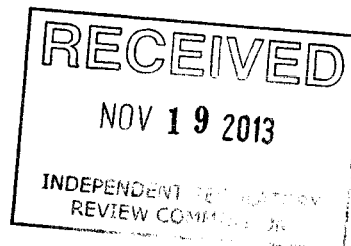


November 19, 2013

The Honorable Silvan B. Lutkewitte, II
Chairman
Independent Regulatory Review Commission
333 Market Street, 14th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101



Dear Chairman Lutkewitte:

As the President & CEO at Weavertown Environmental Group, I support final-form regulation #6-326 (Academics Standards and Assessments) that adopts the Pennsylvania Core Standards in English and Math and aligned assignments, including the Keystone Exams. The regulation also includes important safeguards and supports to ensure struggling students have the extra help they need to succeed.

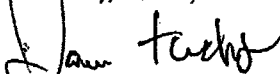
As a Pennsylvania business owner, I care whether high school students graduate prepared for the workforce or higher education. I have recognized our field personnel, while able to perform their technical duties, have been lacking in necessary writing and math skills to prepare and submit paperwork for proper invoicing and billing to clients. This significantly affects our bottom line revenue.

It's quite simple: Business leaders need to have confidence in the quality of Pennsylvania's high school diploma.

Looking to the future, we need a vibrant educational system with rigorous, internationally benchmarked standards (PA Core Standards) and aligned assessments, including the Keystone Exams, which will help produce students with necessary skills to succeed in life and to help businesses grow.

I support the adoption of strong standards such as the Pennsylvania Core Standards and aligned assessments, including the Keystone Exams. I encourage the Commission to adopt the final-form regulation, which I believe would add significant value to Pennsylvania's high school diploma and workforce.

Sincerely,



Dawn Fuchs
President & CEO