

GENERAL WAIVER COVER SHEET
CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
JANUARY 2004 AGENDA
Item No. WC-5

TITLE: Request by Liberty Union High School District to waive <i>Education Code</i> (EC) Section 51451, regarding the method of qualifying the 2003 high school seniors for a Golden State Seal Merit Diploma.	<hr/> ACTION <hr/> INFORMATION <hr/> PUBLIC HEARING <hr/> X CONSENT
CDSIS: 10-10-2003	

RECOMMENDATION:

The Department recommends: Approval, on the condition that the district has certified that all students submitted to Education Data Systems, Inc. (EDS, Inc.) have met either the existing requirements to be eligible for the Golden State Merit Seal Diploma, or the requirements of the 2003 Senior Waiver

Summary of Previous State Board of Education Discussion and Action:

At the April 9, 2003, State Board of Education (SBE) meeting members approved the method described by the California Department of Education (CDE) for a Golden State Exam "Senior Waiver Process."

The State Board of Education has approved a total of 81 GSE waiver requests since the May 2003 SBE meeting.

Summary of Key Issue(s):

In January 2003, the CDE posted a waiver process for a waiver of English language arts Golden State Exam (GSE) requirement, because at the time this exam was not available to this year's seniors due to changes in the 2002-2003 year budget act which eliminated all the GSE administration, making it impossible for seniors to complete the requirements to qualify for a Golden State Seal Merit Diploma.

The *Education Code* (EC) Section involved in this waiver is:

EC 51451. *A student who meets the following requirements shall qualify for a Golden State Seal Merit Diploma:*

- (a) The completion of all requirements for a high school diploma.*
- (b) A demonstration of the mastery of the curriculum in at least six subject matter areas, four of which shall be mathematics, English language arts, science, and United States history, with the remaining two subject matter areas selected by the student.*

The Liberty Union High School District is requesting to waive *Education Code* (EC) Section 51451 for eleven (11) students who graduated in June 2003 and have already received their Golden State Merit Seal diploma. The reason for late submission is because the district has a modified school year, and this was the first available time they had to make this request. Considering all the backup information the district is required to submit to EDS. Therefore, the Department recommends approval.

Bargaining unit(s) consulted on: 9/9/03 and 9/10/03

Position of bargaining unit (choose only one):

Neutral Support Oppose

Name of bargaining unit representative: S. Ramirez, A. Simon

CSEA did not see an interest for them so they were neutral; LEA thought it is a good idea.

Public hearing identified by (choose one or more):

posting in a newspaper posting at each school other

(specify) _____

Public hearing held on: 10/22/03

Local board approval date: 10/22/03

Advisory committee(s) consulted: LUHSD

Objections raised (choose one): None Objections are attached on separate sheet

Date consulted: 9/22/03

Effective dates of request: 2002 – 2003 school year

Fiscal Analysis (as appropriate): No known fiscal impact.

Background Information: Waiver request forms and background information is available in the Waiver Office upon request.