

VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 2007 SESSION

CHAPTER 705

An Act to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Chapter 1 of Title 23 a section numbered 23-9.2:8, relating to policies for addressing suicidal students.

[H 3064]

Approved March 21, 2007

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Chapter 1 of Title 23 a section numbered 23-9.2:8 as follows:

§ 23-9.2:8. Policies addressing suicidal students.

The governing boards of each public institution of higher education shall develop and implement policies that advise students, faculty, and staff, including residence hall staff, of the proper procedures for identifying and addressing the needs of students exhibiting suicidal tendencies or behavior. The policies shall ensure that no student is penalized or expelled solely for attempting to commit suicide, or seeking mental health treatment for suicidal thoughts or behaviors. Nothing in this section shall preclude any public institution of higher education from establishing policies and procedures for appropriately dealing with students who are a danger to themselves, or to others, and whose behavior is disruptive to the academic community.