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Buckheit, James

**From:** Melissa Field [newdoors88@msn.com]

2008 JUN -5 PM 1:32

**Sent:** Monday, June 02, 2008 8:03 PM**To:** j buckheit@state.pa.usINDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
REVIEW COMMISSION**Subject:** Proposed Chapter 4 Regulations

State Board of Education  
ATTN: James Buckheit, Executive Director  
333 Market St.  
Harrisburg, PA 17126-0333

Re: Proposed Chapter 4 Regulations  
Graduation Competency Assessments

Dear Mr. Buckheit:

More testing? You need to spend more money on teaching, so students have time to learn and master the knowledge and skills they need to become successful, content, and honorable citizens of our country. You already spend money on PSSA's. There are different kinds of intelligences and different ways students can show their mastery and expertise. Are you saying that the judgement of the very educators you have working in this state and the results of all the other testing, such as the PSSA's, aren't enough to determine a student's readiness to graduate high school? Are you trying to discourage our young people by putting one more stone in the way of their future progress? Shouldn't the State Board put more money into smaller class sizes, tutoring help for students who obviously need it (whether they do well or not on some tests on a few days of their entire educational experience), and effective summer school programs? Who is going to benefit from more testing? Will these millions of dollars finally go to help our young people learn or will all the money go to those who already have employment writing and evaluating tests, and judging others on their worthiness and readiness to join their rightful place in our workforce? Please make a wise decision by not deciding on more testing.

6/3/2008