



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Health and Human Services  
Department of Children and Families  
Office of the General Counsel  
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## NOTICE OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF REGULATIONS

Notice is hereby given that the Department of Children and Families (“DCF”) proposes to amend its regulations at 110 CMR 11.00 (Medical Authorizations), under the authority of G.L. c. 18B §§ 3 and 7; G.L. c. 119 § 37; and G.L. c. 30A, § 3.

These regulations govern the standards for establishing consent to medical procedures, including abortion, for children in the care or custody of the Department. The Department recommends amendments to these regulations to align with the recently updated consent requirements for minors seeking abortion under Massachusetts law. Specifically, the recently enacted, *Act Providing for Access to Reproductive Health Services* (“ROE Act”), St. 2020, c. 263, lowers the age of consent for abortion from 18 to 16, and requires only one parent/guardian to consent for abortion in the Commonwealth.

Individuals wishing to submit public comment may do so by sending comments to Thomas P. Weierman, Deputy General Counsel, Department of Children and Families, 600 Washington Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Boston, MA 02111 or by email to [thomas.p.weierman@mass.gov](mailto:thomas.p.weierman@mass.gov) on or before April 8, 2022.

Individuals wishing to review the current draft of the proposed amendments may find a copy at [www.Mass.Gov/dcf](http://www.Mass.Gov/dcf) or may request a copy in writing or in person from Office of the General Counsel, Department of Children and Families, 600 Washington Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Boston, MA 02111, by e-mail at [thomas.p.weierman@mass.gov](mailto:thomas.p.weierman@mass.gov), or by calling (617) 748-2020.

By order of the Department of Children and Families,

Linda S. Spears

Commissioner