WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2024 REGULAR SESSION

Enrolled

Senate Bill 547

By Senators Grady and Plymale

[Passed February 12, 2024; in effect from passage]

1 AN ACT to amend and reenact §18B-17-2 and §18B-17-3 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, all relating to authorizing legislative rules regarding higher education; 2 3 authorizing legislative rules for the Higher Education Policy Commission regarding 4 Guidelines for Employing and Evaluating Presidents; Higher Education Adult Part-Time 5 Student Grant Program; West Virginia Providing Real Opportunities for Maximizing In-6 State Student Excellence Scholarship Program; Dual Enrollment Pilot Program; West 7 Virginia Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math Scholarship Program; West Virginia 8 Higher Education Grant Program; Nursing Scholarship Program; authorizing legislative 9 rules for the Council for Community and Technical College Education regarding Higher 10 Education Accountability System; Dual Enrollment Pilot Program; Initial Authorization of 11 Degree-Granting Institutions; Tuition and Fees; and repealing the Council for Community 12 and Technical College Education's rule regarding Accountability System.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

17. ARTICLE LEGISLATIVE RULES. §18B-17-2. Authorizing rules of Higher Education Policy Commission. 1 (a) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on October 15, 2004, relating to the 2 Higher Education Policy Commission (Underwood-Smith Teacher Scholarship Program rule), is 3 authorized.

4 (b) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on October 15, 2004, relating to the
5 Higher Education Policy Commission (West Virginia Engineering, Science, and Technology
6 Scholarship Program rule), is authorized.

7 (c) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on October 15, 2004, relating to the
8 Higher Education Policy Commission (Medical Education Fee and Medical Student Loan Program
9 rule), is authorized.

(d) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on October 27, 2005, relating to the
 Higher Education Policy Commission (authorization of degree-granting institutions), is authorized.

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(e) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on August 23, 2006, relating to the Higher
 Education Policy Commission (West Virginia Higher Education Grant Program), is authorized.

(f) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on January 4, 2008, relating to the Higher
Education Policy Commission (Providing Real Opportunities for Maximizing In-state Student
Excellence - PROMISE), is authorized.

(g) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on August 25, 2008, relating to the Higher
Education Policy Commission (Research Trust Program), is authorized.

(h) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on January 8, 2009, relating to the Higher
Education Policy Commission (Guidelines for Governing Boards in Employing and Evaluating
Presidents), is authorized.

(i) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on September 10, 2008, relating to the
 Higher Education Policy Commission (Medical Student Loan Program), is authorized, with the
 following amendment:

25 On page two, subsection 5.1, following the words "financial aid office" by inserting a new 26 subdivision 5.1.3 to read as follows: "United States citizenship or legal immigrant status while 27 actively pursuing United States citizenship.".

(j) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on December 1, 2008, relating to the
 Higher Education Policy Commission (West Virginia Higher Education Grant Program), is
 authorized.

31 (k) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on January 26, 2009, relating to the
 32 Higher Education Policy Commission (Accountability System), is authorized.

(I) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on May 20, 2009, relating to the Higher
 Education Policy Commission (Energy and Water Savings Revolving Loan Fund Program), is
 authorized.

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36 (m) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on January 27, 2010, relating to the
37 Higher Education Policy Commission (Providing Real Opportunities for Maximizing In-state
38 Student Excellence - PROMISE), is authorized.

(n) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on December 8, 2010, relating to the
Higher Education Policy Commission (authorization of degree-granting institutions), is authorized,
with the following amendment:

42 On page 28, subsection 9.1.b, following the words "Good cause shall consist of" by43 inserting the words "any one or more of the following".

44 (o) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on December 12, 2011, relating to the
45 Higher Education Policy Commission (Tuition and Fee Policy), is authorized.

46 (p) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on August 10, 2012, relating to the Higher
 47 Education Policy Commission (authorization of degree-granting institutions), is authorized.

48 (q) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on August 10, 2012, relating to the Higher
49 Education Policy Commission (annual reauthorization of degree-granting institutions), is
50 authorized.

(r) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on March 20, 2013, relating to the Higher
Education Policy Commission (Human Resources Administration), is authorized.

