



Student Advisory Committee Minutes  
Friday, March 23, 2018  
State Council of Higher Education for Virginia  
Main Conference Room

**Members Present:** Natalie Chapman (University Virginia's College at Wise), Daniel Elliott (Eastern Shore Community College), Ryley Harris (Radford University), Isaiah Harvin (Virginia Commonwealth University), Saherah Khan (Virginia Tech), Brittany McCoy (Virginia State University), Priscilla Obuabang (Old Dominion University) Dwight Parker (Norfolk State University), Morgan Rollins (Longwood University), Maher A Tayara (Blue Ridge Community College) Student guests: Mary Galen (Longwood University), Sarah Izabel (Virginia Commonwealth University), Isaac Weintz (University of Virginia).

**SCHEV Staff Present:** Wendy Kang, Paula Robinson, Kristin Whelan

- Paula Robinson (SCHEV) brought the meeting to order and asked members to introduce themselves.
- Morgan Rollins (Longwood), SAC chair, provided a summary of the March 20<sup>th</sup> Council meeting held at Christopher Newport University. Morgan reported that she along with SAC members, Ryley Harris (RU) and Kenneth Kidd (CNU) presented SAC concerns about campus safety specifically regarding 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment issues.
  - They proposed the creation of Standard Operating Procedures for administration across all Virginia campuses for use in response to protests and controversial speakers and groups on campus
  - SAC students encouraged the Council to recommend campus committees comprised of faculty, staff and students to address these issues
  - Ryley Harris (RU) stated that attending the Council meeting was a positive experience and that the students were well received
  - Paula Robinson offered a brief overview of Council meetings and stressed that while SAC typically presents at the March Council meeting, the meetings are always open to the public
- Paula Robinson introduced Council Member, Ken Ampy. Mr. Ampy shared his career background and how he became involved with higher education and the importance of leadership.
  - He also discussed what he learned from the SAC presentation at the March Council Meeting
  - In response to student questions. Mr. Ampy discussed the a traits of leadership and encouraged all present to find ways to differentiate themselves
- Paula Robinson introduced Tim Cywinski, Director of Engagement for Virginia21. He introduced Virginia21 and his colleagues who joined him: Jerica Goodman, Policy Director and Devin Lanier, PR Intern.
  - Mr. Cywinski shared a presentation about how to advocate as a Virginia citizen and student in higher education.
    - The representational make-up of the General Assembly to illustrate the need to support fostering greater diversity that is a better reflection of Virginia, and specifically the Virginia student population, in our representatives through activism and voting. He discussed the following topics:

- Various forms of diversity that can be supported through activism and voting: people of color, gender, vocation, age
- Types of activism available to young people:
  - Voting
  - Calling/writing representatives
  - Attending town halls
  - Protesting
  - Citizen lobbying
  - Committee Testimony – one of the most influential due to the presence of media
  - Committee packing (with supporters)
  - Organizing forums
- Update of current Legislative actions included the discussion of the success or failure of education-related bills. Several federal level legislative actions also discussed.
  - Wendy Kang spoke briefly about the new SCHEV Ombudsman approved by the General Assembly
    - The bill funds the new position to support and educate education loan borrowers (HB1138/SB394)
    - Funding starts 7/1 for Ombudsman position
    - Qualified education loan borrower courses are mandated to be created by December
    - Pushing for more standardized Virginia financial aid award letters
- Paula Robinson further reviewed legislative activities. Students were given a summary from each bill. (Legislative Update)
- Student representatives shared brief updates on student concerns and campus events and achievements:
  - Blue Ridge Community College – No new concerns. Updates: New SGA nominations, elections in April. New parking deck opened with over 300 additional parking spaces. Breaking ground for new science building this summer.
  - University of Virginia at Wise – Concerns: Slow growth in enrollment and competition from Tennessee’s free community college program continues to be a problem. Slow growth also impacting the budget which impacts the availability of student resources and services, such as parking, cost and availability of textbooks. Issues such as lack of job prospects after graduation are being debated federally. Updates: Access to improved health care on campus will include a new Medical Center opening in June. A Nurse Practitioner will be on staff and there will be access to telecare with UVA Health System. This will impact the health of the community and provide more clinical training opportunities for students. There have been a series of weekly women-led lectures to celebrate Women’s History Month. The VA Secretary of Education, Deputy Secretary of Education and VA Governor are set to visit campus later this month. The student chapter of Safer and National Chapter of the Society of Leadership and Success teamed up to create Cavalier Care Kits for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and child abuse. They created 100 kits made available on campus and through local hospitals. Researching funding to continue program.
  - Virginia Tech – No new concerns. Updates: Tech held their first ever Giving Day, March 20<sup>th</sup>. They raised over 1.6 million dollars in twenty-four hours. They are preparing for the April 14 3.2 for 32 Remembrance Run/Walk and other events in honor of the 32 lives taken in April 2007 during the mass gun shooting. The new liberal arts building is almost complete. Governor Northam has been announced as the 2018 commencement speaker. SGA elections for President and Vice President are happening now. There are discussions on campus about increasing the number of and accessibility of gender neutral bathrooms.

