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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION 333 MARKET STREET

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY REVIEW COMMISSION

March 14, 2006

Independent Regulatory Review Commission 14th Floor, Harristown 2 333 Market Street Harrisburg, PA 17101

To Whom It May Concern:

Attached, please find a copy of a letter from the Bureau of Career and Technical Education regarding a statement letter from Representative Herman on proposed 22 PA. Code, Chapter 339 Vocational Education.

If you have any questions or concerns, you may contact me at 717-787-5530 or lburket@state.pa.us.

Sincerely yours,

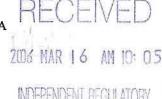
Lee Burket, Ed.D. Acting Director

Bureau of Career and Technical Education



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION 323 MARKET STREET

333 MARKET STREET HARRISBURG, PA 17126-0333 www.pde.state.pa.us



March 14, 2006

The Honorable Lynn B. Herman Pennsylvania House of Representatives House Box 202020 Main Capitol Building Harrisburg, PA 17120-2020

Dear Representative Herman:

Thank you for your statement letter in which you share a copy of a letter that you received from Ms. Tracy S. Hoover and provided to the State Board of Education on proposed 22 Pa. Code, Chapter 339 Vocational Education.

As requested, Ms. Hoover's letter is considered as official public comment. Pursuant to the provisions of the Regulatory Review Act, copies of your comments will be provided to the Independent Regulatory Review Commission (IRRC) and the Chairpersons of the House and Senate Education Committees.

The Regulatory Review Act provides that information on proposed and final regulations be mailed to public commentators at their request. If you would like to receive the final-form of these regulations when they are finalized, please send your request to me at the address printed above.

Sincerely yours,

Lee Burket, Ed.D.

Acting Director

Bureau of Career and Technical Education

cc:

Senator Rhoades Senator Musto

Representative Stairs Representative Roebuck

IRRC V

Mr. James Buckheit

LYNN B. HERMAN, MEMBER HOUSE BOX 202020 MAIN CAPITOL BUILDING HARRISBURG, PA 17120-2020 PHONE: (717) 787-8594

301 S. ALLEN STREET ALLENWAY BLDG. / SUITE 102 STATE COLLEGE, PA 16801 PHONE: (814) 238-5477

130 N. FRONT STREET PHILIPSBURG, PA 16866 PHONE: (814) 342-5411



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PENN STATE FORUM CO-CHAIRMAN

February 22, 2006

Mr. Jim Buckheit, Executive Director State Board of Education Department of Education 333 Market Street 5th Floor, Harristown 2 Harrisburg, PA 17126

REC'D FEB 2 3 2006

Dear Mr. Buckheit:

Enclosed please find correspondence I received from Ms. Tracy S. Hoover of Port Matilda, Centre County, regarding the proposed changes being made to Chapter 339 by the State Board of Education.

I believe Ms. Hoover's correspondence is self-explanatory. As you can see, the proposed changes to Chapter 339 eliminate reimbursement for those students who receive less than 360 hours of class instruction time in their vocational/career education area. Please take note that she supports a prorated or sliding scale to allocate reimbursement to Career and Technical Education (CTE) based on hours of additional contact time.

I would greatly appreciate your taking Ms. Hoover's thoughts and concerns into consideration as the State Board of Education proposes to alter Chapter 339. Please make Ms. Hoover's correspondence part of the official record regarding any proposed changes to Chapter 339.

Should you need any additional information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Lynn B. Herman State Representative 77th Legislative District

LBH/lls Enclosure

cc: Ms. Tracy S. Hoover

Representative Jess Stairs, Chairman, House Education Committee

Tracy S. Hoover 219 Winesap Drive Port Matilda, PA 16870

February 10, 2006

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY REVEY COMMISSION

Honorary Lynn B. Herman 301 South Allen Street - Suite 102 State College, PA 16801

I am writing to express my concern regarding the proposed changes in Chapter 339 which I believe will dramatically and negatively impact the delivery of agricultural education programming at the secondary level in Pennsylvania schools.

Most of the secondary career and technical (vocational) agriculture programs are offered in comprehensive high schools not in Career and Technology Centers. These programs and the students enrolled in them will suffer disproportionately under the proposed revisions to Chapter 339. The proposed changes in Chapter 339 will eliminate reimbursement for those students who receive less than 360 hours of class instruction time in their vocational/career education area. This increased contact hour requirement limit enrollment opportunities for youth given the increased pressure to comply with NCLB standards, scheduling conflict, and enrollment restrictions encountered as students prepare for post-secondary education and/or careers.

I would like to send a note of support for a prorated or sliding scale to allocate reimbursement to Career and Technical Education (CTE) based on hours of contact time. Programs should also receive some level of support and/or incentive for program completers. I also believe that CTE students who enroll in academic courses and/or participate in out-of-school career and skill-based activities that enhance and relate to their CTE program should be able to count these "value added" courses and programs toward meeting their CTE hour requirement. Please consider alternate methods of funding to provide our students in our Commonwealth multiple opportunities to enroll in and benefit from Career and Technical Education programming. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tracy S. Hoover