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Corporate Offices
420 W 6th St, Ste 101
Erie, Pa 16507
Ph: 814-874-0144
Fax: 814-874-0147

Early Learning Center
420 W 6th St, Ste 101
Erie, PA 16507
Ph: 814-456-5346
Fax: 814-874-0147

City Center
704 State Street
Erie, PA 16501
Ph: 814-456-4576
Fax: 814-456-5307

JEH Garden Apts
730 Tacoma Road
Erie, PA 16511
Ph: 814-454-9713
Fax: 814-454-9713

Harbor Homes
1841 E. 18th Street
Erie, PA 16510
Ph: 814-899-3310
Fax: 814-899-3358

Union City
16380 Route 8
Union City, PA 16438
Ph: 814-438-7016
Fax: 814-438-7620

April 4, 2008

Dear Independent Regulatory Review Commission:

On March 10, 2008, the Department of Public Welfare submitted the final-form child care facility regulations to you and the General Assembly. The child care facility regulations provide minimum standards for the operation of approximately 9000 child care centers, group child care homes and family child care homes that serve over 300,000 children. I am asking you to support passage of the final-form child care regulations.

The child care facility regulations protect the health, safety and rights of children and reduce risks to children in child care facilities. The regulations were last updated in April 1992. The final form regulation addresses protection of children, reflects current best practice and research, improves clarity, and provides clear, consistent information to the provider and parent community about what the Departments will examine when it conducts a visit. Highlights of the final-form regulations include the following:

- Updated health and safety requirements to reflect best practices & research - New research has resulted in changes to health and safety recommendations regarding SIDS prevention, playground safety, staff tuberculosis testing, removal of recalled toys and equipment, disposable gloves in first aid kit, maximum indoor temperature and diapering.
- Made the regulations easier to read and more accessible to providers and parents - Twelve statements of policy have been released since 1992 and must be incorporated into the regulations themselves. These include important requirements relating to emergency plans, supervision of children, Syrup of Ipecac, release of children, posting inspection summaries, Departmental access and swimming pool accessibility
- Updated the regulations to include correct reference to other applicable laws - By referencing the correct current laws, providers, parents and the public will be better able to locate additional information about laws that impact the operation of a child care facility including requirements relating to certificate of occupancy, vehicle safety, childhood immunizations and children with special needs.
- Improved opportunity for facility compliance - Areas of typical noncompliance were examined and when possible, changes are proposed that will balance assistance to the facilities in compliance while ensuring minimum health and safety at a facility.

I am asking you to support the final-form child care regulation in order to advance the protection of children receiving care in more than 9000 child care facilities in Pennsylvania.

Sincerely,

Allison Bear
Director of Early Care and Education
Early Learning Center
Early Connections
Erie, PA

Board of Directors

J.W. Alherstadt, Jr., Pres. Betsy Bort, V. Pres. Carmine Canillo
Denise Christianson, Sec. Colleen Dixon Catherine Moody Doyle Katie Draghi Fasy Greevy
Downa Green, Treas. John Mehler Lisa Watkins
Nancy A. Kalista, Executive Director

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April 4, 2008

Dear Independent Regulatory Review Commission:

On March 10, 2008, the Department of Public Welfare submitted the final-form child care facility regulations to you and the General Assembly. The child care facility regulations provide minimum standards for the operation of approximately 9000 child care centers, group child care homes and family child care homes that serve over 300,000 children. I am asking you to support passage of the final-form child care regulations.

