

Drug & Alcohol Service Providers Organization of P

Oct 18 2021 Independent Regulatory

Review Commission

10/18/2021

Jordan Lewis, Policy Director Department of Drug & Alcohol Programs 2601 N. 3rd Street, 5th Floor Harrisburg, PA 17110

RE: Regulation #74-4 Standards for Drug & Alcohol Recovery House Licensure

Dear Director Lewis,

The Drug and Alcohol Service Providers Organization of Pennsylvania very much supports the efforts of the Pennsylvania General Assembly and the Department of Drug & Alcohol Programs to ensure access to safe and stable housing for people in early recovery who do not have this resource available to them.

Development of regulations has indeed turned out to be a very complicated task and we recognize that a tremendous amount of effort has gone into this.

Recently, we reviewed at length the re-submitted version of the final-omitted regulation and multiple comments and concerns coming in from around the state. We have a suggestion. The development of proper standards here cries out for a public hearing – a public hearing that includes recovery home operators from around Pennsylvania who have expertise providing this service, Single County Authorities on Drugs & Alcohol, attorneys with expertise on the Americans with Disabilities Act and other relevant local/state laws, first responders including EMS, fire fighters and police and others with interest in the issue.

We recommend using as a starting point the proposed final-omitted regulation as well as current requirements that the Single County Authorities are already required to use to monitor their contracted recovery houses.

Sincerely,

Deb Beck

President/DASPOP

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cc: Independent Regulatory Review Commission