

[DATE]

[YOUR NAME]

[YOUR HOME ADDRESS, **NOT** YOUR SCHOOL ADDRESS]

The Honorable Mark R. Warner
703 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

[OR *The Honorable Timothy M. Kaine*
231 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510]

[OR *The Honorable XXXX YYYY (YOUR REPRESENTATIVE'S NAME)*
OFFICE AND BUILDING
Washington, DC 20515
FIND YOUR REPRESENTATIVE AND THEIR ADDRESS AT
<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/members>]

Dear Senator Warner [OR *Senator Kaine OR Representative YYYY*]:

As a constituent and English teacher, I am writing to urge you to recommend the Department of Education waive standardized testing requirements for states and localities for the 2020-2021 school year. Many states have already waived state requirements, but the federal government has not yet done so.

With some students having received less than 40% of normal classroom time for a school year and the high stakes for both localities' funding and students' academic confidence on the line, waiving the federal mandate would greatly help multiple levels of your constituencies and show a clear understanding of the pandemic challenges and support for public schools and their students.

I urge you to advocate for the Department of Education to waive federal testing requirements to states and localities to support public schools. In doing so, you will demonstrate your commitment to the education of young people and the well-being of communities in Virginia and across the country. Please let me know if you or your staff would like any additional information on this important topic, and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

[YOUR NAME]
English teacher