MEMORANDUM

TO: City and County Superintendents of Education
   City and County Special Education Coordinators
   Directors of State-Supported/State-Operated Agencies
   Special Education Coordinators of State-Supported/State-Operated Agencies
   Comprehensive System of Personnel Development Advisory Committee
   Special Education Advisory Panel
   Selected Advocacy Groups
   Deans of Special Education Programs
   Due Process Hearing Officers

FROM: Joseph B. Morton
      Interim State Superintendent of Education

RE: Rule Changes for Special Education

The Alabama State Board of Education has adopted as regular rules, the emergency rules
regarding diplomas for students with disabilities that went into effect March 11, 2004. The
rule adds an alternate route for students with disabilities to receive the Alabama High
School Diploma. The most significant change is that students who pass all but one
subject-area test of the Alabama High School Graduation Exam and meet all other
graduation requirements for the Alabama High School Diploma including alternate
documentation must be awarded the Alabama High School Diploma. The locations of the
specific changes in the Alabama Administrative Code are:

- Rule 290-4-2.02(1)(e)(2)(e), pages 421.01-421.02.
- Rule 290-3-1.02(8)(g), page 69.

Questions regarding the above changes should be directed to Special Education Services at
(334) 242-8114 or (334) 242-8406 (TDD).

JBM/EDG/GMT

Enclosures

cc: Mr. Feagin Johnson, Jr. Dr. Gayle Dejong
    Dr. Mabrey Whetstone Ms. Cynthia Brown
    Dr. Anita Buckley-Commander Ms. Emily D. Graham
    Dr. Gloria Turner