



FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES FOR TEACHER EDUCATION

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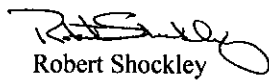
April 22, 2010

Dr. Eric Smith, Commissioner
Florida Department of Education
325 W. Gaines St.
Suite 1514
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Dear Commissioner Smith,

Recently State Board of Education member Roberto Martinez, in response to the veto of Senate Bill 6, called for a series of workshops on the teaching profession. These workshops were proposed to get input from all interested parties in regard for the need for reform in the teaching profession. I commend Mr. Martinez for challenging the Florida Department of Education to seek input from all stakeholders on this important issue. The Florida Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (FACTE), representing the 37 private and public colleges and universities with approved teacher education programs in the State of Florida, is committed to being a partner with the Florida Department of Education, Florida Legislature and the Governor's office, as well as with other groups in the State to address the issues and challenges of improving the quality of education for PreK-12 students throughout our State. FACTE is eager to be involved in these efforts and we welcome your invitation to participate.

Sincerely,


Robert Shockley
Executive Director

cc: State Board of Education members through Lynn Abbott at
lynn.abbott@fldoe.org
Chancellor Francis Haithcock
Deputy Chancellor Kathy Hebda
Chancellor Willis Holcombe
Scott Kittel, Governor's Education Policy Advisor
PK Jamison, Senate Senior Policy Advisor
Lynn Cobb, House Senior Policy Advisor
FACTE Executive Board