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**From:** Danielle Kozich [dkozich@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, October 05, 2009 3:31 PM  
**To:** IRRC  
**Subject:** Support Keystone Exam Regulation

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
REVIEW COMMISSION

TO IRRC Commissioners:

I am writing to express my support for the recently-submitted regulations to establish stronger, consistent statewide standards for high school graduation. These regulations will ensure that high school graduates from across the Commonwealth will be better prepared to enter the workforce and to continue their education. Pennsylvania must institute these new standards if the state is to compete in the global economy. It's imperative to our success in the future - A PDE study found one-third of recent high school graduates enrolling at state universities or community colleges have to take at least one remedial course, and these statistics are supported by a survey of PA business leaders. That study found that 80 percent of those surveyed said they support these end-of-course exams to make sure high school grads have the skills and knowledge they need; two-thirds of business executives see applicants for entry level jobs who aren't qualified for the positions they're seeking.

Thank you for your time,  
Danielle Kozich