

## 1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to provide guidelines for the awarding of standard diplomas for certain public school students.*

3 [S 609]

4 Approved

5 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**6 **1. § 1.** *The provisions of the Standards of Accreditation (8 VAC 20-131-10 et. seq.) governing diploma*  
7 *requirements notwithstanding, the Board of Education shall establish guidelines for local school boards*  
8 *to award verified units of credit for standard diplomas to students who have (i) entered the ninth grade*  
9 *for the first time during the school years of 2000-2001, 2001-2002, and 2002-2003; and (ii) passed the*  
10 *relevant coursework.*11 *Such students shall meet such additional criteria established by the Board for the award of such*  
12 *verified units which may include, but shall not be limited to, performance on Standards of Learning*  
13 *assessments or other tests, including subsequent administrations of such assessments or tests; attendance*  
14 *and conduct requirements; and participation in remediation programs.*15 *The guidelines shall set forth procedures for the award of such verified units by local school boards*  
16 *and shall be applicable only to the award of the four student-selected verified units of credit required*  
17 *for a standard diploma pursuant to the Standards of Accreditation (8 VAC 20-131-50 B). Students shall*  
18 *be required to earn the two verified units of credit in English for a standard diploma as provided in the*  
19 *Standards of Accreditation.*20 *The guidelines issued by the Board shall not be subject to the Administrative Process Act (§ 2.2-4000*  
21 *et seq.) and shall be applicable to students who have entered the ninth grade for the first time during*  
22 *the school years of 2000-2001, 2001-2002, and 2002-2003.*  
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