noreply@formstack.com

Sent:

Friday, July 10, 2015 9:59 AM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Categories:

Red Category

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 07/10/15 9:59 AM

Name (optional)::

Don Conlan

Company/Organization (if applicable)

(optional)::

Address (optional)::

Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (If known): :

General Regulatory Themes::

Children and Families

Please list the Agency or Agencies

affiliated with this regulation::

DCF

Describe the regulatory issue or

observation::

Methodology for DCF to kidnap children is too DCF-friendly (e.g. Justina Pelletier and Baby Bella). The in-camera procedure currently used is unacceptable.

Suggestions for easing regulatory

compliance::

If DCF has justification, then a minimum legal requirement before the kidnapping could be enforced would be a trial by jury.

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This is a customer service email.
Formstack, LLC
8604 Allisonville Rd.
Suite 300

Indianapolis, IN 46250

<noreply+42faa7a77306fa96@formstack.com>

Sent:

Monday, July 13, 2015 3:29 PM

To:

ReaReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Categories:

Red Category

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 07/13/15 3:28 PM

Name (optional)::

Bill Lyttle

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

KEY Program

Address (optional)::

排。

Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (If known)::

General Regulatory Themes:

Other

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this regulation::

All non-profits doing business with EOHHS and its Agencies

Describe the regulatory issue or

observation::

Each EOHHS purchasing agency creates its own program policies without working with a sister agency to determine if a policy already exists or how their policy impacts their sister agencies. For example DYS and DCF each have their own runaway policies which are substantially different.

Suggestions for easing regulatory compliance::

Create a clearinghouse at EOHHS so that no policy can be put in place until it is determined one does not already exist and that the policy is cost neutral.

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noreply+42faa7a77306fa96@formstack.com>

Sent:

Wednesday, July 15, 2015 11:27 AM

To:

ReaReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Categories:

Red Category

x

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 07/15/15 11:27 AM

Name (optional)::

bill lyttle

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

KEY Program

Address (optional)::

Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (if known): :

105 cmr 700.003 (f)

General Regulatory Themes::

Children and Families

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this

regulation::

DPH, DDS, DMH, DCF

Describe the regulatory issue or observation::

This CMR #. refers to the Medication Administration Program (MAP). Prior to DCF/DMH joint Caring Together Initiative, each residential non-profit provider doing business with DCF, as part of its licensing by DEEC, was required by DEEC to have a medication administration policy that was approved by DEEC. Caring Together required residential providers to use the DPH MAP. MAP is an expensive program that has no better results on reducing medication errors than the policy required by DEEC. MAP is was also developed for an adult population, not children. The adult population infrequently moves from their placement location which is not the case with children. The adult model was overlaid on children.

Suggestions for easing regulatory compliance::

MAP should be made voluntary for CARING TOGETHER as medication administration is already addressed in DEEC's regs.

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noreply@formstack.com

Sent:

Thursday, July 16, 2015 11:30 AM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Categories:

Red Category

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 07/16/15 11:30 AM

Name (optional)::

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Address (optional)::

Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (If known): :

General Regulatory Themes::

Children and Families

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this

regulation::

MA CLPPP

Blood Lead Level definition of poisoning is too high currently and not inline with federal recommendations. Many states like Maine, Vermont, and cities/counties in NY have adopted a level of poisoning of 5.

Describe the regulatory issue or

observation::

the current level is 25 for a child to be deemed poison. This means children with an elevated level below 25 miss out on critical services available to children 25 and above. The research shows there is no save blood lead level.

Suggestions for easing regulatory compliance::

reduce the rate to 5, in line with federal recommendations and increase funds available to assist families in renovations.

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noreply+58fa310ba02847c1@formstack.com>

Sent:

Wednesday, July 22, 2015 1:10 PM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Categories:

Red Category

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 07/22/15 1:10 PM

Name (optional)::

Ken Halkin

Company/Organization (if applicable)

(optional)::

Greater Lynn Senior Services & Aging & Disabilities Resource Consortium of the Greater North Shore

Address (optional)::

Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (If known)::

General Regulatory Themes::

Internal State Government Operations and Finance

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated

with this regulation::

EOHHS Agencies

Describe the regulatory issue or observation::

- 1. Maintain the ready payment system for contracted providers.
- 2. Amend the Reuse and Recovery (surplus revenue) regulation to eliminate the 20% lifetime cap.
- 3. Simplify/streamline the UFR.

Suggestions for easing regulatory compliance::

Maria de Caracteria de Caracte

From:

noreply+1d7dcab368a10e90@formstack.com>

Sent:

Thursday, July 30, 2015 11:06 AM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Categories:

Red Category

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 07/30/15 11:06 AM

Name (optional)::

Priscilla Cote

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Town of Sheffield Board of Health

Address (optional)::

Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (If known)::

General Regulatory Themes::

Building Codes/Accessibility Standards

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this regulation::

Describe the regulatory issue or observation::

The DPH says in numerous places including its web page, that it will provide required Tobacco signage for retailers. Unfortunately they do not provide this information and it falls back to the local Board of Health to create the required signage.

Suggestions for easing regulatory compliance::

1-Provide the appropriate signage in a format usable to retailers who sell tobacco products and local Boards of Health.

2-Eliminate statement that DPH provides such signage and refer to local Board of Health only (however there are 351 Boards of Health versus 1 DPH. Why should each BOH recreate such signage?).

Terms | Privacy

From: Sent:

knoreply+fe504597c3182356@formstack.com>

Thursday, August 06, 2015 11:31 AM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 08/06/15 11:30 AM

Name (optional)::

John Peter

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Justice Resource Institute, Inc.

Address (optional)::

Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (If known): :

General Regulatory Themes::

Other

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this regulation::

All agencies within the Virtual Gateway

Describe the regulatory issue

or observation::

I was recently advised that the EOHHS security team for the Virtual Gateway will not accept the the "User Account Deactivation Request Form" and must submit a separate URF for each agency in which the user has access, in some case it will involve submitting 2-4 forms for a user as well as looking up which agencies the particular user has access to.

Suggestions for easing regulatory compliance:: Allow Access Administrators to submit the User Account Deactivation Request Form and have the VG help desk inform the agencies that the user login has been terminated and they should do the same on their respective systems.

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noreply@formstack.com

Sent:

Thursday, August 13, 2015 1:23 PM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 08/13/15 1:23 PM

Name (optional)::

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Address (optional)::

Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

Unknown

CMR Number (If known): :

General Regulatory Themes::

Public Safety

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with

this regulation::

DPH? / Education

Describe the regulatory issue or observation::

Make learning hands only CPR a graduation requirement

in the Commonwealth.

Suggestions for easing regulatory compliance::

N/A

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noreply@formstack.com

Sent:

Friday, September 04, 2015 10:39 AM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 09/04/15 10:38 AM

Name (optional)::

Beth Nargi

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Address (optional)::

Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (If known): :

110 CMR: 7.105 (18)

General Regulatory Themes::

Children and Families

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this regulation::

Department of Children and Families (DCF)

Describe the regulatory issue

or observation::

Discrimination for foster/adoption on basis of household dog breed rather than temperament/evaluation. Absolutely ridiculous that based on breed alone (which has been proven to be a negligible indication of temperament) a person or family would not be able to foster or adopt a child in need. Certainly not in the best interest of the children involved to be denied a potential loving home on sole basis of the breed of dog residing in the household.

Suggestions for easing regulatory compliance:: All dogs regardless of breed or size should have an individual temperament evaluation to determine if their temperament is acceptable to be in a household with children.

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<noreply+2ae2af7d3190f0b8@formstack.com>

Sent:

Friday, September 04, 2015 7:36 PM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 09/04/15 7:36 PM

Name (optional)::

Beth Neas

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Address (optional)::

AND THE RESIDENCE OF THE PARTY OF THE PARTY

Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (If known): : 110

General Regulatory Themes::

Children and Families

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this regulation::

DCF

Describe the regulatory issue or

observation::

Currently if you own a pit bull, you can't adopt a child in MA.

Suggestions for easing regulatory compliance::

All dogs regardless of breed or size should have an individual temperament evaluation to determine if their temperament is acceptable to be in a household with children.

Terms | Privacy

noreply@formstack.com

Sent:

Friday, September 04, 2015 8:35 PM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 09/04/15 8:34 PM

Name (optional)::

Kelly Simmons

Company/Organization (if applicable)

(optional)::

Address (optional)::

Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (If known)::

110

General Regulatory Themes::

Children and Families

Please list the Agency or Agencies

affiliated with this regulation::

DCF

Describe the regulatory issue or

observation::

All dogs regardless of breed or size should have an individual temperament evaluation to determine if their temperament is acceptable to be in a household with children.

Suggestions for easing regulatory compliance::

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noreply@formstack.com

Sent:

Thursday, September 10, 2015 11:40 PM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 09/10/15 11:39 PM

Name (optional)::

Joan Leary

Company/Organization (if applicable)

(optional)::

Address (optional)::

Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (If known): :

110cmr 7.105 (18)

General Regulatory Themes::

Children and Families

Please list the Agency or Agencies

affiliated with this regulation::

DCF

Describe the regulatory issue or

observation::

All dogs, regardless of breed or size, should have an individual temperament evaluation to determine if their temperament is acceptable to be in a household with children

Suggestions for improvements to the regulation::



noreply@formstack.com

Sent:

Thursday, September 10, 2015 11:41 PM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 09/10/15 11:41 PM

Name (optional)::

Joan Leary

Company/Organization (if applicable)

(optional)::

Address (optional)::

Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (If known)::

110cmr 7.105 (18)

General Regulatory Themes::

Children and Families

Please list the Agency or Agencies

affiliated with this regulation::

DCF

Describe the regulatory issue or

observation::

All dogs, regardless of breed or size, should have an individual temperament evaluation to determine if their temperament is acceptable to be in a household with children

Suggestions for improvements to the regulation::

Terms | Privacy

<noreply+a6edcfa5524f250a@formstack.com>

Sent:

Friday, September 11, 2015 12:15 PM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Categories:

Red Category

x

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 09/11/15 12:14 PM

Name (optional)::

Steve Gordon

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Address (optional)::



Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (If known): :

110 CMR: 7.105 (18)

General Regulatory Themes::

Children and Families

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this regulation:: DCF

Describe the regulatory issue or observation::

Discriminating on child adoption due to breed of dog owned by applicant.

Suggestions for improvements to the regulation:: CMR states: "(18) No foster child under the age of 12 will be placed in a home where a Rottweiler, Pit Bull or German Shepard dog, or a mixture of the these three breeds, is maintained on the premises of a foster/pre-adoptive home, unless the Department after review determines that such a placement is in the best interest of the child(ren), except for a dog which is being used as a service animal for a household member whose disability has been verified."

Suggested Amendment to Policy: All dogs regardless of breed or size should have an individual temperament evaluation to determine if their temperament is acceptable to be in a household with children.

(Please note that this can be performed free of charge through the town animal control.)

Terms | Privacy



<noreply+0263c048f1fb331e@formstack.com>

Sent:

Tuesday, September 15, 2015 5:52 PM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Categories:

Red Category

X

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 09/15/15 5:51 PM

Name (optional)::

Amy Conrad

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Address (optional)::

Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (If known)::

110 CMR: 7.105

General Regulatory Themes::

Children and Families

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this

regulation::

DCF

Describe the regulatory issue or

observation::

not allowing children to be placed in homes where dogs are judged based off their appearance and not how they behave.

Suggestions for improvements to the regulation::

Suggested Amendment to Policy: All dogs regardless of breed or size should have an individual temperament evaluation to determine if their temperament is acceptable to be in a household with children.

