

By Representative Wallace

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to academic degrees; amending  
 3           s. 817.567, F.S.; providing for disclosure of  
 4           unrecognized degrees; providing an effective  
 5           date.

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7 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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9           Section 1. Subsection (2) of section 817.567, Florida  
10 Statutes, is amended to read:

11           817.567 Making false claims of academic degree or  
12 title.--

13           (2) No person awarded a doctorate degree from an  
 14 institution not listed in subsection (1) shall claim in the  
 15 state, either orally or in writing, the title "Dr." before the  
 16 person's name or any mark, appellation, or series of letters,  
 17 numbers, or words, such as, but not limited to, "Ph.D.,"  
 18 "Ed.D.," "D.N.," or "N.D.," ~~"D.Th."~~ which signifies,  
 19 purports, or is generally taken to signify satisfactory  
 20 completion of the requirements of a doctorate degree, after  
 21 the person's name, unless the degree is from an institution  
 22 unrecognized by the state or by the Federal Government and  
 23 that fact is disclosed, either orally or in writing.

24           Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a  
25 law.

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28                                   SENATE SUMMARY

29           Provides that a person who discloses that a doctorate  
 30 degree is from an unrecognized institution is not in  
 violation of the prohibition against making false claims  
 of academic degrees.