

HOUSE BILL NO. 1087

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations

on February 27, 2024)

(Patron Prior to Substitute--Delegate Coyner)

A BILL to direct the Department of Education, the Virginia Community College System, and the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia to develop a framework to support structured opportunities for qualified high school students in the Commonwealth to enroll in postsecondary coursework offered by a comprehensive community college that is creditable toward high school completion and a certificate or degree from a public institution of higher education; report.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. § 1. The Department of Education, the Virginia Community College System, and the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia shall develop a framework to support structured opportunities for qualified high school students in the Commonwealth to enroll in postsecondary coursework offered by a comprehensive community college that is creditable toward high school completion and a certificate or degree from a public institution of higher education. The framework shall leverage the findings and recommendations of the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission's 2022 study entitled The Costs of Virginia's Dual Enrollment Program and shall (i) assess the number of school divisions that offer academic credits, including those that offer the Passport Program, the Uniform Certificate of General Studies Program, or an associate degree; (ii) quantify and determine the local school division-level barriers for those school divisions that do not offer such academic credits; and (iii) provide innovative strategies to ensure students have access to such structured opportunities. The Joint Subcommittee on Elementary and Secondary Education Funding and the Joint Subcommittee on Higher Education Funding Policies shall provide additional guidance for development of the framework. The Department of Education, the Virginia Community College System, and the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia shall report their findings to such Joint Subcommittees by July 1, 2025.

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