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November 16, 2007

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

Dear Chairman Coccodrilli,

On behalf of the 150,000 members of the Philadelphia Council AFL-CIO I am writing today to express my concern over proposed rule changes by the State Board of Funeral Directors regarding Pre-Need Funeral Sales and Pre-Need Activities of Unlicensed Individuals.

Part of the purpose of the AFL-CIO is to advocate on behalf of our member unions and the working men and women they represent. With health care costs on the rise and employers and employees alike feeling the effects, we are constantly seeking out unique benefits to bring to the unions. Over the past year, we have successfully negotiated with Givnish to offer pre-arranged funerals to our members. The response to this program was immediate and overwhelmingly positive.

It is my understanding that the proposed rulemaking would make it difficult, if not impossible, for Givnish to continue to offer discounted prearranged funerals to our members and others.

I am asking you to please take into account the many union members, and other working men and women across Pennsylvania, when you review these regulations.

Sincerely,


Patrick J. Eiding
President

cc: Governor Edward G. Rendell

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