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noreply@formstack.com

Sent:

Wednesday, September 16, 2015 11:11 PM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Categories:

Red Category

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 09/16/15 11:10 PM

Name (optional)::

Ellen Grealish

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Address (optional)::

7· -

- SS- 5

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (If known): :

Primary Phone (optional)::

110 CMR: 7.105 (18)

General Regulatory Themes::

Children and Families

Please list the Agency or Agencies

CMR Number: 110 CMR: 7.105 (18)

affiliated with this regulation::

General Regulatory Themes: Children and Families
Agency or Agencies affiliated with this regulation: Description:

Agency or Agencies affiliated with this regulation: DCF Suggested Amendment to Policy: All dogs regardless of breed or size

should have an individual temperament evaluation to determine if their temperament is acceptable to be in a household with children.

Describe the regulatory issue or observation::

CMR Number: 110 CMR: 7.105 (18)

General Regulatory Themes: Children and Families Agency or Agencies affiliated with this regulation: DCF

Suggested Amendment to Policy: All dogs regardless of breed or size should have an individual temperament evaluation to determine if their temperament is acceptable to be in a household with children.

Suggestions for improvements to the regulation::

^ <noreply+6c5bf8860b85e72d@formstack.com>

Sent:

Thursday, September 17, 2015 12:36 PM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Categories:

Red Category

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 09/17/15 12:36 PM

Name (optional)::

Stephanie LoPilato

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Address (optional)::

Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (If known): :

CMR Number: 110 CMR: 7.105 (18)

General Regulatory Themes::

Children and Families

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this regulation::

Suggested Amendment to Policy: All dogs regardless of breed or size should have an individual temperament evaluation to determine if their temperament is acceptable to be in a household with children.

Describe the regulatory issue or observation:

Suggested Amendment to Policy: All dogs regardless of breed or size should have an individual temperament evaluation to determine if their temperament is acceptable to be in a household with children.

Suggestions for improvements to the regulation::

noreply@formstack.com

Sent:

Thursday, September 17, 2015 12:39 PM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Categories:

Red Category

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 09/17/15 12:39 PM

Name (optional)::

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Address (optional)::

Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (If known): :

110 CMR: 7.105

General Regulatory Themes::

Children and Families

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this

regulation::

Dept of children and families

Describe the regulatory issue or observation::

unclear regulations that deny children under 12 loving adoptive or foster homes if the potential parents have a "targeted breed dog" on the premises. Scientific studies show that breed of dog does not determine suitability for interacting with children or aggressive potential, and many dogs are muttswhile they may show characteristic features of a "targeted breed", their actual breed is unknown. "Targeted breed" is an arbitrary distinction that doesn't address the dog's potential for aggression or ensure children's safety. In addition, families with such dogs are being denied opportunities to parent, making less homes/families available to children in need. Evaluating the individual dog to determine its temperament and safety around children could be done cheaply, at the expense of the potential parents, and would actually ensure a safe environment for foster and adoptive children.

Suggestions for improvements to the regulation::

All dogs regardless of breed or size should have an individual temperament evaluation to determine if their temperament is acceptable to be in a household with children.

Terms | Privacy

noreply@formstack.com

Sent:

Thursday, September 17, 2015 1:00 PM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 09/17/15 1:00 PM

Name (optional)::

Laura Sabadini

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Address (optional)::

Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (If known): :

110 CMR: 7,105 (18).

General Regulatory Themes::

Building Codes/Accessibility Standards

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this

regulation::

DCF

Describe the regulatory issue or

observation::

People in Massachusetts are not allowed to foster or adopt children under 12 if a "dangerous dog" lives on the premises. Using breed only to determine "dangerousness" is not valid. It misses some dangerous dogs while unfairly targeting others simply because of breed.

Suggestions for improvements to the regulation::

All dogs regardless of breed or size should have an individual temperament evaluation to determine if their temperament is acceptable to be in a household with children.

noreply@formstack.com

Sent:

Thursday, September 17, 2015 1:52 PM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 09/17/15 1:51 PM

Name (optional)::

Sara Ann Bartlett

Company/Organization (if applicable)

(optional)::

Address (optional)::



Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (If known): :

110 CMR: 7.105 (18)

General Regulatory Themes::

Children and Families

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this regulation::

DCF

Describe the regulatory issue or

observation::

people in Massachusetts are not allowed to foster or adopt children under 12 if a "dangerous dog" lives on the premises.

Suggestions for improvements to the regulation::

All dogs regardless of breed or size should have an individual temperament evaluation to determine if their temperament is acceptable to be in a household with children.

Terms | Privacy

<noreply+a2597d6eb9fa6380@formstack.com>

Sent:

Thursday, September 17, 2015 3:13 PM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Categories:

Red Category

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 09/17/15 3:12 PM

Name (optional)::

Althea Peabody

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Address (optional)::

Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (If known)::

General Regulatory Themes::

Children and Families

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this regulation:: DCF

Describe the regulatory issue or observation::

Willing families are unable to adopt children waiting in the foster care system simply because of the dogs already in their homes. Assuming all dogs of specific breeds are dangerous is short sighted and preventing some children from being raised in a loving forever family. It's unfair to everyone involved.

Suggestions for improvements to the regulation::

All dogs regardless of breed or size should have an individual temperament evaluation to determine if their temperament is acceptable to be in a household with children.

Terms | Privacy

<noreply+c7ab8b330ae0f0ff@formstack.com>

Sent:

Thursday, September 17, 2015 3:15 PM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 09/17/15 3:14 PM

Name (optional)::

Lindsey Boulay

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Address (optional)::

Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (if known): :

General Regulatory Themes::

Building Codes/Accessibility Standards

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this regulation::

Describe the regulatory issue

or observation::

Children under the age of 12

Cannot be adopted or fostered by homes that have "dangerous" breeds.

Suggestions for improvements to the regulation::

Any home, who houses dogs of any breed should submit their dog to a full temperament evaluation. Homes with dogs as service dogs or emotional support animals should not have to submit to such testing as temperament is a required portion of the certification.

As a "dangerous" breed owner and a married lesbian, foster parenting and adoption is very high on my list of how I want to have a family. I am a registered nurse, work hard, pay taxes. My wife is also a responsible, tax paying adult who works in the health care field. We would provide a wonderful home to a child, or children and I think that it is ludicrous that we would be unable to do so with this law. Please Governor Baker, consider reviewing this law. Those of us who are responsible pet owners will do any testing necessary of our pets so that we can help the thousands of children who need us in the state.

Terms | Privacy

horeply+705ce0a5cf515a49@formstack.com>

Sent:

Friday, September 25, 2015 5:54 PM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Categories:

Red Category

x

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 09/25/15 5:54 PM

Name (optional)::

Jentina Mitchel

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Address (optional)::

Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (If known): :

General Regulatory Themes::

110 CMR: 7.105 (18)
Children and Families

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this

regulation::

DCF

Describe the regulatory issue or

observation::

DCF policy still includes breed-specific legislation in which potential adoptive parents are rejected automatically if certain breeds of dog are in the home.

Suggestions for improvements to the regulation::

Temperament and behavior evaluation of pets in a home considered for the adoption of children would improve safety of our foster and adoptive homes. Rejecting people who want to help without appeal does not.

Terms | Privacy

noreply@formstack.com

Sent:

Friday, September 25, 2015 6:44 PM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Categories:

Red Category

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 09/25/15 6:43 PM

Name (optional)::

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Address (optional)::

Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (If known)::

CMR Number: 110 CMR: 7.105 (18)

General Regulatory Themes::

Children and Families

Please list the Agency or Agencies

affiliated with this regulation::

Department of Children and Families

Describe the regulatory issue or

observation::

DCF can prohibit owners of certain dog breeds from becoming foster or adoptive parents

Suggestions for improvements to the regulation::

All dogs regardless of breed or size should have an individual temperament evaluation to determine if their temperament is acceptable to be in a household with children.

Terms | Privacy

noreply@formstack.com

Sent:

Monday, September 28, 2015 3:46 PM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Categories:

Red Category

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 09/28/15 3:46 PM

Name (optional)::

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Address (optional)::

Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (If known): :

General Regulatory Themes:

Children and Families

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this regulation:: DCF

Describe the regulatory issue or observation::

CMR states: "(18) No foster child under the age of 12 will be placed in a home where a Rottweiler, Pit Bull or German Shepard dog, or a mixture of the these three breeds, is maintained on the premises of a foster/preadoptive home, unless the Department after review determines that such a placement is in the best interest of the child(ren), except for a dog which is being used as a service animal for a household member whose disability has been verified."

There is no evidence from the controlled study of dog bites that one kind of dog is more likely to bite a human being than another kind of dog. A recent AVMA survey covering 40 years and two continents concluded that no group of dogs should be considered disproportionately dangerous. Additionally, in a recent multifactorial study published in the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association on the exceptionally rare events of dog bite-related fatalities, the researchers identified a striking co-occurrence of multiple, controllable factors in these cases.

Suggestions for improvements to the regulation:: All dogs regardless of breed or size should have an individual temperament evaluation to determine if their temperament is acceptable to be in a household with children.

(Please note that this can be performed free of charge through the town animal control.)

<noreply+a114a05e374c7b9d@formstack.com>

Sent:

Tuesday, September 29, 2015 10:47 AM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Categories:

Red Category

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 09/29/15 10:46 AM

Name (optional)::

Christine Lapointe

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Address (optional)::

Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (If known): :

110 CMR: 7.105 (18)

General Regulatory Themes::

Children and Families

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this regulation::

DCF

Describe the regulatory issue or observation::

CMR states: "(18) No foster child under the age of 12 will be placed in a home where a Rottweiler, Pit Bull or German Shepard dog, or a mixture of the these three breeds, is maintained on the premises of a foster/pre-adoptive home, unless the Department after review determines that such a placement is in the best interest of the child(ren), except for a dog which is being used as a service animal for a household member whose disability has been verified." There is no evidence from the controlled study of dog bites that one kind of dog is more likely to bite a human being than another kind of dog. A recent AVMA survey covering 40 years and two continents concluded that no group of dogs should be considered disproportionately dangerous. Additionally, in a recent multifactorial study published in the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association on the exceptionally rare events of dog bite-related fatalities, the researchers identified a striking co-occurrence of multiple, controllable factors in these cases.

Suggestions for improvements to the regulation:: All dogs regardless of breed or size should have an individual temperament evaluation to determine if their temperament is acceptable to be in a household with children.

(Please note that this can be performed free of charge through the town animal control.)

Terms | Privacy

noreply@formstack.com

Sent:

Thursday, October 01, 2015 12:32 AM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 10/01/15 12:32 AM

Name (optional)::

Taylor Castonguay

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Address (optional)::



Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

240

CMR Number (If known): :

110 CMR: 7.105 (18)

General Regulatory Themes::

Children and Families

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this regulation::

DCF

Describe the regulatory issue or observation::

CMR states: "(18) No foster child under the age of 12 will be placed in a home where a Rottweiler, Pit Bull or German Shepard dog, or a mixture of the these three breeds, is maintained on the premises of a foster/preadoptive home, unless the Department after review determines that such a placement is in the best interest of the child(ren), except for a dog which is being used as a service animal for a household member whose disability has been verified."

There is no evidence from the controlled study of dog bites that one kind of dog is more likely to bite a human being than another kind of dog. A recent AVMA survey covering 40 years and two continents concluded that no group of dogs should be considered disproportionately dangerous. Additionally, in a recent multifactorial study published in the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association on the exceptionally rare events of dog bite-related fatalities, the researchers identified a striking co-occurrence of multiple, controllable factors in these cases.

Suggestions for improvements to the regulation::

All dogs regardless of breed or size should have an individual temperament evaluation to determine if their temperament is acceptable to be in a household with children.

