Regulatory Analysis Form (1) Agency Professional Standards and Practices Commission (2) I.D. Number (Governor's Office Use) 006-274 (3) Short Title		2000 JUNE 1 1 - AIELIE 38 	
Definitions of Statutory Terms			
(4) PA Code Cite	(5) Agency	y Contacts & Telephone Numbers	
22 PA. Code Chapter 237	Primar	ry Contact:	
	Second	Carolyn Angelo (717) 787-6576 dary Contact: Richard Hupper (717) 741-0223	
(6) Type of Rulemaking (check one)		(7) Is a 120-Day Emergency Certification Attached?	
Final Order Adopting Regulation Y		No X Yes: By the Attorney General Yes: By the Governor	
(8) Briefly explain the regulation in clear	r and nonted	chnical language.	
These proposed amendments are to Title 22, Chapter 237, which establishes definitions pursuant to section $5(a)(11)$ of the Professional Educator Discipline Act, 24 P.S. §2070.1 <i>et seq.</i> .			
(9) State the statutory authority for the r	egulation an	nd any relevant state or federal court decisions.	
Professional Educator Discipline	Act, 24 P.S	S. § 2070.5(a)(11).	

Regulatory Analysis Form

(10) Is the regulation mandated by any federal or state law or court order, or federal regulation? If yes, cite the specific law, case or regulation, and any deadlines for action.

Yes. The General Assembly specifically directed the Professional Standards and Practices Commission to promulgate definitions under section 5(a)(11) of the Professional Educator Discipline Act, 24 P.S. §2070.5(a)(11).

(11) Explain the compelling public interest that justifies the regulation. What is the problem it addresses?

The public has a compelling interest in a fair and efficient disciplinary system for professional educators and charter school staff members. These regulations provide definitions of statutory terms that allows for all affected parties to understand the meaning of the statutory terms, which often guide the Commission as the adjudicatory body for educator discipline.

(12) State the public health, safety, environmental or general welfare risks associated with nonregulation.

Not applicable.

(13) Describe who will benefit from the regulation. (Quantify the benefits as completely as possible and approximate the number of people who will benefit.)

The community most affected by the Definitions is that of the professional educator. To a lesser degree, the Department of Education is affected. To the extent that the amendments clarify the statutory terms, the affected communities are enhanced.

Regulatory Analysis Form

(14) Describe who will be adversely affected by the regulation. (Quantify the adverse effects as completely as possible and approximate the number of people who will be adversely affected.)

No one will be adversely affected by the Definitions.

(15) List the persons, groups or entities that will be required to comply with the regulation. (Approximate the number of people who will be required to comply.)

The Definitions apply to all educators who may come before the Commission in its official capacity. In addition, the Department of Education, in its prosecutorial role, must operate in compliance with the Definitions set forth in this Chapter.

(16) Describe the communications with and input from the public in the development and drafting of the regulation. List the persons and/or groups who were involved, if applicable.

The amendments to the Professional Educator Discipline Act (24 P.S. §2070.1 *et seq*) and the amendments to the Definitions were developed after considerable input from affected parties, including the Department of Education, the Pennsylvania State Education Association, Pennsylvania School Boards Association, Pennsylvania Federation of Teachers, Pennsylvania Association of Elementary and Secondary School Principals, and the Pennsylvania Association of School Administrators.

(17) Provide a specific estimate of the costs and/or savings to the regulated community associated with compliance, including any legal, accounting or consulting procedures which may be required.

Not applicable to the amendment of the Definitions.

Regulatory Analysis Form
(18) Provide a specific estimate of the costs and/or savings to local governments associated with compliance, including any legal, accounting or consulting procedures which may be required.
Not applicable to amendment of the Definitions.
(19) Provide a specific estimate of the costs and/or savings to state government associated with the implementation of the regulation, including any legal, accounting, or consulting procedures which may be required.
Not applicable to amendments to the Definitions.

Regulatory Analysis Form

(20) In the table below, provide an estimate of the fiscal savings and costs associated with implementation and compliance for the regulated community, local government, and state government for the current year and five subsequent years.

