



Kenneth J. Wingo, Chairman
John Torok
Catherine I. Bowers
Commissioners

Board of Commissioners

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July 24, 2006

David B. Farney, Assistant Counsel
PA Department of Corrections
Office of Chief Counsel
55 Utley Drive
Camp Hill, PA 17011

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
RENEW COMMISSION

RE: Proposed Changes to the Department of Corrections

Dear Mr. Farney,

We have reviewed the proposed changes suggested by the Department of Corrections. We concur with the County Commissioner Association of Pennsylvania in their opposition and request that the DOC *withdraw* these proposed regulations.

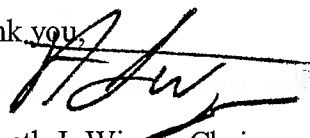
We further request that the DOC begin a new effort to gather input from commissioners and county jail administrators so that a proposal can be shaped that is acceptable to the counties, since the cost of jail operations must come out of their local budgets.

The proposed revisions are making the operation of the jails more technical and are placing an undue burden on the counties running those jails. Although a large proportion of the regulations are currently in place and are being adhered to, the proposed changes would drastically add to and complicate matters.

In addition, the changes would mandate additional services in education, job trainings, social services, alcohol and mental health counseling. This would put a strain on Human Services to pay for these programs due to the continued decline in funding available through the Commonwealth. Such services should be provided to the free community first, not to the incarcerated.

We agree that there has to be regulations in place to assure the safety, care and control of inmates. However, we feel that there has to be limitations on the amount of services provided to the incarcerated.

Thank you



Kenneth J. Wingo, Chairman
Potter County Commissioners
KJW/lmw

cc: Kristen Goshorn, Government Relations Specialist, CCAP
Commissioner John Torok
Commissioner Catherine Bowers
Sheriff Ken Sauley