

Buckheit, James

From: Buckheit, James
Sent: Tuesday, December 26, 2006 9:18 AM
To: 'Scott Hutchinson'
Subject: RE: R Frye 49-2 Comments Attached PDF

State Board of Education
 333 Market Street, First Floor
 Harrisburg, PA 17126 0333
 December 26, 2006

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 2006 DEC 27 PM 2:13
 INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
 REVIEW COMMISSION

Dear Representative Hutchinson:

Thank you for your letter received by the State Board of Education on December 22, 2006 regarding the proposed Chapter 49 Certification of Professional Personnel regulations.

Your letter is considered official public comment. As such copies are shared with each member of the State Board of Education, the chairs of the House and Senate Education Committees and Independent Regulatory Review Commission (IRRC). Your letter is also considered a public document that may be publicly released upon request.

The Regulatory Review Act provides that notice regarding final regulations be provided to those who make official comment if requested. If you would like to receive a copy of the final-form regulation when it is submitted for final approval by the legislative committees and IRRC, please submit a written request to me at the address listed above.

Sincerely,

Jim Buckheit

Executive Director

-----Original Message-----

From: Scott Hutchinson [mailto:Shutchin@pahousegop.com]
Sent: Friday, December 22, 2006 11:33 AM
To: j buckheit@state.pa.us
Cc: tcolarusso@state.pa.us
Subject: R Frye 49-2 Comments Attached PDF

As per instructions, I am submitting the attached comments by my constituent, Randy Frye, regarding proposed Chapter 49-2 Regulations asl public comments. Thank you for your assistance.

Rep Scott E. Hutchinson
 64th District
 Venango & Butler Counties

Scott E. Hutchinson
Room 41B East Wing
PO Box 202064
Harrisburg, PA 171202064

Dear Mr. Hutchinson:

As a person studying for the profession of music teaching in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, I have strong concerns about the proposed changes to PA Code Title 22, Chapter 49.13(b)(4)(i), and the impact it will have on the content preparation of music teacher certification in our state. The proposal states as follows:

(i) The evaluation by the Department will provide assurance that, on or before January 1, 2010, teacher education programs will require at least 9 credits or 270 hours, or an equivalent combination thereof, regarding accommodations and adaptations for students with disabilities in an inclusive setting. Within the content of these 9 credits or 270 hours, instruction in literacy skills development and cognitive skill development for students with disabilities must be included, as determined by the institution. At least 3 credits or 90 additional hours, or an equivalent combination thereof, must address the instructional needs of English language learners. For purposes of this requirement, 1 credit equals 30 hours of coursework. Applicable hours are limited to a combination of seat hours of classroom instruction, field observation experiences, major research assignments, and development and implementation of lesson plans with accommodations and adaptations for diverse learners in an inclusive setting.

These requirements in the initial certification program will result in the major subject matter of the degree being reduced resulting in less competent teachers for all students who will be unprepared to teach students to accomplish the state standards and the requirements of NCLB.

I recommend no more than 90 hours (equivalent of 3 credits) for "instruction in literacy skills development and cognitive skill development for students with disabilities" be addressed in the initial certification program, and the remaining hours plus the 90 hours for English language learners be requirements for Instructional II certificates.

Sincerely,

Randy Frye
B.S. Music Education
Indiana University of Pennsylvania

Home Address: 3918 Georgetown Rd
Polk, PA 16342