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RECEIVED

JAY E. LAFF
31 Fairfax Lane
Annville, PA 17003

SEP 17 PM 2:03
INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

to
2712

Ms. Gail Weidman
Office of Long-Term Care Living
Bureau of Policy and Strategic Planning
PO Box 2576
Harrisburg, PA 17105

Dear Ms. Weidman:

Re: Proposed Rulemaking
DPW Assisted Living Residences
55 PA CODE CH. 2800

RECEIVED
08 SEP 15 AM 10:30
BUR OF LTC PGMS
REFER TO _____

Congratulations to the Pa Department of Welfare for this giant step forward in adding content and substance to Act 2007-56.

As a retired Nursing Home Administrator previously licensed in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Michigan, I go back as far as 1975 when Nursing Homes were transferred to the Department of Health under Re-Org. Plan #3 and Assisted Living Residences (then known as Boarding Homes and other derogatory names) were orphaned to seek definition and standing under Articles IV and X of the Public Welfare Code.

I am extremely comfortable seeing 55 PA. CODE CH. 2800 published as a basic framework which will, no doubt, be amended, modified, and improved as time and experience dictate.

There is one section on which I wish to comment and will defer to others for theirs.

Section 2800.16 speaks to Reportable Incidents and Conditions. At no time and nowhere in this Section is there any reporting obligation to Family, Next-of-Kin, or Responsible Party in the event of an incident i.e. fall out of bed, slip, trip, fall from a chair, etc. There is built-in self-preservation for the Facility in NOT taking precautionary steps of transportation to a Hospital's Emergency Room for Medical attention, tests and/or X-Rays, etc. In order to obviate creating a Reportable Incident to the Department which creates exposure, documentation, and paperwork for the Facility, conditions such as simple fractures may not receive the requisite

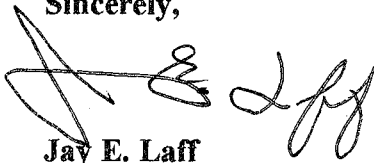
care and interested parties will never know, with serious potential harm to the Resident.

If the purpose of these Proposed Regulations is to protect the Assisted Living Residence, then I feel Section 2800.16 should be divided into incidents and conditions which warrant reporting to the Department and those that warrant advising and notifying Family, Next-of-Kin, or Responsible Party.

The expectation of accountability is basic; so, too, is the obligation of such accountability.

Thank you, again, for this progressive action for the benefit of the Citizens of the Commonwealth. Please free to contact me if any further clarification is required.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jay E. Laff", written over a printed name.

Jay E. Laff

**Cc: Honorable Mike Folmer
Honorable Mauree Gingrich**