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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 264

Offered January 8, 2025

Prefiled January 8, 2025

Designating the week of July 13, 2025, and the third week of July in each succeeding year, as Virginia Private College Week in Virginia.

Patrons—Bagby, Boysko and Mulchi; Delegates: Fowler and Obenshain

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, Virginia's accredited nonprofit private colleges and universities complement and strengthen the Commonwealth's higher education system and are essential to its goal of preparing every student for success in life; and

WHEREAS, Virginia's private colleges and universities contribute significantly to the Commonwealth's economy, generating \$4.6 billion in economic output, supporting nearly 30,000 jobs, and providing \$157 million in state and local tax revenue; and

WHEREAS, more than 150,000 students, both on-campus and online, are educated at Virginia's private colleges and universities, benefitting from diverse academic programs, outstanding faculty members, small class sizes, and excellent preparation for future careers or graduate school; and

WHEREAS, Virginia's private colleges and universities work closely with community colleges to provide seamless credit transfers, creating accessible pathways to advanced education, and graduate approximately 40 percent of all degrees in the Commonwealth and nearly 50 percent of all nursing degrees; and

WHEREAS, eligible Virginia-resident, full-time undergraduate students attending a private college or university in the Commonwealth receive an annual Tuition Assistance Grant to make these institutions more affordable and accessible; and

WHEREAS, the Council of Independent Colleges in Virginia (CICV), founded in 1971, represents 28 accredited nonprofit private colleges and universities in Virginia and provides valuable support and advocacy for private higher education throughout the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, visiting college campuses is a critical step in the college search process, and CICV invites high school students and their families to explore the opportunities offered by Virginia's nonprofit private colleges during Virginia Private College Week; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly designate the week of July 13, 2025, and the third week of July in each succeeding year, as Virginia Private College Week in Virginia; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit a copy of this resolution to the Council of Independent Colleges in Virginia so that members of this organization may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly of Virginia in this matter; and, be it

RESOLVED FINALLY, That the Clerk of the Senate post the designation of this week on the General Assembly's website.

INTRODUCED

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