

CHAPTER 279

EDUCATION - UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES

HOUSE BILL 01-1298

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Berry, Bacon, Boyd, Cloer, Coleman, Crane, Daniel, Decker, Groff, Hefley, Hoppe, Jahn, Larson, Lawrence, Lee, Miller, Paschall, Plant, Rippey, Romanoff, Smith, Spence, Spradley, Tapia, Vigil, Weddig, Williams S., and Witwer;
also SENATOR(S) Tate, Fitz-Gerald, Matsunaka, May, Nichol, Pascoe, Teck, Tupa, and Windels.

AN ACT

CONCERNING CREATION OF A STATEWIDE COMMON COURSE NUMBERING SYSTEM FOR THE TRANSFER OF COURSE CREDITS AMONG STATE-SUPPORTED INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

SECTION 1. Article 1 of title 23, Colorado Revised Statutes, is amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION to read:

23-1-108.5. Duties and powers of the commission with regard to common course numbering system - repeal. (1) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY HEREBY FINDS THAT, FOR MANY STUDENTS, THE ABILITY TO TRANSFER AMONG ALL STATE-SUPPORTED INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION IS CRITICAL TO THEIR SUCCESS IN ACHIEVING A DEGREE. THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FURTHER FINDS THAT IT IS NECESSARY FOR THE STATE TO HAVE SOUND TRANSFER POLICIES THAT PROVIDE THE BROADEST AND SIMPLEST MECHANISMS FEASIBLE, WHILE PROTECTING THE ACADEMIC QUALITY OF THE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND THEIR UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAMS. THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FINDS, THEREFORE, THAT IT IS IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE STATE FOR THE COMMISSION TO OVERSEE THE ADOPTION OF A STATEWIDE ARTICULATION MATRIX SYSTEM OF COURSE NUMBERING FOR GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES THAT INCLUDES ALL STATE-SUPPORTED INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND THAT WILL ENSURE THAT THE QUALITY OF AND REQUIREMENTS THAT PERTAIN TO GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES ARE COMPARABLE AND TRANSFERABLE SYSTEMWIDE.

(2) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

(a) "COUNCIL" MEANS THE COUNCIL CONVENED PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH (a) OF

Capital letters indicate new material added to existing statutes; dashes through words indicate deletions from existing statutes and such material not part of act.

SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS SECTION.

(b) "COURSE NUMBERING SYSTEM" MEANS THE STATEWIDE ARTICULATION MATRIX SYSTEM OF COMMON COURSE NUMBERING FOR GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH (c) OF SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS SECTION.

(c) "GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES" MEANS THE GROUP OF COURSES OFFERED BY AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION THAT EVERY STUDENT ENROLLED IN THE INSTITUTION MUST SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE TO ATTAIN AN ASSOCIATE'S OR BACHELOR'S DEGREE.

(d) "HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION" MEANS A STATE-SUPPORTED INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

(3) (a) ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2001, THE COMMISSION SHALL CONVENE A COUNCIL CONSISTING OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM EACH OF THE HIGHER EDUCATION GOVERNING BOARDS, EACH OF THE FOUR-YEAR HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS, AND A REPRESENTATIVE SAMPLE OF THE TWO-YEAR HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS; A REPRESENTATIVE OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN STATE-SUPPORTED STATE COLLEGES, A REPRESENTATIVE OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN STATE-SUPPORTED COMMUNITY COLLEGES, AND A REPRESENTATIVE OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN STATE-SUPPORTED UNIVERSITIES; AND A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE COMMISSION.

(b) THE COUNCIL SHALL RECOMMEND TO THE COMMISSION A STATEWIDE ARTICULATION MATRIX SYSTEM OF COMMON COURSE NUMBERING TO WHICH THE GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES FOR EACH HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION MAY BE MAPPED.

(c) (I) ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2002, THE COUNCIL SHALL RECOMMEND TO THE COMMISSION A LIST OF GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES TO BE INCLUDED IN THE COURSE NUMBERING SYSTEM. IN IDENTIFYING SAID GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES, THE COUNCIL SHALL REVIEW THE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS, AND MAY REQUEST SUMMARIES OF COURSE SYLLABI FOR REVIEW, FOCUSING FIRST ON LOWER DIVISION GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES. THE COMMISSION SHALL REVIEW THE COUNCIL'S RECOMMENDATIONS AND ADOPT A STATEWIDE ARTICULATION MATRIX SYSTEM OF COMMON COURSE NUMBERING FOR GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES, INCLUDING CRITERIA FOR SUCH COURSES, ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2003.

(II) THE COUNCIL SHALL ANNUALLY REVIEW THE LIST OF GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES AND THE COURSE NUMBERING SYSTEM, INCLUDING THE CRITERIA, ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION AND RECOMMEND SUCH CHANGES AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN THE ACCURACY AND INTEGRITY OF THE COURSE NUMBERING SYSTEM. THE COUNCIL'S ANNUAL REVIEW SHALL INCLUDE CONSIDERATION OF THE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS, AND THE COUNCIL MAY REQUEST SUMMARIES OF COURSE SYLLABI FOR FURTHER REVIEW.

