

2549

Rec'd 11/22/06



Alvin C. Bush
Independent Regulatory Review Commission
333 Market Street, 14th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101

November 21, 2006

RE: Regulation ID # 14-505 (# 2549)

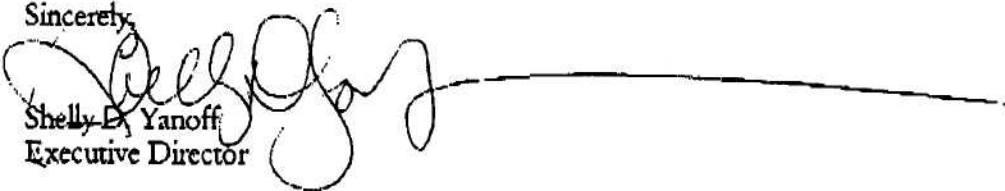
Dear Mr. Bush:

Philadelphia Citizens for Children and Youth ("PCCY") appreciates the opportunity to comment on the proposed changes to child care regulations found at 22 PA Code Chapter 168. PCCY is an advocacy organization that works throughout Southeastern Pennsylvania to improve lives of children in the region. The organization especially strives to help working low and moderate income families access quality child care. Making the child care subsidy payment system operate more efficiently will strengthen the delivery of child care services in the state.

PCCY applauds the efforts of the Department of Public Welfare (DPW) to amend the child care regulations to unify the child care subsidy system so that all families involved in the system - moderate income working families, and families receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, General Assistance and Food Stamp benefits - are subject to the same policies and receive consistent services for processing child care payments. The new subsidy regulations would streamline the payment system so that it would be administered by one agency, the Child Care Information Services (CCIS). The CCIS offices have an extensive history in providing excellent customer service to parents and child care practitioners. Amending this process to make CCIS the single point of contact for child care subsidy payments improves access to child care for working families and children in Pennsylvania.

PCCY urges approval of the above referenced regulation to unify the subsidy system. If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 215-563-5848 x30.

Sincerely,


Shelly E. Yanoff
Executive Director

cc: Robert Frein