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HARRISBURG

# 2712

October 9, 2008

RECEIVED  
2008 OCT 14 AM 9:21  
INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
REVIEW COMMISSION

Mr. Kim Kaufman  
Executive Director  
IRRC  
333 Market Street, 14th Floor  
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Re: Proposed Assisted Living Regulations

Dear Mr. Kaufman:

I am writing to express my concerns regarding the proposed regulation changes for assisted living facilities and the negative effect on the facilities in the 81<sup>st</sup> Legislative District. I personally feel that if enacted the end result will be that few, if any facilities in my legislative district will be able to gain licensure as an Assisted Living Residence, which in turn would place a heavy burden on the Commonwealth to care for our citizens who cannot afford or find assisted living arrangements.

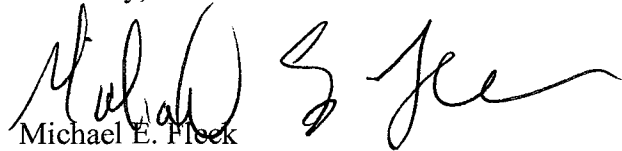
My primary areas of concern are: Dual Licensure, Licensure Fees, Physical Plant Requirements and Administrator Qualifications. Keeping in mind that Pennsylvania has one of the highest percentages of "older" population in the nation and is projected to have its population continue to age at a percentage higher than most of the nation. I feel the regulations as presented will spell disaster for our assisted living facilities.

I understand that regulatory changes are needed from time to time to ensure the residents of assisted living facilities are receiving quality living arrangements and care. Nevertheless, I personally support the concerns with the proposed regulations and the suggested changes as presented to me by PANPHA, Pennsylvania Healthcare Association, and Pennsylvania Assisted Living Association. The aforementioned make sense to me without placing a huge financial burden on our assisted living providers and seem to be more in line financially with the national averages for assisted living facilities.

In closing, I request that we consider the future of our facilities and their residents. While we must constantly be cognizant of the quality of our providers and the care given to their residents, we must also be realistic and consider the long term consequences of establishing regulations and requirements that will create a considerable financial burden on the facilities and their residents. Our goal is and should always be to provide the best, affordable living arrangements for our citizens who need assistance. Especially in these very uncertain financial times that we live in today.

Thank you for reading and considering my thoughts on this very serious matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael E. Flock". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Michael E. Flock  
State Representative  
81<sup>st</sup> Legislative District

cc: Woodland Retirement Center  
Epworth Manor  
Valley View Retirement Community  
Westminster Woods  
Shirley Home for the Aged, Inc.