private career school" means a
437 postsecondary career school operated by a person, board, association,
438 partnership, corporation, limited liability company or other entity
439 offering or advertising vocational instruction in any form or manner in
440 any trade, industrial, commercial, service, professional or other
441 occupation for any remuneration, consideration, reward or fee of

442 whatever nature, including, but not limited to, a hospital-based
443 [occupational] career school, or any program, school or entity offering
444 postsecondary instruction in barbering, hairdressing and cosmetology
445 or the occupation of esthetician, nail technician or eyelash technician, as
446 such terms are defined in section 20-265a. ["Private occupational
447 school"] "Private career school" does not include (A) instruction offered
448 under public supervision and control, (B) instruction conducted by a
449 firm or organization solely for the training of its own employees or
450 members, (C) instruction offered by a school authorized by the General
451 Assembly to confer degrees, or (D) instruction offered in the arts or
452 recreation, including, but not limited to, the training of students to
453 provide such instruction;

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

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

467 (4) "Executive director" means the executive director of the Office of
468 Higher Education; and

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

471 Sec. 12. Section 10a-22b of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes
472 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
473 *1, 2022*):

474 (a) No person, board, association, partnership, corporation, limited
475 liability company or other entity shall offer instruction in any form or
476 manner in any trade or in any industrial, commercial, service,
477 professional or other occupation unless such person, board, association,
478 partnership, corporation, limited liability company or other entity first
479 receives from the executive director a certificate authorizing the
480 occupational instruction to be offered.

481 (b) Except for initial authorizations, the executive director may accept
482 institutional accreditation by an accrediting agency recognized by the
483 United States Department of Education, in satisfaction of the
484 requirements of this section and section 10a-22d, as amended by this act,
485 including the evaluation and attendance requirement. Except for initial
486 authorizations, the executive director may accept programmatic
487 accreditation in satisfaction of the requirements of this section and
488 section 10a-22d, as amended by this act, with regard to instruction
489 offered by a hospital [pursuant to subsection (h) of this section] unless
490 the executive director finds reasonable cause not to rely upon such
491 accreditation.

492 (c) Each person, board, association, partnership, corporation, limited
493 liability company or other entity which seeks to offer occupational
494 instruction shall submit to the executive director, or the executive
495 director's designee, in such manner and on such forms as the executive
496 director, or the executive director's designee, prescribes, an application
497 for a certificate of authorization. [which includes, but need not be
498 limited to, (1) the proposed name of the school; (2) ownership and
499 organization of the school including the names and addresses of all
500 principals, officers, members and directors; (3) names and addresses of
501 all stockholders of the school, except for applicants which are listed on
502 a national securities exchange; (4) addresses of any building or premises
503 on which the school will be located; (5) description of the occupational
504 instruction to be offered; (6) the proposed student enrollment
505 agreement, which includes for each program of occupational instruction
506 offered a description, in plain language, of any requirements for
507 employment in such occupation or barriers to such employment

508 pursuant to state law or regulations; (7) the proposed school catalog,
509 which includes for each program of occupational instruction offered a
510 description of any requirements for employment in such occupation or
511 barriers to such employment pursuant to state law or regulations; (8)
512 financial statements detailing the financial condition of the school
513 pursuant to subsection (d) of this section and subsection (g) of section
514 10a-22d prepared by management and reviewed or audited, or, for a
515 nonaccredited school annually receiving less than fifty thousand dollars
516 in tuition revenue, compiled, by an independent licensed certified
517 public accountant or independent licensed public accountant; and (9) an
518 agent for service of process.] Each application for initial authorization
519 shall be accompanied by a nonrefundable application fee made payable
520 to the private [occupational] career school student protection account.
521 Such application fee shall be in the amount of two thousand dollars for
522 the private [occupational] career school and two hundred dollars for
523 each branch of a private [occupational] career school in this state, except
524 that, each application for initial authorization submitted on and after the
525 effective date of the regulations adopted pursuant to section 10a-22k, as
526 amended by this act, shall be accompanied by a nonrefundable
527 application fee in the amount specified in such regulations. Any
528 application for initial authorization that remains incomplete six months
529 after the date such application was first submitted to the Office of
530 Higher Education shall expire and the office shall not approve such
531 expired application for authorization.

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

540 (e) Upon receipt of a complete application pursuant to subsection (c)
541 of this section, the executive director shall cause to be conducted an

542 evaluation of the applicant school. Not later than sixty days (1) after
543 receipt of a complete application for initial authorization, or (2) prior to
544 expiration of the authorization of a private [occupational] career school
545 applying to renew its certificate of authorization pursuant to section
546 10a-22d, as amended by this act, the executive director, or the executive
547 director's designee, shall appoint an evaluation team, pursuant to
548 subsection (f) of this section, except that on and after the effective date
549 of the regulations adopted pursuant to section 10a-22k, as amended by
550 this act, the evaluation team shall be appointed pursuant to such
551 regulations, to conduct such evaluation of the applicant school. The
552 evaluation team shall submit a written report to the executive director
553 recommending authorization or nonauthorization after an on-site
554 inspection. Not later than one hundred twenty days following the
555 completed appointment of the evaluation team, the executive director
556 shall notify the applicant school of authorization or nonauthorization.
557 The executive director may consult with the Labor Department and may
558 request the advice of any other state agency which may be of assistance
559 in making a determination. In the event of nonauthorization, the
560 executive director shall set forth the reasons therefor in writing and the
561 applicant school may request in writing a hearing before the executive
562 director. Such hearing shall be held in accordance with the provisions of
563 chapter 54.

564 (f) For purposes of an evaluation of an applicant school, the executive
565 director, or the executive director's designee, shall appoint an
566 evaluation team which shall include (1) at least two members
567 representing the Office of Higher Education, and (2) at least one member
568 for each of the areas of occupational instruction for which authorization
569 is sought who shall be experienced in such occupation. The applicant
570 school shall have the right to challenge any proposed member of the
571 evaluation team for good cause shown. A written challenge shall be filed
572 with the executive director within ten business days following the
573 appointment of such evaluation team. In the event of a challenge, a
574 decision shall be made thereon by the executive director within ten
575 business days from the date such challenge is filed, and if the challenge

576 is upheld the executive director shall appoint a replacement. Employees
577 of the state or any political subdivision of the state may be members of
578 evaluation teams. The executive director, or the executive director's
579 designee, shall not appoint any person to an evaluation team unless the
580 executive director, or such designee, has received from such person a
581 statement that the person has no interest which is in conflict with the
582 proper discharge of the duties of evaluation team members as described
583 in this section. The statement shall be on a form prescribed by the
584 executive director and shall be signed under penalty of false statement.
585 Except for any member of the evaluation team who is a state employee,
586 members may be compensated for their service at the discretion of the
587 executive director and shall be reimbursed for actual expenses, which
588 expenses shall be charged to and paid by the applicant school.

589 (g) The evaluation team appointed pursuant to subsection (f) of this
590 section shall: (1) Conduct an on-site inspection; (2) submit a written
591 report outlining any evidence of noncompliance; (3) give the school
592 thirty days from the date of the report to provide evidence of
593 compliance; and (4) submit to the executive director a written report
594 recommending authorization or nonauthorization not later than one
595 hundred twenty days after the on-site inspection. The evaluation team
596 shall determine whether (A) the quality and content of each course or
597 program of instruction, including, but not limited to, residential, on-
598 line, home study and correspondence, training or study shall reasonably
599 and adequately achieve the stated objective for which such course or
600 program is offered; (B) the school has adequate space, equipment,
601 instructional materials and personnel for the instruction offered; (C) the
602 qualifications of directors, administrators, supervisors and instructors
603 shall reasonably and adequately assure that students receive education
604 consistent with the stated objectives for which a course or program is
605 offered; (D) students and other interested persons shall be provided
606 with a catalog or similar publication describing the courses and
607 programs offered, course and program objectives, length of courses and
608 programs, schedule of tuition, fees and all other charges and expenses
609 necessary for completion of the course or program, and termination,

610 withdrawal and refund policies; (E) upon satisfactory completion of the
611 course or program, each student shall be provided appropriate
612 educational credentials by the school; (F) adequate records shall be
613 maintained by the school to show attendance and grades, or other
614 indicators of student progress, and standards shall be enforced relating
615 to attendance and student performance; (G) the applicant school shall
616 be financially sound and capable of fulfilling its commitments to
617 students; (H) any student housing owned, leased, rented or otherwise
618 maintained by the applicant school shall be safe and adequate; and (I)
619 the school and any branch of the school in this state has a director
620 located at the school or branch who is responsible for daily oversight of
621 the school's or branch's operations. The evaluation team may also
622 indicate in its report such recommendations as may improve the
623 operation of the applicant school.