- Radford University – No new concerns. Updates – A plan to merge Radford University with Jefferson College of Health Sciences was announced. The merger will create the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest nursing program in the state.
  - Eastern Shore Community College – Concerns: Year over year enrollment is down. Updates: Construction continues on the new administration building and has started on the new academic building. Chess team going to state competition. The Phi Theta Kappa team received numerous honors at the regional convention. The school is hosting STEM Saturday in April and two weeks later, a science fair for K12 students in the community.
  - Norfolk State University – No new concerns. Updates: NSU has a new interim President who is also an alum. Spring homecoming, Spartan Fest is in April and they are in preparations for AGOGE Week, designed to help welcome incoming students in the fall and to foster student engagement. AGOGE Week is NSU’s Welcome Week, named after the training received by Spartans to become warriors.
  - Old Dominion University – No new concerns. Updates: ODU will hold a Walk a Mile in Her Shoes event March 27<sup>th</sup> to raise awareness of domestic violence. Last year, ODU started offering gender inclusive living options for incoming freshmen.
  - Longwood University – Concerns: Parking is an ongoing issue. To address parking issues, Longwood has hired students to start giving parking tickets. The Chief of Police regularly attends SGA meetings. Updates: SGA elections and the budgeting process are currently taking place. Longwood held their giving day, Love it or Longwood. There is a new Student Success Center and Student Union. There is also a new core curriculum. A wellness clause has been established and added to the syllabi. Working to get a Sexual Assault nurse on campus. Upcoming campus activities: Clothesline Project by the Bare Naked Ladies, Relay for Life and Research Day. Introduced Longwood’s SAC member successor for the upcoming 2018-2019 – Mary Gelan.
  - Virginia Commonwealth University – No new concerns. Updates: New, gender neutral residence hall to be completed for the fall. VCU is updating their strategic plan to become the “Premiere Urban Institute” by 2025. There are new opportunities for faculty and staff to obtain training in cybersecurity. The Qatar Leadership Exchange is expanding to include more students. The annual Tunnel of Oppression exhibit opens 3/26 which gives student the opportunity to better understand the oppression experienced by some of their peers. New leadership appointments have also been made.
  - Virginia State University – Concerns: Students are pushing for the space recently cleared by the demolition of an old building to be used for parking and not for band practice space. There are also concerns about voter registration and student barriers such as knowing what precinct to vote in, address changes, absentee ballots, etc. Low faculty in some departments including in core classes causes lack of flexibility in student schedules. Limited resources for non- STEM disciplines. Updates: This is the first year in the last three that the SGA election positions are being contested. Mr & Mrs. VSU are also being contested, not typical for Mr. VSU competition. VSU has both a student government and student royal court. Both serve as opportunities for student leadership on campus and support separate platforms. VSU is celebrating Women Appreciation Week with the granting of “Unsung Heroes Awards.” Lieutenant Governor Fairfax and Senator Warner participating in graduation ceremonies.
  - University of Virginia – No new concerns. Updates: Student Council elections were just completed and they are now interviewing for cabinet positions. UVA has broken ground on a new, comprehensive orthopedic center as part of the UVA Health System. The Student Council implemented a pilot program which made feminine hygiene products available for free in some campus bathrooms. It met a need and was very successful. They are now looking for ways to fund and expand the program going forward.
- Paula Robinson asked the students to share their institutional process for selecting members of the SAC.

The answers reflect that there is no methodology across and sometimes within institutions. Most representatives have some prior involvement in SGA.

- SAC moving forward. Paula Robinson asked the committee for feedback on their SAC experiences. The following are the suggestions from the discussion:
  - The students are concerned that they don't understand the FIOA rules regarding communication with each other. Paula Robinson suggested using a video to help address this.
  - The committee expressed interest in having break-out sessions within the regular SAC meetings, especially to follow-up on student reflections, network and share practices of interest.
  - The committee praised Beverly Covington's previous legislative update. Paula Robinson will post the handouts with the current minutes.
  - Committee members discussed issues with lack of information provided to them from their institutions regarding their participation on SAC.
    - Paula Robinson asked if the committee would like her to send the binder with SAC reference materials before the first meeting versus receiving them at the meeting.
      - Priscilla Obuabang (ODU) suggested that instead of a binder, send a welcome email with links to pertinent information.
      - Committee members also requested that SCHEV share the contact information of their predecessors in the email, if permissible. This is particularly helpful for rotating representation slots for community colleges and private institutions.
  - Saherah Khan (VA Tech) recommended that each member come prepared to the meetings with one Power Point slide with a list of their institutional concerns. These slides would be combined at SCHEV into one presentation.
    - 1-2 lines about the climate on campus
    - 3-4 talking points (concerns or events)
  - Morgan Rollins (Longwood) suggested including a picture/ short bio with the students' names on the website. This would help them get to know each other faster.
  - Post all documents to the website
- Paula Robinson asked for suggestions on sharing what SAC is working on with the institutions. The ideas from this discussion are as follows:
  - Hosting student talks on campus
  - Presenting before an already organized, ongoing event
    - Leadership Lunch at VCU
    - Trojan Talks at Virginia State University
  - Possibility of a committee member to present SAC report at a GPAC meeting (routine gathering of college presidents)? Paula Robinson will follow up.
    - SAC creates a 3-5 point summary after each meeting to be shared at the following y at the GPAC meeting
    - SAC delivers a full presentation at GPAC following its annual presentation to Council
    - SCHEV Director, Peter Blake includes SAC in the Director's Report to Council SCHEV Council meetings are open to the public. Paula Robinson will include the schedule in the reference materials in the future
    - SAC updates and announcements are provided to the Secretary of Education's office
  - Find ways for SAC committee members to reach consensus earlier in the year on common issues of concern.
    - SCHEV survey the members before the first meeting to identify common issues
    - Have members arrive at their first meeting with a list of the top three issues at their institution
    - Paula Robinson asked if it would be appropriate to provide the group with one charge or focus topic to provide ongoing input on in addition to the more organic identification of

