

2023 Successful Legislation Impacting Higher Education

Bill #	Companion Bill	Title	Patron	Issues Summary/Questions
HB1403		Provision of university housing at no cost to students designated as foster care students	Tata	Any public institution that operates university housing during scheduled intersessions must provide access to such housing at no cost to any student who is eligible for a grant pursuant to Section 23.1-601 of the Code of Virginia. Student must be registered as a student for the immediately following academic term and meet the definitions and conditions of the federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.
HB 1419	SB 1498	Brown v. Board of Education Scholarship Program	Kory/McClellan	Extends the eligibility for the Brown v. Board of Education Scholarship program.
HB1555	SB1373	Human trafficking awareness and prevention training requirement	Brewer/Vogel	Requires BOV to implement policies to provide training to all first year students to learn about human trafficking during first year orientation.
HB1738		Virginia FOIA; state public bodies; meetings; virtual public access	Carr	Provides that all public bodies may provide access to meetings and may provide opportunity to comment through electronic communication means when public comment is customarily received.
HB1843	SB1068	Capital outlay plan	Knight/Howell	Updates the six-year capital outlay plan for projects to be funded entirely or partially from general fund-supported resources.
HB1870		Higher education; immunity from disciplinary action in certain cases involving a good faith report of sexual violence.	Helmer	Removes the VMI exemption to include in its policy, code, rules, or set of standards governing sexual violence a provision for immunity from disciplinary action for certain individuals who make good faith reports of sexual violence. The bill also requires that each public and nonprofit private institution of higher education extend such provision of disciplinary immunity to disclosures of curfew violations where such disclosure is made in conjunction with a good faith report of an act of sexual violence. Under current law, such boards are only required to include a provision for disciplinary immunity from disclosures of personal consumption of drugs or alcohol made in conjunction with a good faith report of an act of sexual violence.
HB 1912	SB1094	Treasury Board: powers and duties	Batten/Norment	Provides that the Treasury Board shall have the power and duty to make recommendations to the Governor on bonds, public-private partnerships, or other financing arrangements executed by private foundations for housing or other capital projects with respect to which an educational institution that is not a covered institution is obligated to provide financial or other types of support.
HB1916	SB910	Public higher education; threat assessment teams; powers and duties.	Batten/Newman	Requires Threat Assessment Teams (TAT) to undertake multiple actions within 24 hours after preliminary determination that an individual poses a threat. Requires institutions, consistent with state and federal law, to notify a transfer institution if a student or employee, who was determined by the TAT to pose a threat, transfers. Requires state to develop TAT best practices and model policies.
HB2007		Virginia Freedom of Information Act; posting of fee policy.	Roem	Requires a public body to make available upon request and post on its website or otherwise publish a written policy (i) explaining how the public body assesses charges for accessing or searching for requested records and (ii) noting the current fee charged, if any, by the public body for accessing and searching for the requested records.
HB 2450	SB1491	VPPA: construction management, contract requirements	J. Campbell/J. Bell	Excludes construction management projects involving infrastructure from the requirement that no more than 10 percent of the work can be self-performed by the construction manager.
SB1044		Public higher education: student identification cards	McPike	Any school that provides student ID cards must include the telephone number for the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline on new cards.

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<u>SB1280</u>		Public higher education: course credit earned through internships required; policies.	Dunnavant	Directs the governing board of each public institution of higher education to develop and implement policies requiring an internship or work-based learning experience be embedded in degree programs so as not to extend the time to degree. An enactment clause exists that could act to void the requirement if a work group does not find the requirement feasible for each institution of higher education.
<u>SB1313</u>		Construction contracts; payment clauses to be included in certain contracts; right to payment of subcontractors.	J. Bell	Clarifies certain definitions throughout the Code for consistency between public and private construction contracts. The bill updates the notice required when a general contractor withholds all or a part of the amount invoiced by a subcontractor in a public construction contract and when an owner withholds payment from a general contractor to include language specifically identifying the contractual noncompliance, the dollar amount being withheld, and the lower-tier subcontractor responsible for the contractual noncompliance.
<u>SB1459</u>		Administration of state government; prohibited applications and websites.	McDougle	Prohibits any employee or agent of any public body or person or entity contracting with any such public body from downloading or using any application, including TikTok or WeChat, or accessing any website developed by ByteDance Ltd. or Tencent Holdings Ltd. (i) on any government-issued device or government-owned or government-leased equipment, including mobile phones, desktop computers, laptop computers, tablets, or other devices capable of connecting to the Internet, or (ii) while connected to any wired or wireless Internet network owned, operated, or maintained by the Commonwealth.