From:	g hope
To:	OPI Waivers
Subject:	opi waiver
Date:	Tuesday, October 01, 2013 9:11:47 AM

To Whom it May Concern,
I support the waiver request to the U.S. Department of Education from Superintendent Denise Juneau that would allow Montana students to participate in the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) field test in the spring of 2014. It would be better for students to take the new online assessment rather than the Montana Criterion Referenced Test (CRT). Eliminating the requirement for the CRT would offer the following benefits:

1. **Add instructional time for students by eliminating double testing of students**
2. **Test computer hardware and network infrastructure to determine gaps and needs;**
3. **Provide professional development for teachers as they review the delivery, content, vocabulary, and structure of the SBAC assessment;**
4. **Provide a more effective and efficient transition to the 2014-2015 assessment; and**
5. **Students will be assessed on the standards being taught in Montana classrooms**

Thank you for your consideration,
Gwen Hoppe