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HOUSE BILL NO. 1004

Offered January 11, 2012 Prefiled January 11, 2012

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 23-7.4:7, relating to undergraduate out-of-state tuition charges at public institutions of higher education in the Commonwealth.

Patrons—Ramadan and LeMunyon

Referred to Committee on Education

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 23-7.4:7 as follows:

§ 23-7.4:7. Determination of undergraduate out-of-state tuition charges.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the boards of visitors of every public institution of higher education in the Commonwealth shall set tuition and fee charges at levels each board of visitors deems to be appropriate for all nonresident student groups based on, but not limited to, competitive market rates, provided that the tuition and mandatory educational and general fee rates for nonresident undergraduate students are at least 100 percent of the average cost of their education, as calculated through base adequacy guidelines. The determination of competitive market rates shall consider tuition and fees charged at comparable private and public institutions of higher education within the Commonwealth or in another state, totaling at least five, that are most similar to the public institution of higher education with respect to total undergraduate enrollment and undergraduate student body academic qualifications and to which a significant number of students of the institution of higher education also applied, to the extent that such information is readily available. At the time that undergraduate tuition is determined by each board of visitors, the board of visitors shall include in its meeting records the tuition and fee rates at comparable private and public institutions and any other factors used in establishing the undergraduate tuition and fees. The meeting materials and minutes related to the determination of undergraduate tuition shall be made available on the website for the institution.