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Senate of Pennsylvania

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April 10, 2008

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

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Dear Chairman Coccodrilli:

I write in support of regulation number 14-506, proposed by the Department of Public Welfare's Office of Child Development and Early Learning.

The proposed child-care facility regulations protect the health and safety of the over 300,000 children who are cared for in state regulated facilities. The process to craft updated regulations has been a long and arduous one. The Office of Child Development has worked tirelessly since its inception to ensure that child care in Pennsylvania meets stringent standards. The health and safety requirements in the regulations reflect industry best practices and research. The statements of policy and incorporation of applicable laws clarify requirements for providers and parents. It is vital that we require child-care facilities in Pennsylvania to meet these minimum standards for operation to protect the lives of our youngest constituents.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Connie Williams

Constance H. Williams
State Senator
17th District

CC: Secretary Estelle Richman, Department of Public Welfare
Deputy Secretary Harriet Dichter, Office of Child Development and Early Learning
Senator Edwin Erickson, Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee
Senator Vincent Hughes, Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee
Representative Louise Bishop, House Children and Youth Committee
Representative Carole Rubley, House Children and Youth Committee