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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 22, 2002, and voted to approve Regulations 16A-695, 16A-424 and 16A-6310.

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

Sincerely,



Mario J. Civera, Chairman
House Professional Licensure Committee

MJC/sms
Enclosures

cc: Thomas F. Matta, Ph.D., Chairperson
State Board of Social Workers, Marriage and Family
Therapists and Professional Counselors
Cheryl McDermott, Chairperson
State Board of Barber Examiners
Alex M. Siegel, J.D., Ph.D., Chairman
State Board of Psychology
Honorable C. Michael Weaver, Secretary of the Commonwealth
Department of State



House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

October 22, 2002

COMMITTEES

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

RECEIVED
OCT 23 2002
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
HARRISBURG, PA

RECEIVED
OCT 20 2002
PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE
REVIEW COMMISSION

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.

Regulation 16A-695 is Final Rulemaking which was delivered to the Professional Licensure Committee on October 3, 2002. The Professional Licensure Committee has until October 23, 2002 to approve or disapprove 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.

The Committee questioned why the Board had 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. The Board has deleted this fee.

RECOMMENDATIONS: It is recommended that the Professional Licensure Committee approve the regulation.

House of Representatives
Professional Licensure Committee
October 15, 2002