

**From:** [Brian Wagner](#)  
**To:** [Blaha, Kathryn](#)  
**Subject:** [EXT] ARSD 24:28 (Educator Certification); ARSD 24:53 (Educator Preparation Program Approval)  
**Date:** Thursday, May 15, 2025 10:45:15 AM

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Good morning.

The purpose of this email is to oppose the DRAFT of the current rule because it does not meet the intent of the Legislature. Specifically, 13-1-48 states:

"Any teacher new to the profession, from out-of-state, or certified after 1993 shall complete a three-credit hour course in South Dakota Indian Studies."

I am not clear as to why the Legislature chose to establish 1993 as the starting point for the requirement of South Dakota Indian Studies, but I do not see where the ARSD defines the baseline year for the Indian Studies class. I **fully support** that **all** South Dakota teachers should take an Indian Studies class, if that is the intent of not defining a baseline year in the ARSD. In fact, that is what I am advocating. All South Dakota teachers should have to take an Indian Studies class. I would support that a teacher due for recertification at the end of this school year (SY24/25) and possibly SY25/26 be given a grace period with this recertification, with the understanding that the requirement be fulfilled when the applicant recertifies in SY29/30 or SY30/31 if the applicants for SY25/26 are also given a grace period.

In conclusion, I believe all South Dakota teachers should complete a South Dakota Indian Studies class. Due to the number of teachers who may need to take the class and the small window for this year's applicants to recertify, I do propose a grace period for the teachers having to recertify by June 2025 and possibly June 2026.

Thank you for considering my recommendation.

Respectfully,

Brian Wagner

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