

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 55th Legislature (2015)

3 HOUSE CONCURRENT
4 RESOLUTION 1002

By: Fisher

7 AS INTRODUCED

8 A Concurrent Resolution urging the College Board to
9 change the Advanced Placement United States History
10 course framework and examination; directing the State
11 Board of Education not to award grants or expend
12 certain money for any Advanced Placement United
13 States History course or examination until certain
14 conditions are met; directing the State Board to
15 explore certain options; directing the State Board
16 and boards of education to make certain decisions
17 using certain criteria; and directing distribution.

18 WHEREAS, approximately 500,000 students in the United States
19 take the College Board's Advanced Placement United States History
20 course each year; and

21 WHEREAS, in Oklahoma, approximately 5,000 students are enrolled
22 in an Advanced Placement United States History course for the 2014-
23 2015 school year; and

24 WHEREAS, traditionally the Advanced Placement United States
History course was designed to present a balanced view of American
history and to prepare students for college-level history courses;
and

1 WHEREAS, the College Board is a private not-for-profit
2 organization that is responsible for administering the SAT college
3 readiness examination and for developing and providing Advanced
4 Placement (AP) courses and examinations in various subject areas;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, the College Board released changes to the Advanced
7 Placement United States History course framework which took effect
8 for the 2014-2015 school year and will be assessed with the May 2015
9 administration of the Advanced Placement United States History
10 examination; and

11 WHEREAS, the new Advanced Placement United States History course
12 framework differs from the current Oklahoma Academic Standards for
13 Social Studies-United States History; and

14 WHEREAS, the new Advanced Placement United States History course
15 framework and examination emphasize the negative aspects of our
16 nation's history using the ideology of race, gender, class, and
17 ethnicity to teach themes and events in United States history while
18 omitting or minimizing positive aspects of United States history,
19 which presents a radically revisionist, biased, and inaccurate view
20 of United States history; and

21 WHEREAS, the Advanced Placement United States History course
22 framework and examination neglect critical topics that were formerly
23 part of the Advanced Placement United States History course. For
24 example, very little is mentioned about the Founding Fathers, the

1 principles of the Declaration of Independence, and the religious
2 influences on our nation's history; and

3 WHEREAS, the Advanced Placement United States History course
4 framework and examination present inaccurate and incomplete views of
5 historical events such as the motivations and actions of 17th
6 through 19th century settlers, the causes of the Great Depression,
7 and the development of and victory in the Cold War; and

8 WHEREAS, the Advanced Placement United States History course
9 framework and examination exclude discussion of the United States
10 military (no battles, commanders, or heroes), and omit individuals
11 and events that greatly shaped our nation's history such as Albert
12 Einstein, Jonas Salk, George Washington Carver, Rosa Parks, Dr.
13 Martin Luther King Jr., the Tuskegee Airmen, the Holocaust, and many
14 other critical topics that have long been part of the Advanced
15 Placement United States History course and examination; and

16 WHEREAS, some of the best and brightest students in Oklahoma
17 will be studying history according to the Advanced Placement United
18 States History course framework developed by the College Board,
19 which has stated "any teacher who presents the principles of the
20 American Constitution taught in the traditional way would be
21 severely disadvantaging students for the College Board examination";
22 and

23 WHEREAS, despite offering revisions and clarifications to the
24 Advanced Placement United States History course framework, the

1 College Board has refused to change the themes and key concepts of
2 the framework; thus the Advanced Placement United States History
3 required knowledge that is currently being taught to Oklahoma
4 students is inaccurate, biased and negative and includes revisionist
5 themes and concepts; and

6 WHEREAS, in order to prepare students for the Advanced Placement
7 United States History examination, Oklahoma teachers who teach the
8 Advanced Placement United States History course will have to be
9 trained in and adopt materials which are in conflict with the
10 Oklahoma Academic Standards in Social Studies-United States History;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, if the Advanced Placement United States History course
13 framework is taught in classrooms in the state it will usurp the
14 Oklahoma Academic Standards in Social Studies-United States History.

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
16 OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 55TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE
17 CONCURRING THEREIN:

18 THAT the College Board is hereby urged to withdraw the new
19 Advanced Placement United States History course framework before the
20 beginning of the 2015-2016 school year and replace it with the
21 Advanced Placement United States History course framework that was
22 in place prior to the 2014-2015 school year.

23 THAT the State Board of Education is directed not to use
24 taxpayers' money to implement or administer the Advanced Placement

1 United States History course or examination and to withhold the
2 award of grants under the Oklahoma Advanced Placement Incentive
3 Program for funding teacher training, curriculum, instructional
4 materials, examination awards and examination scholarships for the
5 Advanced Placement United States History course and examination for
6 the 2015-2016 school year and subsequent school years until the
7 College Board reverts back to the previous Advanced Placement United
8 States History course framework.

9 THAT the State Board of Education is directed to explore
10 alternatives to the College Board's Advanced Placement United States
11 History course and examination that would offer Oklahoma students
12 the same opportunities that the Advanced Placement program offers
13 and is in agreement with the Oklahoma Academic Standards for Social
14 Studies-United States History.

15 THAT the State Board of Education and all boards of education of
16 school districts in Oklahoma are directed to make all decisions
17 concerning the curriculum and materials used in courses and programs
18 in United States History, Honors United States History and Advanced
19 Placement United States History in accordance with the Oklahoma
20 Academic Standards for Social Studies-United States History adopted
21 by the State Board of Education and that all curriculum and
22 materials have an emphasis on America's founding principles,
23 exceptionalism, and unique role in the world.

24

1 THAT copies of this resolution be distributed to David Coleman,
2 President and Chief Executive Officer of the College Board, the
3 State Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Governor of
4 Oklahoma, and the Lieutenant Governor of Oklahoma.

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