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HOUSE BILL NO. 2408

Offered January 10, 2007

Prefiled January 9, 2007

A BILL to amend and reenact § 23-9.2:3.02 of the Code of Virginia, relating to articulation agreements.

Patron—Athey

Referred to Committee on Education

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, transfer, and dual enrollment and admissions agreements; admission of certain community college graduates.

A. The governing board of each four-year public institution of higher education shall develop, consistent with the State Council of Higher Education Guidelines and the institution's six-year plan as set forth in § 23-9.2:3.03, articulation, transfer, and dual enrollment and admissions 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; (ii) provide additional opportunities for associate degree graduates to be admitted and enrolled; and (iii) establish dual admissions programs for qualified students to be simultaneously accepted by a community college and, contingent upon the successful completion of an acceptable associate degree program from the community college, by the four-year public institution of higher education; and (iv) include minimum numbers of associate degree graduates the institution of higher education will admit and enroll annually as transfer students from institutions within the Virginia Community College System.

B. The State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, the Virginia Community College System, and each four-year public institution of higher education shall agree on the minimum number of associate degree graduates each institution of higher education will annually admit and enroll as transfer students from institutions within the Virginia Community College System as provided in subsection A. The State Council of Higher Education for Virginia shall submit an annual report to the Senate Committee on Education and Health and the House Committee on Education specifying the total number of transfer students each institution of higher education admitted and enrolled from institutions within the Virginia Community College System and whether such number meets the minimum number of transfer students each institution agreed to admit and enroll pursuant to this section.

BC. 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 18 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.

CD. 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.

DE. The State Council of Higher Education, consistent with its responsibility to facilitate the development of articulation, transfer, and dual enrollment and admissions agreements set forth in §§ 23-9.6:1 and 23-9.14:2, shall develop guidelines for such agreements, including the conditions required to establish dual admissions programs for qualified students to be simultaneously accepted by a community college and a four-year public institution of higher education and, upon successful completion of an acceptable associate degree program from the community college, to be automatically enrolled in the four-year institution of higher education. Dual admissions agreements shall set forth (i) the obligations of the students accepted in such programs, including grade point average requirements, acceptable associate degree majors, and completion timetables; and (ii) the student's access to the privileges of enrollment in both institutions during the time enrolled in either institution.

INTRODUCED

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