



Rep. Tracy Katz Muhl

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LRB104 12135 LNS 26639 a

1 AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL 1988

2 AMENDMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_. Amend Senate Bill 1988 by replacing  
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 1. Findings. The General Assembly finds the  
5 following:

6 (1) The State's public and private universities and  
7 community colleges have a longstanding tradition of  
8 partnership with respect to the creation of seamless  
9 transfer pathways, articulation agreements, and joint  
10 programming that expand educational opportunities for  
11 students.

12 (2) The State's public and private universities and  
13 community colleges play a vital role in advancing this  
14 State's higher education mission by delivering  
15 high-quality academic programs, fostering innovation, and  
16 supporting workforce development.

17 (3) The State's public and private universities and

1 community colleges serve a diverse student body, including  
2 first generation students, low-income students, racial and  
3 ethnic minorities, and working adults, helping them  
4 achieve their academic and economic goals.

5 (4) The State benefits from a cohesive and  
6 interconnected higher education ecosystem in which public  
7 universities, private higher education institutions, and  
8 community colleges work collaboratively to meet the  
9 diverse needs of learners and the regional economies they  
10 serve.

11 (5) Community colleges can play a roll in filling the  
12 gaps in this State's higher education system by granting  
13 baccalaureate degrees to meet the growing demand for a  
14 skilled workforce, thereby increasing access and reducing  
15 costs for students.

16 (6) Baccalaureate degree programs offered pursuant to  
17 this Act do not alter the existing role and mission of  
18 community colleges.

19 (7) Nothing in this Act reduces this State's  
20 dedication to improving associate-to-baccalaureate  
21 program transfer pathways for this State's students, based  
22 on robust and longstanding partnerships with public and  
23 private universities.

24 Section 5. The Public Community College Act is amended by  
25 adding Section 3-42.6 as follows:

1 (110 ILCS 805/3-42.6 new)

2 Sec. 3-42.6. Baccalaureate degree program.

3 (a) As used in this Section:

4 "Accessibility" includes, but is not limited to, time and  
5 distance to a program at a university or off-site location  
6 during the time the program is offered, availability of public  
7 transportation, and proximity to a workforce partner.

8 "Applied baccalaureate" means a baccalaureate degree that  
9 is based on a curriculum that incorporates both theoretical  
10 and applied knowledge and skills in a specific vocational or  
11 technical field, which shall meet the following criteria:

12 (1) is titled as a Bachelor of Applied Science;

13 (2) is designed for workforce entry or career  
14 advancement in technical or professional fields; and

15 (3) is built upon applied associate degrees or closely  
16 aligned curricula.

17 "CCB Region" means the following community college  
18 baccalaureate regions:

19 (1) CCB Region 1: The College of Lake County, Harper  
20 College, Oakton College, Triton College, and Morton  
21 College.

22 (2) CCB Region 2: Elgin Community College, Kishwaukee  
23 College, Waubensee Community College, McHenry County  
24 College, Rock Valley College, and the College of DuPage.

25 (3) CCB Region 3: Black Hawk College, Carl Sandburg

1 College, Highland Community College, John Wood Community  
2 College, Sauk Valley Community College, and Spoon River  
3 College.

4 (4) CCB Region 4: Heartland Community College,  
5 Illinois Central College, Illinois Valley Community  
6 College, Lincoln Land Community College, and Richland  
7 Community College.

8 (5) CCB Region 5: Joliet Junior College, Prairie State  
9 College, South Suburban College, Moraine Valley Community  
10 College, and Kankakee Community College.

11 (6) CCB Region 6: Parkland College, Danville Area  
12 Community College, Lake Land College, and Illinois Eastern  
13 Community College.

14 (7) CCB Region 7: Rend Lake College, John A. Logan  
15 College, Southeastern Illinois College, and Shawnee  
16 Community College.

17 (8) CCB Region 8: Lewis and Clark Community College,  
18 Southwestern Illinois College, and Kaskaskia College.

19 (9) CCB Region 9: The City Colleges of Chicago.

20 "Course scheduling flexibility" includes, but is not  
21 limited to, the times and days of the week courses are offered  
22 and the ability of a university or partnership to use shared  
23 instructional spaces and scheduling models developed in  
24 partnership with university centers located on community  
25 college campuses.

