

HOUSE BILL 569

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4r1560
CF SB 395

By: **Delegate Solomon**

Introduced and read first time: January 24, 2024

Assigned to: Appropriations

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: February 23, 2024

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Higher Education – Credit Eligibility and Transfer of Credits – English as a**
3 **Second Language Courses**
4 **(Credit for All Language Learning (CALL) Act)**

5 FOR the purpose of requiring a public community college to consider certain language
6 courses as eligible for certain credits toward an associate’s degree under certain
7 circumstances; requiring that certain credits for certain language or humanities
8 courses earned by students who transfer from certain community colleges to certain
9 institutions of higher education be transferable; prohibiting certain institutions of
10 higher education from denying the transfer of certain credits for certain language or
11 humanities courses for any reason; and generally relating to the transfer of credits
12 from community colleges to institutions of higher education.

13 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
14 Article – Education
15 Section 10–101(c) and (h)
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

18 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
19 Article – Education
20 Section 11–207(c) and 15–117(b)
21 Annotated Code of Maryland
22 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 BY adding to
 2 Article – Education
 3 Section 11–207.1
 4 Annotated Code of Maryland
 5 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

6 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
 7 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

8 **Article – Education**

9 10–101.

10 (c) “Commission” means the Maryland Higher Education Commission.

11 (h) (1) “Institution of higher education” means an institution of postsecondary
 12 education that generally limits enrollment to graduates of secondary schools, and awards
 13 degrees at either the associate, baccalaureate, or graduate level.

14 (2) “Institution of higher education” includes public, private nonprofit, and
 15 for–profit institutions of higher education.

16 11–207.

17 (c) (1) The Commission, in collaboration with the public institutions of higher
 18 education, shall develop and implement a statewide transfer agreement whereby at least
 19 60 credits of general education, elective, and major courses that a student earns at any
 20 community college in the State toward an associate of arts or associate of science degree
 21 shall be transferable to any public senior higher education institution in the State for credit
 22 toward a bachelor’s degree by July 1, 2016.

23 (2) (I) **THE AGREEMENT UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS**
 24 **SUBSECTION SHALL REQUIRE THAT ANY CREDITS EARNED FOR A COURSE AT A**
 25 **COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN THE STATE IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 15–117(B)(3) OF THIS**
 26 **ARTICLE BE TRANSFERABLE TO ANY PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION**
 27 **IN THE STATE.**

28 (II) ~~AN~~ **A PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE**
 29 **STATE MAY NOT DENY THE TRANSFER OF CREDITS IN ACCORDANCE WITH**
 30 **SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH FOR ANY REASON.**

31 **11–207.1.**

32 (A) **ANY CREDITS EARNED FOR A COURSE AT A COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN**
 33 **THE STATE IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 15–117(B)(3) OF THIS ARTICLE SHALL BE**

1 TRANSFERABLE TO ANY PRIVATE NONPROFIT INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION
2 IN THE STATE.

3 (B) A PRIVATE NONPROFIT INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE
4 STATE MAY NOT DENY THE TRANSFER OF CREDITS IN ACCORDANCE WITH
5 SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION FOR ANY REASON.

6 15–117.

7 (b) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, beginning with
8 fall 2015, the standard number of credits required for an associate’s degree from a public
9 community college is 60 credit hours.

10 (2) The standard number of credits required under paragraph (1) of this
11 subsection does not apply if:

12 (i) The degree program is defined as more than a 2–year associate’s
13 degree;

14 (ii) Professional accreditation requires a higher number of credit
15 hours or requires course work that cannot be completed in 60 credits; or

16 (iii) Certification requirements result in a need for credit hours in
17 excess of 60.

18 **(3) A PUBLIC COMMUNITY COLLEGE SHALL CONSIDER A COURSE OR**
19 **PROGRAM FOR ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE OR ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNER**
20 **AS ELIGIBLE FOR EITHER WORLD LANGUAGE OR HUMANITIES ~~ELECTIVES~~ CREDIT,**
21 **OR BOTH, TOWARD A STUDENT’S ASSOCIATE’S DEGREE IF THE COURSE IS NOT**
22 **CLASSIFIED BY THE PUBLIC COMMUNITY COLLEGE AS A REMEDIAL COURSE.**

23 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
24 1, 2024.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.