




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

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House Room C

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HJR 91 (2008): Background

- Trends show an increasing demand for enrollment in the Commonwealth's institutions of higher education
- Virginia's private colleges have existing capacity to enroll more Virginia students and have no financial incentive to enroll out-of-state students
- The shortage of nurses and teachers is a pressing concern in the Commonwealth; 7 private colleges offer nursing programs and 24 private institutions offer teacher preparation programs
- The Commonwealth realizes substantial savings in general fund and capital expenditures when Virginia students enroll in a private college



Article VIII § 11. Aid to nonpublic higher education.

“...The General Assembly may also provide for the Commonwealth or any political subdivision thereof to contract with such institutions for the provision of educational or other related services.”

- ☐ This specific provision has not been litigated in Virginia courts.




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.



HJR 91 (2008): Parameters

- Two year study authorized for 4 meetings during the 2008 interim, and 4 in 2009
- Ex officio members serve with voting privileges
- The joint subcommittee shall provide for the participation of representatives of private, nonprofit colleges in Virginia, who shall participate without voting privileges and without compensation or reimbursement for travel expenses



HJR 91 (2008): Parameters, cont'd

- Meetings for the first year must be completed by November 30, 2008, and for the second year by November 30, 2009
- The chairman shall submit to the Division of Legislative Automated Systems an executive summary of its findings and recommendations no later than the first day of the next Regular Session of the General Assembly for each year