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OF EDUCATION

Mr. James Buckert  
PA State Bd of Ed  
333 Market St  
Harrisburg, PA 17126-0333

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
REVIEW COMMISSION

I am concerned with the new requirements for instructional paraprofessionals. The increased requirements do not take into account the training and actual time I have spent in the classroom. During my eighteen years of employment with my school district I attended workshops, conferences, inservice trainings that have increased my knowledge and professionalism in working with special ed students. I have found that many regular ed teachers rely on my experience in including special ed students in their classrooms. As the autistic population increases, the districts rely on the instructional assistants to work with these children. Our relationship and understanding of their needs cannot be measured by a "test".

Thank you,

Linda J Swape