



7 Benjamin Franklin Parkway
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Tel: 215.563.5848
Fax: 215.563.9442
www.pccy.org

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October 17, 2006

Independent Regulatory Review Commission
333 Market Street, 14th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Dear Members of the Independent Regulatory Review Commission,

In 2003, the Commonwealth embarked on an ambitious quality improvement initiative that has earned the respect of childcare providers, parents and advocates alike.

Chapters 168, and chapters 3270, 3280, 3290 and 3300 of regulation # 14-506 are crucial elements of this quality improvement initiative. For example, chapter 168 recommends unifying two existing subsidy payment systems, streamlining the payment process for those involved. Chapters 3270, 3280 and 3290 update health and safety regulations that apply to childcare facilities, in most cases bringing them in line with current medical research. They were developed with considerable input from the field.

Philadelphia Citizens for Children and Youth (PCCY) works to improve the lives and life chances of children in Southeastern Pennsylvania. PCCY believes these recommendations should not be derailed because of the narrow interests of a few who do not have children's best interests at heart. We strongly support the final form regulations for subsidy payment and child care facilities, Chapters 168, 3270, 3280, 3290 and 3300 of regulation number 14-506 (# 2539).

Sincerely,

Christie Balca
Director of Childcare and Budget Policy

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