

By Senator Grant

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to academic degrees; amending s. 817.567, F.S.; providing for disclosure of unrecognized degrees; providing an effective date.

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

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

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

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

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

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SENATE SUMMARY

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