WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION, 1982

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ENROLLED

HOUSE BILL No. 2025

(By Mrs. Martin, 47th Dist.)

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Passed March 12, 1982

In Effect from Passage

3-30-82
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 of this chapter, the following words when used in this article shall have the meaning hereafter ascribed to them unless the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

(a) The term “board” shall mean the West Virginia board of regents.

(b) The term “state colleges” shall mean Bluefield State
(c) The term "state college" shall mean one of the state colleges.

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

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

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

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

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

The West Virginia board of regents shall make rules and regulations for the accreditation of all colleges, universities and other institutions of higher education in the state, and shall determine the minimum standards for the conferring of degrees. No institution of higher educational status may confer any degree on any basis of work or merit below the minimum standards prescribed by the West Virginia board of regents. Nothing contained herein shall infringe upon the
rights, including rights to award degrees, granted to any institution by charter given according to law, or by actions of the West Virginia board of regents, previous to the adoption of this section.

No charter or other instrument containing the right to confer degrees of higher educational status shall be granted by the state of West Virginia to any institution, association or organization within the state, nor shall any such degree be awarded until the condition of conferring such degree has first been approved in writing by the West Virginia board of regents.
The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

R. P. Bynum
Chairman Senate Committee

Tony E. Whitlow
Chairman House Committee

Originating in the House.

Takes effect from passage.

Jed C. Willis
Clerk of the Senate

W. Blankenship
Clerk of the House of Delegates

Walter H. McMillen
President of the Senate

Michael E. Busch
Speaker House of Delegates

The within is approved this the 10

day of March, 1982.

I. D. Dyson
Governor