26 "Mode of delivery" includes, but is not limited to, online

1 courses, hybrid courses, and off-site courses.

2 "Workforce need" includes, but is not limited to, the  
3 anticipated annual earnings of degree holders and the current  
4 number of related employment vacancies, evidence of sustained  
5 need that accounts for local or regional education and  
6 training providers, and employer support within a community  
7 college district.

8 (b) The board of trustees of a community college district  
9 may establish and offer a baccalaureate degree program and  
10 confer a bachelor's degree if all the following conditions are  
11 met:

12 (1) The community college district meets all of the  
13 requirements as set forth in subsection (c) as  
14 demonstrated through an application to offer a  
15 baccalaureate degree that has been submitted and approved  
16 by the State Board and the Board of Higher Education. The  
17 State Board and the Board of Higher Education shall  
18 collaborate on the development of an application process  
19 that is no less restrictive than program approval of new  
20 bachelor's degree programs at public and private  
21 universities in this State.

22 (2) The community college district has identified, in  
23 a feasibility study, unmet workforce needs, including the  
24 number of potential students and workers necessary to meet  
25 those needs, in the region served by the community college  
26 in the subject area of the baccalaureate degree program to

1 be offered and student interest in the new degree. The  
2 board of trustees shall publish the documentation on the  
3 community college district's website, make the  
4 documentation publicly available, and present the  
5 documentation to the State Board.

6 (3) The community college shall hold an applicable  
7 accreditation and be approved to offer baccalaureate  
8 degrees by the Higher Learning Commission.

9 (4) The community college district shall demonstrate  
10 how the baccalaureate degree program will demonstrate  
11 improved racial or socioeconomic equity in student access,  
12 enrollment, and completion.

13 (5) Tuition and fees per credit hour for the third and  
14 fourth years of a 4-year baccalaureate program may not  
15 exceed 150% of the tuition and fees per credit hour of  
16 related lower-division course tuition and fees, and the  
17 tuition charged a student who is a State resident shall  
18 not exceed the amount that the student was charged at the  
19 time he or she first entered the upper division program.

20 (6) The community college district provides a notice  
21 of intent to consider offering a baccalaureate degree to  
22 the State Board. The State Board shall provide the notice  
23 of intent to the Board of Higher Education, all public  
24 universities, and the Federation of Independent Illinois  
25 Colleges and Universities. The State Board shall also  
26 publish the notice on the State Board's website.

1       (7) At least 60 days before submission of an  
2       application, the board of trustees shall publish a  
3       feasibility study as set forth in paragraph (2) and notify  
4       the State Board. The State Board shall provide notice to  
5       the Board of Higher Education, all public universities,  
6       and the Federation of Independent Illinois Colleges and  
7       Universities.

8       (8) After publication of the feasibility study, the  
9       community college district shall enter into a good faith  
10      collaboration process with interested universities. The  
11      discussions during the good faith collaboration process  
12      may include the university's ability to serve the  
13      identified population to meet workforce need, alternative  
14      pathways to meet student need, the ability of the  
15      university to develop a new or expand a current program to  
16      meet the unmet workforce need or student need in a timely  
17      manner, or the creation of a new partnership. If, at the  
18      end of 60 days, the community college and a university  
19      cannot agree to pursue or establish, in writing, a new  
20      partnership agreement or no interest has been expressed in  
21      writing, a community college district may submit its  
22      application. This good faith collaboration process shall  
23      be documented by the community college district in its  
24      application. Nothing in this paragraph (8) requires a  
25      community college to enter into a partnership agreement  
26      with a university.

1           (9) After the submission of an application, the State  
2           Board shall post a reconsideration period of at least 30  
3           days for universities to submit their documentation of  
4           communication with the community college during the good  
5           faith collaboration period, as well as any evidence that a  
6           new community college baccalaureate program will be  
7           duplicative, as set forth in paragraph (3) of subsection  
8           (c). The State Board and the Board of Higher Education  
9           shall consider this documentation in their application  
10           review process. Based on information submitted by a  
11           university, the State Board and the Board of Higher  
12           Education may jointly or individually request that an  
13           applicant continue working toward some form of  
14           collaboration before proceeding in the application  
15           process. Nothing in this paragraph (9) requires a  
16           community college to enter into a partnership agreement or  
17           expand an existing partnership agreement with a  
18           university.

