

**The Minnesota Career College Association (MCCA) is respectfully requesting a change in the current language of Minnesota State Statutes 141: Private Career Schools to section 141.35 EXEMPTIONS, as illustrated below:**

Subd. 5. **School.** "School" means any person, within or outside the state, who maintains, advertises, solicits, or conducts any program for profit at any level other than baccalaureate or graduate programs, and is not specifically exempted by sections 141.21 to 141.35.

**141.35 EXEMPTIONS.**

Sections 141.21 to 141.35 shall not apply to the following:

- (1) public post-secondary institutions;
- (2) private post-secondary institutions registered under sections 136A.61 to 136A.71 that are nonprofit, or that are for profit and registered under sections 136A.61 to 136A.71 as of December 31, 1998, or are approved to offer associate, baccalaureate or postbaccalaureate programs;
- (3) schools of nursing accredited by the state board of nursing or an equivalent public board of another state or foreign country;
- (4) private schools complying with the requirements of section

**REASONS FOR REQUEST:**

- This will allow for member schools to fall under Minnesota Statute 136 as do other degree granting institutions in our state.
- The member schools of the association have outgrown the original design of the law. Statute 141 was not originally designed to regulate degree granting programs by definition of the current exemptions.
- Although, many of our member schools originally offered programs at the certificate level, all member schools now offer associate degree level, many at the baccalaureate level and some at the postbaccalaureate level.
- During the evolution of higher education policy in our state, our member schools have always been treated as an equal sector and have handled those responsibilities professionally.
- There has been an increase in desire by many to have a defining point between higher education sectors, and all of have been in favor of including our member schools with the current schools registered under Minnesota Statute 136. Placing our member schools under Statute 136 will more clearly define the differences between degree granting schools and non-degree granting schools.
- It is evident to all sectors of higher education that there has been increased collaboration between sectors and our inclusion on the Minnesota Higher Education Advisory Council, further illustrates our closer alignment with the more traditional sectors of higher education in our state.
- Our member schools are fully accredited, will continue in all areas of compliance with the state, offer quality education and have made significant contributions to the workforce of Minnesota.