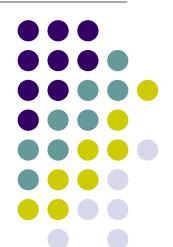
House Joint Resolution 91(2008) – Joint Subcommittee to Study Ways in Which the Commonwealth May Work More Closely with Virginia's Private, Nonprofit Colleges to Meet State Higher Education Needs

#### Overview of 2008 Interim Activities and 2009 General Assembly Action

Jessica Eades and Nikki Cheuk-Staff Attorneys, Legislative Services



## Overview of HJR 91 (2008) Charges



- Review the success of the Tuition Assistance Grant Program and develop recommendations to increase the effectiveness and awareness of the program among Virginia families
- Evaluate current and future higher education enrollment needs and identify ways in which the Commonwealth can partner or enter into contracts with Virginia private colleges to meet these needs
- Examine the ability of private colleges to provide the technology, equipment, and facilities necessary to serve Virginia students

### HJR 91 (2008): Charges, cont'd



- Review publicly supported programs for private higher education in other states and consider the applicability of such programs to Virginia
- Examine the success of private colleges in educating disadvantaged students and recommend ways in which the Commonwealth can help private colleges continue this important public mission

# First Meeting – August 18, 2008



## Dr. Daniel LaVista, Executive Director, State Council of Higher Education for Virginia

- Gave an overview of Virginia's system of higher education
- 12<sup>th</sup> largest system in the country
- Public, private; two-year and four-year; non-profit and for-profit
- Liberal arts, applied, and professional offerings
- Discussed the make-up of Pell grant recipients at the nonprofit private institutions





## Lee Andes, Assistant Director for Financial Aid, State Council of Higher Education for Virginia

- Provided a historical overview of the Tuition Assistance Grant Program (TAG)
- Began in 1972 by offering loans to undergraduate students
  later became exclusively grant-based
- In 1984, extended to graduate students
- The amount varies from year to year, but pursuant to statute cannot exceed the annual average appropriation per full time student at a public institution
- In 2007-2008, the grant amounted to 51.2% of the per student appropriation





Tod Massa, Policy Research and Data Warehousing Director, State Council of Higher Education for Virginia

- Discussed enrollment trends and projections in Virginia's higher education institutions
- Emphasized that although generally enrollment projections establish that there is adequate access relative to demand, thought must still be given to whether a school with open spots will be the right match for a certain student
- Predicts that the # of high school graduates will peak in 2009

Robert Lambeth, President, Council of Independent Colleges in Virginia

- Discussed contributions made to the Commonwealth by private institutions and challenges facing such institutions
- Pointed out the efficiencies that result to VA from a student attending a private institution under the TAG program at a \$3,200 cost to the state vs. a public institution for a \$8,062 cost to the state
- Provided suggestions for the joint subcommittee to consider over the course of two-year study such as: regular capital support, state supported student loan programs, RFP's, increased promotion of TAG

# Second Meeting – October 20, 2008



A Closer Look at Capital Projects from Beginning to Completion at Private Institutions --

- Paul Baker, Vice President for College Relations and Administration at Hampden-Sydney College provided a detailed look on the school's most recent capital project of building a new library
  - In total, a 20 year project, conceived in 1987 and ready for occupancy in 2007, costing \$18 million of solely private money
- Robert Lindgren, President, Randolph-Macon College spoke generally about capital projects at private institutions underscoring the difficulties in raising money without state assistance
  - Noted that most private donations are not made for building purposes but having state support for certain capital projects might help lure private investors

### Second Meeting – Cont'd



Publicly Supported Programs for Private Institutions in Other States

- Robert Lambeth, President of the Council of Independent Colleges in Virginia highlighted the capital support program in Maryland
- The Maryland program provides regular annual support of \$8-9 million that is provided to the organization of private institutions and then divided among private institutions for capital projects
- Discussed the following programs: state supported student loan programs; state funding to private institutions based on enrollment, enrollment of low income students, in-state enrollment, or degree completion; tuition tax credits or deductions; special funding for high needs areas; state match programs to encourage federal or private research funding

## 2009 General Assembly Activities



- HB 1663 State Council of Higher Education for Virginia; student advisory committee. Permits the State Council of Higher Education to appoint students enrolled in private and accredited institutions of higher education in the Commonwealth to the student advisory committee.
  - Passed, Acts of Assembly Chapter 434
  - Gives private school students a voice
- SB 1240 Two-Year College Transfer Grant. Increases the annual amount of the grant from \$1,000 to a maximum of \$1,500. The bill is contingent upon the appropriation of funds during the 2009 General Assembly session.
  - Passed the Senate, left in House Appropriations
  - Grant program that benefits students attending public or private institutions of higher education, after meeting certain criteria
- Budget details will be provided by Tony Maggio

### Workplan for 2009



- Virginia College Building Authority background information\*
- Now extinct Virginia Education Loan Authority historical perspective and background information\*, more in depth with ex-director
- Possible presentations from out of state experts on state supported programs
- In depth look at TAG program promotion
- More information on states utilizing RFPs in certain areas
- 2010 Budget forecast for Higher Education