

**COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING**

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California Teacher Credentialing Commission Votes to Phase Out Emergency Permits

SACRAMENTO – The California Commission on Teacher Credentialing voted unanimously yesterday to implement a plan to phase out emergency teaching permits by June 30, 2006.

This plan aligns with the deadlines for states under the federal No Child Left Behind Act.

The Commission will work with school districts and other stakeholders to develop a plan for a replacement document for unanticipated staffing needs that will include rigorous parameters for due diligence in teacher recruitment.

A draft plan for the replacement document will be discussed at the Commission's May 6, 2004 meeting.

Emergency permits for special education teachers will continue to be issued upon employer request pending final action on the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

In the past three years California has seen a significant reduction in the number of emergency teaching permits, particularly in large, urban school districts. The Commission's action recognizes the effective strategies developed by the state and school districts to ensure a fully qualified teacher in every classroom.

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