DATE:  August 20, 2008

NUMBER:  08-12

TO:  All Individuals and Groups Interested in the Activities of the Commission on Teacher Credentialing

FROM:  Dale A. Janssen
        Executive Director
        Commission on Teacher Credentialing

SUBJECT:  Proposed Amendments to California Code of Regulations §80004 Pertaining to a Foundational-Level General Science Authorization for the Single Subject Teaching Credential

Notice of Public Hearing is Hereby Given
The Commission on Teacher Credentialing (Commission) proposes to amend regulatory action described below after considering all comments, objections and recommendations regarding the proposed action.

Public Hearing
A public hearing on the proposed actions will be held:

    October 7, 2008
    1:30 p.m.
    Commission on Teacher Credentialing
    1900 Capitol Avenue
    Sacramento, California  95814

Written Comment Period

Any interested person, or his or her authorized representative, may submit written comments by fax, through the mail, or by e-mail on the proposed action. The written comment period closes at 5:00 p.m. on October 6, 2008. Comments must be received by that time or may be submitted at the public hearing. You may fax your response to (916) 322-0048; write to the Commission on Teacher Credentialing, attn. Terri H. Fesperman, 1900 Capitol Avenue, Sacramento, California 95814-4213; or submit an email at tfesperman@ctc.ca.gov.
Any written comments received 18 days prior to the public hearing will be reproduced by the Commission's staff for each member of the Commission as a courtesy to the person submitting the comments and will be included in the written agenda prepared for and presented to the full Commission at the hearing.

**Authority and Reference**

Education Code Section 44225 authorizes the Commission to promulgate rules and regulations which will implement, interpret or make specific sections 44225(e), 44225(q), and 44256 of the Education Code and govern the procedures of the Commission.

**Informative Digest/Policy Statement Overview**

*Summary of Existing Laws and Regulations*

The proposed regulations will allow for an additional option for employers to assign individuals to teach science. A Foundational-Level General Science credential has the potential to allow additional individuals to earn an authorization to teach general science and reduce the number of individuals on waivers, teaching permits and local teaching assignment options. The proposed regulations add a Foundational-Level General Science authorization as a subject for a single subject credential, however individuals with a single subject teaching credential in a different subject (mathematics, social science, English, art, etc.) would be able to add the authorization to their credential. An individual with a multiple subject credential would be able to earn a single subject credential in Foundational-Level General Science with verification of subject matter and a methodology class. Furthermore, the Foundational-Level General Science credential is a pathway to earn a full science authorization in Science: Biological Science, Chemistry, Geosciences and Physics.

The new authorization would allow for mobility for the self-contained elementary level teacher to serve in a middle or high school departmentalized level assignment as well as the middle and high school departmentalized level teacher in one subject to earn an additional authorization to expand their employability.

The holder of a Foundational-Level General Science credential would be authorized to teach the content area of general or introductory science in grades preschool, K - 12 and adults, but not departmentalized Biology, Chemistry, Geosciences or Physics courses. In addition, the holder would be authorized to teach integrated science in grades preschool and K - 8. Teachers who are credentialed via this route and who teach courses within this authorization would be considered “Highly Qualified” for the purpose of No Child Left Behind as they would have been required to demonstrate subject matter competence through examination or an approved program.

**Documents Incorporated by Reference:** None

**Documents Relied Upon in Preparing Regulation:** None

**Disclosures Regarding the Proposed Actions**
The Commission has made the following initial determinations:

Mandate to local agencies or school districts: None.

Other non-discretionary costs or savings imposed upon local agencies: None.

Cost or savings to any state agency: None.

Cost or savings in federal funding to the state: None.

Significant effect on housing costs: None.

Significant statewide adverse economic impact directly affecting businesses including the ability of California businesses to compete with businesses in other states: None.

These proposed regulations will not impose a mandate on local agencies or school districts that must be reimbursed in accordance with Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of the Government Code.

Cost impacts on a representative private person or business: The Commission is not aware of any cost impacts that a representative private person or business would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action.

Assessment regarding the creation or elimination of jobs in California [Govt. Code §11346.3(b)]: The Commission has made an assessment that the proposed amendments to the regulation would not (1) create nor eliminate jobs within California, (2) create new business or eliminate existing businesses within California, or (3) affect the expansion of businesses currently doing business within California.

