

## Item 8:

### Discussion of English Language Proficiency Requirements

#### DISCUSSION AND UPDATE

**SUMMARY:** This item provides the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) an opportunity to discuss the English language proficiency requirements in Texas Administrative Code as well as the use of the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) to measure that proficiency. This item also provides Texas Education Agency staff an opportunity to update the Board on stakeholder feedback and next steps.

**STATUTORY AUTHORITY:** The statutory authority to specify certification requirements is Texas Education Code §21.031(b) and §21.041(b)(4)-(5).

**PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION:** The SBEC approved the passing standard on the Test of Spoken English (TSE) in May 2001. The SBEC approved the passing standard on the TOEFL in May 2006.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND JUSTIFICATION:** Under current SBEC rules related to educator certification (19 TAC §230.11(b)), which were approved for adoption by the SBEC in June 2012, became effective August 12, 2012, and were recently amended effective December 27, 2016, any applicant for a Texas educator certificate must “be able to communicate, listen, read, write, and comprehend the English language sufficiently to use it easily and readily in daily







