

CS FOR HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 9(EDC)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Offered: 4/7/14

Referred: Rules

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES TAMMIE WILSON, Stoltze, Gattis, Keller

A RESOLUTION

1 **Urging the commissioner of education and early development and the state Board of**
2 **Education and Early Development to evaluate and ensure that, in setting state education**
3 **performance standards, Alaska's sovereignty is maintained and that the standards of the**
4 **Common Core State Standards Initiative are not adopted as state education**
5 **performance standards.**

6 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:**

7 **WHEREAS** the state Board of Education and Early Development, not the legislature,
8 adopted new statewide education performance standards, described as college and career
9 readiness standards in English, language arts, and mathematics in June 2012; and

10 **WHEREAS**, in May 2013, the United States Department of Education granted to the
11 Department of Education and Early Development a flexibility waiver of specified provisions
12 of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, that amended the Elementary and Secondary
13 Education Act, based in part on the college and career readiness standards; and

14 **WHEREAS** the college and career readiness standards have not been validated in the
15 state; and

1 **WHEREAS** unknown and significant costs are associated with implementation of the
2 Elementary and Secondary Education Act waiver; and

3 **WHEREAS** many school districts in the state lack the technology, infrastructure, and
4 funding to provide online testing aligned with the Elementary and Secondary Education Act
5 waiver adopted by the Department of Education and Early Development; and

6 **WHEREAS** the state Board of Education and Early Development has not secured
7 funding for schools that need curricular, technological, and infrastructural modifications and
8 professional development as a result of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act waiver
9 agreement;

10 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the House of Representatives urges the commissioner of
11 education and early development and the state Board of Education and Early Development to
12 verify that the Alaska "college and career readiness standards" establish standards a secondary
13 school graduate must meet to obtain the requisite knowledge and skill to transition without
14 remediation to postsecondary education or training and, ultimately, into a sustainable career;
15 and be it

16 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the House of Representatives urges the commissioner
17 of education and early development and the state Board of Education and Early Development
18 to ensure that those educational standards meet national benchmarks for college and career
19 readiness, are aligned with postsecondary educational expectations, employ the highest
20 standards, maintain state sovereignty, and provide strict safeguards to protect the
21 confidentiality of student data; and be it

22 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the House of Representatives urges the state Board of
23 Education and Early Development to identify all improvements and adaptations necessary to
24 implement the Elementary and Secondary Education Act flexibility waiver and calculate the
25 related costs, including the expenses of curriculum alignment, technological improvements,
26 teacher preparation, and new standards-based assessments; and be it

27 **FURTHER RESOLVED** by the House of Representatives that neither the
28 Department of Education and Early Development nor the state Board of Education and Early
29 Development shall expend any money to implement the set of educational curriculum
30 standards for grades kindergarten through 12 established by the Common Core State
31 Standards Initiative; and be it

1 **FURTHER RESOLVED** by the House of Representatives that, after June 30, 2014,
2 the state, or the state Board of Education and Early Development on behalf of the state, may
3 not enter into or renew an agreement with any organization, entity, group, or consortium that
4 requires the state to cede any measure of autonomy or control over state education standards
5 and assessments, including cut scores.

6 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Sean Parnell, Governor of
7 Alaska; the Honorable Mike Hanley, Commissioner, Department of Education and Early
8 Development; and the members of the state Board of Education and Early Development.