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Office of Long Term Living
Bureau of Policy and Strategic Planning
P.O. Box 2675
Harrisburg, PA 17105
Attention: Bill White

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Dear Mr. White,

Once again AARP appreciates the opportunity to comment on proposed assisted living regulations. We are pleased to be included in this process.

AARP submitted comments in September 2008 to the previous draft of these regulations. We are pleased that a number of the points we brought up have been addressed. One area that was not addressed that we would like to mention once again is the opportunity for assisted living residences to provide information about advanced directives to residences at the time of the signing of the residential contract, which we believe would fit in Section 2800.25. Although completion of the advanced directive should never be a condition of acceptance, AARP feels the inclusion of information on advanced directives in the contract process would permit residents the opportunity to have their wishes respected if they are no longer able to make decisions on their own behalf.

AARP believes the Office of Long-Term Living has made a good faith effort to listen to all parties interested in the outcome of this regulatory process. AARP supports the draft document and our most urgent request is that the process be expedited in order to begin licensing assisted living facilities as quickly as possible. It is now two years since Pennsylvanians were told that assisted living would offer them a new option to receive long-term care services when legislation was signed into law by the Governor. AARP thinks the time has come to make this promise a reality.

AARP supports approval of this rulemaking package to establish standards for assisted living residences in Pennsylvania.

Sincerely,

Ray Landis
Advocacy Manager
AARP Pennsylvania
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