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HOUSE BILL NO. 1279

Offered January 10, 2018

Prefiled January 10, 2018

A *BILL to amend and reenact § 23.1-904 of the Code of Virginia, to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 23.1-904.1, and to repeal § 23.1-2907 of the Code of Virginia, relating to public institutions of higher education; policies for the award of academic credit for military training.*

Patrons—Tran and Reid

Referred to Committee on Education

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 23.1-904 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted and that the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 23.1-904.1 as follows:

§ 23.1-904. Course credit; veterans; active duty military students.

A. The governing board of each public institution of higher education shall implement policies that provide students called to active military duty during an academic semester with the opportunity to earn full course credit. Such policies shall provide, as one option, that such students who have completed 75 percent of the course requirements at the time of activation and who meet other specified requirements receive full course credit.

B. The governing board of each public institution of higher education shall, in accordance with guidelines developed by the Council, implement policies for the purpose of awarding academic credit to students for educational experience gained from service in the Armed Forces of the United States.

C. The governing board of each public institution of higher education shall, in accordance with guidelines developed by the Council, implement policies that recognize the scheduling difficulties and obligations encountered by active duty members of the Armed Forces of the United States.

§ 23.1-904.1. Policies for the award of academic credit for military training.

A. The governing board of each public institution of higher education shall adopt a policy for the award of academic credit to any student enrolled at the institution who has successfully completed a military training course or program as part of his military service that is applicable to the student's certificate of degree requirements and is:

1. Recommended for academic credit by a national higher education association that provides academic credit recommendations for military training courses or programs;

2. Noted on the student's military transcript issued by any of the Armed Forces of the United States; or

3. Otherwise documented in writing by any of the Armed Forces of the United States.

B. The governing board of each public institution of higher education shall:

1. Develop a procedure for the institution to receive the documentation necessary to identify and verify the military training course or program for which the student has applied for academic credit; and

2. Develop and maintain a list of military training courses and programs that it has deemed qualified for the award of academic credit.

C. Each public institution of higher education shall provide a copy of the governing board's policy for the award of academic credit for military training courses or programs to each student who applies for enrollment at the institution.

2. That § 23.1-2907 of the Code of Virginia is repealed.

INTRODUCED

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