The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Executive Office of Health and Human Services

Department of Public Health

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**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

Notice is hereby given pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, §2, that the Department of Public Health (the Department) will hold a public hearing and comment period on the proposed amendments to the Executive Office for Administration and Finance regulation 801 CMR 4.00: *Rates.* The proposed rate amendment was filed on June 23, 2025.

Architectural Plan Review is the review of construction documents for new health care facilities and for additions and renovations to existing licensed health care facilities, prior to the start of the construction. The Department reviews and approves construction documents to ensure that licensed health care facilities meet the applicable physical plant requirements. A collected fee associated with Architectural Plan Review is deposited into a retained revenue account (4510-0712) to support the Plan Review operations.

In September 2024, *An Act to improve quality and oversight of long-term care* was passed with changes to improve oversight and standards at long-term care facilities (LTCFs), including the Department’s promulgation of regulations for the establishment of small house nursing homes. The implementation of this requirement will increase the Health Care Facility Architectural Plan Review (Architectural Plan Review) activities of the Department, and the Department proposes increasing the fee for Architectural Plan Review accordingly. The Department proposes increasing the Architectural Plan Review fee from $8.25 to $10.50 per $1,000 of construction costs; the current minimum of $1,500 is not being updated. Renovations of less than $50,000 for licensed facilities would remain exempt from paying the fee.

The public hearing will be held on **July 28, 2025 at 1:00PM.** The hearing will be conducted on a **moderated conference call**. The information for the moderated conference call is:

Dial-in Telephone Number: **800-475-0389**

Participant Passcode: **7346502**

To Testify Press: **\*1**

A copy of the proposed amendments to 801 CMR 4.00 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 written testimony electronically to 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. Please submit electronic testimony as an attached Word document and type “801 CMR 4.00: Executive Office of Administration and Finance Rates Regulations” in the subject line of the email. All submitted testimony must include the sender’s full name and address.

The Department will post all electronic testimony that complies with these instructions on its website. **All comments must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on July 28, 2025**. All comments received by the Department may be released in response to a request for public records.

If you are deaf or hard of hearing, or are a person with a disability who requires accommodation, please contact Stacy Hart at least 5 days before the hearing at Tel #**857-274-1120**, or email Stacy.Hart@mass.gov.

