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JOHN F. MIZNER, ESQ.  
ROBERT E. NYCE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
MARY S. WYATTE, CHIEF COUNSEL



PHONE: (717) 783-5417  
FAX: (717) 783-2664  
irrc@irrc.state.pa.us  
<http://www.irrc.state.pa.us>

**INDEPENDENT REGULATORY REVIEW COMMISSION**  
333 MARKET STREET, 14TH FLOOR, HARRISBURG, PA 17101

November 21, 2002

James Buckheit, Acting Executive Director  
State Board of Education  
333 Market Street, 1st Floor  
Harrisburg, PA 17126

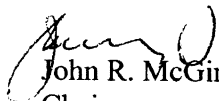
Re: Regulation #6-275 (IRRC #2252)  
State Board of Education  
Academic Standards and Assessment for Civics  
and Government; Economics; Geography and History

Dear Mr. Buckheit:

The Independent Regulatory Review Commission approved your regulation today. Our Order is enclosed and is available on our website at [www.irrc.state.pa.us](http://www.irrc.state.pa.us).

We appreciate the joint effort that went into producing a regulation that meets the criteria and intent of the Regulatory Review Act.

Sincerely,

  
John R. McGinley, Jr.  
Chairman  
evp  
Enclosure

cc: Honorable Jess M. Stairs, Majority Chairman, House Education Committee  
Honorable Nicholas A. Colafella, Democratic Chairman, House Education Committee  
Honorable James J. Rhoades, Chairman, Senate Education Committee  
Honorable Allyson Y. Schwartz, Minority Chairperson, Senate Education Committee  
Charles B. Zogby, Secretary, Department of Education

**INDEPENDENT REGULATORY REVIEW COMMISSION  
APPROVAL ORDER**

Commissioners Voting:

Public Meeting Held November 21, 2002

John R. McGinley, Jr., Chairman  
Alvin C. Bush, Vice Chairman  
Arthur Coccodrilli  
Robert J. Harbison, III, by Phone  
John F. Mizner, by Phone

Regulation No. 6-275  
State Board of Education  
Academic Standards and Assessment for  
Civics and Government; Economics;  
Geography and History

On January 31, 2002, the Independent Regulatory Review Commission (Commission) received this proposed regulation from the State Board of Education (Board). This rulemaking amends 22 Pa. Code Chapter 4. The proposed regulation was published in the February 16, 2002 *Pennsylvania Bulletin* with a 30-day public comment period. The final-form regulation was submitted to the Commission on September 3, 2002. On September 11, 2002, the Board withdrew this final-form regulation. On October 18, 2002, the Board resubmitted the final-form regulation to the Commission.

The regulation establishes specific academic standards for the subject areas of Civics and Government, Economics, Geography and History. The standards describe what students are expected to know by the end of the third, sixth, ninth and twelfth grades.

We have determined this regulation is consistent with the statutory authority of the Board (24 P.S. § 26-2603-B(k)) and the intention of the General Assembly. Having considered all of the other criteria of the Regulatory Review Act, we find promulgation of this regulation is in the public interest.

**BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:**

This regulation is approved.



  
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John R. McGinley, Jr., Chairman