RAPHAEL MUSTO 14TH DISTRICT SENATE BOX 203014 HARRISBURG, PA 17120-3014 PHONE: (717) 787-7105 FAX: (717) 783-4141

DISTRICT OFFICE 81 SOUTH MAIN STREET P.O. BOX 786 PITTSTON, PA 18640-0786 (570) 654-1483 TOLL FREE: 1-800-280-4277 FAX: (570) 826-5470

PLEASE RESPOND TO THE ADDRESS OF THE BOX CHECKE

E-MAIL: musto@pasenate.com WEBSITE: www.senatormusto.com

> Nicholas J. Corbo, Ed. D. Superintendent Exeter Township School District 3550 Perkiomen Avenue Reading, PA 19606

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Senate of Pennsylvania December 1, 2006

COMMITTEES

EDUCATION, DEMOCRATIC CHAIRMAN ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY, DEMOCRATIC CHAIRMAN APPROPRIATIONS

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Re: Chapter 49-2 regulations

Dear Superintendent Corbo:

Thank you for your correspondence concerning the Chapter 49-2 regulations, currently in proposed stage.

As evidenced by the enclosed correspondence, I have transmitted your letter to Jim Buckheit, Executive Director of the State Board of Education, for further transmittal to the subcommittee of the Board that is addressing these regulations.

Please be advised that because the current legislative term ended before hearings on these regulations could be held in either the House or the Senate and because concerns continue to be raised from many sectors of the educational community, I am confident that final action on these regulations will not be taken for some time, probably not until next spring. As of today's date, none of the Education Committees have expressed approval of the regulations. It is my understanding that the Board will continue to receive and consider all comments. I would advise you to check the Board's website for further information about the status of these regulations.

Thank you again for your correspondence and your interest in this very important matter.

Sincerely,

RAPHAEL J. MUSTO State Senator

cc: James Buckheit, Executive Director, State Board of Education

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Exeter Township School District

3650 Perkiomen Avenue - Reading, PA 19606-2798 610-779-0700 - FAX 610-779-7104

Nicholas J. Corbo, Ed.D. Superintendent Beverly A. Martin, Ed.D. Assistant Superintendent

November 28, 2006

Senator Raphael J. Musto, Min. Chair Senate Education Committee Senate Box 203014 Harrisburg, Pa 17120-3014

Dear Senator Musto:

I am writing to ask you to oppose the proposed amendments to the State Board of Education's teacher certification regulations (Chapter 49-2) that are now before the Independent Regulatory Review Commission.

The regulations, if finally adopted, would make it more difficult for us to appropriately staff our schools. Specifically, they would:

- narrow the preparation of elementary certificate holders at a time when teachers are expected to work with a broader range of performance in their classes
- lead to departmentalizing disciplines at lower grades at a time when many curriculum experts are suggesting greater and more natural integration of content
- result in less flexibility to staff elementary schools
- lead to shortages in upper-elementary certified and special education certified teachers.

For the reasons stated, I urge you to reject the proposed amendments to Teacher Certification Regulations.

Sincerely,

Nicholas J. Corbo, Ed.D. Superintendent

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