

#2696

From: Anne Sprissler [sprisslera@comcast.net]
Sent: Tuesday, May 06, 2008 9:24 PM
To: IRRC
Subject: I oppose the Graduation Competency Assessments

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REVIEW COMMISSION

11:30 AM

A paper and pencil standardized test is a very imperfect measure of what students have learned. Current regulations require each school district and area vocational technical school to create a local assessment system, of which local graduation assessments are a part. Local graduation assessments must be aligned with the state academic standards and be used to determine the degree to which students are achieving the standards. Local assessment systems, including the local graduation assessments, must include a variety of assessment strategies, including portfolios and research papers, presentations, projects and assignments, results of exams, scientific experiments, works of art, and musical or theatrical performances. These types of assessments provide a richer, more accurate and fairer measure of what students know than can a few paper-and-pencil tests. The state should not override these "local assessments" with one-size-fits-all standardized tests.

Sincerely,
Anne Sprissler