

1 HB383  
2 209586-1  
3 By Representative Mooney  
4 RFD: Education Policy  
5 First Read: 09-FEB-21

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

This bill would terminate the use of the standards commonly known as the Common Core Standards, also known as the Alabama College- and Career-Ready Standards.

This bill would direct the State Board of Education to replace the Common Core Standards for Math and English Language Arts with the courses of study for Math and English Language Arts in place immediately prior to adoption of the Common Core Standards and use these transition standards in K-12 public schools for the 2021-2022 school year.

This bill would require the State Board of Education to revise the pre-Common Core transition standards into new curriculum standards, to be known as the Alabama Ahead Standards, to be used in all K-12 public schools starting with the 2022-2023 school year.

1                   This bill would create the Alabama  
2                   Excellence Standards Commission to provide  
3                   consulting services to the State Board of Education  
4                   while it creates the Alabama Ahead Standards and  
5                   provide a report of the new curriculum standards to  
6                   certain members of the legislature and the public.

7                   This bill would prohibit the State Board of  
8                   Education from adopting or implementing any other  
9                   national standards from any source or requiring the  
10                  use of any assessments aligned with national  
11                  standards.

12  
13                                   A BILL  
14                                   TO BE ENTITLED  
15                                   AN ACT

16  
17                   Relating to public education; to terminate the use  
18                   of the Common Core Standards, also known as the Alabama  
19                   College and Career Ready Standards, in K-12 public schools; to  
20                   direct the State Board of Education to replace the Common Core  
21                   Standards for Math and English Language Arts with the courses  
22                   of study for Math and English Language Arts in place  
23                   immediately prior to adoption of the Common Core Standards and  
24                   use these transition standards in public schools for the  
25                   2021-2022 school year; to require the State Board of Education  
26                   to revise the pre-Common Core transition standards into new  
27                   curriculum standards to be used in all K-12 public schools

1 starting with the 2022-2023 school year; to create the Alabama  
2 Excellence Standards Commission to provide consulting services  
3 to the State Board of Education relating to the new curriculum  
4 standards; and to prohibit the State Board of Education from  
5 adopting or implementing any other national standards from any  
6 source or requiring the use of any assessments aligned with  
7 national standards.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

9 Section 1. (a) The Legislature finds that the State  
10 Board of Education, in the fall of 2013, voted to rescind the  
11 Memorandum of Agreement that involved the State of Alabama in  
12 adopting the Common Core Standards, which ceded control of  
13 Alabama's standards to entities other than the state and local  
14 educational agencies, and declared that the collection of  
15 personal data concerning students of Alabama public schools  
16 would not be collected or compiled.

17 (b) In order to codify the intent of the board, the  
18 State of Alabama hereby terminates all plans, programs,  
19 activities, efforts, and expenditures relative to the  
20 implementation of the educational initiative commonly referred  
21 to as the Common Core State Standards, or any derivative or  
22 permutation thereof, including, but not limited to, the  
23 Alabama College- and Career-Ready Standards that have been  
24 adopted or may be adopted by the board or its employees,  
25 including any assessments, data collection, and instructions  
26 based on or involving any such standard or protocol.

1 (c) As part of the transition, the board shall  
2 replace the current Common Core Standards, also known as the  
3 Alabama College- and Career-Ready Standards, with the courses  
4 of study for Math in place until May 2011, and for English  
5 Language Arts in place until May 2012, both of which were used  
6 in classrooms immediately prior to implementation of the  
7 Common Core Standards. These standards shall be known as the  
8 Transition Standards and shall remain in effect for the  
9 2021-2022 school year.

10 (d) Following existing state law regarding the  
11 process for revision of the Alabama courses of study, the  
12 State Board of Education shall proceed with revising the  
13 Transition Standards, based upon the pre-Common Core Standards  
14 of the state whose national scores ranked no less than the top  
15 10 percent in the nation. The resulting curriculum standards  
16 for Math and English Language Arts shall begin in the  
17 2022-2023 school year and shall be known as the Alabama Ahead  
18 Standards.

19 (e) There is created the Alabama Excellence  
20 Standards Commission, to be comprised of internationally  
21 recognized experts of curriculum standards who have not  
22 advocated the Common Core Standards. Members of the commission  
23 shall be jointly appointed by the Chair of the Senate  
24 Education and Youth Affairs Committee and the Chair of the  
25 House Education Policy Committee. Members of the commission  
26 shall be available throughout the process by which the  
27 Transition Standards are revised into new curriculum standards

1 pursuant to subsection (d), and shall produce a report  
2 reviewing the final draft of the Alabama Ahead Standards. At  
3 least 30 days prior to action by the State Board of Education  
4 to adopt the Alabama Ahead Standards, the report shall be  
5 provided to the Chair of the Senate Education and Youth  
6 Affairs Committee and the Chair of the House Education Policy  
7 Committee and shall be made available to the public.

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

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

18 (h) No education entity or any state official shall  
19 join any consortium or any other organization when  
20 participation in that consortium or organization would cede  
21 any measure of control over any aspect of Alabama public  
22 education to any such entity.

23 Section 2. Any resident of the State of Alabama  
24 shall have standing in the courts of Alabama to bring suit to  
25 ensure the enforcement of this act.

26 Section 3. This act shall be known and may be cited  
27 as the Alabama Excellence in Education Act.

1                   Section 4. This act shall become effective  
2 immediately following its passage and approval by the  
3 Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.