

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Article 3 of Chapter 9 of Title 23.1 a section*
3 *numbered 23.1-906.1, relating to public institutions of higher education; degree programs;*
4 *integration of internship or work-based learning experiences; policies.*

5 [S 1280]

6 Approved

7 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**8 **1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Article 3 of Chapter 9 of Title 23.1 a**
9 **section numbered 23.1-906.1 as follows:**10 **§ 23.1-906.1. Degree programs; integration of internship or work-based learning experiences;**
11 **policies.**12 *The governing board of each public institution of higher education shall adopt policies requiring that*
13 *participation in an internship or work-based learning experience be integrated into a student's degree*
14 *program so as not to extend the time to complete the degree.*15 **2. That the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia shall convene a work group for the**
16 **purpose of making recommendations on the development, adoption, and implementation of the**
17 **policies required pursuant to this act. In making its recommendations, the work group shall (i)**
18 **first prioritize internship experience and next prioritize degree-related work-based learning**
19 **experience to fulfill the requirement of the policies developed pursuant to § 23.1-906.1 of the Code**
20 **of Virginia, as created by this act, but also permit non-degree work-based learning experience to**
21 **fulfill the requirement of such policies; (ii) provide a structure for non-degree work-based learning**
22 **experiences that will enable the development of successful workforce skills; (iii) determine the**
23 **viability of and costs associated with setting a minimum number of essential work hours to be**
24 **equivalent to a minimum of three Carnegie credits and to the maximum extent practicable**
25 **applying such credits toward the total credits required for the completion of a bachelor's degree;**
26 **(iv) consider what criteria in experiential learning might meet the definition of work-based**
27 **learning experience; and (v) define exceptions to the policies developed pursuant to § 23.1-906.1 of**
28 **the Code of Virginia, as created by this act. The work group shall submit its recommendations to**
29 **the Chairmen of the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education and**
30 **Health no later than June 30, 2024.**31 **3. That the provisions of the first enactment of this act shall not become effective unless the work**
32 **group convened pursuant to the second enactment of this act determines that the adoption of the**
33 **policies required by § 23.1-906.1 of the Code of Virginia, as created by this act, is logistically and**
34 **fiscally viable for each public institution of higher education in the Commonwealth, and in the**
35 **event that such work group makes such determination, the provisions of the first enactment of this**
36 **act shall become effective on July 1, 2025.**

ENROLLED

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