

1 SB32
2 183058-6
3 By Senator Orr
4 RFD: Finance and Taxation Education
5 First Read: 07-FEB-17
6 PFD: 01/30/2017

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4 ENGROSSED

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7 A BILL
8 TO BE ENTITLED
9 AN ACT

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11 Relating to K-12 education; beginning with the
12 2018-2019 school year, to require students to successfully
13 pass a civics test as a required component for completing the
14 government course required in the high school course of study.
15 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

16 Section 1. (a) Beginning in the 2018-2019 school
17 year, as a required component for completing the government
18 course required in the high school course of study, a student
19 shall correctly answer at least 60 of the 100 questions listed
20 on a civics test, which shall be made available in multiple
21 choice format. For the purposes of this section, civics test
22 means the 100 questions that, as of February 1, 2017, officers
23 of the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services use
24 as the basis for selecting the questions posed to applications
25 for naturalization. The civics test shall be completed as part
26 of a required course in government. The school shall document
27 on the transcript of the student that he or she has

1 successfully completed the civics test as required by this
2 subsection.

3 (b) The local board of education may determine the
4 method and manner in which to administer the civics test to
5 students. A student who does not obtain a passing score on the
6 civics test may retake the test until he or she obtains a
7 passing score.

8 (c) A special education student who is at least 18
9 years of age is not required to achieve a passing score on the
10 civics test in order to graduate from high school unless he or
11 she is learning at a level appropriate for his or her grade
12 level in a specific academic area and unless a passing score
13 on the civics test is specifically required in a specific
14 academic area by the individualized education program of the
15 student.

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

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

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

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Senate

Read for the first time and referred to the Senate
committee on Finance and Taxation Education 07-FEB-17

Read for the second time and placed on the calen-
dar 1 amendment..... 16-FEB-17

Read for the third time and passed as amended 06-APR-17

Yeas 23
Nays 5

Patrick Harris,
Secretary.