common student concerns

- The group thought a SCHEV presented topic would help focus SAC efforts
  - Wendy Kang asked the committee to note the most helpful SCHEV presentations/topics from the past year:
    - Tod Massa's presentation on Data Analytics – Student Wages and Debt
    - Michael Maul's (Department of Planning and Budget) presentation on the state budget framework
    - Council Member presentations
    - Legislative updates
    - Students with disabilities presentation
    - VA21 presentation – Paula Robinson noted that she would like to work with VA21 on an advocacy day and that it would be a good idea to have the VA21 policy head come to the first SAC meeting of the year
    - Deputy Secretary of Education presentation
  - Dwight Parker (NSU) requested ideas on how to create and grow campus traditions. Provided campus examples included:
    - Unity Fest at Radford
    - The Big Event at VA Tech
    - 101 Things to do before you Graduate from VCU
    - Gathering and march from the lawn to Convocation and back for an annual picnic at UVA-Wise
    - Isaac Weintz (UVA) offered the use of founders language embedded in programming and practices, but to ensure that it is flexible enough to reflect current times and the current student body
  - Paula Robinson closed the meeting by urging the members to go out and share their stories to support access and enrollment and to continue to lead.
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## 2018 Legislative Update as of 3-19-18

### Academic Policies

#### **HB919/SB 631: Virginia Community College System; changes to ensure a standard quality of education.**

Primary Patron(s): Jones (House)/Dunnavant (Senate)

Summary: Virginia Community College System. Makes several changes to the Virginia Community College System to ensure a standard quality of education at all comprehensive community colleges, and to ensure in the transfer of community college credit to four-year public institutions of higher education in order to provide higher education as efficiently and cost effective as possible. The bill requires the development of a standard Passport Program and a Uniform Certificate of General Studies program to be offered at each community college. Initially, the Passport Program course offerings would be accepted as credit at a four-year institution, unless a four-year institution had applied for and received a waiver from accepting a particular course for a particular major, with a goal of making all courses in the Uniform Certificate transferrable. Four-year institutions, in cooperation with the Community College System, would be required to map out career education pathways to allow students to see the classes necessary to complete a four-year degree in a particular field of study. The Virginia Community College System would be required to create a single online repository where the public may access all transfer agreements and dual enrollment agreements with four-year institutions. Finally, the State Board for Community Colleges is required to implement an annual review for each community college, and to standardize the course offerings across the community college system.

Last Action: *Bill text as passed House and Senate (HB919ER)*

Bill URL: <https://billtrack50.com/BillDetail/914855>

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#### **HB3: Dual enrollment courses; quality standards, universal transfer course credit.**

Primary Patron(s): Landes

Summary: Dual enrollment courses; quality standards; universal transfer course credit. Requires the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (the Council), in consultation with the Department of Education and each public institution of higher education, to establish (i) quality standards for dual enrollment courses, including quality standards for course instructors, materials, and content; (ii) a process by which dual enrollment courses that meet or exceed such quality standards are certified as universal transfer courses that satisfy course credit or other academic requirements at any public institution of higher education; and (iii) a policy for the satisfaction of course credit or other academic requirements through the successful completion of universal transfer courses by entering students that (a) identifies the course credit or other academic requirements of each public institution of higher education that the student satisfies by successfully completing a

universal transfer course and (b) ensures, to the extent possible, that the satisfaction of course credit or other academic requirements is consistent across each public institution of higher education and each such universal transfer course. The provisions of the bill replace existing provisions that require the Council and each public institution of higher education to establish policies relating to course credit for dual enrollment courses but that do not provide for quality standards or the universal transfer designation for such courses.

Last Action: *Passed House and Senate*

Bill URL: <https://billtrack50.com/BillDetail/897093>

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**HB454: Higher educational institutions, public; governing boards, open educational resources.**

Primary Patron(s): Filler-Corn

Summary: Public institutions of higher education; governing boards; open educational resources. Requires the governing board of each public institution of higher education to implement guidelines for the adoption and use of low-cost and no-cost open educational resources and low-cost commercially published materials in courses offered at such institution.

Last Action: *Passed House and Senate*

Bill URL: <https://billtrack50.com/BillDetail/912400>

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**HB1125: Teachers; several changes to licensure process.**

Primary Patron(s): Landes

Summary: Teacher licensure. Makes several changes to the teacher licensure process, including (i) permitting teachers with a valid out-of-state license, with full credentials and without deficiencies, to receive licensure by reciprocity without passing additional licensing assessments and (ii) specifying that for the purpose of Board of Education regulations for the approval of teacher education programs, the term "education preparation program" includes four-year bachelor's degree programs in teacher education.

Last Action: *Passed House and Senate*

Bill URL: <https://billtrack50.com/BillDetail/915210>

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**SB747: Higher educational institutions, public; guaranteed admissions agreements.**

Primary Patron(s): Sturtevant

Summary: Public institutions of higher education; guaranteed admissions agreements. Provides that the guaranteed admissions agreements between baccalaureate public institutions of higher education and associate-degree-granting public institutions of higher education may provide for the guaranteed admission of a student who earns an associate degree concurrently with a high school diploma through a dual enrollment program, as well as any student who earns an associate degree after high school.

