

SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

FOR

SENATE BILL NO. 1075

AN ACT

To repeal sections 178.786 and 178.787, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof two new sections relating to higher education transfer practices.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Sections 178.786 and 178.787, RSMo, are repealed and two new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 178.786 and 178.787, to read as follows:

178.786. 1. The coordinating board for higher education, with the assistance of an advisory committee composed of representatives from each public community college in this state and each public four-year institution of higher education, shall develop a recommended lower division core curriculum of forty-two semester credit hours, including a statement of the content, component areas, and objectives of the core curriculum. A majority of the members of the advisory committee shall be faculty members from Missouri public institutions of higher education.

2. The coordinating board shall approve a common course numbering equivalency matrix for the forty-two credit hour block at all institutions of higher education in the state to facilitate the transfer of those courses among institutions of higher education by promoting consistency in course designation and course identification. Each community college and four-year institution of higher education shall include in its course listings the applicable course numbers from the common course numbering equivalency matrix approved by the coordinating board under this subsection.

3. The coordinating board shall complete the requirements of subsections 1 and 2 of this section prior to January 1, 2018, for implementation of the core curriculum transfer recommendations for the 2018-19 academic year for all public institutions of higher education.

4. The coordinating board, with the assistance of an advisory committee composed of representatives from each public community college in this state and each public four-year institution of higher education, shall approve a sixty credit hour transferrable lower division courses and common course numbering equivalency matrix for at least five degree programs with substantial enrollment. The coordinating board shall be responsible for determining applicable programs of study under this section. These lower division program guides shall facilitate the transfer of those courses among public institutions of higher education by promoting consistency in course designation and course identification. Each public community college and public four-year institution of higher education, offering the approved degree programs, shall include in its programs of study the sixty hour program equivalency matrix approved by the coordinating board under this subsection.

5. The coordinating board shall complete the requirements of subsection 4 of this section prior to June 30, 2026, for implementation of the transferrable lower division courses of at least five programs of study for the 2027-28 academic year for all public institutions of higher education.

178.787. 1. Each community college, as defined in section 163.191, and public four-year institution of higher education shall adopt the forty-two credit hour block, including specific courses comprising the curriculum, based on the core curriculum recommendations made by the

coordinating board for higher education under subsections 1 and 2 of section 178.786, for implementation beginning in the 2018-19 academic year.

2. If a student successfully completes the forty-two credit core curriculum at a community college or other public institution of higher education, that block of courses may be transferred to any other public institution of higher education in this state and shall be substituted for the receiving institution's core curriculum. A student shall receive academic credit for each of the courses transferred and shall not be required to take additional core curriculum courses at the receiving institution.

3. A student who transfers from one public institution of higher education to another public institution of higher education in the state without completing the core curriculum of the sending institution shall receive academic credit from the receiving institution for each of the courses that the student has successfully completed in the core curriculum of the sending institution. Following receipt of credit for these courses, the student may be required to satisfy further course requirements in the core curriculum of the receiving institution.

4. Each community college, as defined in section 163.191, and public four-year institution of higher education shall adopt the transferrable lower division courses and common course numbering equivalency matrix for the five or more degree programs selected under subsection 4 of section 178.786, including specific courses comprising the curriculum, based on the core curriculum recommendations made by the coordinating board for higher education under subsection 4 of section 178.786, for implementation beginning in the 2027-2028 academic year. No institution of higher education shall be required to adopt the lower

division courses for degree programs not offered at the institution.

5. If a student successfully completes the program-specific transferrable lower division courses at a community college or other public institution of higher education, that block of courses may be transferred to any other public institution of higher education in this state and shall be substituted for the receiving institution's core curriculum for the same degree program. A student shall receive academic credit toward their degree for each of the courses transferred and shall not be required to take additional core curriculum courses at the receiving institution for the same degree program.

6. A student who transfers from one public institution of higher education to another public institution of higher education in the state without completing the transferrable lower division coursework curriculum of the sending institution shall receive academic credit toward the same degree program from the receiving institution for each of the courses that the student has successfully completed in the core curriculum of the sending institution. Following receipt of credit for these courses, the student may be required to satisfy further course requirements in the core curriculum of the receiving institution.

7. The coordinating board shall report to the house higher education committee and the senate education committee on progress related to the requirements of subsections 4 and 5 of section 178.786 and subsections 4, 5, and 6 of this section prior to December 31, 2025.