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*House of Representatives*  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
HARRISBURG

Original: 2017

November 13, 2000

COMMITTEES

PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE.  
MAJORITY CHAIRMAN  
LIQUOR CONTROL  
FIREFIGHTERS' CAUCUS.  
COCHAIRMAN EMERITUS

John R. McGinley, Jr., Chairman  
Independent Regulatory Review Commission  
14th Floor, Harristown 2  
333 Market Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Dear Chairman McGinley:

I am writing to inform you that the House Professional Licensure Committee held a meeting on November 13, 2000, and voted to approve Regulations 16A-422, 16A-555, 16A-557, 16A-623, and 16A-655.

The Committee also voted to take no formal action on Regulation 16A-7011 until final form regulations are promulgated. However, the Committee questions the use of the terms "application by examination" and "application by reciprocity." Since there is another examination fee listed, it gives the impression that there are two different examination fees. The Committee suggests that "licensure application fee" and "licensure by reciprocity" would be more appropriate terms.

Please feel free to contact my office if any questions should arise.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mario J. Civera".

Mario J. Civera, Chairman  
House Professional Licensure Committee

MJC/sms  
Enclosures

cc: David J. King, Chairman  
State Board of Certified Real Estate Appraisers  
Richard Sciorillo, Chairman  
State Board of Barber Examiners  
Thomas J. Baumgartner, CPA, Chairman  
State Board of Accountancy  
Robert H. Morrow, Chairman  
State Board of Examiners of Nursing Home Administrators  
James J. Irrgang, Chairman  
State Board of Physical Therapy  
Honorable Kim H. Pizzingrilli, Secretary of the Commonwealth  
Department of State

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY REVIEW COMMISSION

## **Regulation 16A-655**

### **State Board of Physical Therapy**

**PROPOSAL:** Regulation 16A-655 amends 49 PA Code, Chapter 40, regulations of the State Board of Physical Therapy. The amendment makes revisions to the schedule of Board fees by increasing fees for providing certain services, reducing the fee for application for physical therapist licensure through foreign training, and adding fees for certification and verification of licensure.

Regulation 16A-655 is Final Rulemaking which was delivered to the Professional Licensure Committee on October 30, 2000. The Professional Licensure Committee has until November 19, 2000 to approve or disapprove the regulation.

**ANALYSIS:** Pursuant to Sec. 8(b) of the Physical Therapy Practice Act, 63 P.S. Sec. 1308(b), the Board is required to meet expenditures through revenues raised by fees, fines and civil penalties. The Board states that a recent systems audit determined that the fees for certain services did not accurately reflect the actual cost involved in providing the service. Accordingly, the Board proposes to amend the schedule of fees as follows:

<b><u>Application/Service</u></b>	<b><u>Current Fee</u></b>	<b><u>Proposed Fee</u></b>
Application for Physical Therapist Licensure by Examination/Endorsement	\$ 20.00	\$ 30.00
Application for Physical Therapist Licensure Through Foreign Training	\$160.00	\$ 45.00
Verification of Licensure or Temporary Permit of Physical Therapists	\$ .00	\$ 15.00
Certification of Examination Scores or Licensure of Physical Therapists	\$ .00	\$ 25.00
Certification of Examination Scores or Certification of Athletic Trainers	\$ 15.00	\$ 25.00
Certification of Examination Scores or Registration of Physical Therapist Assistants	\$ 15.00	\$ 25.00
Verification of Certification of Athletic Trainers	\$ 10.00	\$ 15.00

Verification of Registration of

Physical Therapist Assistants	\$ .00	\$ 15.00
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Application for Physical Therapist Assistant

Registration by Exam or Endorsement	\$ 15.00	\$ 30.00
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The Committee requested an explanation as to the circumstances under which the Board would certify an examination score, and what accounted for the difference in the amount charged for certification and verification of licensure, when the functions of Board staff for each service appear to be identical. The Board explained that certification of examination scores is requested by licensees who are seeking licensure by reciprocity in other states. Generally, the state of original licensure is the only source of exam scores in that testing agencies do not maintain that information. Additionally, the boards of other states require that the Pennsylvania Board and other boards certify the exam scores.

The Board explained that the difference in the fee amounts for certification and verification is due to the difference in the amount of time it takes to perform each service. Verifications, which on average take five minutes to prepare, are usually computer generated letters which contain general information about the status of a license. Certifications contain additional and more specific information, and on average take 45 minutes to prepare.

The Committee requested an explanation as to why the proposed fees to be charged are always rounded up to the nearest five dollar increment. The Board explained that the rounding up process creates a minimal but necessary cushion or surplus to accommodate unexpected needs and expenditures.

Finally, the Committee requested more specific information as to how the proposed fees compared to those charged by other states. That information has been provided on Page 9 of the Regulatory Analysis Form.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** It is recommended that the Professional Licensure Committee approve the regulation.

House of Representatives  
Professional Licensure Committee  
November 1, 2000