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July 26, 2006

Robert J. Frein Director, Bureau of Subsidized Child Care Services Office of Child Development Room 521, Health & Welfare Building P.O. Box 521 Harrisburg, PA 17105

RE: Comments on Regulation No. 14-505

Dear Mr. Frein:

United Way of Southeastern Pennsylvania supports Regulation No. 14-505.

The changes primarily align the policies applicable to families served by the County Assistance Offices with those served by the Child Care Information Service agencies. In so doing they bring the two programs substantially closer to being one unified system of child care - a goal we have long worked toward.

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Our support is influenced by the child care agencies with whom we work closely. They indicated to us that they support the proposed changes. In particular, some of the providers enthusatiatically endorse the proposal, including these specific proposals:

- 168.2, which regards Sleep-Time Care provided for a child when the parent's work shift ends between the hours of 12 A.M. and 9 A.M. in order to allow the parent time to sleep.
- 168.17(2), which adds a provision to include a child who is considered a mandatory food stamp household member

These are common-sense systemic changes that will help parents receive the child care services that they need in a far more efficient way than under current regulations. United Way stands ready to work with the Commonwealth, parents, and child care providers, to help implement these changes.

Founded in 1921 by the business community, United Way improves people's lives by mobilizing the caring power of donors, volunteers and communities.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely

Vice President for Community Impact

United Way

United Way of Southeastern Pennsylvania