(s) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on January 24, 2014, relating to the
Higher Education Policy Commission (Capital Project Management), is authorized.

(t) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on April 4, 2014, relating to the Higher
Education Policy Commission (Underwood-Smith Teacher Scholarship Program), is authorized.

57 (u) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on August 4, 2014, relating to the Higher
58 Education Policy Commission (Nursing Scholarship Program), is authorized.

(v) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on October 28, 2015, relating to the
Higher Education Policy Commission (Underwood-Smith Teacher Scholarship Program), is
authorized.

(w) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on October 28, 2015, relating to the
Higher Education Policy Commission (Nursing Scholarship Program), is authorized.

(x) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on December 20, 2016, relating to the
Higher Education Policy Commission (West Virginia Higher Education Grant Program), is
authorized.

(y) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on December 20, 2016, relating to the
Higher Education Policy Commission (Providing Real Opportunities for Maximizing In-state
Student Excellence - PROMISE), is authorized.

(z) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on December 20, 2016, relating to the
 Higher Education Policy Commission (Research Trust Fund Program), is authorized.

(aa) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on December 20, 2016, relating to the
Higher Education Policy Commission (annual reauthorization of degree-granting institutions), is
authorized.

(bb) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on January 16, 2018, relating to the
Higher Education Policy Commission (Tuition and Fee Policy), is authorized.

(cc) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on January 16, 2018, relating to the
Higher Education Policy Commission (Human Resources Administration), is authorized.

(dd) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on January 22, 2018, relating to the
Higher Education Policy Commission (Capital Project Management), is authorized, with the
following amendments:

On page one, subsection 2.1, by striking out all of subdivision 2.1.d. and inserting in lieu thereof a new subdivision 2.1.d., to read as follows: "Efficient use of existing classroom and other space by institutions, while maintaining an appropriate deference to the value judgments of the institutional governing boards".;

86 On page seven, subsection 4.2, by striking out all of subdivision 4.2.d.5. and inserting in 87 lieu thereof a new subdivision 4.2.d.5., to read as follows: "Funding will be prioritized for each

institution in accordance with institutional plans confirmed by the Commission or approved by theCouncil.";

90 On page seven, subsection 4.2, by striking out all of subdivision 4.2.d.6. and inserting in 91 lieu thereof a new subdivision 4.2.d.6., to read as follows: "Facility utilization rates will be an 92 important factor in prioritizing capital projects across the systems.";

93 On page seven, subsection 4.2, by striking out all of subdivision 4.2.d.7. and inserting in 94 lieu thereof a new subdivision 4.2.d.7., to read as follows: "Institutions with overall net asset values 95 and capacity utilization rates that exceed or equal thresholds set annually by the Commission and 96 Council are the presumptive priority for new facilities. If these projects do not replace an existing 97 facility, they would be included in the Program Improvement category."; and

98 On pages 10-11, section 5, by striking out all of subdivision 5.6. and inserting in lieu thereof 99 a new subdivision 5.6., to read as follows: "A governing board may not implement a campus 100 development plan or plan update that has not been confirmed by the Commission or approved by 101 the Council, as appropriate. The purchase of any property for the construction of a facility that is 102 not included in the campus development plan creates an update to the campus development plan 103 that must be confirmed by the Commission or approved by the Council, as appropriate, prior to its 104 purchase. In the case of institutions governed by the Council, this provision applies equally to 105 property acquired by any means, whether by purchase or otherwise.".

(ee) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on January 22, 2019, relating to the
 Higher Education Policy Commission (Acceptance of Advanced Placement Credit), is repealed.

(ff) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on January 22, 2019, relating to the
Higher Education Policy Commission (Human Resources Administration), is repealed.

(gg) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on August 28, 2018, relating to the
Higher Education Policy Commission (Guidelines for Governing Boards in Employing and
Evaluating Presidents), is authorized.

