

1 SJR98
2 153153-1
3 By Senators Brewbaker, Beason and Hightower
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 02-MAY-13

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8 URGING THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO REFRAIN FROM
9 ACCEPTING FEDERAL FUNDS TIED TO THE COMMON CORE STATE
10 STANDARDS INITIATIVE UNTIL A FULL AND OPEN DEBATE OF THIS
11 ISSUE HAS OCCURRED IN THE ALABAMA LEGISLATURE.

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13 WHEREAS, on November 18, 2010, the State Board of
14 Education adopted the Common Core State Standards Initiative
15 defining the knowledge and skills students should have
16 received during their K-12 education careers; and

17 WHEREAS, the United States Constitution wisely
18 leaves the setting of academic standards, curriculum, and
19 instruction to the states, and the State Board of Education is
20 charged with the general control and supervision of public
21 education in Alabama and the establishment of Alabama's
22 courses of study which contain Alabama's educational standards
23 by subject matter; and

24 WHEREAS, the debate over who decides these
25 educational standards is of critical importance to every
26 Alabama family and is determinative of the future prosperity
27 of this state; and

1 WHEREAS, blatantly contrary to Federalism and state
2 autonomy, the federal government has intruded upon Alabama's
3 right to establish educational curriculum and standards and
4 the powers duly delegated to the board to do so, thereby
5 denying this state its rightful duty to determine what
6 curriculum and standards are best suited to promote the
7 education of the children in our state; and

8 WHEREAS, given the absence of political will to
9 fully and openly debate this issue in the Alabama Legislature,
10 the duties of elected representatives of this state to make
11 important decisions relating to the educational standards for
12 our children are ceded to bureaucrats in Washington; now
13 therefore,

14 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
15 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we urge the State Board of
16 Education to take all steps necessary to refrain from
17 accepting any federal funds tied to the Common Core State
18 Standards Initiative until a full and open debate of this
19 issue has occurred in the Alabama Legislature to ensure that
20 the State of Alabama retains complete control over its
21 academic standards, curriculum, instruction, and testing
22 system.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this
24 resolution be provided to the State Superintendant of
25 Education for distribution to the board.