
DIGEST

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Thompson

HB No. 1115

Abstract: Provides that certain Advanced Placement ½-unit courses shall "count" for one unit for purposes of the high school core curriculum that students must complete to be eligible for Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS) awards.

Present law provides for the Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS) as a program of merit scholarships for students attending certain postsecondary education institutions who meet specific grade point average, ACT score, and core curriculum requirements and certain other qualifications. Provides that students graduating from high school during the 2017-2018 school year and thereafter, in addition to meeting other eligibility requirements, must successfully complete 19 units of specified course work that constitutes a core curriculum, including four units in social studies. (See table.)

Proposed law, for a student who completes a ½-unit Advanced Placement (AP) Government and Politics course, reduces the total number of required core curriculum units from 19 to 18.5, and the total number of social studies units from four to 3.5 by revising the social studies requirements as follows:

Present law	Proposed law
One unit of <u>U.S.</u> History, AP US History, or IB US History	Retains <u>present law</u> .

<p>½ unit of Government, AP US Government and Politics: Comparative, or AP US Government and Politics: United States AND ½ unit of Economics, AP Macroeconomics, or AP Microeconomics</p> <p>Or</p> <p>One unit of Civics</p>	<p>½ unit of Government AND ½ unit of Economics</p> <p>Or</p> <p>½ unit of AP US Government & Politics: Comparative OR ½ unit of AP US Government & Politics: United States</p> <p>Or</p> <p>½ unit of AP Macroeconomics AND ½ unit of AP Microeconomics</p> <p>Or</p> <p>One unit of Civics.</p>
<p>Two units chosen from the following: Western Civilization, European History, or AP European History; World Geography, AP Human Geography, or IB Geography; World History, AP World History, or World History IB; History of Religion; IB Economics.</p>	<p>Retains <u>present law</u>.</p>

(Amends R.S. 17:3048.1(A)(1)(f)(intro. para.) and (iv))