



Texas Classroom  
Teachers Association

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**Testimony to the State Board for Educator Certification**  
**Re: Item 15 Action on Alternative Performance Assessment Pathways for Educator Certification and Discussion of Teacher Performance Assessment Options**  
**By Holly Eaton, Director of Professional Development and Advocacy**  
**December 9, 2022**

Thank you for this opportunity to testify. My testimony is centered on the two possible directives to TEA staff that you are being asked to consider in this Item:

1. Direct TEA staff to initiate a public request process to identify educator performance assessments for the SBEC's consideration as educator certification examinations in addition to the edTPA; and
2. Direct TEA staff to initiate the procurement process for the development of a Texas Teacher Performance Assessment for the SBEC's consideration as an educator certification examination in addition to the edTPA.

At the September 30, 2022 meeting, the board expressed an interest in also pursuing “carve-outs” for teacher residency routes and CTE/Fine Arts, which could include the development of a new PPR exam for these areas. Yet, the board's opportunity to further discuss these “carve-outs” comes in Item #16, after this Item. Why is the board being asked to direct TEA staff to move ahead and initiate action to pursue only performance assessments as certification exams in this Item?

The board's interest in, and stakeholders' repeated calls for updating the PPR exam as a viable option to consider are expressly noted in the agenda materials for Item 16: “Given feedback from the SBEC and other stakeholders on the value and utility of the current PPR exam, **this proposed option would also include the development of a new PPR exam specifically for the Fine Arts fields and use of the new PPR for Trade and Industrial Education: 6-12 TExES exam for CTE fields.**” (*emphasis added*)

Although we are pleased to see that an updated/revised PPR exam is now under consideration as a viable option, we question why it is only presented as an option for some certificate areas, and not all.

We believe that the action the board is being asked to take in this item is premature, unnecessarily limiting, and frankly, in the wrong order, given the topics for discussion in Item 16 that could greatly impact the direction the board decides to take.

We respectfully request that you decline to take action on this item in order to take a more coordinated approach encompassing all of the options under consideration.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.