

Resolution on Common Core State Standards and Assessments

WHEREAS, The Common Core State Standards Initiative (“Common Core”), adopted as part of the “Utah Core,” is not a Utah state standards initiative, but rather a set of nationally-based standards and tests developed through a collaboration between two NGO’s (non-governmental organizations) and unelected boards and consortia from outside the state of Utah; and,

WHEREAS, Common Core binds us to an established copyright over standards, limiting our ability to create or improve education standards that we deem best for our own children; and,

WHEREAS, the General Educational Provisions Act prohibits federal authority over curriculum and testing, yet the U.S. Department of Education’s “Cooperative Agreements” confirm Common Core’s test-building and data collection is federally managed; and,

WHEREAS, “student behavior indicators” – which include testing for mental health, social and cultural (i.e. religious) habits and attitudes and family status – are now being used for Common Core tests and assessments; and,

WHEREAS, Common Core promotes the storage and sharing of private student and family data without consent; using a pre-school through post-graduate (P-20) tracking system and a federally-funded State Longitudinal Database (SLDS), creating substantial opportunities for invasion of privacy; and,

WHEREAS, Common Core intrudes on the constitutional authority of the states over education by pressuring states to adopt the standards with financial incentives tied to President Obama’s ‘Race to the Top’, and if not adopted, penalties include loss of funds and, just as Oklahoma experienced a loss of their ESEA waiver; and

WHEREAS, the Republican National Committee and Utah State Republican Convention recently passed a resolution opposing Common Core State Standards;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we call on the Governor and the Utah State School Board to withdraw from, and we ask the Utah State Legislature to discontinue funding programs in association with, the Common Core State Standards Initiative/Utah’s Core and any other similar alliance, and ;

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution shall be delivered to the Governor and the State legislature requesting executive and legislative action.