

Cooper, Kathy

2976

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IRRC

From: Dianne Lahr [kmlhr@msn.com]
Sent: Monday, November 05, 2012 9:20 PM
To: IRRC
Subject: IRRC#2976, regulation 6-326

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November 5, 2012

Dear Members of the Review Committee:

I am very concerned about IRRC#2976 and its impact on the students and local districts of Pennsylvania. In particular, I am concerned about the regulations that change standards in English language art and the proficiency requirement for graduation from high school.

The questions that I have are: Why does our state have to amend Chapter 4 to conform with national standards? Why does our state have to spend 650 million to implement this program? Has IRRC demonstrated and guaranteed that its requirements are going to increase our students' performance? Has this proposal been tested to ensure that our students would be better educated? During this period of hard financial times, our government should be mindful of how taxpayer's money is being spent.

Moreover, over the past decades, the quality of public education has declined because local school districts have lost increasingly more control concerning the oversight of local educational goals and performance. Federal monies come with a cost, one that I do not believe is worth the additional revenue required to adopt and implement new standards.

I have difficulty with the idea of teaching to a common core curriculum or to the Keystone Exams. Such tests do not fully assess educational progress. I request that you do not further tie the hands of our local educators or school boards in our state.

I also request that you allow additional time for the public to be able to comment and discuss these proposals before they be approved.

Sincerely,
Dianne Kimmel Lahr
New Castle, PA

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