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Via Fax & First-Class Mail
December 17, 2001

Christopher L. Markham
Independent Regulatory Review Commission
14th Floor
333 Market Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Re: Proposed Regulations - Department of Health
Document No. 10-156

Dear Mr. Markham:

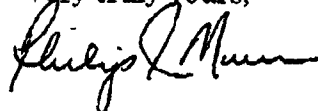
We represent the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference, the public affairs agency of the Catholic dioceses in Pennsylvania. The Conference's constituent dioceses and the parishes located therein operate substantial numbers of elementary and secondary schools, as well as child care facilities that are supervised by the Department of Public Welfare.

The Conference seeks one clarification in the applicability of the requirements for the reporting of communicable diseases which the Department of Health proposes to adopt under 28 Pa. Code §27.23. Those requirements purport to attach to "child care group settings," a term defined in §27.1 to broadly include care provided to 4 or more children. Elsewhere in the proposed regulations, the Department does distinguish between "schools" and "child care group settings." See, e.g., §§27.71, *et seq.* Catholic schools therefore need to know specifically whether they will be subject to the reporting requirements of §27.23, or whether those requirements apply solely to those child care facilities falling under the supervisory jurisdiction of the Department of Public Welfare.

We would very much appreciate a clarification in the text of the proposed regulations on this rather significant issue of coverage.

Thank you very much for your attention to this request.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Philip J. Murren". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "P".

Philip J. Murren

cc: Fredrick Cabell, Jr., Esq.

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FAX TRANSMISSION

TO: Christopher L. Markham

FAX NO.: 783-2664

FROM: Philip J. Murren, Esquire

DATE: December 17, 2001

NUMBER OF PAGES: 3

RE: Proposed Regulations - Dept. Of Health (No. 10-156)

MESSAGE: Attached is a letter of comment on the subject Proposed Regulations.

IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE LEGIBLE COPIES OF THE DESIGNATED NUMBER OF PAGES, PLEASE CONTACT THE SENDER AT (717) 232-8731.

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Pennsylvania MEDICAL SOCIETY®

December 17, 2001

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Independent Regulatory Review Commission
333 Market Street
14th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Re: IRRC Regulations #10-156 (#2119)
Department of Health
Reporting of Communicable and Noncommunicable Diseases

Dear Mr. Nyce:

We understand that your agency will be reviewing the final form of the above cited regulations in a few days. The Pennsylvania Medical Society recognizes the need to update these regulations and generally supports them. However, the Pennsylvania Medical Society wishes to stress the need for these regulations to include reporting of HIV infection by name. The Medical Society has been on record for several years as supporting this action and believes it is critical to protect the citizens of the Commonwealth.

Sincerely,

Howard A. Richter, MD

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To: Robert E. Nyce
Company: IRRC
Phone:
Fax: 717-783-2664

From: Jeff Greenawalt
Company: PA Medical Society
Phone: 717-558-7750
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Date: December 17, 2001
Pages including this cover page: 2

Comments:

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