

Comments of the Independent Regulatory Review Commission



State Board of Examiners in Speech-Language and Hearing Regulation #16A-6807 (IRRC #3028)

Continuing Education

December 4, 2013

We submit for your consideration the following comments on the proposed rulemaking published in the October 5, 2013 *Pennsylvania Bulletin*. Our comments are based on criteria in Section 5.2 of the Regulatory Review Act (71 P.S. § 745.5b). Section 5.1(a) of the Regulatory Review Act (71 P.S. § 745.5a(a)) directs the State Board of Examiners in Speech-Language and Hearing (Board) to respond to all comments received from us or any other source.

Section 45.502. Exemption and waiver. – Whether the regulation is consistent with the intent of the General Assembly.

The Board is adding the following sentence to Subsection (b): “A waiver request seeking an extension of time to complete required continuing education shall include the licensee’s plan to complete the required continuing education.” Section 5(7) of the Speech Language and Hearing Licensure Act (Act) (63 P.S. § 1705(7)) establishes continuing education requirements for licensees of the Board. This section allows the Board to waive all or part of continuing education requirements due to illness, emergency or hardship. However, the Act is silent on whether an extension of time to complete required continuing education is appropriate. We ask the Board to explain why it believes that the inclusion of this new language in the proposed regulation is consistent with Section 5(7) of the Act and the intent of the General Assembly.