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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

COMMITTEES

AGING AND YOUTH
MAJORITY CHAIRMAN
EDUCATION
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STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION

April 29, 1999

Feather O. Houstoun, Secretary
PA Department of Public Welfare
333 Health and Welfare Building
Harrisburg, PA 17105

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Notebook

Dear Secretary Houstoun:

As Chairmen of the House Aging and Youth Committee, we respectfully request your consideration of extending the time frame within which the Committee can review the Chapter 3800 Child Residential Regulation proposal. In light of the numerous phone calls and letters of concern that we have received over the past several days, it is clear that the Committee has not had adequate opportunity to thoroughly review this proposal.

Although we acknowledge that the residential regulations have been before the House Aging and Youth Committee for over a year, it is important to note that many of us are new to the Committee and to the issues that these regulations address. In addition, in light of the national attention being tragically drawn to the importance of appropriate services being available and affordable for troubled youth, we do not feel that the concerns we have received can or should be taken lightly. Certainly, we are confident that you share our concerns and are hopeful that you would understand our desire to bring these regulations forth in a public forum for appropriate input and discussion.

We appreciate your efforts to work with the service provider community and with the Committee toward the development of regulations that will work in the best interest of the children of the Commonwealth.

Sincerely,

Jere W. Schuler
Jere W. Schuler

Frank J. Pistella
Frank J. Pistella

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