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SENATE BILL NO. 1088

Offered January 11, 2017

Prefiled January 6, 2017

A BILL to amend and reenact § 23.1-509.1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to baccalaureate public institutions of higher education; tuition.

Patrons—Sturtevant and Chase; Delegate: Morefield

Referred to Committee on Education and Health

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**1. That § 23.1-509.1 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:****§ 23.1-509.1. Alternative tuition or fee structures.**

A. Notwithstanding subsection B or any other provision of law, the governing boards of each baccalaureate public institution of higher education shall, beginning with the 2018-2019 academic year, annually establish an in-state tuition rate class cap that identifies the annual amount that the cost of in-state tuition will not exceed for each of the following four years. Such in-state tuition rate class cap may vary for each incoming in-state freshman undergraduate class. The cost of in-state tuition shall not exceed the class rate cap for an in-state student in the relevant class.

B. Any public institution of higher education may offer other alternative tuition or fee structures to students that result in lower costs of attendance, including discounted tuition, flat tuition rates, discounted student fees, or student fee and student services flexibility, to any first-time, incoming freshman undergraduate student who (i) has established domicile, as that term is defined in § 23.1-500, in the Commonwealth and (ii) enrolls full time with the intent to earn a degree in a program that leads to employment in a high-demand field in the region. Such an alternative tuition or fee structure may be renewed each year if the recipient maintains eligibility for the alternative tuition and fee structure. The State Council of Higher Education for Virginia shall offer guidance, upon request, to any public institution of higher education in establishing an alternative tuition or fee structure pursuant to this section.

INTRODUCED

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