

HOUSE BILL 1208

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11r2871

By: **Delegate Solomon**

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2021

Assigned to: Appropriations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Study Academic Credit for Prior Learning in Higher Education**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force to Study Academic Credit for Prior
4 Learning in Higher Education; providing for the composition, chair, and staffing of
5 the Task Force; prohibiting a member of the Task Force from receiving certain
6 compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement of certain expenses; requiring the
7 Task Force to study and make recommendations regarding certain matters;
8 requiring the Task Force to report its findings and recommendations to the General
9 Assembly on or before a certain date; defining a certain term; providing for the
10 termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Task Force to Study Academic
11 Credit for Prior Learning in Higher Education.

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
13 That:

14 (a) In this section, “academic credit for prior learning” means college–level credit
15 that is granted for experiential learning that is assessed to be equivalent to the learning
16 gained through formal collegiate instruction.

17 (b) There is a Task Force to Study Academic Credit for Prior Learning in Higher
18 Education.

19 (c) The Task Force consists of the following members:

20 (1) one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of
21 the Senate;

22 (2) one member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the
23 House;

24 (3) the Secretary of Higher Education, or the Secretary’s designee; and

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



- 1 (4) the following members, designated by the Secretary of Higher
2 Education:
- 3 (i) one representative of each Maryland community college;
- 4 (ii) one representative of the Maryland Association of Community
5 Colleges;
- 6 (iii) one representative of Morgan State University;
- 7 (iv) one representative of St. Mary's College of Maryland;
- 8 (v) one representative of the University System of Maryland; and
- 9 (vi) one representative of the Maryland State Department of
10 Education.
- 11 (d) The Secretary of Higher Education shall designate the chair of the Task Force.
- 12 (e) The Maryland Higher Education Commission shall provide staff for the Task
13 Force.
- 14 (f) A member of the Task Force:
- 15 (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Task Force; but
- 16 (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State
17 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.
- 18 (g) The Task Force shall:
- 19 (1) study and develop uniform standards for awarding academic credit for
20 prior learning;
- 21 (2) establish requirements for:
- 22 (i) adopting the uniform standards; and
- 23 (ii) each postsecondary institution to make the uniform standards
24 available to the public;
- 25 (3) determine standards for the transferability of academic credit for prior
26 learning among postsecondary institutions;
- 27 (4) review and assess whether the current standards of a score higher than
28 3 on an Advanced Placement examination and higher than 50 on a College Level

1 Examination Program for a given course are effective measures for indicating that a
2 student is sufficiently prepared to be successful in a related, more advanced course;

3 (5) collect the following data for each institution represented on the Task
4 Force:

5 (i) the total number of students awarded academic credit for prior
6 learning, both in the aggregate and disaggregated by the manner in which the prior
7 learning was assessed;

8 (ii) the total number of credits awarded to students for prior
9 learning, both in the aggregate and disaggregated by the manner in which the prior
10 learning was assessed; and

11 (iii) the number of credits awarded to students for prior learning that
12 were applied toward major requirements and elective requirements; and

13 (6) make recommendations regarding best practices for the adoption and
14 implementation of uniform standards for awarding academic credit for prior learning that
15 can be agreed to and implemented by postsecondary institutions.

16 (h) On or before July 1, 2022, the Task Force shall report its findings and
17 recommendations to the General Assembly in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State
18 Government Article.

19 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
20 1, 2021. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 3 months and, at the end of
21 September 30, 2022, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly,
22 shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.