

## **2011 General Assembly Session** **Legislation Impacting Higher Education**

The following represents a snapshot of legislative issues identified as important topics for institutions of higher education. Below is a brief summary of each bill or joint resolution.

### **House Bills:**

#### **HB 1409: Prayer at Public Events**

Prayer at public events. Provides that whenever an individual is requested to provide prayer, invocation, or benediction at a public event that is sanctioned by a governmental agency, such governmental agency shall have no authority to regulate how that individual refers to God in prayer or to prohibit the religious content of the individual's prayer, invocation, or benediction, provided such prayer, invocation, or benediction is not used to advance a particular religion or to disparage another faith or belief.

House Patron(s): Richard P. Bell (Chief Patron), Charles W. Carrico, Sr., Benjamin L. Cline, Mark L. Cole, T. Scott Garrett, James W. Morefield

Bill Status: Referred to subcommittee.

#### **HB 1421: Immigration Laws**

Enforcement of federal immigration law by the Commonwealth and its political subdivisions. Provides that no agency of the Commonwealth, political subdivision of the Commonwealth or locality, or an employee of any of them acting in his official capacity, may limit or restrict the enforcement of federal immigration laws to less than the full extent permitted by federal law. The bill also provides, in a second enactment, that the Governor may withhold the appropriation of state funds under his control to any agency, political subdivision of the Commonwealth, or locality in violation of this act, or to any agency, political subdivision of the Commonwealth, or locality whose employee is in violation of this act, in an amount deemed sufficient to ensure compliance, and shall release the funds to the entity when compliance is achieved.

House Patron(s): David B. Albo (Chief Patron), Mark L. Cole, R. Steven Landes, G. Glenn Oder, Brenda L. Pogge

Bill Status: 01/28/11 House: Subcommittee recommends reporting with amendment(s) (4-Y 2-N)

#### **HB 1435: American Sign Language; recognition for completed coursework**

American Sign Language; recognition for completed coursework. Provides that if a local school board offers an elective course in American Sign Language, it must grant academic credit for course completion on the same basis as the successful completion of a foreign language course and count course completion in American Sign Language toward the fulfillment of any foreign language requirement for graduation. Additionally, the bill requires public institutions of higher education to count academic credit received for successful completion of American Sign Language courses in a secondary school or higher education institution toward satisfaction of the foreign language entrance requirements.

House Patron(s): Richard P. Bell (Chief Patron), Mark L. Keam, R. Steven Landes, Kenneth R. Plum

Bill Status: 1/25/11 House: Subcommittee recommends reporting (6-Y 1-N).

**HB 1447: Income tax, state; research and development expenses tax credit**

Income tax; research and development expenses tax credit. Allows income tax credits for individuals and businesses for qualified research and development expenses for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2012, but before January 1, 2017. The tax credit amounts are (i) 15% of the Virginia qualified research and development expenses, or (ii) 20% of the Virginia qualified research and development expenses, if the research was conducted in conjunction with a Virginia public college and university. The Tax Department shall develop policies and procedures for the application process for the tax credits. There is a \$10 million cap on the total amount of credits allowed in any taxable year.

House Patron(s): Benjamin L. Cline (Chief Patron), Barbara J. Comstock (Chief Co-Patron), Richard L. Anderson, Ward L. Armstrong, Robert H. Brink, Kathy J. Byron, Eileen Filler-Corn, Thomas A. Greason, Timothy D. Hugo, Bill Janis, Mark L. Keam, R. Steven Landes, Daniel W. Marshall III., Joe T. May, Jackson H. Miller, Mark D. Sickles, Scott A. Surovell

Bill Status: 1/28/11 House: Subcommittee recommends reporting with amendment(s) (5-Y 0-N).

**HB 1465: Admission of illegal aliens at institutions of higher education**

Admission of illegal aliens at institutions of higher education.

House Patron(s): Christopher K. Peace (Chief Patron), Jackson H. Miller

Bill Status: 1/28/11 House: Subcommittee recommends reporting with amendment(s) (4-Y 2-N)

**HB 1484: Food Standards for Agency meals**

Food Standards for Agency Meals. Directs the Secretary of Health and Human Resources to develop Food Standards for Agency Meals to consist of (i) nutritional standards for foods served by state agencies and institutions and (ii) recommendations for the use of Virginia-grown foods to the greatest extent possible, and to disseminate such standards to the heads of all state agencies that purchase, prepare, or serve meals. The bill also directs the Secretary to convene a Food Standards Task Force, to consist of the heads of all state agencies and institutions that purchase, prepare, or serve food, at least one person qualified by experience as a dietician or nutritionist, and such other persons as the Secretary may deem appropriate. The Task Force shall develop the Food Standards for Agency Meals and is directed to review and update them at least triennially to ensure that the standards remain current and science-based. The Division of Purchases and Supply of the Department of General Services is directed to adopt regulations to enforce the new standards.

House Patron(s): Patrick A. Hope (Chief Patron)

Bill Status: 1/27/11 House: Subcommittee recommends referring to Committee on Appropriations

**HB 1485: Medical emergency response plan and automated external defibrillator; required in certain buildings**

Medical emergency response plan and automated external defibrillators; required in certain buildings. Requires the development of medical emergency response plans and the installation of automated external defibrillators in health spas and certain state and local buildings open to the public. The bill also establishes the Automated External Defibrillator Grant Fund to provide matching funds to localities to assist with the cost of compliance.

House Patron(s): Patrick A. Hope (Chief Patron)

Bill Status: 1/25/11 House: Subcommittee recommends laying on the table (5-Y 3-N)

**HB 1505: Higher Educational Institutions Bond Act of 2011**

Bonds; capital projects at institutions of higher learning. Authorizes the Treasury Board to issue bonds pursuant to Article X, Section 9 (c) of the Constitution of Virginia in an amount up to \$64,579,000 plus financing costs to finance revenue-producing capital projects at Virginia Commonwealth University and Virginia State University. The bill declares that an emergency exists and that the bill is effective upon passage.

House Patron(s): Lacy E. Putney (Chief Patron)

Bill Status: 1/28/11 House: VOTE: BLOCK VOTE PASSAGE (95-Y 0-N)

*Note: Also addressed in SB 801.*

**HB 1535: Licensure or certification by the Board of Medicine; consideration of military experience**

Licensure or certification by the Board of Medicine or Board of Nursing; consideration of military training and experience. Provides that the Boards of Medicine and Nursing shall consider and may accept relevant practical experience and didactic and clinical components of education and training completed by an applicant for licensure as a physician assistant, respiratory care practitioner, occupational therapist, radiologist assistant, radiologic technologist, radiologic technologist, limited, registered nurse, and practical nurse and for certification as a nurse aide as evidence of satisfaction of the educational requirements for licensure or certification, as appropriate.

