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October 21, 2007

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Mr. Arthur Coccodrilli, Chairman
Independent Regulatory Review Commission
333 Market Street, 14th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Re: Proposed Regulation #16A-4815 (Pre-Need Funeral Arrangements);
#16A-4816 (Pre-Need Activities of Unlicensed Employees)

Dear Chairman Coccodrilli:

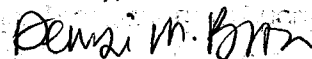
My name is Denise Brown. I am currently Vice President of Quality for The Association for Independent Growth, Inc. (TAIG), an organization supporting individuals throughout the Philadelphia area with mental retardation, mental illness, and related physical disabilities. Additionally, I recently became President-Elect of the Philadelphia Alliance, an association representing over forty service providers throughout Philadelphia. Finally, I am an individual who has prearranged my own funeral.

As is the case with many of my colleagues, I am writing you in opposition to the regulations regarding Pre-Need Funerals being proposed by the State Board of Funeral Directors. As service providers for individuals with disabilities, our goal is to provide independence and dignity during the lifetime of these individuals. Additionally, we have a moral obligation to these people and those who care for them to provide the same dignity upon their death. Through the prearrangement plan we have with Givnish, the team who provides services as well as the individuals with disabilities and their families are able to plan the service that they want. Through the payment plans, what was once impossible for the people we support, is now a reality.

As an individual who works in an environment where providing dignified, affordable, services for individuals is a daily struggle, I am puzzled why the State Board of Funeral Directors would propose regulations that would restrict access to prearranged funerals. As an individual who has prearranged my own funeral, I fail to see how these regulations protect the public.

I thank you in advance for reviewing my objections. Should you have any questions, or require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (215) 881-9996.

Sincerely,



Denise M. Brown