

By Senator Argenziano

3-767-04

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to course requirements for
3 students in community colleges; amending s.
4 1001.02, F.S.; providing that the required
5 credit hours in general education courses must
6 include civics instruction that focuses on
7 North American national government; providing
8 an effective date.

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10 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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12 Section 1. Paragraph (d) of subsection (9) of section
13 1001.02, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

14 1001.02 General powers of State Board of Education.--

15 (9) The State Board of Education shall prescribe
16 minimum standards, definitions, and guidelines for community
17 colleges and state universities that will ensure the quality
18 of education, coordination among the community colleges and
19 state universities, and efficient progress toward
20 accomplishing the community college and state university
21 mission. At a minimum, these rules must address:

22 (d) Provisions for curriculum development, graduation
23 requirements, college calendars, and program service areas.

24 These provisions must include rules that:

25 1. Provide for the award of an associate in arts
26 degree to a student who successfully completes 60 semester
27 credit hours at the community college.

28 2. Require all of the credits accepted for the
29 associate in arts degree to be in the statewide course
30 numbering system as credits toward a baccalaureate degree
31 offered by a state university.

1 3. Require no more than 36 semester credit hours in
2 general education courses in the subject areas of
3 communication, mathematics, social sciences, humanities, and
4 natural sciences. At least one of the courses a student must
5 take to satisfy the social sciences requirement must include
6 civics instruction that focuses on North American national
7 government. The required civics instruction applies to each
8 student who enrolls in a community college for the first time
9 in the fall semester of 2004 or thereafter.

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11 The rules should encourage community colleges to enter into
12 agreements with state universities that allow community
13 college students to complete upper-division-level courses at a
14 community college. An agreement may provide for concurrent
15 enrollment at the community college and the state university
16 and may authorize the community college to offer an
17 upper-division-level course or distance learning.

18 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2004.

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21 SENATE SUMMARY

22 Provides that the credit hours in general education
23 courses which each student in a community college is
24 required to take must include civics instruction that
25 focuses on North American national government.
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