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		This space for use by IRRC
(1) Agency	n en general de la companya de la c	
Department of State, Bureau of Pr Occupational Affairs, State Board of		
(2) I.D. Number (Governor's Office Us	se)	
16A-5717		IRRC Number: 2497
(3) Short Title	****	
Biennial Renewal Fees		
(4) PA Code Cite	(5) Agency Contacts & To	elephone Numbers
49 Pa. Code §31.41	•	•
(6) Type of Rulemaking (check one)	(7) Is a 120-D Attached?	ay Emergency Certification
X Proposed Rulemaking Final Order Adopting Regulation Final Order, Proposed Rulemaking Omitted	<u>X</u> No Yes: By t	he Attorney General he Governor
(8) Briefly explain the regulation in cle The Board proposes to amends veterinarians and veterinary technic	its fee schedule to incr	ease the biennial renewal fees for

sustaining. The Board proposes to increase the biennial fee for veterinarians from \$225 to \$300 and for

technicians from \$60 to \$75 in order to assure that its revenues will meet its expenditures.

(9) State the statutory authority for the regulation and any relevant state or federal court decisions.

Section 13 of the Veterinary Medicine Practice Act (63 P.S. §485.13).

(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. Sections 13(a) and (b) of the Veterinary Medicine Practice Act (63 P.S. §485.13(a) and (b)) require that Board fees be fixed by regulation and that fees be increased if not sufficient to meet expenditures.

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

The new fees will allow the Board to comply with the legislative mandate of its enabling statute that the Board sustain its operating and enforcement costs through fees imposed on its licensees.

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

If the Board does not increase its fees in accordance with its statutory mandate, the public health and safety may be adversely affected by a reduction in enforcement efforts to regulate the practice of veterinary medicine in the Commonwealth.

(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 general public and regulated practitioners will benefit from fee increases which assure that the Board will have sufficient revenue to carry out its operating and enforcement activities and ensure the Commonwealth will have an adequate supply of competent practitioners.

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(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.)

On a biennial basis approximately 3,325 veterinarians and 1,026 veterinarian technicians who apply for biennial renewal will pay an additional \$75.00 and \$15.00 respectively. This represents a biennial cost to the regulated community of \$249,375.00 for veterinarians and \$15,390.00 for veterinarian technicians.

(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.)

Approximately 3,325 veterinarians and 1,026 veterinarian technicians renew their licenses biennially.

(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 amendment was developed in consultation with the Department of State budget and fiscal offices. In drafting the regulation, the Board considered the fees as both required by law and the least restrictive means of covering the costs of services required to be performed by the Board.

(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.

No legal, accounting or consulting costs are anticipated as a result of the amendment. Biennial renewal fees will total \$997,500.00 for veterinarians and \$76,950.00 for veterinary technicians.

		حيد تاريب المتحجج سعيد بالتاري		California - Anthera California					- Contraction of the second	
(18)	) Provide a	a specific	estimate o	of the c	osts and/or	savings	to local	governments	associated	with
con	pliance, inc	luding any	y legal, acco	ounting	or consultir	ig procedu	res which	ch may be requ	uired.	

Local governments would not be affected by this amendment.

(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.

Because the Board must charge fees that reflect its actual costs in providing services to licensees and applicants, implementing the amendment will produce no identifiable costs or savings to state government. (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.

	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010
SAVINGS:	\$NA	\$NA	\$NA	\$NA	\$NA	\$NA
Regulated Community						
Local Government						
State Government						
Total Savings						
COSTS:	0	0	264,765	0	264,765	0
Regulated Community	0	0	264,765	0	264,765	0
Local Government						
State Government		<u>}</u>				
Total Costs	0	0	264,765	0	264,765	0
<b>REVENUE LOSSES:</b>	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Regulated Community						
Local Government						
State Government						
Total Revenue Losses		<u> </u>				

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

Cost estimates to the regulated community were derived by multiplying the proposed fee increase by the number of licensees. The biennial renewal fee will become effective for licenses renewed November 30, 2006.

3,325 veterinarians x \$75 (increase) = \$249,375 1,026 veterinary technicians x \$15 (increase) = <u>\$ 15,390</u> \$264,765

	Re	gulatory Analysis	s Form				
(20b). Provide the p	ast three year exper	diture history for pro	grams affected by the	regulation.			
Program	FY -01-02	FY02-03	FY03-04	Budgeted 04-05			
State Board of Veterinary Medicine 359,780.14 397,604.84 423,064.31 457,000.00							
(22) Describe the n Provide the reasons	Board's biennial r onregulatory alterna s for their dismissal	evenue, by law, mus	s operations and enfor at meet or exceed bies the costs associated v Section 13(b) of the oproach.	nnial expenditures.			
(23) Describe alter Provide the reasons		chemes considered a	nd the costs associate	d with those scheme			

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# **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.

