Resolution No. 322 June 21, 2016

Supporting The Passage Of New York State Assembly Bill A09182, Calling For An Immediate Suspension Of Common Core Testing

WITHDRAWN BY SPONSOR

Referred to: The Legislative Programs, Education and Community Services Committee (Chairman Wawro and Legislators Berky, Delaune, Donaldson and Lopez)

Legislator Chris Allen offers the following:

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Education mandated a policy whereby all teachers in grades Pre K- 8th Grade should have been teaching all students Common Core-based learning standards, and that all teachers in grades 9-12 should have been in the process of implementing Common Core-based learning standards-aligned units and building Common Core-based content capacity during the 2012-13 school year; and

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Education has mandated that Common Core instructional materials and Common Core testing be administered in all schools throughout New York State; and

WHEREAS, on December 14th, 2015, the New York State Board of Regents placed a four-year suspension on students' Common Core test scores being used as a determining factor in evaluating teachers' performance levels and the performance levels of school principals throughout New York State's Educational System; and

WHEREAS, under current policy, beginning in the 2020 School Year, students' Common Core test results will again be used as a determining factor in the evaluation of teacher performance and the performance of school principals throughout New York State's Educational System; and

WHEREAS, Common Core instructional materials, assessment tests, testing materials, training manuals and teacher evaluation programs are all manufactured and sold by Pearson Publishing, a British-based educational publishing company; and

WHEREAS, forty-five States and three territories within the United States including New York State are consumers of Common Core-based instructional materials, testing materials and assessment programs; and

WHEREAS, Pearson Publishing generates over Four Billion Dollars in annual sales from the United States and Canada, much of which comes from Common Corebased educational materials; and

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WHEREAS, the costs associated with administering Common Core within New York State's Educational System have cost tens of millions of dollars; and

WHEREAS, the introduction and inclusion of Common Core into the New York State Educational System has caused a great amount of stress and dissatisfaction among students, teachers, administrators and parents across Ulster County and all of New York State; and

WHEREAS, New York State Assembly Bill A09182 calls for an immediate suspension of Common Core testing throughout New York State and for a new evaluative system to be constructed through a collaborative effort of teachers, parents, school administrators and educational experts; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Ulster County Legislature strongly recommends that the New York State Assembly advance A09182, and encourages the New York State Senate to adopt a same-as bill, which would suspend Common Core testing throughout New York State and eliminate Common Core test scores as a criterion of teacher evaluations and the evaluation of principle; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Ulster County Legislature shall forward copies of this resolution to the Chair of the New York State Assembly Education Committee Assemblywoman Catherine Nolan, and all of the Ulster County representatives of the New York State Legislature,

and move its adoption.

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AYES: NOES:

Postponed in Committee: Legislative Programs, Education and Community Services on June 13, 2016

Passed Committee: Legislative Programs, Education and Community Services on

FINANCIAL IMPACT: NONE