	Current FY Year	FY +1 Year	FY +2 Year	FY +3 Year	FY +4 Year	FY +5 Year
SAVINGS:	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Regulated Community						
Local Government						
State Government						
Total Savings						
COSTS:						
Regulated Community						
Local Government						
State Government						
Total Costs						
REVENUE LOSSES:						
Regulated Community						
Local Government						
State Government						
Total Revenue Losses						

(20a) Explain how the cost estimates listed above were derived.

Amendment of the Definitions will not engender any additional costs or savings.

	Regi	latory Analysis	Form	
(20b) Provide the pa	st three year expend	iture history for progr	ams affected by the r	egulation.
Program	FY -3	FY -2	FY -1	Current FY
Not applicable	<u> </u>	-		
			-	
		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
(21) Using the cost-b outweigh the adverse		rovided above, explai	n how the benefits of	the regulation
	chects and costs.			
The benefits of the to the extent that the the to the costs costs.	hey maximize the	efficiency and fair	ness of the discipli	
(22) Describe the no Provide the reasons f		ves considered and th	e costs associated wit	h those alternatives.
Not applicable.				
(23) Describe alterna Provide the reasons f		mes considered and th	ne costs associated wi	th those schemes.
No alternative reg	ulatory schemes v	vere considered.		

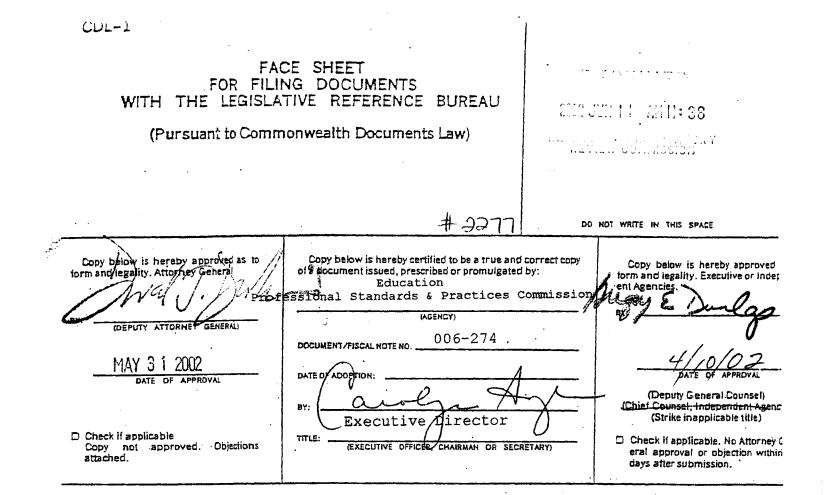
Regulatory Analysis Form
(24) Are there any provisions that are more stringent than federal standards? If yes, identify the specific provisions and the compelling Pennsylvania interest that demands stronger regulation.
No
•
(25) How does this regulation compare with those of other states? Will the regulation put Pennsylvania at a competitive disadvantage with other states?
The Definitions are specifically tailored to Pennsylvania's Professional Educator Discipline Act. Any comparison with the discipline system in other states would be meaningless.
(26) Will the regulation affect existing or proposed regulations of the promulgating agency or other state agencies? If yes, explain and provide specific citations.
No.
(27) Will any public hearings or informational meetings be scheduled? Please provide the dates, times, and locations, if available.
The Commission conducted a public comment period commencing with the publication of the proposed amendments to the regulations in the Pennsylvania Bulletin and concluding 30 days thereafter. In addition, considerable public input was solicited throughout the Commission's consideration of the amendments.

Regulatory Analysis Form (28) Will the regulation change existing reporting, record keeping, or other paperwork requirements? Describe the changes and attach copies of forms or reports which will be required as a result of implementation, if available. No. (29) Please list any special provisions which have been developed to meet the particular needs of affected groups or persons including, but not limited to, minorities, elderly, small businesses, and farmers. The Definitions are designed to meet the needs of all affected persons. (30) What is the anticipated effective date of the regulation; the date by which compliance with the regulation will be required; and the date by which any required permits, licenses or other approvals must be obtained?

The Definitions will become effective upon final publication in the Pennsylvania Bulletin.

(31) Provide the schedule for continual review of the regulation.

The Professional Standards and Practices Commission will review the Definitions on an ongoing basis and similarly will solicit comments from the affected parties on an ongoing basis.



