Penn Medicine

University *of* Pennsylvania School *of* Medicine

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August 16, 2013

Independent Regulatory Review Commission
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Dear Commissioners,

We wanted to articulate our strong support for the regulations as proposed by the Department of Health, Emergency Medical Services System (regulation #10-190, IRRC #2917). Dr. Abella and I represent both the Department of Emergency Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, as well as the HeartRescue Pennsylvania Project, a broad collaborative five-year project to improve cardiac arrest outcomes in the Commonwealth. The HeartRescue Project has represented a unique and important collaboration between the Department of Health Bureau of EMS and stakeholders throughout the communities of Pennsylvania.

We enthusiastically recommend approval of these regulations, which are crucial to moving the needle to improve the health and safety of citizens of Pennsylvania. With the changing health care environment and growing stresses on our medical systems, high quality EMS care is more important than ever to safeguard the wellbeing of Commonwealth citizens. The new regulations represent an important advance that responds to the newest public health and emergency care science pertaining to pre-hospital care delivery.

We have been highly impressed with the passion and tremendous work effort of the Bureau of EMS to craft these regulations, in consultation with key stakeholders and opinion leaders. Department of Health EMS leadership clearly recognize the need for coordinated, efficient regulations that allow progress and growth for emergency care without adding undue burdens or stifling excellence. Pennsylvania has been fortunate to enjoy a highly successful EMS care system for many years, and these new regulations will continue this tradition and further progress for medical care in our Commonwealth.

Sincerely,

Lance Becker, MD

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