



Rep. Kay: State Board of Education Should Delay Unfunded Mandate Established by Common Core

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Illinois State Representative Dwight Kay (R-Glen Carbon) introduced House Resolution 543 on Monday urging the Illinois State Board of Education to delay the implementation of Common Core Standards until a study is conducted showing the costs associated with Common Core.

“State government can’t even meet its current obligations to fund our education system,” said Rep. Dwight Kay. “We shouldn’t implement any new programs especially since we don’t know how much this will cost. Property owners pay their fair share in property taxes in hopes that our state will follow through by matching funds, unfortunately the state continues to delay paying funds promised to our schools.”

In 2010, Illinois became one of 48 states to opt for Common Core by accepting federal funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and through the Race to the Top Initiative of the Federal Government. Over the next few years the Common Core Standards, which are largely untested in the United States, will substantively change the educational standards for students in Illinois, thus affecting every teacher and student in the state.

The only substantive cost analysis of the implementation of the Common Core Standards was conducted by the Pioneer Institute, a non-partisan, privately funded research organization which estimates the financial impact for Illinois to be close to \$773 million over seven years. Moreover, there are many school districts which lack the technology, infrastructure and funding needed to purchase new textbooks and computers in order to comply with Common Core.

Rep. Dwight Kay added, “Even local school officials I have spoken to oppose this new program. With each new administration, there is always a new proposal that is sold as

the latest and best way to educate our children. Without a doubt improving our education system by implementing new technology in the classroom is imperative and crucial to making our next generation competitive in the workforce and global economy. However, until our state can meet its current obligations to our schools, I urge the State Board of Education to delay the implementation of Common Core.”