



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY

DEC 14 2006

Mr. Tom Horne
Superintendent of Public Instruction
Arizona Department of Education
1535 W. Jefferson Street, Bin 2
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Mr. Horne:

On July 7, 2006, the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) submitted its revised State highly qualified teacher (HQT) plan. The peer reviewers found deficiencies in the original plan, and the Department asked that it be revised and re-submitted. We received the revision on September 29, 2006.

Department of Education staff reviewed the revised plan. In general, the reviewers were pleased with the plan, finding only a few remaining deficiencies. To resolve outstanding questions and concerns raised in the internal review, Department Program Officer Margaret Miles had discussions with Jan Amator, Patty Hardy and Vickie Walters from the ADE as well as emails on a number of occasions. As a result of the discussions, ADE made additional submission to the Department on November 20, 2006.

In the judgment of the Department, the November 20 plan meets all six requirements and is now approved. I would like to congratulate you and your staff for this excellent work. We recognize the substantial challenge it has been to prepare this plan, and we are encouraged that you were able to submit a complete and comprehensive plan.

We will post the November 20 revision of the plan on the Department's Web site in place of the plan that is currently posted. We look forward to our continued work together, including routine monitoring to ensure that your State implements the activities described in the plan to meet the HQT goal in 2006-07 and beyond, for the benefit of all students in Arizona. If you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact Robert Stonehill (202-260-9737), or robert.stonehill@ed.gov, or Margaret Miles (202-260-2531, or margaret.miles@ed.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Henry L. Johnson".

Henry L. Johnson
Assistant Secretary

400 MARYLAND AVE., S.W. WASHINGTON, D.C. 20202-6100