Last Action: *Passed House and Senate*

Bill URL: <https://billtrack50.com/BillDetail/920627>

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**HB1265/SB368: Education preparation programs; reading specialists, dyslexia.**

Primary Patron(s): Cline (House)/Newman (Senate)

Summary: Education preparation programs; reading specialists; dyslexia. Requires each education preparation program offered by a public institution of higher education or private institution of higher education that leads to a degree, concentration, or certificate for reading specialists to include a program of coursework or other training in the identification of and the appropriate interventions, accommodations, and teaching techniques for students with dyslexia or a related disorder. The bill requires such programs to (i) include coursework in the constructs and pedagogy underlying remediation of reading, spelling, and writing and (ii) require reading specialists to demonstrate mastery of an evidence-based, structured literacy instructional approach that includes explicit, systematic, sequential, and cumulative instruction.

Last Action: *Governor: Approved by Governor-Chapter 282 (effective 7/1/18)*

Bill URL: <https://billtrack50.com/BillDetail/915236>

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**HB443: High school graduation requirements; substitution of computer coding for foreign language credit.**

Primary Patron(s): Carroll Foy

Summary: High school graduation requirements; substitution of computer coding credit for foreign language credit. Requires the Board of Education, in establishing high school graduation requirements, to (i) provide for the substitution of computer coding course credit for any foreign language course credit required to graduate with a standard or advanced diploma for children with disabilities and (ii) permit any English language learner who previously earned a sufficient score on an Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate foreign language examination to substitute computer coding course credit for any foreign language course credit required to graduate, except in cases in which such foreign language course credit is required to earn an advanced diploma offered by a nationally recognized provider of college-level courses.

Last Action: *Passed House and Senate*

Bill URL: <https://billtrack50.com/BillDetail/912477>

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**Campus Safety and Student Affairs**

**HB344: Higher educational institutions, public; constitutionally protected speech, etc.**

Primary Patron(s): Landes

Summary: Public institutions of higher education in the Commonwealth; campus free speech; policies, materials, and reports. Requires each public institution of higher education in the Commonwealth to (i) establish and include in its student handbook, on its website, and in its student orientation programs policies regarding speech that is protected under the



First Amendment and the process to report incidents of disruption of such speech; (ii) develop materials on such policies and notify any employee who is responsible for the discipline or education of enrolled students of such materials; and (iii) develop, post on its website in a searchable, publicly accessible, and conspicuous manner, and submit to the Governor and the Chairmen of the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education and Health no later than December 1 of each year a report on the institution's compliance relating to free speech on campus.

Last Action: *Governor: Governor's Action Deadline Midnight, April 9, 2018*

Bill URL: <https://billtrack50.com/BillDetail/911288>

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**HB852/SB 120: Virginia Institutions of Higher Education Substance Use Advisory Committee; established.**

Primary Patron(s): Peace (House)/Favola (Senate)

Summary: Alcoholic beverage control; substance abuse prevention; Virginia Institutions of Higher Education Substance Use Advisory Committee established. Directs the Board of Directors of the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority (Board) to establish and appoint members to the Virginia Institutions of Higher Education Substance Use Advisory Committee (Advisory Committee). The bill provides that the goal of the Advisory Committee shall be to develop and update a statewide strategic plan for substance use education, prevention, and intervention at Virginia's public and private institutions of higher education. The bill provides that the Advisory Committee shall consist of representatives from Virginia's public and private institutions of higher education, including students and directors of student health, and such other members as the Board may deem appropriate. This bill is identical to SB 120.

Last Action: *Governor: Approved by Governor-Chapter 211 (effective 7/1/18)*

Bill URL: <https://billtrack50.com/BillDetail/914614>

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**HB1430/SB 631: Higher educational institutions, public; crisis and emergency management plan, annual exercise.**

Primary Patron(s): Bulova (House)/Lewis (Senate)

Summary: Public institutions of higher education; crisis and emergency management plan; annual exercise. Requires each public institution of higher education to annually conduct a test or exercise in accordance with the protocols established by the institution's crisis and emergency management plan and certify in writing to the Department of Emergency Management that such a test or exercise was conducted. Under current law, each such institution is required to annually conduct a functional exercise in accordance with the protocols of such plan. The bill declares that the activation of its crisis and emergency management plan and completion of an after-action report by a public institution of higher education in response to an actual event or incident satisfies the requirement to conduct such a test or exercise. This bill is identical to SB 931.

Last Action: *Governor: Approved by Governor-Chapter 201 (effective 7/1/18)*

Bill URL: <https://billtrack50.com/BillDetail/924175>

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### **Data Collection and Reporting**

#### **HB347: SCHEV; to be disaggregated by degree program and level.**

Primary Patron(s): Landes

Summary: State Council of Higher Education for Virginia; longitudinal data. Requires the data that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia annually collects and publishes on (i) the percentage of graduates of public institutions of higher education and certain nonprofit private institutions of higher education in the Commonwealth who are known to be employed in the Commonwealth and (ii) the average salary and the average higher education-related debt for such graduates to be disaggregated by degree program and level. The bill requires an institution of higher education for which such data is collected and published to provide a link on its website to such data and make such link available to each admitted student.

