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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 10

Offered January 8, 2014

Prefiled December 16, 2013

Requesting the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia and the public institutions of higher education in the Commonwealth to study strategies for improving access to higher education for students with developmental and intellectual disabilities. Report.

Patron—Marsden

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, the Virginia Disability Commission has resolved to determine strategies for improving access to higher education for students with developmental and intellectual disabilities; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) and the public institutions of higher education in the Commonwealth be requested to study strategies for improving access to higher education for students with developmental and intellectual disabilities.

In conducting the study, SCHEV shall:

1. Develop a data collection method to determine the number and percentage of students with developmental disabilities who were enrolled at each public institution of higher education based on the fall head count for the 2014-2015 academic year;

2. Develop a data collection method to determine the number and percentage of students with intellectual disabilities who were enrolled at each public institution of higher education based on the fall head count for the 2014-2015 academic year; and

3. Collect and summarize the data, strategies, recommendations, and estimates received from each public institution of higher education.

In conducting the study, each public institution of higher education shall:

1. Report to SCHEV, in the form and manner determined by SCHEV, on the number and percentage of students with intellectual disabilities who were enrolled at each public institution of higher education based on the fall head count for the 2014-2015 academic year;

2. Report to SCHEV, in the form and manner determined by SCHEV, on the number and percentage of students with developmental disabilities who were enrolled at each public institution of higher education based on the fall head count for the 2014-2015 academic year;

3. Identify strategies that public institutions of higher education in other states use to improve access to higher education for students with developmental disabilities;

4. Identify strategies that public institutions of higher education in other states use to improve access to higher education for students with intellectual disabilities;

5. Recommend strategies that the institution could use to annually increase the percentage of enrolled students with developmental disabilities;

6. Recommend strategies that the institution could use to annually increase the percentage of enrolled students with intellectual disabilities;

7. Estimate the fiscal impact to the institution of an annual increase in the percentage of enrolled students with developmental disabilities; and

8. Estimate the fiscal impact to the institution of an annual increase in the percentage of enrolled students with intellectual disabilities.

Technical assistance shall be provided to SCHEV and the public institutions of higher education by the Virginia Commonwealth University Partnership for People with Disabilities and the Virginia Commonwealth University Rehabilitation and Research Training Center. All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to SCHEV and the public institutions of higher education for this study, upon request.

SCHEV and the public institutions of higher education shall complete their meetings for the first year by November 30, 2014, and for the second year by November 30, 2015, and SCHEV shall submit to the Governor, the General Assembly, and the Virginia Disability Commission an executive summary and report of its findings and recommendations for publication as a House or Senate document for each year. The executive summaries and reports shall be submitted as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents and reports no later than the first day of the next Regular Session of the General Assembly and shall be posted on the General Assembly's website.

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