

1 HB424
2 166047-1
3 By Representatives Fincher, Mooney, Fridy, Hanes, Whorton (R),
4 Ledbetter, Harbison, Holmes (M), Wingo, Drake, Williams (JW),
5 Shedd, Hurst, Millican, Johnson (R), Polizos, Ingram, Beckman,
6 Davis, Whorton (I), Greer, Pettus, Butler and McMillan
7 RFD: Education Policy
8 First Read: 07-APR-15

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8 SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, the State Board of
9 Education is required to establish course of study
10 standards for all K-12 public schools.

11 This bill would reestablish control of
12 education in Alabama to state and local agencies.
13 To accomplish this, this bill would terminate the
14 adoption and implementation of the standards
15 commonly known as the Common Core Standards, also
16 known as the Alabama College and Career Ready
17 Standards (ACCRS).

18 This bill would direct the State Board of
19 Education to replace the Common Core Standards for
20 Math and English Language Arts with the courses of
21 study for Math and English Language Arts in place
22 immediately prior to adoption of the Common Core
23 Standards.

24 This bill would further protect state and
25 local control of education by restricting the State
26 Board of Education from adopting or implementing
27 any other national standards from any source or

1 requiring the use of any assessments aligned with
2 them.

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4 A BILL
5 TO BE ENTITLED
6 AN ACT

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8 Relating to public education; to reestablish state
9 and local control of education in Alabama; to terminate the
10 adoption and implementation of the standards commonly known as
11 the Common Core Standards, also known as the Alabama College
12 and Career Ready Standards (ACCRS), in K-12 public schools;
13 and to direct the State Board of Education to replace the
14 Common Core Standards (ACCRS) for Math and English Language
15 Arts with the courses of study in place immediately prior to
16 adoption of the Common Core Standards (ACCRS).

17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

18 Section 1. (a) The Legislature finds that the State
19 Board of Education, in the fall of 2013, voted to rescind the
20 Memorandum of Agreement that involved the State of Alabama in
21 adopting the Common Core Standards, which ceded control of
22 Alabama's standards to entities other than the state and local
23 educational agencies, and declared that the collection of
24 personal data concerning students of Alabama public schools
25 would not be collected or compiled.

26 (b) In order to codify the intent of the board, the
27 State of Alabama hereby terminates all plans, programs,

1 activities, efforts, and expenditures relative to the
2 implementation of the educational initiative commonly referred
3 to as the Common Core State Standards, or any derivative or
4 permutation thereof, including, but not limited to, the
5 Alabama College and Career Ready Standards which have been
6 adopted or may be adopted by the board or its employees,
7 including any assessments, data collection, and instructions
8 based on or involving any such standard or protocol.

9 (c) The board shall replace the current Common Core
10 Standards, also known as the Alabama College and Career Ready
11 Standards, with the courses of study for Math in place through
12 May 2011 and English Language Arts in place through May 2013,
13 both of which were used in classrooms immediately prior to
14 implementation of the Common Core Standards.

15 (d) Following existing state law regarding the
16 process for revision of the Alabama Courses of Study, the
17 State Board of Education shall proceed with updating those
18 standards, being informed by the pre-Common Core Standards of
19 the state, whose national scores ranked no less than the top
20 10 percent in the nation. The resulting improved standards for
21 Math and English Language Arts will begin in the 2016-2017
22 school year.

23 (e) As part of the termination process, the
24 Legislature directs the State Superintendent of Education, the
25 State Board of Education, and any other relative authority to
26 terminate the flexibility waiver agreement with the U.S.
27 Department of Education, pertaining to the federal Elementary

1 and Secondary Education Act, which includes the adoption of
2 the Common Core Standards, also known as the Alabama College
3 and Career Ready Standards, and other areas of federal control
4 of the educational process.

5 (f) The Legislature further prohibits the adoption
6 or implementation of any national standards from any source,
7 or requiring the use of any assessments aligned with them,
8 that cede control of Alabama educational standards in any
9 manner, including, but not limited to, the Next Generation
10 Science Standards, History Standards, Social Studies
11 Standards, or Sexuality Standards.

12 (g) The state shall retain sole control over the
13 development, establishment, and revision of K-12 course of
14 study standards.

15 (h) Any education entity or any state official shall
16 not join any consortium or any other organization when
17 participation in that consortium or organization would cede
18 any measure of control over any aspect of Alabama public
19 education to any such entity.

20 Section 2. Any citizen of the State of Alabama shall
21 have standing in the courts of Alabama to bring suit to ensure
22 the enforcement of this act.

23 Section 3. This act shall become effective
24 immediately following its passage and approval by the
25 Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.