

2013 SESSION

HOUSE SUBSTITUTE

13103902D

HOUSE BILL NO. 1617

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by the House Committee on Education

on January 28, 2013)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Delegate Gilbert)

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Chapter 1 of Title 23 a section numbered 23-9.2:12, relating to higher education; student organizations.

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 23-9.2:12 as follows:

§ 23-9.2:12. *Student organizations; rights and recognition.*

To the extent allowed by state and federal law:

1. A religious or political student organization may determine that ordering the organization's internal affairs, selecting the organization's leaders and members, defining the organization's doctrines, and resolving the organization's disputes are in furtherance of the organization's religious or political mission and that only persons committed to that mission should conduct such activities; and

2. No public institution of higher education that has granted recognition of and access to any student organization or group shall discriminate against any such student organization or group that exercises its rights pursuant to subdivision 1.

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