STATE OF NEW YORK

3071

2019-2020 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

February 1, 2019

Introduced by Sens. RANZENHOFER, GALLIVAN, LITTLE, SAVINO -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Higher Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to streamlining higher education program approvals

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. The education law is amended by adding a new section 210-d to read as follows:

§ 210-d. Registration of curricula. Notwithstanding any law, rule, or regulation to the contrary, any new curriculum or program of study offered by any not-for-profit college or university chartered by the regents or incorporated by special act of the legislature that does not require a master plan amendment pursuant to section two hundred thirty-seven of this part, or charter amendment pursuant to section two hundred sixteen of this part, or lead to professional licensure and that is approved by the state university board of trustees, the city university board of trustees, or the trustees or governing body of any other not-for-profit college or university chartered by the regents which (1) has maintained a physical presence in New York state for the immediately preceding ten years and has been operated continuously by the same governing corporate entity during the same immediately preceding ten year period and (2) is accredited and has continued in accreditation by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education ("MSCHE") or the department for the immediately preceding ten years, shall be deemed registered with the department within thirty days of notification of approval. If the college or university is placed on probation or has its accreditation terminated by MSCHE, such college or university shall notify the regents in writing no later than thirty days after being formally informed of its probation or loss of accreditation by MSCHE. If a college or university has its accreditation placed on probation or

EXPLANATION--Matter in *italics* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

LBD01768-01-9

terminated by the MSCHE or the education department the college or university shall be subject to the commissioner's program approval it had been removed from probation or regained accreditation by MSCHE or the education department, and shall remain subject to such commissioner's program approval until it has continued in accreditation and without probation for a period of not less than six years. If a college or university subject to this section intends to offer or institute an additional degree or program which constitutes a "substantive change," as defined and determined by MSCHE, then the college or university shall provide the commissioner with copies of any reports or other documents filed with MSCHE as part of MSCHE's substantive change review process and shall inform the commissioner when the substantive change is approved. Any such college or university that does not satisfy all of the provisions of this section shall comply with the procedures and criteria established by the regents and commissioner for academic program approval. Nothing in this section shall be deemed to limit the department's existing authority to act on complaints concerning the institution, including the authority to de-register the program.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.