

Date

Dear Legislator,

RE: REQUEST TO REPEAL COMMON CORE STATE STANDARDS

Good Morning! I am writing this letter because of my concern with the new Common Core State Standards (CCSS) that have been adopted in Illinois. My concerns are as follows:

1. There was federal involvement and overreach in the process as grant dollars and NCLB waivers were tied to the agreement to accept the CCSS in the Race To The Top Application. This violates the 10<sup>th</sup> Amendment of the Constitution.
2. The timeline that was given for the applications and agreements did not allow the states appropriate time to review and debate the new standards and the accompanying requirements.
3. The standards were agreed to before they were even completed. How did we know that these standards were better than what we had, if our state could afford them or if we wanted federal dictates over our standards?
4. All of the documentation from the NGA and the CCSSO states that this was state-led; however, it was not state led. Once you research the players and the money involved, you will see that the term "state-led" is used loosely to give credibility to the CCSS.
5. There is no accountability for the writers of these standards and no process to amend them if we are not satisfied.
6. The CCSS were not piloted or tested in the United States.
7. Parents have lost their voice in the education of their children. Parents can no longer talk to their teachers, principals or school boards about education policy. Those decisions are made in Washington, DC.
8. CCSS are copyrighted by the NGA and the CCSSO. This is the first time public policy has been copyrighted and this action stifles the discussion.
9. With the data requirements and the loosening of the FERPA laws, my child's right to privacy is threatened.

Twelve of the forty-five states who had initially agreed to the CCSS are reconsidering their decision. They are holding committee hearings and/or writing legislation to slow or stop the implementation in their states. Illinois needs to take action to restore local control of education and secure a parent's right in the discussion about the education of their children.

This new way of education silences the parents, takes control of the classroom away from the teacher, limits school boards and the power of the state. **Please write legislation to repeal these standards for the sake of the citizens of Illinois.**

Sincerely,