

TIM HENNESSEY, MEMBER

- 209 RYAN OFFICE BUILDING
PO BOX 202026
HARRISBURG, PA 17120-2026
PHONE: (717) 787-3431
FAX: (717) 705-1849

 - DISTRICT OFFICES:
1038 EAST LINCOLN HIGHWAY
COATESVILLE, PA 19320
PHONE: (610) 380-8600
FAX: (610) 380-1777

 - OLD ELVERSON TRAIN STATION
P.O. BOX 255
ELVERSON, PA 19520
PHONE: (610) 286-9194
FAX: (610) 286-1922
- (610) 326-2626 POTTSTOWN
thenness@pahousegop.com

2623



House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

September 10, 2007

COMMITTEES

AGING AND OLDER ADULT SERVICES
Republican Chairman

CONSUMER AFFAIRS
POLICY

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
COMMISSION

2007 SEP 11 AM 11:22

RECEIVED

Arthur Coccodrilli, Chairman
IRRC
333 Market St., 14th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Calvin B. Johnson, M.D., Secretary
PA Department of Health
Health & Welfare Building, 8th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17108

Dear Chairman Coccodrilli and Secretary Johnson:

As we close the public comment period for review of the proposed Home Care Licensure regulations, I wanted to write to support the concerns raised by the PA Homecare Association, especially with regard to the new training requirements which have been recently added (#10 thru 16 of § 611.55).

These newly added requirements are more situation-specific and don't lend themselves to easily being part of a generalized training program. Providers should be allowed to provide that specific training to just the specialized personnel who will be delivering those services. That would be more cost effective, since many of the home-care aides will not be expected to deliver personal care, in cases where they're only to perform shopping or some other such limited service.

The Association's concern about what is meant by the term "screened" (in § 611.56) is also valid. As drafted, it could be argued that a simple question to and answer from the home care worker is enough, but it could just as easily mean that a full-blown medical test / blood test / x-ray, etc., is required by the proposed regulation. If the proposal could be reworked to address these issues, I think the regulations will be improved and more easily understood by those who need to know exactly what is being required of them.

Very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tim Hennessey".

Tim Hennessey, Republican Chairman
Aging and Older Adult Services Committee

cc: *Phyllis Mundy, Democratic Chairman, Aging & Older Adult Services Committee*
Frank Oliver, Democratic Chairman, Health & Human Services Committee
George Kenney, Republican Chairman, Health & Human Services Committee
Karin Simpson, Senior Counsel, Department of Health