624 [(h) Any hospital offering postsecondary career instruction in any
625 form or manner in any trade, industrial, commercial, service,
626 professional or other occupation for any remuneration, consideration,
627 reward or promise, except to hospital employees, members of the
628 medical staff and training for contracted workers, shall obtain a
629 certificate of authorization from the executive director for the
630 occupational instruction offered. Each hospital-based occupational
631 school submitting an application for initial authorization shall pay an
632 application fee of two hundred dollars made payable to the private
633 occupational school student protection account. The executive director
634 shall develop a process for prioritizing the authorization of hospital-
635 based occupational schools based on size and scope of occupational
636 instruction offered. Such schools shall be in compliance with this section
637 when required pursuant to the executive director's process, or by 2012,
638 whichever is earlier.

639 (i) Any program, school or other entity offering postsecondary career
640 instruction in any form or manner in barbering or hairdressing for any
641 remuneration, consideration, reward or fee shall obtain a certificate of
642 authorization from the executive director of the Office of Higher
643 Education for the occupational instruction offered. Each program,

644 school or entity approved on or before July 1, 2013, by the Connecticut
645 Examining Board for Barbers, Hairdressers and Cosmeticians pursuant
646 to chapter 368 or 387 that submits an application for initial authorization
647 shall pay an application fee of five hundred dollars made payable to the
648 private occupational school student protection account. The executive
649 director of the Office of Higher Education shall develop a process for
650 prioritizing the authorization of such barber and hairdressing
651 programs, schools and entities. Such programs, schools and entities
652 shall be in compliance with this section on or before July 1, 2015, or when
653 required pursuant to the executive director's process, whichever is
654 earlier. No person, board, association, partnership corporation, limited
655 liability company or other entity shall establish a new program, school
656 or other entity that offers instruction in any form or manner in barbering
657 or hairdressing on or after July 1, 2013, unless such person, board,
658 association, partnership, corporation, limited liability company or other
659 entity first receives from the executive director of the Office of Higher
660 Education a certificate authorizing the barbering or hairdressing
661 occupational instruction to be offered in accordance with the provisions
662 of this section.]

663 Sec. 13. Section 10a-22c of the general statutes is repealed and the
664 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

665 (a) No certificate to operate a private [occupational] career school
666 shall be authorized by the executive director, or the executive director's
667 designee, if (1) any principal, officer, member or director of the applicant
668 school has acted in a similar capacity for a private [occupational] career
669 school which has had its authorization revoked pursuant to section 10a-
670 22f, as amended by this act; (2) the applicant school does not have a net
671 worth consisting of sufficient liquid assets or other evidence of fiscal
672 soundness to operate for the period of time for which authorization is
673 sought; (3) the applicant school or any of its agents engages in
674 advertising, sales, collection, credit or other practices which are false,
675 deceptive, misleading or unfair; (4) the applicant school has any policy
676 which discourages or prohibits the filing of inquiries or complaints
677 regarding the school's operation with the executive director; (5) the

678 applicant school fails to satisfactorily meet the criteria set forth in
679 subsection (g) of section 10a-22b, or, on and after the effective date of
680 regulations adopted pursuant to section 10a-22k, as amended by this act,
681 the criteria set forth in such regulations; (6) a private [occupational]
682 career school that has previously closed fails to follow the procedures
683 for school closure under section 10a-22m, as amended by this act; or (7)
684 the applicant school does not have a director located at the school and
685 at each of its branches in this state.

686 (b) The executive director may deny a certificate of authorization if
687 the person who owns or intends to operate a private [occupational]
688 career school has been convicted in this state, or any other state, of
689 larceny in violation of section 53a-122 or 53a-123; identity theft in
690 violation of section 53a-129b or 53a-129c; forgery in violation of section
691 53a-138 or 53a-139; or has a criminal record in this state, or any other
692 state, that the executive director reasonably believes renders the person
693 unsuitable to own and operate a private [occupational] career school. A
694 refusal of a certificate of authorization under this subsection shall be
695 made in accordance with the provisions of sections 46a-79 to 46a-81,
696 inclusive.

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

705 (d) No certificate to operate a new private [occupational] career
706 school shall be issued by the executive director pursuant to section 10a-
707 22d, as amended by this act, until such private [occupational] career
708 school seeking authorization files with the executive director an
709 irrevocable letter of credit issued by a bank with its main office or branch
710 located within this state in the penal amount of forty thousand dollars

711 guaranteeing the payments required of the school to the private
712 [occupational] career school student protection account in accordance
713 with the provisions of section 10a-22u, as amended by this act, except
714 that, any letter of credit issued on and after the effective date of the
715 regulations adopted pursuant to section 10a-22k, as amended by this act,
716 shall be in a penal amount specified in such regulations. The letter of
717 credit shall be payable to the private [occupational] career school
718 student protection account in the event that such school fails to make
719 payments to the account as provided in subsection (a) of section 10a-
720 22u, as amended by this act, or in the event the state takes action to
721 reimburse the account for a tuition refund paid to a student pursuant to
722 the provisions of section 10a-22v, as amended by this act, provided the
723 amount of the letter of credit to be paid into the private [occupational]
724 career school student protection account shall not exceed the amounts
725 owed to the account. In the event a private [occupational] career school
726 fails to close in accordance with the provisions of section 10a-22m, as
727 amended by this act, the executive director may seize the letter of credit,
728 which shall be made payable to the private [occupational] career school
729 protection account. [The letter of credit required by this subsection shall
730 be released twelve years after the date of initial approval, provided
731 evidence of fiscal soundness has been verified.]

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

738 Sec. 14. Section 10a-22d of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes
739 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
740 *1, 2022*):

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

744 (b) Following the fourth year of continuous authorization, a renewal
745 of the certificate of authorization, if granted, shall be for a period not to
746 exceed five years and may be subject to an evaluation pursuant to
747 [subsections (f) and (g)] subsection (e) of section 10a-22b, as amended
748 by this act, provided no private [occupational] career school shall
749 operate for more than five additional years from the date of any renewal
750 without the completion of an evaluation pursuant to [subsections (f) and
751 (g)] subsection (e) of section 10a-22b, as amended by this act.

752 (c) Renewal of the certificate of authorization shall be granted only
753 upon (1) payment of a nonrefundable renewal fee to the Office of Higher
754 Education in the amount of two hundred dollars for the private
755 [occupational] career school and two hundred dollars for each branch of
756 a private [occupational] career school, except that, any renewal fees paid
757 on and after the effective date of the regulations adopted pursuant to
758 section 10a-22k, as amended by this act, shall be in the amount specified
759 in such regulations, (2) submission of any reports or audits, as
760 prescribed by the executive director or the executive director's designee,
761 concerning the fiscal condition of the private [occupational] career
762 school or its continuing eligibility to participate in federal student
763 financial aid programs, (3) the filing with the executive director of a
764 complete application for a renewed certificate of authorization not less
765 than one hundred twenty days prior to the termination date of the most
766 recent certificate of authorization, and (4) a determination that the
767 private [occupational] career school meets all the conditions of its recent
768 authorization, including, but not limited to, at the discretion of the
769 executive director, evidence that such school is current on its [rent or
770 mortgage] financial obligations and has adequate financial resources to
771 serve its current students, and the filing of documentation with the
772 executive director that the private [occupational] career school has a
773 passing financial ratio score as required by 34 CFR 668, as amended
774 from time to time.

775 (d) If the executive director, or the executive director's designee,
776 determines, at any time during a school's authorization period, that such
777 school is out of compliance with the conditions of authorization under

778 sections 10a-22a to 10a-22o, inclusive, as amended by this act, and any
779 applicable regulations of Connecticut state agencies, the school may be
780 placed on probation for a period not to exceed one year. If, after the
781 period of one year of probationary status, the school remains out of
782 compliance with the conditions of authorization, the executive director
783 may revoke such school's certificate of authorization to operate as a
784 private [occupational] career school pursuant to section 10a-22f, as
785 amended by this act. During the school's period of probation, the school
786 shall post its probationary certificate of authorization in public view.
787 The Office of Higher Education may publish the school's probationary
788 certificate of authorization status.

