

1 State of Arkansas
2 80th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 1995
4 By: Representative Bisbee

H.R. 1050

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7 **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

8 ENCOURAGING THE PUBLIC COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES TO TAKE
9 STEPS THAT WILL REDUCE THE NUMBER OF CREDIT HOURS REQUIRED
10 TO COMPLETE MANY OF THE DEGREE PROGRAMS CURRENTLY OFFERED
11 BY THE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES.

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13 **Subtitle**

14 ENCOURAGING PUBLIC COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES TO TAKE STEPS
15 THAT WILL REDUCE THE NUMBER OF CREDIT HOURS REQUIRED TO
16 COMPLETE MANY DEGREE PROGRAMS CURRENTLY OFFERED.

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18 WHEREAS, the State of Arkansas invests significant public resources in
19 the operation of state-supported colleges and universities; and

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21 WHEREAS, it is in the public interest that these resources be used
22 efficiently and effectively to improve the education of our citizens and to
23 strengthen our economy; and

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25 WHEREAS, students seeking to complete a degree program at a public
26 college or university receive substantial assistance from the State in the
27 form of general revenue subsidies which, on average, cover two-thirds of the
28 cost of their education; and

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30 WHEREAS, these students also make a significant investment of their own
31 resources in the form of paying tuition and forgoing income to complete their
32 education and receive a college degree; and

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34 WHEREAS, state and national studies indicate that the number of credit
35 hours required to complete many degree programs make it impossible for many

1 students to complete an associate degree program in two (2) years and to
2 complete a bachelor's degree program in four (4) years; and

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4 WHEREAS, this inability to complete a degree program in a timely way
5 imposes significant costs on both the State and the student,

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7 NOW THEREFORE,

8 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EIGHTIETH GENERAL
9 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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11 THAT the public colleges and universities evaluate the feasibility of
12 reducing the number of required credit hours in any associate degree program
13 that currently requires more than sixty (60) hours to complete; and

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15 THAT the public colleges and universities evaluate the feasibility of
16 reducing the number of required credit hours in any bachelor's degree program
17 that currently requires more than one hundred twenty-four (124) credit hours
18 to complete; and

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20 THAT each public college and university report to the Joint Interim
21 Committee on Education by July 1, 1996, the number of associate degree
22 programs that require more than sixty (60) credit hours to complete, the
23 number of bachelor's degree programs that now require more than one hundred
24 twenty-four (124) credit hours to complete, the cost of each such degree
25 program, and the steps that the college or university plans to take to reduce
26 the number of required credit hours in each program.

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