# There are no federal standards that apply.

(25) How does this regulation compare with those of other states? Will the regulation put Pennsylvania at a competitive disadvantage with other states?

### Veterinarians

	Application Fee	Biennial Renewal Fee
Pennsylvania	\$35	\$300 (proposed)
New Jersey	\$200	\$250
Ohio	\$250 to 375 (by examination), \$300 to 425 (by reciprocity)	\$150 to 450 (by date)
West Virginia	\$200	\$300

## Veterinary Technicians

	Application Fee	Biennial Renewal Fee
Pennsylvania	\$35	\$75 (proposed)
New Jersey	Not licensed	Not licensed
Ohio	\$35 to 60	\$35 to 60 (by date)
West Virginia	\$60	\$40

The fees proposed for veterinarians are comparable to the fees in those surrounding states that are also required to have the state's governing board be self-sustaining. The fees proposed for veterinary technicians are slightly higher than the fees in surrounding states; however, many employers pay the renewal fee for their employees. The proposed fees should not cause a competitive disadvantage to Pennsylvania in attracting competent veterinarians and veterinary technicians or in providing consumers with access to veterinary care.

(26) Will the regulation affect existing or proposed regulations of the promulgating agency or other state agencies? If yes, explain and provide specific citations.

The regulation proposes to amend § 31.41, (relating to schedule of fees) in existing regulations. The proposal will not affect other regulations of the Board or other state agencies.

(27) Will any public hearings or informational meetings be scheduled? Please provide the dates, times, and locations, if available.

The Board provides an opportunity for public input into its activities, including its rulemaking proposals, at its regulatory scheduled monthly meetings. The dates, times and places of the Board's meetings are available at the Department of State's website, <u>www.dos.state.pa.us</u>.

# **Regulatory Analysis Form**

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(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 Board has identified no group or subset of a group with particular needs which would be affected by the amendment. Therefore, no special provisions have been developed or anticipated.

(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?

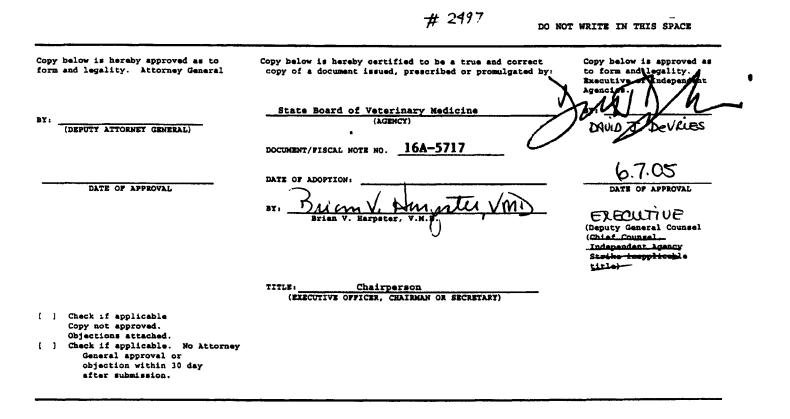
The amendment will be effective on publication of the final form regulation in the <u>Pennsylvania</u> <u>Bulletin.</u> The new fee will be required for the biennial renewal period commencing November 30, 2006.

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

As part of its annual review process, the Board will review the effectiveness of this regulation.

### FACE SHEET FOR FILING DOCUMENTS WITH THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

(Pursuant to Commonwealth Documents Law)



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PROPOSED RULEMAKING COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF STATE BUREAU OF PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL AFFAIRS STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE 49 PA. CODE, CHAPTER 31 BIENNIAL RENEWAL FEES

16A-5717 Preamble Biennial Fee-P May 9, 2005

The State Board of Veterinary Medicine (Board) proposes to amend § 31.41 (relating to schedule of fees) to read as set forth in Annex A. The proposed regulation would increase the biennial license renewal fee for veterinarians from \$225 to \$300, and would increase the biennial license renewal fee for certified veterinary technicians from \$60 to \$75.

### **Effective Date**

The amendment will be effective upon final publication in the <u>Pennsylvania Bulletin</u>. The new fees will take effect for the biennial period commencing December 1, 2006.

