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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY REVIEW COMMISSION 333 Market Street, 14th Floor, Harrisburg, PA 17101

September 21, 1999

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

> Re: IRRC Regulation # 14-462 (IRRC # 2060) Department of Public Welfare Special MA Eligibility Provisions

Dear Secretary Houstoun:

The Commission does not object to tolling the review of the subject regulation to make the changes we recommended to Sections 140.202 and 140.331. However, we do object to removing the phrase "and disregards" from Section 140.231 (a), (b), (c) and (d). We object because the term "disregards" is used elsewhere in the chapter and removing it in certain sections and not others would create confusion. Our objection would preclude you from tolling the review period, and the regulation would remain on the agenda for public meeting on September 23, 1999.

By October 20, 1999, the Department must deliver to the Commission and the Committees either the regulation revised in accordance with this letter or written notification that the regulation will not be revised. You must also attach a transmittal sheet confirming delivery to the Committees and the Commission on the same date. If delivery is not made by this date, the regulation will be deemed withdrawn.

If you have any questions, please call me at 783-5506.

Sincerely,

Robert E. Nyce Executive Director

REN:kcg

cc: Honorable Dennis M. O'Brien Honorable Frank L. Oliver Honorable Harold F. Mowery, Jr. Honorable Vincent J. Hughes Ms. Jane Demko Mr. Edward J. Zogby Mr. George L. Hoover Mr. Stanley Mitchell Mr. David J. DeVries Mr. Thomas Vracarich