



Sen. Pat McGuire

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1 AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL 440

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend Senate Bill 440, AS AMENDED, by
3 replacing everything after the enacting clause with the
4 following:

5 "Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the
6 General Education Uniform Course Commission Act.

7 Section 5. Definitions. In this Act:

8 "Commission" means the General Education Uniform Course
9 Commission created by this Act.

10 "Community college" has the meaning given to that term
11 under the Public Community College Act.

12 "Faculty" means a full-time, instructional or academic
13 support employee of a public institution of higher education or
14 a community college who is tenured or receiving probationary
15 credit toward tenure.

16 "Public institution of higher education" means the

1 University of Illinois, Southern Illinois University, Chicago
2 State University, Eastern Illinois University, Governors State
3 University, Illinois State University, Northeastern Illinois
4 University, Northern Illinois University, Western Illinois
5 University, or any other public university or college now or
6 hereafter established or authorized by the General Assembly.

7 Section 10. General Education Uniform Course Commission.

8 (a) The General Education Uniform Course Commission is
9 established to identify statewide general education core
10 courses for community colleges and public institutions of
11 higher education in this State. The Commission shall consist of
12 all of the following members:

13 (1) Four faculty members, appointed by the Governor.

14 (2) Nine faculty members from public institutions of
15 higher education, appointed by the Board of Higher
16 Education.

17 (3) Nine faculty members from community colleges,
18 appointed by the Illinois Community College Board.

19 Terms of the members shall be staggered, as determined by
20 lot, so that 11 of the initial members shall serve until July
21 1, 2020, 11 of the initial members shall serve until July 1,
22 2022, and thereafter each member shall serve for a term of 4
23 years. Members shall serve until their successors are appointed
24 and qualified. Members shall serve without compensation, but
25 may be reimbursed for their reasonable and necessary expenses

1 from funds appropriated for that purpose and subject to the
2 rules of the appropriate travel control board.

3 (b) The first meeting of the Commission shall be at the
4 call of the Governor, and at this meeting the Commission shall
5 designate, by majority vote, a chairperson. The Commission
6 shall meet regularly, but no less than once every 2 years, upon
7 the call of the chairperson. A majority of the appointed and
8 serving members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction
9 of business.

10 (c) Administrative support for the Commission may be
11 provided by the Board of Higher Education or the Illinois
12 Community College Board and may be appropriated by the General
13 Assembly from the General Revenue Fund, private donations, or
14 any other funds as may be available for the Commission.

15 (d) The Commission is subject to and shall comply with the
16 Open Meetings Act and the Freedom of Information Act.

17 Section 15. Common degree program; report.

18 (a) The Commission shall identify those courses offered by
19 community colleges and public institutions of higher education
20 that are accepted as credit toward a baccalaureate degree and
21 shall designate the courses as either general education courses
22 or courses required as a prerequisite for a degree. On or
23 before July 1, 2020, the Commission shall establish a common
24 degree program and shall submit a report on the program to the
25 Board of Higher Education and the Illinois Community College

1 Board, which shall include, but is not limited to, all of the
2 following:

3 (1) An examination of common course numbering
4 initiatives in the 16 states that currently implement
5 similar course numbering procedures, and how Illinois may
6 benefit from that process.

7 (2) A comprehensive list of courses consisting of a
8 maximum of 5 courses within each of the subject areas of
9 communication, mathematics, social sciences, humanities,
10 and natural sciences that shall be offered and successfully
11 completed at a community college and shall be accepted for
12 credit toward a baccalaureate degree by a public
13 institution of higher education beginning with the
14 2020-2021 academic year.

15 (3) Statewide identification numbers and a description
16 of all courses under the program.

17 (b) All community colleges and public institutions of
18 higher education shall accept courses in the common degree
19 program as meeting general education core course requirements
20 for credit toward a baccalaureate degree. The Board of Higher
21 Education and the Illinois Community College Board shall create
22 by rule the core course options for the program.

23 (c) The Board of Higher Education and the Illinois
24 Community College Board shall post the report and the courses
25 offered and any course substitutions under the program on their
26 respective Internet websites. No less than once every 2 years,

1 the Commission shall reevaluate the program and provide the
2 Board of Higher Education and the Illinois Community College
3 Board with any recommendations to change or update the program.

4 Section 20. Rules. The Board of Higher Education and the
5 Illinois Community College Board shall adopt rules to implement
6 this Act.

7 Section 25. The State Finance Act is amended by adding
8 Sections 5.886 and 6z-105 as follows:

9 (30 ILCS 105/5.886 new)

10 Sec. 5.886. The Uniform Course Commission Fund.

11 (30 ILCS 105/6z-105 new)

12 Sec. 6z-105. The Uniform Course Commission Fund. The
13 Uniform Course Commission Fund is created as a special fund in
14 the State treasury. All moneys deposited into the Fund, which
15 may include private contributions or endowments, shall be
16 appropriated to the General Education Uniform Course
17 Commission to provide financial assistance to that Commission
18 under the General Education Uniform Course Commission Act.
19 Moneys appropriated from the Fund shall supplement and not
20 supplant the current level of education funding.

21 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon

1 becoming law.".