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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
REVIEW COMMISSION

Governor Edward G. Rendell  
225 Main Capitol Building  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

October 10, 2009

Dear Governor Rendell,

I am writing directly to you to implore that you stop the cruel tactics and charade of ploys you and your administration have been using in an attempt to defeat House Resolution 456 (Keystone Exam Opposition, Final Form Regulation #006-3120). HR 456 IS THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE AND 80% OF THE HOUSE IS FIGHTING FOR THAT VOICE AS COSPONSORS.

You have defied two discharge resolutions and a Rule 45 Memo in the House Education Committee on this issue in just the past couple of months. You have defied a regulatory moratorium the prior year. You have bullied everyone and everything that stands in your way of this agenda pertaining to the Keystone Exams including your own officials in an effort to oppress the voice of the people in this Commonwealth. I know that, because legislative officials have told me. Your own House Democrats have repeatedly told me for the past ten months on various occasions that you and your administration have been repeatedly threatening them, bullying them, and instructing them not to allow the Keystone Exam agenda to progress....these are officials that you, our Governor, have appointed. You can no longer allow these officials to obstruct the House from doing its duty to represent. You have sent appointed officials from your administration to negotiate terms and make deals with legislators in recent months in exchange for not signing on, supporting, stonewalling, or voting for various discharge resolutions and legislative bills related to this matter. It has come to my attention through various newspaper reporters that you have instructed newspapers across the state not to report or write on any more articles pertaining to the Keystone Exam process until after the IRRC's vote on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of October. If that's not true, why would a reporter call to tell me that? Blaming bipartisan politics is far from believable with the overwhelming 80% bipartisan support of HR 456.

There are good people serving in the House and they are fighting tirelessly to do what is right and not for themselves....they are fighting for our children. This is not about money, this is about the children and our future. We need a return to integrity, a return to honesty and a return to honor in our government. The officials in this State who believed they were superior to the power of democracy were wrong. They need to remember that not only are they acting as a tyrant of constitutional rights, but they are also victimizing our children. If Representatives in the House want to represent the people who elected them, no one should stand in their way or put up roadblocks to impede their progress. Yet, that is exactly what's been taking place for the past couple of years. People, processes, and laws have been circumvented and at times, completely ignored and not honored. As for staff in the administration that have the audacity to contact our advocates and House members and ask them, "How dare you?" The answer is simple, it is our right

as the people of this commonwealth and we plan to fully exercise that right until our voices are heard. As their boss, I ask that you please ensure this message is delivered and understood.

As a mom and advocate, I do not have the power, money, and leverage that you, Donna Cooper and your administration have to buy influence, persuasion, and votes with various people involved in this process. I do not have the ability to invest in a public relations marketing campaign strategists using taxpayer dollars to lobby against ourselves and create an illusion of public support, an illusion of demonstrating legislative intent...especially when none exists, and in an effort to create fiscal responsibility when there is none. With no compensation, resources, power, money, or leverage, the grassroots efforts across this great commonwealth is competing against an administration who has all and has made access to all the tools in this battle pertaining to the Keystone Exams. But, the one thing you and your administration do not have in your possession, that the grassroots has, and can use it for their leverage, is “the truth”...and that is best exhibited in our own words, actions, intellect, heart, and soul. After all, the people in this commonwealth who elected our legislators to represent us are the “voice, heart, soul, and will” of this state.

It has been an all out effort, a mobilization of grassroots efforts across this commonwealth, who has virtually willed themselves not to lose on this particular issue for kids and schools. It is our hope you will put a stop to the impediments blocking the House to finally have an opportunity to vote on HR 456 once and for all and furthermore, that you don't allow the same to happen with the Senate...I'm asking in advance.

Thank you in advance for your immediate attention to this matter.

Respectfully,

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