

Number	Timestamp	Comments:
1	12/4/2017 13:35:58	Well written proposal.
2	12/4/2017 16:44:22	Districts and the state of Nebraska do not have any control over the number of students who qualify for, and need to have, alternate assessments. In our district, we are judicious in our use of this assessment, and it is truly limited to only those students who are in a life skills curriculum due to significant conditions that require such an alternate curriculum. In our district, all of those students that require an alternate assessment are in the public school setting rather than being served in our local private schools. Due to our total student population being reduced by the presence of private education, our 1% cap seems arbitrary. So, I would favor a waiver of the 1% cap as a state, and would ask that, should there be a question about the need for more than 1% of the public school population to have alternate assessments, federal officials should create an audit procedure to insure that students are appropriately in an alternate curriculum.
3	12/5/2017 9:02:06	In small rural schools 1 student in a grade being assessed would but you over the 1% rule. It is unrealistic to think that a small rural school could not have a student that needs alternate testing. I have had classes that have had as many as 3 students in a class of 25, which would put the district at 12% of that class needing alternate testing. These are students that will not be able to live on their own and will be dependent on someone else their entire lives. The waiver is a must for small rural schools with small testing numbers and possibility of having students with qualifying disabilities.
4	12/5/2017 10:18:46	Students who have disabilities do not come to us in increments that work with required numbers. Many years we do not have any students with disabilities. Other years we have one or two students that have disabilities and that would put our small school over the 1% allotment for students with verified disabilities. The federal government has strict procedures for determining if students qualify for special education. They need to trust that educators know their student's needs and are following the guidelines in place.
5	12/5/2017 15:25:36	I absolutely agree that we need to apply for the waiver. I think it is also important how you have outlined the steps the state department has taken to assist in the decision-making process. Something to consider seeking:
6	12/7/2017 9:25:16	We will have 4 students taking the Alt. assessment this year for grades 3-8 and 11th. As of right now, next year we will have 3 students who will need to take the Alt. Assessments. It looks like we will continue exceeding the 1% with students coming up and I do not see any of these students moving out of our district in the near future.
7	12/7/2017 14:12:59	I think for all districts to be under 1% is impossible.
8	12/8/2017 8:42:11	When you think of what is best for students you must have the ability to have the waivers beyond 1% if needed. I do believe there needs to be tight parameters who takes the alt assessment but some districts may meet those tight parameters and be beyond the 1%.
9	12/11/2017 16:28:58	The waiver on the one percent cap on the total number of students allowed to take the Alternate Assessment should be allowed. Our district is the largest in the area, so several parents choose our district to provide their child with the most access to the resources available in the rural area. Students with high needs demand school and community resources to be independently successful to the best of their ability. Due to our community resources more families choose our community as their home to provide for their children the best education and supports.