

## COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING

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OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY



December 27, 1983

83-8422

TO: Deans of the Schools of Education and  
Directors of Teacher Education

FROM: John F. Brown, Executive Secretary

SUBJECT: Proposed Standards and Procedures for the Participation of  
Teacher Education Faculty in Public Schools: Invitation  
for Preliminary Responses

SB 813, the 1983 education reform bill, included a section related to the participation of teacher education faculty in the public schools. Section 44227.5 reads as follows:

- (a) "It is the intent of the Legislature that college and university faculty members who teach courses relating to teaching methods in programs of professional preparation that are approved by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing have direct knowledge of the way that public elementary and secondary schools function and operate. (b) The Commission on Teacher Credentialing, in cooperation with public and private postsecondary institutions operating teacher education programs, shall develop standards and procedures which ensure that each faculty member who teaches a course relating to teaching methods in an approved program of professional preparation actively participates in public elementary or secondary schools and classrooms at least once every three academic years."

At this point, the Commission is interpreting the law to include all higher education faculty who teach courses in methods of teaching.

The Commission has been mandated by Education Code Section 44227.5 to implement this requirement and to consult with the universities and colleges in doing so. As a result, the Commission asks that you meet with your faculty members to determine what would be feasible for you and the school districts to jointly meet this provision. The Commission suggests that you hold open discussions with your local school districts and county offices of education, and that the school district personnel at these discussions include teachers, school board members and administrators. It is expected that it will be necessary for you to initiate the contact with your local school districts and county offices of education. Please make your open discussion meetings as broad-based as possible. It is important for you to include as many teacher education faculty members as possible and also persons in other academic departments who teach methods courses.

Based on these open-ended discussions, the Commission asks that you make recommendations for implementation of the law that appear to you to be reasonable and beneficial and that are capable of being carried out. The Commission assumes that your responses will be based on your present activities regarding this requirement, your discussions with school districts, and your ideas for implementing this requirement. The responses should also indicate what you perceive as the general problems associated with implementing this requirement, as well as the possible economic and personnel problems associated with such implementation.

When you and your faculty members have completed the discussions with your local school district and county office of education personnel, please develop a position paper based on these open discussions of the group's view of the best way to implement this provision. Please send your group's position paper (with ten multiple copies) to Dr. Barbara Tardif, Programs Consultant, (916) 322-2638, by February 24, 1984. Since this notice has been sent to all of the four year institutions that have credential programs, it is expected that about seventy position papers will be submitted.

These position papers will help the Commission begin to develop policy and guidelines for implementing the faculty participation provision in SB 813. The Commission will use your responses as the basis for the Ad Hoc Committee's work at the April 1984 Commission meeting and for its Informal Discussion at the May Commission meeting. It is expected that public hearings will be held in the north, central, and southern parts of the state during the summer of 1984.

The Commission believes that this provision will result in positive events and benefits occurring for both the universities and school districts involved. It will appreciate your group's willingness to participate in this important activity, and it is looking forward to reviewing and utilizing the position papers that will be forthcoming. Thank you for your interest and response.

cc: District and County Superintendents  
Chairs of Faculty/Academic Senates of CSUC, UC  
and Private Institutions