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

795 (f) After the first year of authorization, each private [occupational]
796 career school shall pay a nonrefundable annual fee to the private
797 [occupational] career school student protection account in the amount
798 of two hundred dollars for the private [occupational] career school and
799 two hundred dollars for each branch of a private [occupational] career
800 school, except that, any annual fee paid on and after the effective date
801 of the regulations adopted pursuant to section 10a-22k, as amended by
802 this act, shall be in the amount specified in such regulations. The annual
803 fee shall be due and payable for each year after the first year of
804 authorization that the private [occupational] career school and any
805 branch of a private [occupational] career school is authorized by the
806 executive director to offer [occupational] career instruction. Such annual
807 fee shall be in addition to any renewal fee assessed under this section.

808 (g) Each private [occupational] career school shall keep financial
809 records in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. An
810 annual financial statement detailing the financial status of the school

811 shall be prepared by school management and reviewed or audited, or,
812 for a nonaccredited school annually receiving less than fifty thousand
813 dollars in tuition revenue, compiled, by a licensed certified public
814 accountant or licensed public accountant in accordance with standards
815 established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.
816 A copy of such financial statement shall be filed with the executive
817 director on or before the last day of the fourth month following the end
818 of the school's fiscal year, except in the case of a nationally accredited
819 school recognized by the United States Department of Education, in
820 which case such financial statement shall be due on or before the last
821 day of the sixth month following the end of the school's fiscal year. Only
822 audited financial statements shall be accepted from a nationally
823 accredited school. Upon a nonaccredited school's written request, the
824 executive director may authorize, for good cause shown, a filing
825 extension for a period not to exceed sixty days. No filing extensions shall
826 be granted to a nationally accredited school.

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

835 Sec. 15. Section 10a-22e of the general statutes is repealed and the
836 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

837 (a) During any period of authorization by the executive director to
838 operate as a private [occupational] career school pursuant to sections
839 10a-22a to 10a-22o, inclusive, as amended by this act, and sections 10a-
840 22u to 10a-22w, as amended by this act, inclusive, such private
841 [occupational] career school may request revision of the conditions of
842 its authorization. Such school shall make such request to the executive
843 director, in the manner and on such forms prescribed by the executive

844 director sixty days prior to the proposed implementation date of any
845 intended revision. Such revision shall include, but not be limited to,
846 changes in (1) courses or programs; (2) ownership of the school; (3)
847 name of the school; (4) location of the school's main campus; or (5)
848 location of any of the school's additional classroom sites or branch
849 campuses. A private [occupational] career school requesting revision of
850 the conditions of its authorization based on a change in ownership of
851 the school shall submit an application and letter of credit pursuant to
852 sections 10a-22b, as amended by this act, and 10a-22c, as amended by
853 this act, accompanied by a nonrefundable change of ownership fee
854 made payable to the private [occupational] career school student
855 protection account under section 10a-22u, as amended by this act, in the
856 amount of two thousand dollars for the private [occupational] career
857 school and two hundred dollars for each branch of a private
858 [occupational] career school in this state, except that, any ownership fee
859 paid on and after the effective date of the regulations adopted pursuant
860 to section 10a-22k, as amended by this act, shall be in the amount
861 specified in such regulations.

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

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

873 Sec. 16. Section 10a-22f of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes
874 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
875 *1, 2022*):

876 (a) A certificate of authorization issued to a private [occupational]
877 career school pursuant to sections 10a-22a to 10a-22o, inclusive, as
878 amended by this act, and sections 10a-22u to 10a-22w, inclusive, as
879 amended by this act, may be revoked by the executive director if such
880 school (1) ceases to meet the conditions of its authorization; (2) commits
881 a material or substantial violation of sections 10a-22a to 10a-22o,
882 inclusive, as amended by this act, or sections 10a-22u to 10a-22w,
883 inclusive, as amended by this act, or the regulations prescribed
884 thereunder; (3) makes a false statement about a material fact in
885 application for authorization or renewal; (4) fails to make a required
886 payment to the private [occupational] career school student protection
887 account pursuant to section 10a-22u, as amended by this act; or (5) fails
888 to submit a complete application for a renewed certificate of
889 authorization pursuant to section 10a-22d, as amended by this act.

890 (b) The executive director, or the executive director's designee, shall
891 serve written notice, by certified mail, return receipt requested upon a
892 private [occupational] career school indicating that revocation of the
893 school's authorization is under consideration and the executive director
894 shall set forth the reasons such revocation is being considered. Not later
895 than forty-five days after mailing such written notice, the executive
896 director, or the executive director's designee, shall hold a compliance
897 conference with the private [occupational] career school.

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

904 (d) A private [occupational] career school aggrieved by the order of
905 the executive director revoking its certificate of authorization pursuant
906 to subsection (c) of this section shall, not later than fifteen days after such
907 order is mailed, request in writing a hearing before the executive
908 director. Such hearing shall be held in accordance with the provisions of

909 chapter 54.

910 Sec. 17. Section 10a-22g of the general statutes is repealed and the
911 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

912 (a) A private [occupational] career school which is authorized by the
913 executive director pursuant to sections 10a-22a to 10a-22o, inclusive, as
914 amended by this act, and sections 10a-22u to 10a-22w, inclusive, as
915 amended by this act, may request authorization to establish and operate
916 additional classroom sites or branch schools, or to offer existing or new
917 programs through a distance learning program, as defined in section
918 10a-22h, as amended by this act, for the purpose of offering the
919 occupational instruction authorized by the executive director, provided
920 the additional classroom site or branch school complies with the
921 provisions of subsection (b) of this section. Such school shall make such
922 request for authorization to operate an additional classroom site or
923 branch school or to offer existing or new programs through a distance
924 learning program, in the manner and on such forms as prescribed by the
925 executive director, at least sixty days prior to the proposed
926 establishment of such additional classroom site or branch school or such
927 distance learning program.

928 (b) The buildings and premises for such additional classroom site or
929 branch school shall meet all applicable state and local fire and zoning
930 requirements, and certificates attesting the same signed by the local fire
931 marshal and zoning enforcement officer shall be filed with the executive
932 director prior to offering such occupational instruction. The additional
933 classroom site or branch school shall be in compliance with the relevant
934 requirements set forth in subsection (g) of section 10a-22b, or on and
935 after the effective date of the regulations adopted pursuant to section
936 10a-22k, as amended by this act, the requirements set forth in such
937 regulations.

938 (c) The executive director, or the executive director's designee, not
939 later than thirty days after the proposed date for establishment of a
940 branch school, may issue an order prohibiting any such establishment

941 of a branch school if it would constitute a material or substantial
942 deviation from the conditions of authorization or if the private
943 [occupational] career school fails to meet the requirements set forth in
944 subsection (b) of this section.

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

950 Sec. 18. Section 10a-22h of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes
951 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
952 *1, 2022*):

953 Any out-of-state private [occupational] career school that seeks to
954 operate a distance learning program in the state shall submit an
955 application to the Office of Higher Education in the form and manner
956 prescribed by the office. Each such private [occupational] career school
957 shall agree to abide by standards established by the office. The office
958 shall approve or reject such private [occupational] career school's
959 application in accordance with the standards established by the office.
960 Authorization by the office to operate a distance learning program in
961 the state shall be valid for a period of one year and may be renewed by
962 the office for additional one-year periods. The office shall establish a
963 schedule of application and renewal fees for all out-of-state private
964 [occupational] career schools that are approved by the office. As used in
965 this [subsection] section, "distance learning program" means a program
966 of study in which lectures are broadcast or classes are conducted by
967 correspondence or over the Internet, without requiring a student to
968 attend in person.

969 Sec. 19. Section 10a-22i of the general statutes is repealed and the
970 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

971 (a) The executive director may assess any person, board, partnership,
972 association, corporation, limited liability company or other entity which

973 violates any provision of sections 10a-22a to 10a-22p, inclusive, as
974 amended by this act, sections 10a-22u to 10a-22w, inclusive, as amended
975 by this act, or regulations adopted pursuant to section 10a-22k, an
976 administrative penalty in an amount not to exceed five hundred dollars
977 for each day of such violation, except that, any administrative penalty
978 assessed on and after the effective date of the regulations adopted
979 pursuant to section 10a-22k, shall be in the amount specified in such
980 regulations.

981 (b) The executive director shall serve written notice upon a private
982 [occupational] career school when the assessment of such an
983 administrative penalty is under consideration. The notice shall set forth
984 the reasons for the assessment of the penalty. Not later than forty-five
985 days after mailing such notice to the private [occupational] career
986 school, the executive director, or the executive director's designee, shall
987 hold a compliance conference with the private [occupational] career
988 school.

