



## 101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2019 and 2020

HB4992

Introduced 2/18/2020, by Rep. Deanne M. Mazzochi

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

New Act

Creates the Cap College Costs Pilot Program Act. Provides that the State Board of Education, Illinois Community College Board, and Board of Higher Education must develop and implement the Cap College Costs Pilot Program. Provides that under the program, one public high school, one public community college, and one public university in this State shall be chosen to develop a competency-based baccalaureate degree program that focuses on the fundamental issues and texts of western civilization; specifies what the goals of the program must include. Provides that the curriculum of the pilot program must include course instruction on various periods of western civilization in areas that include, but are not limited to, philosophy, literature, history, religion, government and politics, art, and architecture and must allow for 2 courses of instruction on global areas outside of western civilization in those same areas. Sets forth provisions concerning open educational resources. Provides that after the first cohort of students complete the pilot program, the State Board of Education, Illinois Community College Board, and Board of Higher Education must submit a report to the Governor and General Assembly detailing the impact of the pilot program on specified issues. Provides that the Act is inoperative on and after the submission of the report. Effective immediately.

LRB101 18416 NHT 67864 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT  
MAY APPLY

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the Cap  
5 College Costs Pilot Program Act.

6 Section 5. Findings. The General Assembly makes all of the  
7 following findings:

8 (1) A college degree involving a substantive and  
9 rigorous curriculum that is designed to challenge people's  
10 minds, enhance their knowledge and skills, and prepare them  
11 for success as future citizens can be a valuable asset to  
12 State residents.

13 (2) Public community colleges and universities offer  
14 multiple existing courses of study pertaining to  
15 fundamental foundational topics that have historically  
16 served as the foundation for degrees in the humanities,  
17 including art, philosophy, logic and rhetoric, history,  
18 literature, world religions, world languages, and  
19 classical civilization studies. These may be classified as  
20 high-impact courses.

21 (3) Many State residents will experience disruptions  
22 or economic hardships when seeking a college degree.

23 (4) It is in the interests of State residents to

1 identify affordable pathways to secure a college degree.

2 (5) Creating a degree pathway based on high-impact  
3 courses will facilitate the creation of a degree program  
4 that costs less than \$20,000 for the entire degree.

5 (6) It is also in the interests of State residents to  
6 create and promote open educational resources, which are  
7 teaching, learning, and research resources that reside in  
8 the public domain or have been released under an  
9 intellectual property license and that allow for free use,  
10 reuse, modification, and sharing with others, including  
11 full courses, course materials, modules, textbooks,  
12 streaming videos, tests, software, and any other tools,  
13 materials, or techniques used to support access to  
14 knowledge. Many foundational materials and original  
15 sources used in high-impact courses are particularly  
16 likely to fall into this category.

17 Section 10. Cap College Costs Pilot Program.

18 (a) Subject to appropriation, beginning with the 2020-2021  
19 academic year or, if funds are not appropriated for the program  
20 that academic year, beginning with the academic year in which  
21 funds are appropriated for the program, or, if funds are not  
22 appropriated for the program that academic year but a source of  
23 outside funding is secured to support the program, the State  
24 Board of Education, Illinois Community College Board, and Board  
25 of Higher Education must develop and implement the Cap College

1 Costs Pilot Program. Under the program, one public high school,  
2 one public community college, and one public university in this  
3 State shall be chosen to develop a competency-based  
4 baccalaureate degree program that focuses on the fundamental  
5 issues and texts of western civilization. The goals of the  
6 program must include all of the following:

7 (1) To prepare students who complete the program with  
8 the requisite problem-solving, inquiry, and communication  
9 skills needed for employment or further graduate study.

10 (2) To use open educational resources.

11 (3) To promote dual credit course enrollment in the  
12 participating high school.

13 (4) To have a \$20,000 maximum tuition rate.

14 (b) The curriculum of the pilot program created under this  
15 Section must include course instruction on various periods of  
16 western civilization in areas that include, but are not limited  
17 to, philosophy, literature, history, religion, government and  
18 politics, art, and architecture. The program must allow for 2  
19 courses of instruction on global areas outside of western  
20 civilization in areas that include, but are not limited to,  
21 philosophy, literature, history, religion, government and  
22 politics, art, and architecture.

