

2696

FAX COVER SHEET

September 25, 2009

**To: Independent Regulatory Agency
233 Market Street 14th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101
Fax #: 1-717-783-2664**

**From: William R. Bruckman, Jr.
211 Forest Hills Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15221-3711
Telephone: 412-242-4230**

Subject: Issue #2696 Keystone Exams

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September 25, 2009

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233 Market Street 14th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101
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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

2009 SEP 25 AM 11:21

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Subject: Issue #2696 Keystone Exam

I am opposed to changes in Pennsylvania's graduation requirements that include Keystone Exams for the following reasons:

- It will raise the dropout rate in schools
- It will increase the prison population of our jails.

It will unduly increase the cost to our school districts for:

- Remedial costs
- Testing administration
- Retesting administration
- Communication
- Local assessment development and scoring
- Monitoring student proficiency for graduation
- Test Scores will be tied to teacher evaluation
- Summer school remediation

- The above reasons will require another property tax increase.
- Based on the failure of the State Board to address the original concerns of the Independent Regulatory Review Commission, I ask you to vote to disapprove the final form regulations.

William R. Bruckman Jr

Name: William R. Bruckman, Jr.

Title: Kiwanian

Street: 211 Forest Hills Road

Pittsburgh, PA 15221

Phone: 412-242-4230