(Please note that this can be performed free of charge through the town animal control.)

Terms | Privacy

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noreply@formstack.com

Sent:

Saturday, October 03, 2015 12:58 PM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Categories:

Red Category

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 10/03/15 12:58 PM

Name (optional)::

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Address (optional)::

Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (If known): :

General Regulatory Themes::

Children and Families

Department of Children and Families

Please list the Agency or Agencies

affiliated with this regulation::

Describe the regulatory issue or observation::

Families with certain breeds of dogs are unable to adopt.

Suggestions for improvements to the regulation::

All dogs regardless of breed or size should have an individual temperament evaluation to determine if their temperament is acceptable to be in a household with children.

<u>Terms</u> | <u>Privacy</u>

noreply@formstack.com

Sent:

Monday, October 05, 2015 2:27 PM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

x

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 10/05/15 2:27 PM

Name (optional)::

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Address (optional)::

Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (If known)::

General Regulatory Themes::

Children and Families

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this regulation::

DCF

Describe the regulatory issue or observation::

CMR states: "(18) No foster child under the age of 12 will be placed in a home where a Rottweiler, Pit Bull or German Shepard dog, or a mixture of the these three breeds, is maintained on the premises of a foster/pre-adoptive home, unless the Department after review determines that such a placement is in the best interest of the child(ren), except for a dog which is being used as a service animal for a household member whose disability has been verified."

Suggestions for improvements to the regulation:: I can't believe this is still an enforced policy at DCF considering breed specific legislation was banned in MA in 2012. In the aftermath of the last few years, refusing to place children in good homes because of their pets--who may be friendly but happen to be the wrong breed--seems petty and counterproductive. A temperament test can and should be administered on each individual dog (which can be done for no cost at the local animal control office) to accurately asses, without bias, whether the home would be safe for a child. Thank you for your consideration.

Terms | Privacy

knoreply+a600195da69e1881@formstack.com>

Sent:

Tuesday, October 06, 2015 4:44 PM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Categories:

Red Category

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 10/06/15 4:43 PM

Name (optional)::

Suzanne Anderlionis

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Address (optional)::

Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (If known)::

CMR Number: 110 CMR: 7.105 (18)

General Regulatory Themes::

Children and Families

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this

DCF

regulation::

Describe the regulatory issue or observation::

Families with Pit Bull Breed dogs are not able to adopt children

Suggestions for improvements to the regulation::

Suggested Amendment to Policy: All dogs regardless of breed or size should have an individual temperament evaluation to determine if their temperament is acceptable to be in a household with children.

Terms | Privacy

<noreply+85557734da231a83@formstack.com>

Sent:

Tuesday, October 06, 2015 6:32 PM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Categories:

Red Category

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 10/06/15 6:32 PM

Name (optional)::

T King

Company/Organization (if applicable)

(optional)::

Address (optional)::

1

Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (If known)::

110 CMR: 7.105 (18)

General Regulatory Themes::

Children and Families

Please list the Agency or Agencies

affiliated with this regulation::

Department of Children and Families

Describe the regulatory issue or observation::

Obsci vacion...

Suggestions for improvements to the

regulation::

Breed of a dog influences the prospect parent to adopt is unnecessary but seek alternatives as supervision visits to ensure safe transition.

Terms | Privacy

knoreply+04da34d684c489d2@formstack.com>

Sent:

Thursday, October 08, 2013 2.34 PM

To:

ReaReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 10/08/15 2:33 PM

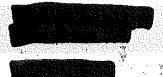
Name (optional)::

June Messina

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

House of Hope Inc.

Address (optional)::



Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (if known): :

General Regulatory Themes::

Other

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this regulation::

Executive Office of Health and Human Services; Department of Transitional Assistance

Describe the regulatory issue or observation::

In regards to the Listening Session being held on 10/28 in Boston on the subject of Welfare Reform; Background and CORI Checks; the topic of this public forum would likely be of particular importance to low income families but many of them may not be able to afford or obtain a valid photo ID in time to attend. It appears to be the only one of the five sessions that has this requirement - perhaps this is due to its location. Would it be possible to relocate this public forum to another venue that does not have this restriction? Thank you for your consideration.

Suggestions for improvements to the regulation::

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noreply@formstack.com

Sent:

Friday, October 09, 2015 8:15 AM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 10/09/15 8:14 AM

Name (optional)::

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Address (optional)::

Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (If known): :

110 CMR: 7.105 (18)

DCF

General Regulatory Themes::

Building Codes/Accessibility Standards

Please list the Agency or Agencies

affiliated with this regulation::

Describe the regulatory issue or

observation::

Children and Families -- ADOPTION Breed-specific legislation was REPEALED

Suggestions for improvements to the regulation::

Suggested Amendment to Policy: All dogs regardless of breed or size should have an individual temperament evaluation to determine if their temperament is acceptable to be in a household with children.

Terms | Privacy

<noreply+f3195f2a73da3508@formstack.com>

Sent:

Tuesday, December 01, 2015 4:13 PM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 12/01/15 4:12 P.M.

Name (optional)::

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Justice Resource Institute

Address (optional)::



Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

or observation::

CMR Number (If known): :

105CMR 700.003

General Regulatory Themes::

Children and Families

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this regulation::

DCF, DMH

Describe the regulatory issue

The current medication administration regulation interpretation mandates that a number of DCF and DMG programs use the Medication Administration Program (MAP) to provide oversight for medication administration in our site based programs. MAP was recently added as an expectation as part of the new Caring Together Contract, but the rate was not accurately adjusted to reflect the real cost of the MAP program. The MAP program requires a significant number of resources including training hours, oversight, testing, and coverage.

Suggestions for improvements to the regulation:: One proposed solution would be to allow programs to opt out of the MAP administration program if they have an approved strong medication administration plan that targets all requirements of the contract/regulation. Alternatively, the rate could be adjusted to allow for the proper resources and time that the MAP program requires.

Terms | Privacy

t <normalisment t <normalisment temply+4070a05905e2a3db@formstack.com>

Sent:

Monday, November 23, 2015 12:04 PM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 11/23/15 12:04 PM

Name (optional)::

Stephen Celi

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

LifeLinks, Inc.

Address (optional)::

Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (If known): :

808 CMR 1.03 (7)

General Regulatory Themes:

Other

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this regulation::

EOHHS

Describe the regulatory issue or observation::

General Provisions, Not for profit Surplus Revenue Retention

Suggestions for improvements to the regulation:: The Finance Committee of LifeLinks, Inc. is in support of the position taken by the Association of Developmental Disabilities Providers (ADDP) in its letter, dated 11/9/2015, relating to Surplus Revenue Retention and its suggested revision that providers retain any surplus as long as it can demonstrate that all uses of the surplus are directed to Massachusetts activities within the scope of its charitable mission.

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noreply@formstack.com

Sent:

Wednesday, December 02, 2015 3:05 PM

To:

ReaReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 12/02/15 3:04 PM

Name (optional)::

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Address (optional)::

Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (If known): :

105CMR100

General Regulatory Themes::

Health Care

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this

regulation::

Boston Children's Hospital

Describe the regulatory issue

or observation::

Determination of Needs (DoN) are vital to the continuation of prevention initiatives within schools and are funding initiatives that will otherwise not be funded. There is very little state or local funding for prevention work and mental health services in schools so the DoN funds supporting these efforts are critical.

Suggestions for improvements to the regulation::

Rather than give small pots of money to several partners, organizations should be encouraged to give funds to projects with demonstrated outcomes that have a lasting impact on the health and wellness of children and families. The state benefits from the DoN funding, only if the funding leads to lasting change in our communities.

Terms | Privacy

noreply+cc925ceda14c55fe@formstack.com>

Sent:

Wednesday, December 09, 2015 4:41 AM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 12/09/15 4:40 AM

Name (optional)::

Alysha Bohnet

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Address (optional)::

Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (If known)::

1.705 (18)

General Regulatory Themes::

Children and Families

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this regulation:: **DCF**

Describe the regulatory issue

or observation:

The regulation states that a child under 12 will not be placed in a foster/adoptive home with dangerous dogs on the premises.

Suggestions for improvements to the regulation::

All dogs, no matter their bed, should be individually evaluated. Breed specific legislation was banned in Massachusetts, so there should be no reason to discriminate against specific dogs. More children could end up in loving homes if dog owners weren't discriminated against.

Terms | Privacy

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Sent:

Wednesday, December 09, 2015 4:41 AM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 12/09/15 4:40 AM

Name (optional)::

Alysha Bohnet

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Address (optional)::

Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (If known): :

1.705 (18)

General Regulatory Themes::

Children and Families

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this

regulation::

DCF

Describe the regulatory issue

or observation::

The regulation states that a child under 12 will not be placed in a foster/adoptive home with dangerous dogs on the premises.

Suggestions for improvements to the regulation::

All dogs, no matter their bed, should be individually evaluated. Breed specific legislation was banned in Massachusetts, so there should be no reason to discriminate against specific dogs. More children could end up in loving homes if dog owners weren't discriminated against.

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horeply+cc925ceda14c55fe@formstack.com>

Sent: Wednesday, December 09, 2015 4:41 AM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 12/09/15 4:40 AM

Name (optional)::

Alysha Bohnet

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Address (optional)::

Primary Phone (optional)::

(UNA) FOR USE

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (if known)::

1.705 (18)

General Regulatory Themes::

Children and Families

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this regulation:: **DCF**

Describe the regulatory issue

or observation::

The regulation states that a child under 12 will not be placed in a foster/adoptive home with dangerous dogs on the premises.

Suggestions for improvements to the regulation::

All dogs, no matter their bed, should be individually evaluated. Breed specific legislation was banned in Massachusetts, so there should be no reason to discriminate against specific dogs. More children could end up in loving homes if dog owners weren't discriminated against.

Terms | Privacy

From: Sent: <noreply+671b8e0e3439e169@formstack.com>

Monday, November 62, 2015 8:59 AM

To:

ReaReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 11/02/15 8:58 AM

Name (optional)::

Janice Biggs

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Revelations Talk Therapy, LLC

Address (optional)::



Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (If known)::

General Regulatory Themes::

Licensing and Permitting

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this regulation:: Medicare part B Provider Enrollment

Describe the regulatory issue

or observation::

In order to get a Medicare part B provider number you either have to be or have on staff a Clinical Social Worker

Suggestions for improvements to the regulation:: LMHC's must be included in being provided the ability to obtain a Medicare part B provider number. I am a provider with a LMHC, LADC1, CANS and am Nationally Certified Clinician. I have a private practice with the desire to provide services to individuals with MassHealth insurance. There is a need in my area and I have the ability to provide immediate services for mental health and substance use treatment. I am unable to get a Medicare part B provider number because I'm not a Clinical Social Worker. In today's world there are enough people seeking mental health and substance abuse treatment for anyone who has the passion and education to provide it. We all should be working together opposed to creating road blocks against each other.

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This is a customer service email.

Formstack, LLC 8604 Allisonville Rd. Suite 300 Indianapolis, IN 46250

noreply@formstack.com

Sent:

Sunday, July 12, 2015 9:52 AM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 07/12/15 9:51 AM

Name (optional)::

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Address (optional)::

Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (If known): :

General Regulatory Themes::

Building Codes/Accessibility Standards

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this

regulation::

EBT

Describe the regulatory issue or observation::

At Brockton market basket today. Young and healthy looking Couple in front of me at check out each had EBT card. They had two orders. Hers were all sweet juice type drinks. Paid for by EBT. Meanwhile she was listening to tunes on a beautiful pink IPHONE. Sweet juicy drinks should be disallowed. Fraud detection for EBTcards needs to be enforced. Thanks

Suggestions for easing regulatory compliance::

From	ľ
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mmaland @gamilander.comply+e7c62521619d6821@formstack.com>

Sent:

Thursday, October 22, 2015 4:41 PM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 10/22/15 4:40 PM

Name (optional)::

Michael MELEEDY

Company/Organization (if applicable)

(optional)::

Community Counseling of Bristol county

Address (optional)::

Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (If known): :

General Regulatory Themes::

Building Codes/Accessibility Standards

Please list the Agency or Agencies

affiliated with this regulation::

Medicaid

Describe the regulatory issue or

observation::

429,424 LMHCS are not listed as a core discipline. Licensing requirements for masters level counselors require LMHC

supervision.

