

1 HB153
2 181128-2
3 By Representatives Collins, South, Garrett, Whorton (I),
4 Patterson, Fincher, Baker, Henry, Johnson (K), Butler, Harper,
5 Williams (JW), Hill, Weaver, Williams (P), Fridy, Sanderford,
6 Holmes (M), Sells, Faust, Rich, Drake, Brown, Wood, Ingram,
7 Nordgren, Farley, Williams (JD), McCutcheon and Gaston
8 RFD: Education Policy
9 First Read: 09-FEB-17

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8 SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, the core curriculum in
9 Alabama for students in grades K-12 includes
10 instruction in social studies.

11 This bill would require, beginning with the
12 2018-2019 school year, students to successfully
13 pass a civics test identical to the civics portion
14 of the naturalization test used by the United
15 States Citizenship and Immigration Services to
16 graduate from high school or obtain a high school
17 equivalency diploma.

18
19 A BILL
20 TO BE ENTITLED
21 AN ACT
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23 Relating to K-12 education; beginning with the
24 2018-2019 school year, to require students to successfully
25 pass a civics test identical to the civics portion of the
26 naturalization test used by the United States Citizenship and

1 Immigration Services to graduate from high school or obtain a
2 high school equivalency diploma.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

4 Section 1. (a) Beginning in the 2018-2019 school
5 year, in order to graduate from high school or obtain a high
6 school equivalency diploma, a student shall correctly answer
7 at least 60 of the 100 questions listed on a civics test that
8 is identical to the civics portion of the naturalization test
9 used by the United States Citizenship and Immigration
10 Services. The school shall document on the transcript of the
11 student that he or she has successfully completed the civics
12 test as required by this subsection.

13 (b) The local board of education may determine the
14 method and manner in which to administer the civics test to
15 students. A student who does not obtain a passing score on the
16 civics test may retake the test until he or she obtains a
17 passing score.

18 (c) A special education student who is at least 18
19 years of age is not required to achieve a passing score on the
20 civics test in order to graduate from high school unless he or
21 she is learning at a level appropriate for his or her grade
22 level in a specific academic area and unless a passing score
23 on the civics test is specifically required in a specific
24 academic area by the individualized education program of the
25 student.

26 (d) The State Board of Education shall promulgate
27 necessary rules to implement this section.

1 Section 2. This act shall become effective on the
2 first day of the third month following its passage and
3 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.