

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO BEHAVIOR MODIFICATION  
REGULATIONS (115 CMR 5.14)**

In accordance with M.G.L. c. 30A, the Department of Developmental Services (“DDS”) proposes to amend its regulations under the authority of M.G.L. c. 19B, §§ 1 and 14. The regulations are proposed for amendment to establish the highest practicable professional standards for the use of behavior modification procedures, including the removal of certain aversive interventions for persons with intellectual disability in public or private facilities for the care and treatment of such persons. The proposed amendments are intended to remove as permissible interventions procedures involving significant physical exercise, application of unpleasant sensory stimuli such as loud noises, bad tastes/odors, or stimuli eliciting a startle response, and temporary meal delay. The proposed amendments will also make technical corrections and other appropriate edits and/or clarifications to the existing regulations where required.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS HAVE BEEN SCHEDULED:**

Monday, April 22, 2013, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at:      John W. McCormack Bldg  
21<sup>st</sup> Floor, Conference Room Two  
One Ashburton Place  
Boston, MA 02108

Thursday, April 25, 2013, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at:      Northborough Free Library  
Library Meeting Room  
34 Main Street  
Northborough, MA 01532

Written comments may be submitted by mail to the Office of the General Counsel, Department of Developmental Services, 500 Harrison Avenue, Boston, MA 02118, or by facsimile (617) 624-7573 until 5:00 p.m., April 25, 2013. Please contact the Department at least 10 days in-advance of the hearing date if you anticipate attending and wish to request a sign language or other interpreter attend.

Copies of the proposed regulation amendments are available upon request by telephone at (617) 624-7702, by written request made to the Office of the General Counsel, or by viewing on the DDS Website at: [www.mass.gov/DDS](http://www.mass.gov/DDS).

The Department may adopt a revised version of the proposed regulations taking into account relevant comments and any other practical alternatives that come to the Department’s attention.

By Order of the Department of Developmental Services,  
ELIN M. HOWE, COMMISSIONER

March 29, 2013