House Patron(s): Donald W. Merricks (Chief Patron), Richard P. Bell, William H. Cleaveland, Barbara J. Comstock, James E. Edmunds II, David L. Englin, Thomas A. Greason, Bill Janis, Mark L. Keam, Terry G. Kilgore, Daniel W. Marshall III, Paula J. Miller, Thomas Davis Rust, Christopher P. Stolle, Ronald A. Villanueva, Vivian E. Watts,

Senate Patron(s): George L. Barker, Mark R. Herring, Janet D. Howell, David W. Marsden, J. Chapman Petersen, Linda T. Puller, Patricia S. Ticer

Bill Status: 1/21/11 House: VOTE: BLOCK VOTE PASSAGE (94-Y 0-N)

**HB 1549: Virginia-grown food products**

Purchase of Virginia-grown food products by state agencies and institutions and local school divisions. Provides for the Department of General Services to establish procurement procedures to facilitate the purchase of Virginia-grown food products by state agencies and institutions and local public school divisions to the maximum extent possible. The bill also provides local school divisions with an exemption from competitive sealed bidding under certain circumstances when procuring Virginia-grown food products for student consumption.

House Patron(s): Kaye Kory (Chief Patron), Charniele L. Herring, Scott A. Surovell

Senate Patron(s): Janet D. Howell, J. Chapman Petersen

Bill Status: Referred to subcommittee.

*Note: Also addressed in SB 1090.*

**HB 1572: ROTC cadets, cadet attending any higher educational institution shall pay in-state tuition**

In-state tuition; certain ROTC cadets. Provides that any enrolled cadet in good standing in any Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) unit or any current member of a Reserve Component of the United States Armed Forces attending any public institution of higher education shall pay tuition in an amount no more than the institution's in-state tuition rate.

House Patron(s): William H. Cleaveland (Chief Patron)

Bill Status: 01/25/11 House: Subcommittee recommends striking from docket by voice vote.

**HB 1576: Bullying**

Definition of and punishment for bullying. Defines "bullying" to mean recklessly or intentionally endangering the health or safety of a student by exposing the student repeatedly and over time to physical aggression or intimidation, whether through direct physical contact or through the use of information or communication technology, resulting in bodily injury or other harm to person or property. This definition does not supersede or limit any definition of bullying developed by the Board of Education or the actual codes of student conduct adopted by school boards pursuant to § 22.1-279.6. Bullying is punishable as a Class 1 misdemeanor.

House Patron(s): Adam P. Ebbin (Chief Patron), David L. Englin (Chief Co-Patron), Kaye Kory

Bill Status: Referred to subcommittee.

*Note: The language in this legislation specifically addresses hazing and/or bullying at institutions of higher education and management's responsibilities.*

**HB 1592: Public procurement**

Public procurement; posting on website. Requires all state agencies and regional bodies to put requests for proposal and invitations to bid on the Department of General Services' website. The bill defines regional public body.

House Patron(s): Salvatore R. Iaquinto (Chief Patron), Mark L. Cole

Bill Status: 1/27/11 House: Subcommittee recommends reporting with amendment(s) (7-Y 0-N)

**HB 1619 Virginia College Savings Plan; clarifies roles of two advisory committees to Board, annual report.**

Virginia College Savings Plan. Clarifies the roles of the two advisory committees to the Board of the Virginia College Savings Plan and requires the Board to post the annual report on its website.

House Patron(s): M. Kirkland Cox (Chief Patron)

Bill Status: Referred to subcommittee.

**HB 1639: Virginia Nanotechnology Authority: discovery, collaboration and prototype grants**

Virginia Nanotechnology Authority; established. Establishes the Virginia Nanotechnology Authority to promote development of nanotechnology in Virginia. The Authority will be responsible for administering a fund to provide industry and institutions of higher education with discovery grants, collaboration grants, and prototype grants. The Authority will be governed by a board of directors and managed by a president at the direction of the Board. The president is responsible for creating a virtual Virginia Nanotechnology Users Network to facilitate research and development of nanotechnology at the Commonwealth's institutions of higher education.

House Patron(s): Harry R. Purkey (Chief Patron)

Bill Status: Referred to subcommittee.

**HB 1647: Higher education; military reinstatement guidelines**

Higher education; military reinstatement guidelines. Updates language requiring the State Council of Higher Education to issue and update military reinstatement guidelines to allow reinstatement for students whose service in the uniformed services has required sudden withdrawal or prolonged absence from enrollment in a public institution of higher education.

House Patron(s): Robert Tata (Chief Patron), Mark L. Cole, Kaye Kory, G. Manoli Loupassi, Thomas Davis Rust

Bill Status: 1/20/11 House: VOTE: BLOCK VOTE PASSAGE (99-Y 0-N)

1/21/11 Senate: Constitutional reading dispensed

1/21/11 Senate: Referred to Committee on Education and Health

**HB 1658: Public-Private Education Facilities and Infrastructure Act of 2002**

Public-Private Education Facilities and Infrastructure Act of 2002; legislative review of certain proposals initiated by private entities. Requires responsible public entities that are state agencies to obtain approval from the General Assembly before accepting any proposal initiated by a private entity that includes a facility, building, infrastructure, or asset with a potential market value of \$10 million or more.

House Patron(s): Harry R. Purkey (Chief Patron)

Bill Status: Referred to subcommittee.

**HB 1681: State agencies; those submitting budget request to utilize zero-based budgeting methodology**

Zero-Based Budgeting. Whenever a state agency which receives General Fund revenue requests the Governor or his designee for funding to be included in the Governor's next Executive Budget, the state agency shall submit its budget request utilizing a zero-based budgeting methodology.

House Patron(s): Richard P. Bell (Chief Patron), Benjamin L. Cline, Mark L. Cole

Bill Status: 1/25/11 House: Subcommittee recommends laying on the table (6-Y 0-N)

**HB 1687: State property; leases to private entities by higher educational institutions**

State property; leases to private entities by public institutions of higher education. Provides that public institutions of higher education may enter into agreements with university-related foundations, private individuals, firms, corporations, or other entities to lease property in the possession or control of the institution provided the institutions meet the conditions prescribed in subsection B of § 23-38.88 of the Restructured Higher Education Financial and Administrative Operations Act. Currently such agreements are subject to the approval of the General Assembly.

House Patron(s): Rosalyn R. Dance (Chief Patron)

Bill Status: 1/19/11 House: Subcommittee recommends laying on the table by voice vote

**HB 1722 Freedom of Information Act; designation of records, penalties for certain violations.**

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA); designation of records; penalties for certain violations. Requires that at the time of creation of any public record, the custodian of such records that are subject to FOIA shall designate whether the record is subject to FOIA's mandatory disclosure provisions or otherwise exempt from disclosure. The bill requires that such designation shall appear on the face of the record and be updated by the custodian in a timely manner in the event of any changes. Failure to make the required designation shall, upon receipt of a request for such record, waive any charge authorized under FOIA. The bill also provides that in addition to the civil penalty under FOIA, a public employee found to have committed a willful and knowing violation of FOIA may be subject to other disciplinary action, including suspension, demotion, or termination of public employment. The bill contains technical amendments.

