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July 18, 2002



*House of Representatives*  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
HARRISBURG

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ORIGINAL: 2224

John R. McGinley, Jr., Esq., Chairman  
Independent Regulatory Review Commission  
333 Market Street, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17101

Re: Regulation #14-472  
Department of Public Welfare  
TANF, General Assistance (GA) and TANF- and GA-related Medicaid programs

Dear Chairman McGinley:

I submit the following comments in my capacity as Majority Chairman of the House Health and Human Services Committee in support of the Department of Public Welfare's final-form regulation 14-472, relating to the rules and requirements for the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program, General Assistance (GA) and TANF-related and GA-related Medicaid programs.

The Department's proposed regulation relating to the same was not an accurate reflection of DPW's current policies; however, several revisions to the regulation have been made that address concerns raised with the proposed regulations and provide adequate clarification of current policies. Specifically, the final-form regulations revise the Department's policy regarding education and training good cause exemptions, TANF eligibility for two-parent families and the compliance review process. In addition, revisions were made to the definition of "family" and included Time-Out provisions that provide exceptions to the 60 month TANF time limit. The Department also ensures the regulation is consistent with its policy and State Plans by including changes to existing regulations.

For the above reasons, the House Health and Human Services Committee supports this regulation.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G Kenney".

GEORGE KENNEY, Chairman  
Health and Human Services Committee

GK:vb:hc

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