

Comments by South Carolina Superintendent of Schools Mick Zais to the news media on Feb. 23 on Sen. Mike Fair's bill to bar implementation of the common standards:

"I did not support the adoption of the Common Core State Standards as a candidate for State Superintendent of Education because they would limit the State's ability to determine academic standards in English-Language Arts and Mathematics. Rather than personalizing and customizing education as I have championed, the Common Core is a one-size-fits-all solution that does not recognize the different aspirations and interests of students. However, I have repeatedly said I will fulfill my oath of office to faithfully implement and administer statewide academic standards, established by the State Board of Education and the Education Oversight Committee, unless action is taken by the General Assembly to reverse the adoption of the Common Core."

Provided by Jay W. Ragley, deputy superintendent for legislative and public affairs, South Carolina Department of Education