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## INDEPENDENT REGULATORY REVIEW COMMISSION

333 MARKET STREET, 14TH FLOOR, HARRISBURG, PA 17101

November 3, 2005

Janet H. Shields, MSN, CRNP, CS, Chairperson  
State Board of Nursing  
2601 North 3rd Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17110

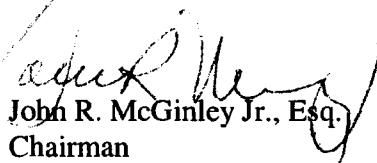
Re: Regulation #16A-5118 (IRRC #2383)  
State Board of Nursing  
Approval of Diploma Programs in Transition to Degree-Granting Status

Dear Chairperson Shields:

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](http://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,



John R. McGinley Jr., Esq.  
Chairman

sfh

Enclosure

cc: 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 Thomas P. Gannon, Majority Chairman, House Professional Licensure Committee

Honorable William W. Rieger, Democratic Chairman, House Professional Licensure Committee

Honorable Pedro A. Cortes, Secretary, Department of State

**INDEPENDENT REGULATORY REVIEW COMMISSION  
APPROVAL ORDER**

Commissioners Voting:

Public Meeting Held November 3, 2005

John R. McGinley Jr., Esq., Chairman  
Alvin C. Bush, Vice Chairman, by Phone  
Arthur Coccodrilli  
John F. Mizner, Esq.  
Murray Ufberg, Esq. by Phone

Regulation No. 16A-5118  
State Board of Nursing  
Approval of Diploma Programs in Transition  
to Degree-Granting Status

On February 2, 2004, the Independent Regulatory Review Commission (Commission) received this proposed regulation from the State Board of Nursing (Board). This rulemaking amends 49 Pa. Code § 21.51. The proposed regulation was published in the February 14, 2004 *Pennsylvania Bulletin* with a 30-day public comment period. The final-form regulation was submitted to the Commission on September 30, 2005.

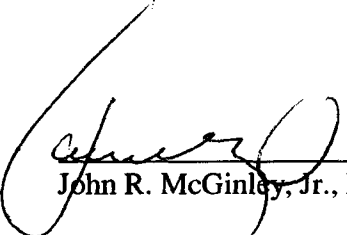
This regulation establishes the framework for the transition of nursing diploma programs to nursing degree programs.

We have determined this regulation is consistent with the statutory authority of the Board (63 P.S. §§ 212.1(k), 216(a) and 216.1) 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.



  
John R. McGinley, Jr., Esq., Chairman