Suggestions for improvements to the

List LMHCs as a Core Discipline.

regulation::

Terms | Privacy



noreply@formstack.com

Sent:

Wednesday, July 08, 2015 1:34 PM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Categories:

Red Category

#1Formstack

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 07/08/15 1:33 PM

Name (optional)::

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Address (optional)::

Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (If known): :

105 CMR 460

General Regulatory Themes::

Building Codes/Accessibility Standards

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this regulation::

Describe the regulatory issue or observation:: This regards the Massachusetts Lead Law. In it's early history it was viewed as a progressive and proactive law designed to minimize lead exposure to children. It is now an archaic and potentially dangerous approach to childhood lead poisoning. The EPA and HUD have kept up with the science and now offer more reasonable and less costly approaches towards Lead-Safe Housing. As research has improved we now know that lead dust is the major culprit in lead poisoning. Yet, Massachusetts still requires home and property owners to abate what Mass refers to as "accessible & mouthable" surfaces. Eg. Lead-based paint (LBP), even if covered by non LBP, must be removed or covered from all protruding corners in interior areas. Paint must be covered or removed up to a height of 5' and 4" back from the edge. The same applies to baseboards, doors and trim. Not only has this become a dangerous approach but it is generally viewed by professionals, the EPA and HUD to be an ineffective approach and may cause more harm than not. Children do not get poisoned by eating LBP!

They get exposed by lead contaminated dust through normal, hand to mouth activity. Our approach in Massachusetts often increases the hazard we should be most concerned about. Although poisoning rates in Massachusetts have gone down, there is no correlation between that success and our "dark ages" approach to controlling residential lead hazards.

Suggestions for easing regulatory compliance::

Massachusetts has been a national leader in areas of Health & Safety and environmental protection. When it comes to the Mass Lead Law we need to bring back proven science, research and 21st century approaches. The Law should be rewritten by an ad hoc group of professionals and experts that leave the hidden agendas at the door.



<noreply+302e805f2ed85e97@formstack.com>

Sent:

Saturday, July 11, 2015 12:01 PM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Categories:

Red Category

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 07/11/15 12:00 PM

Name (optional)::

Ted Butler MD, FIDSA

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Hallmarkhealth Health

Address (optional)::

Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (if known): :

General Regulatory Themes::

Health Care

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this

regulation::

DPH

Describe the regulatory issue or

observation::

In the 1980s there were regulations promulgated and accepted re disposal of hospital waste

This was in the wake of the discovery of sharps that were improperly disposed of placing consumers at risk. In the subsequent response the writers took a broad view and the regulations were about Potentialy Hazardous Infectious Waste. I note the word potential as many included ites were not proven to be hazardous as are sharps.

It includes bloody bandages and OR drapes, discarded plates from microbiology laboratories.....these have never been shown to pose a risk for contagion.

But enthusiasts said why not? Well the cost is in the millions per year and if incinerated rather than in land fills the deleterious effect on global warming and green house gas is REAL; with no safer environment for patients or connsumers.

Suggestions for easing regulatory compliance:: A thoughtful analysis of the annual cost of compliance ought to be calculated

and the downstream effects computed......if material, an expert panel

ought to be commissioned to modernize the regulations looking for the best

in various states and even in other mature nations that have impeccable health care systems and a strong record for environmental stewardship (Sweden, Canada, Singapore)



noreply+2f47976ecf898caf@formstack.com>

Sent:

Thursday, September 03, 2015 4:47 PM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Categories:

Red Category

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 09/03/15 4:47 PM

Name (optional)::

Lisa Acquaviva

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Address (optional)::



Primary Phone (optional)::



Email (optional)::



CMR Number (If known): :

110 CMR: 7.105 (18)

General Regulatory

Themes::

Children and Families

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this

regulation::

DCF

Describe the regulatory issue or observation::

CMR states: "(18) No foster child under the age of 12 will be placed in a home where a Rottweiler, Pit Bull or German Shepard dog, or a mixture of the these three breeds, is maintained on the premises of a foster/pre-adoptive home, unless the Department after review determines that such a placement is in the best interest of the child(ren), except for a dog which is being used as a service animal for a household member whose disability has been verified." Suggested Amendment to Policy: All dogs regardless of breed or size should have an individual temperament evaluation to determine if their temperament is acceptable to be in a household with children.

(Please note that this can be performed free of charge through the town animal

There is no evidence from the controlled study of dog bites that one kind of dog is more likely to bite a human being than another kind of dog. A recent AVMA survey covering 40 years and two continents concluded that no group of dogs should be considered disproportionately dangerous.[1] Additionally, in a recent multifactorial study published in the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association on the exceptionally rare events of dog bite-related fatalities, the researchers identified a striking co-occurrence of multiple, controllable factors in those came [2] Prood was not identified as a factor. See more athttp://nationalcanineresearchcouncil.com/dog-legislation/breed-specific-legislation-bsl-fag/#sthash.NDfsKxEC.dpuf

BSL has not succeeded in reducing dog bite-related injuries wherever in the world it has been enacted.

- An analysis published in the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association explains one reason that BSL could not be expected to work even if particular breeds could be identified as high risk. The authors calculated the absurdly large numbers of dogs of targeted breeds who would have to be completely removed from a community in order to prevent even one serious dog bite-related injury. For example, in order to prevent a single hospitalization resulting from a dog bite, the authors calculate that a city or town would have to remove more than 100,000 dogs of a targeted group. To prevent a second hospitalization, double that number:[3]
- Denver, CO enacted a breed-specific ban in 1989. Citizens of Denver continue to suffer a higher rate of hospitalization from dog bite-related injuries after the ban, than the citizens of breed-neutral Colorado counties.[4]
- A study published in the Journal of Veterinary Behavior, compared medically treated dog bites in Aragon, Spain for 5 years prior to and following enactment of Spain's "Law on the legal treatment of the possession of dangerous animals" (sometimes referred to Spain's Dangerous Animal Act) (2000). The results showed no significant effect in dog bite incidences when comparing before and after enactment of the BSL.[5]
- The Netherlands repealed a 15-year-old breed ban in 2008 after commissioning a study of its effectiveness. The study revealed that BSL was not a successful dog-bite mitigation strategy because it had not resulted in a decrease in dog bites. [6]
- The Province of Ontario in Canada enacted a breed ban in 2005. In 2010, based on a survey of municipalities across the Province, the Toronto Humane Society reported that, despite five years of BSL and the destruction of "countless" dogs, there had been no significant decrease in the number of dog bites.[7]
- Winnipeg, Manitoba enacted a breed ban in 1990. Winnipeg's rate of dog biteinjury hospitalizations is virtually unchanged from that day to this, and remains significantly higher than the rate in breed-neutral, responsible pet ownership Calgary[8]
- See more at: http://nationalcanineresearchcouncil.com/dog-legislation/breed-specific-legislation-bsl-faq/#sthash.NDfsKxEC.dpuf

Suggestions for easing regulatory compliance::

Suggested Amendment to Policy: All dogs regardless of breed or size should have an individual temperament evaluation to determine if their temperament is acceptable to be in a household with children.

(Please note that this can be performed free of charge through the town animal control.)

Terms | Privacy



From: Sent:

noreply+6fc9e3626a9cf6d5@formstack.com>

Friday, September 04, 2015 8:15 AM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 09/04/15 8:15 AM

Name (optional)::

Brendan Chenelle

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Sensata Tech

Address (optional)::



Primary Phone (optional)::

CMR Number (If known): :

Email (optional)::

110 CMR: 7.105 (18)

General Regulatory

Themes::

Children and Families

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this

regulation::

Adoption

Describe the regulatory issue or observation::

This regulation bars families that own one of several dog breeds from adopting children, in spite of how fit of they are as parents. I personally know one couple that was trying to adopt that already has children and are great parents. They are well educated (both work in the tech industry) with stable jobs and a safe home. Nonetheless, they were denied the ability to adopt without any recourse because they have a pit bull mix. Having met the dog, the fears are quite unfounded and a blanket ban like this is a disservice to children looking for a loving home.

There is no evidence from the controlled study of dog bites that one kind of dog is more likely to bite a human being than another kind of dog. A recent AVMA survey covering 40 years and two continents concluded that no group of dogs should be considered disproportionately dangerous.[1] Additionally, in a recent multifactorial study published in the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association on the exceptionally rare events of dog bite-related fatalities, the researchers identified a striking co-occurrence of multiple, controllable factors in these cases.[2] Breed was not identified as a factor. - See more at: http://nationalcanineresearchcouncil.com/dog-legislation/breed-specificlegislation-bsl-fag/#sthash.NDfsKxEC.dpuf

Instead of a blanket ban, this should be examined on a case-by-case basis by an expert in dog temperament. This is a free service available through the animal control officer in most towns.

Suggestions for easing regulatory compliance::

A case-by-case determination of the fitness of a home without blanket bans for certain dog breeds.



Sent:

Friday, September 04, 2015 12:11 PM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 09/04/15 12:10 PM

Name (optional)::

Meghan McLoughlin

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Address (optional)::

Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

and the same of th

CMR Number (If known)::

110 CMR: 7.105 (18)

General Regulatory Themes:

Children and Families

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this regulation::

DCF

Describe the regulatory issue or observation::

CMR states: "(18) No foster child under the age of 12 will be placed in a home where a Rottweiler, Pit

Bull or German Shepard dog, or a mixture of the these three breeds, is maintained on the premises of a

foster/pre-adoptive home, unless the Department after review determines that such a placement is in

the best interest of the child(ren), except for a dog which is being used as a service animal for a

household member whose disability has been verified."

Suggestions for easing regulatory compliance::

Suggested Amendment to Policy: All dogs regardless of breed or size should have an individual

temperament evaluation to determine if their temperament is acceptable to be in a household with

children.

(Please note that this can be performed free of charge through the town animal control.)

There is no evidence from the controlled study of dog bites that one kind of dog is more likely to bite a

human being than another kind of dog. A recent AVMA survey covering 40 years and two continents

concluded that no group of dogs should be considered disproportionately dangerous.[1] Additionally, in

a recent multifactorial study published in the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association on

the exceptionally rare events of dog bite-related fatalities, the researchers identified a striking co-

occurrence of multiple, controllable factors in these cases.[2] Breed was not identified as a factor. - See

more at: http://nationalcanineresearchcouncil.com/dog-legislation-bsl-

faq/#sthash.NDfsKxEC.dpuf

BSL has not succeeded in reducing dog bite-related injuries wherever in the world it has been enacted.

• An analysis published in the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association explains one

reason that BSL could not be expected to work even if particular breeds could be identified as high

risk. The authors calculated the absurdly large numbers of dogs of targeted breeds who would have to

be completely removed from a community in order to prevent even one serious dog bite-related injury.