House Patron(s): Robert G. Marshall (Chief Patron),

Bill Status: 1/25/11 House: Passed by in General Laws with letter by voice vote

**HB 1817: DGS Green Public Buildings Act**

Department of General Services; Green Public Buildings Act. Requires public bodies entering the design phase for construction of a new building greater than 5,000 gross square feet in size, or renovating such a building where the cost of renovation exceeds 50 percent of the value of the building, to build to either the LEED Silver or Green Globes two globe standard. The buildings shall be designed, constructed, verified, and operated to achieve energy savings that exceed the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) Standard 90.1-2004 (Energy Standard for Buildings Except Low-Rise Residential Buildings) by at least 15 percent for new construction and 10 percent for major renovation. In addition, water systems designed for such buildings shall be required to provide water use savings of at least 25 percent over the baseline standard established in the federal Energy Policy Act of 1992. Exemptions from the requirement may be granted by the Director of the Department of General Services for state construction projects or by the governing body of a locality or school board for local projects.

House Patron(s): Patrick A. Hope (Chief Patron)

Bill Status: Referred to subcommittee.

*Note: The Green Public Buildings Act is also addressed in HB 2262 and SB 832.*

**HB 1842 Boards, commissions, and councils; makes policy improvements and clarifications.**

Boards, commissions and councils; membership; appointing authority; abolition. Makes policy improvements and clarifications to several state boards, commissions, and councils including (i) establishing staggered terms for nonlegislative citizen members appointed by the Governor, (ii) clarifying the Governor's authority when provided lists of nominees by nongovernmental entities, and (iii) standardizing the terms of chairmen of entities appointed by the Governor to two years and limiting such appointees to two consecutive terms as chair. The bill also abolishes the Chippokes Plantation Farm Foundation and the Foundation for Virginia's Natural Resources. The bill contains technical amendments.

House Patron(s): Mark L. Cole

Bill Status: 1/27/11 House: Committee substitute printed 11104234D-H1

**HB 1848: Eligibility for in-state tuition charges**

Eligibility for in-state tuition charges. Ensures that the established Virginia domicile of a spouse of an active duty military service member, and therefore in-state tuition eligibility, must not be affected by the establishment and maintenance of a place of residence in another jurisdiction for the purpose of maintaining a joint household with such member. The bill also provides that the spouse of an active duty military service member, if such spouse has established domicile and

claimed a dependent student on federal or state income tax returns, must not be subject to minimum income tests or requirements.

House Patron(s): Christopher P. Stolle (Chief Patron), Robert Tata

Bill Status: 1/25/11 House: Subcommittee recommends reporting (7-Y 0-N).

*Note: Also addressed in SB 1279.*

**HB 1861: Eligibility for in-state tuition; waiver of one-year residency requirement**

Eligibility for in-state tuition; waiver of one-year residency requirement. Authorizes certain veterans who elect to establish Virginia as their permanent residence for domiciliary purposes to establish immediate residency in Virginia and become eligible for in-state tuition, rather than waiting the required one year period.

House Patron(s): Richard L. Anderson (Chief Patron), Christopher P. Stolle (Chief Co-Patron), Robin A. Abbott, Mark L. Cole, James E. Edmunds II, David L. Englin, Thomas A. Greason, Bill Janis, Mark L. Keam, R. Steven Landes, L. Scott Lingamfelter, Christopher K. Peace, Mark D. Sickles, Luke E. Torian

Senate Patron(s): Linda T. Puller

Bill Status: 1/24/11 House: VOTE: BLOCK VOTE PASSAGE (97-Y 0-N)

1/25/11 Senate: Constitutional reading dispensed

1/25/11 Senate: Referred to Committee on Education and Health

*Note: Also addressed in SB 824, SB 1289 and SB1391.*

**HB 1910: Cambridge College Programme; course credit**

Cambridge College Programme; course credit. Requires the governing boards of each public institution of higher education to implement policies regarding the granting of credit for Cambridge College Programme courses. The bill also provides that each institution's policy for course credit for Cambridge College Programme courses must be comparable to its policies for granting course credit for Advanced Placement courses.

House Patron(s): Jackson H. Miller (Chief Patron), Luke E. Torian

Bill Status: Referred to subcommittee.

**HB 1929: Public Procurement Act**

Virginia Public Procurement Act; price matching by Virginia businesses. Provides that whenever the lowest responsive and responsible bidder is a resident of any other state, and the difference between such bidder's bid and the bid of the next lowest responsive and responsible bidder who is a resident of Virginia is no more than five percent or \$10,000, the Virginia bidder shall be given the opportunity to match the bid of the out-of-state bidder. If the Virginia bidder matches the out-of-state bid, the contract shall be awarded to the Virginia bidder. The bill requires the Division of Purchases and Supply to develop price match procedures.



House Patron(s): Daniel W. Marshall III (Chief Patron), Donald W. Merricks, Charles D. Poindexter

Bill Status: Referred to subcommittee.

**HB 1960: Tuition Assistance Grant Program**

Tuition Assistance Grant Program. Amends the criteria for institutions of higher education to be eligible to receive tuition assistance on behalf of eligible students. For an institution to be eligible, the institution must have either been receiving such funds as of January 1, 2011, or be a private, nationally recognized, regionally accredited, and nonprofit institution of collegiate education that is formed, chartered, or established within the Commonwealth. The bill requires the State Council of Higher Education to keep a current, and periodically updated, list of such institutions.

House Patron(s): Thomas Davis Rust (Chief Patron), David B. Albo, Ward L. Armstrong, Richard P. Bell, David L. Bulova, Betsy B. Carr, Benjamin L. Cline, John A. Cox, Anne B. Crockett-Stark, Thomas A. Greason, William J. Howell, S. Chris Jones, Terry G. Kilgore, R. Steven Landes, L. Scott Lingamfelter, James W. Morefield, Harvey B. Morgan, John M. O'Bannon III, Christopher K. Peace, Kenneth R. Plum, Charles D. Poindexter, Robert Tata

Senate Patron(s): George L. Barker, Harry B. Blevins, Mark R. Herring, David W. Marsden, A. Donald McEachin, Ralph S. Northam, Phillip P. Puckett, Frederick M. Quayle, W. Roscoe Reynolds, Frank M. Ruff, Jr.

