

Subject OHE regulation of religious postsecondary schools

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Overview

Current law provides a religious exemption from Office of Higher Education (OHE) registration and licensing for degree-granting and private career schools.

However, if a school offers a particular degree program that is nonreligious, the school is subject to OHE regulation, and must be licensed or registered by OHE.

The bill allows a school that offers both religious and nonreligious programs to receive a religious exemption for its religious programs, but requires nonreligious programs to register with OHE or be licensed by OHE.

Summary

Section	Description
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| 1 | Religious exemption; degree-granting schools.
Exempts degree-granting programs from OHE regulation if they are offered by a religious organization or church, primarily designed for persons who seek to learn the faith and beliefs of the organization, and intended to prepare the students to enter a vocation closely related to the faith. |
| 2 | Exemption limitation; degree-granting schools.
Clarifies that the religious exemption for degree-granting schools does not extend to programs that are marketed or represented to students as nonreligious or to prepare students for a vocation not related to the faith. |
| 3 | Application for religious exemptions; private career schools.
Allows a private career school to apply for a religious exemption for its religious programs, even if it offers other nonreligious programs. |
| 4 | Religious exemption; private career schools.
Exempts private career school programs from OHE regulation if they are offered by a religious organization or church, primarily designed for persons who seek to learn the |

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	faith and beliefs of the organization, and intended to prepare the students to enter a vocation closely related to the faith.
5	Exemption limitation; private career schools. Clarifies that the religious exemption for degree-granting schools does not extend to programs that are marketed or represented to students as nonreligious or to prepare students for a vocation not related to the faith.



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