Proposed Rulemaking

Department of Education Professional Standards and Practices Commission

> Title 22 - Education Chapter 237 Definitions of Statutory Terms

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PREAMBLE

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION 22 PA. CODE - EDUCATION Chapter 237, Title 22

The Professional Standards and Practices Commission (Commission) now proposes to amend Chapter 237, as set forth in Annex A, under the authority of sections 5(a)(11) and 9.2 of the Professional Educator Discipline Act.

The Commission was created by the Act of December 12, 1973 (P.L. 397, No. 141) as amended by the act of November 21, 2000 (P.L. 918, No. 123) (now known as the Professional Educator Discipline Act (Act)) 24 P.S. §2070.1 *et seq.* By virtue of the Act, the General Assembly has empowered the Commission to discipline professional educators and charter school staff members. In addition, the General Assembly directed the Commission to establish definitions consistent with its authority to discipline under sections 5(a)(11) and 9.2 of the Act. Accordingly, the Commission did promulgate definitions found at Title 22 of the Pennsylvania Code, Chapter 237 in May of 1994.

Purpose

This chapter establishes definitions pursuant to sections 5(a) (11) and 9.2 of the Professional Educator Discipline Act, 24 P.S. §2070.1.1 et seq. The Professional Educator Discipline Act recently was amended by the act of November 21, 2000 (P.L. 918, No.

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 PREAMBLE
 January 30, 2002

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123) and the proposed revisions to this chapter reflect the amendments to the Act.

Requirements of the Regulations

The most significant new requirements under the proposed amendments to this chapter are:

- 1. The proposed amendments recognize the extended jurisdiction of the Commission to discipline charter school staff members, as well as professional educators, as contemplated by the recent amendments to the Professional Educator Discipline Act.
- 2. The standard for &morals of a community within the definition of immorality has been changed from a local standard to a statewide standard to comport with the overall mission of the Commission.
- 3. A definition for the term `surrender in lieu of discipline' has been added to this chapter to reflect the recent amendments to the Professional Educator Discipline Act, which designated a surrender in lieu of discipline as a specific type of discipline. The most significant impact of this designation is that surrenders in lieu of discipline are now considered public under the Act.

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Affected Parties

This chapter primarily affects all professional educators who have been certified by the Pennsylvania Department of Education as well as charter school staff members, who are employed by a charter school in a position for which Pennsylvania certification would be required in a public school other than a charter school, but who are not required to hold state certification under 24 P.S. §1724-A.

Cost and Paperwork Estimates

It is not anticipated that the proposed amendments to this chapter will engender any additional costs or paperwork for affected parties, which include professional educators, charter school staff members, local school districts and the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

Effective Date

These regulations will become effective upon final publication in the <u>Pennsylvania</u> <u>Bulletin</u>.

Sunset Date

The Professional Standards and Practices Commission will review the effectiveness of Chapter 237 on an ongoing basis. Thus, no sunset date is necessary.

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Regulatory Review

Under Section 5(a) of the Regulatory Review Act, (71 P.S. § 745.5(a)), the Professional Standards and Practices Commission submitted a copy of these proposed regulations on June 11, 2002, to the Independent Regulatory Review Commission and to the Chairpersons of the House and Senate Committees on Education. In addition to submitting the regulations, the Professional Standards and Practices Commission has provided the Commission and the Committees with a copy of a detailed Regulatory Analysis Form prepared by the Board in compliance with Executive Order 1982-2, "Improving Government Regulations." A copy of this material is available to the public upon request.

If the Committees have any objections to any portion of the proposed regulations, they will notify the Professional Standards and Practices Commission by 20 days from the close of the public comment period. If the Commission has any objections to any portion of the proposed regulations, it will notify the Professional Standards and Practices Commission within 10 days of the close of the Committees' review period. Such notification shall specify the regulatory review criteria which have not been met by that portion. The act specifies detailed procedures for review, prior to final publication of the regulations, by the Professional Standards and Practices Commission, the General Assembly and the Governor of objections raised.