Bill Status: 1/25/11 House: Subcommittee recommends reporting with amendment(s) (7-Y 0-N)

**HB 2002: Undergraduate out-of-state tuition charges**

Public institutions of higher education; undergraduate out-of-state tuition charges. Requires the boards of visitors of every public institution of higher education in the Commonwealth to set tuition and fee charges at levels they deem to be appropriate for all nonresident student groups based on, but not limited to, competitive market rates, provided that the tuition and mandatory educational and general fee rates for nonresident undergraduate students are at least 100 percent of the average cost of their education. The determination of competitive market rates shall consider tuition and fees charged at comparable private and public institutions of higher education within the Commonwealth or in another state, totaling at least five, which are most similar to the public institution of higher education with respect to total undergraduate enrollment, undergraduate student body academic qualifications, and to which a significant number of students of the institution of higher education also applied. Additionally, at the time that undergraduate tuition is determined by each board of visitors, the board of visitors must include in its meeting records the tuition rates at comparable private institutions and any other factors used in establishing the undergraduate tuition and fees.

House Patron(s): James M. LeMunyon (Chief Patron)

Bill Status: 1/25/11 House: Subcommittee recommends laying on the table by voice vote.

**HB 2039: Construction Management; limits use of at-risk method for building construction projects**

Procurement by public bodies; use of certain contracting processes. Limits the use of the construction management at-risk method for building construction to projects with a total value of \$25 million or more. The bill also amends the definition of "qualifying project" in the Public-Private Education Facilities and Infrastructure Act of 2002 (§ 56-575.1 et seq.) to require that the project be totally supported by private funds.

House Patron(s): John A. Cox (Chief Patron), Christopher K. Peace (Chief Co-Patron)

Senate Patron(s): Ryan T. McDougle

Bill Status: 1/27/11 House: Subcommittee recommends passing by with letter by voice vote.

**HB 2044: Statewide uniform grading policy**

Board of Education; statewide uniform grading policy. Requires the Board of Education to establish a statewide uniform grading policy whereby a student could receive a maximum of five quality points for an "A" in an Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, or dual enrollment course.

House Patron(s): Richard L. Anderson (Chief Patron)

Bill Status: 1/24/11 House: Passed by in Education with letter by voice vote

**HB 2053: Admission of in-state students at public institutions of higher education**

Admission of in-state students at public institutions of higher education. Provides that the board of visitors or other governing body of each public institution of higher education, except for the Virginia Military Institute, Norfolk State University, and Virginia State University, must establish rules and regulations requiring that at least 75 percent of students admitted and enrolled at the institution be Virginia domiciles.

House Patron(s): Timothy D. Hugo (Chief Patron), David B. Albo (Chief Co-Patron)

Bill Status: 1/25/11 House: Subcommittee recommends referring to Committee on Appropriations

**HB 2075: Private capital lending for local governments and public institutions of higher education.**

Private capital lending for local governments. Allows a local government to enter into certain conduit lending agreements to finance certain capital projects.

House Patron(s): Riley E. Ingram (Chief Patron)

Bill Status: 1/28/11 House: Reported from Counties, Cities and Towns with amendments (22-Y 0-N) *Note: Also addressed in SB 1352.*

**HB 2091: Uniform Statewide Building Code; air conditioning in certain residential buildings**

Uniform Statewide Building Code; air conditioning in certain residential buildings. Designates May 1 as the date when cooling must be supplied in dwelling units, rooming units, or dormitory or guest rooms that are leased and include provision for cooling.

House Patron(s): Charniele L. Herring (Chief Patron)

Bill Status: 1/27/11 House: Stricken from docket by General Laws by voice vote.

**HB 2101: Landlords enforcement of tenant violations; localities with four-year institutions of higher learning**

Landlord enforcement of tenant violations; localities with four-year institutions of higher learning. Affords localities located where there are four-year institutions of higher learning the option of adopting an ordinance to hold landlords responsible for tenants who continually violate sections of the Code dealing with drinking in public, urinating in public and profanity. The landlord will receive prompt notice when the tenant is convicted and if the tenant is convicted three times within a one-year period, and the landlord does not take curative steps, he is then fined. The bill provides localities the proper tools to ensure indifferent landlords take measures in situations where tenants are disruptive to neighborhood stability. This bill was endorsed by the Virginia Housing Commission.

House Patron(s): David L. Bulova (Chief Patron), Rosalyn R. Dance (Chief Co-Patron), Charniele L. Herring

Bill Status: 1/27/11 House: Subcommittee failed to recommend reporting (4-Y 7-N)

**HB 2153: In-state tuition and educational benefits for unlawfully present aliens**

In-state tuition and educational benefits for unlawfully present aliens. Provides that an alien who is unlawfully present in the United States shall not be eligible on the basis of residency within Virginia for any postsecondary educational benefit including, but not limited to, in-state tuition and state financial aid unless citizens or nationals of the United States are eligible for such benefits in no less an amount, duration, and scope, without regard to whether such citizens or nationals are Virginia residents.

House Patron(s): Benjamin L. Cline (Chief Patron)

Bill Status: 01/28/11 House: Subcommittee recommends incorporating (HB1465-Peace) by voice vote

**HB 2156: Procurement of services by certain state agencies**

Procurement of services by certain state agencies. Requires the Director of the Division of Purchases and Supply of the Department of General Services to require each state agency, except law-enforcement agencies, to procure nonprofessional services from the private sector if such services are listed in the Commonwealth Competition Council's commercial activities list. The

bill provides that upon a written determination made in advance by a state agency that the procurement of services from a commercial source is neither practicable nor fiscally advantageous, such service may continue to be performed by the state agency. The bill also requires the Commonwealth Competition Council to update its commercial activities list annually rather than every two years. The bill contains technical amendments.

House Patron(s): Benjamin L. Cline (Chief Patron)

Bill Status: Referred to subcommittee.

**HB 2196: Government Transparency Act; searchable database website established**

Government Transparency Act. Establishes a searchable database website that would allow persons to search and aggregate information including but not limited to (i) individual or specific appropriations or budget items, (ii) state agency spending and procurement data, (iii) financial disclosure statements, (iv) audit and state agency performance reports, and (v) contact information for public records access purposes. Under the bill, the searchable database website will be developed and maintained by the Department of Planning and Budget and is required to be operational by July 1, 2012. When fully operational, all data in the database would be maintained for a minimum of 10 years. The bill requires the Department to work with the Auditor of Public Accounts and the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission to avoid duplication of effort. The bill also establishes the Government Transparency Advisory Council to advise the Department on the practical usability of the website, considering all intended end users.

House Patron(s): Barbara J. Comstock (Chief Patron)

Bill Status: Referred to subcommittee.

**HB 2201: Payroll Services Bureau; DPB to require participation of all state agencies**

Department of Planning and Budget; payroll services. Provides that the Department of Planning and Budget, in consultation with the Department of Accounts, shall require all agencies of the Commonwealth to participate to the fullest extent feasible in the Payroll Service Bureau operated by the Department of Accounts. Any agency identified by the Department of Planning and Budget not participating in the Payroll Service Bureau as of July 1, 2011, may be exempted from such participation if it can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Department of Planning and Budget that participation is not feasible or fiscally advantageous.

