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President Obama Trying to Force States to Adopt Standards

President Obama is set to revamp No Child Left Behind – the nation's education law – but education analysts are concerned there will be more government involvement with the changes.

Obama wants all states to adopt college and career-ready standards.

Neal McClusky, an associate director with the Cato Institute, wrote a report on the effectiveness of the changes.

"The scientific literature on national standards is too thin to support any U.S. policy move in that direction," he said.

Obama has announced he wants to withhold funding from schools that opt out of the standards movement. The only hold-outs, so far, are Texas and Alaska. Other school districts across the country are also starting to express concern.

Lindsey Burke, a research assistant with The Heritage Foundation, said moving to nationalize school standards is a no-win for everyone, especially parents.

"It's those people that are really closest to the student that best know how to meet that child's individual needs," she said. "By the time we get all the way to Washington, D.C., it's impossible for administrators to know what a child really needs."

— *Staff Report*

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8655 Explorer Drive Colorado Springs, CO 80920 phone: (866) 655-4545 fax: (719) 531-3390