

**Senate Bill No. 246**

(By Senators Minard, D. Facemire, Wells and Kessler (Acting  
President))

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[Introduced January 25, 2011; referred to the Committee on  
Education; and then to the Committee on Finance.]

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A BILL to amend and reenact §18C-7-3 of the Code of West Virginia,  
1931, as amended, relating to including Salem International  
University as an eligible institution; and modifying  
provisions regarding the higher education institutions that  
are eligible to continue to receive PROMISE scholarship funds.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

That §18C-7-3 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended,  
be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

**ARTICLE 7. WEST VIRGINIA PROVIDING REAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR  
MAXIMIZING IN-STATE STUDENT EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP  
PROGRAM.**

**§18C-7-3. Definitions.**

(a) *General.* -- For the purposes of this article, terms have  
the meaning ascribed to them in section two, article one of this  
chapter, unless the context in which the term is used clearly  
requires a different meaning or a specific definition is provided  
in this section.

1 (b) *Definitions.* --

2 (1) "Eligible institution" means:

3 (A) A state institution of higher education as defined in  
4 section two, article one, chapter eighteen-b of this code;

5 (B) Alderson-Broaddus College, Appalachian Bible College,  
6 Bethany College, Davis and Elkins College, Mountain State  
7 University, Ohio Valley University, Salem International University,  
8 the University of Charleston, West Virginia Wesleyan College and  
9 Wheeling Jesuit University, all in West Virginia. Any institution  
10 listed in this subdivision ceases to be an eligible institution if  
11 it loses regional accreditation. ~~meets either of the following~~  
12 ~~conditions:~~

13 ~~(i) It loses regional accreditation; or~~

14 ~~(ii) It changes its status as a private, not-for-profit~~  
15 ~~institution;~~

16 (C) Any other public or private regionally accredited  
17 institution in this state approved by the commission.

18 (2) "Tuition" means the quarter, semester or term charges  
19 imposed by an eligible state institution of higher education and,  
20 additionally, all mandatory fees required as a condition of  
21 enrollment by all students. For the purposes of this article, the  
22 following conditions apply:

23 (A) West Virginia University, Potomac State College and West  
24 Virginia University Institute of Technology are considered separate  
25 institutions for purposes of determining tuition rates; and

26 (B) The tuition amount paid by undergraduate health sciences  
27 students at West Virginia University is considered to be the same

1 as the amount of tuition paid by all other West Virginia University  
2 undergraduate students.

3 (3) "Enrolled" means either currently enrolled or in the  
4 process of enrolling in an eligible institution.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to include Salem International University as an eligible institution and modifies provisions regarding the higher education institutions that are eligible to continue to receive PROMISE scholarship funds.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from the present law, and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.