

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

For action
January 18, 2005

SUBJECT: Rule 6A-4.02431 -- Specialization Requirements for the American Sign Language Endorsement -- Academic Class.

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

For approval.

AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION

Sections 1001.02 and 1007.2615(3)(b), Florida Statutes

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Section 1007.2615, Florida Statutes – American Sign Language; findings; foreign-language credits authorized; teacher licensing - was established during the 2003 session of the Florida Legislature to address the problem of unqualified instructors teaching American Sign Language (ASL) at the secondary level. Senator Wise sponsored this legislation in response to indicators that students taking ASL courses at the secondary level were unprepared for college-level courses.

The statute provides for the certification of ASL teachers by the Department of Education by 2008. A rule must be adopted by the State Board of Education by January 2005 that sets forth the standards for the licensing/certification of ASL teachers by the Department.

Section 1007.2615, Florida Statutes, also established a Task Force that consulted on the development of licensing/certification standards for ASL teachers in Florida's K-12 public schools. The American Sign Language Task Force convened three meetings in 2004 to develop recommendations for the certification of ASL teachers in the Florida, the outcome of which is this proposed rule for the Endorsement of American Sign Language teachers.

Supporting Documentation Included: Proposed Rule 6A-4.02431 -- Specialization Requirements for the American Sign Language Endorsement -- Academic Class.

Facilitators/Presenters: Chancellor Jim Warford, K-12 Schools