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

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

1000 Sec. 20. Section 10a-22k of the general statutes is repealed and the
1001 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

1002 The Office of Higher Education shall adopt regulations in accordance
1003 with the provisions of chapter 54 in order to carry out the provisions of
1004 sections 10a-22a to 10a-22o, inclusive, and sections 10a-22u to 10a-22w,

1005 inclusive. Such regulations may prescribe fines, fees or penalties in lieu
1006 of the amounts set forth in sections 10a-22b to 10a-22e, inclusive, and
1007 sections 10a-22i, 10a-22l, 10a-22m and 10a-224, as amended by this act.

1008 Sec. 21. Section 10a-22l of the general statutes is repealed and the
1009 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

1010 (a) Any private [occupational] career school operating without a
1011 certificate of authorization required under section 10a-22b, as amended
1012 by this act, or operating an additional classroom site or branch school in
1013 violation of section 10a-22g, as amended by this act, shall be fined not
1014 more than five hundred dollars for each day of unauthorized operation,
1015 to be paid into the private [occupational] career student protection
1016 account, except that, any fine assessed on and after the effective date of
1017 the regulations adopted pursuant to section 10a-22k, shall be in the
1018 amount specified in such regulations.

1019 (b) The executive director, or the executive director's designee, may
1020 conduct an investigation and, through the Attorney General, maintain
1021 an action in the name of the state against any person to restrain or
1022 prevent the establishment or operation of an institution that does not
1023 have a certificate of authorization.

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

1026 (a) A private [occupational] career school shall notify the executive
1027 director, in writing, at least sixty days prior to closure of such school.
1028 The private [occupational] career school shall provide evidence prior to
1029 closing that: (1) All course work is or will be completed by current
1030 students at the school; (2) there are no refunds due any students; (3) all
1031 student records will be maintained as prescribed in section 10a-22n, as
1032 amended by this act; (4) final payment has been made to the private
1033 [occupational] career school student protection account; (5) a
1034 designation of service form has been filed with the executive director;
1035 and (6) the certificate of authorization has been returned to the executive
1036 director.

1037 (b) Any private [occupational] career school that fails to meet the
1038 requirements outlined in subsection (a) of this section shall be fined not
1039 more than five hundred dollars per day for each day of noncompliance,
1040 except that, any fine assessed on and after the effective date of the
1041 regulations adopted pursuant to section 10a-22k, shall be in the amount
1042 specified in such regulations, and [.] pursuant to subdivision (6) of
1043 subsection (a) of section 10a-22c, as amended by this act, shall be
1044 ineligible to be issued a certificate of authorization upon application to
1045 operate a private [occupational] career school. Funds collected pursuant
1046 to this subsection shall be placed in the private [occupational] career
1047 student protection account established pursuant to section 10a-22u, as
1048 amended by this act.

1049 (c) If the executive director revokes a private [occupational] career
1050 school's certificate of authorization, such school shall comply with the
1051 requirements of subsection (a) of this section. Failure to comply shall
1052 result in further penalties at the discretion of the executive director.

1053 (d) In the event a private [occupational] career school fails to meet the
1054 requirements set forth in subsection (a) of this section and closes prior
1055 to graduating all current students, the executive director may seize the
1056 letter of credit filed by the private [occupational] career school pursuant
1057 to subsection (d) of section 10a-22c, as amended by this act, and such
1058 letter of credit shall be made payable to the private [occupational] career
1059 school student protection account. The executive director may expend
1060 funds from the private [occupational] career school student protection
1061 account up to the amount necessary to facilitate a teach-out of any
1062 remaining students up to and including the issuance of a certificate of
1063 completion pursuant to subsection (e) of this section. For purposes of
1064 this subsection and subsection (e) of this section, (1) "teach-out" means
1065 the completion of instruction of a course or program of study in which
1066 a student was enrolled, provided the teach-out includes instruction of
1067 the entire program of study when a course is a part of such program of
1068 study, and (2) "certificate of completion" means the credential,
1069 documented in writing, that is issued to a student who completes a
1070 course or program of study offered by a private [occupational] career

1071 school.

1072 (e) In the event of a private [occupational] career school closure that
1073 fails to meet the requirements set forth in subsection (a) of this section,
1074 the executive director may issue a certificate of completion to each
1075 student that, in the executive director's determination, has successfully
1076 completed the student's course or program of study in which the
1077 student was enrolled at the private [occupational] career school.

1078 Sec. 23. Section 10a-22n of the general statutes is repealed and the
1079 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

1080 (a) A private [occupational] career school shall maintain, preserve
1081 and protect, in a manner approved by the executive director, or the
1082 executive director's designee, all school records including, but not
1083 limited to: (1) Student or academic transcripts, including, in a separate
1084 file, a duplicate copy of the academic transcript of each student who
1085 graduated from such school, and a duplicate copy of the academic
1086 transcript of each student enrolled at such school that contains the
1087 student's name, address, program of study, length of such program of
1088 study, grade point average and courses completed; (2) attendance
1089 records or other indicators of student progress; (3) copies of individual
1090 enrollment agreements or contracts; (4) evidence of tuition payments;
1091 and (5) any other documentation as prescribed by the executive director.

1092 (b) The executive director, or the executive director's designee, may
1093 at any time during regular business or school hours, with or without
1094 notice, visit a private [occupational] career school. During such
1095 visitation, the executive director, or the executive director's designee,
1096 may request an officer or director of the school to produce, and shall be
1097 provided with immediate access to, such records or information as are
1098 required to verify that the school continues to meet the conditions of
1099 authorization. If the executive director determines that such private
1100 [occupational] career school has not maintained, preserved or protected
1101 school records in accordance with this section, the executive director
1102 may assess an administrative penalty on such private [occupational]

1103 career school pursuant to section 10a-22i, as amended by this act.

1104 (c) If a school ceases to operate as a private [occupational] career
1105 school, it shall (1) immediately transmit all student or academic
1106 transcripts, described in subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section,
1107 to the executive director, and (2) keep the executive director advised in
1108 writing as to the location and availability of all other student records or
1109 shall file all such other student records with the executive director.

1110 (d) The executive director shall maintain all records, files and other
1111 documents associated with private [occupational] career schools in a
1112 manner consistent with the mission and responsibilities of the Office of
1113 Higher Education.

1114 Sec. 24. Section 10a-22p of the general statutes is repealed and the
1115 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

1116 (a) On and after January 1, 2020, any private [occupational] career
1117 school, as defined in section 10a-22a, as amended by this act, that
1118 requires any student, as a condition of enrollment, to enter into an
1119 agreement that (1) limits participation in a class action against such
1120 school, (2) limits any claim the student may have against such school or
1121 the damages for such claim, or (3) requires the student to assert any
1122 claim against such school in a forum that is less convenient, more costly
1123 or more dilatory for the resolution of a dispute than a judicial forum
1124 established in the state where the student may otherwise properly bring
1125 a claim, shall include in its application to the Office of Higher Education
1126 for initial or renewed certificate of authorization pursuant to sections
1127 10a-22b, as amended by this act, and 10a-22d, as amended by this act, a
1128 statement (A) disclosing the number of claims made against the school,
1129 including claims made against a parent organization or subsidiary of
1130 the school, by a student currently or formerly enrolled at the school, (B)
1131 describing the nature of the rights asserted, and (C) updating the status
1132 of such claims. The school shall submit additional details regarding such
1133 claims as the executive director of the Office of Higher Education may
1134 require.

1135 (b) The executive director of the Office of Higher Education may deny
1136 the application for initial or renewed certificate of authorization of a
1137 private [occupational] career school or consider a private [occupational]
1138 career school ineligible to receive any public funds, including, but not
1139 limited to, federal funds administered by the office pursuant to section
1140 10a-45 if (1) such school fails to include the statement required under
1141 subsection (a) of this section in its application, or (2) upon review of such
1142 statement, the executive director determines that the public policy of
1143 protecting the interests of students in the state requires such denial.

1144 (c) The executive director of the Office of Higher Education shall have
1145 the authority granted under sections 10a-22i, as amended by this act,
1146 10a-22j and 10a-22o to investigate and enforce the provisions of
1147 subsections (a) and (b) of this section.

