

ARKANSAS SENATE
85th General Assembly - Regular Session, 2005
Amendment Form

Subtitle of Senate Bill No. 247

"AN ACT TO STRENGTHEN AND EXPAND TRANSFER AGREEMENTS AMONG
COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES IN ARKANSAS."

Amendment No. 1 to Senate Bill No. 247.

Amend Senate Bill No. 247 as originally introduced:

Add Senators Altes, Baker, Bookout, Bryles, Glover, Hendren, Higginbothom, Holt, Horn, R. Johnson, Laverty, Steele, Taylor, Whitaker, Wilkinson, Womack, and Wooldridge as co-sponsors

AND

Add Representatives Burriss Anderson, Berry, Borhauer, Dickinson, Dunn, Everett, J. Hutchinson, T. Hutchinson, Kidd, Lamoureux, M. Martin, Matayo, Overbey, Rainey, Saunders, Wells, and Wills as co-sponsors

AND

Delete everything following the enacting clause entirely and substitute the following:

"SECTION 1. Creation of a statewide comprehensive transfer policy.

(a)(1) By December 1, 2006, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall implement a transfer curriculum for all state public colleges and universities.

(2)(A) The transfer curriculum shall be known as the "State Minimum Core Curriculum" and shall incorporate and replace the existing state minimum core as set forth in Arkansas Code § 6-61-218.

(B) The State Minimum Core Curriculum shall include freshman and sophomore level general education courses offered at the Arkansas public colleges and universities and shall be accepted for full credit in that subject-matter area of emphasis at all public colleges and universities.

(3) Private institutions of higher education in Arkansas may participate in the State Minimum Core Curriculum.

(4) If a course is included in the State Minimum Core Curriculum, the course shall be accepted for full credit in that area of emphasis at all public colleges and universities in Arkansas.

(b) The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board, in consultation



with the colleges and universities, shall develop the criteria and guidelines for the development of the State Minimum Core Curriculum.

(c)(1) By December 1, 2006, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall publish an Internet-based student manual that identifies and describes how general education courses at public institutions of higher education transfer to other public institutions of higher education within Arkansas.

(2) General information concerning the State Minimum Core Curriculum, including the web-page link, shall be published in all versions of course catalogs of all public colleges and universities.

SECTION 2. Guidelines for course review.

(a)(1) Arkansas public colleges and universities shall submit to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board an application for courses to be included in the State Minimum Core Curriculum.

(2) Courses shall be reviewed and recommended by a peer review project team established in the discipline.

(b)(1)(A) The Department of Higher Education shall establish peer review project teams composed of faculty members of Arkansas universities and two-year colleges.

(B) The peer review project team for each discipline shall include no less than four (4) faculty members equally divided between two-year and four-year institutions who teach in the discipline. Members shall be appointed by a majority vote of the Executive Council of Presidents and Chancellors of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

(2)(A) The peer review project team for each discipline shall review and recommend to the Department of Higher Education courses in the applicable discipline to be recommended to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board for inclusion in the State Minimum Core Curriculum.

(B)(i) Courses not receiving a recommendation by the peer review project team shall receive from the peer review project team suggested improvements or revisions for the course or its application.

(ii) Colleges and universities may resubmit course applications to the peer review project team if the original application is not recommended to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board, after appropriate adjustments have been made based on the suggested improvements or revisions from the peer review project team.

SECTION 3. Reporting.

All public institutions of higher education and any participating private institutions of higher education shall file a report annually within the Department of Higher Education identifying the number of students who requested transfer credit for a completed course in the State Minimum Core Curriculum but were not given credit."

AND

If appropriate, renumber the remaining sections of the bill

The Amendment was read the first time, rules suspended and read the second time and _____

By: Senator Trusty

KAC/KAC - 02-16-2005 08:39

KAC401

Secretary