### **Statutory Authority**

Section 13(a) of the Veterinary Medicine Practice Act (act) (63 P.S. § 485.13(a)) requires the Board to fix the fees for renewal of licenses and certificates by regulation. Section 13(b) of the act (63 P.S. § 485.13(b)) requires the Board to increase fees when revenues raised by fees, fines and civil penalties are not sufficient to meet expenditures.

### **Background and Need for Amendment**

The Board's current biennial license renewal fees were established by regulation and took effect for the December 1, 2000, biennial renewal period. The Board is required by law to support its operations from revenue it generates from fees, fines and civil penalties. The Veterinary Medicine Practice Act mandates that the Board protect the public by adopting rules and regulations that govern the practice of veterinary medicine and administer and enforce the laws, rules and regulations that relate to the practice of veterinary medicine.

The Board raises virtually all its revenue through fees and the biennial license renewal fee is the most substantial revenue-generating fee of the fees charged by the Board. If the Board anticipates that its revenue will not meet its expenditures, the Board must increase its revenue.

At its March 17, 2005, Board meeting, the Offices of Revenue and Budget for the Department of State presented a summary of the Board's actual revenues and expenses for fiscal years (FY) 1999 - 2000 to FY 2002 - 2003 and projected revenues and expenses for FY 2005 - 2006 through FY 2010 - 2011.

At the close of FY 2003 - 2004, the Board's expenses exceeded its revenues by \$36,890.59. The Budget Office estimates that deficits will continue to grow, with an anticipated 2007 - 2008

deficit of \$79,890.59 and a FY 2009 – 2010, projected deficit of \$182,890.59. The Budget Office anticipates that the proposed new fees will enable the Board to recapture the current deficit and meet its estimated expenditures through at least FY 2010 - 2011.

The Board, as with other licensing boards and commissions within the Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs, budgets on the basis of the following categories: Administrative Costs, broken into Board Administration (bureau-wide operating expenses such as printed forms, office supplies, interagency billings), Commissioner's Office (staff expenses) and Departmental Services (centralized support services such as the executive office, public information office, and legislative affairs office); Legal Costs, broken into Legal Office (staff expenses), Hearing Expenses (staff of hearing examiner's office and stenographer services) and Legislative and Regulatory Analysis (staff expenses); Enforcement and Investigation Costs, broken into Non-Travel (staff expenses) and Travel expenses; Professional Health Monitoring Program Expenses (staff expenses); and Board Member Expenses (travel to meetings, accommodations when necessary).

The increases in the Board's biennial expenses occurred due to increases in costs of both Board services and Departmental expenses. The increases experienced by the Board itself are primarily in cost centers allocated to law enforcement costs and legal office costs. These increased expenditures are directly related to increases in the number of complaints filed, number of cases prosecuted and discipline imposed, the complexity of the cases, number of regulations promulgated and, finally, number of appeals taken to Commonwealth Court.

The increased expenses in the areas of law enforcement and legal office expenses have been the most significant, as indicated by the following.

Law Enforcement Expenses

<u>Budgeted</u> FY99-00 \$99,500 FY00-01 \$91,000	Expended \$68,941 \$99,403
FY01-02 \$96,000	\$148,372
FY02-03 \$105,000	\$175,556
FY03-04 \$170,000	\$209,209.86 (projected)
Legal Office Expenses	
Budgeted	Expended
FY99-00, \$85,500	\$62,743
FY00-01 \$72,450	\$101,404
FY01-02 \$95,000	\$99,995
FY02-03 \$98,000	\$114,844

FY03-04 \$135,000

### \$129,151 (projected)

An increased number of complaints have been filed with the Board. In the 4 years leading up to the last biennial renewal fee increase, the Board averaged 99.25 complaints filed per year. From 2000 through 2003, an average of 125.75 complaints were filed each year. Each complaint filed produces costs in law enforcement and in the complaints and prosecution divisions of the legal office. Of particular note are the expenses incurred in expert review of files involving practice issues. For those cases in which formal charges are filed, additional legal expenses are incurred through the legal counsel division and hearing examiner's office. In the 4-year period from 1996-1999, an average of 5.5 disciplinary sanctions were imposed each year, with an average of one serious sanction imposed each year. In the 4-year period from 2000-2003, an average of 17.5 disciplinary sanctions were imposed each year, with an average of four serious sanctions imposed. The increase in the number of serious sanctions imposed indicates an increase in the complexity of cases before the Board, as serious sanctions are likely to be imposed only in cases involving veterinary malpractice. Serious sanctions include active suspension or revocation.

