

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2025

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SENATE BILL DRS35139-MT-65

Short Title: Prohibit Illegal Accreditation Requirements. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Galey and Hanig (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO PROHIBIT CONSTITUENT INSTITUTIONS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF
3 NORTH CAROLINA AND COMMUNITY COLLEGES FROM VIOLATING STATE OR
4 FEDERAL LAW BECAUSE OF A REQUIREMENT OF AN ACCREDITING AGENCY.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 SECTION 1.(a) G.S. 116-11.4 reads as rewritten:

7 "§ 116-11.4. Accreditation.

8 (a) Definitions. – The following definitions apply in this section:

9 ...

10 (2) Accrediting agency. – An agency or association that accredits institutions of
11 higher education.

12 ...

13 (b1) Illegal Accreditation Requirements Prohibited. – A constituent institution of The
14 University of North Carolina shall not take any action in violation of State or federal law because
15 of any principle, standard, policy, or other requirement of an accrediting agency.

16 ...

17 (d) Certain Programs Exempt. – ~~The~~ Except as provided in subsection (b1) of this section,
18 the requirements of this section do not apply to professional, graduate, departmental, or certificate
19 programs at constituent institutions that have specific accreditation requirements or best
20 practices, including law, pharmacy, engineering, and other similar educational programs, as
21 identified by the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina.

22"

23 SECTION 1.(b) G.S. 115D-6.2 reads as rewritten:

24 "§ 115D-6.2. Accreditation.

25 (a) Definitions. – The following definitions apply in this section:

26 ...

27 (2) Accrediting agency. – An agency or association that accredits institutions of
28 higher education.

29 ...

30 (b1) Illegal Accreditation Requirements Prohibited. – A community college shall not take
31 any action in violation of State or federal law because of any principle, standard, policy, or other
32 requirement of an accrediting agency.

33 ...

34 (d) Certain Programs Exempt. – ~~The~~ Except as provided in subsection (b1) of this section,
35 the requirements of this section do not apply to professional, departmental, or certificate



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1 programs at community colleges that have specific accreditation requirements or best practices,
2 as identified by the State Board of Community Colleges.
3"
4 **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law.