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

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July 24, 2003

Honorable Estelle B. Richman, Secretary Department of Public Welfare 333 Health and Welfare Building Harrisburg, PA 17105

Re: Regulation #14-471 (IRRC #2206) Department of Public Welfare Income

Dear Secretary Richman:

The Independent Regulatory Review Commission approved the subject regulation today. Our Order is enclosed and will be 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. Bus

Vice Chairman
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Enclosure
cc: Honorable Harold F. Mowery, Jr., Chairman, Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee
Honorable Vincent J. Hughes, Minority Chairman, Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee
Honorable George T. Kenney, Jr., Majority Chairman, House Health and Human Services Committee
Honorable Frank L. Oliver, Democratic Chairman, House Health and Human Services Committee

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY REVIEW COMMISSION APPROVAL ORDER

Commissioners Voting:

Public Meeting Held July 24, 2003

Alvin C. Bush, Vice Chairman Daniel F. Clark, Esq. Arthur Coccodrilli Murray Ufberg, Esq.

Regulation No. 14-471 Department of Public Welfare Income

On July 23, 2001, the Independent Regulatory Review Commission (Commission) received this proposed regulation from the Department of Public Welfare (Department). This rulemaking amends 55 Pa. Code § 183.105. The proposed regulation was published in the August 4, 2001 *Pennsylvania Bulletin* with a 30-day public comment period. The final-form regulation was submitted to the Commission on June 23, 2003.

The regulation modifies the consideration of lump sum payments in the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families and General Assistance Programs. Currently, lump sum payments may make recipients ineligible for assistance for an extended period of time. Under this regulation, a family may be ineligible just in the month of receipt if the lump sum payment exceeds the monthly assistance grant. The family may be eligible in subsequent months if the money remaining from the lump sum payment is below their resource limit.

We have determined this regulation is consistent with the statutory authority of the Department (62 P. S. §§ 201(2) and 403(b)) 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