

Stricken language would be deleted from present law. Underlined language would be added to present law.

1 State of Arkansas
2 81st General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 1997

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1949

4
5 By: Representative Young

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 "AN ACT TO REQUIRE FOUR-YEAR INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER
10 EDUCATION TO IMPOSE A SURCHARGE ON STUDENTS WHO TAKE MORE
11 THAN 140 DEGREE CREDIT HOURS TO COMPLETE A BACCALAUREATE
12 DEGREE OR MORE THAN 110% OF THE CREDIT HOURS NECESSARY TO
13 COMPLETE A BACCALAUREATE DEGREE IN A FIVE-YEAR PROGRAM;
14 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

Subtitle

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17 "TO REQUIRE 4-YEAR INSTITUTIONS OF
18 HIGHER EDUCATION TO IMPOSE A SURCHARGE
19 ON SO-CALLED LINGERING STUDENTS."

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

SECTION 1. Tuition surcharge - exceptions.

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23 (a) On and after January 1, 1998, the State Board of Higher Education
24 shall ensure that procedures are established whereby each public four-year
25 institution of higher education shall impose a twenty-five percent (25%)
26 surcharge on students who take more than 140 degree credit hours to complete a
27 baccalaureate degree in a four-year program or more than one hundred ten
28 percent (110%) of the credit hours necessary to complete a baccalaureate
29 degree in any program officially designated by the institution as a five-year
30 program.

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32 (b) The calculation of these credit hours taken at the public four-year
33 institution of higher education or accepted by the institution for transfer
34 shall exclude hours earned through the College Board's Advanced Placement or
35 CLEP examinations, through institutional advanced placement or course
36 validation, or through summer term or extension programs.

1 (c) No surcharge shall be imposed on any student who exceeds the degree
 2 credit hour limits within the equivalent of four (4) academic years of regular
 3 term enrollment or within five (5) academic years of regular term enrollment
 4 in a degree program officially designated by the public four-year institution
 5 as a five-year program.

6 (d) The State Board of Higher Education shall report to the Joint
 7 Interim Oversight Committee on Higher Education Reform by October 31, 1997, on
 8 its recommendations for implementing this surcharge.

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10 SECTION 2. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature
 11 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code
 12 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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14 SECTION 3. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to
 15 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect
 16 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without
 17 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this
 18 act are declared to be severable.

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20 SECTION 4. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are
 21 hereby repealed.

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