**Section 510.115 Associate Director's Decision for Hearings Regarding a Blind Vendor**

a) For hearings related to the grievance of a blind vendor covered under Section 510.20(g), the Impartial Hearing Officer shall provide a recommended findings and decision to the Associate Director of DHS-ORS. The recommended findings and decision of the Impartial Hearing Officer shall be based upon the record of the hearing and shall set forth the principal issues and relevant facts adduced at the hearing, the applicable provision of law and regulation, and a recommended action. It shall also contain findings of fact and conclusions with respect to each of the issues and basis therefore.

b) Within 15 days after receipt of the recommended findings and decision, the Associate Director shall make a decision. The Associate Director's decision shall state the principal issues and relevant facts pertinent provisions of law, regulation and program procedures, the reasoning that led to the decision, and the vendor's right to appeal to the U.S. Department of Education pursuant to 34 CFR 395.13. A copy of the Impartial Hearing Officer's recommended findings and decision shall be attached to the Associate Director's letter. Copies of the final decision shall be sent to the vendor and his/her personal representative and to the Administrator, Business Enterprise Program for the Blind.

(Source: Amended at 27 Ill. Reg. 9576, effective June 13, 2003)