

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

State of Arkansas
93rd General Assembly
Regular Session, 2021

A Bill

SENATE BILL 391

By: Senator L. Chesterfield

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT CONCERNING CIVICS EDUCATION; TO REQUIRE A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT TO TAKE A CIVICS EDUCATION COURSE FOR TWO (2) FULL SEMESTERS WITHIN THE SAME ACADEMIC YEAR IN ORDER TO GRADUATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO REQUIRE A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT TO TAKE A CIVICS EDUCATION COURSE FOR TWO (2) FULL SEMESTERS WITHIN THE SAME ACADEMIC YEAR IN ORDER TO GRADUATE.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 16, Subchapter 1, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

6-16-152. Civics education – Required.

(a)(1) Beginning with the entering ninth grade class of the 2021-2022 school year, each high school student shall be required before graduation to earn one (1) credit in a course taken in grade nine (9), grade ten (10), grade eleven (11), or grade twelve (12) that includes civics education.

(2) The civics education course required under subdivision (a)(1) of this section shall:

(A) Consist of a minimum of two (2) full semesters within the same academic year; and

(B) Result in the award of one (1) unit of credit towards graduation requirements.

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



advance of the 2021-2022 school year, develop materials or units relating to civics education required under this section.