Last Action: *Governor: Governor's Action Deadline Midnight, April 9, 2018*

Bill URL: <https://billtrack50.com/BillDetail/911238>

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#### **HB897: Higher educational institutions, public; six-year plans submitted by governing board, report.**

Primary Patron(s): Landes

Summary: Governing boards of public institutions of higher education; six-year plans. Specifies that the six-year plan and amendments to or affirmation of such plan that are required to be submitted no later than July 1 of each year to various executive and legislative entities and individuals by the governing board of each public institution of higher education shall be a preliminary version and prohibits any such preliminary plan, amendments, or affirmation from being posted on the General Assembly's website. The bill requires each such governing board to submit a finalized version of such plan, amendments, or affirmation no later than December 1 of the same year and requires such finalized version to be posted on the General Assembly's website.

Last Action: *Governor: Governor's Action Deadline Midnight, April 9, 2018*

Bill URL: <https://billtrack50.com/BillDetail/914832>

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#### **SB637: Virginia Longitudinal Data System; workforce data.**

Primary Patron(s): Dunnavant

Summary: Virginia Longitudinal Data System; workforce data. Requires the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV), through the Virginia Longitudinal Data System, to report additional information regarding the alignment of postsecondary education and workforce preparation in the Commonwealth. The bill also directs the Department of Motor Vehicles, the Virginia Employment Commission, and the Department of Taxation to cooperate with SCHEV to further assist in the collection and sharing of data regarding

workforce analysis.

Last Action: *Passed House and Senate*

Bill URL: <https://billtrack50.com/BillDetail/918318>

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## Loans and Financial Aid

### **HB1138/SB 394: Qualified Education Loan Ombudsman, Office of the; established, report.**

Primary Patron(s): Price (House)/Howell (Senate)

Summary: Office of the Qualified Education Loan Ombudsman. Establishes the Office of the Qualified Education Loan Ombudsman (the Office) within the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia. The Office's duties include (i) receiving, reviewing, and attempting to resolve complaints from qualified education loan borrowers; (ii) compiling and analyzing data on such complaints; (iii) assisting qualified education loan borrowers to understand their rights and responsibilities under the terms of qualified education loans; (iv) providing information regarding the problems and concerns of qualified education loan borrowers; (v) analyzing and monitoring the development and implementation of applicable laws and policies; and (vi) disseminating information concerning the availability of the Office to assist qualified education loan borrowers and any other participant in qualified education loan lending with qualified education loan servicing concerns. The Office is further required to establish and maintain a qualified education loan borrower education course by December 1, 2019. This bill is identical to SB 394.

Last Action: *Passed House and Senate*

Bill URL: <https://billtrack50.com/BillDetail/915347>

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### **HB165: Higher educational institutions, public; loans to students, collection.**

Primary Patron(s): Yancey

Summary: Public institutions of higher education; loans to students; collection. Requires each public institution that makes a loan to a student to (i) include in loan documents for each such loan an individual plan for the repayment of principal and interest and the payment of any late fees and clear and detailed information about the collection process for such loan pursuant to the Virginia Debt Collection Act, including information about the agency or entity that is responsible for collection and (ii) establish a process for notifying each student or, in the case of an undergraduate student and as appropriate, the student's parent of any loan payment that is past due no later than (a) 30 days after such payment becomes past due and (b) if necessary, the end of the academic term during which such payment becomes past due. The bill permits each such institution to modify the terms of any loan for which payments are past due to provide for repayment forbearance on such loan and repayment to commence on an agreed-upon date in the future with a percentage increase in the interest rate that is less than or equal to the inflation-adjusted annual percentage increase in the Average Consumer Price Index for all items, all urban consumers (CPI-U), for the year immediately preceding such future date.

Last Action: *Passed House and Senate*

Bill URL: <https://billtrack50.com/BillDetail/902812>

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**HB339: Va. Debt Collections Act; public higher educational institutions, payment of student debt.**

Primary Patron(s): Simon

Summary: Virginia Debt Collection Act; public institutions of higher education. Requires a public institution of higher education to provide a debtor who is currently enrolled in such institution the option to pay his debt in periodic payments over the course of the term or semester in which the account became past due or, at the discretion of such institution, over a longer period, provided that such periodic payments are promptly paid until the account is satisfied.

Last Action: *Governor: Governor's Action Deadline Midnight, April 9, 2018*

Bill URL: <https://billtrack50.com/BillDetail/910559>

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**SB568: Higher educational institutions, public; student loan information.**

Primary Patron(s): Obenshain

Summary: Public institutions of higher education; student loan information. Requires any public institution of higher education that receives federal education loan information for a student enrolled in the institution to provide such student, at least once during each academic year, certain information and estimates regarding the student's federal education loans.

Last Action: *Passed House and Senate*

Bill URL: <https://billtrack50.com/BillDetail/918496>

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## Student Records

**HB1: FOIA; prohibited access to directory information.**

Primary Patron(s): Wilt

Summary: Public schools; release of scholastic records; directory information. Public schools; release of scholastic records; directory information.

Last Action: *Passed House and Senate*

Bill URL: <https://billtrack50.com/BillDetail/897074>

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**HB589: Higher educational institutions, public and private; diplomas, proof of education.**

Primary Patron(s): Davis

Summary: Institutions of higher education; diplomas; proof of education; method. Provides that each public institution of higher education and private institution of higher education may provide any diploma or other proof of education to requesting individuals or entities using the method that it deems most appropriate, in either electronic or paper form. The bill requires the State Council of Higher Education in Virginia to post on its website a statement

in accordance with such institutional authority.