1148 Sec. 25. Section 10a-22q of the general statutes is repealed and the
1149 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

1150 After each annual determination of the balance of the private
1151 [occupational] career school student protection account required by
1152 section 10a-22w, if the balance of the account is more than two million
1153 five hundred thousand dollars, the State Treasurer shall transfer to a
1154 separate, nonlapsing account within the General Fund, to be known as
1155 the private [occupational] career school student benefit account, three-
1156 fourths of the annually accrued interest of said student protection
1157 account.

1158 Sec. 26. Section 10a-22r of the general statutes is repealed and the
1159 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

1160 [There is] Upon the availability of funds to award financial aid grants
1161 from the private career school student benefit account, there shall be
1162 established an advisory committee to the executive director consisting
1163 of seven members appointed by the executive director, including a
1164 representative of the private [occupational] career schools, a
1165 representative from the Office of Higher Education and five members
1166 chosen from business or industry, state legislators, private

1167 [occupational] career school alumni and the general public. Three of the
1168 members first appointed to the committee shall be appointed for a term
1169 of three years and four of the members first appointed shall be
1170 appointed for a term of two years. Thereafter, all members shall be
1171 appointed for a term of two years. The executive director shall
1172 administer the private [occupational] career school student benefit
1173 account, established pursuant to section 10a-22u, as amended by this
1174 act, with the advice of the advisory committee in accordance with the
1175 provisions of this section and sections 10a-22s and 10a-22t and may
1176 assess the account for all direct expenses incurred in the implementation
1177 of this section. The account shall be used to award financial aid grants
1178 for the benefit of private [occupational] career school students. The
1179 grants shall be paid to the private [occupational] career school
1180 designated by the grant recipient to be applied against the tuition
1181 expenses of such recipient. If the balance of the student protection
1182 account is five per cent or less of the annual net tuition income of the
1183 schools which make payments to the account pursuant to section 10a-
1184 22u, as amended by this act, any unallocated funds in the student benefit
1185 account shall be transferred to the private career school student
1186 protection account.

1187 Sec. 27. Section 10a-22u of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes
1188 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
1189 *1, 2022*):

1190 (a) There shall be an account to be known as the private
1191 [occupational] career school student protection account within the
1192 General Fund. Each private [occupational] career school authorized in
1193 accordance with the provisions of sections 10a-22a to 10a-22o, inclusive,
1194 as amended by this act, shall pay to the State Treasurer an amount equal
1195 to four-tenths of one per cent of the tuition received by such school per
1196 calendar quarter exclusive of any refunds paid, except that distance
1197 learning and correspondence schools authorized in accordance with the
1198 provisions of section 10a-22h, as amended by this act, shall contribute to
1199 said account only for Connecticut residents enrolled in such schools.
1200 Payments shall be made by January thirtieth, April thirtieth, July

1201 thirtieth and October thirtieth in each year for tuition received during
1202 the three months next preceding the month of payment. In addition to
1203 amounts received based on tuition, the account shall also contain any
1204 amount required to be deposited into the account pursuant to sections
1205 10a-22a to 10a-22o, inclusive, as amended by this act. Said account shall
1206 be used for the purposes of section 10a-22v, as amended by this act. Any
1207 interest, income and dividends derived from the investment of the
1208 account shall be credited to the account. All direct expenses for the
1209 maintenance of the account may be charged to the account upon the
1210 order of the State Comptroller. The executive director may assess the
1211 account for all direct expenses incurred in the implementation of the
1212 purposes of this section which are in excess of the normal expenditures
1213 of the Office of Higher Education.

1214 (b) Payments required pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall
1215 be a condition of doing business in the state and failure to make any
1216 such payment within thirty days following the date on which it is due
1217 shall result in the loss of authorization under section 10a-22f, as
1218 amended by this act. Such authorization shall not be issued or renewed
1219 if there exists a failure to make any such payment in excess of thirty days
1220 following the date on which it is due.

1221 (c) If an audit conducted by the Office of Higher Education
1222 determines that a school has paid into the private [occupational] career
1223 school student protection account an amount less than was required, the
1224 school shall pay such amount plus a penalty of ten per cent of the
1225 amount required to the State Treasurer within thirty days of receipt of
1226 notice from the executive director or [his] the executive director's
1227 designee of the amount of the underpayment and penalty.

1228 (d) If an audit conducted by the Office of Higher Education
1229 determines that a school has paid into the private [occupational] career
1230 school student protection account an amount more than was required,
1231 subsequent payment or payments by the school shall be appropriately
1232 credited until such credited payment or payments equal the amount of
1233 the overpayment.

1234 Sec. 28. Section 10a-22v of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes
1235 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
1236 *1, 2022*):

1237 Any student enrolled in a private [occupational] career school
1238 authorized in accordance with the provisions of sections 10a-22a to 10a-
1239 22o, inclusive, as amended by this act, who is unable to complete an
1240 approved course or unit of instruction at such school because of the
1241 insolvency or cessation of operation of the school and who has paid
1242 tuition for such course or unit of instruction, may, not later than two
1243 years after the date on which such school became insolvent or ceased
1244 operations, make application to the executive director for a refund of
1245 tuition from the account established pursuant to section 10a-22u, as
1246 amended by this act, to the extent that such account exists or has reached
1247 the level necessary to pay outstanding approved claims, except that in
1248 the case of distance learning and correspondence schools authorized in
1249 accordance with the provisions of section 10a-22h, as amended by this
1250 act, only Connecticut residents enrolled in such schools may be eligible
1251 for such refund. Upon such application, the executive director shall
1252 determine whether the applicant is unable to complete a course or unit
1253 of instruction because of the insolvency or cessation of operation of the
1254 school to which tuition has been paid. The executive director may
1255 summon by subpoena any person, records or documents pertinent to
1256 the making of a determination regarding insolvency or cessation of
1257 operation. For the purpose of making any tuition refund pursuant to
1258 this section, a school shall be deemed to have ceased operation
1259 whenever it has failed to complete a course or unit of instruction for
1260 which the student has paid a tuition fee and, as a result, the school's
1261 authorization has been revoked pursuant to section 10a-22f, as amended
1262 by this act. If the executive director finds that the applicant is entitled to
1263 a refund of tuition because of the insolvency or cessation of operation of
1264 the school, the executive director shall determine the amount of an
1265 appropriate refund which shall be equal to the tuition paid for the
1266 uncompleted course or unit of instruction. Thereafter the executive
1267 director shall direct the State Treasurer to pay, per order of the

1268 Comptroller, the refund to the applicant or persons, agencies or
1269 organizations indicated by the applicant who have paid tuition on the
1270 student's behalf. If the student is a minor, payment shall be made to the
1271 student's parent, parents or legal guardian. In no event shall a refund be
1272 made from the student protection account for any financial aid provided
1273 to or on behalf of any student in accordance with the provisions of Title
1274 IV, Part B of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended from time
1275 to time. Each recipient of a tuition refund made in accordance with the
1276 provisions of this section shall assign all rights to the state of any action
1277 against the school or its owner or owners for tuition amounts
1278 reimbursed pursuant to this section. Upon such assignment, the state
1279 may take appropriate action against the school or its owner or owners
1280 in order to reimburse the student protection account for any expenses
1281 or claims that are paid from the account and to reimburse the state for
1282 the reasonable and necessary expenses in undertaking such action. Any
1283 student who falsifies information on an application for tuition
1284 reimbursement shall lose his or her right to any refund from the account.

1285 Sec. 29. Subsection (c) of section 10-95r of the general statutes is
1286 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
1287 *2022*):

1288 (c) The executive director may enter into cooperative arrangements
1289 with local and regional boards of education, private [occupational]
1290 career schools, institutions of higher education, job training agencies
1291 and employers in order to provide (1) general education, (2) vocational,
1292 technical, technological or postsecondary education, and (3) work
1293 experience.