(hh) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on August 7, 2018, relating to the Higher
 Education Policy Commission (Providing Real Opportunities for Maximizing In-state Student
 Excellence (PROMISE) Scholarship Program), is authorized, with the following amendments:

On page one, subsection 2.1, by striking out all of subdivision 2.1.a. and inserting in lieu thereof a new subdivision 2.1.a., to read as follows: "Must complete high school graduation requirements at a West Virginia public, private or home school unless he or she qualified as a military dependent under Section 5 of this rule, or has commuted to an out-of-state school pursuant to Section 6 of this rule; and";

On page one, subsection 2.1, by striking out all of subdivision 2.1.b. and inserting in lieu thereof a new subdivision 2.1.b., to read as follows: "Must complete at least one half of the credits required for high school graduation through attendance at a public, private or home school in this state, unless he or she qualified as a military dependent under Section 5 of this rule, or has commuted to an out-of-state school pursuant to Section 6 of this rule; and";

126 On page one, subdivision 2.1.c., by striking out the words "Section 5" and inserting in lieu 127 thereof the words "Section 4";

128 On page one, subsection 2.1, by striking out all of subdivision 2.1.d. and inserting in lieu thereof a new subdivision 2.1.d., to read as follows: "Must have attained a cumulative grade point 129 130 average of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale, based on county board grading policies, in both core 131 courses and overall coursework required for graduation by the State Board of Education, while 132 enrolled in a public or private high school. If home-schooled pursuant to the exemption allowed by 133 W.Va. Code §18-8-1 as documented by the county school board system, the applicant must have 134 completed in both the 11th and 12th grades the required core and elective coursework necessary 135 to prepare students for success in postsecondary education at the associate and baccalaureate 136 levels by attaining a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 grading scale in both 137 core courses and overall coursework as determined by the Commission; and";

138	On page one, subsection 2.1, subdivision 2.1.f., preceding the words "have resided in
139	West Virginia", by striking out the word "Must" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "The
140	applicant and his or her parent or legal guardian must";
141	On page one, subdivision 2.1.f., by striking out the words "Section 5" and inserting in lieu
142	thereof the words "Section 4";
143	On page one, subdivision 2.1.f., by striking out the words "Section 6" and inserting in lieu
144	thereof the words "Section 5";
145	On page two, subsection 2.4., by striking out the words "Section 10.7 or 10.8" and inserting
146	in lieu thereof the words "Section 9.7 or 9.8";
147	On page two, subsection 2.5, by striking out the words "Section 8" and inserting in lieu
148	thereof the words "Section 7";
149	On page two, subsection 2.5, by striking out the words "Section 10" and inserting in lieu
150	thereof the words "Section 9";
151	On page two, by striking out all of section 3 and renumbering the remaining sections
152	accordingly;
153	On page three, subsection 4.4, by striking out the words "Section 14" and inserting in lieu
154	thereof the words "Section 13";
155	On page five-six, subsection 10.6, by striking out the words "Section 10.3" and inserting in
156	lieu thereof the words "Section 9.3";
157	On page six, subsection 10.6, by striking out the words "Section 10.2" and inserting in lieu
158	thereof the words "Section 9.2";
159	On page six, subsection 10.9.c., by striking out the words "Section 5" and inserting in lieu
160	thereof the words "Section 4"; and
161	On page eight, subsection 15.1.b, by striking out the words "Section 11.1" and inserting in
162	lieu thereof the words "Section 10.1".

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163	(ii) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on September 30, 2019, relating to the
164	Higher Education Policy Commission (Higher Education Accountability System) is authorized.
165	(jj) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on November 5, 2019, relating to the
166	Higher Education Policy Commission (Underwood-Smith Teaching Scholars Program and
167	Teacher Education Loan Repayment Program) is authorized.
168	(kk) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on October 4, 2019, relating to the Higher
169	Education Policy Commission (Accountability System) is repealed.
170	(II) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on July 29, 2020, relating to the Higher
171	Education Policy Commission (Mental Health Loan Repayment Program) is authorized, with the
172	following amendments:
173	On page one, subdivision 3.1.b., after the words "family therapist," by inserting the words
174	"psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner,";
175	On page two, subsection 6.1., by striking out the words "at least" and inserting in lieu
176	thereof the words "up to"; and
177	On page three, subsection 9.1., after the words "family therapists" by inserting the words
178	"psychiatric mental health nurse practitioners,".
179	(mm) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on March 11, 2021, relating to the
180	Higher Education Policy Commission (Administrative Exemption) is authorized.
181	(nn) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on May 5, 2021, relating to the Higher
182	Education Policy Commission (Research Trust Fund Program) is authorized.
183	(oo) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on May 5, 2021, relating to the Higher
184	Education Policy Commission (Annual Reauthorization of Degree-Granting Institutions) is
185	authorized.
186	(pp) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on July 29, 2022, relating to the Higher

187 Education Policy Commission (Performance-Based Funding Formula) is authorized.

(qq) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on June 14, 2022, relating to the Higher
Education Policy Commission (Capital Project Management) is authorized.

