



MENTAL RETARDATION BULLETIN

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA - DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE

DATE OF ISSUE

August 29, 1997

EFFECTIVE DATE

Immediately

NUMBER

00-97-06

SUBJECT:

**Act 26 of 1997
(Amending Act 28 of 1995)**

BY:

**Nancy R. Thaler
Deputy Secretary for Mental Retardation**

SCOPE:

County Mental Health/Mental Retardation Administrators
Base Service Unit Directors
Community Home Directors
Family Living Home Agency Directors
Adult Training Facility Directors
Vocational Facility Directors
State Center and Mental Retardation Unit Directors
Non-State Operated Intermediate Care Facility for the
Mentally Retarded (ICF/MR) Directors

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this bulletin is to distribute Act 26 of 1997.

DISCUSSION:

Act 26 of 1997 was enacted on June 25, 1997, with an effective date of sixty days from its enactment. A copy of the new legislation is attached.

The most significant relevance of Act 26 to persons in the mental retardation field is that Act 26 amends Act 28 of 1995 by adding “**intermediate care facility for the mentally retarded**” to the definition of “caretaker” as set forth in the Act. This includes State Centers and Mental Retardation Units as well as Non-State Operated Intermediate Care Facilities for the Mentally Retarded.

Attachment

COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS BULLETIN SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:

Appropriate Regional Mental Retardation Program Manager