

Minnesota Department of Health
Division of Environmental Health

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

Possible Amendments to Rules Governing Registered Environmental Health Specialists/Registered Sanitarians (REHS/RS), *Minnesota Rules*, 4695.2500 - .3200; Revisor's ID Number: R-4175

Subject of Rules. The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) requests comments on its possible amendment to rules governing the registration of REHS/RS. The department is considering rule amendments that clarify and simplify the registration and renewal processes, clarify and strengthen the complaint handling and enforcement language, and other issues that arise if time permits.

Persons Affected. The proposed rule amendments would likely affect persons seeking REHS/RS registration, persons registered as REHS/RS, governments and business that employ REHS/RS, and persons and customers who enter businesses and facilities that employ REHS/RS.

Statutory Authority. *Minnesota Statutes*, sections 214.001 and 214.13, authorize the commissioner of health to adopt rules for the registration of REHS/RS. These rules may relate to the registration requirement, the scope of authorized practice, supervision required, continuing education, career progression, and disciplinary matters.

Public Comment. Interested persons or groups may submit comments or information on these possible rule amendments in writing or orally until MDH publishes further notice in the State Register that the commissioner of health intends to adopt or to withdraw the rules. MDH will not publish a notice of intent to adopt the rules until more than 60 days have elapsed from the date of this request for comments.

The Registered Environmental Health Specialist/Sanitarian Advisory Council established under *Minnesota Statutes*, section 214.13, subdivision 4 will be the advisory committee for the rulemaking project. MDH does not plan to appoint a separate advisory committee to comment on the possible rules.

MDH is seeking information about whether these rule amendments might require a local government to adopt or amend an ordinance or other regulation under *Minnesota Statutes*, section 14.128. In addition, MDH is requesting information about whether the cost of complying with the rule amendments in the first year after the rule takes effect will exceed \$25,000 for one small city or business under *Minnesota Statutes*, section 14.127. MDH is also asking for comments about the "cumulative effect of the rule with other federal and state regulations," as required by *Minnesota Statutes*, section 14.131(8).

Rules Drafts. The department has posted a rule draft at <https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/sanitarian/rulerevision.html>.

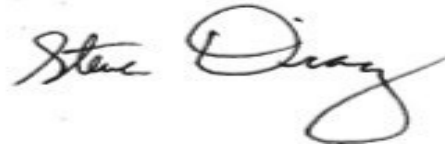
Contact Person. Written or oral comments, questions, requests to receive a draft of the rule amendments when they have been prepared, and requests for more information on these possible rule amendments should be directed to:

Linda D. Prail, Section Rulemaking Coordinator
Food, Pools, and Lodging Services Section
Environmental Health Division
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Freeman Building
625 Robert Street North
St. Paul, MN 55164-0975
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Office: (651)-201-5792

Alternative Format. Upon request, this information can be made available in an alternative format, such as large print, braille, or audio. To make such a request, please call (651)-201-4500.

NOTE: Comments received in response to this notice will not necessarily be included in the formal rulemaking record submitted to the administrative law judge (ALJ) if and when a proceeding to adopt rules is started. The agency is required to submit to the ALJ only those written comments received in response to the rules after they are proposed. If you submitted comments during the development of the rules and you want to ensure that the ALJ reviews the comments, you should resubmit the comments after the rules are formally proposed.

Dated: February 1, 2021



Steven Diaz, Assistant Division Director
Environmental Health Division
Minnesota Department of Health