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**HOUSE BILL NO. 57****AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE**

(Proposed by the House Committee on Education

on January 23, 2006)

(Patron Prior to Substitute— Delegate Fralin)

*A BILL to amend and reenact § 23-9.2:3.02 of the Code of Virginia, relating to articulation agreements between four-year public institutions of higher education and all institutions within the Virginia Community College System.*

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:****1. That § 23-9.2:3.02 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

§ 23-9.2:3.02. Articulation agreements.

A. Beginning with academic year 2006-2007, the governing board of each four-year public institution of higher education shall develop additional articulation and transfer agreements with uniform application to all institutions within the Virginia Community College System *and any two-year public institution of higher education* that (i) meet appropriate general education and program requirements at the four-year institutions; and (ii) provide additional opportunities for associate degree graduates to be admitted and enrolled.

B. *Students enrolling at an institution within the Virginia Community College System or a two-year public institution of higher education may declare an intention in writing to transfer to a four-year public institution of higher education in Virginia having an articulation agreement with the relevant community college or two-year public institution. If a student (i) completes an associate degree within four years of submitting a written declaration of intent to transfer to a four-year public institution of higher education in Virginia and (ii) enrolls in such an institution within 12 months of completing an associate degree, the articulation agreement in force at the time of the student's declaration shall determine those credits that will be transferred from the community college or two-year public institution to the four-year public institution upon successful completion of an associate degree.*

C. *Nothing in this section shall be construed to require the admission of students of the Virginia Community College System by a four-year public institution of higher education.*

The State Council of Higher Education, consistent with its responsibility to facilitate the development of articulation agreements set forth in §§ 23-9.6:1 and 23-9.14:2, shall develop guidelines for such agreements.