

1 State of Arkansas
2 91st General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2017
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1805

5 By: Representative Sturch
6

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO AMEND THE ARKANSAS CODE CONCERNING
9 POSTSECONDARY COURSES IN UNITED STATES HISTORY,
10 UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, AND THE UNITED STATES
11 CONSTITUTION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

14 TO AMEND THE ARKANSAS CODE CONCERNING
15 POSTSECONDARY COURSES IN UNITED STATES
16 HISTORY, UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, AND
17 THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION.
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21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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23 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-61-105 is amended to read as follows:

24 6-61-105. Course in American history and civil government required.

25 ~~(a) No college or university, normal school, or chartered institution~~
26 ~~of learning under the authority of the State of Arkansas~~ A state-supported
27 institution of higher education shall not grant to any student ~~any~~ a
28 baccalaureate degree unless he or she has passed a course in American history
29 or civil government, including:

30 (1) Instruction in the essentials of the United States
31 Constitution; and

32 (2) The study of American institutions and ideals.

33 ~~(b) Any teacher, official, officer, or person violating any of the~~
34 ~~provisions of this section shall be liable for a fine of not less than one~~
35 ~~hundred dollars (\$100) and not more than five hundred dollars (\$500) or~~
36 ~~imprisonment in the county jail for a term of not less than thirty (30) days~~



1 ~~and not more than six (6) months, or both.~~

2 ~~(c) A violation of any of the provisions of this section shall be~~
3 ~~sufficient grounds for the discharge or removal of the teacher, official, or~~
4 ~~officer violating this section and, in the case of a corporation, shall be~~
5 ~~sufficient grounds for revoking its charter.~~

6 ~~(d) The Department of Higher Education is directed to~~ shall ~~see to the~~
7 ~~strict carrying out of this section and is authorized to~~ may ~~take such steps~~
8 ~~and measures as may be necessary to effectuate its provisions.~~

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10 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-61-106 is repealed.

11 ~~6-61-106. Course in United States Constitution and American~~
12 ~~institutions and ideals required.~~

13 ~~(a) All colleges and universities in this state that are sustained or~~
14 ~~in any manner supported by public funds shall give instructions in the~~
15 ~~essentials of the United States Constitution, including the study of and~~
16 ~~devotion to American institutions and ideals.~~

17 ~~(b) No student in the colleges, universities, or other educational~~
18 ~~institutions shall receive a certificate of graduation without previously~~
19 ~~passing a satisfactory examination upon the provisions and principles of the~~
20 ~~United States Constitution.~~

21 ~~(c) The instruction provided for in subsection (a) of this section~~
22 ~~shall be given in all junior and senior classes of colleges, universities,~~
23 ~~and educational institutions.~~

24 ~~(d) Willful neglect or failure on the part of the president or teacher~~
25 ~~or other officer of any normal or other school or college to observe and~~
26 ~~carry out the requirements of this section shall be sufficient cause for the~~
27 ~~dismissal or removal of that party from his or her position.~~