

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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

3 SENATE CONCURRENT
4 RESOLUTION 3

By: Brecheen

5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 A Concurrent Resolution directing certain review of
8 Advanced Placement U.S. history framework; directing
9 withholding of certain funds from certain Advanced
10 Placement U.S. history activities; directing the
11 State Board of Education to explore certain
12 alternatives; directing certain decisions to be made
13 in certain compliance; and directing distribution.

14 WHEREAS, Approximately 500,000 students in the United States
15 take the College Board's Advanced Placement U. S. history course
16 each year, with 5,000 students in Oklahoma enrolled in the AP U.S.
17 history classes for the 2014-2015 school year; and

18 WHEREAS, the AP U.S. history course has traditionally been
19 designed to present a balanced view of American history and to
20 prepare students for college-level history courses; and

21 WHEREAS, the College Board, a private organization responsible
22 for issuing the SAT and the various AP exams, has released a new
23 test and course framework for AP U.S. history; and

24 WHEREAS, the new AP U.S. history course framework differs from
Oklahoma subject matter standards for social studies; and

1 WHEREAS, the new AP U.S. history course framework emphasizes the
2 negative aspects of our nation's history using the ideology of race,
3 gender, class, and ethnicity to teach themes and events in U.S.
4 history while omitting or minimizing positive aspects of American
5 history, which presents a radically revisionist, biased, and
6 inaccurate view of American history; and

7 WHEREAS, the AP U.S. history exam and course framework neglects
8 critical topics that were formerly part of the AP U.S. history
9 course, with very little information mentioned about the Founding
10 Fathers, the principles of the Declaration of Independence, and the
11 religious influences on our nation's history; and

12 WHEREAS, the AP U.S. history course framework presents
13 inaccurate views of historical events such as the motivations and
14 actions of 17th-19th century settlers, the Great Depression, and the
15 development of and victory in the Cold War; and

16 WHEREAS, the AP U.S. history course framework excludes
17 discussion of the U. S. military, including battles, commanders, and
18 heroes, and omits individuals and events that greatly shaped our
19 nation's history such as Albert Einstein, Jonas Salk, George
20 Washington Carver, Rosa Parks, Dr. Martin Luther King, Tuskegee
21 Airmen, the Holocaust, and many other critical topics that have long
22 been part of the AP U.S. history course; and

23 WHEREAS, some of Oklahoma's best and brightest students will be
24 studying history according to the College Board's AP U.S. history

1 course framework, which has stated "any teacher who presents the
2 principles of the American Constitution taught in the traditional
3 way would be severely disadvantaging his/her students for the
4 College Board exam"; and

5 WHEREAS, despite offering "revisions" and "clarifications" to
6 the framework, the College Board has refused to change the themes
7 and key concepts of the framework, thus the AP U.S. history
8 "required knowledge" for Oklahoma students that is currently being
9 taught in alignment with the 2014-2015 framework is inaccurate,
10 biased, and negative with revisionist themes and concepts; and

11 WHEREAS, to prepare students for the AP U.S. history
12 examination, Oklahoma AP U.S. history teachers will have to be
13 trained and adopt materials in order to teach the new AP U.S.
14 history framework's "required knowledge," which is in conflict with
15 the Oklahoma subject matter standards for history; and

16 WHEREAS, the A.P. U.S. history framework will be usurping
17 Oklahoma's subject matter standards for history;

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION
19 OF THE 55TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
20 CONCURRING THEREIN:

21 THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature directs College Board to
22 withdraw its new AP U.S. history framework before the beginning of
23 the 2015-2016 school year and replace it with the previous AP U.S.
24 history framework.

1 THAT the budget for the State Department of Education reflect
2 that Oklahoma taxpayers' money is withheld from AP U.S. history
3 teacher training, curriculum, and scholarships that offset AP U.S.
4 history exams for the 2015-2016 school year until the College Board
5 reverts back to the previous AP U.S. history framework.

6 THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature directs the Oklahoma State
7 Board of Education to explore alternatives to the College Board's
8 Advanced Placement program for U.S. history that would offer
9 Oklahoma students the same opportunities that AP presents and is in
10 agreement with Oklahoma's subject matter standards for history.

11 THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature directs that Oklahoma State
12 Board of Education and all Oklahoma school district board of
13 education decisions concerning U.S. history, honors U.S. history, or
14 AP U.S. history programs be in accordance with the Oklahoma subject
15 matter standards for history and social studies and incorporate an
16 emphasis on American founding principles, American exceptionalism,
17 and America's unique role in the world; and

18 THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to David Coleman,
19 president of the College Board, the State Superintendent of Public
20 Instruction, the Governor, and the Lieutenant Governor.

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