

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

State of Arkansas
90th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2015

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1998

By: Representative C. Douglas

For An Act To Be Entitled

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

Subtitle

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

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

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

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

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

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

comment.

(b) The state board and the department shall present a fiscal impact statement for the proposed new educational standards and accompanying grade-



level tests or assessments before the new educational standards are endorsed, implemented, or adopted.

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

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

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

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