
By: **Delegates King, Barkley, Dumais, Feldman, Gilleland, Hurson, Kaiser,
Lee, Simmons, and Taylor**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2005

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Education - American Sign Language - Foreign Language Credit**

3 FOR the purpose of specifying that, for academic credit purposes and graduation
4 requirements, American Sign Language shall be deemed a foreign language; and
5 generally relating to academic course credit and graduation requirements.

6 BY adding to
7 Article - Education
8 Section 7-208 and 11-209
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (2004 Replacement Volume and 2004 Supplement)

11 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
12 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

13 **Article - Education**

14 7-208.

15 FOR PURPOSES OF AWARDING ACADEMIC CREDIT AND SATISFYING
16 GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS, AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE SHALL BE DEEMED A
17 COURSE IN FOREIGN LANGUAGE.

18 11-209.

19 NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW, A PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF
20 HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL DEEM AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE A COURSE IN
21 FOREIGN LANGUAGE FOR PURPOSES OF AWARDING ACADEMIC CREDIT AND
22 SATISFYING GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS.

23 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take
24 effect July 1, 2005.