The child care facility regulations protect the health, safety and rights of children and reduce risks to children in child care facilities. The regulations were last updated in April 1992. The final form regulation addresses protection of children, reflects current best practice and research, improves clarity, and provides clear, consistent information to the provider and parent community about what the Departments will examine when it conducts a visit. Highlights of the final-form regulations include the following:

- **Updated health and safety requirements to reflect best practices & research** - New research has resulted in changes to health and safety recommendations regarding SIDS prevention, playground safety, staff tuberculosis testing, removal of recalled toys and equipment, disposable gloves in first aid kit, maximum indoor temperature and diapering.
- **Made the regulations easier to read and more accessible to providers and parents** - Twelve statements of policy have been released since 1992 and must be incorporated into the regulations themselves. These include important requirements relating to emergency plans, supervision of children, Syrup of Ipecac, release of children, posting inspection summaries, Departmental access and swimming pool accessibility
- **Updated the regulations to include correct reference to other applicable laws** - By referencing the correct current laws, providers, parents and the public will be better able to locate additional information about laws that impact the operation of a child care facility including requirements relating to certificate of occupancy, vehicle safety, childhood immunizations and children with special needs.
- **Improved opportunity for facility compliance** - Areas of typical noncompliance were examined and when possible, changes are proposed that will balance assistance to the facilities in compliance while ensuring minimum health and safety at a facility.

I am asking you to support the final-form child care regulation in order to advance the protection of children receiving care in more than 9000 child care facilities in Pennsylvania.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Crandell
Pre-K Teacher
Early Connections
Erie, PA

Board of Directors

J.W. Albersdt, Jr., Pres. Betsy Burt, V. Pres. Carmine Camillo
Denise Christianson, Sec. Colleen Dixon Catherine Moody Doyle Katie Drughl Pazy Greevy
Donna Green, Treas. John Mehler Lisa Watkins
Nancy A. Kallista, Executive Director

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April 4, 2008

Dear Independent Regulatory Review Commission:

On March 10, 2008, the Department of Public Welfare submitted the final-form child care facility regulations to you and the General Assembly. The child care facility regulations provide minimum standards for the operation of approximately 9000 child care centers, group child care homes and family child care homes that serve over 300,000 children. I am asking you to support passage of the final-form child care regulations.

The child care facility regulations protect the health, safety and rights of children and reduce risks to children in child care facilities. The regulations were last updated in April 1992. The final form regulation addresses protection of children, reflects current best practice and research, improves clarity, and provides clear, consistent information to the provider and parent community about what the Departments will examine when it conducts a visit. Highlights of the final-form regulations include the following:

- Updated health and safety requirements to reflect best practices & research - New research has resulted in changes to health and safety recommendations regarding SIDS prevention, playground safety, staff tuberculosis testing, removal of recalled toys and equipment, disposable gloves in first aid kit, maximum indoor temperature and diapering.
- Made the regulations easier to read and more accessible to providers and parents - Twelve statements of policy have been released since 1992 and must be incorporated into the regulations themselves. These include important requirements relating to emergency plans, supervision of children, Syrup of Ipecac, release of children, posting inspection summaries, Departmental access and swimming pool accessibility
- Updated the regulations to include correct reference to other applicable laws - By referencing the correct current laws, providers, parents and the public will be better able to locate additional information about laws that impact the operation of a child care facility including requirements relating to certificate of occupancy, vehicle safety, childhood immunizations and children with special needs.
- Improved opportunity for facility compliance - Areas of typical noncompliance were examined and when possible, changes are proposed that will balance assistance to the facilities in compliance while ensuring minimum health and safety at a facility.

I am asking you to support the final-form child care regulation in order to advance the protection of children receiving care in more than 9000 child care facilities in Pennsylvania.

Sincerely,

Bridget Nair
Pre-K Teacher
Early Connections
Erie, PA

Board of Directors

J.W. Alberstadt, Jr., Pres. Betsy Bort, V. Pres. Carmine Canillo
Denise Christianson, Sec. Colleen Dixon Catherine Moody Doyle Kaffe Draghi Fasy Greevy
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April 1, 2008

Dear Independent Regulatory Review Commission:

On March 10, 2008, the Department of Public Welfare submitted final-form child care facility regulations to the General Assembly and to the Independent Regulatory Review Commission (IRRC). The child care facility regulations provide minimum standards for the operation of approximately 9000 child care centers, group child care homes and family child care homes that serve over 300,000 children. I am asking you to support passage of the final-form child care regulations.

