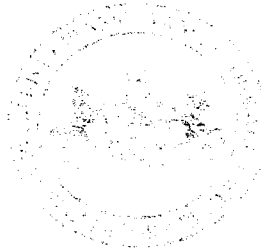


JOHN R. MCGINLEY, JR., ESQ., CHAIRMAN
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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY REVIEW COMMISSION
333 MARKET STREET, 14TH FLOOR, HARRISBURG, PA 17101

February 10, 2005

Honorable Estelle B. Richman, Secretary
Department of Public Welfare
333 Health and Welfare Building
Harrisburg, PA 17105

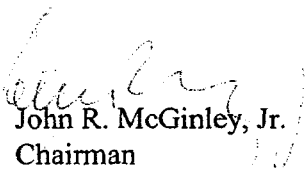
Re: Regulation #14-492 (IRRC #2444)
Department of Public Welfare
Supplemental Security Income Program and State Supplementary Payment Program

Dear Secretary Richman:

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,


John R. McGinley, Jr.
Chairman

evp

Enclosure

cc: Honorable George T. Kenney, Jr., Majority Chairman, House Health and Human Services Committee

Honorable Frank L. Oliver, Democratic Chairman, House Health and Human Services Committee

Honorable Jake Corman, Chairman, Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee

Honorable Vincent J. Hughes, Minority Chairman, Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee

**INDEPENDENT REGULATORY REVIEW COMMISSION
APPROVAL ORDER**

Commissioners Voting:

Public Meeting Held February 10, 2005

John R. McGinley, Jr., Esq., Chairman
Daniel F. Clark, Esq.
Arthur Coccodrilli, by Phone
Murray Ufberg, Esq.

Regulation No. 14-492
Department of Public Welfare
Supplemental Security Income Program and
State Supplementary Payment Program

On October 28, 2004, the Independent Regulatory Review Commission (Commission) received this regulation from the Department of Public Welfare (Department). This rulemaking deletes 55 Pa. Code Chapter 297 and adds 55 Pa. Code Chapter 299. Notice of proposed rulemaking was omitted for this regulation; it will become effective upon publication in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*.

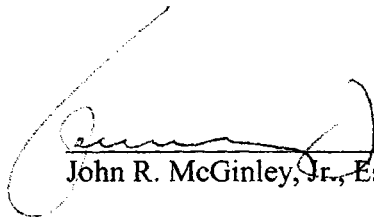
This final-omitted regulation rescinds Chapter 297 relating to Supplemental Security Income Program (SSI) and adds new Chapter 299 relating to SSI and State Supplementary Payment Program (SSP). This rulemaking applies to individuals and couples that are considered aged, blind or disabled. The new Chapter 229 will make the Department the administrator of the SSP. Eligibility requirements for the SSP have not been altered. The Department has estimated it will save \$15.950 million in the first fiscal year by administering the program.

We have determined this regulation is consistent with the statutory authority of the Department (62 P.S. §§ 201(2) and 403(b)) 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