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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY REVIEW COMMISSION
333 MARKET STREET, 14TH FLOOR, HARRISBURG, PA 17101

July 13, 2000

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

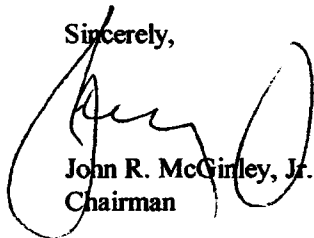
Re: IRRC Regulation #14-467 (#2118)
Department of Public Welfare
Welfare Reform Omnibus Amendments

Dear Secretary Houstoun:

The Independent Regulatory Review Commission approved the subject regulation at its July 13, 2000 public meeting. Our Order is enclosed and is available on our website at <http://www.irrc.state.pa.us>.

We appreciate the joint effort that went into producing a regulation that met the criteria and intent of the Regulatory Review Act.

Sincerely,



John R. McGinley, Jr.
Chairman

wbg
Enclosure
cc: Edward J. Zogby
Gail Bean
Thomas Vracarich

**INDEPENDENT REGULATORY REVIEW COMMISSION
APPROVAL ORDER**

Commissioners Voting:

Public Meeting Held July 13, 2000

John R. McGinley, Jr., Chairman
Alvin C. Bush, Vice Chairman
Arthur Coccodrilli
Robert J. Harbison, III
John F. Mizner

Regulation No. 14-467
Department of Public Welfare
Welfare Reform Omnibus Amendments

On May 17, 2000, the Independent Regulatory Review Commission (Commission) received this regulation from the Department of Public Welfare (Department). This rulemaking amends 55 Pa. Code Chapters 101, 125, 133, 141, 145, 166, 175, 177, 178, 181 and 183. Notice of proposed rulemaking was omitted for this regulation; it will become effective upon publication in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*. On June 2, 2000, the Commission received a request from the Department to toll consideration of this final-omitted regulation to delete obsolete language. On June 29, 2000, the Department submitted its revisions to the final-omitted regulation to the Commission.


The Department is proposing to amend its regulations to incorporate eligibility requirements for General Assistance (GA), GA-Related Medical Assistance (MA), Federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), and TANF-related MA and Medically Needy Only (MNO) MA. The Department estimates savings to the Commonwealth of \$353,672,000. There will be no additional costs or savings to the regulated parties.

We have determined this revised regulation is consistent with the statutory authority of the Department of Public Welfare (Act 49 of 1994, Act 20 of 1995, Act 35 of 1996, the Pennsylvania Drug and Alcohol Abuse Act (71 P.S. § 1690.109(c)) and the federal Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996) and the intention of the General Assembly. Having considered all the other criteria of the Regulatory Review Act, we find promulgation of this regulation is in the public interest.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

This regulation is approved.





John R. McGinley, Jr., Chairman