



Sen. William R. Haine

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09800SB2846sam003

LRB098 14548 NHT 58064 a

1 AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL 2846

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend Senate Bill 2846, AS AMENDED,
3 by replacing everything after the enacting clause with the
4 following:

5 "Section 5. The Private College Act is amended by adding
6 Section 1.5 as follows:

7 (110 ILCS 1005/1.5 new)

8 Sec. 1.5. Exemption from Act; nonprofit religious
9 institution.

10 (a) A nonprofit institution owned, controlled, and
11 operated and maintained by a bona fide church, religious
12 denomination, or religious organization comprised of
13 multi-denominational members of the same well-recognized
14 religion, lawfully operating as a nonprofit religious
15 corporation pursuant to the Religious Corporation Act, is
16 exempt from this Act if (i) the education is limited to

1 instruction in the principles of that church, religious
2 denomination, or religious organization or to courses offered
3 for the purpose of training the adherents of that church,
4 religious denomination, or religious organization in the care
5 of the sick in accordance with its religious tenets; (ii) the
6 diploma or degree is limited to evidence of completion of that
7 education and the meritorious recognition upon which any
8 honorary degree is conferred is limited to the principles of
9 that church, religious denomination, or religious
10 organization; and (iii) the institution's handbook for
11 students includes the following statement: "This religious
12 degree is not approved by the Illinois Board of Higher
13 Education."

14 (b) Institutions exempt under this Section shall offer
15 degrees and diplomas only in the beliefs and practices of the
16 church, religious denomination, or religious organization. The
17 enactment of this amendatory Act of the 98th General Assembly
18 expresses the legislative intent that this State must not
19 involve itself in the content of degree programs awarded by any
20 institution exempt under this Section, as long as the
21 institution awards degrees and diplomas only in the beliefs and
22 practices of the church, religious denomination, or religious
23 organization.

24 (c) Institutions exempt under this Section may not award
25 degrees in any area other than religion. Any degree or diploma
26 granted in any area of study under this Section shall contain

1 on its face, under the written description of the title of the
2 degree being conferred, the statement, "Not Approved by the
3 Illinois Board of Higher Education". The enactment of this
4 amendatory Act of the 98th General Assembly is intended to
5 prevent any entity claiming to be a nonprofit institution
6 owned, controlled, and operated and maintained by a bona fide
7 church, religious denomination, or religious organization
8 comprised of multi-denominational members of the same
9 well-recognized religion, lawfully operating as a nonprofit
10 religious corporation pursuant to the Religious Corporation
11 Act, from marketing and granting degrees or diplomas that are
12 represented as being linked to their church, religious
13 denomination, or religious organization, but which, in
14 reality, are degrees in secular areas of study.

15 (d) An institution exempt under this Section shall annually
16 file with the Board evidence to demonstrate its status as a
17 nonprofit religious corporation under the Religious
18 Corporation Act.

19 Section 10. The Academic Degree Act is amended by changing
20 Section 11 as follows:

21 (110 ILCS 1010/11) (from Ch. 144, par. 241)

22 Sec. 11. Exemptions.

23 (a) This Act shall not apply to any school or educational
24 institution regulated or approved under the Nurse Practice Act.

1 (b) This Act shall not apply to any of the following:

2 (1) ~~(a)~~ in-training programs by corporations or other
3 business organizations for the training of their
4 personnel;

5 (2) ~~(b)~~ education or other improvement programs by
6 business, trade and similar organizations and associations
7 for the benefit of their members only; or

8 (3) ~~(c)~~ apprentice or other training programs by labor
9 unions.

10 (c) A nonprofit institution owned, controlled, and
11 operated and maintained by a bona fide church, religious
12 denomination, or religious organization comprised of
13 multi-denominational members of the same well-recognized
14 religion, lawfully operating as a nonprofit religious
15 corporation pursuant to the Religious Corporation Act, is
16 exempt from this Act if (i) the education is limited to
17 instruction in the principles of that church, religious
18 denomination, or religious organization or to courses offered
19 for the purpose of training the adherents of that church,
20 religious denomination, or religious organization in the care
21 of the sick in accordance with its religious tenets; (ii) the
22 diploma or degree is limited to evidence of completion of that
23 education and the meritorious recognition upon which any
24 honorary degree is conferred is limited to the principles of
25 that church, religious denomination, or religious
26 organization; and (iii) the institution's handbook for

1 students includes the following statement: "This religious
2 degree is not approved by the Illinois Board of Higher
3 Education.".

4 Institutions exempt under this subsection (c) shall offer
5 degrees and diplomas only in the beliefs and practices of the
6 church, religious denomination, or religious organization. The
7 enactment of this amendatory Act of the 98th General Assembly
8 expresses the legislative intent that this State must not
9 involve itself in the content of degree programs awarded by any
10 institution exempt under this subsection (c), as long as the
11 institution awards degrees and diplomas only in the beliefs and
12 practices of the church, religious denomination, or religious
13 organization.

14 Institutions exempt under this subsection (c) may not award
15 degrees in any area other than religion. Any degree or diploma
16 granted in any area of study under this subsection (c) shall
17 contain on its face, under the written description of the title
18 of the degree being conferred, the statement, "Not Approved by
19 the Illinois Board of Higher Education". The enactment of this
20 amendatory Act of the 98th General Assembly is intended to
21 prevent any entity claiming to be a nonprofit institution
22 owned, controlled, and operated and maintained by a bona fide
23 church, religious denomination, or religious organization
24 comprised of multi-denominational members of the same
25 well-recognized religion, lawfully operating as a nonprofit
26 religious corporation pursuant to the Religious Corporation

1 Act, from marketing and granting degrees or diplomas that are
2 represented as being linked to their church, religious
3 denomination, or religious organization, but which, in
4 reality, are degrees in secular areas of study.

5 An institution exempt under this subsection (c) shall
6 annually file with the Board evidence to demonstrate its status
7 as a nonprofit religious corporation under the Religious
8 Corporation Act.

9 (Source: P.A. 95-639, eff. 10-5-07.)

10 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect July 1,
11 2014."