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Public Comments and Contact Person

Interested persons are invited to submit written comments, suggestions or objections regarding this proposal to Carolyn Angelo, Executive Director of the Professional Standards and Practices Commission, 333 Market Street, Harrisburg, PA 17126-0333 within 30 days following publication in the <u>Pennsylvania Bulletin</u>. Persons needing additional information regarding this proposal may contact Carolyn Angelo at (717) 787-6576.

Persons with disabilities needing an alternative means of providing public comment may make arrangements by calling Ms. Angelo at (717) 787-6576.

Alternative formats of these proposed regulations (e.g. Braille, large print, cassette tape) can be made available to members of the public upon request to Ms. Angelo at the telephone number listed above.

By the Professional Standards and Practices Commission:

Carolyn Angelo Executive Director

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ANNEX A

TITLE 22. EDUCATION PART XIV. PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION CHAPTER 237. DEFINITIONS OF STATUTORY TERMS

237.1	Purpose.
237.2	Scope and effect.
237.3	Immorality.
237.4	Incompetency.
237.5	Intemperance.
237.6	Reserved [Habitual use of drugs or narcotics].
237.7	Cruelty.
237.8	Negligence.
237.9	Crimes [and misdemeanors] involving moral turpitude.
237.10	Surrender in lieu of discipline.

§ 237.1. Purpose

(a) Under section 5(a)(11) and section 9.2 of the act of December 12, 1973

(P.L. 397, No. 141), as amended by the act of November 21, 2000 (P.L. 918, No.

<u>123),</u> (act) (24 P. S. § [12-1255] <u>2070.5(a)(11)</u>), known as the [Teacher

Certification Law] Professional Educator Discipline Act, the Professional

Standards and Practices Commission (Commission) is vested with the duty and

granted the power to discipline professional educators and charter school staff

members [charged with or convicted of certain criminal offenses or found guilty

by the Commission, after hearing, of certain statutory offenses] and to consider

the reinstatement applications of professional educators and charter school staff

members who seek to have previously revoked or suspended certificates or

eligibility reinstated.

(b) Under section 5(a)(11) of the act, the Commission has adopted this subchapter to define terms in [section 5(a)(11) of] the act which describe the conduct for which discipline of a professional educator <u>or charter school staff</u> <u>member</u> might be imposed by the Commission.

(c) This subchapter is not the sole authority for defining terms under sections 5(a)(11) and 9.2 of the act. Judicial interpretations and adjudications of the Commission will authoritatively define the statutory terms. Judicial decisions and decisions of the Secretary under Article XI, Part C of the Public School Code of 1949 (24 P. S. § § 11-1121—11-1133)[—], known as the Teachers' Tenure Act, [—] and decisions of the Secretary under the Teachers' Tenure Act are not binding upon the Commission but may [will] be regarded as persuasive authority.

(d) The standards and conduct expected of a professional educator <u>or charter</u> <u>school staff member</u> are also prescribed by Chapter 235 (relating to Code of Professional Practice and Conduct for Educators), the violation of which may be grounds for discipline.

(e) The definitions found in section 1.1 of the act are incorporated herein by reference.

§ 237.2. Scope and effect.

(a) Applicability. This subchapter applies to the terms in sections 5(a)(11) and
 9.2 of the act of December 12, 1973 (P. L. 397, No. 141), as amended by the act
 of November 21, 2000 (P.L. 918, No. 123) [(act)], known as the [Teacher
 Certification Law] Professional Educator Discipline Act, and proceedings before

Annex A

the Commission. This subchapter does not apply to similar or identical terms used in other regulations or statutes, including section 1122 of the Public School Code of 1949 (24 P. S. § 11-1122), or to proceedings before a board of school directors or the Secretary under Article XI of the Public School Code of 1949 (24 P. S. § 11-1121—11-1133), known as Teachers Tenure Act, or to proceedings before the Secretary under sections 2(i) and (j) of the act of May 29, 1931 (P. L. 210, No. 126), and section 1211 of the Public School Code of 1949, which were partially preserved from repeal by section 2 of the act of April 26, 1990 (P.L. 122, No. 33).

(b) *Statewide effect.* The act and this subchapter will be construed and applied by the Commission in the context of the Commission's power and duty to determine the present, continuing and future fitness and ability of a person to properly perform in this Commonwealth the duties and responsibilities of a professional educator <u>or charter school staff member</u> [in the area of the person's certification].

