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

February 16, 2006

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

Re: Regulation #14-503 (IRRC #2516)
Department of Public Welfare
Low Income Home Energy Assistance 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.lrrc.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

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Enclosure

cc: Honorable Jake Corman, Chairman, Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee
Honorable Vincent J. Hughes, Minority Chairman, Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee
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

**INDEPENDENT REGULATORY REVIEW COMMISSION
APPROVAL ORDER**

Commissioners Voting:

Public Meeting Held February 16, 2006

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

Regulation No. 14-503
Department of Public Welfare
Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program

On January 10, 2006, the Independent Regulatory Review Commission (Commission) received this regulation from the Department of Public Welfare. This rulemaking amends 55 Pa. Code Chapter 601. Notice of proposed rulemaking was omitted for this final regulation. Governor Edward G. Rendell certified the regulation as necessary to meet an emergency on January 9, 2006. The regulation became effective upon publication in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* on January 21, 2006.

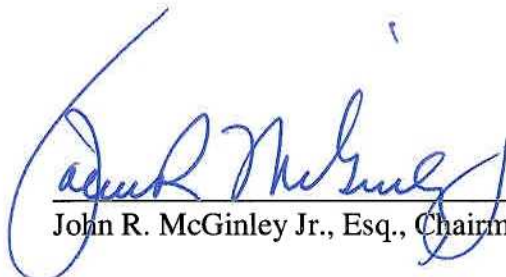
This regulation temporarily expands the eligibility requirements for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program from 135% of the Federal Poverty Income Guidelines (FPIG) to 150% of the FPIG. The regulation will sunset on June 30, 2006.

We have determined this regulation is consistent with the statutory authority of the Department of Public Welfare (Act 81 of 2005) 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