

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 8

WHEREAS, on the 31st day of March, 1993, the Honorable Eugene Reese in the case of Alabama Coalition for Equity (ACE), Et al. v. Guy Hunt, Et al., determined that the system now existing in Alabama for educating public school students in grades K through 12 is not equitably funded and deprives the children of our State of an adequate education; and

WHEREAS, on the 9th day of June, 1993, Judge Reese entered a consent order requiring the parties in the above referenced case to submit a plan by the 1st day of October, 1993, which will remedy the inequities and inadequacies which he has identified; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's Task Force on Education Reform has heretofore been created for the express purpose of crafting a Reform Plan to be submitted to Judge Reese which will address the educational needs of the children of Alabama which Judge Reese has identified; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's Task Force has made substantial progress toward the completion of a Reform Plan which will include the creation of a permanent state commission, the purpose of which shall be to establish learning goals and performance objectives for Alabama schools and to assess the performance levels of these schools and their students; and

WHEREAS, there is good reason for such a commission to immediately begin its work on behalf of the children of Alabama who are enrolled as students in grades K through 12:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jim Folsom, as Governor of the State of Alabama, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State of Alabama, based upon these considerations, and for other good and valid reasons which relate thereto, do hereby create the Alabama Commission on School Performance and Accountability (ACSPA), which shall serve as the primary authority for developing the policy framework for school reform, as called for in the Education Reform Plan being developed by the Governor's Task Force on Education.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that the ACSPA shall be charged with the responsibility for developing and recommending student learning goals and performance objectives to the State Board of Education. The ACSPA shall develop: (1) learning goals for Alabama students reflecting the capacities identified as essential in Judge Reese's Order; and (2) a set of performance objectives, based on these learning goals, enumerating more specifically what each Alabama student needs to know and be able to do in terms that will be

measurable. In arriving at its recommendations, the ACSPA shall be sensitive to the diverse educational needs of Alabama's students, and shall consult with experts to identify those needs, in order to increase the academic achievement of all Alabama students. The ACSPA shall present its work concerning learning goals to the State Board of Education no later than six months after court approval of the Reform Plan. The learning goals considered will take into account previous work done in this area, including, but not limited to, the work of the State Department of Education; the standards established by the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, the National Governors Association, the United States Department of Education, the National Research Council (Science), the International Council for Exceptional Children and other such educational entities; and standard-setting in other states such as California, Kentucky, Maine and New York.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that the ACSPA shall be composed of fifteen (15) members. The members of the ACSPA shall be parents, business leaders, civic leaders, education leaders, and other Alabamians with a deep commitment to the State's future and to education. Its composition shall be representative of the State's population in terms of race, gender, and geography, and shall include members with knowledge of and sensitivity to special educational needs. It is desirous that the Alabama State Legislature provide the appropriate funds for the operation of the ACSPA's staff and consultants, as may be necessary and appropriate.

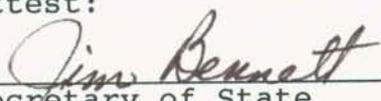
BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that the ACSPA on school performance and accountability shall accomplish its functions through subgroups or task forces as needed or specified in the Education Reform Plan, and may appoint additional members to or seek additional assistance for such subgroups.

Done this 19th day of August, 1993




Jim Folsom
Governor

Attest:


Secretary of State