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From: Denise Valerio [mailto:dvalerio@surreyservices.org]

Sent: Wednesday, August 22, 2007 10:51 AM

To: ra-communityprogramlicensure@state.pa.us

Subject: comments on licensure

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
REVIEW COMMISSION

Dear Licensure Committee Members:

I work for a community-based organization that provides services, including home care, to our membership and therefore will be affected by the new licensure regulations. I have read the final draft and just want to make a comment or two about a particular section for consideration. .

With regards to the Health Evaluations section, while we understand the need for TB screening and mandate this of our home health aides, do you think that including the statement about also screening for Hepatitis, Salmonella, etc. is a reasonable expectation for agencies? It might be more of a burden than it is worth and could create some interesting hiring situations. While we do require TB testing and a chest x-ray for our employees, our physician's health certificate form includes a statement that is signed by a physician releasing the employee as cleared to work. I would request that this section be looked at again and would appreciate some feedback regarding this.

Thank you for you time and consideration.

Denise M. Valerio, LSW ACSW