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

July 29, 2004

Charles D. Hummer, Jr., M.D., Chairman
State Board of Medicine
2601 North 3rd Street
Harrisburg, PA 17110

Re: Regulation #16A-4914 (IRRC #2375)
State Board of Medicine
Continuing Medical Education

Dear Chairman Hummer:

The Independent Regulatory Review Commission approved the subject regulation today. Our Order is enclosed and will be 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

evp

Enclosure

cc: Honorable Thomas P. Gannon, Majority Chairman, House Professional Licensure Committee
Honorable William W. Rieger, Democratic Chairman, House Professional Licensure Committee
Honorable Robert M. Tomlinson, Chairman, Senate Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure Committee
Honorable Lisa M. Boscola, Minority Chairman, Senate Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure Committee
Honorable Pedro A. Cortes, Secretary, Department of State

**INDEPENDENT REGULATORY REVIEW COMMISSION
APPROVAL ORDER**

Commissioners Voting:

Public Meeting Held July 29, 2004

Alvin C. Bush, Vice Chairman
Daniel F. Clark, Esq.
Arthur Coccodrilli
Murray Ufberg, Esq., by Phone

Regulation No. 16A-4914
State Board of Medicine
Continuing Medical Education

On December 16, 2003, the Independent Regulatory Review Commission (Commission) received this proposed regulation from the State Board of Medicine (Board). This rulemaking amends 49 Pa. Code Chapter 16. The proposed regulation was published in the January 3, 2004 *Pennsylvania Bulletin* with a 30-day public comment period. The final-form regulation was submitted to the Commission on June 22, 2004.

This regulation implements the continuing medical education mandate of The Medical Care Availability and Reduction of Error (Mcare) Act. Under Mcare, medical doctors are required to obtain 100 hours of continuing medical education as a condition of license renewal. The Board has changed the implementation date for full compliance with the continuing education requirements from January 1, 2005, until January 1, 2007, in the final-form regulation. For current licensure renewal, physicians must demonstrate they have completed 25 hours in either Category I or Category II credits.

We have determined this regulation is consistent with the statutory authority of the Board (40 P.S. § 1303.910(a)) 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