

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

Act 1014 of the Regular Session

1 State of Arkansas
2 85th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2005

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2459

4
5 By: Representatives Mack, Dickinson, Thyer, Abernathy, Adams, Blount, Bolin, Bond, Boyd, Bright,
6 Burris, Chesterfield, Childers, Clemons, Cook, Cooper, Cowling, D. Creekmore, Dangeau, Dobbins,
7 Edwards, Elliott, D. Evans, Everett, Fite, Goss, Hardwick, Jackson, Jeffrey, Kenney, Mahony, J. Martin,
8 M. Martin, Nichols, Norton, Overbey, Pace, Petrus, Rainey, Rankin, Roebuck, Saunders, Scroggin,
9 Thomason, Verkamp, Walters, Wood
10 By: Senators Baker, Hill, Altes, Bisbee, Broadway, Bryles, Faris, Hendren, G. Jeffress, J. Jeffress, B.
11 Johnson, Laverty

For An Act To Be Entitled

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13
14 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR ACCURATE INSTITUTIONAL
15 ADVICE FOR UNIVERSITY COURSE WORK AND DEGREE
16 COMPLETION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
17

Subtitle

18
19 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR ACCURATE
20 INSTITUTIONAL ADVICE FOR UNIVERSITY
21 COURSE WORK AND DEGREE COMPLETION.
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24
25 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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27 SECTION 1. (a) The purpose of this act is to ensure that faculty
28 advisors at universities provide students with course selection advice that
29 will enable a full-time student to obtain most bachelor's degrees within
30 eight (8) semesters.

31 (b) Any person assigned by a university to provide course selection
32 advice to incoming freshman students shall provide any student who has
33 declared a major with a written, eight (8) semester course of study signed by
34 either the institution's chief operating officer, president, or dean that
35 provides a recommended sequence for all course requirements for completion of



1 most bachelor's degrees within eight (8) semesters.

2 (c)(1)(A) Any student who chooses a bachelor's degree designed to be
3 completed within eight (8) semesters may commit to completion of the degree
4 requirements within eight (8) semesters by signing and returning a copy of
5 the written, eight-semester course of study to the university's advising
6 center or the student's assigned academic advisor.

7 (B) If a student does not choose to commit to completion
8 of the degree requirements within eight (8) semesters, the institution shall
9 obtain a signed, written waiver from the student which clearly outlines the
10 student's rights under this section and verifies that the student chooses to
11 not enter into the commitment. If no waiver is obtained, the institution
12 will be deemed to have guaranteed a bachelor's degree as provided by this
13 section.

14 (2) A student shall be guaranteed a bachelor's degree at the end
15 of the eight (8) semesters if the student:

16 (A) Commits to completion of his or her bachelor degree
17 requirements within eight (8) semesters as set forth under subdivision (c)(1)
18 of this section;

19 (B) Makes satisfactory academic progress;

20 (C) Fulfills all of the course requirements set forth in
21 the signed, written, eight-semester course of study in the recommended
22 sequence; and

23 (D) Does not change his or her declared major.

24 (d)(1) Each university shall publish a recommended course sequence and
25 recommended schedule by semester for each degree offered by the university.

26 (2) The recommended course sequence schedule shall be included
27 in the university's course catalog and departmental publications and on the
28 university's website.

29 (3) Each university shall offer and make available courses in a
30 time, sequence, and manner that will enable students to complete requirements
31 for a degree within the time frame set out in the recommended course sequence
32 schedule.

33 (e) Only universities that implement procedures in compliance with
34 this act shall be approved by the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating
35 Board to receive funding from the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship
36 Program or the Arkansas Governor's Scholars Program.

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APPROVED: 3/18/2005