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PA. STATE BOARD  
OF EDUCATION

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Mr. James Buckleit, Executive Director  
State Board of Education  
333 Market Street  
Harrisburg, PA

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
REPRESENTATION

Dear Mr. Buckleit,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on the reauthorization of the Chapter 14 Regulation. As a special education teacher, I am specifically concerned about the 25 students assigned to Level II on the caseload chart.

Impacted by the Section 504 settlement and emerging highly qualified rules, the complexity of the delivery of services to students with special needs has increased exponentially. The expected progress monitoring of each goal has increased the paperwork load of staff members.

I submit to you that there is a direct correlation between caseload and paperwork load. I support the concept of the draft caseload chart. I recommend that the State Board adjust the Level II caseload

number to 20. This will assist professional staff working strictly in Level II or negotiating between Levels II and III working as Intermediate Unit employees supporting students with more critical needs. Further, the instructional day should incorporate the time professional staff have in their schedules for IEP meetings during the school day, from meetings, correspondence with parents, and report development.

While giving testimony on P.C.N., I had the opportunity to hear your statements concerning teacher exit rates. You tied the exodus rate to paperwork frustration. As a practicing special education teacher, I can verify that your belief is correct.

Cordially,  
Victoria J. Campbell  
President of Allegheny  
Intermediate Unit  
Education Association  
Vice Chair of ASQA  
State Special Education  
Council