



Californians United Against Common Core

Director Orlean Koehle
5850 Commerce Blvd. Suite D
Rohnert Park, CA 94928
Cell Phone – 707-332-7713
www.cuacc.org, caleagle@sbcglobal.net

August 12, 2013

RE: AB 484 – Please vote No

Dear Members of the Senate Appropriations Committee:

We urge you to please vote NO on AB 484, which would be authorizing and implementing the Assessment test for Common Core called CALMAPP-21, California Measurement of Academic Performance and Progress for the 21st Century.

As you see, we are a wide coalition of organizations and people, many of us former educators, who are united in our opposition to Common Core for the State of California, but also for our nation. We urge your no vote for any assessment system that would be promoting the teaching of the Common Core Standards and Curriculum for the following reasons.

Common Core is a deceptive, Trojan Horse program that tries to pass itself off as a legitimate State-created, State-led, State-driven education program, but it is not!

Common Core is a national, top-down, federal program that is taking away jurisdiction and autonomy of States and local school districts over their own schools. Common Core was created by a national, international-cartel, that also consisted of members of the FDOE, Federal Department of Education, who are the ones pushing it on the States.

Common Core is illegal: It is in violation of the Tenth Amendment of the Constitution that states that anything that is not specifically written into the Constitution is to be left to the States and to the people at the local level. Education has always been left to the States. There are also three federal laws that forbid the federal government from being involved in the creation or promotion of a federal curriculum or federal program for education. These are 1)The Department of Education Organizational Act (1979), 2) The General Education Provisions Act (1994), and 3) The Elementary and Secondary Act (1965) most recently amended by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2002.

Common Core is education by corporations: Powerful, wealthy corporations like the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation have given millions towards the creation of it and spreading it across the nation and the globe. Gates gave \$100 million to the cartel that wrote Common Core and has since given more than \$50 million to various groups to win their support for it. Why? What do they hope to get back? Billions! When all the children have their own computer, some of those might be Microsoft, or have the computer software that Gates has developed. Gates and another powerful corporation, Pearson, who will be printing the majority of the e-books, will be making billions back for their investments.

Common Core is very costly: It will cost California an estimated \$1.6 billion! Why? Computers for every child is very expensive; plus the software to connect all the computers; the teacher training, principal training, new e-books. Text books will slowly fade out, and be no longer used.

CALMAPP-21 is very costly: Besides implementing a very costly program, the cost of the Assessment itself will be very costly – more than double what is presently paid for in the STAR test. It is estimated that the cost will be \$1.25 billion – about \$200 per student for each of the 3.2 million students eligible to take the test. The STAR test is only \$13 per student – about \$400 million. Part of the enormous cost will be to pay the teachers who will have to grade 30% of the test themselves because they will be essay and projects that a computer cannot grade. <http://www.edsource.org/today/2013/california-committed-to-move-forward-with-common-core-tests-as-planned/36791#.UgiEMpKcdqW>

Much of CALMAPP-21 will be subjective rather than objective: Through its essays and open-ended questions it will be testing the children’s politically correct attitudes, values, dispositions, and “habits of mind.” <http://www.ocde.us/CommonCoreCA/Pages/Habits-of-Mind.aspx>.

Enormous data collection: The FDOE has asked for intrusive data collection to be gathered on the students as they are taking the test. They have even put out a book called *Towards Grit, Tenacity, and Perseverance*, where on page 44, they show pictures of the tools that will be used to test for the children’s stress levels as they are taking the assessment and other tests. The mouse will test for pressure and stress, the camera on the computer will record their facial expressions, a wrist band will test their pulse, and even the chair they are seated in will test their posture. There are over 400 points of data planned to be collected on our children – including biometrics, finger prints, iris scans, DNA, personal and private information on parents’ salaries, religion, political persuasion, food diaries, etc. What will they do with this data? Will this be used for the government to determine what kind of a job they can have or if they are able to go on to higher education as in other totalitarian countries? *Common Core, The Trojan Horse for Education Reform*, slide presentation, #28 and #29 www.cuacc.org

For all of the above reasons, we, the members of Californians United Against Common Core, urge you to vote NO on AB 484. We also suggest that you follow the example of five other States and support legislation to get California out of its membership in the assessment consortia (SBAC) that is pushing this onto our State. That way you will not feel so obligated to their demands.

Respectfully Submitted:

Orlean Koehle, Director

**Eagle Forum of California
Long Beach Eagle Forum
Sonoma County Eagle
Forum
Roseville Eagle Forum
Norcal Tea Party
Mountain View Republican
Women
Lake Arrowhead
Republican Women
East Bay Tea Party
Citizens Town Hall.org
The Sutter-Butte Tea Party
Patriots**

**Pacific Research Institute
Friends of Danville
Newport Harbor
Republican Women
Radio Liberty Santa Cruz
Democrats Against UN
Agenda 21
Post Sustainability Institute
ACT for America – Fresno
Angela Weinsinger, School
Board President Travis
Unified School District
Dave Scanlan, Professor
Sacramento State**

**Pacific Justice Institute
California Association of
Business, Property and
Resource Owners
CABPRO.org
North Bay Patriots
North Bay Independent
David Geer – City Council
Member, Modesto
Redding Tea Party Patriots
Californians for Property
Rights
Tea Party United
Placer Tea Party**