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Buckheit, James**From:** Watkins [watkinsplace@verizon.net]**Sent:** Saturday, June 14, 2008 11:03 PM**To:** j buckheit@state.pa.us**Subject:** GCA

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to let you know that I am opposed to the proposed Graduate Competency Assessments. In my opinion, there is nothing to be gained from such an exam. The students are regularly assessed during the school year and their grades reflect their competency. Seniors are already bogged down in homework, senior projects, studying for regular tests, PSSA's, applying to schools, worrying over funding their future education. I think that GCA's are redundant. I think that they are insulting to the students who have proved themselves with hard work and good grades and insulting to the teachers who have mentored and assessed their students and have already deemed them competent. I think that if you want to help to make sure the graduates are competent, you should give the students everything that they need to succeed in school by passing House Bill 2449.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Julia Watkins
Title I Instructional Aide
Weatherly Elementary-Middle School