

LAWRENCE H. CURRY, MEMBER

MAIN CAPITOL BUILDING
HOUSE BOX 202020
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120-2020
PHONE: (717) 783-1079
FAX: (717) 787-2713

ONE JENKINTOWN STATION
115 WEST AVENUE, SUITE 211
JENKINTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA 19046
PHONE: (215) 572-5210
FAX: (215) 517-1423

E-MAIL: LCURRY@PAHOUSE.NET
WEB SITE: HTTP://WWW.PAHOUSE.COM/CURRY



House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

COMMITTEES

EDUCATION COMMITTEE
CHAIRMAN, SUB-COMMITTEE ON
HIGHER EDUCATION
CHILDREN AND YOUTH COMMITTEE
POLICY COMMITTEE
STATE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE
LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE,
SECRETARY

CAUCUSES

CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA CAUCUS
FIREFIGHTERS AND EMERGENCY
SERVICES LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS
FIREARMS SAFETY CAUCUS
LOCAL TAX REFORM CAUCUS
SUBSTANCE ABUSE CAUCUS

October 20, 2003

Original: 2349

To: Robert Nyce
Executive Director
Independent Regulatory Review Commission

From: Representative Lawrence H. Curry (LHC)
154th Legislative District

Re: Chapter 11

RECEIVED
2003 OCT 21 AM 11:00
INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

¶11.31-(a) The new proposed language for courses of instruction at the elementary school level for private tutoring includes English (spelling, reading and writing); arithmetic; geography; history of the United States and Pennsylvania; science; civics, safety education, health, including physical education and physiology; music and art.

I applaud the decision to delete "loyalty to the States and National Government". While civics and history courses should inspire patriotism and, thus, a loyalty to the values of this society – we should avoid teaching "loyalty to the State and National Government. How does one teach such loyalty and encourage constructive criticism of the government?

Ironically, one of the proponents of retaining the "loyalty to the State language" cited a minority view of the U.S. Supreme Court. I find it ironic because, one, the view stated was not the view of the majority of the court and, hence, it was critical of the law of the land; and two, to be critical of the law of the land to the point of disgust does not convey a loyalty to the State and National Government.

Additionally, loyalty to the State and National Government is not appropriately in sequence with the course listings. 11.31 – lists courses – not outcomes. The regulations are not promoting good teaching if we must teach on outcome rather than the material to reach that outcome! If Pennsylvania starts teaching "loyalty to the State and National Government" as subjects, we will not be different from the curriculum in Nazi Germany's schools or Josef Stalin's State Education System. **PLEASE KEEP THIS SECTION AS IT IS!**

¶11.19 Non-resident child living with a district resident. This section is well done and serves the needs of many districts. However, the section is deficient in one respect. If both parents (or a single parent) of a school-aged child or children are both seriously ill or hurt in an accident, and a relative or friend who happens

October 20, 2003

Page 2

to live in a different school district takes the children under their care, and is reimbursed for food, etc., that situation is not addressed in ¶11.19 and it should be.

The best interests of the child (children) should be of paramount concern to the State. For the time the parents are unable to accept parental responsibilities, the children should be permitted to attend the school where the "relative or friend" pays taxes.

Or, for the time the parents are unable to accept parental responsibilities, the child (children) should be permitted to continue in their school, even though they live (temporarily) out of their district.

What serves the needs of the child (children) and the family should be the determining factor.

RECEIVED
2003 OCT 21 AM 11:03
INDEPENDENT INFORMATION
REVIEW COMMISSION