Additionally, the Board incurred unprecedented legal expenses in defending Board actions in disciplinary matters on appellate review. Only one appeal was filed in 2002 and none were filed in 2003. By comparison, four appeals were filed in 2004, and two appeals have been filed thus far in 2005.

The Board's regulatory agenda has also generated additional costs in the legal counsel division and regulatory review division. One rulemaking became final in each year from 2001 to 2003. In 2004, two rulemakings became final. The Board currently has drafts of four rulemaking packages, which will likely be proposed in 2005.

Departmental expenses allocated in part to the Board included a one-time additional charge of \$60,000 associated with its testing administration contract. In addition, during the 2003-2004 fiscal year, additional costs were incurred as a result of one-time charges to the Department for personnel costs. This one time charge was split equitably within the Professional Licensure Augmentation Account and other related restricted accounts administered by the Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs (BPOA).

### **Description of Proposed Amendments**

Based upon the above expense and revenue estimates provided to the Board, the Board proposes to amend its fee schedule at § 31.41 to increase the fee for biennial renewal of licenses for veterinarians from \$225 to \$300 and increase the fee for veterinary technicians from \$60 to \$75. By this increase, the Board will recoup its deficit and offset the projected deficits.

16A-5717 Preamble Biennial Fee-P September 15, 2005

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### **Compliance with Executive Order 1996-1**

In accordance with the requirements of Executive Order 1996-1 (February 6, 1996), in drafting and promulgating the regulation the Board considered the regulations as both required by law and the least restrictive means of covering the costs of services required to be performed by the Board.

### **Fiscal Impact**

The proposed amendments will increase the biennial renewal fee for veterinarians and veterinary technicians. A veterinarian will pay an additional \$75 for biennial renewal. A veterinary technician will pay an additional \$15 for biennial renewal. The proposed regulation should have no other fiscal impact on the private sector, the general public or political subdivisions.

### **Paperwork Requirements**

The proposed regulation will require the Board to alter some of its forms to reflect the new biennial renewal fees; however, the proposed regulations should not create additional paperwork for the private sector.

### Sunset Date

The act requires that the Board monitors its revenue and cost on a fiscal year and biennial basis. Therefore, no sunset date has been assigned.

### **Regulatory Review**

Under Section 5(a) of the Regulatory Review Act, (71 P.S. §745.5(a)), the Board submitted a copy of this proposed regulation on September 26, 2005, to the Independent Regulatory Review Commission (IRRC) and the Chairpersons of the House Professional Licensure Committee (HPLC) and Senate Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure Committee (SCP/PLC) for review and comment. In addition to submitting the proposed regulation, the Board has provided the Commission and the Committees with a copy of a detailed Regulatory Analysis Form prepared by the Board. A copy of this material is available to the public upon request.

16A-4915 Preamble Biennial fee, Anesthesia pernits-P May 9, 2005

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Under section 5(g) of the Regulatory Review Act (71 P.S. § 745.5(g)), if IRRC has comments, recommendations or objections regarding any portion of the proposed rulemaking, it will notify the Board within 30 days after the close of the public comment period. The notification shall specify the regulatory review criteria that have not been met. The Regulatory Review Act specifies detailed procedures for review of comments, recommendations and objections by the Board, the General Assembly, and the Governor prior to publication of the regulations.

### **Public Comment**

Interested persons are invited to submit written comments, suggestions or objections regarding this proposed rulemaking to Robert Kline, Administrator, State Board of Veterinary Medicine, P.O. Box 2649, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17105-2649, within 30 days following publication of this proposed rulemaking in the Pennsylvania Bulletin.

16A-5717 Annex A Biennial Renewal Fee-P May 4, 2005 -

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### Annex A

# TITLE 49.PROFESSIONAL AND VOCATIONAL STANDARDS<br/>PART I.Subpart A.PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL AFFAIRS<br/>CHAPTER 31.STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

### FEES

### §31.41. Schedule of fees.

An applicant for a license, certificate or service shall submit a payment at the time of the request under the following fee schedule:

Veterinarians:

**	*
Biennial renewal	\$[225] <u>300</u>
**:	*
Veterinary technicians:	
**:	*
Biennial renewal	\$[60 <u>]75</u>

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# FEE REPORT FORM

Agency: State - BPOA

Date: 03/17/2004

Contact: Basil Merenda

**Phone No.** 783-7192

# Fee Title, Rate and Estimated Collections:

Veterinarian Biennial Renewal Fee: \$300.00 Veterinarian Technician Biennial Renewal Fee: \$75.00

Estimated Biennial Revenue: Veterinarian - \$1,017,000.00 (3,380 renewals x \$300.00) Veterinarian Technician - \$78,825.00 (1,051 renewals x \$75.00)

Total Estimated Biennial Revenue: \$1,092,825.00

# **Fee Description:**

The fee will be charged biennially to every applicant for license renewal.

