

# Utah House Democratic Caucus

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July 1, 2016

Chairman David Crandall  
Utah State Board of Education  
250 East 500 South  
Salt Lake City, UT 84111

RE: Rule Change R277-511

Dear Chairman Crandall,

The Utah House Democratic Caucus, consisting of twelve members of the Utah House of Representatives, formally requests a public hearing concerning R277-511 Academic Pathway to Teaching (APT) Level 1 Licensure pursuant to Utah State Code 63G-3-302(2).

For several years the legislature and the State Board of Education have faced the reality of a growing shortage of qualified teachers in Utah. Our current teachers are retiring and our college students are not interested in pursuing the profession. College graduates are voting with their diplomas – saying no thanks to an underpaid job that comes with overbearing regulation and policy-maker scrutiny and criticism.

Effective teaching requires far more than content knowledge; learning how to communicate effectively with children in an educational setting on-the-job is difficult in the best of circumstances and will not place the best teachers in front of every Utah student. In addition to filling classrooms with unprepared adults, implementation of this policy will not create a pool of highly qualified teachers for Utah's classrooms and will continue to damage current teacher morale.

This dramatic change in licensure standards deserves to be heard and weighed in on by all those involved. Parents, students, teachers, administrators and interested members of the public should be given the opportunity to comment on who is considered by the State Board of Education to be a suitable classroom instructor and the best path for teacher preparation. Thank you for your time and we look forward to the hearing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "B. S. King".

Representative Brian King

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rebecca Chavez-Houck".

Representative Rebecca Chavez-Houck



Representative Joel Briscoe



Representative Patrice Arent



Representative Susan Duckworth



Representative Lynn Hemingway



Representative Sandra Hollins



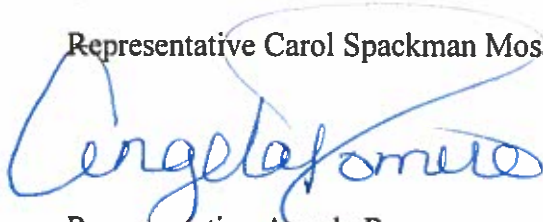
Representative Brad King



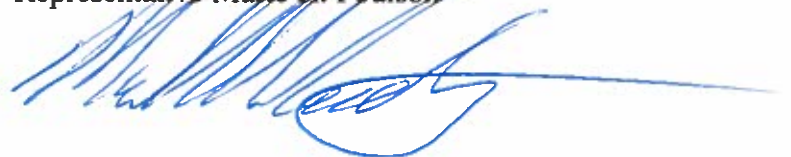
Representative Carol Spackman Moss



Representative Marie H. Poulson



Representative Angela Romero



Representative Mark A. Wheatley