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From: zelikoff@comcast.net
Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2008 1:48 PM
To: jbuckheit@state.pa.us; IRRRC; jrhoades@pasen.gov; musto@pasenate.com; jstairs@pahousegop.com; jroebuck@pahouse.net; dmlne@pahousegop.com; cruble@pahousegop.com; eerickson@pasen.gov; andydinniman@pasenate.com
Cc: zelikoff@comcast.net
Subject: Opposition to the GCA testing

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2008 MAY 20 PM 1:58
INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Dear Mr. Buckheit, and State Board of Education Members,

I am writing to express my opposition to the GCAs for the following reasons:

- The GCAs will not be provided in a format that meets the needs of diverse learners.
- We already test our students in math, reading and science through the state PSSA exams.
- I am opposed to double testing of our students. I don't want scdistrictstrcts and teachers only teaching material on the tests so that students can pass the test. I don't want them to have to drop curriculum that they currently offer because more time needs to be spent teaching teaching test material.
- I am opposed because students in our district are already reaching proficiency in reading, math, and science either through the PSSA exams or through a comprehensive, local assessment.
- I am opposed because GCAs do not test our students on relevant 21st century skills, and valuable class time will have to be diverted to prepare students to take these additional tests.

Most sincerely,

Karen Zelikoff
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5/20/2008