§ 237.3. Immorality.

[(a) *Definition*.] Immorality is conduct which offends the morals of [a community] <u>the Commonwealth</u> and is a bad example to the youth whose ideals a professional educator <u>or a charter school staff member</u> has a duty to foster and elevate.

[(b) *Morals of a community*. For purposes of the definition of the term "immorality" set forth in subsection (a), the "morals of a community" means the morals of the community in which the professional educator is employed.]

§ 237.4. Incompetency.

Incompetency is a continuing or persistent mental or intellectual inability or incapacity to perform the services expected of a professional educator <u>or a</u> <u>charter school staff member</u>.

§ 237.5. Intemperance.

Intemperance is a loss of self-control or self-restraint, which may result from excessive conduct.

§ 237.6. Reserved [Habitual use of drugs or narcotics].

(a) *Definition.* Habitual use of drugs or narcotics is the illegal or improper use of drugs or narcotics on a frequent or regular basis.

(b) *Drugs and narcotics.* The terms "drug or narcotics" as used in section
5(a)(11) of the act of December 12, 1973 (P. L. 397, No. 141), known as the
Teacher Certification Law (24 P. S. § 12-1225(a)(11)) are defined as the terms
"drug" and "narcotic" are defined in section 2 of The Controlled Substance,
Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act (35 P. S. § 780-102), and as the term "drug" is
defined by section 2 of the Pennsylvania Drug and Alcohol Abuse Control Act (71
P. S. § 1690.102).]

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§ 237.7. Cruelty.

Cruelty is the intentional, malicious and unnecessary infliction of physical or psychological pain upon living creatures, particularly human beings.

§ 237.8. Negligence.

(a) *Definition*. Negligence is <u>a</u> continuing or persistent actions or omissions in violation of a duty.

(b) *Duty.* A duty may be established by law, by duly promulgated school rules, <u>policies</u> or procedures, by express direction from superiors or by duties of professional responsibility, including duties prescribed by Chapter 235 (relating to Code of Professional Practice and Conduct for Educators).

§ 237.9. Crimes [and misdemeanors] involving moral turpitude.

(a) *Definition*. Moral turpitude includes the following:

(1) That element and <u>of</u> personal misconduct in the private and social duties which a person owes to his fellow human beings or to society in general, which characterizes the act done as an act of baseness, vileness or depravity, and contrary to the accepted and customary rule of right and duty between two human beings; $_{\tau\tau}$

(2) Conduct done knowingly contrary to justice, honesty or good morals;

or

(3) Intentional, knowing or reckless conduct causing bodily injury to another or intentional, knowing or reckless conduct which, by physical menace, puts another in fear of imminent serious bodily injury.

(b) Elements of the crime [or misdemeanor]. A determination of whether a crime [or misdemeanor] involves moral turpitude will be determined based solely upon the elements of the crime [or misdemeanor]. The underlying facts or details of an individual criminal charge, indictment or conviction [is] <u>are</u> not relevant to the issue of moral turpitude. [The actual guilt or professed innocence of the charged, indicted or convicted professional educator is not relevant.]

(c) Specific crimes [or misdemeanor]. Crimes [or misdemeanors] involving moral turpitude <u>per se</u> include the following:

(1) An offense under 18 Pa.C.S. (relating to crimes and offenses) listed in section 111(e)(1) of the Public School Code of 1949 (24 P.S. § 1-111(e)(1)). <u>At</u> any time subsequent to the adoption of this chapter should section 111(e)(1) be amended to add or delete crimes, the Commission shall consider each additional or deleted crime to determine if such crime involves moral turpitude *per se* and shall vote at a public meeting whether the crime shall be designated as involving moral turpitude *per se* for purposes of cases coming before the Commission under section 9.2 of the Professional Educator Discipline Act (24 P.S. §2070.9.2).

(2) An offense designated as a felony under The Controlled Substance,Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act (35 P. S. § § 780-101-780-144).

(3) An offense of a criminal law of the Commonwealth, the Federal government or another state or territory of the United States, <u>or another nation</u> an element of which offense is delivery of a controlled substance or possession of a controlled substance with intent to deliver.