(d) ON OR BEFORE MARCH 31, 2002, THE COMMISSION SHALL SUBMIT TO THE EDUCATION COMMITTEES OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND TO THE JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE A REPORT ON THE PROGRESS MADE BY THE COUNCIL AND THE COMMISSION TOWARD ADOPTING THE COURSE NUMBERING SYSTEM.

(e) THIS SUBSECTION (3) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011.

(4) (a) FOLLOWING ADOPTION OF THE COURSE NUMBERING SYSTEM, EACH HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION SHALL REVIEW ITS COURSE OFFERINGS AND IDENTIFY THOSE GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES OFFERED BY THE INSTITUTION THAT CORRESPOND WITH THE COURSES INCLUDED IN THE COURSE NUMBERING SYSTEM. THE HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION SHALL SUBMIT ITS LIST OF IDENTIFIED COURSES, INCLUDING COURSE DESCRIPTIONS AND, UPON REQUEST OF THE COMMISSION, SUMMARIES OF COURSE SYLLABI, FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL BY THE COMMISSION ON OR BEFORE MARCH 1, 2003, FOR INCLUSION IN THE HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION'S FALL 2003 COURSE CATALOGUE.

(b) BEGINNING WITH THE FALL SEMESTER OF 2003, EACH HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION SHALL PUBLISH, AND UPDATE AS NECESSARY, A LIST OF COURSE OFFERINGS THAT IDENTIFIES THOSE GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES OFFERED BY THE INSTITUTION THAT CORRESPOND WITH THE COURSES INCLUDED IN THE COURSE NUMBERING SYSTEM.

(5) ALL CREDITS EARNED BY A STUDENT IN ANY GENERAL EDUCATION COURSE IDENTIFIED AS CORRESPONDING WITH A COURSE INCLUDED IN THE COURSE NUMBERING SYSTEM SHALL BE AUTOMATICALLY TRANSFERABLE AMONG ALL HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS UPON TRANSFER AND ENROLLMENT OF THE STUDENT. ALL HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS IN COLORADO SHALL PARTICIPATE IN THE COURSE NUMBERING SYSTEM. THE COMMISSION SHALL ADOPT SUCH POLICIES AND GUIDELINES AS MAY BE NECESSARY FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS SECTION. EACH GOVERNING BOARD SHALL MODIFY ITS EXISTING POLICIES AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO ACCEPT THE TRANSFER OF THESE CREDITS.

(6) (a) THE COUNCIL SHALL DEVISE AND RECOMMEND TO THE COMMISSION PROCEDURES FOR EXCHANGING INFORMATION TO DOCUMENT STUDENTS' SUCCESS IN TRANSFERRING AMONG HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS. THE COMMISSION SHALL ADOPT AND IMPLEMENT SUCH PROCEDURES.

(b) THE COMMISSION, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE GOVERNING BOARDS AND THE HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS, SHALL DESIGN AND IMPLEMENT A STATEWIDE DATABASE TO IMPLEMENT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION.

(7) THE COMMISSION MAY ACCEPT ANY PUBLIC OR PRIVATE GIFTS, GRANTS, OR DONATIONS GIVEN FOR THE PURPOSE OF IMPLEMENTING THIS SECTION. ANY SUCH GIFTS, GRANTS, OR DONATIONS SHALL BE CREDITED TO THE COURSE NUMBERING FUND, WHICH FUND IS HEREBY CREATED IN THE STATE TREASURY. MONEYS CREDITED TO THE FUND ARE HEREBY CONTINUOUSLY APPROPRIATED TO THE COMMISSION FOR USE IN OFFSETTING THE COSTS INCURRED BY THE COMMISSION IN IMPLEMENTING THIS SECTION AND FOR ALLOCATION TO THE GOVERNING BOARDS TO OFFSET THE COSTS INCURRED BY THE GOVERNING BOARDS IN IMPLEMENTING THIS SECTION. ALL INTEREST DERIVED FROM THE DEPOSIT AND INVESTMENT OF MONEYS IN THE COURSE NUMBERING FUND SHALL BE CREDITED TO SAID FUND. ANY AMOUNT REMAINING IN THE COURSE NUMBERING FUND AT THE END OF ANY FISCAL YEAR SHALL REMAIN IN SAID FUND AND SHALL NOT BE CREDITED OR TRANSFERRED TO THE GENERAL FUND OR TO ANY OTHER FUND.

SECTION 2. 2-3-1203 (3), Colorado Revised Statutes, is amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW PARAGRAPH to read:

2-3-1203. Sunset review of advisory committees. (3) The following dates are the dates for which the statutory authorization for the designated advisory committees is scheduled for repeal:

(x) JULY 1, 2011: THE COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION REPRESENTATIVES CONVENED PURSUANT TO SECTION 23-1-108.5 (3), C.R.S.

SECTION 3. Safety clause. The general assembly hereby finds, determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.

Approved: June 5, 2001