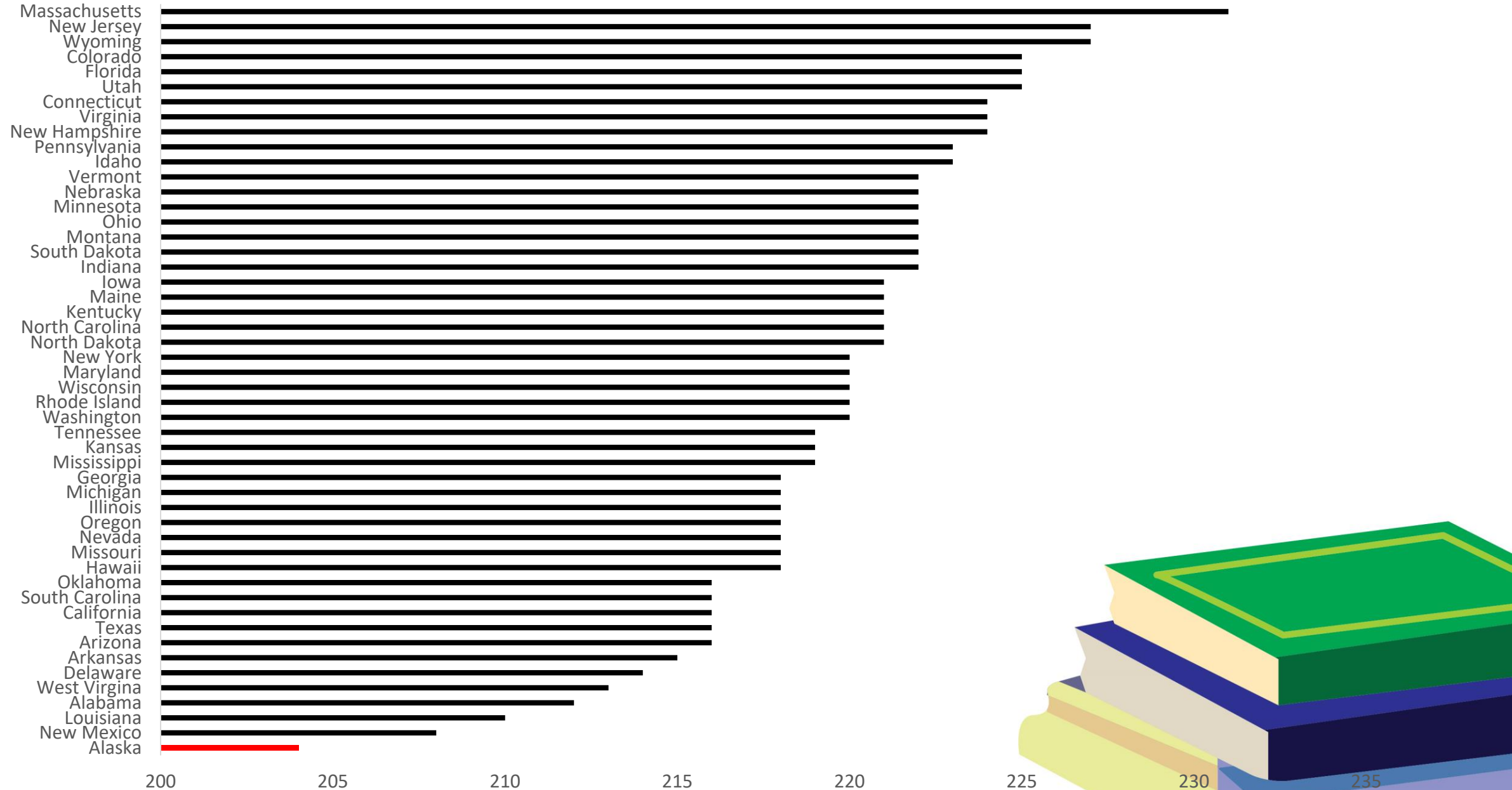


Senate Bill 111

Alaska Academic Improvement and Modernization Act

