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Buckheit, James**From:** PAUL MCDERMOTT [paulandee@verizon.net]

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Sent: Thursday, June 12, 2008 7:21 AM**To:** j buckheit@state.pa.usINDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION**Subject:** GCA

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:

I have been teaching students with learning differences for 24 years. Stop hurting our resources of the future. They are bright kids who are wired differently and can't take pen and paper tests. We do not teach a one size fits all society of learners, never have, never will. The current testing sets up kids to feel incompetent and they are not!! Please have people study and learn about LD and brain wiring. Study child development, talk to kids and teachers. Do not pass this piece of legislation, it will bring down more students and cause some to drop out. All children are being tested way too much. I now spend 6 weeks of the school year administering some kind of standardized test. We have to stop and look at our children's needs. Please vote NO to the GCA's.

Denise McDermott