

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

for

H. B. 2867

(BY DELEGATE(S) PERRY AND WILLIAMS)

(Originating in the House Committee on Education)

[February 27, 2015]

A BILL to of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended by adding thereto a new section, designated §18B-14-2, relating to providing for recommendations regarding expanded transfer of course credits among higher education institutions in the state; requiring higher education policy commission and council for community and technical college education to report the recommendations to Legislative Oversight Commission on Education Accountability.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended by adding thereto a new section, designated §18B-14-2, to read as follows:

ARTICLE 14. MISCELLANEOUS.

§18B-14-2. Transfer of credit for courses completed.

1 (a) The Legislature finds that:

2 (1) The state has an increasing need for individuals with a
3 post-secondary credential or degree;

4 (2) Post-secondary education institutions offering programs
5 primarily below the baccalaureate level often are a more
6 affordable option for students; and

7 (3) Implementing a seamless education system with uniform
8 transfer of credits among post-secondary institutions in the state
9 would greatly benefit students.

10 (b) The commission and council jointly shall develop
11 recommendations for implementing course credit transfer among
12 private and public higher education institutions in the state. The
13 commission and council shall report the recommendations to the
14 Legislative Oversight Commission on Education Accountability

15 by December 1, 2015. The recommendations shall address the
16 following:

17 (1) Providing a uniform method for transferring credit
18 between institutions for a course successfully completed by a
19 student if:

20 (A) The course curriculum of the sending institution is at
21 least seventy percent the same or similar to that of the receiving
22 institution;

23 (B) The sending institution validates that the student
24 successfully competed the course for which credit will be
25 transferred; and

26 (C) The sending institution is accredited by a regional,
27 national, programmatic or other accrediting body recognized by
28 the U.S. Department of Education under the Higher Education
29 Act of 1965, as amended;

30 (2) Establishing a uniform method for each institution to
31 provide clear and specific details of course content for each
32 course it offers in a manner that allows a sending institution to
33 determine:

34 (A) Whether its course is at least seventy percent the same
35 or similar to the receiving institution; and if not,

36 (B) What changes to its course curriculum is needed to
37 achieve the seventy percent level;

38 (3) Providing to the student and sending institution clear and
39 specific details regarding:

40 (A) Reasons that a receiving institution denies course credit
41 transfer; and

42 (B) Additional information or actions, if any, necessary to
43 permit the transfer; and

44 (4) Allowing a student to resubmit a course credit transfer
45 request following denial.