

Terry A. Steczo

October 14, 2008

Ms. Susan Meister
Administrative Rules Coordinator
Illinois Department of Public Health
535 W. Jefferson Street, 5th Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

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DIVISION OF
LEGAL SERVICES

RE: Objection to proposed rule for Public Act 95-0671

Dear Ms. Meister,

I am writing as a private citizen and former state legislator involved with vision screening legislation during my tenure in the General Assembly, and as one who has followed the rulemaking process as it relates to Public Act 95-0671. In that regard, I find the proposed rules highly objectionable.

As a member of the legislature I was the original sponsor of Public Act 85-351 that allowed school boards to provide for mandatory vision testing. I truly believed then, and more firmly believe now, that a distinct correlation can be made between good vision and good academics. After reviewing the proposed rule I am of the opinion that it falls short of reaching the desired goal.

You recently received an objection from Dr. Floyd Woods who cited the omission of the Vision First report form as a cause for concern. I wholeheartedly agree with Dr. Woods' assessment. The amount of research, expertise and discussion from all quarters that resulted in the creation of the Vision First report form does provide a form, in Dr. Woods' words, "consistent with today's standards of eye and vision care". As a result, I object to the proposed rulemaking in Sections 665.160 and 665.630 and strongly urge the Department of Public Health to include the Vision First report form as an acceptable reporting form.

Yours very truly,


Terry A. Steczo

cc: Ms. Vicki Thomas, Executive Director
Joint Committee on Administrative Rules
700 Stratton Building
Springfield, Illinois 62706