

2 State of Arkansas
3 93rd General Assembly
4 Regular Session, 2021

A Bill

SENATE BILL 391

5
6 By: Senator L. Chesterfield

7 Filed with: Senate Committee on Education
8 pursuant to A.C.A. §10-3-217.

9 For An Act To Be Entitled

10 AN ACT CONCERNING CIVICS EDUCATION; TO REQUIRE A HIGH
11 SCHOOL STUDENT TO TAKE A CIVICS EDUCATION COURSE FOR
12 TWO (2) FULL SEMESTERS WITHIN THE SAME ACADEMIC YEAR
13 IN ORDER TO GRADUATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

14 15 16 Subtitle

17 TO REQUIRE A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT TO TAKE
18 A CIVICS EDUCATION COURSE FOR TWO (2)
19 FULL SEMESTERS WITHIN THE SAME ACADEMIC
20 YEAR IN ORDER TO GRADUATE.

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23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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25 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 16, Subchapter 1, is amended
26 to add an additional section to read as follows:

27 6-16-152. Civics education – Required.

28 (a)(1) Beginning with the entering ninth grade class of the 2021-2022
29 school year, each high school student shall be required before graduation to
30 earn one (1) credit in a course taken in grade nine (9), grade ten (10),
31 grade eleven (11), or grade twelve (12) that includes civics education.

32 (2) The civics education course required under subdivision
33 (a)(1) of this section shall:

34 (A) Consist of a minimum of two (2) full semesters within
35 the same academic year; and

1 (B) Result in the award of one (1) unit of credit towards
2 graduation requirements.

3 (b) The Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall, in
4 advance of the 2021-2022 school year, develop materials or units relating to
5 civics education required under this section.

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8 Referred requested by the Arkansas Senate

9 Prepared by: MBM/KFW

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