

Independent Regulatory Review Commission 333 Market Street, 14th Floor Harrisburg, PA 17101

Regarding: Reg. No. 3176 Department of Human Services

#14-538: Outpatient Psychiatric Services and Psychiatric Outpatient

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Hello,

I am writing on behalf of the Pennsylvania Association of County Administrators of Mental Health and Developmental Services (PACA MH/DS). Our association is an affiliate of the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania (CCAP) and represents the 48 county-based entities responsible for the administration of mental health and developmental disability services. In addition, our membership includes 21 behavioral HealthChoices oversight agencies.

We support the final regulations filed under #14-5238 regarding Outpatient Psychiatric Services and Psychiatric Outpatient Clinics. The final regulations do reflect necessary updates that have occurred since the regulations were adopted over 30 years ago. The update to incorporate licensed and certified professionals to practice within their scope of practice creates extremely valuable resources. The updates will allow necessary services to be available, to support individuals in their treatment and recovery.

Sincerely,

Lucy Kitner

Executive Director PACA MH/DS

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