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3 ORR SUBSTITUTE NO. 4 FOR SB32
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8 SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, the core curriculum in
9 Alabama for students in grades K-12 includes
10 instruction in social studies.

11 This bill would, beginning with the
12 2018-2019 school year, require students to
13 successfully pass a civics test as a required
14 component for completing the government course
15 required in the high school course of study.
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17 A BILL
18 TO BE ENTITLED
19 AN ACT
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21 Relating to K-12 education; beginning with the
22 2018-2019 school year, to require students to successfully
23 pass a civics test as a required component for completing the
24 government course required in the high school course of study.
25 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

26 Section 1. (a) Beginning in the 2018-2019 school
27 year, as a required component for completing the government

1 course required in the high school course of study, a student
2 shall correctly answer at least 60 of the 100 questions listed
3 on a civics test, which shall be made available in multiple
4 choice format. For the purposes of this section, civics test
5 means the 100 questions that, as of February 1, 2017, officers
6 of the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services use
7 as the basis for selecting the questions posed to applications
8 for naturalization. The civics test shall be completed as part
9 of a required course in government. The school shall document
10 on the transcript of the student that he or she has
11 successfully completed the civics test as required by this
12 subsection.

13 (b) The local board of education may determine the
14 method and manner in which to administer the civics test to
15 students. A student who does not obtain a passing score on the
16 civics test may retake the test until he or she obtains a
17 passing score.

18 (c) A special education student who is at least 18
19 years of age is not required to achieve a passing score on the
20 civics test in order to graduate from high school unless he or
21 she is learning at a level appropriate for his or her grade
22 level in a specific academic area and unless a passing score
23 on the civics test is specifically required in a specific
24 academic area by the individualized education program of the
25 student.

26 (d) The enforcement of this section shall comply
27 with Section 16-1-11.1, Code of Alabama 1975.

1 (e) The requirements of this section may be waived
2 by the chief school administrator for good cause for any
3 student in the graduating class. Having taken and failed the
4 civics test two times and otherwise having a passing grade in
5 the course in government shall be considered good cause.

6 Section 2. This act shall become effective on the
7 first day of the third month following its passage and
8 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.