For example, in order to prevent a single hospitalization resulting from a dog bite, the authors calculate

that a city or town would have to remove more than 100,000 dogs of a targeted group. To prevent a

second hospitalization, double that number.[3]

 Denver, CO enacted a breed-specific ban in 1989. Citizens of Denver continue to suffer a higher rate of

hospitalization from dog bite-related injuries after the ban, than the citizens of breed-neutral Colorado

counties.[4]

 A study published in the Journal of Veterinary Behavior, compared medically treated dog bites in Aragon, Spain for 5 years prior to and following enactment of Spain's "Law on the legal treatment of the

possession of dangerous animals" (sometimes referred to Spain's Dangerous Animal Act) (2000). The

results showed no significant effect in dog bite incidences when comparing before and after enactment

of the BSL.[5]

 The Netherlands repealed a 15-year-old breed ban in 2008 after commissioning a study of its

effectiveness. The study revealed that BSL was not a successful dog-bite mitigation strategy because it

had not resulted in a decrease in dog bites. [6]

• The Province of Ontario in Canada enacted a breed ban in 2005. In 2010, based on a survey of

municipalities across the Province, the Toronto Humane Society reported that, despite five years of BSL

and the destruction of "countless" dogs, there had been no significant decrease in the number of dog

bites.[7]

 Winnipeg, Manitoba enacted a breed ban in 1990. Winnipeg's rate of dog bite-injury hospitalizations is

virtually unchanged from that day to this, and remains significantly higher than the rate in breed-

neutral, responsible pet ownership Calgary[8]

- See more at: http://nationalcanineresearchcouncil.com/dog-legislation/breed-specific-legislation-bsl-

faq/#sthash.NDfsKxEC.dpuf

<noreply+97d155eef27fcd46@formstack.com>

Sent:

Monday, September 07, 2015 1:45 PM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 09/07/15 1:45 PM

Name (optional)::

Laura Cioe

Company/Organization (if applicable)

(optional)::

Address (optional)::

Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (If known): :

110 CMR: 7.105 (18)

General Regulatory Themes::

Children and Families

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this regulation::

DCF

Describe the regulatory issue or observation::

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the best interest of the child(ren), except for a dog which is being used as a service animal for a

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(Please note that this can be performed free of charge through the

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a recent multifactorial study published in the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association on

the exceptionally rare events of dog bite-related fatalities, the researchers identified a striking co-

occurrence of multiple, controllable factors in these cases.[2] Breed was not identified as a factor. - See

more at: http://nationalcanineresearchcouncil.com/dog-legislation/breed-specific-legislation-bsl-

faq/#sthash.NDfsKxEC.dpuf

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risk. The authors calculated the absurdly large numbers of dogs of targeted breeds who would have to

be completely removed from a community in order to prevent even one serious dog bite-related injury.

For example, in order to prevent a single hospitalization resulting from a dog bite, the authors calculate

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hospitalization from dog bite-related injuries after the ban, than the citizens of breed-neutral Colorado

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possession of dangerous animals" (sometimes referred to Spain's Dangerous Animal Act) (2000). The

results showed no significant effect in dog bite incidences when comparing before and after enactment

of the BSL.[5]

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effectiveness. The study revealed that BSL was not a successful dog-bite mitigation strategy because it

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 In 2010, based on a survey of

municipalities across the Province, the Toronto Humane Society reported that, despite five years of BSL

and the destruction of "countless" dogs, there had been no significant decrease in the number of dog

bites.[7]

 Winnipeg, Manitoba enacted a breed ban in 1990. Winnipeg's rate of dog bite-injury hospitalizations is

virtually unchanged from that day to this, and remains significantly higher than the rate in breed-

neutral, responsible pet ownership Calgary[8]

Suggestions for easing regulatory compliance::



noreply@formstack.com

Sent:

Monday, September 28, 2015 10:59 AM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Categories:

Red Category

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 09/28/15 10:58 AM

Name (optional)::

Nancy Thomson

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Address (optional)::

Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (if known): :

110 CMR: 7.105 (18)

General Regulatory Themes:

Children and Families

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this regulation::

DCF

Describe the regulatory issue or observation::

CMR states: "(18) No foster child under the age of 12 will be placed in a home where a Rottweiler, Pit Bull or German Shepard dog, or a mixture of the these three breeds, is maintained on the premises of a foster/preadoptive home, unless the Department after review determines that such a placement is in the best interest of the child(ren), except for a dog which is being used as a service animal for a household member whose disability has been verified."

There is no evidence from the controlled study of dog bites that one kind of dog is more likely to bite a human being than another kind of dog. A recent AVMA survey covering 40 years and two continents concluded that no group of dogs should be considered disproportionately dangerous. Additionally, in a recent multifactorial study published in the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association on the exceptionally rare events of dog bite-related fatalities, the researchers identified a striking co-occurrence of multiple, controllable factors in these cases.

Suggestions for improvements to the regulation::

All dogs regardless of breed or size should have an individual temperament evaluation to determine if their temperament is acceptable to be in a household with children.

(Please note that this can be performed free of charge through the town

animal control.)



noreply@formstack.com

Sent:

Monday, September 28, 2015 12:28 PM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Categories:

Red Category

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 09/28/15 12:27 PM

Name (optional)::

Stephanie Steele

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Address (optional)::

Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (If known): :

110 CMR: 7.105 (18)

General Regulatory Themes::

Children and Families

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this regulation::

DCF

Describe the regulatory issue or observation::

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It is unfair to discriminate against certain dog breeds as being more dangerous & likely to bite than another group. With any breed, there are some outstanding & well-adjusted dogs & some that would not be suitable for a home with a child. I have met some pretty vicious chihuahuas. More important is the dog's individual temperament, which DCF takes into consideration for all other dog breeds other than the 3 listed above. Please take the time to test each dog's temperament regardless of breed. Massachusetts has recently overturned breed specific legislation. It's unfair that DCF has not progressed to keep up with the state's laws.

There is no evidence from the controlled study of dog bites that one kind of dog is more likely to bite a human being than another kind of dog. A recent

of dogs should be considered disproportionately dangerous. Additionally, in a recent multifactorial study published in the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association on the exceptionally rare events of dog bite-related fatalities, the researchers identified a striking co-occurrence of multiple, controllable factors in these cases.

In fact, the number one predictor of dog bites is an in-tact dog that spends a lot of time in isolation possibly on a heavy chain & not well-socialized or fearful.

Suggestions for improvements to the regulation:: All dogs regardless of breed or size should have an individual temperament evaluation to determine if their temperament is acceptable to be in a household with children.

This can be performed free of charge through the town animal control or by a subcontracted qualified behaviorist. I'm sure that the people submitting the application would understand & would pay an additional fee to have their dog evaluated rather than rejected from the start, especially if another child is currently living in the house with no incidents with the dog.

noreply@formstack.com

Sent:

Monday, September 28, 2015 2:45 PM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Categories:

Red Category

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 09/28/15 2:44 PM

Name (optional)::

Jo Walters

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Address (optional)::



Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (If known): :

110 CMR: 7.105 (18)

General Regulatory Themes::

Children and Families

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this regulation::

DCF

Describe the regulatory issue or observation::

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Suggestions for improvements to the regulation::

There is no evidence from the controlled study of dog bites that one kind of dog is more likely to bite a human being than another kind of dog. A recent AVMA survey covering 40 years and two continents concluded that no group of dogs should be considered disproportionately dangerous. Additionally, in a recent multifactorial study published in the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association on the exceptionally rare events of dog bite-related fatalities, the researchers identified a striking co-occurrence of multiple,

controllable factors in these cases. All dogs regardless of breed or size should have an individual temperament evaluation to determine if their temperament is acceptable to be in a household with children. (Please note that this can be performed free of

charge through the town animal control.)

MARKET THE TAXABLE

From:

noreply+463bce0ddef0bfcd@formstack.com>

Sent:

Thursday, October 01, 2015 7:23 AM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Categories:

Red Category

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 10/01/15 7:23 AM

Name (optional)::

Nancy Sherman

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Address (optional)::

AND THE PARTY

Primary Phone (optional)::

A (transporter transf

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (If known): :

General Regulatory Themes::

Other

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this regulation::

Homeowners Insurance & Dogs breeds on "The List"

Describe the regulatory issue or observation::

I've own Rottweilers for the past 33 years. Because of my breed choice I am very limited on my home owners insurance. Only one will insure me. MA Fair Plan. I have never filed a claim on my homeowners insurance. They do a home inspection every few years. This past spring they flunked a small retaining wall against along my driveway. Demanded it be fixed 30 days from date of notice, or my homeowners would be cancelled. I got the notice 2 week prior to deadline. I contacted my Agent to get an extension. At that time my husband had been laid off from the Mt Tom coal burning Power Plant and unemployment had just run out. We had to figure out a way to be able to fix it on a VERY tight budget. I feel because they know I have NO other choices they can do whatever they want. I was just told it was going up \$300. I pay \$1500 a year now.

I want to KNOW why after Governor Patrick signed BILL agains Breed discrimination Insurance company's can still discriminate against me because I own Rottweilers? "Judge the DEED not the BREED!

Suggestions for improvements to the regulation::

Treat every breed equally. If I have to pay more then ALL DOG owners should pay the same. And if you are irresponsible and your dog does something then that is when your insurance Company can up your premium

or cancel you. At times I feel they only way to get a lower insuance premium is to Euthanize my dogs which is not going to happen they are part of my family.



<noreply+7baefb5e888890f3@formstack.com>

Sent:

Saturday, October 03, 2015 12:12 PM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Categories:

Red Category

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 10/03/15 12:11 PM

Name (optional)::

Amy Witherbee

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Address (optional)::



Primary Phone (optional)::

C. C. STATEMENT PROPERTY.

Email (optional)::

Bridge & Ref Hallow Printer Cons.

CMR Number (If known): :

110 CMR: 7.105 (18)

General Regulatory Themes:

Children and Families

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this regulation:: DCF

Describe the regulatory issue or observation:

CMR states: "(18) No foster child under the age of 12 will be placed in a home where a Rottweiler, Pit Bull or German Shepard dog, or a mixture of the these three breeds, is maintained on the premises of a foster/pre-adoptive home, unless the Department after review determines that such a placement is in the best interest of the child(ren), except for a dog which is being used as a service animal for a household member whose disability has been verified." There is no evidence from the controlled study of dog bites that one kind of dog is more likely to bite a human being than another kind of dog. A recent AVMA survey covering 40 years and two continents concluded that no group of dogs should be considered disproportionately dangerous. Additionally, in a recent multifactorial study published in the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association on the exceptionally rare events of dog bite-related fatalities, the researchers identified a striking co-occurrence of multiple, controllable factors in these cases.

Suggestions for improvements to the regulation::

All dogs regardless of breed or size should have an individual temperament evaluation to determine if their temperament is acceptable to be in a household with children.

(Please note that this can be performed free of charge through the town

animal control.)

mBrion (ANE)

From:

noreply@formstack.com

Sent:

Tuesday, October 06, 2015 10:04 AM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 10/06/15 10:04 AM

Name (optional)::

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Address (optional)::

Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (If known): :

General Regulatory Themes:

Health Care

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this regulation::

Department of Public Health, Division of Health Care Quality

Describe the regulatory issue or observation::

Determination of Need (DoN). 5-8 years ago the DoN regulations were revised partially in an effort to slow the expansion of Boston Teaching Hospitals into the communities via satellites that duplicate the services of existing community hospitals. At this time projects requiring a DoN were expanded to include all outpatient projects exceeding the required dollar threshold whereas previously most outpatient service were exempt from the DoN regulation. The DoN regulation carries with it a 5% community benefit "tax" and so expanding the regulation to include all outpatient projects automatically increased the cost of all outpatient capital projects by the same 5% thereby adding tens of millions of unnecessary expense to healthcare expenses. The change, coupled with the addition of the "dis-aggregation rule" has also now been interpreted to be all projects undertaken by a hospital including essential infrastructure upgrades such as boiler plants, parking garages, administrative offices, etc. Making matters even worse is the fact that the 5% tax is even applied to projects for the construction of hospital based services that provide community benefits that are 100% unreimbursed such as food pantries, homeless services, substance abuse counseling, etc. The burden this has placed on the healthcare industry is counterproductive the national and state goal of reducing healthcare costs.

