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Synopsis of House Committee Amendments

(This synopsis does not address amendments that may have been adopted on the House Floor.)

S.B. 1 of the 136th General Assembly

House Workforce and Higher Education

Rachel Larsen, Research Analyst

The committee made the following changes to the Senate-passed version of the bill:

- Clarifies that a state institution of higher education’s policy regarding diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI), intellectual diversity, and other concepts does not prohibit a state institution from either complying with any state or federal law to provide disability services or permitting student organizations, including sororities and fraternities.
- Permits a state institution to submit a written request for an exception from the prohibition on DEI orientation or training to the Chancellor of Higher Education because the institution determines the orientation or training course is exempt from that prohibition because all aspects of the orientation or course are required to:
 - Comply with state and federal laws or regulations;
 - Comply with state or federal professional licensure requirements; or
 - Obtain or retain accreditation.
- Requires the exception request to include an explanation of the circumstances and the effort made by the state institution to comply with the prohibition on DEI orientation or training.
- Permits a state institution to exempt a student from the requirement to take an American civic literacy course to graduate if the student has completed at least three credit hours, or the equivalent, in an American history or government course.