

May 28, 2014

Deborah Harvey
Division of Public Health
417 Federal Street
Dover, DE 19901

RE: DPH Proposed Cancer Registry Regulation [17 DE Reg. 1035 (May 1, 2014)]

Dear Ms. Harvey:

The Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens (GACEC) has reviewed the Division of Public Health (DPH) proposal to amend its implementing regulations converting health care provider cancer registry reporting to an "electronic" system from the current "paper" system. The Division is required to maintain a cancer registry by the Delaware Cancer Control Act codified at Title 16 Del.C. §§3201-3209. Council **endorses** the concept of switching to an electronic reporting system subject to consideration of the following amendments.

First, in §4.0, Council recommends deletion of the third sentence. It is unnecessary to reiterate the definition of a "non-hospital reporter" since it is already defined in §2.0.

Second, in §4.0, sixth sentence, Council recommends substituting "it is" for "they are" since the antecedent noun (provider) is singular.

Third, in §4.0, the eighth "sentence" reads as follows: "All data required by the reporting requirements of the National Cancer Data Base established by the American College of Surgeons." This is not a sentence since it lacks a predicate.

Fourth, in §4.0, ninth sentence, Council believes "request" should be "include".

Fifth, §§4.0 and 5.0 condense the scope of information related to patient residence and employment. This may not align with the enabling legislation. Consider the following:

A. Title 16 Del.C. §3204(2) requires reporting of the patient's "primary residential address". The regulation omits any reference to collection of such information.

B. Section §3204(2) requires reporting of "the location and nature of the patient's primary past employment." The regulation deletes the requirement of reporting the "name and address of employer" and merely contemplates identification of type of occupation. This is not consistent with the enabling law.

Thank you for your time and consideration of our observations. Please feel free to contact me or Wendy Strauss should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Terri A. Hancharick
Chairperson

TAH:kpc

CC: Dr. Karyl Rattay