The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Executive Office of Health and Human Services

Department of Public Health

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**Board of Registration in Social Workers**

**Notice Of Public Hearing**

Notice is hereby given pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, §2 that the Board of Registration in Social Workers (“BORSW”) within the Department of Public Health will hold a public hearing on emergency amendments to the following regulations: 258 CMR 9.00 Licensure Requirements and Procedures; and 258 CMR 30.00 Complaint Procedures and Grounds for Disciplinary Action.

258 CMR 9.00 sets forth the Board’s requirements, responsibilities, and procedures for social work licensure in the Commonwealth.

258 CMR 30.00 governs the procedures for filing, investigating, and the disposition of complaints.

These proposed emergency amendments implement and codify into regulation the provisions of M.G.L. c. 112, § 77, as amended by St. 2022, c. 127, [*An Act Expanding Protections for Reproductive and Gender Affirming Care*](https://malegislature.gov/Laws/SessionLaws/Acts/2022/Chapter127).  The proposed emergency amendments protect social workers from disqualification from licensure, and from BORSW discipline, on the basis of providing, or assisting in providing, reproductive health care services and gender affirming health care services if the services provided would be lawful and consistent with good professional practice if they occurred entirely within Massachusetts.  The protection extends to discipline based on a judgment, discipline or other sanction arising from such services.

The public hearing will be held at **10:00 a.m. on Friday, March 14, 2025**. The hearing will be conducted on a **moderated conference call**. The information for the moderated conference call is:

**Dial-In Telephone Number: 800-779-9120**

**Participant Passcode: 1258459**

A copy of the proposed amendments to 258 CMR 9.00 and 258 CMR 30.00 may be viewed on the Department’s website at <http://mass.gov/dph/proposed-regulations> or requested from the Office of the General Counsel by calling 617-624-5220.

Speakers who testify at the public hearing are requested to provide a copy of their oral testimony. The Department encourages all interested parties to submit testimony electronically to the following address: Reg.Testimony@mass.gov, or by mail to William Anderson, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Public Health, 250 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108. All submissions must include the sender’s full name and address. When electronically submitting comments, type “BORSW Regulations” in the subject line and attach a Word document with your comments or type your comments in the body of your email. All submissions must include the sender’s full name and address.

The Department will post all testimony that complies with these instructions on its website. **All comments must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 14, 2025**. All comments received by the Department may be released in response to a request for public records.