House Patron(s): Barbara J. Comstock (Chief Patron)

Bill Status: Referred to subcommittee.

**HB 2246: Tuition, in-state; certain civilian employees of Department of Defense employees shall pay.**

In-state tuition; certain Department of Defense employees. Provides that any civilian employees of the Department of Defense who are realigned to Virginia as a result of Base Realignment and

Closure, and their dependents, shall pay the in-state tuition rate at the public institution of higher education in which they are enrolled.

House Patron(s): Luke E. Torian (Chief Patron)

Bill Status: 1/25/11 House: Subcommittee recommends referring to Committee on Appropriations.

**HB 2250: SCHEV; creation of non-stock corporation to support academic research**

State Council of Higher Education for Virginia; creation of nonstock corporation to support academic research. Requires the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia to establish a nonprofit, nonstock corporation under Chapter 10 (§ 13.1-801 et seq.) of Title 13.1 as a public instrumentality exercising public and essential governmental functions to assist the Council in (i) supporting academic research in Virginia; (ii) encouraging research initiatives, with emphasis on biological systems and nanotechnology, to support Virginia industry; (iii) directing the disbursement of funds for such research initiatives based on established scientific criteria from the Academic Research Initiative Fund, created pursuant to this bill; and (iv) conducting or undertaking other activities useful in carrying out the provisions of this bill. The Council shall require such corporation to report to it at least annually on its activities. The bill sets out the composition of the board of directors for such corporation.

House Patron(s): David A. Nutter (Chief Patron)

Bill Status: Referred to subcommittee.

**HB 2262 Green Public Buildings Act; definitions, building standards.**

Green Public Buildings Act. Requires public bodies entering the design phase for construction of a new building greater than 5,000 gross square feet in size or renovating such a building where the cost of renovation exceeds 50 percent of the value of the building to build to either U.S. Green Building Council Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design green building rating standard (LEED) Silver or Green Globes two globe standards. Exemptions from the requirement may be granted by the Director of the Department of General Services for state construction projects or the governing body of a locality or school board for local projects. The bill has a delayed implementation date of July 1, 2012, for local public bodies and school boards.

House Patron(s): Harvey B. Morgan (Chief Patron), Betsy B. Carr

Bill Status: 1/12/11 House: Referred to Committee on General Laws

**HB 2264: Private institutions of higher education; credit enhancement**

Private institutions of higher education; credit enhancement. Allows the Virginia College Building Authority to issue or acquire credit enhancements to secure payment of bonds issued by the Authority. Credit enhancements include, without limitation, surety bonds, insurance policies, letters of credit, guarantees and other forms of collateral or security as well as capital reserve funds for private institutions of higher education.

House Patron(s): Harvey B. Morgan (Chief Patron)

Bill Status: 1/25/11 House: Subcommittee recommends referring to Committee on Appropriations.

*Note: Also addressed in SB 1306.*

**HB 2277: Compensation paid to citizen members of state boards, commissions and other collegial bodies**

Compensation paid to citizen members of state boards, commissions, and other collegial bodies. Provides that citizen members of boards, commissions, committees, councils, or other collegial bodies, who are appointed at the state level, who receive three or more travel reimbursements annually shall be required to participate in the Electronic Data Interchange Program administered by the Department of Accounts as a condition of accepting such appointment. The bill provides that the requirement applies only to such citizen members who are appointed or reappointed on or after July 1, 2011.

House Patron(s): Mark L. Keam (Chief Patron)

Bill Status: Referred to House Committee on General Laws.

**HB 2296: Commonwealth Scholars Program and Investment Fund**

Commonwealth Scholars Program and Investment Fund; established. Provides for the establishment of the Commonwealth Scholars Program and Investment Fund whereby public or private organizations and individuals may make monetary contributions to provide scholarships for eligible students in order to expand access to higher education. Scholarship funds may be paid to any accredited, degree-granting public or private nonprofit institution of higher education in Virginia. Eligibility for the scholarships is limited to domiciled residents of Virginia as defined by § 23-7.4 and who are admitted and enrolled as full-time students in a public or nonprofit private institution of higher education, and any other criteria established by the Council. Each scholarship recipient will be required to sign a promissory note agreeing to annually pay back into the Fund a percentage of his annual income, not to exceed five percent, beginning five years after the end of the scholarship funded program, and for a period not to exceed 25 years.

House Patron(s): David L. Englin (Chief Patron)

Bill Status: 1/25/11 House: Subcommittee recommends referring to Committee on Appropriations.

**HB 2300: DPB; budget performance data provided by state agencies**

Department of Planning and Budget; budget performance data provided by state agencies; establishment of Performance Improvement Officers. Requires each state agency to conduct an annual review and prioritization of its operations and programs. Under the bill, each agency shall develop a list of its three highest and three lowest priorities and include them in the budget estimates submitted to the Department of Planning and Budget. The bill also provides for the head of each state agency to designate an existing employee to serve as the agency's Performance

Improvement Officer to assist in ensuring that the mission and goals of the agency are achieved through strategic and performance planning and measurement pursuant to the performance management system established by the Department.

House Patron(s): David L. Englin (Chief Patron)

Bill Status: Referred to subcommittee.

**HB 2324: Investment in research and technology in the Commonwealth**

Investment in research and technology in the Commonwealth. Creates the Virginia Research and Technology Investment Program, consisting of the Commonwealth Research Commercialization Fund (CRCF) and the GAP Fund program administered by the Innovation and Entrepreneurship Investment Authority. The bill makes significant changes to the existing CRCF, including creating a Commercialization Subfund, a Research Match Subfund, and an Eminent Scholar Subfund, and sets up a new process for the application, review, and award of funds from the CRCF.

House Patron(s): L. Scott Lingamfelter (Chief Patron), Ward L. Armstrong, Mamy E. BaCote, Robert H. Brink, David L. Bulova, Betsy B. Carr, Rosalyn R. Dance, David L. Englin, Eileen Filler-Corn, Charniele L. Herring, Patrick A. Hope, Mark L. Keam, Kaye Kory, Jennifer L. McClellan, Delores L. McQuinn, Kenneth R. Plum, Luke E. Torian, Roslyn C. Tyler, Jeion A. Ward

Bill Status: Referred to subcommittee.

*Note: Also addressed in SB 1322.*

**HB 2328: Six-Year Capital Outlay Plan**

Six-Year Capital Outlay Plan. Specifies the process by which agencies' requests for capital projects are presented to the Six-Year Capital Outlay Plan Advisory Committee and the process the Advisory Committee shall follow.

House Patron(s): L. Scott Lingamfelter (Chief Patron)

Bill Status: 1/28/11 House: VOTE: BLOCK VOTE PASSAGE (95-Y 0-N)

**HB 2346: Public institutions of higher education; compensation of athletic coaches**

Public institutions of higher education; compensation of athletic coaches. Requires that the board of visitors of every public institution of higher education adopts and implements policies such that the annual total compensation provided to any coach of an intercollegiate athletic team shall not include more than \$300,000 of state funding.

