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From: edavidgates@aol.com
Sent: Friday, October 16, 2009 7:01 PM
To: IRRC

I support the proposed regulation to establish meaningful, statewide graduation standards. The existing high school diplomas indicate only that the holder of the diploma has been allowed to complete 13 years of school. It does not represent a particular level of proficiency in math or written and oral communications. There is a significant cost to training these graduates to "work ready" proficiency. We significantly lag our global competitors in graduating "work ready" entry level employees. It's time to act!!! Elmer D Gates