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May 18, 2008

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

The Honorable Kim Kaufman, Executive Director
The Independent Regulatory Review Commission
333 Market Street, 14th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Dear Mr. Kaufman,

I have recently become aware of the Pennsylvania State Board of Education's proposal to create mandatory Graduation Competency Assessments in ten subject areas for all students in Pennsylvania. I am writing to tell you that I oppose the use of additional mandatory testing in order for a student to receive their high school diploma. I believe that a student should be judged worthy of a graduation diploma based on the entire body of a student's academic career, not a single test, or a series of tests. I am concerned that this kind of approach to graduation will lead to higher drop-out rates for students who struggle academically, or for those who have test phobias, and will lead teachers to teach to a particular test.

As a parent and a taxpayer of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, I hope that you will carefully consider these concerns, oppose the adoption of these tests, and encourage your colleagues to do the same.

Thank you very much for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Dehlia DeLuca and Ronald DeLuca