VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 2013 SESSION

CHAPTER 696

An Act 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.

[H 1617]

Approved March 22, 2013

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.