From:	Marylor
To:	OPI Waivers
Subject:	support of waiver of the Montana CRT
Date:	Tuesday, October 01, 2013 8:54:36 AM

I'm a proud and grateful graduate of free public education in Montana and I'm one more Montanan asking you to approve OPI Superintendent Juneau's request to the U.S. Department of Education to allow Montana students to participate in the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) field test in the spring of 2014, rather than the Montana Criterion Referenced Test (CRT). The approved waiver would permit students to take the new online assessment rather than the CRT. Eliminating the CRT would provide the following benefits to education in Montana:

1. **Eliminate double testing thereby freeing instructional time for students;**
2. **Test computer hardware and network infrastructure to determine gaps and needs;**
3. **Strengthen teachers' professional development by freeing time to review the SBAC assessment;**
4. **Allow time for a smooth transition to the 2014-2015 SBAC assessment; and**
5. **Assess students on the standards already being taught in Montana classrooms.**

–Marylor Wilson, graduate of Billings Senior High School.