

ASSEMBLY, No. 5070

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 7, 2020

Sponsored by:
Assemblyman HERB CONAWAY, JR.
District 7 (Burlington)

SYNOPSIS

Directs Secretary of Higher Education to revoke proprietary school's license to award academic degrees if school fails to achieve certain minimum graduation rates.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/7/2020)

1 **AN ACT** concerning the graduation rates of certain proprietary
2 schools and supplementing chapter 3B of Title 18A of the New
3 Jersey Statutes.

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5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
6 *of New Jersey:*

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8 1. a. As used in this section, “proprietary school” means a
9 postsecondary institution in New Jersey that is operated for profit
10 and which has been authorized to offer licensed degree programs.

11 b. (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection c. of this
12 section, the Secretary of Higher Education shall revoke a
13 proprietary school’s license to award academic degrees if, by the
14 completion of the sixth full academic year that occurs following the
15 effective date of this act, the school fails to achieve a six-year
16 graduation rate of at least 75 percent for full-time students who are
17 enrolled in a four-year degree program.

18 (2) Except as otherwise provided in subsection c. of this section,
19 the Secretary of Higher Education shall revoke a proprietary
20 school’s license to award academic degrees if, by the completion of
21 the sixth full academic year that occurs following the effective date
22 of this act, the school fails to achieve a three-year graduation rate of
23 at least 75 percent for full-time students who are enrolled in a two-
24 year degree program.

25 c. If, at the completion of the fifth full academic year that occurs
26 following the effective date of this act, a proprietary school is not
27 on track to achieve the minimum graduation rates specified in
28 subsection b. of this section, but is making sufficient progress
29 toward achieving those rates, the secretary at his discretion may
30 allow the school additional time to achieve those rates before
31 revoking the school’s license to award academic degrees.

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33 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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38 This bill provides that the Secretary of Higher Education will
39 revoke a proprietary school’s license to award academic degrees if the
40 school fails to achieve a six-year graduation rate of at least 75 percent
41 for full-time students enrolled in a four-year degree program by the
42 completion of the sixth full academic year that occurs following the
43 bill’s effective date. The bill further provides that the secretary will
44 revoke a proprietary school’s license to award academic degrees if the
45 school fails to achieve a three-year graduation rate of at least 75
46 percent for full-time students enrolled in a two-year degree program by
47 the completion of the sixth full academic year that occurs following
48 the bill’s effective date. However, if after five years, a proprietary

A5070 CONAWAY

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1 school is not on track to achieve these minimum graduation rates for
2 full-time students, but is making sufficient progress toward achieving
3 that goal, the secretary at his discretion may allow the school
4 additional time to achieve the rates before revoking the school's
5 license to award academic degrees.