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**HOUSE BILL NO. 467**

Offered January 8, 2014

Prefiled January 6, 2014

A *BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Chapter 1.1 of Title 23 a section numbered 23-9.14:3, relating to interstate reciprocity agreements authorizing postsecondary distance education.*

Patrons—Massie and Morris

Referred to Committee on Education

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

**1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Chapter 1.1 of Title 23 a section numbered 23-9.14:3 as follows:**

**§ 23-9.14:3. Distance learning reciprocity agreements; participation; Distance Learning Reciprocity Advisory Council.**

A. *The State Council of Higher Education may enter into interstate reciprocity agreements that authorize accredited degree-granting institutions of higher education located in the Commonwealth to offer postsecondary distance education. The State Council shall administer such agreements and shall approve or disapprove participation in such agreements by accredited degree-granting institutions of higher education located in the Commonwealth. Participation in the agreements shall be voluntary. The State Council shall establish the Distance Learning Reciprocity Advisory Council, which shall include representatives from each participating institution. The Advisory Council shall advise the State Council on the development of policies governing the terms of participation by eligible institutions, including the establishment of fees to be paid by participating institutions to cover direct and indirect administrative costs incurred by the State Council.*

B. *Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit accredited degree-granting institutions of higher education located in the Commonwealth that do not participate in any interstate reciprocity agreement entered into by the State Council of Higher Education from offering postsecondary distance education.*

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HB467