

State of Arkansas  
91st General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2017

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1805

By: Representative Sturch

## For An Act To Be Entitled

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

### Subtitle

TO AMEND THE ARKANSAS CODE CONCERNING  
POSTSECONDARY COURSES IN UNITED STATES  
HISTORY, UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, AND  
THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-61-105 is amended to read as follows:

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

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

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

(2) The study of American institutions and ideals.

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



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

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

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

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 Arkansas Code § 6-61-106 is repealed.

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

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

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

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

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

APPROVED: 04/04/2017