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## SENATE BILL NO. 1172

Offered January 11, 2023

Prefiled January 10, 2023

A *BILL to require the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia to convene a work group to make recommendations for the development of a standardized, universally accepted, and transferrable curriculum for registered nursing degree or diploma programs.*

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Patron—Dunnivant

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Referred to Committee on Rules**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

1. § 1. The State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (the Council) shall, in collaboration with the Virginia Community College System, the Board of Nursing, and representatives from for-profit institutions offering RN education and diploma programs, convene a work group to make recommendations for the development of a fast path nursing education and diploma program for the purpose of establishing a standardized, universally accepted, and transferrable core curriculum for all registered nursing (RN) degree or diploma programs offered in each comprehensive community college, baccalaureate institution of higher education, and any other entity offering an RN degree or diploma program in the Commonwealth, including hospitals and for-profit institutions. The work group shall consider and make recommendations on the following: (i) standardizing across all RN degree or diploma programs the classes offered as a part of the core nursing curriculum in name, credit, curriculum, and rigor; (ii) ensuring that all such classes and earned credits are stackable, interchangeable, transferrable, and universally accepted across all such programs; (iii) including fully online educational opportunities in such fast path nursing education program; (iv) including competency-based learning pathways in such fast path nursing education program; and (v) standardizing across all such programs the full continuum of clinical nursing credentials, including by developing uniform policies and procedures for awarding clinical credit hours for both prior clinical education and qualified prior work experience such that credit hours are stackable and transferrable across all such programs. The work group shall submit its recommendations to the Governor, the Chairman of the House Committee on Education, the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Education and Health, and the Board of Nursing no later than November 1, 2023.

INTRODUCED

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