

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Health and Hospitals
Office of the Secretary
Bureau of Health Services Financing

Nursing Home Minimum Licensure Standards
(LAC 48:I.Chapters 97, 98, and 99)

The Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing, proposes to adopt the Nursing Home Minimum Licensure Standards rule as authorized by R.S. 40:2009.1-2116.4. This proposed rule is in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:950 et seq.

The purpose of the nursing home licensing law and requirements is to provide for the development, establishment, and enforcement of standards of care of individuals in nursing homes and for the construction, maintenance, and operation of nursing homes which will promote safe and adequate treatment of such individuals in nursing homes. Minimum standards for the licensing of nursing homes were last adopted in 1987 with the publication of these regulations as identified above under the *Louisiana Administrative Code*. Since that time there has been a tremendous expansion of federal regulations governing long term care. Therefore, the department is now proposing to establish new licensing regulations in order to assure that a high quality of care is provided to persons residing in nursing homes.

Due to an administrative error, this notice of intent was published in the June 1996 issue of the *Louisiana Register* with an incorrect public hearing date. This notice is being republished by reference so that the August 21 public hearing date can be retained. The full text of these proposed regulations along with the fiscal and economic impact statement can be found in the June 20, 1996 *Louisiana Register*, Volume 22, Number 6, pages 477-501.

Interested persons may submit written comments to Thomas D. Collins, Bureau of Health Services Financing, Box 91030, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-9030. He is responsible for responding to inquiries regarding this proposed rule. A public hearing will be held on this matter at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, August 21, 1996, in the DOTD Auditorium, 1201 Capitol Access Road, Baton Rouge, LA. At that time all interested parties will be afforded an opportunity to submit data views or arguments, orally or in writing. The deadline for the receipt of all comments is 4:30 p.m. of the day following the public hearing.

Bobby P. Jindal
Secretary