

Exxon Mobil Corporation
Public and Government Affairs
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R. W. Tillerson
Chairman and CEO

ExxonMobil

May 31, 2013

The Honorable Tom Corbett
Governor
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
225 Main Capitol
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Governor Corbett:

ExxonMobil applauds and shares your commitment to ensuring that every child in Pennsylvania is prepared with the skills to compete in today's workforce. I also appreciate your strong support for the Common Core, including changes to reflect a "Pennsylvania Common Core," and the potential it has to help your state's students and teachers. Your counterparts in New Jersey and Wisconsin, Governors Christie and Walker, and many other leading policymakers have been equally supportive. However, I was disappointed to learn of the misinformation opponents of this critical effort are advancing, which subsequently led your administration to delay its implementation. I urge you to make the necessary clarifications quickly and move forward with the Pennsylvania Common Core.

Like you, I believe the Common Core will help ensure our students develop the skills and knowledge they need for success in college and careers. This voluntary state-led effort developed by educators, parents and business leaders has the potential to turn around our underperforming public education system and produce the workforce that businesses need to remain competitive in the global marketplace. The standards stipulate *what* all students should know, but leave it up to Pennsylvania to determine *how* it teaches its students.

ExxonMobil has significant operations in Pennsylvania, and we are committed to enhancing the quality of life for all of your citizens. Last year, we contributed \$3.3 million to Pennsylvania universities, hospitals, environmental research efforts and arts and civic organizations, but I believe there is nothing more important than improving the quality of education. The Pennsylvania Common Core will go a long way to achieving that goal, and it gives ExxonMobil the confidence that the educational standards we require for employment will be met by your state's graduates. Furthermore, it sets the groundwork for students to be prepared to compete globally for 21st century careers and help Pennsylvania prosper.

Sincerely,



c: House and Senate Leadership
Honorable Members of the House and Senate Education Committees
William Harner, Acting Secretary of Education
Jennifer Branstetter, Secretary for Policy and Planning
Christopher Carusone, Secretary for Legislative Affairs
Dennis A. Giorno, Malady & Wooten, LLP

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