

COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING

1612 9TH STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA 94244-2700

October 22, 1987

#87-8805

TO: County Superintendents of Schools
District Superintendents of Schools
Deans of Education
Directors of Teacher Education

CATEGORY: 9 & 10: Information about Bilingual Education
Credentials and Programs

FROM: *Richard Mastain*
Richard K. Mastain, Ed.D.
Executive Secretary

SUBJECT: Certification of Teachers to Serve
Limited-English-Proficient Students

Many of you have inquired about the effect of the "sunset" of bilingual education programs on the certification of teachers to serve LEP students. You may have received a Program Advisory from the State Department of Education, which addresses this subject as well as many other implications of the sunset.

I am writing to inform you that the Commission is examining the legal implications of the sunset on the certification of teachers for LEP students. Because our legal counsel has reached a different legal interpretation from that of the State Department of Education, I recently requested a conclusive interpretation from the Attorney General of the State of California.

I expect to receive a response from the Attorney General before January 1, 1988. A summary of the Attorney General's decision will be distributed to you as soon as it is available. In the meantime, the wisest course for school districts would be to continue to implement the policies that were in place prior to the sunset on June 30, 1987.

The Commission is also developing policy proposals related to the use of the Language Development Specialist Certificate and to the continued assignment of teachers who served formerly on specific "bilingual waivers" from the Department of Education, which proposals will also be distributed with a request for comment at the earliest possible time.