1294 Sec. 30. Subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 10a-11b of the 2022
1295 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is
1296 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

1297 (1) The commission shall consist of the following voting members:
1298 (A) The president of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, the
1299 president of The University of Connecticut, or their designees from the

1300 Board of Regents and Board of Trustees; (B) the provost of the
1301 Connecticut State Colleges and Universities and the provost of The
1302 University of Connecticut; (C) the chair of the Board of Regents for the
1303 Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, and the Board of Trustees
1304 for The University of Connecticut, or the chairs' designees; (D) the
1305 president, vice president or chair of the board of a large independent
1306 institution of higher education in the state, to be selected by the
1307 president of the Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges; (E)
1308 the president, vice president or chair of the board of a small independent
1309 institution of higher education in the state, to be selected by the
1310 president of the Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges; (F) a
1311 representative from a private [occupational] career school, to be selected
1312 by the Commissioner of Education; (G) a teaching faculty representative
1313 from the Connecticut State Universities, to be selected by the president
1314 of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities; (H) a teaching faculty
1315 representative from the regional community-technical colleges, to be
1316 selected by the president of the Connecticut State Colleges and
1317 Universities; (I) a teaching faculty representative from The University of
1318 Connecticut, to be selected by the president of The University of
1319 Connecticut; (J) a teaching faculty representative from a private
1320 [occupational] career school in the state, to be selected by the
1321 Commissioner of Education; (K) one member appointed by the
1322 president pro tempore of the Senate, who shall be a representative of a
1323 large manufacturing employer in the state; (L) one member appointed
1324 by the speaker of the House of Representatives, who shall be a
1325 representative of a large financial or insurance services employer in the
1326 state; (M) one member appointed by the majority leader of the Senate,
1327 who shall be a representative of an information technology or digital
1328 media employer in the state; (N) one member appointed by the minority
1329 leader of the Senate, who shall be a representative of a small business
1330 employer in the state; (O) one member appointed by the majority leader
1331 of the House of Representatives, who shall be a representative of a
1332 health care employer in the state; and (P) one member appointed by the
1333 minority leader of the House of Representatives, who shall be a
1334 representative of a small business employer in the state. The

1335 commission membership shall, where feasible, reflect the state's
1336 geographic, racial and ethnic diversity.

1337 Sec. 31. Section 10a-34h of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes
1338 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
1339 *1, 2022*):

1340 (a) As used in this section:

1341 (1) "Credential" means a documented award issued by an authorized
1342 body, including, but not limited to, a (A) degree or certificate awarded
1343 by an institution of higher education, private [occupational] career
1344 school or provider of an alternate route to certification program
1345 approved by the State Board of Education for teachers, (B) certification
1346 awarded through an examination process designed to demonstrate
1347 acquisition of designated knowledge, skill and ability to perform a
1348 specific job, (C) license issued by a governmental agency which permits
1349 an individual to practice a specific occupation upon verification that
1350 such individual meets a predetermined list of qualifications, and (D)
1351 documented completion of an apprenticeship or job training program;
1352 and

1353 (2) "Credential status type" means the official status of a credential
1354 which is either active, deprecated, probationary or superseded.

1355 (b) Not later than January 1, 2023, the executive director of the Office
1356 of Higher Education, in consultation with the advisory council
1357 established pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, shall create a
1358 database of credentials offered in the state for the purpose of explaining
1359 the skills and competencies earned through a credential in uniform
1360 terms and plain language. In creating the database, the executive
1361 director shall utilize the minimum data policy of the New England
1362 Board of Higher Education's High Value Credentials for New England
1363 initiative, the uniform terms and descriptions of Credentials Engine's
1364 Credential Transparency Description Language and the uniform
1365 standards for comparing and linking credentials in Credential Engine's
1366 Credential Transparency Description Language-Achievement

1367 Standards Network. At a minimum, the database shall include the
1368 following information for each credential: (1) Credential status type, (2)
1369 the entity that owns or offers the credential, (3) the type of credential
1370 being offered, (4) a short description of the credential, (5) the name of
1371 the credential, (6) the Internet web site that provides information
1372 relating to the credential, (7) the language in which the credential is
1373 offered, (8) the estimated duration for completion, (9) the industry
1374 related to the credential which may include its code under the North
1375 American Industry Classification System, (10) the occupation related to
1376 the credential which may include its code under the standard
1377 occupational classification system of the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the
1378 United States Department of Labor or under The Occupational
1379 Information Network, (11) the estimated cost for earning the credential,
1380 and (12) a listing of online or physical locations where the credential is
1381 offered.

1382 (c) There is established an advisory council for the purpose of
1383 advising the executive director of the Office of Higher Education on the
1384 implementation of the database created pursuant to subsection (b) of
1385 this section. The advisory council shall consist of (1) representatives
1386 from the Office of Workforce Strategy, Office of Higher Education,
1387 Office of Policy and Management, Labor Department, Department of
1388 Education, Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, The University
1389 of Connecticut and independent institutions of higher education, and
1390 (2) the Chief Data Officer, or such officer's designee. The Chief
1391 Workforce Officer, the Chief Data Officer and the executive director of
1392 the Office of Higher Education, or their designees, shall be
1393 cochairpersons of the advisory council and shall schedule the meetings
1394 of the advisory council.

1395 (d) Not later than July 1, 2024, and annually thereafter, each regional
1396 workforce development board, community action agency, as defined in
1397 section 17b-885, institution of higher education, private [occupational]
1398 career school, provider of an alternate route to certification program
1399 approved by the State Board of Education, and provider of a training
1400 program listed on the Labor Department's Eligible Training Provider

1401 List shall submit information, in the form and manner prescribed by the
1402 executive director of the Office of Higher Education, about any
1403 credential offered by such institution, school or provider for inclusion
1404 in the database created pursuant to subsection (b) of this section. Such
1405 information shall include, but need not be limited to, the data described
1406 in subdivisions (1) to (12), inclusive, of subsection (b) of this section,
1407 except an institution of higher education may omit the data required
1408 pursuant to subdivisions (6), (9) and (10) of subsection (b) of this section
1409 if such data is not applicable to a credential offered by such institution.

1410 (e) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require any state
1411 agency or department to submit credential information to the database
1412 created pursuant to subsection (b) of this section.

1413 (f) The Labor Department may, in consultation with the advisory
1414 council established pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, require any
1415 program sponsor of a preapprenticeship or apprenticeship program
1416 registered with the department to submit information about such
1417 program to the Office of Higher Education for inclusion in such
1418 database.

1419 Sec. 32. Subsection (c) of section 10a-55a of the 2022 supplement to
1420 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
1421 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

1422 (c) On or before October 1, 2007, each institution of higher education
1423 and private [occupational] career school, as defined in section 10a-22a,
1424 as amended by this act, shall have an emergency response plan. On or
1425 before October 1, 2007, and annually thereafter, each institution of
1426 higher education and private [occupational] career school shall submit
1427 a copy of its emergency response plan to (1) the Commissioner of
1428 Emergency Services and Public Protection, and (2) local first responders.
1429 Such plan shall be developed in consultation with such first responders
1430 and shall include a strategy for notifying students and employees of the
1431 institution or school and visitors to such institution or school of
1432 emergency information.

1433 Sec. 33. Section 10a-161a of the general statutes is repealed and the
1434 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

1435 The president of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities and
1436 the Office of Higher Education shall report, biennially, in accordance
1437 with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committee of
1438 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to higher
1439 education on state, northeast regional and national trends in (1) the cost
1440 of attendance at public and independent institutions of higher education
1441 and private [occupational] career schools, and (2) the availability and
1442 utilization of all forms of student financial aid for academic and
1443 noncredit vocational courses and programs relative to economic
1444 conditions and personal income.

1445 Sec. 34. Subdivisions (21) and (22) of section 10a-223 of the 2022
1446 supplement to the general statutes, as amended by section 273 of public
1447 act 21-2 of the June special session, are repealed and the following is
1448 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

1449 (21) "High-value certificate program" means a noncredit sub-
1450 baccalaureate certificate program offered by an institution of higher
1451 education or a private [occupational] career school that the Chief
1452 Workforce Officer determines to meet the needs of employers in the
1453 state; and

1454 (22) "Connecticut high-value certificate program" means a high-value
1455 certificate program offered by an institution of higher education or a
1456 private [occupational] career school in the state.

1457 Sec. 35. Subdivision (109) of section 12-412 of the 2022 supplement to
1458 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
1459 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

1460 (109) Sales of college textbooks to full and part-time students enrolled
1461 at institutions of higher education or private [occupational] career
1462 schools authorized pursuant to sections 10a-22a to 10a-22o, inclusive, as
1463 amended by this act, provided the student presents a valid student

1464 identification card. For purposes of this subdivision, "college textbooks"
1465 means new or used books and related workbooks required or
1466 recommended for a course at an institution of higher education or a
1467 private [occupational] career school authorized pursuant to sections
1468 10a-22a to 10a-22o, inclusive, as amended by this act.

