

General

- ALEC already has a Resolution Opposing Federal Intrusion, which addresses any valid concern that members may have regarding federal overreach into state standards setting.
- 46 states have already independently adopted these standards through their state-developed standards adoption process when adopting the CCSS; usually that process includes a vote by either the state board of education or the state legislature.
- Standards, while not enough on their own, matter because they set the goals for a state's education system. For too long in the U.S. standards aimed too low and were not grounded in what it took to be successful in college and the workforce.
- View these new standards as a floor upon which you can build a framework of high-quality and rigorous coursework that equips all students with the knowledge and skills for success in life.
- Implementation is already underway. It would be disruptive, expensive, and unproductive for states to revert back to their old standards, which, by and large, are inferior to these.
- Common Core State Standards were not "imposed" on any state.
- Curriculum and assessment decisions are—and always will be—state and local decisions.
- These commonly adopted state standards specify *what* students should know and be able to do in each grade and by the end of high school to be college- and career-ready. It is still up to districts, schools, and teachers to determine *how* to implement their standards for the students they serve.
- The Common Core State Standards were voluntarily developed in collaboration with teachers, school administrators and experts to provide a framework of clear and consistent standards to challenge nearly every state's current required math and English language skills.
- Dozens of companies have shown their support of these standards.
- These college- and career-ready standards will better prepare students in your state, which will attract new businesses.

State Specific (Indiana example)

- In Indiana, it is the responsibility of the Department of Education to set standards. We signed onto the CCSS because we believe that these are the best tool to improve the educational opportunities for Indiana's children. Don't tie our hands.
- Indiana, along with 45 other states, adopted the CCSS through our normal standard adoption process.
- We have decided in Indiana that the CCSS are best for Indiana's students through due process by the State Board of Education, the State Department of Education, the Office of the Governor and the General Assembly.

- They were not imposed by the federal government. And we did this without federal funding.
- As Robert Scott, former Texas' Commissioner of Education, has said, Texas chose to not adopt the Common Core Standards. This clearly proves that the CCSS were not imposed on any state, as a matter of fact, Texas recently chose to adopt new math standards and to my knowledge, no one except one of the proponents of the model bill criticized them for their choice.
- This proposed bill would negate our process and seek to bar us from doing what we have decided is best for Indiana's students.

Business

- State Farm and many other businesses care about this issue.
- This bill goes against what businesses across the country see as a critical need – to work together to improve the skills and knowledge of our workforce.
- We're already seeing that these standards have created a more robust curriculum marketplace for school, districts, and states.