Effect on small businesses: The Commission has determined that the proposed amendment to the regulations does not affect small businesses. The regulations are not mandatory but an option that affects school districts and county offices of education.

Consideration of Alternatives
The Commission must determine that no alternative considered will be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed or will be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons or small businesses than the proposed action. These proposed regulations will not impose a mandate on local agencies or school districts that must be reimbursed in accordance with Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of the Government Code.

Contact Person/Further Information
General or substantive inquiries concerning the proposed action may be directed to Terri H. Fesperman by telephone at (916) 323-5777 or Terri H. Fesperman, Commission on Teacher Credentialing, 1900 Capitol Ave, Sacramento, CA 95814. General question inquiries may also be directed to Janet Bankovich at (916) 323-7140 or at the address mentioned in the previous sentence. Upon request, a copy of the express terms of the
proposed action and a copy of the initial statement of reasons will be made available. This information is also available on the Commission’s web site at www.ctc.ca.gov. In addition, all the information on which this proposal is based is available for inspection and copying.

Availability of Statement of Reasons and Text of Proposed Regulation
The entire rulemaking file is available for inspection and copying throughout the rulemaking process at the Commission office at the above address. As of the date this notice is published in the Notice Register, the rulemaking file consists of this notice, the proposed text of regulations, and the initial statement of reasons.

Modification of Proposed Action
If the Commission proposes to modify the actions hereby proposed, the modifications (other than nonsubstantial or solely grammatical modifications) will be made available for public comment for at least 15 days before they are adopted.

Availability of Final Statement of Reasons
The Final Statement of Reasons is submitted to the Office of Administrative Law as part of the final rulemaking package, after the public hearing. When it is available, it will be placed on the Commission’s web site at www.ctc.ca.gov or you may obtain a copy by contacting Terri H. Fesperman at (916) 323-5777.

Availability of Documents on the Internet
Copies of the Notice of Proposed Action, the Initial Statement of Reasons and the text of the regulations in underline and strikeout can be accessed through the Commission’s web site at www.ctc.ca.gov.
Section 80004. Single Subject Teaching Credential Authorization for Service.
(a) The Single Subject Teaching Credential authorizes the holder to teach the subject area(s) listed on the document in grades twelve and below, including preschool, and in classes organized primarily for adults.

(b) The holder of a Single Subject Teaching Credential in the following subject areas is authorized to teach health science:
   (1) Health Science,
   (2) Life Science, and
   (3) Physical Education if the document was initially issued prior to January 1, 1981.

(c) The holder of a Single Subject Teaching Credential in Agriculture, Business, Home Economics, Industrial Arts, or Industrial and Technology Education is authorized to teach the subject area listed on the document in classes designated as technical, trade, or vocational by the employing agency.

(d) The holder of a Single Subject Teaching Credential in Foundational-Level General Science authorizes the holder to provide the services described below in the following grade levels.
   (1) Grades twelve and below, including preschool, and in classes organized primarily for adults:
      (A) Introductory and general science,
      (B) Introductory life science, and
      (C) Introductory physical science.
   (2) Grades preschool, and kindergarten through eight:
      (A) Integrated science.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 44225(e), Education Code. Reference: Sections 44225(q) and 44256, Education Code.
Title: Foundational-Level General Science Authorization for the Single Subject Teaching Credential

Section: Proposed Amendment of Section 80004

Response to the Attached Regulations

To allow the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing to more clearly estimate the general field response to the attached regulations, please return this response form to the Commission office, attention Terri H. Fesperman, at the above address or fax to her attention at (916) 322-0048. The response must arrive at the Commission by 5:00 pm October 6, 2008, for the material to be presented at the October 7, 2008, public hearing.

1. ☐ Yes, I agree with the proposed regulations. Please count me in favor of these regulations.

2. ☐ No, I do not agree with the proposed regulations for the following reasons:
   (If additional space is needed, use the reverse of this sheet or additional page.)

3. ☐ Personal opinion of the undersigned and/or
   ☐ Organizational opinion representing: (Circle One)
     School District, County Schools, College/University, Professional Organization, Other __________

4. ☐ I shall be at the public hearing. Place my name on the list for making a presentation to the Commission.
   ☐ No, I will not make a presentation to the Commission at the public hearing.

Signature: __________________________ Date: __________________

Printed Name: _______________________________________

Title: _____________________________________________ Phone: __________________

Employer/Organization: _______________________________________

Mailing Address: _______________________________________

Route to THF