19           (c) The board of trustees shall demonstrate that the  
20           community college district has the expertise, the resources,  
21           and sufficient student demand to offer a baccalaureate degree.  
22           An application for approval to the State Board shall include,  
23           but is not limited to, all of the following:

24           (1) The community college district shall describe the  
25           employment goals for those individuals that will complete  
26           the baccalaureate program, including the types of



1 licenses, jobs, and career paths for which the program  
2 will train graduates.

3 (2) The community college district shall describe how  
4 the proposed baccalaureate degree program addresses an  
5 unmet workforce need as specified in paragraph (2) of  
6 subsection (b).

7 (3) The State Board and the Board of Higher Education  
8 shall evaluate whether a proposed program is duplicative  
9 based upon the following factors:

10 (A) A potential degree program shall be considered  
11 duplicative if any of the following conditions are  
12 met:

13 (i) The proposed degree program shares the  
14 same 4-digit Classification of Instruction Program  
15 (CIP) code as a degree program at a university or  
16 community college within the community college's  
17 district or within the following proximity:

18 (I) For the City Colleges of Chicago, the  
19 proposed site at which the new degree program  
20 will be offered is within a 20-mile radius of  
21 a university site or community college site  
22 outside of the City Colleges of Chicago.

23 (II) For all other community college  
24 districts, the site at which the new degree  
25 program will be offered is within a 40-mile  
26 radius of a university site or community

1 college site outside of the community college  
2 district.

3 (ii) The proposed degree program shares the  
4 same 4-digit CIP code as an existing partnership  
5 between the community college and a university.

6 (B) A proposed baccalaureate degree program  
7 determined to be duplicative based upon the factors in  
8 this paragraph (3) may proceed for consideration by  
9 the State Board and the Board of Higher Education if it  
10 addresses unmet workforce need and student demand, as  
11 demonstrated in the feasibility study, after  
12 consideration of the following factors in its  
13 evaluation of the proposed program:

14 (i) The estimated average out-of-pocket costs  
15 for students for net tuition and fees, including  
16 any scholarships, tuition discounts, or financial  
17 assistance, including Monetary Award Program and  
18 Pell grants, available to students in the proposed  
19 baccalaureate degree program, when compared to the  
20 same baccalaureate degree program offered by a  
21 university, a partnership agreement, or another  
22 community college.

23 (ii) Available program capacity sufficient to  
24 meet unmet workforce need and student demand, as  
25 well as the ability of a university to develop a  
26 new program or expand a current program to meet

1           the unmet workforce need or student demand in a  
2           timely manner as outlined in the university's  
3           reconsideration documentation.

4           (iii) Course scheduling flexibility and the  
5           university's ability and willingness to offer  
6           course scheduling options that meet students'  
7           needs.

8           (iv) The mode of delivery of the program and  
9           how this mode is able to meet students' needs.

10          (v) The accessibility of the proposed  
11          baccalaureate degree program when compared to a  
12          current degree program or partnership agreement at  
13          a university or community college campus as it  
14          pertains to students' needs.

15          (vi) Evaluation of the impact on existing  
16          programs at community colleges and universities,  
17          including a measurement of current transfer rates  
18          to other community colleges and universities and  
19          access for current programs to required learning  
20          experiences, such as clinical placements.

21          (C) A proposed applied baccalaureate is not  
22          considered duplicative if it does not share the same  
23          6-digit CIP code with a university as outlined in this  
24          paragraph (3).

25          (D) The State Board and the Board of Higher  
26          Education shall use information gathered from the

1       application, documentation of good faith  
2       collaboration, and reconsideration comments submitted  
3       by universities to determine whether there is a  
4       significant need to justify duplication. The State  
5       Board and the Board of Higher Education may request  
6       additional information from a university or a  
7       community college to further examine duplication as a  
8       part of their review process.

