

RESOLUTION TO TAKE NO ACTION ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE STATE TEXTBOOK COMMITTEE FOR ADOPTION OF TEXTBOOKS FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, GRADES K-3

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Textbook Law provides for the adoption of textbooks by the Alabama State Board of Education, the same to be adopted from recommendations made by the State Textbook Committee; and

WHEREAS, the State Textbook Committee has made its recommendations in keeping with said law; and

WHEREAS, the State Textbook Committee has worked diligently and invested countless hours in making such recommendations; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with said law, the Alabama State Board of Education received the recommendations at its December 9, 2021, meeting and 30 days prior notice of the date of consideration by the Alabama State Board of Education was further provided to the news media, and

WHEREAS, only one available option for consideration for the core reading program was presented to the Board by the Textbook Committee. As such, several Board members have noted their concern over the adoption of a single solitary core reading program thereby severely limiting our districts options:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education extends its sincerest appreciation to the State Textbook Committee and to all those who selflessly contributed their time and talents to prepare the attached recommendations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board, by the adoption of this resolution, neither approves nor rejects and thereby takes no further action effecting the attached recommendations of the Textbook Committee; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board requests that at the appropriate time at the request of the State Superintendent, the Textbook Committee shall reinitiate the process in order to consider any current or additional submitted materials for Grades K-3. This process should not be completed until there is reasonable evidence that a review would yield sufficient products for consideration and approval by this Board and the local school boards of this state; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board hereby notifies any local board of education that seeks to conduct its own review process for selection as provided by law that it is incumbent upon the local board to only consider materials firmly established and consistent with the Science of Reading for core reading programs, as well as the report produced by the literacy task force as a recommendation to the State Superintendent and the subsequent memorandum from the State Superintendent dated July 2, 2021, as the basis for any such adoption.

Done this 10th day of February 2022