SB54

8N4DFFF-1

By Senator Orr

RFD: Education Policy

First Read: 06-Feb-24

SYNOPSIS:

Under existing law, the State Textbook Committee recommends textbooks for use in public K-12 schools and reviews certain instructional materials.

This bill would require the State Textbook Committee to review periodicals regularly used in public K-12 classrooms.

This bill would also authorize the State Board of Education to adopt rules relating to the review of periodicals.

A BILL

TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

Relating to the State Textbook Committee; to require the State Textbook Committee to review periodicals regularly used in public K-12 schools; and to authorize the State Board of Education to adopt rules.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. (a) For purposes of this section, the term "periodical" means any magazine, newspaper, or journal published at regular intervals.

(b) The State Textbook Committee shall review all

periodicals that are regularly used during classroom instruction in any public K-12 school. For purposes of this section, a periodical is considered regularly used if it is used at least once a week during the academic school year.

(c) The State Board of Education may develop guidelines for the review of periodicals. The review process shall include, but not be limited to, publishing statewide lists of vetted and approved periodicals.

(d) Guidelines developed for the review of periodicals pursuant to this section shall be separate from the State Textbook Review Process provided by Article 3 of Chapter 36 of Title 16, Code of Alabama 1975.

Section 2. This act shall become effective on October 1, 2024.