

HOUSE BILL 2560
By Winningham

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39, Chapter 17, Part 1, relative to false academic degrees.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39, Chapter 17, Part 1, is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated section:

39-17-112.

(a) It is an offense for any person to knowingly issue, sell or manufacture a false academic degree. As used in this subsection, "person" includes any individual, corporation, firm, company, partnership or association.

(b) It is an offense for an individual to knowingly use or claim to have a false academic degree:

- (1) To obtain employment;
- (2) To obtain a promotion in employment; or
- (3) To obtain admission to a college, university or other institution of higher learning.

(c) A violation of subsection (a) is a Class A misdemeanor.

(d) A violation of subsection (b) is a Class C misdemeanor.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2004, the public welfare requiring it.