1 State of Arkansas

2 93rd General Assembly

A Bill

3 Regular Session, 2021

SENATE BILL 391

4

5 By: Senator L. Chesterfield

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For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT CONCERNING CIVICS EDUCATION; TO REQUIRE A HIGH

9 SCHOOL STUDENT TO TAKE A CIVICS EDUCATION COURSE FOR

10 TWO (2) FULL SEMESTERS WITHIN THE SAME ACADEMIC YEAR

11 IN ORDER TO GRADUATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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Subtitle

15 TO REQUIRE A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT TO TAKE

16 A CIVICS EDUCATION COURSE FOR TWO (2)

17 FULL SEMESTERS WITHIN THE SAME ACADEMIC

18 YEAR IN ORDER TO GRADUATE.

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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 Title 6, Chapter 16, Subchapter 1, is amended

24 to add an additional section to read as follows:

25   6-16-152. Civics education — Required.

26   (a)(1) Beginning with the entering ninth grade class of the 2021-2022

27 school year, each high school student shall be required before graduation to

28 earn one (1) credit in a course taken in grade nine (9), grade ten (10),

29 grade eleven (11), or grade twelve (12) that includes civics education.

30   (2) The civics education course required under subdivision

31 (a)(1) of this section shall:

32   (A) Consist of a minimum of two (2) full semesters within

33 the same academic year; and

34   (B) Result in the award of one (1) unit of credit towards

35 graduation requirements.

36   (b) The Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall, in

1 advance of the 2021-2022 school year, develop materials or units relating to

2 civics education required under this section.

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