

DIVISION OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES  
December 17, 1996

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ACT -- MAKING IT REAL

Proposed regulations interpreting the Developmental Disabilities Act of 1996 are being submitted this week to the Secretary of State for publication and comment. The regulations are required by the new law, and are intended to clarify and formalize policies of the Division of Developmental Services.

The draft regulations reflect the work of five different committees which met during the fall to come up with the proposed content of the rules. Each committee included consumers, providers, advocates, and Division staff.

The areas covered in the regulations are:

- Definition of developmental disability
- Process for assessing developmental disability
- Application process
- General responsibilities of designated service agencies
- Periodic review of eligibility
- Procedures for billing people who are able to pay for services
- Appeals and complaints.

There will be three public hearings on the regulations during January; in Burlington, Rutland, and Randolph. The comment period closes January 31, 1997.

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