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**Buckheit, James**

**From:** KMNEARY@aol.com  
**Sent:** Monday, June 02, 2008 12:50 PM  
**To:** j buckheit@state.pa.us  
**Subject:** Comments for State Board of Education

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
REVIEW COMMISSION

Dear Members of the State Board of Education,

Please abandon your plans to implement a single test as a culminating measurement of 13 years of education. It is a waste of instructional time and money.

I object as a taxpayer, but also as a parent.

My son struggles academically, but he is very talented in music and art. He is personable and works hard. He has an empathy for and works well with animals. Will your test measure any of those skills?

He could have a successful future managing a music store, as a veterinary assistant, playing in a band, in graphics art, masonry, or landscape design, just to name a few. Will your test be a predictor of success or failure to the degree that you would deny him a diploma reflecting successful completing of graduation requirements as set out in the current school code?

This high stakes test is a poor idea. Let me close my remarks with one question. When was the last time your professional responsibilities required a multiple choice question, a bubble sheet and a number 2 pencil?

Thank you.

*Kathy Neary*  
538 Beaumont Circle  
West Chester, PA 19380

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