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Tuesday Nov. 28, 2006

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a public school teacher in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and I am writing to 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. They will 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. They will lead to departmentalizing disciplines at lower grades at a time when many curriculum experts are suggesting greater and more natural integration of content. They will result in less flexibility to staff elementary schools. They may also lead to shortages in upper-elementary certified and special education certified teachers.

For these reasons, I urge you to disapprove the Chapter 49-2 regulations. For the sake of all teachers who strive to teach ALL KIDS, no matter age, gender, race, sex, ability level, etc. I beg you to STOP these regulations from passing.

Thank you for your cooperation,

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Kim Rehak 6th grade teacher

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