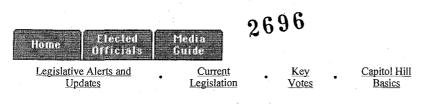
630 Karen Guglielmo	PSEA
735 Melissa J. Marks	PSEA
736 Garrett Ingram	PSEA
738 Monica Haley	PSEA
740 Laura Sisko	PSEA
741 Denise Sisko	PSEA
743 Kensee Roberts	PSEA
744 Stacie Elder	PSEA
745 Alexander Rega	PSEA

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-2 ters 7 **2696** 202 Rebecca Ln 209 E. Waldhiem Coatesville PA 19320 kguglielmo2002@verize Pittsburgh PA 15215 mim37@pitt.edu North Huntingdc PA 15642 gai37725@aol.com Gibsonia PA 15044 mrh57@pitt.edu Avonmore PA 15618 lsisko_05@vahoo.com Avonmore PA 15618 siskos@usatek.net 1151 Marcia Dr 3722 North Woodland Cin Gibsonia 1165 Lantz Rd 1165 Lantz Rd PA 15665 kir23@pitt.edu 2008 JUN 16 PM 4:20 24 South Railroad St Manor 4158 State Route 982 Latrobe PA 15650 sle16@pitt.edu Mount Pleasant PA 15666 arr49@pitt.edu 819 West Smithfield St

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: <u>http://www.psea.org/article.cfm?SID=1773</u>.

Take Action

1

COMPOSE MESSAGE

Message Recipients:

Your State Upper Chamber Representatives

Delivery Method: Email

C Printed Letter

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

Subject:

Oppose the GCA proposal!

Editable text:

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
1
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

Your Closing:

-

Your Name:

Sincerely,

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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Remember Me! (<u>what's this?</u>)

A copy of your message will be sent to the e-mail address entered above.

(Please click only once.)

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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.