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Testimony to the State Board for Educator Certification

Re: Item #7 Consider and Take Appropriate Action on Proposed Revisions to 19 TAC Chapter 232, General Certification Provisions

By Julie Leahy, staff attorney

February 21, 2020

Thank you for this opportunity to testify. TCTA was among the stakeholders invited by staff to participate in the stakeholder meeting convened to discuss and give input on these proposed revisions. Despite additional legislative mandates on topics required for continuing professional education, we wanted to express our gratitude to staff for maintaining provisions emphasizing the importance of continuing professional education related to an educator's certificate and the standards related to it.

Additionally, we appreciate the inclusion of provisions allowing educators within one year of their certificate renewal deadline to have more time to complete all of the new required continuing professional education topics added by the 86th Legislature, which go into effect this year.

We strongly believe that efforts should be made to maximize educators' time and ability to select continuing professional education related to their practice and their classroom and we appreciate this board's support in that effort.

Thank you.