1469 Sec. 36. Subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 13b-38ee of the
1470 2022 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is
1471 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

1472 (1) "Eligible organization" means any provider of a training program
1473 including, but not limited to, a provider of a training program listed on
1474 the Labor Department's Eligible Training Provider List, an
1475 apprenticeship or preapprenticeship program sponsor, a provider of an
1476 alternate route to certification program approved by the State Board of
1477 Education, an institution of higher education, a private [occupational]
1478 career school, an employer, a state or municipal agency and a public or
1479 nonprofit social service provider in the state; and

1480 Sec. 37. Subsection (a) of section 14-37a of the general statutes is
1481 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
1482 *2022*):

1483 (a) Any person whose operator's license has been suspended
1484 pursuant to any provision of this chapter or chapter 248, except
1485 pursuant to section 14-215 for operating under suspension or pursuant
1486 to section 14-140 for failure to appear for any scheduled court
1487 appearance, and any person identified in subsection (g) of this section
1488 may make application to the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles for (1) a
1489 special "work" permit to operate a motor vehicle to and from such
1490 person's place of employment or, if such person is not employed at a
1491 fixed location, to operate a motor vehicle only in connection with, and
1492 to the extent necessary, to properly perform such person's business or
1493 profession, (2) a special "education" permit to operate a motor vehicle to
1494 and from an institution of higher education or a private [occupational]
1495 career school, as defined in section 10a-22a, as amended by this act, in

1496 which such person is enrolled, provided no such special "education"
1497 permit shall be issued to any student enrolled in a high school under the
1498 jurisdiction of a local or regional board of education, a high school under
1499 the jurisdiction of a regional educational service center, a charter school,
1500 a regional agricultural science and technology education center or a
1501 technical education and career school, or (3) a special "medical" permit
1502 to operate a motor vehicle to and from any ongoing medically necessary
1503 treatment, available upon adoption by the commissioner of regulations
1504 pursuant to chapter 54, that describe qualifications for such permit. Such
1505 application shall be accompanied by an application fee of one hundred
1506 dollars.

1507 Sec. 38. Subsection (a) of section 17b-749 of the 2022 supplement to
1508 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
1509 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

1510 (a) The Commissioner of Early Childhood shall establish and operate
1511 a child care subsidy program to increase the availability, affordability
1512 and quality of child care services for families with a parent or caretaker
1513 who (1) is (A) working or attending high school, or (B) subject to the
1514 provisions of subsection (d) of this section, is enrolled or participating
1515 in (i) a public or independent institution of higher education, (ii) a
1516 private [occupational] career school authorized pursuant to sections
1517 10a-22a to 10a-22o, inclusive, as amended by this act, (iii) a job training
1518 or employment program administered by a regional workforce
1519 development board, (iv) an apprenticeship program administered by
1520 the Labor Department's office of apprenticeship training, (v) an
1521 alternate route to certification program approved by the State Board of
1522 Education, (vi) an adult education program pursuant to section 10-69 or
1523 other high school equivalency program, or (vii) a local Even Start
1524 program or other adult education program approved by the
1525 Commissioner of Early Childhood; or (2) receives cash assistance under
1526 the temporary family assistance program from the Department of Social
1527 Services and is participating in an education, training or other job
1528 preparation activity approved pursuant to subsection (b) of section 17b-
1529 688i or subsection (b) of section 17b-689d. Services available under the

1530 child care subsidy program shall include the provision of child care
1531 subsidies for children under the age of thirteen or children under the
1532 age of nineteen with special needs. The Office of Early Childhood shall
1533 open and maintain enrollment for the child care subsidy program and
1534 shall administer such program within the existing budgetary resources
1535 available. The office shall issue a notice on the office's Internet web site
1536 any time the office closes the program to new applications, changes
1537 eligibility requirements, changes program benefits or makes any other
1538 change to the program's status or terms, except the office shall not be
1539 required to issue such notice when the office expands program
1540 eligibility. Any change in the office's acceptance of new applications,
1541 eligibility requirements, program benefits or any other change to the
1542 program's status or terms for which the office is required to give notice
1543 pursuant to this subsection, shall not be effective until thirty days after
1544 the office issues such notice.

1545 Sec. 39. Subsection (a) of section 31-11ss of the 2022 supplement to the
1546 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
1547 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

1548 (a) As used in this section:

1549 (1) "Advanced manufacturing" means a manufacturing process that
1550 makes extensive use of computer, high-precision or information
1551 technologies integrated with a high-performance workforce in a
1552 production system capable of furnishing a heterogeneous mix of
1553 products in small or large volumes with either the efficiency of mass
1554 production or the flexibility of custom manufacturing in order to
1555 respond quickly to customer demands. "Advanced manufacturing"
1556 includes newly developed methods to manufacture existing products
1557 and the manufacture of new products emerging from new advanced
1558 technologies;

1559 (2) "Eligible business" means a business that (A) has operations in
1560 Connecticut, (B) has been registered to conduct business for not less than
1561 twelve months, and (C) is in good standing with respect to the payment

1562 of all state and local taxes. "Eligible business" does not include the state
1563 or any political subdivision thereof;

1564 (3) ["Private occupational school"] "Private career school" has the
1565 same meaning as provided in section 10a-22a, as amended by this act;

1566 (4) "Public institution of higher education" means any of the
1567 institutions of higher education identified in subdivision (2) of section
1568 10a-1;

1569 (5) "Qualifying advanced manufacturing certificate program" means
1570 a for-credit or noncredit sub-baccalaureate advanced manufacturing
1571 certificate program offered by a public institution of higher education
1572 or a private [occupational] career school in which at least seventy-five
1573 per cent of the graduates of such certificate program are employed in a
1574 field related to or requiring such certificate in the year following
1575 graduation; and

1576 (6) "Veteran" has the same meaning as provided in section 27-103.

1577 Sec. 40. Section 46b-56c of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes
1578 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
1579 *1, 2022*):

1580 (a) For purposes of this section, an educational support order is an
1581 order entered by a court requiring a parent to provide support for a
1582 child or children to attend for up to a total of four full academic years
1583 an institution of higher education or a private [occupational] career
1584 school for the purpose of attaining a bachelor's or other undergraduate
1585 degree, or other appropriate vocational instruction. An educational
1586 support order may be entered with respect to any child who has not
1587 attained twenty-three years of age and shall terminate not later than the
1588 date on which the child attains twenty-three years of age.

1589 (b) (1) On motion or petition of a parent, the court may enter an
1590 educational support order at the time of entry of a decree of dissolution,
1591 legal separation or annulment, and no educational support order may

1592 be entered thereafter unless the decree explicitly provides that a motion
1593 or petition for an educational support order may be filed by either
1594 parent at a subsequent date. If no educational support order is entered
1595 at the time of entry of a decree of dissolution, legal separation or
1596 annulment, and the parents have a child who has not attained twenty-
1597 three years of age, the court shall inform the parents that no educational
1598 support order may be entered thereafter. The court may accept a
1599 parent's waiver of the right to file a motion or petition for an educational
1600 support order upon a finding that the parent fully understands the
1601 consequences of such waiver.

1602 (2) A waiver of the right to file a motion or petition for an educational
1603 support order may be made in writing by either parent and accepted by
1604 the court, provided the parent making the writing attests, under oath,
1605 that the parent fully understands the consequences of such waiver, and
1606 that no restraining order issued pursuant to section 46b-15 or protective
1607 order issued pursuant to section 46b-38c, between the parties is in effect
1608 or pending before the court. The provisions of this subdivision shall not
1609 preclude the court from requiring that the parties attend a hearing and
1610 that findings be made on the record.

1611 (3) On motion or petition of a parent, the court may enter an
1612 educational support order at the time of entry of an order for support
1613 pendente lite pursuant to section 46b-83.

1614 (4) On motion or petition of a parent, the court may enter an
1615 educational support order at the time of entering an order of support
1616 pursuant to section 46b-61 or 46b-171, or similar section of the general
1617 statutes, or at any time thereafter.

1618 (5) On motion or petition of a parent, the court may enter an
1619 educational support order at the time of entering an order pursuant to
1620 any other provision of the general statutes authorizing the court to make
1621 an order of support for a child, subject to the provisions of sections 46b-
1622 301 to 46b-425, inclusive.

1623 (c) The court may not enter an educational support order pursuant to

1624 this section unless the court finds as a matter of fact that it is more likely
1625 than not that the parents would have provided support to the child for
1626 higher education or private [occupational] career school if the family
1627 were intact. After making such finding, the court, in determining
1628 whether to enter an educational support order, shall consider all
1629 relevant circumstances, including: (1) The parents' income, assets and
1630 other obligations, including obligations to other dependents; (2) the
1631 child's need for support to attend an institution of higher education or
1632 private [occupational] career school considering the child's assets and
1633 the child's ability to earn income; (3) the availability of financial aid from
1634 other sources, including grants and loans; (4) the reasonableness of the
1635 higher education to be funded considering the child's academic record
1636 and the financial resources available; (5) the child's preparation for,
1637 aptitude for and commitment to higher education; and (6) evidence, if
1638 any, of the institution of higher education or private [occupational]
1639 career school the child would attend.