9       (4) The community college district shall provide  
10      evidence that it has budgeted for financial support for  
11      the program in a cost-effective manner. This shall  
12      include, but not be limited to, faculty costs,  
13      administrator costs, other personnel costs, equipment  
14      costs, library costs, and other facilities and  
15      instructional costs as directed by the State Board. The  
16      community college district shall also demonstrate that it  
17      has the infrastructure to support the program.

18      (5) The community college district shall provide  
19      information demonstrating how student demand supports the  
20      establishment of the baccalaureate program. The community  
21      college district shall also describe the target population  
22      of the proposed program.

23      (6) The community college district shall provide a  
24      plan for attracting, recruiting, retaining, and completing  
25      a diverse group of students.

26      (7) The community college district shall describe how

1       it has developed quality curricula that aligns with  
2       federal, State, and local requirements, is responsive to  
3       local workforce needs, and will prepare graduates with the  
4       appropriate level of skill to meet their educational and  
5       employment goals.

6       (8) The community college district shall document the  
7       availability of faculty for teaching the program,  
8       including the number of full-time faculty anticipated to  
9       teach in the program, and a description of the faculty's  
10      qualifications, including the highest degree earned,  
11      teaching experience, professional experience, and licenses  
12      held. The community college district shall also indicate  
13      anticipated market salaries for each faculty position and  
14      how faculty are to be evaluated.

15      (9) The community college district shall demonstrate  
16      that the baccalaureate degree program is built on existing  
17      associate degree programs and will result in the earning  
18      of an associate degree after approximately 60 credit hours  
19      as students matriculate toward baccalaureate degrees,  
20      preparing graduates for professional and technical  
21      employment and the opportunity to matriculate to graduate  
22      degree programs, if applicable.

23      (d) A community college district is prohibited from using  
24      semester credit hours generated in a baccalaureate degree  
25      program for grants received pursuant to Section 2-16.02. A  
26      baccalaureate degree program at a community college does not

1 qualify the community college or the students in the program  
2 for State funding or assistance otherwise designated for  
3 universities or university students.

4 (e) Excluding the City Colleges of Chicago, no community  
5 college district may establish more than one community college  
6 baccalaureate program within 3 years after the effective date  
7 of this amendatory Act of the 104th General Assembly. Three  
8 years after of the effective date of this amendatory Act of the  
9 104th General Assembly, a community college district, other  
10 than the City Colleges of Chicago, may establish no more than  
11 one additional baccalaureate program for a total of 2 programs  
12 over the period, subject to the regional limitations in this  
13 subsection (e).

14 Excluding the City Colleges of Chicago, each CCB Region  
15 may establish no more than one baccalaureate degree in early  
16 childhood education, one baccalaureate degree in  
17 cybersecurity, and one baccalaureate degree in nursing within  
18 3 years after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the  
19 104th General Assembly. Three years after the effective date  
20 of this amendatory Act of the 104th General Assembly, each CCB  
21 Region, other than the City Colleges of Chicago, may establish  
22 no more than one additional baccalaureate degree in early  
23 childhood education, one additional baccalaureate degree in  
24 cybersecurity, and one additional baccalaureate degree in  
25 nursing.

26 Excluding the City of Colleges of Chicago, each CCB Region

1 is limited to the following number of community college  
2 baccalaureate programs:

3 (1) CCB Region 1, 6 community college baccalaureate  
4 programs.

5 (2) CCB Region 2, 7 community college baccalaureate  
6 programs.

7 (3) CCB Region 3, 7 community college baccalaureate  
8 programs.

9 (4) CCB Region 4, 6 community college baccalaureate  
10 programs.

11 (5) CCB Region 5, 6 community college baccalaureate  
12 programs.

13 (6) CCB Region 6, 5 community college baccalaureate  
14 programs.

15 (7) CCB Region 7, 5 community college baccalaureate  
16 programs.

17 (8) CCB Region 8, 4 community college baccalaureate  
18 programs.

19 The City Colleges of Chicago may establish no more than 3  
20 baccalaureate degree programs within 3 years after the  
21 effective date of this amendatory Act of the 104th General  
22 Assembly. Three years after of the effective date of this  
23 amendatory Act of the 104th General Assembly, the City  
24 Colleges of Chicago may establish no more than 2 additional  
25 baccalaureate degree programs, for a total of 5 baccalaureate  
26 degree programs.

