

INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2015-125

1
2 State of Arkansas
3 90th General Assembly
4 Regular Session, 2015

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1998

5
6 By: Representative C. Douglas

7 Filed with: House Committee on Education
8 pursuant to A.C.A. §10-3-217.

9 **For An Act To Be Entitled**

10 AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO
11 ADOPT ONLY COMPLETE SETS OF STANDARDS; TO PROVIDE A
12 FISCAL IMPACT FOR NEW STANDARDS BEFORE THEY ARE
13 ADOPTED; TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER
14 PURPOSES.

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17 **Subtitle**

18 TO REQUIRE THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
19 TO ADOPT ONLY COMPLETE SETS OF
20 STANDARDS; TO PROVIDE A FISCAL IMPACT FOR
21 NEW STANDARDS BEFORE THEY ARE ADOPTED;
22 AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

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25 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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27 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 15, Subchapter 1, is amended to add an additional
28 section to read as follows:

29 6-15-103. Adoption of new educational standards.

30 (a) The State Board of Education and the Department of Education shall not endorse, implement,
31 or accept new educational standards for use in public schools until the new educational standards are:

- 32 (1) Completed for grade kindergarten through twelve (K-12);
33 (2) Accompanied by written grade-level tests or assessments; and
34 (3) Presented to the public with appropriate time for public comment.

1 (b) The state board and the department shall present a fiscal impact statement for the proposed
2 new educational standards and accompanying grade-level tests or assessments before the new
3 educational standards are endorsed, implemented, or adopted.

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5 SECTION 2. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General Assembly of
6 the State of Arkansas that experts around the country have studied the Next Generation Science
7 Standards and have determined that they are flawed; that adopting standards before they are completed
8 can be detrimental and costly; and that this act is immediately necessary to prevent further adoption and
9 implementation of the inferior Next Generation Science Standards. Therefore, an emergency is declared
10 to exist, and this act being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, and
11 safety shall become effective on:

12 (1) The date of its approval by the Governor;

13 (2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor, the expiration of the period
14 of time during which the Governor may veto the bill; or

15 (3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is overridden, the date the last
16 house overrides the veto.

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19 Referral requested by: Representative Charlotte V. Douglas

20 Prepared by: VJF
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