Suggestions for improvements to the regulation::

This change should have only applied to satellite outpatient projects and should not have applied to the existing renovation, incremental expansion, or modernization of existing on-campus hospital outpatient services. The dis-

aggregation rule should be eliminated or clarified; i.e. if you have a ten year master plan consisting of a series of individual projects must they all be aggregated into one DoN and if so how can one reasonably and accurately estimate the capital costs over such a long period. Furthermore, Safety Net Hospitals are by definition and essential community benefit for the communities that they serve. Safety Net hospital given the unique missions that they serve and financial challenges that they must operate under, should be exempt from the 5% community benefit "tax" for all capital projects whether outpatient or inpatient. As the administration considers changes to these regulations I would urge you to consider these issues in crafting the modifications.

noreply@formstack.com

Sent:

Tuesday, October 06, 2015 11:06 AM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Categories:

Red Category

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 10/06/15 11:06 AM

Name (optional)::

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Address (optional)::

Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (If known): :

General Regulatory Themes::

Health Care

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this regulation:: Department of Public Health, Division of Health Care Quality

Describe the regulatory issue or observation::

Hospital Construction Plan Review Process. The Plan Review process is completely dysfunctional for all hospital services within the state at this time. It starts with fact that the plan review checklist requirements are adopted from the "Federal Guidelines Institute" (FGI) which periodically publishes updated GUIDELINES for Healthcare construction which are then MANDATED by the Massachusetts Plan Review process. The development of the FGI guidelines is unduly influenced by both the architectural and construction industries which are biased towards the expansion and growth of healthcare construction industries. The GUIDELINES are not applicable to all healthcare projects and yet the Massachusetts Plan Review Process imposes them as though they are a h rule rather than a guideline. While there is a waiver process to deviate from the requirements, it is often very difficult, relies primarily on the personal opinion of the plan reviewer, and decisions are provided well after the projects are underway and the spaces have been built. Because of the financial and project delay risks associated with the waiver process most healthcare architectural firms now refuse to design a project if it requires a waiver from the stated guidelines. Examples of the the GUIDELINES not fitting with the needs of a project, hospital and care of a patient: 1. Well Baby Nursery in a postpartum unit - the guidelines and DPH checklist requires that a well baby nursery contain one bassinet for each neathartum had inlus and within a new or renovated materality unit. There

many publications, including some by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health that state that today's best practice is to room the baby in with the mother rather than in a separate nursery. One Massachusetts hospital is among the top leaders in the nation in this best practice and as a result one of its two current well baby nurseries is 100% vacant 100% of the time. Despite this fact it has taken over two years of debate, dialogue, design, and money to finally get DPH to waive the required number of well baby bassinets to get to a number that is consistent with the actual needs of the patient. Building the oversized nyursery would have resulted in hundreds of thousands of wasted capital and unnecessary annual operating expenses that ultimately directly impact the cost of healthcare. 2. Outpatient clinics are required to comply with one standard FGI checklist or requirements despite the broad array of varying services that are provided in an outpatient clinic setting. Again as a "guideline" the checklist makes sense, but as a "rule" it does not. For example Ophthalmology clinics are required to have sinks in all exam rooms and soiled utility rooms with sinks for flushing body fluids even though in most ophthalmology treatments the patient and physician never come in physical contact with each other. A soiled utility room with flushing rim sink will never be used and a more practical solution would be to provide accessible sinks immediately outside of a grouping of exam rooms to allow for clinicians to was their hands in the occasional event that they contact a patient. 3. Single bed rooms. Several years ago the FGI guidelines made the dramatic change of requiring that all new inpatient rooms be single bed rooms rather then the semi-private, or two bed rooms previously found in many hospitals. This change was then adopted by Massachusetts as the new "requirement" via the DPH plan review process. This one change effectively doubled the capital cost and facilities operating cost of all new inpatient facilities in the Commonwealth without any real debate over the potential impacts on healthcare costs. While there are many studies and publications that indicate that this is the most appropriate design criteria for many patients, there is no indication that this is the right choice for all patients, especially when considering the overall cost impacts on healthcare as a whole. For many patients where the risk of infection is low, human interaction is an important part of the healing process and they develop bonds with their roommates in a semiprivate setting. For others privacy is an important consideration and so again a private room is important, but for others this is less of a concern to them personally. Private room vs. semi-private room is both a clinical consideration and a mental, or state-of-mind consideration for the individual patient. I personally lost a loved one who developed a strong bond with his roommate while at MGH and this relationship helped him in journey towards good health, but then later when moved to a private room he became lonely and isolated and our family had to set up shifts to be with him and keep his spirits up. Requiring all single bed rooms and the added expense associated with this mandate also forces hospitals to scale back the "surge" capacity that the state should want in the pipeline in the event of major disaster or epidemic. Most hospitals have been migrating towards private rooms for years, however, the semiprivate design allows for the surge capacity via doubling up patient rooms for these unique situations where bed capacity across the state is taxed.

In addition the plan review process is unduly cumbersome and lengthy with too few staff reviewers resulting in significant delays and changes to hospital capital projects that amount to tens of millions in both lost hospital revenue, excess capital expense, and often times having newly built services sitting empty while waiting final occupancy approval when they could be benefiting the patients they were built to serve. What used to take less than 30 days

patients that are suffering through increased costs and reduced access to new and modern facilities for their care.

Suggestions for improvements to the regulation::

The plan review process should be eliminated and replaced with a self certification process and a more routine on-site review of the hospital facilities so as to assure compliance with the self certification process. The plan review process should be eliminated for all outpatient clinics unless they are a freestanding satellite of a hospital. There should be an independent review board that includes clinicians and administrators from hospitals in the Commonwealth that review all changes to the FGI guidelines and agree which of the changes should be adopted by the state rather than automatically adopting these guidelines as requirements. This is akin to the process by which the NFPA or International Building Codes are reviewed and selectively incorporated into the Massachusetts Building Codes.

<noreply+91b5cfeb51e420eb@formstack.com>

Sent:

Tuesday, October 06, 2015 12:37 PM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Categories:

Red Category

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 10/06/15 12:36 PM

Name (optional)::

Bethany Dugas

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Address (optional)::

Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (If known)::

110 CMR: 7.105 (18)

General Regulatory Themes::

Children and Families

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this

regulation::

DCF

Describe the regulatory issue or observation:

CMR states: "(18) No foster child under the age of 12 will be placed in a home where a Rottweiler, Pit Bull or German Shepard dog, or a mixture of the these three breeds, is maintained on the premises of a foster/pre-adoptive home, unless the Department after review determines that such a placement is in the best interest of the child(ren), except for a dog which is being used as a service animal for a household member whose disability has been verified." There is no evidence from the controlled study of dog bites that one kind of dog is more likely to bite a human being than another kind of dog. A recent AVMA survey covering 40 years and two continents concluded that no group of dogs should be considered disproportionately dangerous. Additionally, in a recent multifactorial study published in the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association on the exceptionally rare events of dog bite-related fatalities, the researchers identified a striking co-occurrence of multiple, controllable factors in these cases.

Suggestions for improvements to the regulation::

All dogs regardless of breed or size should have an individual temperament evaluation to determine if their temperament is acceptable to be in a household with children.

(Please note that this can be performed free of charge through the town

animal control.)

*ON A PERSONAL NOTE: I am the proud owner of a loving and intelligent ten year old female Pit Bull. I am also incapable of having children of my own; HOWEVER my fiance and I have so much love in our home to give and want nothing more than to be able to adopt a child who needs us, who needs a loving, nurturing home and family; and who may not ever be able to have one because of the discriminatory label put on our dog, our family member, who is phenomenal with children and babies and has never so much as bared a tooth. This policy is absolutely archaic, and is doing much more harm than good!

noreply@formstack.com

Sent:

Wednesday, October 07, 2015 12:00 AM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Categories:

Red Category

х

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 10/06/15 11:59 PM

Name (optional)::

Patricia Satterstrom

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Address (optional)::



Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

or observation::

CMR Number (If known): :

110 CMR: 7.105 (18)

General Regulatory Themes::

Building Codes/Accessibility Standards

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this regulation:: DCF

Describe the regulatory issue

CMR states: "(18) No foster child under the age of 12 will be placed in a home where a Rottweiler, Pit Bull or German Shepard dog, or a mixture of the these three breeds, is maintained on the premises of a foster/pre-adoptive home, unless the Department after review determines that such a placement is in the best interest of the child(ren), except for a dog which is being used as a service animal for a household member whose disability has been verified."

There is no evidence from the controlled study of dog bites that one kind of dog is more likely to bite a human being than another kind of dog. A recent AVMA survey covering 40 years and two continents concluded that no group of dogs should be considered disproportionately dangerous. Additionally, in a recent multifactorial study published in the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association on the exceptionally rare events of dog bite-related fatalities, the researchers identified a striking co-occurrence of multiple, controllable factors in these cases.

Suggestions for improvements to the regulation::

All dogs regardless of breed or size should have an individual temperament evaluation to determine if their temperament is acceptable to be in a household with children.

(Please note that this can be performed free of charge through the town

animal control.)



Sackyard Stress & comeditation https://doi.oreply+61f6f4640f5b218d@formstack.com

Sent:

Wednesday, October 28, 2015 1:52 PM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 10/28/15 1:52 PM

Name (optional)::

Jennifer Hashley

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Pete and Jen's Backyard Birds

Address (optional)::



Primary Phone (optional)::

RESERVED TO THE PROPERTY OF

Email (optional)::

a transmitter at the falling of the state of

CMR Number (If known): :

105 CMR 530.00

General Regulatory Themes::

Licensing and Permitting

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this regulation::

Department of Public Health

Describe the regulatory issue or observation::

All poultry producers producing poultry for sale must have a license from the Massachusetts

Department of Public Health (MDPH), Food Protection Program (FPP) to slaughter poultry

as required by M.G.L. c. 94, section 120.

• The licensee must comply with all applicable sanitation requirements of 105 CMR 530.00.

Sanitation in Meat and Poultry Processing Establishments.

• All producers using MPPUs must have local board of health approval to proceed with

slaughter activities in their community (M.G.L. c. 111, section 151).

 MPPU operations are seasonal, Licensees may only operate from April 1 -November 30.

We are a small-scale, local livestock farm. We have worked with DPH to apply for an receive a license to slaughter poultry on our farm for several years. I have always been dismayed by the cost of the "license to slaughter meat or poultry" which is steep for the level of production for a small, seasonal operation (June - October). There are only two levels of "fees" set by A&F - one category is "Under \$3M in sales" for an annual license fee of \$225 and the other is "Over \$3M in sales" for an annual license fee of \$350.

Suggestions for improvements to the regulation::

For small-scale poultry producers or beginning farmers just starting out, there needs to be a more scale-appropriate licensing fee whereby producers earning less than \$250,000 in annual sales (much more realistic for farmer-producers processing their own poultry; in reality most local poultry farmers are earning well below \$100,000 in gross annual sales) can have a more reasonable, cost-effective fee. I suggest an annual fee closer to \$50 to make compliance and the likelihood of more producers becoming properly licensed more accessible. I also run a non-profit beginning farmer training program - the New Entry Sustainable Farming Project (www.nesfp.org) that helps new producers become licensed and access the state-approved MPPU (Mobile Poultry Processing Unit) and we have heard over and over again that paying the \$225 license fee to produce a limited number of birds per year and contribute to the local food system is a financial barrier to starting and expanding their poultry operations.

