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## **SENATE BILL NO. 898**

Offered January 8, 2020 Prefiled January 8, 2020

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 23.1-201.1, relating to public institutions of higher education; State Council of Higher Education for Virginia; business advisory committee.

## Patron—DeSteph

Referred to Committee on Education and Health

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 23.1-201.1 as follows: § 23.1-201.1. Business advisory committee.

A. The Council shall appoint a business advisory committee consisting of business and industry leaders in the Commonwealth. Appointments shall be based on recommendations made by the Council, the General Assembly, the Governor, and the Chairmen of the House Committee on Appropriations, the House Committee on Education, the Senate Committee on Finance, in a manner to ensure broad representation from among various industries.

B. Members shall serve for terms of two years. Vacancies occurring other than by expiration of a term shall be filled for the unexpired term. Members may be reappointed to serve no more than two subsequent or consecutive terms. Ad hoc members may be added as needed to advise the committee on specific industry needs.

C. The business advisory committee shall elect a chairman from among its membership.

D. The business advisory committee shall meet at least twice annually and shall advise the Council regarding the approval of new academic programs at public institutions of higher education in relation to current workforce and industry needs in the Commonwealth and other relevant topics deemed fit by the committee.