

Protect Our Children: Defeat National Standards for Alabama

PREVENT THE TAKEOVER OF EDUCATION BY THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION

THE PROBLEM: President Obama wants to nationalize education.

FACTS:

- The national standards-based "Common Core Standards" initiative is the centerpiece of the Obama's Administration's agenda to centralize education decisions at the federal level.
- The Obama Administration is using the same model to take over education as it used for healthcare by using national standards and boards of bureaucrats, whom the public didn't elect and can't fire or otherwise hold accountable.
- National standards remove authority from States and parents over what is taught in the classroom and how it is tested.
- There is no constitutional or statutory authority for national standards, national curricula, or national assessments and in fact the federal government is expressly prohibited from endorsing or dictating state/local decisions and curricula,
- The Obama Administration is attempting to evade constitutional and statutory prohibitions to move toward a nationalized public-school system by (1) funding to date more than \$345 million for the development of national curriculum and test questions, (2) tying national standards to the Race to the Top charter schools initiative in the amount of \$4.35 billion, (3) using the Common Core State Standards Initiative (CCSI) to pressure State Boards of Education to adopt national standards with the threat of losing Title I Funds if they do not, and (4) requesting Congress to include national standards as a requirement in the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary School Act (No Child Left Behind).
- The argument that Alabama should adopt national standards because Alabama needs higher standards is a ruse: Alabama Social Studies were A- in 2011 (in the top 7 states) and A in 2003. Alabama English Language Arts is B+. The last two sets of Math were B+. The problem is not with standards.
- States that have adopted and implemented "Common Core" national standards are learning that their academic standards are actually reduced not improved.
- National standards increase the cost of education and TAXES WILL RISE. some states that have adopted national standards are already considering an increase in property taxes to pay for increased education costs.



THE SOLUTION:

We must convince the Alabama State Board of Education to (1) rescind its vote on November 18, 2010 to adopt national standards and to (2) refuse to adopt national assessments (testing), which vote is expected to be taken by the Alabama State Board of Education before year's end.

ACTION: Please contact your State Board of Education Members and Governor Bentley and ask them to take the above actions to protect our Alabama schools from being nationalized, protect parental rights, and protect our children from being brainwashed by liberal bureaucrats.

The Republican Philosophy is in Conflict with Common Core Standards Republicans believe:

The role of the federal government should be limited.

Parents, teachers, and school boards should be in control.

School choice and competition is the answer to improving education.

Initiatives should be market-based, not federally controlled.

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