From: Cynthia Clary
To: OPI Waivers
Subject: Support for waiver from double testing
Date: Tuesday, October 01, 2013 7:51:46 AM

To Whom it may Concern:

I am writing to support the State Superintendent Juneau's request for a waiver of the obligation to administer the CRT test this Spring as our schools begin field testing the new Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) test. While I am interested in effective assessment of learning, it makes little sense to continue to require the CRT test as it is not aligned with the Board of Public Education's standards. My district prefers to only administer the SBAC test, which is aligned with the Board of Public Education's standards and will provide a more accurate assessment of our instructional program.

This variance request provides the U.S. Department of Education with an opportunity to reduce red tape and increase flexibility for schools as we transition to the SBAC test. If granted, it will allow teachers increased time to focus on instruction under the new standards, rather than on administering duplicative assessments, one of which is no longer aligned with the Montana Board of Public Education's standards.

I respectfully request that you grant the State Superintendent's requested waiver.

Sincerely,

Cynthia

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