(rr) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on July 29, 2022, relating to the Higher
Education Policy Commission (Tuition and Fee Policy) is authorized.

(ss) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on June 14, 2022, relating to the Higher
Education Policy Commission (Higher Education Grant Program) is authorized.

(tt) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on July 29, 2022, relating to the Higher
Education Policy Commission (Annual Reauthorization of Degree-Granting Institutions) is
authorized.

(uu) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on June 14, 2022, relating to the Higher
Education Policy Commission (Human Resources Administration) is authorized.

(vv) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on July 25, 2023, relating to the Higher
 Education Policy Commission (Guidelines for Employing and Evaluating Presidents) is
 authorized.

(ww) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on September 12, 2023, relating to the
Higher Education Policy Commission (Higher Education Adult Part-Time Student (HEAPS) Grant
Program).

(xx) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on July 26, 2023, relating to the Higher
 Education Policy Commission (West Virginia Providing Real Opportunities for Maximizing In-State
 Student Excellence (PROMISE) Scholarship Program) is authorized.

(yy) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on July 28, 2023, relating to the Higher
 Education Policy Commission (Dual Enrollment Pilot Program) is authorized.

(zz) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on July 24, 2023, relating to the Higher
 Education Policy Commission (West Virginia Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math
 (STEM) Scholarship Program) is authorized.

213 (aaa) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on July 24, 2023, relating to the Higher

Education Policy Commission (West Virginia Higher Education Grant Program) is authorized.

(bbb) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on July 24, 2023, relating to the Higher
Education Policy Commission (Nursing Scholarship Program) is authorized.

§18B-17-3. Authorizing rules of the Council for Community and Technical College Education.

(a) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on September 29, 2004, relating to the
 West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education (performance indicators),
 is authorized.

4 (b) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on October 13, 2005, relating to the West
5 Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education (authorization of degree-granting
6 institutions), is authorized.

7 (c) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on October 30, 2006, relating to the West
8 Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education (Workforce Development
9 Initiative Program), is authorized.

(d) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on December 4, 2008, relating to the West
Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education (Employing and Evaluating
Presidents), is authorized.

(e) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on December 23, 2008, relating to the
West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education (performance indicators),
is authorized.

(f) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on February 5, 2009, relating to the West
 Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education (finance), is authorized.

(g) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on February 5, 2009, relating to the West
Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education (Accountability System), is
authorized.

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(h) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on June 15, 2011, relating to the West
 Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education (Workforce Development
 Initiative Program), is authorized.

(i) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on October 26, 2011, relating to the West
Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education (Tuition and Fees), is authorized.
(j) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on October 17, 2012, relating to the West
Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education (authorization of degree-granting
institutions), is authorized.

(k) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on October 17, 2012, relating to the West
Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education (annual reauthorization of
degree-granting institutions), is authorized.

(I) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on March 21, 2013, relating to the West
Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education (Human Resources
Administration), is authorized.

(m) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on August 21, 2012, relating to the West
Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education (West Virginia EDGE Program),
is authorized.

(n) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on January 28, 2014, relating to the West
Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education (Capital Project Management), is
authorized.

41 (o) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on January 18, 2017, relating to the West
42 Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education (annual reauthorization of
43 degree-granting institutions), is authorized.

(p) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on January 18, 2017, relating to the West
Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education (Business, Occupational, and
Trade Schools), is authorized.

47 (q) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on January 26, 2018, relating to the West
48 Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education (Human Resources
49 Administration), is authorized.

