

#2583

Kathy Cooper

From: Dils, Keith [KeithDils@kings.edu]
Sent: Friday, February 09, 2007 3:29 PM
To: IRRRC
Subject: chapter 49-2

Dear Member of the Independent Regulatory Review Commission:

This email is sent to express concern with Chapter 49-2 and the possible change of the **k-6 teacher certification**.

The proposed changes will **require** Early Childhood Education certification in grades kindergarten through third grade. Because this certification will require additional Early Childhood courses concerning how to care for infants and toddlers, the unintended result will be to **decrease the number of content classes and classes concerning the teaching of reading and math**. The proposed changes, therefore, will **decrease** our ability to prepare highly qualified k-6 teachers with the mandatory limit of 120 credits in 4 years.

An alternative would be to require entry-level elementary teachers (k-6 certified) to specialize in either early childhood or upper elementary grades as post graduates! This advanced specialization could be mandated as part of the PA required twenty-four (24) postbaccalaureate credits.

Specialization needs to come after a general (liberal arts) education is provided.

Sincerely,

A. Keith Dils, Ed.D.
Chair, Education Department
King's College
Wilkes-Barre PA

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