COMMUNITY
LEGAL SERVICES, INC.

Law Center North Central
3638 North Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19140
Phone: 215.227.2400, Fax: 215.227.2435
Web Address: www.clsphila.org

Amy E. Hirsch
Supervising Attorney, 227-2400, ext. 2415
E-Mail: ahirsch@clsphila.org

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By Fax (717) 783-2664

Independent Regulatory Review Commission
14th Floor Harristown 2
333 Market St.
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Re: DPW Final Rulemaking on
Lump Sum Income

Dear Commissioners:

We are writing to comment on the Department of Public Welfare's Notice of Final Rulemaking No. 14-471, "Income," concerning the treatment of lump sum income in the TANF and GA programs. These comments are submitted on behalf of our affected clients.

We want to express strong support for this rule change. Our clients have experienced significant harm as a result of the current lump sum rule, and we expect that the rule change will increase family stability, make it more likely that families will be able to find and keep decent housing, obtain reliable transportation, and steady employment, and make it easier for families to not only leave welfare but also ultimately leave poverty. We are therefore very pleased that the Department is taking this step.

We are also pleased with the changes made by the Department in the final regulation, in response to the comments that were submitted to the proposed regulation two years ago. We believe that the changes in the final rulemaking improve the final regulation.

We are pleased that this change in the treatment of lump sum income is finally being enacted, and appreciate having had the opportunity to comment on the proposed regulation and to review the final rulemaking.

Thank you for considering these comments.

Sincerely,

Amy E. Hirsch
Supervising Attorney
Community Legal Services, Inc.
(215) 227-2400 ext. 2415

Peter Zurflich, Esq.
Community Justice Project
(717) 236-9486

cc: Senator Mowery
       Senator Hughes
       Representative Kenney
       Representative Oliver
       Secretary Richman

2