23 Section 15. Open educational resources; panel; grant  
24 program.

25 (a) The State Board of Education, Illinois Community

1 College Board, and Board of Higher Education shall create a  
2 panel comprised of all of the following members, who shall  
3 serve without compensation:

4 (1) Eight persons from institutions of higher  
5 education located in this State appointed by the Executive  
6 Director of the Board of Higher Education, including at  
7 least 2 representatives from a university, one  
8 representative from a community college in Cook County, one  
9 representative from a community college with a district  
10 boundary that includes some portion of DuPage, Kane, Lake,  
11 McHenry, or Will County, one representative from a  
12 community college in downstate Illinois, and one  
13 representative from a nonpublic university that has  
14 participated in articulation agreements with a community  
15 college.

16 (2) Two persons each from a high school located in this  
17 State that offers dual credit programs, preferably from  
18 geographically diverse regions, appointed by the State  
19 Superintendent Education.

20 (3) A person from the State Board of Education  
21 appointed by the State Board of Education, a person from  
22 the Illinois Community College Board appointed by the  
23 Illinois Community College Board, and a person from the  
24 Board of Higher Education appointed by the Board of Higher  
25 Education.

26 (4) Two members appointed by the Governor.

1           (5) One member of the House of Representative appointed  
2           by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, one member  
3           of the House of Representatives appointed by the Minority  
4           Leader of the House of Representatives, one member of the  
5           Senate appointed by the President of the Senate, and one  
6           member of the Senate appointed by the Minority Leader of  
7           the Senate.

8           Appointments under paragraphs (1) and (2) of this  
9           subsection (a) shall include at least 4 faculty members, a  
10          library professional, an instructional design expert, and 2  
11          academic administrators.

12          The Board of Higher Education shall provide administrative  
13          and other support to the panel.

14          The Executive Director of the Board of Higher Education  
15          shall convene the first meeting of the panel no later than  
16          September 1, 2020.

17          The panel shall seek to identify initiatives to support the  
18          use of open educational resource materials and make  
19          recommendations to the General Assembly no later than December  
20          31, 2021.

21          (b) Each campus of a public university or public community  
22          college district shall, upon request of its board of trustees,  
23          do both of the following:

24                 (1) Clearly highlight, by means that may include a  
25                 symbol or logo in a conspicuous place on the online campus  
26                 course schedule, the courses that exclusively use digital

1 course materials that are free of charge to students or  
2 that may have a low-cost option for print versions.

3 (2) Ensure that the materials comply with the federal  
4 Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the federal  
5 Copyright Act of 1976.

6 (c) Subject to appropriation or third-party funding, the  
7 Illinois Community College Board shall establish and  
8 administer a grant program to encourage faculty at institutions  
9 of higher education to adopt, modify, redesign, or develop  
10 courses that use only open educational resources in support of  
11 the degree program set forth in Section 10.

12 Any individual who receives a grant under this subsection  
13 (c) shall ensure that any open educational resources used in a  
14 course is provided to a student enrolled in the course at no  
15 cost other than the cost of printing.

16 A faculty member who receives a grant under this subsection  
17 (c) must submit to the Illinois Community College Board for  
18 each of the 4 semesters immediately following the  
19 implementation of the course a report that includes:

20 (1) the number of students who have completed the  
21 course;

22 (2) an estimate of the amount of money saved by a  
23 student due to the use of open educational resources in the  
24 course;

25 (3) the number of faculty members, if any, who adopted  
26 the course curriculum; and

1           (4) any other information required as a condition of  
2           the grant.

3           Section 20. Reporting.

4           (a) After the first cohort of students complete the pilot  
5           program under Section 10, the State Board of Education,  
6           Illinois Community College Board, and Board of Higher Education  
7           must submit a report to the Governor and General Assembly  
8           detailing the impact of the pilot program on all of the  
9           following:

10           (1) Reducing the costs of attending an institution of  
11           higher learning and overall student loan debt.

12           (2) Elevating the importance of coursework in the  
13           classical liberal arts.

14           (3) Creating a model curriculum that can be replicated  
15           through partnerships between other institutions of higher  
16           learning and school districts across this State.

17           (b) This Act is inoperative on and after the State Board of  
18           Education, Illinois Community College Board, and Board of  
19           Higher Education submit the report required under subsection  
20           (a).

21           Section 90. Rules. The Illinois Community College Board, in  
22           consultation with the State Board of Education and the Board of  
23           Higher Education, must adopt rules to implement this Act.

24           Section 999. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon



1 becoming law.