Stephen D. Slater Funeral Home

Stephen D. Slater and J. Fred Slater, Funeral Directors Drew H. Slater, Student

1701 State Route 51 (Large) Jefferson Hills, Pennsylvania 15025-3664

2639

November 11, 2009

Mr. Arthur Coccodrilli, Chairman Independent Regulatory Review Commission 333 Market Street Harrisburg, PA 17101

Dear Chairman Coccodrilli:

My name is Stephen Slater, I am a licensed Pennsylvania Funeral Director and owner / Sole Proprietor of the Stephen D. Slater Funeral Home. Based upon information received from my state association, the Pennsylvania Funeral Directors Association, I am writing to you today to express my **strong support** for Regulation 16A - 4816 as proposed by the State Board of Funeral Directors.

Our State Board of Funeral Directors has held public hearings the past four years in order to address the issues raised in the federal court case <u>Walker v. Flitton (2005)</u>, prior to promulgation of Regulation 16A - 4816.

The State Board has carefully written this regulation to address the issues in the <u>Walker</u> case, while staying in compliance with the Funeral Director Law, which **prohibits** the offer to sell or selling of pre-need arrangements by unlicensed individuals.

This regulation addresses the need in the funeral profession to protect consumers, while at the same time preserving the integrity of the funeral director's license.

I respectfully request the IRRC's approval of Regulation 16A – 4816 in its current form.

Very truly yours,

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Stephen D. Slater

Cc: Honorable Senator John R. Pippy Honorable Representative David K. Levdansky Pennsylvania Funeral Directors Association



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