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February 15, 2016

AS AMENDED

SENATE BILL NO. 1157

By: Bice

[ higher education accreditation - private  
institutions - policies ]

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 4103, is amended to read as follows:

Section 4103. A A. As used in this section:

1. "Degree-granting institution" means an institution that  
offers education leading to an associate's degree or higher; and

2. "Non-degree-granting activity" means offering education or  
training that does not lead to an associate's degree or higher.

B. All private educational institution and out-of-state public degree-granting institutions shall be accredited ~~under rules promulgated and adopted by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education unless such institution is accredited~~ by a national or regional accrediting agency which is recognized by the Secretary of the United States Department of Education as a reliable authority as to the quality of education or training offered by institutions of higher education for the purposes of the Higher Education Act of

1 1965, as amended. To operate as a degree-granting institution,  
2 private institutions that do not participate in the Oklahoma Tuition  
3 Equalization Grant program and out-of-state public institutions  
4 shall abide by policies and procedures that are established by the  
5 Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education. The policies and  
6 procedures shall include a complaint process provision, standards  
7 for operation, stipulations for a written enrollment agreement  
8 between the institution and the student and reporting requirements.  
9 Private institutions not participating in the Oklahoma Tuition  
10 Equalization Grant program that engage in non-degree-granting  
11 activity and out-of-state public institutions that engage in non-  
12 degree-granting activity shall be subject to standards administered  
13 by the Oklahoma Board of Private Vocational Schools. If an  
14 institution, as described in this section, engages in both degree-  
15 granting and non-degree-granting activity, the Oklahoma State  
16 Regents for Higher Education shall be the lead agency for all degree  
17 matters, and the Oklahoma Board of Private Vocational Schools shall  
18 be the lead agency for all non-degree matters.

19 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION  
20 February 15, 2016 - DO PASS AS AMENDED  
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