<noreply+fdc12560fe9e8cd9@formstack.com>

Sent:

Friday, October 30, 2015 11:09 AM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 10/30/15 11:08 AM

Name (optional)::

Kara Holmquist

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

MSPCA (submitting joint comments with Best Friends Animal Society)

Address (optional)::



Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (If known): :

110 CMR 7.105 (18)

General Regulatory Themes::

Children and Families

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this

regulation::

Department of Children and Families

Describe the regulatory issue or observation::

We are submitting these comments as part of the review process required under Executive Order 562. Our comments are about the Department of Children and Families' regulation 110 CMR 7.105 (18) Services, Substitute Care, Standards for Licensure of Foster/Pre-Adoptive Homes.

This regulation states that "no foster child under the age of 12 will be placed in a home where a Rottweiler, Pit Bull or German Shepard dog, or a mixture of these three breeds, is maintained on the premises of a foster/pre-adoptive home, unless the Department after review determines that such a placement is in the best interest of the child(ren), except for a dog which is being used as a service animal for a household member whose disability has been verified."

We believe this regulation should change. We have been contacted by many potential foster care /pre-adoptive families who live with behaviorally sound dogs who have been denied an opportunity to foster or adopt a child with DCF due to this regulation. Breed-discriminatory laws, policies, or regulations, such as the one in question, do absolutely nothing to enhance public safety. In fact, some research suggests that these types of regulations may actually increase the risk of dangerous behavior.

Further, in 2012, the state legislature passed, and the Governor signed, a bill that prohibits municipalities in Massachusette from passing ordinances that

are based on breed. This should be persuasive to DCF as it revisits this archaic policy.

Breed neutrality is also supported by professional organizations around the country with expertise in dog behavior and related policies. The American Veterinary Medical Association, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the National Animal Care and Control Association, and recently the American Bar Association (ABA), have all concluded that breed-discriminatory laws and regulations are ineffective and can create a myriad of legal issues because of misidentification. The American Veterinary Medical Association, in cooperation with leading experts representing human medicine, public health, pediatrics, and the insurance industry, has published a document outlining a breed-neutral approach to community dog bite prevention.

BREED-BASED DISCRIMINATION IS NOT AN EFFECTIVE WAY TO PREVENT DOG BITES

The theory underlying breed-discriminatory laws—that some breeds are more likely to be aggressive has been thoroughly discredited by every reputable, peer-review study that has examined the issue In fact, what the research has shown is that there is no correlation between a dog's breed and its propensity to cause harm. Simply put, every dog is an individual.

Discriminating against certain breeds has never worked to reduce dog bites. Seeking to find one single cause, such as breed, to explain dog bites is flawed; it may make the problem seem more understandable, but is not a responsible or successful way to approach a more complex problem.

The CDC has publicly repudiated breed-specific laws and regulations, noting that data collection related to bites by breed is fraught with potential sources of error. Additionally, discriminating based on breed is flawed because a variety of factors may affect a dog's tendency toward aggression; these include heredity, early experience, socialization and training, sex and reproductive status. Intact males constitute 80 percent of all dogs presented to veterinary behaviorists for what formerly has been described as dominance aggression, are involved in 70 to 76 percent of reported dog bite incidents, and are 2.6 times more likely to bite than neutered dogs. Chaining and tethering also appear to be risk factors for biting.

DISCRIMINATING BASED ON BREED IS FLAWED BECAUSE VISUAL BREED IDENTIFICATION IS NEARLY IMPOSSIBLE

Studies have shown that visual breed identification is flawed. In the leading study on the issue, Victoria Voith, PhD, DVM, DACVB, and colleagues from Western University of Health Sciences originally compared the breed identifications assigned by adoption agencies to dogs of unknown parentage with DNA breed analysis of the same dogs. They found low agreement between the two, concluding there is little correlation between dog adoption agencies' visual breed identification and the probable breed composition of dogs of unknown parentage. Put another way, breed was misidentified by trained animal professionals nearly 90% of the time. Attempts by DCF or adopters to visually identify what breed or mix of breeds a foster/pre-adoptive family lives with will almost certainly be inaccurate.

Suggestions for improvements to the ALTERNATIVES

regulation::

As an alternative to this breed-discriminatory policy, we would suggest that if a DCF employee, based on identified behavior, feels that any dog in a household should be evaluated by a behaviorist, that he or she can order that assessment – at the potential foster /pre-adoptive family's expense.

It is worth noting that while the current regulation states that a child can be placed with an animal that is supposedly one of these breeds if it is in the "best interest of the child", this does not solve the problem. Potential foster/pre-adoptive families have been told that there has to be a pre-existing relationship with the child, so this does not help the many families who want to foster or adopt from DCF.

CONCLUSION

We all want safe homes for children and families. DCF should do everything within its power to ensure that children are being placed in homes that are appropriate and safe; however, the current regulation is not having that effect. Good families are being rejected by the Department based on outdated stereotypes and myths. We urge the Department to follow the recommendations of the researchers and scientists who all agree that breed discrimination is the wrong policy solution to keeping communities safe.

ABOUT OUR ORGANIZATIONS

The MSPCA is a national and international leader in animal protection and veterinary medicine and provide direct hands-on care for thousands of animals each year. Founded in 1868, we are the second-oldest humane society in the United States. The full name of our organization is the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals — Angell Animal Medical Center, or MSPCA—Angell. The MSPCA comprises our Animal Care and Adoption Centers, our Advocacy Department, and our Law Enforcement Department. Angell Animal Medical Center is our nonprofit veterinary hospital. We shelter and re-home all breeds of dogs, offer a large number of training classes for dogs and offer dog behavior consultation and services.

Best Friends Animal Society is the only national animal welfare organization dedicated exclusively to ending the killing of dogs and cats in America's shelters. A leader in the no-kill movement, Best Friends runs the nation's largest no-kill sanctuary for companion animals, adoption centers and spay and neuter facilities in Los Angeles and Salt Lake City as well as lifesaving programs in partnership with more than 1,300 rescue groups and shelters across the country. Since its founding in 1984, Best Friends has helped reduce the number of animals killed in American shelters from 17 million per year to an estimated 4 million. By continuing to build effective initiatives that reduce the number of animals entering shelters and increase the number who find homes, Best Friends and its nationwide network of members and partners are working to Save Them All®.



horeply+8fbeeb9e2b121acc@formstack.com>

Sent:

Tuesday, November 03, 2015 2:36 PM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 11/03/15 2:35 PM

Name (optional)::

Brad Mitchell

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

MA Farm Bureau Federation

Address (optional)::



Primary Phone (optional)::



Email (optional)::

CMR Number (If known)::

105 CMR 532.300

General Regulatory Themes::

Other

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this regulation::

MA DPH

Describe the regulatory issue or observation::

These "regulations" govern the use of mobile poultry slaughter facilities. There is a huge demand and business opportunity for fresh poultry in Massachusetts. Mobile poultry slaughter facilities were developed to help open the market to smaller farms as (1) there are no USDA poultry slaughter facilities in MA (2) it is expensive for small farms to slaughter poultry on the farm, and cost-prohibitive for smaller operations. These regulations were written to address the relatively new concept of mobile slaughter facilities.

There are two issues with the regulations:

- 1. The regulations have no content, but simply refer to internal DPH policy. This policy did not go through the regulatory process and as such, was not developed pursuant to broad public input, transparency. while there is a legitimate need for internal policy to interpret regulations, in this case DPH has simply avoided the regulatory process altogether. Much of what is in the policy should be in regulation.
- These regulations were put into place when the idea of mobile units were novel. As such, as such, many businesses have found the requirements unfeasible, the regulations were overbuilt and are unnecessarily burdensome.

Suggestions for improvements to the regulation::

1 Take the elements of the policy and put them into regulation through an open, transparent and participatory process as required with regulation.

2. With about a decade of practical experience, work with the regulated community to see if these regulations can be made less burdensome



noreply@formstack.com

Sent:

Wednesday, November 04, 2015 5:34 PM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 11/04/15 5:33 PM

Name (optional)::

Elaine Massery

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Greater Springfield Senior Services, Inc.

Address (optional)::



Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (If known): :

130 CMR 408 Adult Family Care

General Regulatory Themes:

Elders

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this regulation::

Please see below

Describe the regulatory issue

or observation::

Proposed Changes to the Adult Family Care Program Regulations Submitted By Greater Springfield Senior Services, Inc.

November 4, 2015

Some of the following proposed changes to the current regulations for the AFC Program were submitted as part of a broader list of changes developed by the Massachusetts Council for Adult Foster Care Providers and submitted to MassHealth for consideration. We respectfully request consideration of the items noted below.

408.431(B)(2)

Current language

By the first day of AFC services, the AFC provider must obtain all the necessary documentation from the member's physician and other services providers. The documentation must include...(c) results of a physician's visit within the past three months, results of a physical examination within the past 12 months...

Proposed language change

By the first day of AFC services, the AFC provider must obtain all the necessary documentation from the member's physician and other services providers. The decumentation must include the results of a physical

examination within the past 12 months.

408.430(c)(3)

Current language

The AFC provider's registered nurse must send a copy of the updated plan of care and a copy of the member's semiannual health-status report to the member's physician for review and approval.

Proposed language change

The AFC provider's registered nurse must send a copy of the updated plan of care and a copy of the member's semiannual health-status report to the member's physician. [No signature of approval required.]

Also a Level I member would require this annually, not semi-annually.

408.415 (B) (4) Nursing Services and Oversight

Current language

The AFC Provider must provide nursing coverage by a registered nurse in compliance with 130 CMR 408. 433 (B)(2). Nursing services must be individualized to meet the needs of each member and must include all of the following activities:

- (4) Conducting on-site visits with each member at the qualified setting:
- (a) For Level I, bimonthly (alternating with the bimonthly visit by the care manager);
- (b) For Level II, monthly, or more often as the member's condition warrants;

Proposed language

(B) Nursing Services and Oversight

The AFC Provider must provide nursing coverage by a registered nurse in compliance with 130 CMR 408. 433 (B)(2). Nursing services must be individualized to meet the needs of each member and must include all of the following activities:

- (4) Conducting visits with each member at the qualified setting, including an Adult Day Health, Dayhab or other supervised work setting:
- (a) For Level I, the RN and CM may alternate visits on a monthly basis for the first year of placement with the option of then changing the frequency to quarterly or more often as the member's condition warrants.
- (b) For Level II, the RN and CM may alternate visits on a monthly basis for the first year of placement with the option of then changing the frequency to every other month or more often as the member's condition warrants.

408.431

Current language

Preadmission and Admission Procedures

- (B) Admission Procedures. Upon admission, the AFC providers must perform the following activities:
- (3) Conduct on-site visits according to the member's AFC level.
- (a) For Level I, the visit must be conducted on the day of admission by the registered nurse or care manager.
- (b) For Level II, the visit must be conducted by the AFC provider's registered nurse on the day of admission and weekly for the first 30 days

Dranged language

Preadmission and Admission Procedures

- (B) Admission Procedures. Upon admission, the AFC providers must perform the following activities:
- (3) Conduct on-site visits according to the member's AFC level.
- (a) For Level I, the visit must be conducted on the day of admission by the registered nurse or care manager.
- (b) For Level II, the visit must be conducted on the day of admission by the registered nurse or care manager and if needed, weekly for the first 30 days.

