



# ISSUE BRIEF

## HB 250: End Common Core

HB 250 “An Act to ensure and maintain high education standards for Massachusetts children” would remove our schools from the Common Core education standards curriculum, rescinding a vote by the Massachusetts Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) to adopt the Common Core standards. It would reinstate the “First in the Nation” Massachusetts curriculum, which was in place on July 21, 2010.

In 2010, the Common Core Standards were adopted by the BESE, in exchange for \$250 Million in Race to the Top Funding. Essentially, Massachusetts bureaucrats changed our system dramatically for additional federal money.

HB 250 would restore Massachusetts education standards, to what were widely considered the best in the nation. In 2010, the Fordham Institute rated Massachusetts education standards as an A- in ELA and a B+ in Math.

The National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP) is our Nation’s report card. The NAEP has tracked state education systems since 1990. The result of implementing Common Core was that Massachusetts scores fell precipitously. 8th Grade Math scores fell 4 points, and Reading scores fell 3 points. 4th Grade Math scores fell 2 points. It’s important to note that in these education assessments, 10 to 12 points is equal to an entire grade level.

Dozens of states have had the same outcome: Common Core standards are lowering education assessments nationwide. Many states have decided to drop out of the Common Core curriculum. For example, the Michigan State Senate Education Committee passed a bill to institute the *pre-Common Core Massachusetts* education standards. We should go back to what works.

The old way:	The new way:
$\begin{array}{r} 1 \\ 29 \\ + 17 \\ \hline 46 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 20 + 9 \\ 10 + 7 \\ \hline 30 + 16 \\ (10 + 6) \\ 40 + 6 = 46 \end{array}$
<p>We use the word evidence in math to help students find evidence in the text that shows this math situation is increasing (adding), decreasing (subtracting), or comparing (finding the amount that is different: more or less.)</p>	$30 + 10 + 6 = 46$

### QUICK FACTS

1. HB 250 Uses similar language to that of the End Common Core ballot question.
2. It would restore Massachusetts to our prior First in the Nation Education Standards.
3. Other states are adopting the Massachusetts pre-Common Core Standards.
4. Our Children’s educational assessments have fallen dramatically since the Common Core standards were instituted.

**VOTE YES ON HB 250**