(r) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on January 26, 2018, relating to the West
Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education (Capital Project Management), is
authorized, with the following amendments:

53 On page one, subsection 2.1, by striking out all of subdivision 2.1.d. and inserting in lieu 54 thereof a new subdivision 2.1.d., to read as follows: "Efficient use of existing classroom and other 55 space by institutions, while maintaining an appropriate deference to the value judgments of the 56 institutional governing boards.";

57 On page seven, subsection 4.2, by striking out all of subdivision 4.2.d.5. and inserting in 58 lieu thereof a new subdivision 4.2.d.5., to read as follows: "Funding will be prioritized for each 59 institution in accordance with institutional plans confirmed by the Commission or approved by the 60 Council.";

61 On page seven, subsection 4.2, by striking out all of subdivision 4.2.d.6. and inserting in 62 lieu thereof a new subdivision 4.2.d.6., to read as follows: "Facility utilization rates will be an 63 important factor in prioritizing capital projects across the systems.";

On page seven, subsection 4.2, by striking out all of subdivision 4.2.d.7. and inserting in lieu thereof a new subdivision 4.2.d.7., to read as follows: "Institutions with overall net asset values and capacity utilization rates that exceed or equal thresholds set annually by the Commission and Council are the presumptive priority for new facilities. If these projects do not replace an existing facility, they would be included in the Program Improvement category."; and

On pages 10-11, section 5, by striking out all of subdivision 5.6. and inserting in lieu thereof a new subdivision 5.6., to read as follows: "A governing board may not implement a campus development plan or plan update that has not been confirmed by the Commission or approved by the Council, as appropriate. The purchase of any property for the construction of a facility that is

not included in the campus development plan creates an update to the campus development plan
that must be confirmed by the Commission or approved by the Council, as appropriate, prior to its
purchase. In the case of institutions governed by the Council, this provision applies equally to
property acquired by any means, whether by purchase or otherwise.".

(s) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on July 2, 2018, relating to the West
Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education (Tuition and Fees), is authorized.
(t) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on September 26, 2018, relating to the
West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education (Acceptance of Advanced
Placement Credit), is repealed.

(u) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on November 20, 2018, relating to the
West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education (initial authorization of
degree-granting institutions), is authorized.

(v) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on November 20, 2018, relating to the
West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education (Workforce Development:
Learn and Earn, Technical Program Development, and West Virginia Advance Rapid Response
Grants), is authorized.

(w) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on January 25, 2019, relating to the West
Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education (Human Resources
Administration), is repealed.

92 (x) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on June 3, 2019, relating to the West
93 Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education (West Virginia Invests Grant
94 Program) is authorized.

95 (y) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on April 27, 2021 (Business,
96 Occupational, and Trade Schools) is authorized.

97 (z) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on April 27, 2021 (Annual Reauthorization
98 of Degree-Granting Institutions) is authorized.

99 (aa) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on November 10, 2021 (West Virginia
100 Invests Grant Program) is authorized.

(bb) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on July 22, 2022 (Performance-Based
Funding Formula) is authorized.

103 (cc) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on June 13, 2022 (Capital Project
104 Management) is authorized.

(dd) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on July 21, 2022 (Workforce
Development Initiative Grant Programs) is authorized.

107 (ee) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on July 21, 2022 (Annual 108 Reauthorization of Degree-Granting Institutions) is authorized, with the following amendment:

On page 13 by adding a new subsection designated 12.23 to read as follows: Nothing in this rule in any way affects or limits the due process protections or other protections afforded to proprietary schools under either W. Va. Code § 18B-2B-9 or 135 C.S.R. 35, Business, Occupational, and Trade Schools.

(ff) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on June 13, 2022 (Human ResourcesAdministration) is authorized.

(gg) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on July 26, 2023, relating to the Council
for Community and Technical College Education (Higher Education Accountability System) is
authorized.

(hh) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on September 14, 2023, relating to the
Council for Community and Technical College Education (Dual Enrollment Pilot Program) is
authorized.

(ii) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on July 26, 2023, relating to the Council
for Community and Technical College Education (Initial Authorization of Degree-Granting
Institutions) is authorized.

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(jj) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on July 26, 2023, relating to the Council

- 125 for Community and Technical College Education (Tuition and Fees) is authorized.
- 126 (kk) The legislative rule filed in the State Register on July 26, 2023, relating to the Council
- 127 for Community and Technical College Education (Accountability System) is repealed.