



General Assembly

January Session, 2025

***Raised Bill No. 7098***

LCO No. 5497



Referred to Committee on HIGHER EDUCATION AND  
EMPLOYMENT ADVANCEMENT

Introduced by:  
(HED)

***AN ACT CONCERNING TUITION REFUNDS FOR FORMER STONE  
ACADEMY STUDENTS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General  
Assembly convened:

1       Section 1. Section 67 of public act 23-204 is repealed and the following  
2       is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3       (a) The Office of Higher Education shall pay from the private career  
4       school student protection account a stipend to each person who (1)  
5       graduated from the practical nurse education program at Stone  
6       Academy, also known as Career Training Specialists, LLC, during the  
7       period commencing November 1, 2021, and ending February 28, 2023,  
8       (2) has taken or passed the examination for licensure as a licensed  
9       practical nurse, and (3) meets any requirements established by the  
10      executive director of the Office of Higher Education. The amount that  
11      may be paid by the office pursuant to this subsection shall be  
12      determined by the executive director, but shall not exceed one hundred  
13      fifty thousand dollars in the aggregate.

14      (b) The Office of Higher Education shall pay from the private career

15 school student protection account a refund of tuition, pursuant to the  
16 process established under section 10a-22v of the general statutes, to each  
17 applicant who (1) was enrolled in, but did not graduate from, the  
18 practical nurse education program at Stone Academy, also known as  
19 Career Training Specialists, LLC, during the period commencing  
20 November 1, 2021, and ending February 28, 2023, [and] (2) completed a  
21 course or unit of instruction at Stone Academy that [was not in  
22 compliance with applicable statutes and regulations concerning such  
23 course or unit of instruction] has not been accepted at another practical  
24 nurse education program as transfer credits, (3) has not previously  
25 received a refund of such tuition, and (4) has not participated in a (A)  
26 teach-out, as defined in section 10a-22m of the general statutes, or (B)  
27 proctored comprehensive predictor examination administered on or  
28 after the effective date of this section by an institution identified by the  
29 Office of Higher Education. If the executive director of the Office of  
30 Higher Education finds that the applicant is entitled to a refund of  
31 tuition pursuant to this subsection, the executive director shall  
32 determine the amount of an appropriate refund which shall not exceed  
33 the tuition paid for such course or unit of instruction. Such refund of  
34 tuition shall be paid in the manner and subject to the terms specified in  
35 section 10a-22v of the general statutes, except such applicant may apply  
36 for such refund of tuition on or before June 30, 2026. As used in this  
37 subsection, "proctored comprehensive predictor examination" is an  
38 examination that assesses a nursing student's readiness to pass the  
39 National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nurses.

40 (c) The state may take appropriate action, including, but not limited  
41 to, an action in Superior Court, against said private career school or its  
42 owner or owners to reimburse the private career school student  
43 protection account for the stipends, refunds and administrative costs  
44 that are paid from the account pursuant to this section and to reimburse  
45 the state for the reasonable and necessary expenses in undertaking such  
46 action. The state shall reimburse the private career school student  
47 protection account up to an amount equal to such stipends, refunds and  
48 administrative costs from any funds it collects through such action.

49 Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit any right or remedy  
50 available to the state arising from the operations of said private career  
51 school.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	PA 23-204, Sec. 67

***HED***      *Joint Favorable*