The child care facility regulations protect the health, safety and rights of children and reduce risks to children in child care facilities. The regulations were last updated in April 1992. The final form regulation addresses protection of children, reflects current best practice and research, improves clarity, and provides clear, consistent information to the provider and parent community about what the Departments will examine when it conducts a visit. Highlights of the final-form regulations include the following:

- **Updated health and safety requirements to reflect best practices & research** - New research has resulted in changes to health and safety recommendations regarding SIDS prevention, playground safety, staff tuberculosis testing, removal of recalled toys and equipment, disposable gloves in first aid kit, maximum indoor temperature and diapering.
- **Made the regulations easier to read and more accessible to providers and parents** - Twelve statements of policy have been released since 1992 and must be incorporated into the regulations themselves. These include important requirements relating to emergency plans, supervision of children, Syrup of Ipecac, release of children, posting inspection summaries, Departmental access and swimming pool accessibility
- **Updated the regulations to include correct reference to other applicable laws** - By referencing the correct current laws, providers, parents and the public will be better able to locate additional information about laws that impact the operation of a child care facility including requirements relating to certificate of occupancy, vehicle safety, childhood immunizations and children with special needs.
- **Improved opportunity for facility compliance** - Areas of typical noncompliance were examined and when possible, changes are proposed that will balance assistance to the facilities in compliance while ensuring minimum health and safety at a facility.

I am asking you to support the final-form child care regulation in order to advance the protection of children receiving care in more than 9000 child care facilities in Pennsylvania.

Sincerely,

Laura Salamonsen
Vice President of Outreach
Early Connections
Erie, PA

Board of Directors

J.W. Albersstadt, Jr., Pres. Betsy Bort, V. Pres Carmine Camillo
Denise Christianson, Sec Catherine Moody Doyle Katie Dragl Fasy Greevy
Donna Green, Treas. John Mehler Lisa Watkins
Nancy A. Kalista, Executive Director

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April 4, 2008

Dear Independent Regulatory Review Commission:

On March 10, 2008, the Department of Public Welfare submitted the final-form child care facility regulations to you and the General Assembly. The child care facility regulations provide minimum standards for the operation of approximately 9000 child care centers, group child care homes and family child care homes that serve over 300,000 children. I am asking you to support passage of the final-form child care regulations.

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- **Updated health and safety requirements to reflect best practices & research** - New research has resulted in changes to health and safety recommendations regarding SIDS prevention, playground safety, staff tuberculosis testing, removal of recalled toys and equipment, disposable gloves in first aid kit, maximum indoor temperature and diapering.
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- **Updated the regulations to include correct reference to other applicable laws** -By referencing the correct current laws, providers, parents and the public will be better able to locate additional information about laws that impact the operation of a child care facility including requirements relating to certificate of occupancy, vehicle safety, childhood immunizations and children with special needs.
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I am asking you to support the final-form child care regulation in order to advance the protection of children receiving care in more than 9000 child care facilities in Pennsylvania.

Sincerely,

Nancy A. Kalista

Nancy A. Kalista
 Executive Director
 Early Connections
 Erie, PA

Board of Directors
 J.W. Albersdt, Jr., Pres. Betsy Bort, V. Pres Carmine Camillo
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I am asking you to support the final-form child care regulation in order to advance the protection of children receiving care in more than 9000 child care facilities in Pennsylvania.

Sincerely,

Holly Boyles
Executive Assistant
Early Connections
Erie, PA

Board of Directors

J.W. Albersstadt, Jr., Pres. Betsy Bort, V. Pres Carmine Camillo
Denise Christianson, Sec Colleen Dixon Catherine Moody Doyle Katie Draghi Fazy Greevy
Donna Green, Treas. John Mehler Lisa Watkins
Nancy A. Kallista, Executive Director

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I am asking you to support the final-form child care regulation in order to advance the protection of children receiving care in more than 9000 child care facilities in Pennsylvania.

Sincerely,

Leslie A. Natalie
V.P. of Finance/Human Resources

Board of Directors

J.W. Alberstadt, Jr., Pres. Betsy Bort, V. Pres Carmine Camillo
Denise Christianson, Sec Catherine Moodey Doyle Katie Draghi Fasy Greevy
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