TO:       Local District Commissioners

SUBJECT: Literacy Testing - Report Reviewing Commonly Used Tests for Adult Basic Education (ABE) and English-as-a-Second Language (ESL)

ATTACHMENTS: Testing and Assessment in ABE and ESL Programs - not available on-line

The Department has developed a comprehensive assessment to assist districts in complying with the literacy testing and employability planning requirements under JOBS.

Attached is an excerpt from the report Testing and Assessment in Adult Basic Education and English as a Second Language Programs. The report, prepared for the United States Department of Education by Thomas G. Sticht, identifies a variety of standardized tests and specifies which assessment instruments are appropriate for the various populations of adults.

The State Education Department has provided your Service Delivery Area with a copy of this report.

I hope you find this excerpt useful as a reference and as a resource for both Adult Basic Education and English as a Second Language testing. This Department does not endorse any specific testing or assessment instrument.

Test results are valuable only when interpreted by trained professionals. It is important, therefore, to consult with your local education colleagues before implementing employability plans based upon such educational tests.

Should you have questions or require further information on testing please call the Bureau of Employment Programs at 1-800-342-4100, extension 3-8377.

Oscar R. Best, Jr.
Deputy Commissioner
Division of Income Maintenance