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

January 10, 2002

Michael A. Podgurski, R.Ph., Chairman State Board of Pharmacy 116 Pine Street Harrisburg, PA 17105

Re: Regulation #16A-549 (IRRC #2197) State Board of Pharmacy Reference Libraries; Facsimile Machines

Dear Chairman Podgurski:

The Independent Regulatory Review Commission approved your regulation on January 10, 2002. Our Order is enclosed and is available on our website at <u>www.irrc.state.pa.us</u>.

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

Sincerely,

Alvin C. Bush
Vice Chairman
evp
Enclosure
cc: Honorable Mario J. Civera, Jr., Majority Chairman, House Professional Licensure Committee
Honorable William W. Rieger, Democratic Chairman, House Professional Licensure Committee
Honorable Clarence D. Bell, Chairman, Senate Consumer Protection and Professional
Licensure Committee

Honorable Lisa M. Boscola, Minority Chairman, Senate Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure Committee

Honorable Kim Pizzingrilli, Secretary, Department of State

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY REVIEW COMMISSION APPROVAL ORDER

Commissioners Voting:

Public Meeting Held January 10, 2002

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

Regulation No. 16A-549 State Board of Pharmacy Reference Libraries; Facsimile Machines

On May 2, 2001, the Independent Regulatory Review Commission (Commission) received this proposed regulation from the State Board of Pharmacy (Board). This rulemaking amends 49 Pa. Code, Chapter 27. The proposed regulation was published in the May 12, 2001 *Pennsylvania Bulletin* with a 30-day public comment period. The final-form regulation was submitted to the Commission on December 6, 2001.

This regulation reduces the mandated size of a pharmacy's reference library, and allows a pharmacist to fill prescriptions for all Schedule II controlled narcotic substances received by fax machine for hospice patients, without reviewing the original prescription.

We have determined this regulation is consistent with the statutory authority of the State Board of Pharmacy (63 P.S. §§ 390-4(j), 6(k)(1) and (9)) and the intention of the General Assembly. Having considered all of 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.



Alvin C. Bush, Vice Chairman