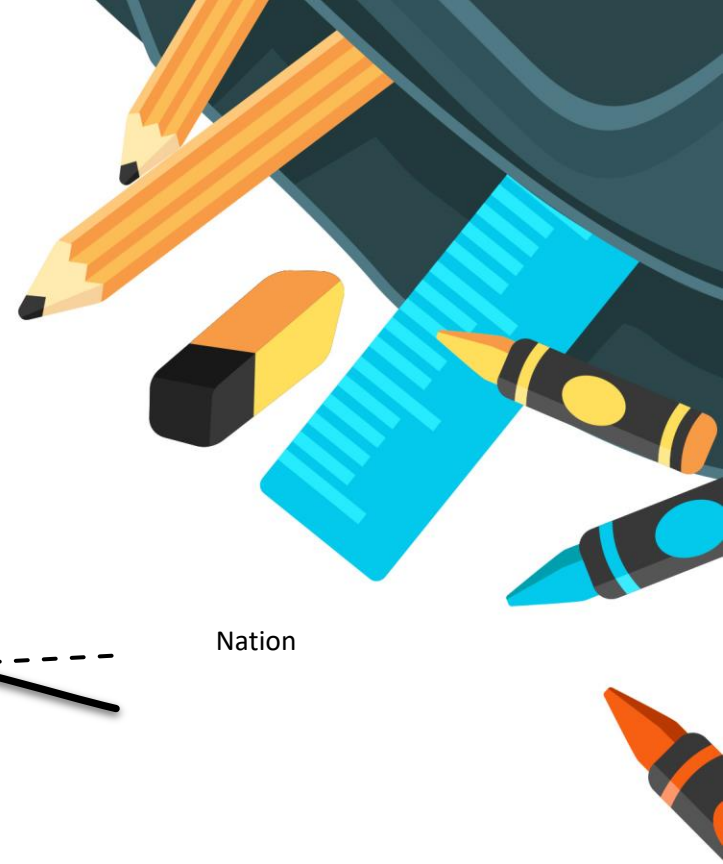
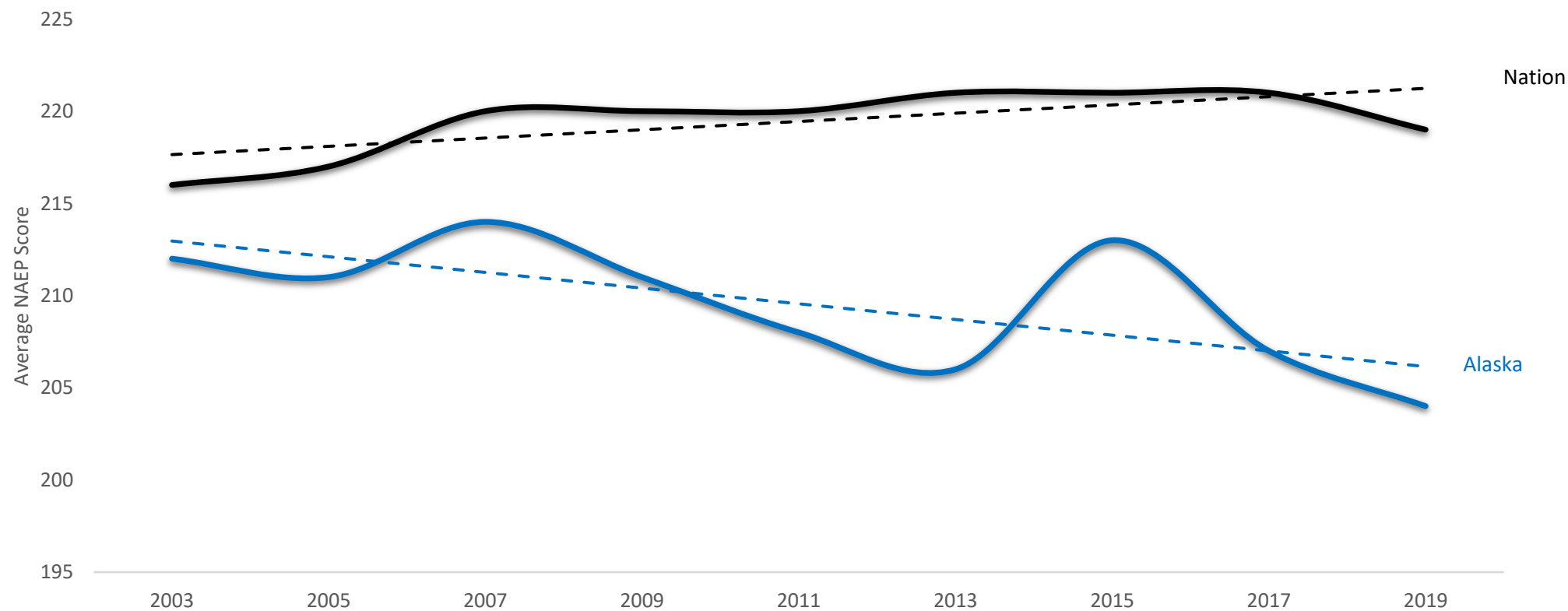
Presentation to Senate Finance on May 14, 2021

