## David Beach, State Director, Kentucky General, Chair, HRD Committee

## November 10, 2014

## Fall 2014 Conference – Miami FL

# Language Held Over from 1998 Amendments

## Paragraph (7) still requires:

### Description of activities for agencies to ensure adequate supply of qualified State rehabilitation professionals and paraprofessionals.

### Current qualified VR counselor to client ratios

### Description of types of professionals hired

### Continuing education and research dissemination requirements

### Paragraph (B)(i) Establishment and maintenance of standards that are consistent with a state or national certification, et.al. that apply to the area in which such personnel are providing VR services

# Language Deleted

## Paragraph (B)(ii) – To the extent that such standards are not based on the highest requirement in the State applicable to a specific profession or discipline, the steps the state is taking to require the retraining or hiring of personnel within the DSU that meet appropriate professional requirements in the state;

# New Language

## … ‘‘(ii) the establishment and maintenance of education

## and experience requirements…

## (I)(aa) attainment of a baccalaureate degree in a field of study reasonably related to vocational rehabilitation, to indicate a level of competency and skill demonstrating basic preparation in a field of study such as vocational rehabilitation counseling, social work, psychology, disability studies, business administration, human resources, special education, supported employment, customized employment, economics, or another field that reasonably prepares individuals to work with consumers and employers; and

# New Language

## ‘‘(bb) demonstrated paid or unpaid experience,

## for not less than 1 year, consisting of—

## ‘‘(AA) direct work with individuals with disabilities in a setting such as an independent living center;

## ‘‘(BB) direct service or advocacy activities that provide such individual with experience and skills in working with individuals with disabilities; or

## ‘‘(CC) direct experience as an employer, as a small business owner or operator, or in self-employment, or other experience in human resources, recruitment, or experience in supervising employees, training, or other activities that provide experience in competitive integrated employment environments;

# New Language

## Requirement of agencies to provide continuing education related to assistive technology.

# Impact for State Agencies

## What questions/concerns do you have regarding the changes to the CSPD section of the reauthorization?

## How will this change the way your state agency recruits and trains qualified VR professionals?

## How will this impact how your state defines a “qualified Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor”?