1       The City Colleges of Chicago may establish no more than  
2 one baccalaureate degree in early childhood education, one  
3 baccalaureate degree in cybersecurity, and one baccalaureate  
4 degree in nursing within 3 years after the effective date of  
5 this amendatory Act of the 104th General Assembly. Three years  
6 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 104th  
7 General Assembly, the City Colleges of Chicago may offer one  
8 additional baccalaureate degree in early childhood education,  
9 for a total of 2 early childhood education baccalaureate  
10 degrees. However, the City Colleges of Chicago may not  
11 establish an early childhood education baccalaureate degree  
12 program at Kennedy-King College or Olive-Harvey College.

13       Applied baccalaureate programs that do not meet the  
14 duplicative criteria outlined in paragraph (3) of subsection  
15 (c) are not subject to the limitations in this subsection (e).

16       A community college district may not offer a baccalaureate  
17 degree whose modality is delivered primarily online.

18       The General Assembly may not modify the limitations on  
19 community college baccalaureate degree programs that may be  
20 approved by the State Board and Board of Higher Education  
21 before the completion of the evaluation set forth in  
22 subsection (g).

23       (f) A community college district that offers a  
24 baccalaureate degree program shall submit an annual report to  
25 the State Board, which shall include all of the following:

26       (1) The total number of students pursuing a bachelor's



1 degree in the community college district pursuant to this  
2 Section.

3 (2) The total number of bachelor's degrees completed  
4 in the community college district.

5 (3) Workforce data showing demand for the  
6 baccalaureate degree programs offered in the community  
7 college district.

8 (4) The average cost of tuition per credit hour for  
9 the bachelor's degrees offered in the community college  
10 district.

11 (5) If applicable, the comparable passage rates for  
12 statewide and national licensure exams compared to the  
13 State average.

14 (g) The State Board and the Board of Higher Education, in  
15 conjunction with a third-party evaluator, shall conduct a  
16 statewide evaluation of all baccalaureate degree programs  
17 established under this Section. The results of the evaluation  
18 shall be reported, in writing, on or before 5 years after the  
19 effective date of this amendatory Act of the 104th General  
20 Assembly to all of the following, in addition to being made  
21 publicly available online:

22 (1) The Speaker of the House of Representatives.

23 (2) The Minority Leader of the House of  
24 Representatives.

25 (3) The President of the Senate.

26 (4) The Minority Leader of the Senate.

1           (5) The Governor's Office of Management and Budget.  
2           The evaluation shall include, but is not limited to, all  
3 of the following:

4           (A) All baccalaureate degree programs implemented.

5           (B) Data related to applicants, admissions,  
6 enrollment, mode of delivery, demographic characteristics  
7 of students, and degree recipients.

8           (C) The extent to which each baccalaureate degree  
9 program established under this Section fulfills identified  
10 workforce demands that require 4-year baccalaureate  
11 degrees.

12           (D) Information on the pace of employment of students  
13 and the subsequent job placement of graduates.

14           (E) The total cost broken down by major expenditure of  
15 each baccalaureate degree program and the funding sources  
16 used to finance each program.

17           (F) For each baccalaureate degree program, the costs  
18 to students, the amount of financial aid offered, and the  
19 student debt levels of graduates.

20           (G) Time-to-degree rates and completion rates for each  
21 new baccalaureate degree program established under this  
22 Section.

23           (H) The extent to which a baccalaureate degree program  
24 established under this Section is in compliance with the  
25 requirements of this Section.

26           (I) The extent to which the status of any partnership

1       agreements previously or presently maintained with other  
2       State institutions of higher learning, including  
3       enrollments and reasons for the dissolution of such  
4       agreements if they have been dissolved due to the creation  
5       of a new baccalaureate degree program.

6       (J) The extent to which the implementation of  
7       community college baccalaureate degrees has had an impact  
8       on universities.

9       A community college district shall submit the information  
10      necessary to conduct the evaluation required under this  
11      subsection (g), as determined by the evaluators, to the State  
12      Board and the Board of Higher Education."