Last Action: *Passed House and Senate*

Bill URL: <https://billtrack50.com/BillDetail/913046>

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**SB512: Virginia Freedom of Information Act; student telephone numbers and personal email addresses.**

Primary Patron(s): Suetterlein

Summary: Virginia Freedom of Information Act; scholastic records; student telephone numbers and student personal email addresses. Excludes student telephone numbers and student personal email addresses contained in scholastic records from the mandatory disclosure provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act.

Last Action: *Passed House and Senate*

Bill URL: <https://billtrack50.com/BillDetail/916790>

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**Failed Bills**

**HB249: Higher educational institutions, baccalaureate; fixed in-state tuition rates.**

Primary Patron(s): Miyares

Summary: Baccalaureate public institutions of higher education; fixed in-state tuition rates. Requires the governing board of each baccalaureate public institution of higher education in the Commonwealth to annually establish a fixed in-state tuition rate for each incoming first year or transfer undergraduate Virginia student and declares eligible for such rate (i) each incoming first year student enrolled in a four-year baccalaureate degree program for four academic years or any portion or term thereof and (ii) each incoming transfer student enrolled in a four-year baccalaureate degree program for the remainder of the academic years or any portion or term thereof during which he makes satisfactory progress toward completing such degree program, provided that any such first year or transfer student maintains continuous enrollment. The bill permits such governing boards to grant (a) an exception to the requirement for continuous enrollment on a case-by-case basis to students whose enrollment is substantially disrupted or (b) any other exception to the foregoing requirements that the governing board deems appropriate, including an exception for eligible students who are enrolled in baccalaureate degree programs that require five academic years to complete.

Last Action: *Left in Education*

Bill URL: <https://billtrack50.com/BillDetail/909725>

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**HB351: Higher educational institutions, public; tuition and room and board, enrollment.**

Primary Patron(s): Reid

Summary: Public institutions of higher education; tuition and room and board; enrollment. Requires, for the next four academic years, the tuition charged to Virginia students at each public institution of higher education to be capped at the rate charged to such students for

the first academic term of the 2017-2018 academic year. The bill permits, during such four-year period, the room and board charged to such students to be increased on an annual basis in advance of the first academic term of the academic year, but requires the percentage of such increase to be capped at 90 percent of the annual percentage increase in the Average Consumer Price Index for all items, all urban consumers (CPI-U) for the preceding calendar year. The bill also requires, for the next four academic years, the percentage of non-Virginia students enrolled at each public institution of higher education to be capped at the percentage of such students enrolled for the first academic term of the 2017-2018 academic year and does not prohibit an increase in the tuition or room and board charged to such students during such four-year period.

Last Action: *Left in Appropriations*

Bill URL: <https://billtrack50.com/BillDetail/911859>

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**HB982: Higher educational institutions, public; funding.**

Primary Patron(s): Davis

Summary: Public institutions of higher education; funding. Eliminates the targeted financial incentives currently made available to public institutions of higher education and provides that (i) 50 percent of the funds appropriated for public institutions of higher education from the state general fund or sources other than the state general fund, or both, for each fiscal year of each biennium shall be equitably apportioned among each public institution of higher education for basic operations and instruction, each Virginia undergraduate student actually enrolled at the institution, and need-based financial aid and (ii) the other 50 percent shall be apportioned among such institutions on the basis of performance metrics: percentage of Virginia students enrolled, tuition rates, average amount of time it takes students to complete degrees, student graduation rates, and student employment rates and median salaries six months after graduation.

Last Action: *Left in Appropriations*

Bill URL: <https://billtrack50.com/BillDetail/914928>

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**HB1512: Higher educational institutions, public; tuition and room and board, enrollment.**

Primary Patron(s): Davis

Summary: Public institutions of higher education; tuition and room and board; enrollment. Requires that the tuition charged to Virginia students at each public institution of higher education be capped at the rate charged to such students for the first academic term of the 2017-2018 academic year. The bill permits the room and board charged to such students to be increased on an annual basis in advance of the first academic term of the academic year, but requires the percentage of such increase to be capped at 90 percent of the annual percentage increase in the Average Consumer Price Index for all items, all urban consumers (CPI-U) for the preceding calendar year. The bill also requires the percentage of non-Virginia students enrolled at each public institution of higher education to be capped at 25 percent beginning with the first academic term of the 2018-2019 academic year and does not prohibit an



increase in the tuition or room and board charged to such students.

Last Action: *Left in Appropriations*

Bill URL: <https://billtrack50.com/BillDetail/929631>

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**SB836: Higher educational institutions, public; tuition and room and board.**

Primary Patron(s): DeSteph

Summary: Public institutions of higher education; tuition and room and board; enrollment. Requires, for the next two academic years, the tuition charged to Virginia students at each public institution of higher education to be capped at the rate charged to such students for the first academic term of the 2017-2018 academic year. The bill permits, during such two-year period, the room and board charged to such students to be increased on an annual basis in advance of the first academic term of the academic year, but requires the percentage of such increase to be capped at 90 percent of the annual percentage increase in the Average Consumer Price Index for all items, all urban consumers (CPI-U) for the preceding calendar year.

