

P. MICHAEL STURLA, MEMBER
MAJORITY DEPUTY WHIP
333 MAIN CAPITOL BUILDING
P.O. BOX 202096
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120-2096
PHONE: (717) 787-3555
FAX: (717) 705-1923

THE GRIEST BUILDING
8 NORTH QUEEN STREET
SUITE 1100
LANCASTER, PENNSYLVANIA 17603
PHONE: (717) 295-3157
FAX: (717) 295-7816

September 26, 2007

Mr. Kim Kaufman
Executive Director
Independent Regulatory Review Commission
333 Market Street, 14th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101

RE: Proposed Regulation 16A-5131
State Board of Nursing
Faculty Requirements for Nursing Education Programs

Dear Mr. Kaufman:

The House Professional Licensure Committee on this date voted to take no formal action on Regulation 16A-5131 until final regulation is promulgated and submit the following comments:

1. The Committee noticed the change in the term "director of the program" to the term "nurse administrator" and would like to know if the change is semantic or substantive. If the change is substantive, the Committee would like further information regarding the differences in the terms.
2. The Committee questions the use of the term "sufficient number" in §21.71(a) and would like to know how a sufficient number would be quantified. If a national standard would be used to determine a "sufficient number", the Committee recommends a reference to that national standard be inserted into the regulation.
3. The Committee notes that §§21.71(a)(1)-(4) focus on a person, however §21.71(a)(5) focuses on a service and suggests the rewording of §21.71(a)(5) to be consistent with the other subsections in that section.
4. Regarding the experience requirements for a nurse administrator, the Committee notes the requirement of "experience" and questions the lack of specificity of the experience required. The Committee suggests the inclusion of specific experience requirements.
5. Regarding the provision in § 21.71(c)(2) setting the 5 year time limit for a faculty assistant to teach, the Committee questions the adequacy of the time limit and further suggests a mechanism whereby a faculty assistant may suspend the calculation of the 5 years if the faculty assistant is no longer teaching for a period of time.
6. The Committee also notes the overall lowering of standards for a nursing teacher and questions if the result of the change in regulations would create substandard nurses.

Sincerely,



P. Michael Sturla
Chairman, House Professional Licensure Committee

2631



House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

COMMITTEES

PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE – MAJORITY CHAIRMAN
AGRICULTURE & RURAL AFFAIRS
FINANCE
RULES
MAJORITY POLICY
CAPITOL PRESERVATION

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

SEP 26 PM 2:37

RECEIVED