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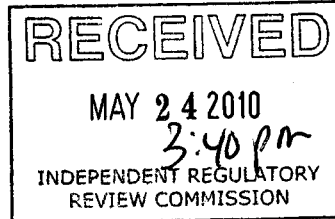
Our Mission is to assist and champion the efforts of local United Ways, provide statewide leadership on critical issues, and cultivate partnerships beneficial to the United Way system in Pennsylvania.



United Way of Pennsylvania

May 21, 2010

Edward J. Zogby, Director
Bureau of Policy
Health and Welfare Bldg. – 4th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17105



Edward J. Zogby, Director
Bureau of Policy

MAY 24 2010

REFER TO: _____

Dear Mr. Zogby:

This letter is in reference to the Department of Public Welfare's (DPW) proposed regulations titled, "Revisions to the Special Allowance for Supportive Services Requirements (# 14-518).

These regulations are needed to bring greater accountability to this important program while ensuring that these very important supports remain available for those who need them to be able to move from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), General Assistance (GA), and SNAP into employment.

Government in all segments is trying to increase the accountability of its programs and services. These proposed regulations bring increased integrity to areas where DPW has faced criticism for previously having had accountability deficiencies.

These regulations ensure that this program will be able to serve the greatest number of people with the limited resources available. While some may be concerned that limits on transportation and work-related expenses will cause hardship in some participants, this concern is outweighed by the opportunity to sustain the program for additional participants.

Finally, the changes do increase some program benefits for the participants, specifically the mileage rate for a private vehicle and the motor vehicle purchase amount. We support these increases as they more accurately reflect the costs to the program participant.

United Way of Pennsylvania supports DPW's "Revisions to the Special Allowance for Supportive Service Requirements" proposed regulations. We acknowledge these regulations seek to correct deficiencies in the current program and regulations.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tony Ross".

Tony Ross, President
United Way of Pennsylvania