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HOUSE BILL NO.

Offered
Prefiled

A BILL to amend and reenact § 51.1-126.5 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the optional retirement plan for faculty at institutions of higher learning.

Patron—

Referred to Committee on Appropriations

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 51.1-126.5 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 51.1-126.5. Defined contribution plan for eligible members.

I. After ten years of service in an eligible position, a participating member may make a one time, irrevocable election to transfer from a defined contribution plan to the defined benefit plan. Upon making such election, any accrued contributions and earnings in the member's defined contribution account shall be used to purchase service credit in the defined benefits plan as provided in subsection F.

¶ *J.* The Virginia Retirement System shall (i) develop policies and procedures for the administration of the plan and (ii) provide a program of education and support for participating members.

1 **HOUSE BILL NO.**

2 Offered

3 Prefiled

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5 *A BILL to amend and reenact § 51.1-126.5 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the optional*
6 *retirement plan for faculty at institutions of higher learning.*

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Patron—

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10 Referred to Committee on Appropriations

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13 1. That § 51.1-126.5 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

14 § 51.1-126.5. Defined contribution plan for eligible members.

15 *I. After ten years of service in an eligible position, a participating member may make a one time,*
16 *irrevocable election to transfer from a defined contribution plan to the defined benefit plan.*
17 *Upon making such election, any accrued contributions and earnings in the member's defined*
18 *contribution account shall be used to purchase service credit in the defined benefits plan as*
19 *provided in subsection F.*

20 **¶ J.** The Virginia Retirement System shall (i) develop policies and procedures for the
21 administration of the plan and (ii) provide a program of education and support for participating
22 members.

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Referred to Committee on Appropriations

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12 Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

13 1. That § 51.1-126.5 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

14 § 51.1-126.5. Defined contribution plan for eligible members.

15 G. The contribution by the Commonwealth to a participating member's defined contribution
16 account shall be determined by the Board of Trustees of the Virginia Retirement System in
17 consultation with its actuary, *but shall not be less than the percentage contribution for*
18 *participating members of the Commonwealth's defined benefit plan.* Contributions to the defined
19 contribution account and all earnings thereon shall be credited to an account to be maintained for
20 each participating member. Contributions by the Commonwealth to a participating member's
21 defined contribution account shall be in lieu of contributions to the retirement system required
22 pursuant to § 51.1-145.

1 **HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO.**

2 Offered

3 *RESOLUTION requesting the Commonwealth of Virginia to encourage enhancing and expanding*
4 *international educational programs, and expressing support for international education exchange*
5 *programs.*

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8 Patrons--

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10 Referred to

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13 WHEREAS, international education is a crucial component of higher education in Virginia which
14 contributes to the economy of the Commonwealth and to a diverse educational environment that
15 enhances academic programs, and

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17 WHEREAS, tourism and foreign trade are key sectors in Virginia’s economy, making it imperative
18 for the Commonwealth to promote mutual understanding between its citizens and those of other
19 countries, and

20
21 WHEREAS, strong international education programs at colleges and universities offers evidence of
22 the Commonwealth’s commitment to enhancing its role as a global citizen and

23
24 WHEREAS, Virginia currently enrolls more than XXXX students from more than YYYY
25 countries as full time, part time, and or exchange students,

26
27 WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the Commonwealth for its institutions of higher education to
28 provide students with the opportunity to acquire the intercultural skills to interact effectively within
29 a multicultural context; and

30
31 WHEREAS, international education curricular offerings address global issues and provide in depth
32 understanding of other cultures, while acknowledging that the development of new knowledge and
33 technological breakthroughs often require international collaboration; and

34
35 WHEREAS, today’s increasingly complex global trade relations increasingly calls for
36 consideration of the global environment, world conflicts, and

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38 WHEREAS, the support of international education has become increasingly important to our
39 national security, foreign policy, economic competitiveness and capacity for tolerance; and

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41 WHEREAS, learning about other cultures and languages through study, living overseas, and
42 interacting with people of other countries promotes the free exchange of ideas, allows us to seek
43 joint solutions to problems, and helps create lasting partnerships to meet our shared
44 concerns; therefore be it
45

46 RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, that the General Assembly hereby
47 recognizes that international students and scholars of the Commonwealth contribute significantly to
48 the cultural diversity of Virginia's educational institutions, enhance the educational experience of
49 all students while making important contributions, and thereby supports the participation of
50 Virginia's students, international students, and professors in international studies, international
51 exchange programs and other activities that advance cultural awareness and promote mutual
52 understanding and respect for the citizens of other countries; and be it further
53

54 RESOLVED, that the Commonwealth of Virginia's colleges and universities are encouraged to:
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- 56 1. develop courses of study and academic programs to increase students' understanding of global
57 issues and cultural differences;
- 58 2. further develop courses in foreign languages to prepare students to seek careers in a global
59 marketplace and enhance their understanding of other nations' values;
- 60 3. provide opportunities for students in all majors to participate in programs to study abroad to
61 enrich their academic training, intercultural perspectives and personal development;
- 62 4. provide opportunities for domestic and international students to interact effectively and routinely
63 to share their views, perceptions and experiences; and
- 64 5. develop innovative public educational programs, methods, and venues to explore global issues
65 and world cultures; and
66

67 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Education prepare and transmit a copy of
68 this resolution to the Board of the State Council of Higher Education, to the Board of Visitors and
69 President of each public college and university, and to the Chancellor of the Community College
70 System.