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

October 18, 2001

Honorable Feather O. Houstoun, Secretary
Department of Public Welfare
333 Health & Welfare Building
Harrisburg, PA 17105

Re: Regulation #14-468 (IRRC #2216)
Department of Public Welfare
General Principles for Rate and Price Setting

Dear Secretary Houstoun:

The Independent Regulatory Review Commission approved your regulation on October 18, 2001. Our Order is enclosed and is available on our website at www.irrc.state.pa.us.

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

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Enclosure

cc: Honorable Dennis M. O'Brien, Majority Chairman, House Health & Human Services Committee
Honorable Frank L. Oliver, Democratic Chairman, House Health & Human Services Committee
Honorable Harold F. Mowery, Chairman, Senate Public Health & Welfare Committee
Honorable Vincent J. Hughes, Minority Chairman, Senate Public Health & Welfare Committee
Nia Wilson, Legal Counsel, House Health & Human Services Committee
Stanley Mitchell, Chief Counsel, House Health & Human Services Committee

**INDEPENDENT REGULATORY REVIEW COMMISSION
APPROVAL ORDER**

Commissioners Voting:

Public Meeting Held October 18, 2001

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

Regulation No. 14-468
Department of Public Welfare
General Principles for Rate and Price Setting

On September 4, 2001, the Independent Regulatory Review Commission (Commission) received this regulation from the Department of Public Welfare (Department). This rulemaking amends 55 Pa. Code, Chapter 1187. Notice of proposed rulemaking was omitted for this regulation; it will become effective upon publication in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*.

This regulation extends the timeframe for transition payments to county nursing facilities for the period January 1, 1999, through June 30, 2003. The transition payments were negotiated between the Department and the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania in the Intergovernmental Transfer Agreement.

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