

Date 3-30-82



ENROLLED

H. B. 2025

(By MRS. MARTIN)

[Passed March 12, 1982; in effect from passage.]

AN ACT to amend and reenact sections two and thirteen-a, article twenty-six, chapter eighteen of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, relating to the West Virginia board of regents; defining higher education institution to include private proprietary educational institutions within the state operated for profit; and providing that rights granted previous to the adoption of section thirteen-a shall not be infringed.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That sections two and thirteen-a, article twenty-six, chapter eighteen of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

ARTICLE 26. WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF REGENTS.

§18-26-2. Definitions.

1 Notwithstanding the provisions of section one, article one
2 of this chapter, the following words when used in this article
3 shall have the meaning hereafter ascribed to them unless
4 the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

5 (a) The term "board" shall mean the West Virginia board
6 of regents.

7 (b) The term "state colleges" shall mean Bluefield State

8 College, Concord College, Fairmont State College, Glenville
9 State College, Shepherd College, West Liberty State College,
10 West Virginia Institute of Technology, West Virginia State
11 College, West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine and
12 any state community college or other state institution of
13 higher education which may hereafter be established and not
14 designated as a "university."

15 (c) The term "state college" shall mean one of the state
16 colleges.

17 (d) The terms "state universities" and "universities" shall
18 mean Marshall University and West Virginia University and
19 any other state institution of higher education which may
20 hereafter be established and designated as a "university."

21 (e) The terms "state university" and "university" shall
22 mean one of the state universities.

23 (f) The term "community college" shall mean any in-
24 stitution of higher education which has been designated as a
25 community college by the West Virginia board of regents
26 under the provisions of section thirteen-b, article twenty-
27 six, chapter eighteen of this code.

28 (g) The term "higher educational institution" shall mean
29 any institution as defined by sections 401(f), (g), (h) of the
30 Federal Higher Education Facilities Act of 1963, as amended,
31 and shall also mean any private proprietary educational in-
32 stitution in this state operated for profit which offers one or
33 more programs leading to a degree.

**§18-26-13a. Accreditation of institutions of higher education;
standards for degrees.**

1 The West Virginia board of regents shall make rules and
2 regulations for the accreditation of all colleges, universities
3 and other institutions of higher education in the state, and
4 shall determine the minimum standards for the conferring of
5 degrees. No institution of higher educational status may
6 confer any degree on any basis of work or merit below
7 the minimum standards prescribed by the West Virginia board
8 of regents. Nothing contained herein shall infringe upon the

9 rights, including rights to award degrees, granted to any in-
10 stitution by charter given according to law, or by actions of the
11 West Virginia board of regents, previous to the adoption of this
12 section.

13 No charter or other instrument containing the right to
14 confer degrees of higher educational status shall be granted
15 by the state of West Virginia to any institution, association
16 or organization within the state, nor shall any such degree
17 be awarded until the condition of conferring such degree has
18 first been approved in writing by the West Virginia board
19 of regents.

The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

R. P. Beyer
Chairman Senate Committee

Tony E. Whitlow
Chairman House Committee

Originating in the House.

Takes effect from passage.

Isaac C. Willis
Clerk of the Senate

Ch Blankenship
Clerk of the House of Delegates
Walter R. McGraw
President of the Senate

W. H. Lee, Jr.
Speaker House of Delegates

The within is approved this the 10
day of March, 1982.

James D. Beyer
Governor

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SECY. OF STATE