

May 5, 2023

Virginia General Assembly

Pocahontas Building 900 E. Main Street Richmond, Virginia 23219

Dear Speaker Gilbert and Majority Leader Kilgore,

You have shown true leadership with your <u>request</u> that Virginia investigate the cost of so-called "Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion" initiatives in the Commonwealth's public colleges and universities. This divisive and discriminatory ideology has no place on campus, and your letter to the Joint Legislative Audit & Review Commission will hopefully begin the process of dislodging it.

As the head of an organization that represents medical professionals and students, I ask that you pay special attention to DEI activities at public medical schools. They have arguably embraced DEI to an even greater extent than other institutions – and the consequences are liable to be much more dangerous, even deadly.

By its nature, DEI fixates on people's skin color instead of their individual characteristics. It has already been used to lower standards for admission to medical school, leading to worse quality students who will provide worse quality care as physicians. DEI has even been used to justify policies like preferential medical treatment by race, which is racial discrimination by another name.

My organization has already found that Virginia's medical schools have fallen prey to DEI:

- Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) offers <u>leadership education</u> that includes training on implicit bias and microaggressions. These concepts are grounded in the idea that white people are inherently racist oppressors, while minorities are victims. This is divisive and false.
- VCU <u>reported</u> to the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) that it has implemented 94.4% of the DEI policies requested by the AAMC. This makes VCU one of the most DEI-centered medical schools in the entire country, casting doubt on essentially everything it does.
- The University of Virginia (UVA) is currently under <u>investigation</u> by the Office for Civil Rights for a Title IX violation related to DEI, based upon a complaint my organization filed. We have filed an additional federal civil rights complaint against the UVA School of Medicine for a discriminatory <u>recruitment scholarship</u>, grounded in DEI, that is a clear violation of Title VI.

The UVA School of Medicine and the Comprehensive Cancer Center <u>are hiring</u> for multiple DEI related positions, meaning DEI's influence and control is growing on campus.

I hope your request unearths more details about DEI's infiltration of Virginia's medical schools. The Commonwealth's residents deserve to know exactly how far it has gone down this radical road. This issue goes well beyond the quality of the education they provide. Ultimately, it affects the health and well-being of everyone who will one day be treated by the physicians these institutions teach.

Thank you for your commitment to curing this corruption in medical education and all of higher education.

Sincerely,

Stanley Goldfarb, MD

Chairman

Do No Harm