# Fee Objective:

The fee should defray a substantial portion of the State Board of Veterinary Medicine's administrative overhead, specifically the difference between the Board's total biennial expenditures and its total biennial revenues from non-renewal sources.

# **Fee-Related Activities and Costs:**

Estimated balance at end of 05/06 cycle. FOR BIENNIAL CYCLE 7/01/06-6/30/07	(35,890.59)
Estimated non-renewal revenue:	25,000.00
Estimated renewal revenue @ above rates:	1,092,825.00
Total revenue available:	1,081,934.41
Estimated expenditures:	474,000.00
Estimated ending balance on 6/30/07:	607,934.41
FOR BIENNIAL CYCLE 7/01/07-6/30/08	
Estimated non-renewal revenue:	25,000.00
Estimated renewal revenue @ above rates:	50,000.00
Estimated expenditures.	488,000.00
Estimated ending balance on 6/30/08:	194,934.41

# Analysis, Comment, and Recommendation:

It is recommended that the above renewal fee's be established to cover projected funding shortfalls between the Board's total biennial expenditures and its total biennial revenues from non-renewal sources.

# **FEE REPORT FORM**

Agency: State - BPOA

Date: 03/17/2004

Contact: Basil Merenda

**Phone No.** 783-7192

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Estimated renewal revenue @ above rates:	1,092,825.00
Total revenue available:	1,081,934.41
Estimated expenditures:	474,000.00
Estimated ending balance on 6/30/07:	607,934.41
FOR BIENNIAL CYCLE 7/01/07-6/30/08	
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Estimated renewal revenue @ above rates:	50,000.00
Estimated expenditures:	488,000.00
Estimated ending balance on 6/30/08:	194,934.41

# Analysis, Comment, and Recommendation:

It is recommended that the above renewal fee's be established to cover projected funding shortfalls between the Board's total biennial expenditures and its total biennial revenues from non-renewal sources.



### COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF STATE BUREAU OF PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL AFFAIRS STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

Post Office Box 2649 Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17105-2649 (717) 783-7134

September 26, 2005

The Honorable John R. McGinley, Jr., Chairman INDEPENDENT REGULATORY REVIEW COMMISSION 14<sup>th</sup> Floor, Harristown 2, 333 Market Street Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17101

Re:	Proposed Regulation
	State Board of Veterinary Medicine
	16A-5717: Biennial Renewal Fees

Dear Chairman McGinley:

Enclosed is a copy of a proposed rulemaking package of the State Board of Veterinary Medicine pertaining to biennial renewal fees.

The Board will be pleased to provide whatever information the Commission may require during the course of its review of the rulemaking.

Sican V. Hugter VMD

Brian V. Harpster, V.M.D., Chairperson State Board of Veterinary Medicine

BVH/TLM:apm Enclosure c: Basil L. Merenda, Commissioner Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs Albert Masland, Chief Counsel Department of State Joyce McKeever, Deputy Chief Counsel Department of State Cynthia Montgomery, Regulatory Counsel Department of State Herbert Abramson, Senior Counsel in Charge Department of State Teresa Lazo-Miller, Counsel State Board of Veterinary Medicine

State Board of Veterinary Medicine

## TRANSMITTAL SHEET FOR REGULATIONS SUBJECT TO THE REGULATORY REVIEW ACT

I.D. NUMB	ER. 16A-5717		
SUBJECT:	State Board of Veteri	nary Medicine: Biennial Renewal Fees	
AGENCY:	DEPARTMENT OF	STATE # 2197	
х	TY Proposed Regulation	PE OF REGULATION	
А		,	0
	Final Regulation		
	Final Regulation with Notice	of Proposed Rulemaking Omitted	
	120-day Emergency Certifica	ation of the Attorney General	
	120-day Emergency Certifica	ation of the Governor	
	Delivery of Tolled Regulatio a. With Revision		
		ING OF REGULATION	
DATE	SIGNATURE	DESIGNATION	
9 26/05	Sandra J Hayper	HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE	-
<u>9þ405 7</u>	mary Walmer	SENATE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE	
9/2. for St.	L. S. Isfm	INDEPENDENT REGULATORY REVIEW COMMISSION	
		ATTORNEY GENERAL (for Final Omitted only)	
<u>9665 )</u>	Maya Garas	LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU (for Proposed only)	

June 7, 2005