Last Action: *Incorporated by Education and Health*

Bill URL: <https://billtrack50.com/BillDetail/924582>

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**SB373: Higher education; prohibits any percentage increase in in-state tuition for undergraduate students.**

Primary Patron(s): DeSteph

Summary: Higher education; in-state tuition. Prohibits any percentage increase in in-state tuition or instructional fees for undergraduate students at Virginia's public institutions of higher education that exceeds the annual percentage increase, as determined by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, in the Average Consumer Price Index for all items, all urban consumers (CPI-U), as published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor, from January 1 through December 31 of the year immediately preceding the affected year.

Last Action: *Continued to 2019 in Education and Health (15-Y 0-N)*

Bill URL: <https://billtrack50.com/BillDetail/914687>

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**SB377: Higher educational institutions; tuition increase, etc.**

Primary Patron(s): DeSteph

Summary: Higher education; in-state tuition. Prohibits any percentage increase in in-state tuition or instructional fees for undergraduate students at Virginia's public institutions of higher education that exceeds the annual percentage increase, as determined by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, of the median household income in the Commonwealth, established by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, of the calendar year immediately preceding the affected year.

Last Action: *Incorporated by Education and Health*

Bill URL: <https://billtrack50.com/BillDetail/914430>

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**HB1473: Higher educational institutions, public; tuition and fee increases, notice and public comment.**

Primary Patron(s): Miyares

Summary: Public institutions of higher education; tuition and fee increases; notice and public comment. Prohibits the governing board of each public institution of higher education from approving an increase in undergraduate tuition or mandatory fees without providing students, certain parents, and the public notice of and an opportunity to provide public comment at a board meeting in advance of any vote on such an increase.

Last Action: *Passed by indefinitely in Finance (7-Y 6-N)*

Bill URL: <https://billtrack50.com/BillDetail/926755>

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**HB1474: Higher educational institutions, public; governing boards, educational programs.**

Primary Patron(s): Miyares

Summary: Governing boards of public institutions of higher education; educational programs. Requires educational programs for the governing boards of public institutions of higher education to include presentations relating to (i) board members' primary duty to the citizens of the Commonwealth and (ii) student debt trends.

Last Action: *Passed by indefinitely in Education and Health (13-Y 1-N)*

Bill URL: <https://billtrack50.com/BillDetail/926967>

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**SB824: Higher educational institutions, public; tuition and fee increases, notice to students and public.**

Primary Patron(s): Petersen

Summary: Public institutions of higher education; tuition and fee increases; public comment. Prohibits the governing board of each public institution of higher education from approving an increase in undergraduate tuition or mandatory fees without providing students and the public an opportunity to provide public comment at a board meeting at least 30 days prior to any vote on such an increase.

Last Action: *Passed by indefinitely in Finance (13-Y 3-N)*

Bill URL: <https://billtrack50.com/BillDetail/923957>

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**SB870: Educational institutions, certain; designation of governing boards.**

Primary Patron(s): DeSteph

Summary: Certain educational institutions; designation of governing boards. Renames as boards of trustees the boards of visitors of certain educational institutions in the Commonwealth, including baccalaureate public institutions of higher education.

Last Action: *Passed by indefinitely in Education and Health (15-Y 0-N)*



**HB967: Qualified education loan servicers; person must obtain license from State Corporation Commission.**

Primary Patron(s): Simon

Summary: Qualified education loan servicers. Prohibits any Qualified education loan servicers. Prohibits any person from acting as a qualified education loan servicer without first obtaining a license from the State Corporation Commission (SCC) and establishes procedures pertaining to such licenses. Banks, credit unions, and nonprofit institutions of higher education are exempt from the licensing provisions. The servicing of a qualified education loan encompasses (i) receiving any scheduled periodic payments from a qualified education loan borrower pursuant to the terms of a qualified education loan; (ii) applying the payments of principal and interest and such other payments, with respect to the amounts received from a qualified education loan borrower, as may be required pursuant to the terms of a qualified education loan; and (iii) performing other administrative services with respect to a qualified education loan. Qualified education loan servicers are prohibited from, among other things, (a) misrepresenting the amount, nature, or terms of any fee or payment due or claimed to be due on a qualified education loan, the terms and conditions of the loan agreement, or the borrower's obligations under the loan; (b) knowingly misapplying or recklessly applying loan payments to the outstanding balance of a qualified education loan; and (c) failing to report both the favorable and unfavorable payment history of the borrower to a nationally recognized consumer credit bureau at least annually if the loan servicer regularly reports information to such a credit bureau. Violations are subject to a civil penalty not exceeding \$2,500. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2019, but provides that applications shall be accepted, and investigations commenced, by the SCC

Last Action: *Left in Commerce and Labor*

Bill URL: <https://billtrack50.com/BillDetail/914925>

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**SB362: Qualified education loan servicers; person must obtain license from State Corporation Commission.**

Primary Patron(s): Howell

Summary: Qualified education loan servicers. Prohibits any person from acting as a qualified education loan servicer without first obtaining a license from the State Corporation Commission (SCC) and establishes procedures pertaining to such licenses. Banks, credit unions, certain wholly-owned subsidiaries of banks and credit unions, and nonprofit institutions of higher education are exempt from the licensing provisions. The servicing of a qualified education loan encompasses (i) receiving any scheduled periodic payments from a qualified education loan borrower pursuant to the terms of a qualified education loan; (ii) applying the payments of principal and interest and such other payments, with respect to the amounts received from a qualified education loan borrower, as may be required pursuant to the terms of a qualified education loan; and (iii) performing other administrative services with respect to a qualified education loan. Qualified education loan servicers are prohibited

from, among other things, (a) misrepresenting the amount, nature, or terms of any fee or payment due or claimed to be due on a qualified education loan, the terms and conditions of the loan agreement, or the borrower's obligations under the loan; (b) knowingly misapplying or recklessly applying loan payments to the outstanding balance of a qualified education loan; and (c) failing to report both the favorable and unfavorable payment history of the borrower to a nationally recognized consumer credit bureau at least annually if the loan servicer regularly reports information to such a credit bureau. Violations are subject to a civil penalty not exceeding \$2,500. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2019, but provides that applications shall be accepted, and investigations commenced, by the SCC beginning October 1, 2018.