1640 (d) Any finding required to be made by the court, pursuant to this
1641 section may be made on the basis of an affidavit, made under oath, by
1642 either party, provided that the party making the affidavit attests that no
1643 restraining order issued pursuant to section 46b-15 or protective order,
1644 issued pursuant to section 46b-38c, between the parties is in effect or
1645 pending before the court. Nothing in this subsection shall preclude the
1646 court from requiring that the parties attend a hearing and that findings
1647 be made on the record.

1648 (e) At the appropriate time, both parents shall participate in, and
1649 agree upon, the decision as to which institution of higher education or
1650 private [occupational] career school the child will attend. The court may
1651 make an order resolving the matter if the parents fail to reach an
1652 agreement.

1653 (f) To qualify for payments due under an educational support order,
1654 the child must (1) enroll in an accredited institution of higher education
1655 or private [occupational] career school, as defined in section 10a-22a, as
1656 amended by this act, (2) actively pursue a course of study

1657 commensurate with the child's vocational goals that constitutes at least
1658 one-half the course load determined by that institution or school to
1659 constitute full-time enrollment, (3) maintain good academic standing in
1660 accordance with the rules of the institution or school, and (4) make
1661 available all academic records to both parents during the term of the
1662 order. The order shall be suspended after any academic period during
1663 which the child fails to comply with these conditions.

1664 (g) The educational support order may include support for any
1665 necessary educational expense, including room, board, dues, tuition,
1666 fees, registration and application costs, but such expenses shall not be
1667 more than the amount charged by The University of Connecticut for a
1668 full-time in-state student at the time the child for whom educational
1669 support is being ordered matriculates, except this limit may be exceeded
1670 by agreement of the parents. An educational support order may also
1671 include the cost of books and medical insurance for such child.

1672 (h) The court may direct that payments under an educational support
1673 order be made (1) to a parent to be forwarded to the institution of higher
1674 education or private [occupational] career school, (2) directly to the
1675 institution or school, or (3) otherwise as the court determines to be
1676 appropriate.

1677 (i) On motion or petition of a parent, an educational support order
1678 may be modified or enforced in the same manner as is provided by law
1679 for any support order.

1680 (j) This section does not create a right of action by a child for parental
1681 support for higher education.

1682 (k) An educational support order under this section does not include
1683 support for graduate or postgraduate education beyond a bachelor's
1684 degree.

1685 (l) The provisions of this section shall apply only in cases when the
1686 initial order for parental support of the child is entered on or after
1687 October 1, 2002.

1688 Sec. 41. Subsection (a) of section 10a-55i of the 2022 supplement to the
1689 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
1690 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

1691 (a) There is established a Higher Education Consolidation Committee
1692 which shall be convened by the chairpersons of the joint standing
1693 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
1694 relating to higher education or such chairpersons' designee, who shall
1695 be a member of such joint standing committee. The membership of the
1696 Higher Education Consolidation Committee shall consist of the higher
1697 education subcommittee on appropriations and the chairpersons, vice
1698 chairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing committees of
1699 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to higher
1700 education and appropriations. The Higher Education Consolidation
1701 Committee shall establish a meeting and public hearing schedule for
1702 purposes of receiving updates from (1) the Board of Regents for Higher
1703 Education on the progress of the consolidation of the state system of
1704 higher education pursuant to this section, section 4-9c, subsection (g) of
1705 section 5-160, section 5-199d, subsection (a) of section 7-323k, subsection
1706 (a) of section 7-608, subsection (a) of section 10-9, section 10-155d,
1707 subdivision (14) of section 10-183b, sections 10a-1a to 10a-1d, inclusive,
1708 as amended by this act, 10a-3 and 10a-3a, 10a-8, 10a-10a to 10a-11a,
1709 inclusive, 10a-17d and 10a-22a, as amended by this act, [subsections (f)
1710 and (h)] subsection (f) of section 10a-22b, as amended by this act,
1711 subsections (c) and (d) of section 10a-22d, as amended by this act,
1712 sections 10a-22h, as amended by this act, and 10a-22k, subsection (a) of
1713 section 10a-22n, as amended by this act, sections 10a-22r, as amended
1714 by this act, 10a-22s, 10a-22u, as amended by this act, 10a-22v, as
1715 amended by this act, 10a-22x and 10a-34 to 10a-35a, inclusive, as
1716 amended by this act, subsection (a) of section 10a-48a, sections 10a-71
1717 and 10a-72, subsections (c) and (f) of section 10a-77, section 10a-88,
1718 subsection (a) of section 10a-89, subsection (c) of section 10a-99 and
1719 sections 10a-102, 10a-104, 10a-105, 10a-109e, 10a-143 and 10a-168a, and
1720 (2) the Board of Regents for Higher Education and The University of
1721 Connecticut on the program approval process for the constituent units.

1722 The Higher Education Consolidation Committee shall convene its first
 1723 meeting on or before September 15, 2011, and meet not less than once
 1724 every two months.

1725 Sec. 42. (*Effective from passage*) (a) Wherever the term "private
 1726 occupational school" is used in any public or special act of 2022, the term
 1727 "private career school" shall be substituted in lieu thereof.

1728 (b) The Legislative Commissioners' Office shall, in codifying the
 1729 provisions of this section, make such technical, grammatical and
 1730 punctuation changes as are necessary to carry out the purposes of this
 1731 section.

1732 Sec. 43. Section 10a-22y of the general statutes is repealed. (*Effective*
 1733 *July 1, 2022*)"

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2022	4-5
Sec. 2	July 1, 2022	10a-1d
Sec. 3	July 1, 2022	10a-34
Sec. 4	July 1, 2023	New section
Sec. 5	July 1, 2022	10a-34c
Sec. 6	July 1, 2022	10a-34e
Sec. 7	July 1, 2022	10a-34g(a)
Sec. 8	July 1, 2022	10-67(4)
Sec. 9	July 1, 2022	12-407(a)(37)(J)
Sec. 10	July 1, 2022	30-22a(k)
Sec. 11	July 1, 2022	10a-22a
Sec. 12	July 1, 2022	10a-22b
Sec. 13	July 1, 2022	10a-22c
Sec. 14	July 1, 2022	10a-22d
Sec. 15	July 1, 2022	10a-22e
Sec. 16	July 1, 2022	10a-22f
Sec. 17	July 1, 2022	10a-22g
Sec. 18	July 1, 2022	10a-22h
Sec. 19	July 1, 2022	10a-22i
Sec. 20	July 1, 2022	10a-22k

Sec. 21	<i>July 1, 2022</i>	10a-22l
Sec. 22	<i>July 1, 2022</i>	10a-22m
Sec. 23	<i>July 1, 2022</i>	10a-22n
Sec. 24	<i>July 1, 2022</i>	10a-22p
Sec. 25	<i>July 1, 2022</i>	10a-22q
Sec. 26	<i>July 1, 2022</i>	10a-22r
Sec. 27	<i>July 1, 2022</i>	10a-22u
Sec. 28	<i>July 1, 2022</i>	10a-22v
Sec. 29	<i>July 1, 2022</i>	10-95r(c)
Sec. 30	<i>July 1, 2022</i>	10a-11b(a)(1)
Sec. 31	<i>July 1, 2022</i>	10a-34h
Sec. 32	<i>July 1, 2022</i>	10a-55a(c)
Sec. 33	<i>July 1, 2022</i>	10a-161a
Sec. 34	<i>July 1, 2022</i>	10a-223(21) and (22)
Sec. 35	<i>July 1, 2022</i>	12-412(109)
Sec. 36	<i>July 1, 2022</i>	13b-38ee(a)(1)
Sec. 37	<i>July 1, 2022</i>	14-37a(a)
Sec. 38	<i>July 1, 2022</i>	17b-749(a)
Sec. 39	<i>July 1, 2022</i>	31-11ss(a)
Sec. 40	<i>July 1, 2022</i>	46b-56c
Sec. 41	<i>July 1, 2022</i>	10a-55i(a)
Sec. 42	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 43	<i>July 1, 2022</i>	Repealer section