December 1, 2012

Mr. Charlie Michels, Executive Director
Professional Standards Board
Townsend Building
401 Federal Street
Dover, DE 19901

RE: 16 DE Reg. 488 [DOE Proposed Early Childhood Teacher Regulation]

Dear Mr. Michels:

The State Council for Persons with Disabilities (SCPD) has reviewed the Professional Standards Board’s [in collaboration with the Department of Education (DOE)] proposal to adopt one change to the “Exceptional Children Special Education Teacher” regulation, 14 DE Administrative Code 157116. The proposed regulation was published as 16 DE Reg. 488 in the November 1, 2012 issue of the Register of Regulations. SCPD endorses the proposed regulation and has the following observation.

Literally, the current regulation (§1.1) recites that the “Special Education Teacher” certification is required to teach grades K-12. The amendment clarifies the existence of an exception, i.e., an individual with an “Early Childhood Exceptional Children Special Education” certification (14 DE Admin Code 1570) may qualify as a special education teacher in grades K-2. An educator with the “Exceptional Children Special Education Teacher” certification can teach in grades K-12 so there is “overlap” with the “Early Childhood Exceptional Children Special Education” certification which covers grades K-2.

Thank you for your consideration and please contact SCPD if you have any questions or comments regarding our position or observation on the proposed regulation.

Sincerely,

Daniese McMullin-Powell, Chairperson
State Council for Persons with Disabilities
cc: The Honorable Mark T. Murphy
    Dr. Teri Quinn Gray
    Ms. Mary Ann Mieczkowski
    Ms. Paula Fontello, Esq.
    Ms. Terry Hickey, Esq.
    Mr. John Hindman, Esq.
    Ms. Susan Haberstroh
    Mr. Brian Hartman, Esq.
    Developmental Disabilities Council
    Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens

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