

# SENATE BILL 702

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6lr3517  
CF HB 804

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By: **Senator Nathan–Pulliam**

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2016

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Institutions of Higher Education – General Education Programs –**  
3 **Semester Hour Maximums**

4 FOR the purpose of providing that certain public institutions of higher education will  
5 satisfy a certain general education program requirement by requiring a certain  
6 baccalaureate program to include a certain amount of semester hours of required  
7 core courses; authorizing certain public institutions of higher education to include a  
8 certain course in excess of a certain maximum semester hours amount; requiring the  
9 Maryland Higher Education Commission to adopt certain regulations; and generally  
10 relating to the maximum semester hour limit for general education courses at public  
11 institutions of higher education.

12 BY adding to  
13 Article – Education  
14 Section 15–119  
15 Annotated Code of Maryland  
16 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

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

19 **Article – Education**

20 **15–119.**

21 **(A) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, A PUBLIC**  
22 **INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL SATISFY THE GENERAL EDUCATION**  
23 **PROGRAM REQUIREMENT BY REQUIRING EACH BACCALAUREATE PROGRAM TO**  
24 **INCLUDE NOT LESS THAN 40 SEMESTER HOURS AND NOT MORE THAN 46 SEMESTER**  
25 **HOURS OF REQUIRED CORE COURSES.**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1           **(B) A PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION MAY REQUIRE A**  
2 **BACCALAUREATE PROGRAM TO INCLUDE ONE ADDITIONAL 3 SEMESTER HOUR**  
3 **COURSE ABOVE THE MAXIMUM SEMESTER HOURS FOR A GENERAL EDUCATION**  
4 **PROGRAM ESTABLISHED IN SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION IF THE ADDITIONAL**  
5 **COURSE IS IN SOCIAL JUSTICE OR CULTURAL COMPETENCY.**

6           **(C) THE COMMISSION SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THE**  
7 **REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION.**

8           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
9 1, 2016.