(4) A State offense, out-of-State offense or Federal offense <u>or an offense</u> of another nation similar in nature to crimes listed in paragraphs (1)---(3).

(d) Certified copy. For purposes of section [5(a)(11)] <u>9.2</u> of the act of December 12, 1973 (P. L. 397, No. 141), <u>as amended by the Act of November</u> <u>21, 2000 (P.L. 918, No.123)</u>, known as the[Teacher Certification Law] <u>Professional Educator Discipline Act (24 P. S. § [12-1225] 2070.9.2</u>) [(act)] and this section, a document certified by the clerk of court or other judicial officer designated by law as the official custodian of criminal court records <u>or certified by</u> <u>the official custodian of the appropriate licensing authority in another state,</u> <u>territory or nation</u> will be treated by the Commission as a certified copy of the document.

(e) *Indictment*. Indictment under section [5(a)(11)] <u>9.2</u> of the act includes a criminal complaint, criminal information or other similar document filed in a court of competent jurisdiction.

(f) Conviction. The term conviction under section [5(a)(11)] <u>9.2</u> of the act is defined to mean the <u>verdict</u>, <u>judgment or sentence</u> [entry of a judgment of sentence] or the entry of an order which constitutes a final order by the sentencing court. [Judgment of sentence following a] <u>A</u> plea of <u>guilty or</u> nolo contendere constitutes a conviction for purposes of this section.

§237.10. Surrender in lieu of discipline.

A professional educator's teaching certificate or a charter school staff member's eligibility to teach will be considered surrendered in lieu of discipline whenever the certificate or eligibility is surrendered to the Department after a local school entity furnishes the educator or charter school staff member with a written statement of charges for dismissal under section 1127 of the Public School Code of 1949 (24 P.S. §11-1127), or after the educator or charter school staff member is discharged for cause by a local school entity, or after the Department receives a report concerning the educator or charter school staff member under section 9.1 of the act, or after the Department receives a complaint concerning the educator or charter staff member under section 9 of the act.



Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Professional Standards and Practices Commission

333 Market Street, Harrisburg, PA 17126-0333 Phone: (717) 787-6576 TTY (717) 783-8445 FAX (717) 783-0583 June 11, 2002

Robert E. Nyce Executive Director Independent Regulatory Review Commission 14th Floor 333 Market Street Harrisburg, PA 17126

> Re: Proposed Regulations --- Title 22, Chapter 237 #006-274

Dear Mr. Nyce:

Enclosed please find copies of proposed regulations for review by the Independent Regulatory Review Commission pursuant to the Regulatory Review Act. The proposed regulations, Chapter 237 (regulatory package # 006-274), provide amendments to definitions for specific terms used in the Professional Educator Discipline Act, 24 P.S. §2070.1 <u>et seq.</u>

The Regulatory Review Act provides that the Commission must, within 10 days from the closing date of the Committees' review period, submit comments to the Professional Standards and Practices Commission regarding the regulations. We anticipate that the regulations will be published in the <u>Pennsylvania Bulletin</u> on June 22, 2002.

The Professional Standards and Practices Commission will provide your Commission with any assistance necessary to facilitate a thorough review of these proposed regulations. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Argelb Executive Director

cc: Richard Hupper Charles B. Zogby Linda Barrett, Esquire

TRANSMITTAL SHEET FOR REGULATIONS SUBJECT TO THE REGULATORY REVIEW ACT

I.D. NUMBE	ER: 6-274
SUBJECT:	Definitions of Statutory Terms
AGENCY:	DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
X	TYPE OF REGULATION Proposed Regulation
	Final Regulation with Notice of Proposed Rulemaking Omitted
	Final Regulation Final Regulation with Notice of Proposed Rulemaking Omitted 120-day Emergency Certification of the Attorney General
	120-day Emergency Certification of the Attorney General
	120-day Emergency Certification of the GovernorDelivery of Tolled Regulationa.With Revisionsb.Without Revisions
DATE	FILING OF REGULATION
	SIGNATURE DESIGNATION
6/11/02	U. Oferry
10/11/02	SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
6/11/02	<u>Eleven</u> independent regulatory review commission
	ATTORNEY GENERAL
(disfor (LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

June 5, 2002