Last Action: *Left in Commerce and Labor*

Bill URL: <https://billtrack50.com/BillDetail/914510>

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**HB685: Cybersecurity Student Loan Repayment Grant Program; established, report.**

Primary Patron(s): Ransone

Summary: Cybersecurity Student Loan Repayment Grant Program established; report. Establishes the Cybersecurity Student Loan Repayment Grant Program, to be administered by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (the Council), whereby renewable grants of up to \$20,000 of matching state and employer funds are provided on a competitive basis to an individual who (i) either (a) graduated within the past year from a public institution of higher education or regionally accredited private institution of higher education with an undergraduate or graduate degree in computer science or another academic program recognized by the Council to prepare an individual for a career in cybersecurity and who resides in the Commonwealth or (b) has served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States, was discharged or released within the past year from such service under conditions other than dishonorable, gained experience or received training in computer science during such service, and resides in the Commonwealth and (ii) accepts an offer of employment in a computer science position with any federal or state organization, including any federal or state military or defense organization, that is located in the Commonwealth or any private organization that contractually provides cybersecurity services for any such federal or state organization and that is located in the Commonwealth. The bill contains provisions relating to program administration and dissemination of information and reporting on the program.

Last Action: *Failed to pass*

Bill URL: <https://billtrack50.com/BillDetail/913464>

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**HB764: Consortium Comprehensive Cancer Center Advisory Board; established, report.**

Primary Patron(s): Jones

Summary: Consortium Comprehensive Cancer Center Advisory Board established. Establishes as an independent advisory board in state government a 13-member Consortium Comprehensive Cancer Center Advisory Board, consisting of the President of Virginia

Commonwealth University or his designee, one member of the Virginia Commonwealth University Board of Visitors, the Vice President for Health Sciences at Virginia Commonwealth University or his designee, the President of the University of Virginia or his designee, one member of the University of Virginia Board of Visitors, the Executive Vice President for Health Affairs at the University of Virginia or his designee, one representative of Eastern Virginia Medical School, one representative of Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine and Research Institute, and five other nonlegislative citizen members, to study the requirements for designation as a consortium Comprehensive Cancer Center by the National Cancer Institute and make recommendations to Virginia Commonwealth University and the University of Virginia relating to the process for establishing a joint National Cancer Institute-designated consortium Comprehensive Cancer Center, including recommendations relating to a joint leadership structure, research integration, and programmatic integration. The provisions of the bill sunset on July 1, 2021.

Last Action: *Failed to pass in House*

Bill URL: <https://billtrack50.com/BillDetail/913822>

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**SB27: Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Scholarship Pilot Program; VCCS shall establish, report.**

Primary Patron(s): Stanley

Summary: Virginia Community College System; Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Scholarship Pilot Program. Directs the Virginia Community College System (VCCS) to establish and administer a two-year Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Scholarship Pilot Program (the Program) for the purpose of providing access to postsecondary educational opportunities to students living in poverty. The Program would provide scholarships to select comprehensive community colleges in the maximum amount of \$4,000 per year to 200 selected students who meet TANF eligibility requirements. The Program would be funded by the unexpended balance in federal TANF block grant funds. The bill directs VCCS to report to the Governor and the General Assembly no later than December 1 of each year regarding the effectiveness of and other information about the Program. The bill does not become effective unless an appropriation effectuating the purposes of the bill is included in an appropriation act passed in 2018 by the General Assembly that becomes law.

Last Action: *Left in Appropriations*

Bill URL: <https://billtrack50.com/BillDetail/897354>

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**SB656: Virginia College Savings Plan; members of governing board to disclose personal interests, etc.**

Primary Patron(s): Hanger

Summary: Virginia College Savings Plan. Makes several changes to the provisions that establish the Virginia College Savings Plan (the Plan), including (i) clarifying that members of the Plan's governing board (the board) are required to disclose personal interests pursuant

to the State and Local Government Conflict of Interests Act, (ii) permitting the Plan to maintain an independent disbursement system for the disbursement of prepaid tuition contract benefits, and (iii) requiring each prepaid tuition contract entered into on or after July 1, 2018, to include provisions for the application of tuition prepayments, at a rate equal to the percentage of enrollment-weighted average tuition at public institutions of higher education to be determined by the board, at (a) public institutions of higher education, (b) accredited nonprofit independent or private institutions of higher education, and (c) non-Virginia public and accredited nonprofit independent or private institutions of higher education, provided that no such payment is less than the sum of tuition prepayments made, less any fees as determined by the board.

Last Action: *Left in Appropriations*

Bill URL: <https://billtrack50.com/BillDetail/917947>

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