

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2021 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

House Bill 2529

BY DELEGATE FAST

[Introduced February 15, 2021; Referred to the
Committee on Education]

1 A BILL to amend and reenact §18-8-12 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating
 2 to prohibiting West Virginia institutions of higher learning and state agencies from
 3 discriminating against graduates of private, nonpublic, or home schools by requiring them
 4 to submit to alternative testing as a precondition for acceptance into the institution of
 5 higher learning.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 8. COMPULSORY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE.

§18-8-12. Issuance of a diploma or other appropriate credential by public, private or home school administrator.

1 A person who administers a program of secondary education at a public, private or home
 2 school that meets the requirements of this chapter may issue a diploma or other appropriate
 3 credential to a person who has completed the program of secondary education. ~~Such~~ The diploma
 4 or credential is legally sufficient to demonstrate that the person meets the definition of having a
 5 high school diploma or its equivalent. No state agency or institution of higher learning in this state
 6 may reject or otherwise treat a person differently solely on the grounds of the source of such a
 7 diploma or credential. State agencies or institutions of higher learning in this state may not require
 8 a person who has obtained a diploma or other appropriate credentialing from private, nonpublic,
 9 or home schooling, and who has acceptable test results on ACT, SAT or other tests recognized
 10 by the institution of higher learning which would qualify the person for admission, to submit to
 11 alternate testing as a condition of admission. Nor may any person who has obtained a diploma or
 12 other appropriate credentialing be rejected for admission to an institution of higher education
 13 solely because their secondary education was not accredited by the State Board of Education or
 14 any accrediting agency approved by said board. Nothing in this section prevents any agency or
 15 institution of higher learning from inquiring into the substance or content of the program to assess
 16 the content thereof for the purposes of determining whether a person meets other specific
 17 requirements.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to prohibit state agencies and institutions of higher learning from discriminating against graduates of private, nonpublic, or home schools by requiring them to submit to alternative testing as a precondition for acceptance into the institution of higher learning.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law, and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.