

GENERAL WAIVER COVER SHEET

CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

May, 2003 AGENDA

Item No. W-16

TITLE: Request by numerous districts (see list in Last Minute Memorandum) to waive <i>Education Code</i> (EC) Section 51451, regarding the method of qualifying this years high school seniors (as listed) for a Golden State Seal Merit Diploma.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ACTION <input type="checkbox"/> INFORMATION <input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC HEARING <input type="checkbox"/> CONSENT
CDSIS: See numbers in Last Minute Memorandum	

RECOMMENDATION:

The Department recommends:

- Approval **CDE Recommendation will come in the Last Minute Memorandum**
 Denial

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 for a Golden State Exam "Senior Waiver Process."

Summary of Key Issue(s):

E.C 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 normal process of "demonstrating mastery" is for students to have earned achievement levels of 4 (recognition), 5 (honors), or 6 (high honors) on **six Golden State Examinations including U.S. history; reading/literature or written composition; a mathematics exam; a science exam; and two other exams of the student's choice.**

Due to cancellation of the spring administration of the Golden State Examinations (GSEs) as a part of the current year budget cuts, many seniors are only part way to completing this requirement.

To be eligible for the 2003 Golden State Diploma, seniors must:

- 1) be receiving a high school diploma from their district.
- 2) have earned achievement levels of 4 (recognition), 5 (honors), or 6 (high honors) on **four or more** of the six required Golden State Examinations identified in Option One, number 2.
- 3) be granted a waiver by the State Board of Education (SBE) to **use up to two of the following 2002 California Standards Tests (CSTs) scores (to be determined) in lieu of GSE results to complete the six subject-area requirement:** Grade 11 English Language Arts, Grade 11 History/Social Science (United States History), High School Mathematics, Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, Integrated Mathematics 1, 2, or 3, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Earth Science.

Districts have certified that all listed students meet the above requirements and have completed the legal requirements of a General Waiver Request.