JOHN A. LAWRENCE STATE REPRESENTATIVE 13TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

House of Representatives

3015

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA HARRISBURG

Independent Regulatory Review Commission Chairman John F. Mizner, Esq. 333 Market Street, 14th Floor Harrisburg, PA 17101

Submitted via email: irrc@irrc.state.pa.us

RE: IRRC #3015, Regulation #2-159: Preferential Assessment of Farmland and Forest Land under the Clean and Green Act

May 27, 2015

Dear Chairman Mizner,

We write to advise of our concurrence in the recent interpretation of Chapter 137b regarding the definition of "agricultural use" as it relates to boarding horses. In our view, boarding horses is indeed a well-established and long-standing agricultural practice, and should be considered as such under the Clean and Green Act.

Additionally, we suggest the department add one more example under §137b.12. Since a pasture in and of itself is an "agricultural commodity," one of the examples should reflect that any pasture, regardless of whether the animals on it are bred and/or sold, is eligible for agricultural use. It would be appropriate for this example to be added at the next opportunity for regulatory review.

With this in mind, we urge the IRRC to approve the final-form regulation as submitted by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this matter.

Kind Regards,

John Lawrence 13th Legislative District

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RE: IRRC #3015, Regulation #2-159: Preferential Assessment of Farmland and Forest Land under the Clean and Green Act

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cc: Seatt Schalles~