

Cathy Sapeta, , New Yorkers United for Kids

"NYU4K calls for support passage of New York State Assembly Bill A05142-15 & Reintroduction and Passage of a Senate Companion. The bill if signed into law will stop the Common Core program in New York State.

Bill A05142-15 amends Education Law Section 115 to discontinue implementation of Common Core State Standards developed by Common Core State Standards Initiative and declares any action taken to adopt or implement the common core state standards void; WHEREAS, 2009 and 2010, New York State was offered the chance to compete for education funding through unconstitutional "Race to the Top" program created by the US Department of Education ("ED"); WHEREAS, 10th Amendment of USA Constitution specifically states, "The powers not delegated to United States by Constitution, nor prohibited by it to States, are reserved to States respectively, or to the people"; and WHEREAS, powers delegated to federal government according to US Constitution are enumerated in Article I, Section 8, and nowhere in this section of Constitution is education mentioned, meaning matters regarding education are the purview of the states or the people, not federal government; WHEREAS, the only way to achieve a score in the RTT competition sufficient to qualify for funding was to agree to "participation in consortium of States that is working toward jointly developing and adopting common set of K-12 standards"; WHEREAS, consortium is an unconstitutional interstate compact that wasn't Congress approved, violating Compact Clause of US Constitution, Article I, Section 10, Clause 3; WHEREAS, only such "common set of K-12 standards" existent at time, known as Common Core State Standards Initiative ("CCSSI"), which was developed without a grant of authority from any state; WHEREAS NYS was required to submit its RTT Application Phase 1 January 2010 and Phase 2 in May 2010; however CCSSI weren't released until June 2010 meaning NYS committed to CCSSI before written; WHEREAS, local education officials, school leaders, teachers, and parents weren't included in discussion, evaluation and preparation of CCSSI standards that would affect students in State; WHEREAS, National Assessment of Educational Progress national test already exists allows comparisons of academic achievement to be made across the states, without necessity of imposing national standards, curricula, or assessments; and WHEREAS, imposing set of national standards likely to lead to imposition of a national curriculum and national assessment upon the various states, in violation of the General Education Provisions Act, Elementary and Secondary Education Act; and Department of Education Organization Act; and WHEREAS, RTT funding for states is limited; \$350 million for consortia to develop new assessments aligned with CCSSI will not cover entire cost of overhauling fifty state accountability systems, which includes implementation of standards and testing and associated professional development and curriculum restructuring; WE RECOMMEND NYS lawmakers support passage of NYS bill

A05142 and re-introduce and pass Senate companion bill discontinuing implementation of CCSS developed by the CCSS Initiative which interfere with State, local, parental control of K-12 education; RECOMMEND urge NYS Legislature to produce and fund independent state-based approach to improvement of education system in New York; and, further WE RECOMMEND post on NYSED website."