

## House Resolution 1345

By: Representatives Morgan of the 39<sup>th</sup>, Kaiser of the 59<sup>th</sup>, Evans of the 42<sup>nd</sup>, Fludd of the 64<sup>th</sup>, Glanton of the 75<sup>th</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Affirming Georgia's adoption of the Common Core Standards; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Georgia led a bipartisan coalition of 47 states in developing a new set of  
3 stronger academic standards designed to give our students the best possible chance of success  
4 throughout their K-12 education, college and careers; and

5 WHEREAS, in 2009, under the leadership of former Georgia Governor Sonny Perdue, the  
6 National Governors Association in partnership with the Council of Chief State School  
7 Officers recognized a need for academic standards in K-12 education, developed by states  
8 and that states could voluntarily choose to adopt, that are aligned to the expectations of two-  
9 and four-year colleges and have been internationally benchmarked; and

10 WHEREAS, this partnership convened a group of education experts to work on developing  
11 the standards to "provide a consistent, clear understanding of what students are expected to  
12 learn, so teachers and parents know what they need to do to help them," and "are designed  
13 to be robust and relevant to the real world, reflecting the knowledge and skills that our young  
14 people need for success in college and careers"; and

15 WHEREAS, the Common Core Georgia Performance Standards (CCGPS) were drafted and  
16 posted for public comment before being adopted by the state in Fall 2012; and

17 WHEREAS, Georgia has joined 44 other states, the District of Columbia, and two territories,  
18 along with the Department of Defense Education Activity, in formally adopting this set of  
19 core standards for kindergarten through high school in English language arts, mathematics,  
20 and grades 6-12 literacy in science, history/social studies, and technical subjects; and

21 WHEREAS, the CCGPS were heavily based on the Georgia Performance Standards (GPS)  
22 and represent a common sense next step from these standards by providing a consistent  
23 framework to prepare students for success in college and the 21st century workplace; and

24 WHEREAS, the CCGPS will ensure that all Georgia students have an equal access and  
25 opportunity to master the skills and knowledge needed for success beyond high school; and

26 WHEREAS, the standards create a foundation to work collaboratively across states and  
27 districts, pooling resources and expertise, to create curricular tools, professional  
28 development, common assessments, and other instructional materials; and

29 WHEREAS, the CCGPS is not a curriculum and maintains both flexibility and control for  
30 local educators, schools and systems to decide how to teach their students and what  
31 textbooks to use; and

32 WHEREAS, under the CCGPS all personally identifiable information about individual  
33 students is still protected by state and federal privacy laws, and no such information will be  
34 shared with the federal government or with other states; and

35 WHEREAS, the federal government did not play any role in the development of the CCGPS  
36 and no state has been penalized by the federal government or had federal funds withheld  
37 specifically for declining to implement the standards; and

38 WHEREAS, a broad coalition of stakeholders across Georgia's education, business, faith, and  
39 civic communities support these standards, including: Georgia Chamber of Commerce, GE,  
40 IBM, Microsoft, Siemens, State Farm, Verizon, Georgia Association of Educational Leaders,  
41 Georgia Association of Educators, Georgia Parent Teacher Association, Georgia Partnership  
42 for Excellence in Education, Georgia School Boards Association, Georgia School  
43 Superintendents Association, Southern Education Foundation, Technical College System of  
44 Georgia, and the University System of Georgia; and

45 WHEREAS, the CCGPS allows parents to know where their children stand and further  
46 empowers them to be partners in their child's education.

47 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
48 this body affirms Georgia's adoption of the Common Core Standards as a critical tool to help  
49 ensure our students are graduating high school both college and career ready, providing clear  
50 educational standards while allowing local districts and schools the flexibility needed to  
51 deliver quality instruction in the classroom.

52 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in order to maintain the trust of our state's educators and  
53 school professionals, business and civic leaders, and most importantly, parents and families,  
54 Georgia must honor the commitment we have made to implementing the CCGPS and offer  
55 our educators the proper support to guarantee the success of the standards.

56 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the CCGPS are internationally benchmarked and  
57 provide our students with an edge by ensuring mastery of knowledge and skills needed to  
58 perform today's high-skill, high-wage occupations, enabling Georgia students to competently  
59 compete in the global jobs market, and ensuring Georgia businesses and educational  
60 institutions that our state is training our students for college and career.