



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

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ROBERT E. NYCE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
MARY S. WYATTE, CHIEF COUNSEL

irrc@irrc.state.pa.us
<http://www.irrc.state.pa.us>
(717) 783-5417
Fax (717) 783-2664

April 17, 2003

Mr. John R. Brosius, Executive Director
State Employees' Retirement Board
30 North Third Street
Harrisburg, PA 17108

Re: Regulation #31-2 (IRRC #2322)
State Employees' Retirement Board
Optional Alternate Retirement Plans

Dear Mr. Brosius:

Enclosed are the Commission's Comments for consideration when you prepare the final version of this regulation. These Comments are not a formal approval or disapproval; however, they specify the regulatory criteria which have not been met.

The Comments will soon be available on our website at www.irrc.state.pa.us. If you would like to discuss them, please contact my office at 783-5417.

Sincerely,

Robert E. Nyce
Executive Director
cae
Enclosure

cc: Honorable Paul I. Clymer, Majority Chairman, House State Government Committee
Honorable Babette Josephs, Democratic Chairman, House State Government Committee
Honorable Jane M. Earll, Chairman, Senate Finance Committee
Honorable John N. Wozniak, Minority Chairman, Senate Finance Committee

Comments of the Independent Regulatory Review Commission

on

State Employees' Retirement Board Regulation No. 31-2

Optional Alternate Retirement Plans

April 17, 2003

We submit for your consideration the following Comments that include references to the criteria in the Regulatory Review Act (71 P.S. § 745.5a(h) and (i)) which have not been met. The State Employees' Retirement Board must respond to these Comments when it submits the final-form regulation. If the final-form regulation is not delivered within two years of the close of the public comment period, the regulation will be deemed withdrawn.

Section 249.58. Optional alternate retirement program. – Clarity.

We have identified the following sentences or phrases which could be deleted or reformatted to improve clarity:

- The last sentence in the opening paragraph of this section appears to be unnecessary and could be deleted.
- In the last sentence in proposed Paragraph (1), the phrases “as aforesaid” and “as provided by law” are unnecessary and should be deleted. Also, the phrase “he shall have” should be changed to “they have.”
- In proposed Paragraph (2), the second sentence which begins with the phrase “If the employee later becomes employed by the Commonwealth in a capacity...,” is long and confusing. Clarity would be improved by breaking the sentence into subparagraphs consistent with the guidelines in Chapter 2 of the *Pennsylvania Code and Bulletin Style Manual*.