House Patron(s): Joseph D. Morrissey (Chief Patron)

Bill Status: Referred to subcommittee.

**HB 2375 Commonwealth Project Management Standard; created, information technology project risk & complexity.**

Commonwealth Information Technology Governance and Oversight; information technology project risk and complexity. Provides for the creation of the Commonwealth Project Management Standard, by which information technology projects in state agencies and most public institutions of higher education will be initiated, procured and governed. Also, this bill clarifies the roles of the Secretary of Technology and the Chief Information Officer (CIO) in the governance and oversight of technology projects. Projects shall be approved or disapproved by either the Secretary of Technology or the CIO based on the overall cost, as well as the overall risk and complexity of the project.

House Patron(s): John M. O'Bannon, III

Bill Status: Referred to subcommittee.

**HB 2380 Firearms; civil immunity for employers who do not prohibit employees from storing in their vehicles.**

Firearms stored in employee vehicle; employer liability. Provides civil immunity for employers who do not prohibit their employees from storing a firearm in their vehicles while parked on the employer's property from damages resulting from the storage of such firearm.

House Patron(s): Brenda L. Pogge

Bill Status: 1/26/11 House: Subcommittee recommends reporting with amendment(s) (9-Y 2-N)

**HB 2410 Retirement System; optional defined contribution retirement program for state and local employees.**

Virginia Retirement System; optional defined contribution retirement program for state and local employees. Creates an optional defined contribution retirement program for state and local employees beginning January 1, 2012.

House Patron(s): Lacey E. Putney

Bill Status: Referred to subcommittee

**HB 2490 Campus police; report of certain incidents to local law-enforcement agency.**

Campus police; report of certain incidents to local law-enforcement agency. Requires the chief law-enforcement officer of a public or private institution of higher education to report the death or an alleged rape of any person on campus property to the local law-enforcement agency of the locality in which the institution is located. The local law-enforcement agency would assume responsibility for leading the investigation, with cooperation from the institution of higher education

House Patron(s): Paula J. Miller

Bill Status: Referred to subcommittee



**HB 2510 Virginia Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2011; established, report.**

Virginia Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2011. Establishes the Virginia Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2011 for the purpose of fueling strong economic growth in the Commonwealth and preparing Virginians for the top job opportunities in the knowledge-driven economy of the 21st century. The bill provides for (i) a new higher education funding policy; (ii) the calculation of the state general fund share of an institution's basic operations and instruction funding need; (iii) per student enrollment-based funding; (iv) targeted economic and innovation incentives; (v) the creation of a Higher Education Revenue Stabilization Fund as a subfund of the Revenue Stabilization Fund; (vi) the creation of a STEM Public-Private Partnership; and (vii) the creation of a Higher Education Advisory Committee. The bill also makes technical amendments. This bill is a recommendation of the Governor's Commission on Higher Education Reform, Innovation and Investment.

House Patron(s): M. Kirkland Cox (chief patron), Rosalyn R. Dance (chief co-patron), William J. Howell, Mark L. Keam, L. Scott Lingamfelter, Joe T. May, John M. O'Bannon, III, Thomas Davis Rust, Beverly J. Sherwood

**Bill Status:**

01/26/11 House: Reported from Appropriations with substitute (22-Y 0-N)

01/28/11 House: Read first time

*Note: Also addressed in SB 1459.*

**HJ 537: Joint subcommittee to study current and impending severe shortage of medical personnel**

Study; severe shortage of medical doctors; report. Establishes a joint subcommittee to study the current and impending severe shortage of medical doctors in Virginia. The joint subcommittee shall consider the impact of the current and impending shortage of medical doctors on the health care system in the Commonwealth and identify options to prepare for and remedy the shortage. In conducting its study, the joint subcommittee shall, among other things, (i) determine whether a shortage of medical doctors exists in the Commonwealth per specialty and geographical region; (ii) identify and assess factors that contribute to the shortage of medical doctors, including medical school admissions, the costs of medical education, and the effect of excessive malpractice insurance premiums, malpractice laws and caps, the shortage of nurses, and ancillary regulations such as the Certificate of Public Need; and (iii) identify the medical specialties primarily affected by the shortage of doctors and recommend ways to alleviate such problems. The joint subcommittee must submit its preliminary findings and recommendations to the 2012 Session and its final findings and recommendations to the 2013 Session of the General Assembly.

House Patron(s): Thomas A. Greason (Chief Patron), James M. LeMunyon

Bill Status: House and Senate agreed to by voice vote.

**HJ 574 Medical doctors; joint subcommittee to study current & impending severe shortage thereof in State.**

Study; severe shortage of medical doctors; report. Establishes a joint subcommittee to study the current and impending severe shortage of medical doctors in Virginia. The joint subcommittee shall consider the impact of the current and impending shortage of medical doctors on the health care system in the Commonwealth and identify options to prepare for and remedy the shortage. In conducting its study, the joint subcommittee shall, among other things, (i) determine whether a shortage of medical doctors exists in the Commonwealth per specialty and geographical region; (ii) identify and assess factors that contribute to the shortage of medical doctors, including medical school admissions, the costs of medical education, and the effect of excessive malpractice insurance premiums, malpractice laws and caps, the shortage of nurses, and ancillary regulations such as the Certificate of Public Need; and (iii) identify the medical specialties primarily affected by the shortage of doctors and recommend ways to alleviate such problems. The joint subcommittee must submit its preliminary findings and recommendations to the 2012 Session and its final findings and recommendations to the 2013 Session of the General Assembly.

House Patron(s): Harry R. Purkey (Chief Patron)

Bill Status: 1/27/11 House: Subcommittee recommends striking from docket by voice vote

**HJ 614: Aid for nonpublic higher education**

Constitutional amendment (first resolution); aid for nonpublic higher education; religious or theological education for military chaplains. Allows the General Assembly to provide for loans to, and grants to or on behalf of, students attending nonprofit institutions of higher education in the Commonwealth whose primary purpose is to provide religious training or theological education, provided the students are approved candidates for the chaplaincy of any active duty or reserve component of the United States Armed Forces, including the National Guard.

House Patron(s): Thomas A. Greason (Chief Patron)

Bill Status: 1/28/11 House: Reported from Privileges and Elections (18-Y 3-N).

**Senate Bills:**

**SB 801 Higher Educational Institutions Bond Act of 2011; created.**

Bonds; capital projects at institutions of higher learning. Authorizes the Treasury Board to issue bonds pursuant to Article X, Section 9 (c) of the Constitution of Virginia in an amount up to \$64,579,000 plus financing costs to finance revenue-producing capital projects at Virginia Commonwealth University and Virginia State University. The bill declares that an emergency exists and that the bill is effective upon passage.

