



TICKET TO **W**ORK & **W**ORK INCENTIVES ADVISORY **P**ANEL



BY HAND DELIVERY

August 26, 2005

The Honorable Jo Anne B. Barnhart
Commissioner
Social Security Administration
6401 Security Boulevard, Room 100 Altmeyer
Baltimore, MD 21235

Dear Commissioner Barnhart:

The Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Advisory Panel understands that the Social Security Administration is planning to announce proposed changes to the Ticket to Work and Self-Sufficiency program regulations via a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM). We applaud this effort because we recognize that certain regulatory changes are necessary to make it possible for the program to fully achieve its purpose of helping Social Security beneficiaries with disabilities enter, or return to, the work force.

Given the Agency's current and planned marketing and outreach efforts, it is important that the NPRM, with its suggested program improvements, be published as soon as possible. We are requesting a timeline for the publication of the NPRM, including the expected date for receiving clearance from the Office of Management and Budget.

We continue to support the Agency in promoting the return to work efforts of beneficiaries with disabilities and to ensuring the successful implementation of the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Berthy De La Rosa Aponte'.

Berthy De La Rosa Aponte
Chair
Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Advisory Panel