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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

COMMITTEES

PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE,
MAJORITY CHAIRMAN
LIQUOR CONTROL
FIREFIGHTERS' CAUCUS,
COCHAIRMAN EMERITUS

October 5, 2001

John R. McGinley, Jr., Chairman
Independent Regulatory Review Commission
14th Floor, Harristown 2
333 Market Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Dear Chairman McGinley:

I am writing to inform you that the House Professional Licensure Committee held a meeting on October 2, 2001, and voted to take no formal action on Regulation 16A-695 until final form regulations are promulgated. However, the Committee questions why the Board has not proposed deleting Section 47.4(a)(3). This was a one-time \$30 assessment for licensed social workers licensed during the 1988 to 1991 licensure cycle.

Please feel free to contact my office if any questions should arise.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mario J. Civera".

Mario J. Civera, Chairman
House Professional Licensure Committee

MJC/sms
Enclosure

cc: Thomas F. Matta, Ph.D., Chairperson
State Board of Social Workers, Marriage and Family
Therapists and Professional Counselors
Honorable Kim H. Pizzigrilli, Secretary of the Commonwealth
Department of State

Regulation 16A-695

**State Board of Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists
and Professional Counselors**

PROPOSAL: Regulation 16A-695 amends 49 PA Code, Chapter 47, regulations of the State Board of Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists and Professional Counselors. The amendment makes revisions to the schedule of Board fees by increasing two fees and establishing fees for initial licensure and biennial renewal of licensure for clinical social workers, marriage and family therapists and professional counselors.

The proposed Rulemaking was published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin on August 25, 2001. The Professional Licensure Committee has until October 15, 2001 to submit comments on the regulation.

ANALYSIS: Pursuant to Sec. 18c of the Social Workers' Practice Act, 63 P.S. Sec. 1918c, the Board is required to meet expenditures through revenues raised by fees, fines and civil penalties. The Board is required to increase fees so that projected revenues will meet or exceed projected expenditures. Fees for various services provided directly to applicants or licensees are based upon the actual charge of providing the service requested. The proposed regulations would increase the application fee for original issuance of a social worker license from \$15 to \$25, and increase the application fee for approval as a continuing education provider or program from \$25 to \$40. Fees would also be established for the licensure categories of clinical social workers, marriage and family therapists and professional counselors, professions that became eligible for licensure with the passage of Act 136 of 1998. An application fee for initial licensure for these categories would be set at \$45. The biennial renewal fee for these licensure categories would also be set at \$45, the same as currently charged for social worker license renewal.

RECOMMENDATIONS: It is recommended that the Professional Licensure Committee take no formal action until final form regulations are promulgated. However, the Committee questions why the Board has not proposed deleting Section 47.4(a)(3). This was a one-time \$30 assessment for licensed social workers licensed during the 1988 to 1991 licensure cycle.

House of Representatives
Professional Licensure Committee
September 17, 2001