



Exempt Action Final Regulation Agency Background Document

Agency name	State Board of Social Services
Virginia Administrative Code (VAC) citation	22VAC40-12
Regulation title	Public Participation Guidelines
Action title	Model Public Participation Guidelines
Final agency action date	August 20, 2008
Document preparation date	August 20, 2008

When a regulatory action is exempt from executive branch review pursuant to § 2.2-4002 or § 2.2-4006 of the Virginia Administrative Process Act (APA), the agency is encouraged to provide information to the public on the Regulatory Town Hall using this form.

Note: While posting this form on the Town Hall is optional, the agency must comply with requirements of the Virginia Register Act, the *Virginia Register Form, Style, and Procedure Manual*, and Executive Orders 21 (02) and 58 (99).

Summary

Please provide a brief summary of all regulatory changes, including the rationale behind such changes. Alert the reader to all substantive matters or changes. If applicable, generally describe the existing regulation.

The regulations comply with the legislative mandate (Chapter 321, 2008 Acts of Assembly) that agencies adopt model public participation guidelines issued by the Department of Planning and Budget by December 1, 2008. Public participation guidelines exist to promote public involvement in the development, amendment, or repeal of an agency's regulations.

This regulatory action repeals the current public participation guidelines and promulgates new public participation guidelines as required by Chapter 321 of the 2008 Acts of Assembly. Highlights of the public participation guidelines include (i) providing for the appointment of negotiated rulemaking panels and regulatory advisory panels, (ii) providing for the establishment and maintenance of notification lists of interested persons, (iii) providing for notification via electronic means or postal carrier, and (iv) specifying the information to be sent to persons on the notification lists.

Statement of final agency action

Please provide a statement of the final action taken by the agency including (1) the date the action was taken, (2) the name of the agency taking the action, and (3) the title of the regulation.

The State Board of Social Services approved the final regulation 22VAC40-12, *Public Participation Guidelines*, on August 20, 2008.

Family impact

Assess the impact of this regulatory action on the institution of the family and family stability.

This regulation enhances and increases the opportunities for public participation in the process for development and promulgation of the State Board of Social Services' regulations. Thus, the Board will have better means for considering the interest and concerns of families when promulgating and approving regulations. The regulation respects the authority and rights of parents in the education, nurturing, and supervision of their children. It has no negative impact on economic self-sufficiency, self-pride, the assumption of personal responsibility, family income, or marital commitment.