408,433

Current language

- B) Multidisciplinary Professional Team
- (3) AFC Care Manager
- (b) Responsibilities
- (v) Conducting on-site visits with each member at the qualified setting bimonthly (alternating with the bimonthly visit by the registered nurse) for Level I, and monthly for Level II

Proposed language to be consistent with 408,431

- (B) Multidisciplinary Professional Team
- (3) AFC Care Manager
- (b) Responsibilities
- (v) Conducting visits with each member at the qualified setting, [Including Adult Day Health, Day Hab. Program or supervised work setting].

For Level I, the RN and CM may alternate visits on a monthly basis for the first year of placement with the option of changing the frequency to quarterly or more often as the member's condition warrants.

For Level II, the RN and CM may alternate visits on a monthly basis for the first year of placement with the option of then changing the frequency to every other month or more often as the member's condition warrants.

Questions regarding any of the information contained in this submission should be addressed to:

Terry Roberts, MassHealth Programs Coordinator



Suggestions for improvements to the regulation::

Please see above

From: Sent: <noreply+007fcd0cdf2fc7a7@formstack.com>

Wednesday, November 04, 2015 5:39 PM

To: RegReform (ANF)

Subject: A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 11/04/15 5:38 PM

Name (optional)::

Elaine Massery

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Greater Springfield Senior Services, Inc.

Address (optional)::

Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (if known): :

130 CMR 422 Personal Care Management

General Regulatory Themes::

Persons with Disabilities

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this regulation:: MassHealth

Describe the regulatory issue or observation::

Proposed Changes to the Personal Care Management Program Regulations/Operations

Submitted By Greater Springfield Senior Services, Inc.

November 4, 2015

Definition Section: Surrogate

Add the following criteria to the current definition of "Surrogate": The surrogate is subject to an assessment by the Personal Care Management program to his or her capability of performing the Employer functions on behalf of the

Consumer.

Although the PCA program is Consumer-Directed and should remain so, the substantial increase in the number of older individuals availing themselves of this program has opened the door to inappropriate and/or ineffective management in some cases, at times leaving the consumer at risk. Safeguards should be in place to minimize this possibility and thereby maintain

the integrity of the program.

422.403: Eligible Members

Consider adding, as an additional criterion of eligibility, the need for Cueing and Supervision in those situations where the consumer has a documented diagnosis of Alzheimer's Diagnosis or streke related or other demonstrate or

permanent brain injury which seriously restrict cognitive ability.

422.416: PCA Program: Prior Authorization

(A) Initial Request for Prior Authorization for PCA Services.

(B) Adjustment of Current Prior Authorization.

(C) Continuation of PCA Services.

Amend these Sections to include a Physician's Assistant as one of the individuals allowed to authorize, amend and/or reauthorize needed services. Adding the ability of a Physician's Assistant would facilitate providing services to the consumers as well as save time and effort for many medical Practices.

This change would be reflected on submission of the Physican Referral For PCA Services Form, Page 6 of the MassHealth Evaluation for PCA Services Form and the PCA Prior Authorization Adjustment Form.

Fraud and Abuse

GSSSI is proud to be managing a program as important and effective as the PCM Program. This service allows us to offer options to the many individuals who look to our organization for assistance in remaining safely in the community.

Over the years, we have become concerned about the increasing amount of fraud and abuse that is occurring in this program that is beginning to undermine its legitimacy within the state. This concern extends to the possibility that eventually services will be curtailed in order to stem the costs of implementation.

GSSSI offers some possible ways to mitigate this problem:

- · More oversight with regard to Surrogates (see first item above);
- Giving Personal Care Management organizations more authority in ending services when abuse is clearly occurring.

GSSSI is more than aware that the Fraud Unit does not have sufficient resources to quickly investigate allegations of fraud and abuse. Often, years go by with no follow-up on reports made to the Unit, allowing illegal or inappropriate activity to continue. This inability to act in a timely manner simply provides impetus for others to act similarly and the problems start to compound.

One suggestion is to allow PCM organizations a greater role in directly addressing instances of known abuse of neglect. Masshealth would clearly define what constitutes fraud and abuse, develop a process whereby the PCM agencies document with sufficient detail the alleged fraud and provide specific evidence of the abuse. Once this information is reviewed, authority would be given to the PCM to terminate services.

Or, allow the PCM to suspend service until such time as a member of the Fraud Unit has time to review the matter personally.

Thank you for your consideration

Questions or comments regarding the information included in this submission may be addressed to:

Heather Boucher, PCM Program Supervisor



Or

Terry Roberts, MassHealth Programs Coordinator

Suggestions for improvements to the regulation::

See above



noreply+f3195f2a73da3508@formstack.com>

Sent:

Tuesday, December 01, 2015 4:25 PM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 12/01/15 4:24 PM

Name (optional)::

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Justice Resource Institute

Address (optional)::



Primary Phone (optional)::

Email (optional)::

CMR Number (If known): :

General Regulatory Themes::

Doing Business in MA

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this

regulation::

DCF

Describe the regulatory issue or observation::

All agencies providing care for clients of DCF must keep their treatment plans, treatment reviews, and tracking of critical incidents on the virtual gateway. The theory behind this is smart - a shared, protected, safe place where treatment plans can be documented and viewed securely by all members of a youth's treatment team, and communication can be strong. Unfortunately, the virtual gateway system is not set up to allow this to happen easily or successfully. Although all DCF team members have access to the virtual gateway, not all use this for communication regarding treatment planning and critical incidents. Agencies must therefore document on the virtual gateway as well as fax, scan, and email regarding these communications. This results in duplicate processes, additional administrative time, and lost time with clients. Additionally, the Virtual Gateway forms and character limits are not aligned with Caring Together treatment expectations and outlines, making it very difficult to meet the necessary requirements of our contract. The last struggle with Virtual Gateway is the struggle to connect/collaborate with agency Electronic Health Records. Many agencies have transitioned to an Electronic Health Record as part of continued quality improvement, communication, tracking, and as part of the larger movement. The Virtual Gateway does not connect to any Electronic Health Record, and does not easily allow for cutting and pasting. Therefore, agencies are required to essentially write two versions of treatment planning for each youth, again leading to duplicative measures.

Suggestions for improvements to the regulation::

One proposed solution would be update the Virtual Gateway system to make necessary changes in format and character limits to align with the treatment planning and reporting expectations of the Caring Together Contract. This would include a set up to the format to allow for easier cutting and pasting, or collaboration with other Electronic Health Record systems.

Since a structure of a Single Single and the structure of the

From:

<noreply+b2beb3621d721565@formstack.com>

Sent: Friday, October 23, 2015 8:22 AM

То:

ReaReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

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Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 10/23/15 8:21 AM

Name (optional)::

Rhonda Zero

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Address (optional)::

Primary Phone (optional)::



Email (optional)::

CMR Number (If known): :
General Regulatory Themes::

Children and Families

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this regulation:: Dept of Revenue; Child Support Enforcement

Describe the regulatory issue or observation::

This entire department needs to be reviewed and revamped from a goals and business perspective particularly as relates to "return on investment". I believe this agency to be the only (or one of very few) where one can request and receive services, at tax payer expense, without having to prove any genuine need. While this agency does address an important need for children whose parent is not paying support there are many non-custodial parents who do pay their support and would pay their support without the interference of this agency. The "rubber stamp" approach that all support is wage garnishment (often at the request of an angry ex spouse with an agenda) misdirects funds as they are being wasted on compliant parents when they could be redirected to non-complying parents or possibly to DCF who clearly is in need of funds. The burden to taxpayers of DOR-CSE serving otherwise compliant parents goes past just collecting funds; money is wasted on garnishment of income tax refunds, insurance claims, etc. (often erroneous so more money is wasted researching this then refunding money), wasted paper/printing/postage in weekly mailings (particularly when company pays electronically so they end up in the shredder) and we don't have time here to go into the ridiculous issues involved with license suspension both for the children (parent can't pay if parent can't work) and the employers affected by the employees license suspension. Also, the additional work and expense collecting, paying and accounting for these transactions is an unnecessary burden on businesses. narticularly small hydinaes already deluged with a plothers of other monthly

quarterly and annual filings.

Suggestions for improvements to the regulation::

Make wage assignment of support "needs based". With the exceptions of situation with a history of domestic abuse, any non-custodial parent, should be allowed to start out with direct payment. If a "need" arises then and only then could a custodial parent apply for services with the application being reviewed for validity and denied if need is not determined (unlike now where all one has to do is apply). "Need' would have a specific definitions such as repeat checks returned for insufficient funds, repeat late payment, etc. (an angry ex spouse who doesn't like who is writing their check or "I prefer direct deposit", do not qualify as "needs",). In lieu of these sweeping changes, in the short term, under the current regulations, there should be an appeals process such either at the initial request of non-custodial parent for services or at any other point prior to emancipation, a non-custodial parent would be allowed some limited number of appeals to waive DOR-CSE services. If the non-custodial parent can prove a history of payment with no returned checks or non-payment they should be able to opt out wage garnishment and pay direct. The funds saved "serving" these compliant parents could be well spent on other needy children



noreply+4819722e085bb7c9@formstack.com>

Sent:

Monday, November 02, 2015 1:55 PM

To:

RegReform (ANF)

Subject:

A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

×

Formstack Submission for form A Clearer Code: Regulatory Reform

Submitted at 11/02/15 1:53 PM

Name (optional)::

Gerry Panuczak

Company/Organization (if applicable) (optional)::

Town of Chatham & Cape Cod Municipal Health Group

Address (optional)::

Email (optional)::



Primary Phone (optional)::

Palakaces III Baesara Balakaca a propinsi

CMR Number (If known): :

General Regulatory Themes::

Health Care

Please list the Agency or Agencies affiliated with this regulation::

Describe the regulatory issue or observation::

Chatham sources its employee benefits from a Joint Purchase Group (JPG); Cape Cod Municipal Health Group (CCMHG). CCMHG supports 53 governmental units on Cape Cod and Martha's Vineyard with health insurance, dental insurance, and eye-care insurance for member employees. The group has 20,818 insured members and represents 8% of Cape Cod's total population. Currently, CCMHG units are subject to MGL Chapter 150E, which requires bargaining with all unit unions, and MGL Chapter 32B with respect to insurance benefit offerings.

In Massachusetts, the Group Insurance Commission (GIC), other JPGs, and individual cities and towns offer insurance benefits to governmental employees. The GIC provides benefit insurance plans to State employees, and certain other governmental units. The GIC is subject to MGL Chapter 32A, which allows changes in benefit offerings to its member units without bargaining with its member units' unions. Additionally, the GIC is subsidized in the annual State budget, allowing for benefit plan premium relief to member units, a situation that is not the case with JPGs and individual city and town benefit plans. There are certain provisions in MGL Chapter 32B which allow for JPGs and cities and towns to change benefit offerings to a benchmark GIC level, and bargain those changes with unit unions in a more streamlined and compressed fashion, however, certain changes contemplated under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) will not be eligible using this streamlined method.

Suggestions for improvements to the regulation::

As all governmental unit benefit offerings will be subject to the provisions of the ACA over the upcoming years, certain features, such as the Cadillac Tax, will directly impact the benefit offerings that JPGs, and cities and towns provide, and may significantly impact the cost of benefit offerings to governmental units. Given the current situation in which different laws apply to different types of governmental benefit providers, the GIC has a distinct advantage and can react to the ACA mandates in a more proactive and cost effective manner than JPGs and individual cities and towns. CCMHG is interested in changes in legislation that would give JPGs and cities and towns similar legislative guidance and ability to react to mandated changes more proactively and cost effectively. In particular, CCMHG is interested in more positive legislation applying to JPGs so that its member units would not have to bargain changes that CCMHG implements in response to ACA mandates with individual unit unions.