County of Centre

Original: 2552

CHILDREN AND YOUTH SERVICES

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
C. CHRIS EXARCHOS, Chairman
STEVEN DERSHEM
H. SCOTT CONKLIN

Willowbank Office Building 420 Holmes Street Bellefonte, Pennsylvania 16823-1488 Telephone (814) 355-6755 FAX (814) 355-6939 TDD (814) 355-6768

August 3, 2006

DIRECTOR TERRY L. WATSON

Mr. Robert Robinson, Director Human Services Licensing Management and Research Box 2675 Health and Welfare Building Harrisburg, PA 17105-2675

RE: Regulation No. 14-504

Dear Mr. Robinson:

Centre County Children and Youth Services wishes to address the Proposed Rulemaking as it pertains to Chapters 3130, 3140, 3270, 3280, and 3700. Centre County's specific concerns are:

- 1. Reducing the appeal timeframe from 30 days to 10 days is unworkable, whether it is for a licensing or budgetary issue. More time is needed to make an appropriate decision by county children and youth agencies.
- 2. The Bureau of Hearings and Appeals would have an indefinite timeframe in which to schedule hearings and render decisions. A reasonable timeframe for scheduling hearings would be within 60 days of the receipt of an appeal, and decisions should be rendered within 30 days of the hearing.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important issue. If you have further questions, feel free to contact me at the above address or telephone (814) 355 RECEIVED 6755.

Sincerely,

Terry L. Watson

Director