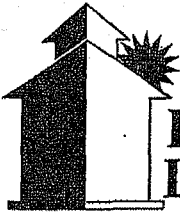


# 2583



Quality & Fairness in  
Pennsylvania's Public Schools

## EDUCATION LAW CENTER

August 13, 2007

### CO-DIRECTORS

Janet F. Stotland  
Len Rieser

State Board of Education  
333 Market Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Harrisburg, PA 17126-0333

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

RE: No. 2583 State Board of Education #6-303: Certification of Professional Personnel  
(Chapter 49)

To the Members of the State Board of Education and the Independent Regulatory  
Review Commission:

The Education Law Center (ELC) encourages the Independent Regulatory  
Review Commission to approve the final form revisions to Chapter 49.


The Chapter 49 changes in teacher preparation and professional development  
are necessary for the Commonwealth to meet its legal obligations under existing state  
and federal laws. Improving teacher knowledge and skills for diverse learners will allow  
compliance with the mandates of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB) and with  
State academic and assessment standards.

The State Board developed these regulations through an excellent process of  
engaging stakeholders in addressing real classroom needs. ELC believes that children,  
teachers, and schools will benefit from the new provisions. ELC did not get everything  
we asked for in this round of policy development, but we respect the judgment of the  
State Board and will work for additional reforms in the future.

Prompt approval of these regulations by IRRC will help to ensure that all  
educators can meet the highest expectations for student achievement, teacher quality,  
and school performance. ELC will continue working with the State Board to further  
strengthen the rules for teacher certification to ensure that all students have access to  
highly qualified teachers and a quality public education.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

  
BARUCH KINTISCH  
Staff Attorney  
bkintisch@elc-pa.org  
215-238-6970 ext. 320

RECEIVED

2007 AUG 15 AM 10:13

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
REVIEW COMMISSION

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Suzanne Becker  
Martha E. Candiello, Esq.  
Pamela Cook  
Gail Danckert  
Pamela De George  
Rev. Richard Fernandez  
David Allen Frisby  
Maria Irene Gonzalez, Esq.  
Innocenzio A. Grignano  
Eugene Lincoln, Esq.  
Fred T. Magaziner, Esq.  
Susan M. Mussman, Esq.  
Vivian Narehood, Esq.  
Sol B. Vazquez-Otero, Esq.

### OFFICERS

David Richman, Esq., Chair  
Michael Murphy, Vice Chair  
Mary Yee, Vice Chair  
Anita Santos, Esq., Secretary  
Mark Anderson, Esq., Treasurer