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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY REVIEW COMMISSION
333 MARKET STREET, 14TH FLOOR, HARRISBURG, PA 17101

April 19, 2001

Honorable Johnny J. Butler, Secretary
Department of Labor & Industry
1700 Labor and Industry Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Re: Regulation #12-54 (IRRC #2038)
Department of Labor & Industry
Workers' Compensation Health and Safety

Dear Secretary Butler:

The Independent Regulatory Review Commission approved your regulation on April 19, 2001.
Our Order is enclosed and is available on our website at www.irrc.state.pa.us.

We appreciate the joint effort that went into producing a regulation that met the criteria and intent of the Regulatory Review Act.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Alvin C. Bush".

Alvin C. Bush
Vice Chairman

evp

Enclosure

cc: Honorable Robert J. Flick, Majority Chairman, House Labor Relations Committee
Honorable Robert E. Belfanti, Jr., Democratic Chairman, House Labor Relations Committee
Honorable Gibson E. Armstrong, Chairman, Senate Labor and Industry Committee
Honorable Christine M. Tartaglione, Minority Chairman, Senate Labor and Industry Committee

**INDEPENDENT REGULATORY REVIEW COMMISSION
APPROVAL ORDER**

Commissioners Voting:

Public Meeting Held April 19, 2001

John R. McGinley, Jr., Chairman, by Proxy
Alvin C. Bush, Vice Chairman
Arthur Coccodrilli
Robert J. Harbison, III
John F. Mizner

Regulation No. 12-54
Department of Labor and Industry
Workers' Compensation Health and Safety

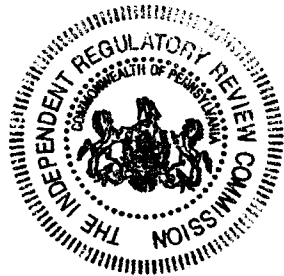
On June 4, 1999, the Independent Regulatory Review Commission (Commission) received this proposed regulation from the Department of Labor and Industry. This rulemaking amends Chapters 123 and 125, and adds Chapter 129 in Title 34 Pa. Code. The proposed regulation was published in the June 19, 1999 *Pennsylvania Bulletin* with a 30-day public comment period. The final-form regulation was submitted to the Commission on July 12, 2000, but was withdrawn prior to Commission action. A revised final-form regulation was submitted to the Commission on March 8, 2001. This revised final-form regulation was simultaneously withdrawn prior to action and resubmitted on March 23, 2001.

This final rulemaking implements the health and safety provisions of the Workers' Compensation Act, as amended by Act 44 of 1993 and Act 57 of 1996. The proposed regulation is intended to reduce the frequency and severity of accidents and illnesses resulting from the workplace. Approximately 600 carriers that write workers' compensation in the Commonwealth, 1,100 individual self-insured employers and 20 group self-insurance funds will be affected.

We have determined this regulation is consistent with the statutory authority of the Department of Labor and Industry (77 P.S. §§ 710, 991, 1038.1 and 1038.2) and the intention of the General Assembly. Having considered all of the other criteria of the Regulatory Review Act, we find promulgation of this regulation is in the public interest.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

This regulation is approved.





Alvin C. Bush, Vice Chairman