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From: abria1@comcast.net
Sent: Monday, October 05, 2009 2:53 PM
To: IRRC
Subject: Support Keystone Exams Regulations

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

To the commissioners of the Independent Regulatory review Commission:

I am writing to ask you to vote in favor of the proposed regulations from the State Board of Education to establish a set of statewide assessments to help determine whether a student graduating from high school is ready for college and the work force.

As a general contractor, i need to know the people i hire have the basic skills and knowledge to do the math necessary to calculate measurements for building construction, to figure the amount of material needed, to determine costs, and to communicate clearly and succinctly with other workers, suppliers, and clients.

As it stands now, too many high school graduates coming to us for work don't have these basic skills. We expect to train these folks for the specific needs of our business, but not to have to spend time and money bringing folks up to speed on math and writing skills they should have learned in high school.

it is my belief that the proposed Keystone exams will make sure all students receiving a high school diploma in Pennsylvania will be ready to go to work in my business, or any other, or head to college without needing remedial courses, as is too often the case now.

I strongly urge you to approve the regulations for the Keystone exams, regulation number 2696, on October 22nd.

Sincerely,

Andrew J Bria
AJB Building, Restorations and Consulting