Senate Patron(s): Charles J. Colgan

Bill Status: Referred to Committee on Finance

**SB 812: FOIA; access to salary information of public employees**

Virginia Freedom of Information Act; access to salary information, etc., of public employees. Allows public access to the records of only the job position, official salary, or rate of pay of, and the allowances or reimbursements for expenses paid to, any officer, official, or employee of a public body. The bill specifically excludes the name of any such officer, official, or employee from disclosure.

Senate Patron(s): Stephen H. Martin (Chief Patron)

Bill Status: Referred to Committee on General Laws and Technology.

**SB 819: Community College Scholarship Match Program**

Community College Scholarship Match Program. Establishes the Community College Scholarship Match Program to provide matching funds to community college foundations and the Virginia Foundation for Community College Education. Funds paid shall not exceed \$5 million, in aggregate, in any fiscal year. These funds shall be used to award scholarships to students who (i) are domiciled residents of Virginia and (ii) are enrolled in an associate degree program in a Virginia community college studying science, technology, engineering, math, education, or nursing. This will only become effective upon an appropriation of general funds effectuating the purposes of the bill passed by the 2011 General Assembly.

Senate Patron(s): John S. Edwards (Chief Patron)

Bill Status: 1/25/11 Senate: Read third time and passed Senate (39-Y 0-N).

**SB 824 Tuition, in-state; waiver of one-year residency requirement for veterans.**

Eligibility for in-state tuition; waiver of one-year residency requirement. Authorizes certain veterans who elect to establish Virginia as their permanent residence for domiciliary purposes to establish immediate residency in Virginia and become eligible for in-state tuition, rather than waiting the required one-year period.

Senate Patron(s): John S. Edwards (chief patron), George L. Barker (chief co-patron), Jeffrey L. McWaters (chief co-patron), Charles J. Colgan, R. Creigh Deeds, Mamie E. Locke, David W. Marsden, Linda T. Puller

Bill Status: 1/25/11 Senate: Read third time and passed Senate (39-Y 0-N)

*Note: Also addressed in HB 1861*

**SB 832 Green Public Buildings Act; definitions, building standards.**

Green Public Buildings Act. Requires executive branch agencies and institutions entering the design phase for construction of a new building greater than 5,000 gross square feet in size, or renovating such a building where the cost of renovation exceeds 50 percent of the value of the building, to meet standards at least as stringent as the LEED or Green Globes standards. Exemptions from the requirement may be granted by the Director of the Department of General

Services upon a finding of special circumstances that make construction or renovation to the standards impracticable.

Senate Patron(s): J. Chapman Petersen

Bill Status: 1/26/11 Senate: Reported from General Laws and Technology with substitute (14-Y 0-N)

*Note: The Green Public Buildings Act is also addressed in HB 1817 and HB 2262*

**SB 939: Boards of Visitors; adding two members**

Boards of visitors; adding two members. Adds two members to the boards of visitors of each public college and university, to be chosen by the other members.

Senate Patron(s): John C. Miller (Chief Patron)

Bill Status: 1/27/11 Senate: Passed by indefinitely in Education and Health (15-Y 0-N).

**SB 1074: In-state tuition; National Guard**

In-state tuition; National Guard. Provides in-state tuition for any person who met the requirements for in-state tuition prior to being called to active duty in the National Guard of another state following completion of active duty service if during active duty that person maintained one or more of the following in Virginia rather than in another state or jurisdiction: a driver's license, motor vehicle registration, voter registration, employment, property ownership, or sources of financial support. The bill contains an emergency clause.

Senate Patron(s): George L. Barker (Chief Patron)

House Patron(s): Mark L. Cole

Bill Status: 1/27/11 Senate: Reported from Education and Health with amendments (15-Y 0-N)

**SB 1077: International Baccalaureate and Advanced Placement; course credit**

International Baccalaureate and Advanced Placement; course credit. Clarifies that students should be eligible for credit for International Baccalaureate and Advanced Placement examinations, not the courses.

Senate Patron(s): George L. Barker (Chief Patron)

Bill Status: 1/25/11 Senate: Read third time and passed Senate (39-Y 0-N).

**SB 1090 Virginia-grown food products; purchase by state agencies and institutions, etc.**

Purchase of Virginia-grown food products by state agencies and institutions and local school divisions. Provides for the Department of General Services to establish procurement procedures to facilitate the purchase of Virginia-grown food products by state agencies and institutions and

local public school divisions to the maximum extent possible. The bill also provides local school divisions with an exemption from competitive sealed bidding under certain circumstances when procuring Virginia-grown food products for student consumption.

Senate Patron(s): Emmett W. Hanger, Jr. (Chief Patron), Jill Holtzman Vogel

Bill Status: Referred to subcommittee.

**SB 1114: DGS; review of proposed use and occupancy of real property by state agencies**

Department of General Services; review of proposed use and occupancy of real property by state agencies; Governor's approval required. Clarifies that the use and occupancy of real property by state agencies shall comply with guidelines developed by the Department of General Services and require approval of the Governor.

Senate Patron(s): John C. Watkins (Chief Patron)

Bill Status: Senate: 1/25/11 Senate: Read third time and passed Senate (39-Y 0-N).

**SB 1250: Regulation of firearms by state entities**

Regulation of firearms by state entities. Prohibits any department, agency, or other entity of the Commonwealth from adopting or enforcing any rule, regulation, or policy regarding firearms or ammunition except for those rules, regulations, or policies expressly authorized by statute. Any rule, regulation, or policy adopted prior to July 1, 2011, without express statutory authority would be invalid. The prohibition would not apply to local, state, or regional correctional facilities or facilities operated by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services.

Senate Patron(s): Jill Holtzman Vogel (Chief Patron), Mark L. Cole

Bill Status: Referred to Committee on Rules.

**SB 1279 Tuition, in-state; eligibility for spouse of an active duty military service member.**

Eligibility for in-state tuition charges. Ensures that the established Virginia domicile of a spouse of an active duty military service member, and therefore in-state tuition eligibility, must not be affected by the establishment and maintenance of a place of residence in another jurisdiction for the purpose of maintaining a joint household with such member. The bill also provides that the spouse of an active duty military service member, if such spouse has established domicile and claimed a dependent student on federal or state income tax returns, must not be subject to minimum income tests or requirements.

Senate Patron(s): Jeffrey L. McWaters

Bill Status: 1/27/11 Senate: Reported from Education and Health (15-Y 0-N)

*Note: Also addressed in HB 1848*

**SB 1280: Boards, commissions and councils; makes policy improvements and clarifications**

Boards, commissions and councils; membership; appointing authority; abolition. Makes policy improvements and clarifications to several state boards, commissions, and councils including (i) establishing staggered terms for nonlegislative citizen members appointed by the Governor, (ii) clarifying the Governor's authority when provided lists of nominees by nongovernmental entities, and (iii) standardizing the terms of chairmen of entities appointed by the Governor to two years. The bill also abolishes the Virginia-Asian Advisory Board, the Latino Advisory Board, the Virginia Commission on Higher Education Board Appointments, the Chippokes Plantation Farm Foundation, and the Foundation for Virginia's Natural Resources. The bill contains technical amendments.

