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Secretary of the Commonwealth State Publications and Regulations State House, Room 117 Boston, MA, 02133

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS **Executive Office for Administration and Finance**

OPERATIONAL SERVICES DIVISION

One Ashburton Place, Suite 1017 Boston, MA 02108-1552

> Deval L. Patrick Governor Glen Shor Secretary Gary J. Lambert Assistant Secretary for **Operational Services**

NOTICE OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF REGULATIONS, PUBLIC HEARING AND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD 802 CMR 8.00 (currently codified at 425 CMR 2.00)

The Operational Services Division (OSD) / Supplier Diversity Office (SDO) of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts proposes to issue new regulations, 802 CMR 8.00, previously codified at 425 CMR 2.00 (Certification), promulgated pursuant to M.G.L. c. 7, §§ 57, 58, 58A, 59, 61.

The proposed amendment of the regulations currently codified at 425 CMR 2.00, and which, when completed, will be codified at 802 CMR 8.00, include the following changes:

- Changes the name in the regulations from the State Office of Minority and Women Business Assistance (SOMWBA) to the Supplier Diversity Office (SDO), consistent with M.G.L. c. 7, §§ 57, 58, 58A, 59, 61;
- Acknowledges the statutory move of the SDO from the Department of Business and Technology (DBT) to the Operational Services Division (OSD);
- Adds new definitions and new sections, including Reciprocity, Current Circumstances, Out-of-State Firms, Disqualification, Biennial Renewal Affidavit, and Severability, in order to make the regulations more comprehensive and reader friendly;
- Enhances the SDO Appeal Board Section of the prior regulations; and
- Formally repeals 425 CMR 2.00.

You may view the proposed Regulations, 802 CMR 8.00, on OSD's website at www.mass.gov/osd. A public hearing will be held to discuss these regulations at the Operational Services Division, One Ashburton Place, 21st Floor Conference Room, Boston, MA 02108 from 12:00 PM 2:00 PM on Tuesday, January 6, 2015. Anyone interested in commenting on the proposed regulations must submit their comments by 5:00pm, on Wednesday, January 14, 2015 to Tom.Hall@state.ma.us or to Tom Hall, Operational Services Division, One Ashburton Place, Room 1017, Boston, MA 02108. If you have any questions about the process, please contact Attorney Tom Hall at Tom.Hall@state.ma.us.

OSD/SDO may adopt a revised version of these regulations after taking into account relevant comments and any other practical alternatives which come to the Department's attention. It is anticipated that these regulations will go into effect by February 21, 2015.

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