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*Leadership for Public Education*

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August 1, 2005

Kim Kaufman
Executive Director, IRRRC
333 Market Street, 14th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101

RE: Extension of the deadline for certain teachers to become "highly qualified"

Dear Mr. Kaufman:

I am writing to convey PSEA's support for the Emergency Regulation approved by the State Board of Education at its June 30, 2005 meeting. The addition of Section 403.4(d)(7) will extend the deadline for entering Bridge I to June 30, 2006 for certain special education teachers and multi-content middle school teachers with elementary certificates.

As you know, the federal requirements governing the states' HOUSSE programs have undergone considerable changes over the past year. The state requirements have likewise changed. The educators in the two groups affected by the extension have faced a great deal of uncertainty regarding their eligibility for the Bridge program. The one year extension is a reasonable step to enable those caught in this flux of change to utilize the Bridge program.

Thank you for your consideration of PSEA's position on this issue. We would appreciate your support for these regulatory changes.

Sincerely,

James R. Weaver
President

cc: Mr. Karl Girton
Mr. Jim Buckheit

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The PSEA Mission

To advance quality public education for all students while fostering the dignity and worth of members through collective action.

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(Pages including cover 2)

DATE: August 1, 2005

TO: Mr. Kim Kaufman

PHONE: 717-783-5417

FROM: Carol Karl

PHONE: 717-255-7094

NOTE:

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