



August 22, 2022

Dr. Tine Sloan, Chair
California Commission on Teacher Credentialing
1900 Capitol Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95811

RE: CTC Meeting August 2022 Meeting - Agenda Item 2F: Annual Report on Exam Pass Rates

Dear Chair Sloan and Commissioners:

The mission of Teach Plus is to empower excellent, experienced, and diverse teachers to take leadership over key policy and practice issues that advance equity, opportunity, and success for both students and educators. In reference to Agenda Item 2F, we want to thank you for your commitment to equity and greatly appreciate the work done by the Bias Review Committee for Commission examinations.

The item raised a number of questions that we hope Commission staff will be able to address during the meeting. Most pressing is that we hope that there will be a subsequent report, made public, that details the ways in which the Bias Review Committee has mitigated testing bias, as is referenced in the explicit note on testing bias on page four of this agenda item. The bias statement made by the CTC in this agenda item highlights and identifies the "education gap" as a factor in the disparity of passing rates in most of the Commission examinations. As a next step, will the CTC create a measure that monitors and supports the standard and quality of education, as it relates to teacher preparation programs? Additionally, there should be steps taken to identify teacher preparation programs exhibiting outcomes that could indicate possible "education gaps." Moreover, once such programs are identified there should be strategic action to support these preparation programs in identifying and addressing the problem of practice.

Additionally, the passing rate as it relates to the CPACE illustrates the need for further examination of this assessment. This examination only has a 20 percent pass rate annually and 43 percent pass rate cumulative. The subgroups data is even more disheartening and disproportionate. Additionally, the data shows that it is not the multiple choice electronic scored portion that is the challenge. Rather, it is the written performance, rater-scored, portion of the assessment that is a pain point. Does the CTC have a plan of action already in place to address this red flagged data? Is there a bias resistant scoring/evaluation measure in place for the CPACE? We believe that a re-evaluation and audit of all CPACE performance tasks should be conducted by an external assessor.

We hope that these recommendations and probing questions can help in the effort to ensure equity and the removal of unjust barriers in the space of teacher preparation. Thank you for the opportunity to comment. We would like to continue to work with the Commission as you move forward with this important work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "SL", written in a cursive style.

Sarah Lillis
Teach Plus California Executive Director

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cc: Commission on Teacher Credentialing Commissioners