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Buckheit, James

**From:** Kim Dever [kimdever@comcast.net]

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**Sent:** Monday, June 16, 2008 8:58 AM**To:** j buckheit@state.pa.usINDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
REVIEW COMMISSION**Subject:** Graduation Competency Tests

I am wholeheartedly opposed to the proposed Graduation Competency Assessment tests. Let the teachers and the parents do their jobs of assuring an appropriate education. This, along with so many other standardized tests, will in no way improve the quality of education for our children! It is completely unfair to our children to pass them along all the way through a broken system only to have them unable to pass a narrowly focused assessment (all children learn and test differently) at the end of their 12 years of education and to then withhold a diploma from them. What then? Will you re-educate? Provide private tutors? Explain to the colleges that they have applied to? I keep waiting for common sense to prevail. If the children are unable to do the work it should have been picked up, noted, and corrected somewhere along the way, ideally prior to the end of 12 years of education. If the child is completely noncompliant and deviant in behavior with nonpassing grades in their subjects...then they don't get a diploma. We do not need standardized test to tell us that. We do not need standardized tests if we are all doing our jobs.

6/16/2008