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# Form letters - 1

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
REVIEW COMMISSION

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY REVIEW COMMISSION

**Action Alert****Oppose the GCA proposal!**

It is expected that the State Board of Education will publish its "Graduation Competency Assessment" proposed regulations in the next few weeks. The GCA proposal mandates that students will either have to score "proficient" on the PSSA or pass six out of 10 high-stakes standardized high school exit exams - or they won't receive a high school diploma. PSEA opposes this proposal. Take action now! To learn more, follow this link: <http://www.psea.org/article.cfm?SID=1773>.

**Take Action****1 COMPOSE MESSAGE****Message Recipients:**

- Your State Upper Chamber Representatives
- Your State Lower Chamber Representatives
- Secretary Gerald L. Zahorchak
- James Buckheit, Executive Director, State Board of Education

**Delivery Method:**

- ☒ Email
- ☐ Printed Letter

**Subject:**

Oppose the GCA proposal!

**Editable text:**

(edit or add your own text - 8891 characters left)

I oppose the State Board of Education's proposed Graduation Competency Assessments. This proposal would mandate high-stakes standardized high school exit exams and would deny students a high school diploma if they do not score "proficient" on these statewide tests. There are numerous reasons I oppose the GCA proposal, but first and foremost I do not believe that standardized tests are the best determination of student achievement. The thought of denying students a high school diploma - which has long-term negative effects on their lives - because they didn't score "proficient" on a statewide test

Tip: Cutting-and-pasting? Save as plain text first.**Your Closing:**

Sincerely,

**Your Name:**

**2 SENDER INFORMATION**

This system requires that you provide your name and contact information. This information will not be used for any purpose other than to identify you to the recipient.

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I oppose the State Board of Education's proposed Graduation Competency Assessments. This proposal would mandate high-stakes standardized high school exit exams and would deny students a high school diploma if they do not score "proficient" on these statewide tests. There are numerous reasons I oppose the GCA proposal, but first and foremost I do not believe that standardized tests are the best determination of student achievement. The thought of denying students a high school diploma - which has long-term negative effects on their lives - because they didn't score "proficient" on a statewide test truly concerns me. At a time when we know that Pennsylvania's public education system lacks the funding it needs by over \$4 billion in order to help every student meet the state's academic standards, it is irresponsible to impose high-stakes testing on our students. In addition, no analysis has been done on the cost of developing and administering the GCAs, let alone what it would cost to remediate those students who do not score "proficient" on the exam. Thank you for your consideration of my views.