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Notice of Intended Regulatory Action Agency Background Document

Agency Name:	The Department of Human Resource Management
VAC Chapter Number:	1 VAC 55-20
Regulation Title:	Commonwealth of Virginia Health Benefits Program
Action Title:	Amends section 1VAC 55-20-90 of the Administrative Code of Virginia to assure that the impartial health entity conducting reviews has adequate standards, credentials and experience.
Date:	November 27, 2001

This information is required prior to the submission to the Registrar of Regulations of a Notice of Intended Regulatory Action (NOIRA) pursuant to the Administrative Process Act § 9-6.14:7.1 (B). Please refer to Executive Order Twenty-Five (98) and Executive Order Fifty-Eight (99) for more information.

Purpose

Please describe the subject matter and intent of the planned regulation. This description should include a brief explanation of the need for and the goals of the new or amended regulation.

Enter Statement Here: Section 2.2-2818 B (4) of the Code of Virginia requires the Department of Human Resource Management to adopt regulations to assure that the impartial health entity, conducting medical necessity reviews, has adequate standards, credentials and experience in performing this type of service. These regulations are almost identical to those adopted by the Bureau of Insurance.

Basis

Please identify the state and/or federal source of legal authority to promulgate the contemplated regulation. The discussion of this authority should include a description of its scope and the extent to which the authority is mandatory or discretionary. The correlation between the proposed regulatory action and the legal authority identified above should be explained. Full citations of legal authority and, if available, web site addresses for locating the text of the cited authority must be provided.

Substance

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Please detail any changes that would be implemented: this discussion should include a summary of the proposed regulatory action where a new regulation is being promulgated; where existing provisions of a regulation are being amended, the statement should explain how the existing regulation will be changed. The statement should set forth the specific reasons the agency has determined that the proposed regulatory action would be essential to protect the health, safety or welfare of citizens. In addition, a statement delineating any potential issues that may need to be addressed as the regulation is developed shall be supplied.

Enter Statement Here

1VAC 55-20-90

This proposed amendment to 1VAC 55-20-90 sets standards that an independent health entity must meet before it is selected by the state health benefits program to perform independent medical reviews of denied claims.

Alternatives

Please describe, to the extent known, the specific alternatives to the proposal that have been considered or will be considered to meet the essential purpose of the action.

Enter Statement Here: These regulations are required by Section 2.2-2818 B (4) of the Code of Virginia.

Family Impact Statement

Please provide a preliminary analysis of the potential impact of the proposed regulatory action on the institution of the family and family stability including to what extent the regulatory action will: 1) strengthen or erode the authority and rights of parents in the education, nurturing, and supervision of their children; 2) encourage or discourage economic self-sufficiency, self-pride, and the assumption of responsibility for oneself, one's spouse, and one's children and/or elderly parents; 3) strengthen or erode the marital commitment; and 4) increase or decrease disposable family income.

Enter Statement Here: N/A