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SENATE BILL NO. 384

Offered January 23, 1998

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 23-214 and 23-215 of the Code of Virginia, relating to workforce training within the Virginia Community College System.

Patrons—Hawkins, Barry, Bolling, Chichester, Colgan, Couric, Edwards, Forbes, Gartlan, Hanger, Holland, Houck, Howell, Lucas, Marsh, Martin, Marye, Maxwell, Miller, K.G., Mims, Newman, Norment, Potts, Quayle, Reasor, Reynolds, Saslaw, Schrock, Stolle, Stosch, Ticer, Trumbo, Walker, Wampler, Watkins, Whipple, Williams and Woods

Referred to the Committee on Education and Health

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**1. That §§ 23-214 and 23-215 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows:**

§ 23-214. Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

(a) "Comprehensive community college" means an institution of higher education which offers instruction in one or more of the following fields:

(1) Freshman and sophomore courses in arts and sciences acceptable for transfer in baccalaureate degree programs;

(2) Diversified technical curricula including programs leading to the associate degree;

(3) Vocational and technical education leading directly to employment;

(4) Courses in general and continuing education for adults in the above fields;

(5) *Noncredit training and retraining courses and programs of varying lengths to meet the needs of business and industry in the Commonwealth.*

(b) "State Board" or "Board" means the State Board for Community Colleges.

(c) "Local community college board" means the board established to act in an advisory capacity to the State Board and to perform such duties with respect to the operation of a single comprehensive community college as may be delegated to it by the State Board.

(d) "Vocational and technical education" means vocational or technical training, or retraining, which is given in school classes (including field or laboratory work incidental thereto), under public supervision and control, exclusive of those vocational and technical programs provided and administered by, or through, the public school system and is conducted as part of a program designed to fit individuals for gainful employment as semiskilled or skilled, workers or technicians in recognized occupations.

(e) "Area vocational and technical school" means a vocational or technical school used exclusively, or principally, for providing vocational and technical education to persons who have completed, or left, high school, or are recommended for transfer by the school last attended, and who are available for full-time study in preparation for entering the labor market, or for part-time study after entering the labor market.

(f) "System" means the Virginia Community College System.

§ 23-215. Responsibilities of Board and System.

A. The State Board for Community Colleges heretofore established by law is continued. The Board shall be a corporation under the style of "the State Board for Community Colleges." The State Board shall be responsible, through the exercise of the powers and performance of the duties set forth in this chapter, for the establishment, control, and administration of a statewide system of publicly supported comprehensive community colleges which shall be known as the Virginia Community College System.

B. *The Virginia Community College System shall be the state agency with primary responsibility for workforce training at or below the associate degree level.*