

1       SJR153  
2       132446-1  
3       By Senator Brewbaker  
4       RFD:  
5       First Read: 31-MAY-11

8 ENCOURAGING THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO RETAIN  
9 CONTROL OVER ALABAMA ACADEMIC STANDARDS, CURRICULUM,  
10 INSTRUCTION AND TESTING.  
11

12 WHEREAS, the State Board of Education adopted the  
13 Common Core State Standards Initiative on November 18, 2010;  
14 and

15 WHEREAS, the initiative is owned and coordinated by  
16 the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices  
17 and the Council of Chief State School Officers, and defines  
18 the knowledge and skills students should have within their  
19 K-12 education careers; and

20 WHEREAS, the initiative holds itself out as a  
21 state-led effort to give all students the skills and knowledge  
22 they need to succeed; and

23 WHEREAS, the initiative states that the federal  
24 government was not involved in the development of the  
25 standards, that individual states choose whether or not to  
26 adopt all or any one of the standards, and that Alabama can  
27 withdraw from the initiative at any time; and

1           WHEREAS, the United States Constitution wisely  
2       leaves the setting of academic standards, curriculum, and  
3       instruction to the states; and

4           WHEREAS, by act of the Legislature, the board is  
5       charged with the general control and supervision of public  
6       education in Alabama and, as part of that charge, sets  
7       Alabama's courses of study which contain Alabama's education  
8       standards by subject matter; and

9           WHEREAS, the Legislature has learned that the United  
10      States Department of Education is funding the development of  
11      national curriculum guidelines, modes, and materials as well  
12      as national assessments based upon the initiative's standards,  
13      thus creating a national curriculum and testing system; and

14          WHEREAS, the Legislature is very concerned with the  
15      federal government's intrusion in Alabama's right to set  
16      curriculum and standards and the powers duly delegated to the  
17      board to do so; now therefore,

18          BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
19      HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That by copy of this resolution  
20      provided to the State Superintendant of Education for  
21      distribution to the board, we hereby encourage the State Board  
22      of Education to take all steps it deems appropriate, including  
23      revocation of the adoption of the initiative's standards if  
24      necessary, to retain complete control over Alabama's academic  
25      standards, curriculum, instruction, and testing system.