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CSDE OFFICE OF
TEACHER CERTIFICATION

April 15, 2010

Ms. Georgette Nemr
Bureau of Educator Standards and Certification
P.O. Box 150471—Room 243
Hartford, Ct. 06115-0471

Dear Georgette Nemr,

I believe that teachers should be grandfathered into any consolidated or new certification being proposed after working under the current certifications for their entire teaching careers. How might I not be highly qualified, if for close to thirty year I have been teaching successfully in the area of Reading with a consultant's certificate? I had completed courses and degrees in good faith that the Reading Consultant's Certification I earned would be valid my whole career. The rules are changing after the game was played to alter the outcome. This is not right or is it fair.

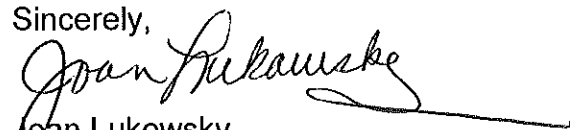
Some additional thought and questions: After twenty five years, will colleges have records of courses needed under new requirements? If classes are needed, the additional cost could be a hardship for those who are nearing retirement in these tough economic times. This is magnified if the teacher is now the sole provider for the family.

Also, depending on the time frame, courses or other requirements might not be completed before a teacher is able to or wants to retire. Teachers could be forced to retire early, even if they continue to have a strong desire to teach, because the financial burden of meeting requirements is not cost effective to their career.

Why couldn't Professional Development or seminars/ workshops attended at Reading Conferences count toward requirements? These activities, along with professional articles and memberships, keep me up to date in the area of reading and effective student instruction.

Finally, how can the State Department of Education carry out this gigantic effort and do so in a fair, professional manner that does not hinder progress in our student's education? I'm not sure it can.

Sincerely,



Joan Lukowsky
Reading Consultant