2019 NAEP Scores by State (4th grade reading)

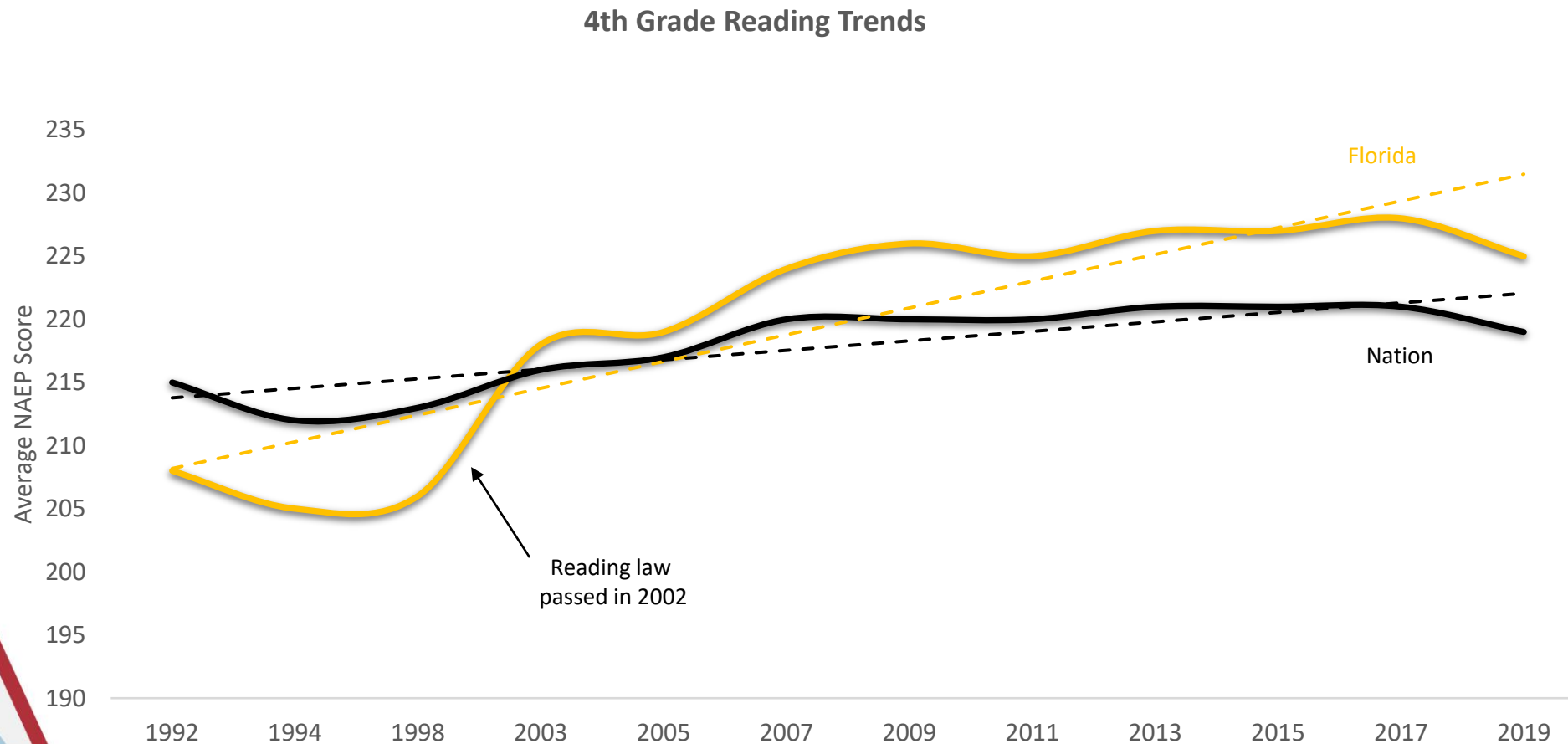


This Isn't a New Issue

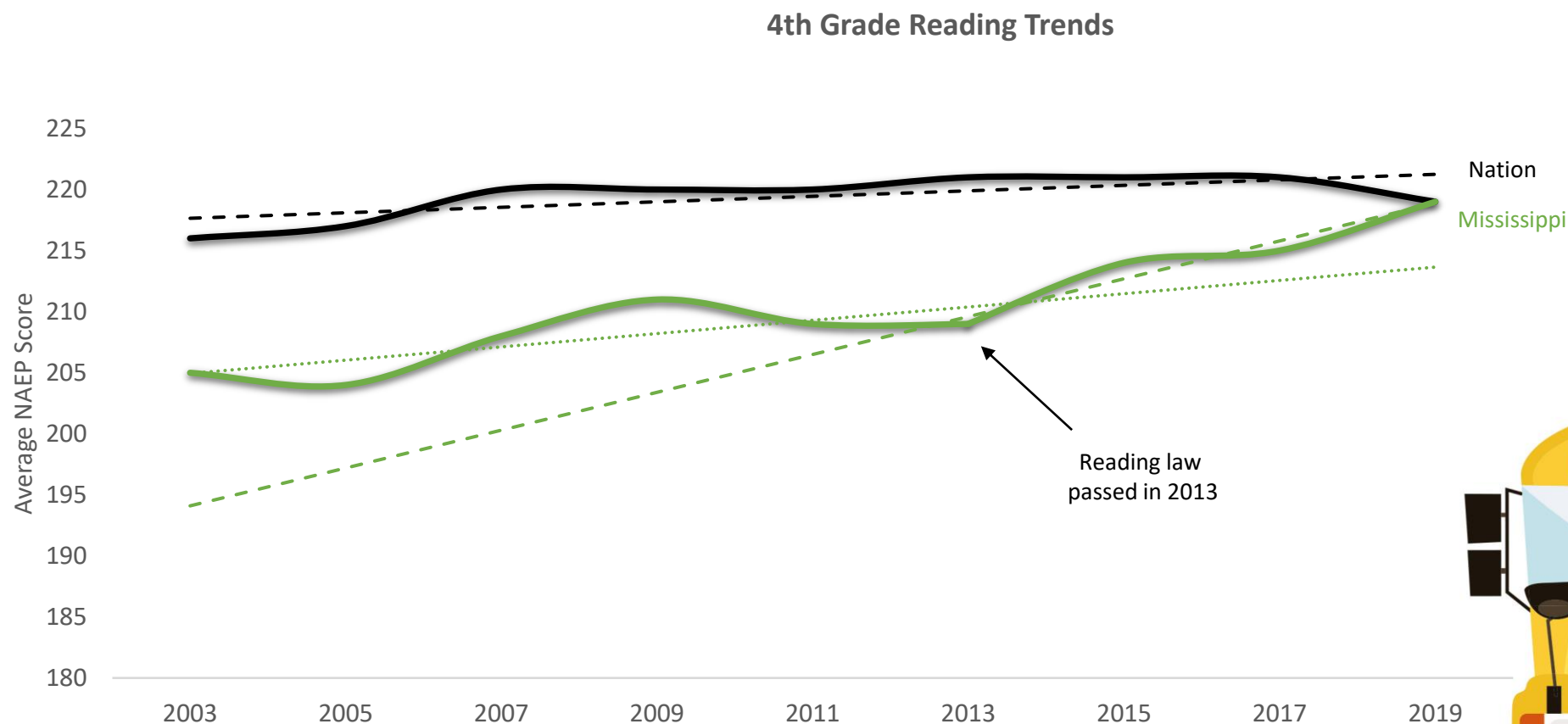
4th Grade Reading Trends



Florida – The First Mover



Mississippi – A Recent Success



Recent K-3 Reading Survey Finding

“Clearly this report shows that there is an inconsistent approach to reading instruction across our state with inadequate measures for quality control. Alaska’s students need focused, comprehensive reading legislation grounded in science-based reading instruction and intervention for pre-k through third grade students”

