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Buckheit, James**From:** Carl and Pam Freidhoff [freidhof@NFDC.NET]

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Sent: Thursday, May 29, 2008 1:12 PM**To:** j buckheit@state.pa.usINDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION**Subject:** Testing Requirement for Graduation

Hearing about the additional testing requirement for graduation in PA has been deeply troubling for me. As a former teacher and parent of three children, I feel that the testing will be penalizing students with gifts in areas other than verbal/test taking. Many students who are artistic, athletic, musical and hands-on learners will struggle with these exams and will be required to take remedial classes throughout high school rather than elective classes that they would help to develop their strengths.

We need to stop trying to fit all students through the same hole and let individuals be individuals. When we as a society accept that people are gifted in different ways and allow each one to develop their gifts freely, we will be a stronger nation.

I will be praying that you will make a decision that will benefit all students as well as our society.

Pam Freidhoff