

**Buckheit, James**

**From:** Buckheit, James  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 26, 2006 9:23 AM  
**To:** 'denyluknox'  
**Subject:** RE: Chapter 49

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

RECEIVED  
 2006 DEC 27 PM 2:13  
 INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
 REVIEW COMMISSION

Dear Denylu Knox:

Thank you for your email message received by the State Board of Education on December 19, 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:** denyluknox [mailto:denyluknox@earthlink.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 18, 2006 9:28 PM  
**To:** jbuckheit@state.pa.us  
**Subject:** Chapter 49

Dear Jim, Re: Teacher Quality Regulations

I am an ESL Teacher who has been working with ELLs for over 8 years. I support the proposed regulations because there is a real need to give all teachers the skills to effectively teach our diverse learners in Pennsylvania. I have found that in many situations, most classroom teachers do not have experience or skills to effectively teach our diverse learners. For example, with ESL, the ESL teacher can only do so much. Our teachers are frustrated that they do not know what to do when an ELL arrives at our schools or in their classrooms. We can offer suggestions, but we cannot be with the students all day long while in school. Our ultimate goal is always to raise the student achievement and success and to have the skills to do this. I think all teachers should have classes about the needs of diverse learners in their undergraduate classes and ongoing training. As for the part of educating teachers about children with disabilities, there is also a need here too. I received very little background on this when I went through my teacher training years ago. In the past few years, I have had ESL students with disabilities. I knew what to do for the ESL part, but felt I lacked training for things like autism, etc. Please adopt the regulations so that all teachers are prepared to teach these diverse students in inclusive situations, as required by state and federal law.

Thank you for your time. Denylu A. Knox