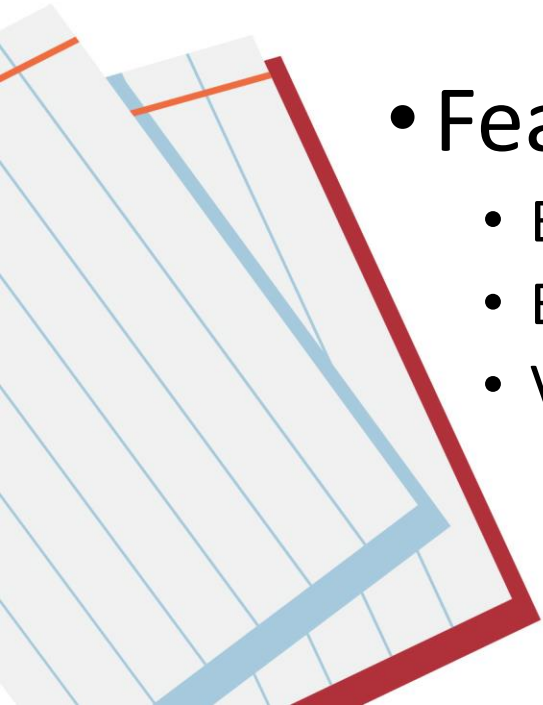
– Department of Education and Early Development

SB 111 is that legislation.



Senate Bill 111 (Committee Bill)

- Product of significant and spirited debate
- Developed from previous legislation
 - Includes key components of Senate Bill 42 and Senate Bill 8
 - Which were built from the legislation going back to at least 2014
- Features three main components
 - Early education
 - Evidence-based reading instruction
 - Virtual consortium





Component Details

Early Education

- *Ensuring Students are Prepared to Learn*
 - Rewards districts for having high-quality Pre-K by allowing qualifying programs to count students at ½ an ADM
 - Establishes a grant program for districts to develop a high-quality pre-K program
 - Recodifies the Parents-as-Teachers program
 - Available to four- and five-year-old children that are not ready for kindergarten



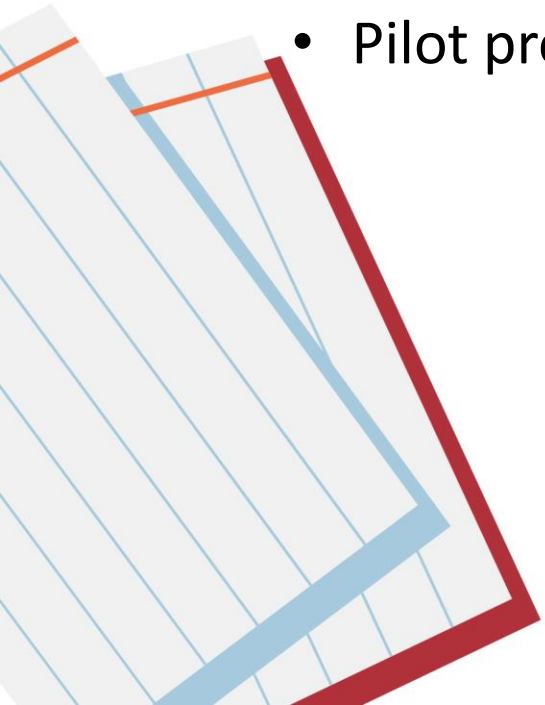
Reading Intervention Services

- *Testing with Purpose*
 - Up to three assessments per year for all K-3 students
- *Helping students in need*
 - District designed interventions
 - Individual reading improvement plans
 - Delaying progression as an intervention of last resort
 - Parents always have the final decision



Reading Specialists Program

- *Providing direct assistance and training for teachers*
 - DEED funded positions building expertise within schools
 - Evidence-based training and testing requirements for teachers
 - DEED purchased textbooks for students
 - Pilot program in 5 of the lowest performing schools



Virtual Consortium

- *Leveraging Technology Gains*
 - Maintains a statewide learning management system
 - Clearing house for professional development courses
 - Live assistance and training for teachers
 - Synchronous, asynchronous, and blended course offerings across districts
- *Builds off investments, training, and success gained through the recent experience with virtual instruction*



Parents and Districts in Control

- *Parental engagement and choice*
 - Required notification when a deficiency is located
 - At least 10 updates per year
 - Encouragement for parent-student reading plans
 - Required parent-teacher conference in the spring if the student is still behind
 - ***Parents always have the final say on progression decisions***
- *Local Control*
 - Programs and policies are locally designed and culturally responsive
 - The Department provides oversight and support



Required Review of Programs

- *All new programs sunset in 2034 unless extended*
 - Early education programs, reading intervention services, reading specialists, and virtual consortium
- *Required annual reports to the legislature*
 - Parents-as-Teachers
 - Reading progress of students
 - Count of promotion with a deficiency or delayed promotion
 - Use of virtual consortium
- *Required final report and recommendation to 38th legislature*



Question?

Alaska Academic Improvement and Modernization Act