Senate Patron(s): Jeffrey L. McWaters (Chief Patron)

Bill Status: Referred to Committee on Rules.

**SB 1289 Tuition; eligibility for in-state veterans who elect to establish Virginia residence.**

Eligibility for in-state tuition; waiver of one-year residency requirement. Authorizes certain veterans who elect to establish Virginia as their permanent residence for domiciliary purposes to establish immediate residency in Virginia and become eligible for in-state tuition, rather than waiting the required one-year period.

Senate Patron(s): Jeffrey L. McWaters

Bill Status: 1/20/11 Senate: Incorporated by Education and Health (SB824-Edwards) (13-Y 0-N)

**SB 1306 Higher Educational Institutions; Virginia College Building Authority to issue credit enhancements.**

Private institutions of higher education; credit enhancement. Allows the Virginia College Building Authority to issue or acquire credit enhancements to secure payment of bonds issued by the Authority. Credit enhancements include, without limitation, surety bonds, insurance policies, letters of credit, guarantees and other forms of collateral or security as well as capital reserve funds for private institutions of higher education.

Senate Patron(s): Frank M. Ruff, Jr.

Bill Status: 1/20/11 Senate: Re-referred to Finance

**SB 1322 Virginia Research and Technology Investment Program; created, report.**

Investment in research and technology in the Commonwealth. Creates the Virginia Research and Technology Investment Program, consisting of the Commonwealth Research Commercialization Fund (CRCF) and the GAP Fund program administered by the Innovation and Entrepreneurship Investment Authority. The bill makes significant changes to the existing CRCF, including creating a Commercialization Subfund, a Research Match Subfund, and an Eminent Scholar Subfund, and sets up a new process for the application, review, and award of funds from the CRCF.

Senate Patron(s): Stephen D. Newman (Chief Patron)

Bill Status: Referred to subcommittee

**SB 1352 Private capital projects; local government to enter into conduit lending agreements to finance.**

Private capital lending for local governments and public institutions of higher education. Allows a local government or public institution of higher education to enter into certain conduit lending agreements to finance certain capital projects.

Senate Patron(s): Thomas K. Norment, Jr.

Bill Status: 1/25/11 Senate: Reported from Local Government with substitute (13-Y 2-N)

**SB 1363: Two-Year College Transfer Grant Program**

Two-Year College Transfer Grant Program. Increases the amount of the grant from \$1,000 to \$1,500, federal Expected Family Contribution threshold from \$8,000 to \$12,000, and requires the students who receive the grant to maintain the continued enrollment requirements at the institution to which they have transferred, rather than meeting a specific GPA requirement.

Senate Patron(s): Walter A. Stosch (Chief Patron)

Bill Status: Senate: Re-referred to Finance.

**SB 1371: Capital Outlay Plan**

Capital outlay plan. Sets forth a six-year capital outlay plan for projects to be funded entirely or partially from general fund-supported resources.

Senate Patron(s): Charles J. Colgan (Chief Patron)

Bill Status: Referred to Committee on Finance.

**SB 1391 Tuition, in-state; eligibility for veterans who elect to establish Virginia as residence.**

Eligibility for in-state tuition; waiver of one-year residency requirement. Authorizes certain veterans who elect to establish Virginia as their permanent residence for domiciliary purposes to establish immediate residency in Virginia and become eligible for in-state tuition, rather than waiting the required one-year period.

Senate Patron(s): George L. Barker

Bill Status: 1/20/11 Senate: Incorporated by Education and Health (SB824-Edwards) (13-Y 0-N)

**SB 1428 Six-Year Capital Outlay Plan; process by which agencies' requests for capital project are presented.**

Six-Year Capital Outlay Plan. Specifies the process by which agencies' requests for capital projects are presented to the Six-Year Capital Outlay Plan Advisory Committee and the process the Advisory Committee shall follow.

Senate Patron(s): Henry L. Marsh III

Bill Status: Referred to Committee on Finance

**SB 1439 Tuition Assistance Grant Program; amends criteria for higher educational institutions.**

Tuition Assistance Grant Program. Amends the criteria for institutions of higher education to be eligible to receive tuition assistance on behalf of eligible students. For an institution to be eligible, the institution must have either been receiving such funds as of January 1, 2011, or be a private, nationally recognized, regionally accredited, and nonprofit institution of collegiate education that is formed, chartered, or established within the Commonwealth. The bill requires the State Council of Higher Education to keep a current, and periodically updated, list of such institutions.

Senate Patron(s): Mark R. Herring

Bill Status: 1/25/11 Senate: Assigned Education sub: Higher Education

**SB 1459 Virginia Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2011; established, report.**

Virginia Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2011. Establishes the Virginia Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2011 for the purpose of fueling strong economic growth in the Commonwealth and preparing Virginians for the top job opportunities in the knowledge-driven economy of the 21st century. The bill provides for (i) a new higher education funding policy; (ii) the calculation of the state general fund share of an institution's basic operations and instruction funding need; (iii) per student enrollment-based funding; (iv) targeted economic and innovation incentives; (v) the creation of a Higher Education Revenue Stabilization Fund as a subfund of the Revenue Stabilization Fund; (vi) the creation of a STEM Public-Private Partnership; and (vii) the creation of a Higher Education Advisory Committee. The bill also makes technical amendments. This bill is a recommendation of the Governor's Commission on Higher Education Reform, Innovation and Investment.

Senate Patron(s): R. Edward Houck (chief patron), Thomas K. Norment, Jr. (chief patron), George L. Barker, Harry B. Blevins, Charles J. Colgan, Emmett W. Hanger, Jr., Mark R. Herring, Janet D. Howell, Mamie E. Locke, L. Louise Lucas, David W. Marsden, Stephen H. Martin, Jeffrey L. McWaters, John C. Miller, Stephen D. Newman, Ralph S. Northam, Phillip P. Puckett, W. Roscoe Reynolds, Frank M. Ruff, Jr., William M. Stanley, Jr., Walter A. Stosch, Richard H. Stuart, Jill Holtzman Vogel, William C. Wampler, Jr., John C. Watkins

Bill Status: 1/24/11 Senate: Re-referred to Finance



**SJ 354: JLARC to study state employee compensation.**

Study; Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission to study state employee compensation; report. Provides for the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission to study the salary structure and pay of state employees compared with similarly situated private sector employees.

Senate Patron(s): Mark D. Obenshain (Chief Patron)

Bill Status: Referred to subcommittee.

Link to State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) legislative list to track bills:  
<http://www.schev.edu/policy/longlist.asp>