

SENATOR
WAYNE LANGERHOLC, JR.
35TH DISTRICT

SENATE BOX 203035
 HARRISBURG, PA 17120-3035
 (717) 787-5400

wlangerholc@pasen.gov
 senatorlangerholc.com



999 EISENHOWER BOULEVARD, SUITE E
 JOHNSTOWN, PA 15801
 (814) 266-2277 • FAX: (814) 266-0057
 16 N. FRONT STREET, SUITE 100
 CLEARFIELD, PA 16830
 (814) 765-0555 • FAX: (814) 765-0558

341 SCIENCE PARK ROAD, SUITE 201
 STATE COLLEGE, PA 16803
 (814) 806-1197 • FAX: (814) 806-1707



September 21, 2026

Delivered via email to:
 RA-DHCHAPTR27PROPREG@pa.gov
 irrc@irrc.state.pa.us

Re: Public Comment in Opposition to Department of Health Proposed Regulation 10-242

I am writing today dismayed by the Department of Health's proposed regulations, which sidestep the General Assembly and attempt to revive the draconian policies of the COVID-19 era.

My constituents decisively rejected this type of overreach when they adopted two constitutional amendments in 2021. Those amendments created a clear and balanced framework for managing emergencies, limited executive authority, precisely the overreach reflected in these regulations, and reaffirmed the legislature's central role, which is entirely absent from this process.

Since those amendments were adopted, the General Assembly has acted responsibly and collaboratively in moments of crisis, renewing and extending disaster declarations to support the I-95 bridge reconstruction, Hurricane Ida relief, and the Fern Hollow Bridge repairs. Time and again, the legislature has put politics aside to serve the Commonwealth. Yet these regulations suggest that this administration intends to place politics at the forefront of future emergency responses.

As a parent and a member of the School Safety and Security Committee, I am deeply troubled by provisions that would allow complete strangers to enter school buildings and question children about their medical history. This is a clear disregard for parental rights and raises serious concerns about student welfare. Such practices could discourage children from seeking needed medical care and create harmful mental-health effects for those already facing medical challenges.

It is equally concerning that the regulations authorize penalties for individuals who "interfere" with these strangers, without defining what "interference" means, placing teachers and school staff in an impossible position. These mandates appear to conflict with established school safety protocols and may violate collective bargaining agreements and workplace protections for educators. Forcing teachers to navigate vague legal risks merely for maintaining standard safety procedures is unacceptable.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, businesses across the Commonwealth were subjected to constantly shifting and often contradictory directives from the Wolf Administration, directives that devastated employers, workers, and entire communities. Many businesses are still struggling to recover, and countless others never reopened their doors. The economic scars remain visible in every corner of Pennsylvania. We

cannot allow state agencies to repeat these mistakes by granting themselves broad, unchecked authority that threatens the livelihoods of Pennsylvania families and small businesses.

Further, I am gravely concerned that these regulations would permit strangers to enter private homes without a warrant and ask deeply personal questions. This is an extraordinary intrusion on individual liberty and places both residents and these individuals in potentially dangerous circumstances, exposing the Commonwealth to significant liability.

I am alarmed by the proposed changes that would eliminate references to “pregnant woman” in favor of gender-neutral terminology. Childbirth is not a gender neutral process, and suggesting otherwise reflects an ideology driven approach that is disconnected from biological reality and everyday life.

These regulations are overreaching, burdensome, and emblematic of the very government action Pennsylvanians have already rejected. They raise far-reaching concerns, many of which are outlined above, and many more that remain unaddressed. I urge the Department to withdraw these regulations.

With Kind Regard,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Wayne Langerholc, Jr.", is positioned above the printed name.

WAYNE LANGERHOLC, JR.
State Senator
35th Senatorial District