

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.

1 State of Arkansas
2 87th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2009
4

As Engrossed: H2/6/09
A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1357

5 By: Representatives M. Burris, J. Roebuck, Abernathy, Blount, T. Bradford, Carnine, Cook, J.
6 Dickinson, Everett, Hoyt, D. Hutchinson, Nickels, Nix, Perry, Pierce, Rainey, T. Rogers, Stewart,
7 Wagner, Allen, T. Baker, Barnett, Betts, Breedlove, J. Brown, Carroll, Cash, Cheatham, Clemmer, Cole,
8 Cooper, L. Cowling, Davenport, Davis, J. Edwards, Flowers, George, Glidewell, R. Green, Hall, Hardy,
9 Harrelson, Hawkins, Hopper, House, Hyde, Ingram, Kidd, Lovell, Lowery, Maloch, S. Malone, Maxwell,
10 McLean, Moore, Pennartz, Powers, Ragland, Reep, Saunders, Shelby, Summers, Tyler, Webb, B. Wilkins,
11 Wills, Woods, Word
12 By: Senators G. Baker, Elliott, J. Jeffress
13
14

For An Act To Be Entitled

15 AN ACT TO CREATE A SYSTEM FOR FULLY TRANSFERABLE
16 CREDIT HOURS FROM DEGREES IN ASSOCIATE OF ARTS,
17 ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE, AND ASSOCIATE OF ARTS IN
18 TEACHING AMONG PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER
19 EDUCATION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
20

Subtitle

21 THE ROGER PHILLIPS TRANSFER POLICY ACT.
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26 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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28 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 61, Subchapter 2, is amended
29 to add an additional section to read as follows:

30 6-61-231. Statewide Transfer Agreement.

31 (a) As used in this section:

32 (1) "Designated transfer degree" means one of the following
33 associate degrees that is eligible for the full transfer under this section
34 of credits earned and hours completed:

35 (A) Associate of arts;

36 (B) Associate of science; or



1 (C) Associate of arts in teaching;

2 (2) "Lower division credits" means freshman and sophomore level
3 course credits;

4 (3) "Public institution of higher education" means an Arkansas
5 state-supported two-year or four-year college or university; and

6 (4) "Transfer student" means a student transferring from a
7 completed designated transfer degree program to a baccalaureate program at a
8 four-year public institution of higher education.

9 (b) The purpose of this section is to eliminate obstacles to transfers
10 of credits among public institutions of higher education in Arkansas by
11 providing a seamless transfer of academic credits from a completed designated
12 transfer degree program to a baccalaureate degree program without the loss of
13 earned credits and without the receiving public institution of higher
14 education requiring additional lower division credits.

15 (c) By January 1, 2010, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating
16 Board shall develop a statewide transfer agreement that:

17 (1) Designates the following as transfer degrees at public
18 institutions of higher education in Arkansas:

19 (A) Associate of arts;

20 (B) Associate of science; and

21 (C) Associate of arts in teaching;

22 (2) Requires a four-year public institution of higher education
23 to accept all hours completed and credits earned for a designated transfer
24 degree upon a student's transfer to a baccalaureate degree program at the
25 four-year public institution of higher education;

26 (3) Contains the transfer curriculum for each designated
27 transfer degree that is approved by the board under subsection (d) of this
28 section;

29 (4)(A) Requires a four-year public institution of higher
30 education to admit a transfer student to junior status in a baccalaureate
31 degree program at the four-year public institution of higher education.

32 (B)(i) A four-year public institution of higher education
33 receiving a transfer student shall not require additional lower division
34 credits for the transfer student if the additional course is considered a
35 general education lower division course.

36 (ii) The receiving four-year public institution of

1 higher education may only require the additional lower division course if the
2 additional lower division course is:

3 (a) A prerequisite for courses in the transfer
4 student's baccalaureate degree program;

5 (b) A discipline-specific course that is
6 required by the transfer student's baccalaureate degree program and the
7 student has not completed a course at the two-year public institution of
8 higher education that is comparable to the discipline-specific course at the
9 four-year public institution of higher education in the Arkansas Course
10 Transfer System; or

11 (c) A requirement of an independent licensing
12 or accrediting body.

13 (C) This subsection (c) does not remove the requirement
14 that a transfer student must meet total baccalaureate degree program credit
15 hour and course requirements in order to be eligible for a baccalaureate
16 degree

17 (D) The receiving four-year public institution of higher
18 education shall determine whether to accept a grade of "D" for academic
19 course credit for a student transferring from a two-year public institution
20 of higher education; and

21 (5)(A)(i) Requires a four-year public institution of higher
22 education to develop transfer guidelines for each two-year public institution
23 of higher education that has a campus within fifty (50) miles of the four-
24 year public institution of higher education.

25 (ii) If a two-year public institution of higher
26 education does not have a campus that is within fifty (50) miles of a four-
27 year public institution of higher education, the four-year public institution
28 of higher education that is nearest to the two-year public institution of
29 higher education shall develop the transfer guidelines under this subdivision
30 (c)(5).

31 (B) The guidelines shall outline courses for each four-
32 year public institution baccalaureate degree program which will prepare
33 students for entry into that baccalaureate degree program without additional
34 general education credits.

35 (C) Transfer guidelines are only for the purpose of
36 student advising and do not exempt a four-year public institution of higher

1 education from the requirements of subdivision (c)(4) of this section.

2 (d) The board, with the assistance and cooperation of the public
3 institutions of higher education, shall develop:

4 (1) A transfer curriculum for each designated transfer degree;

5 (2) Policies and procedures for reviewing and updating the
6 statewide transfer agreement; and

7 (3)(A) Policies and procedures for the Department of Higher
8 Education to collect data from public institutions of higher education to
9 ensure that:

10 (i) All public institutions of higher education
11 comply with this section; and

12 (ii) The statewide transfer agreement is fostering
13 both a seamless transfer process and the academic success of transfer
14 students at Arkansas public institutions of higher education.

15 (B) The department shall determine annually the data to be
16 collected and shall establish by rule the procedures for a public institution
17 of higher education to provide the data requested.

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19 */s/ M. Burris*
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