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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**  
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**Supplier Diversity Office**

**Maura Healey**  
Governor  
**Kim Driscoll**  
Lieutenant Governor  
**Matthew Gorzkowicz**  
Secretary

**Notice of Public Hearing and Comment Period**

The Massachusetts Supplier Diversity Office (SDO) hereby gives notice that, pursuant to M.G.L. C. 30A § 2, it will hold a virtual public hearing and comment period on the proposed amendment to 425 CMR 2.00 *et. seq.*, enacted pursuant to [M.G.L. c. 7 § 61\(a\)](#). The SDO is proposing two amendments to its certification regulations. The first amendment will update the definition of “Eligible person” to include US citizens, permanent residents, and persons residing under the color of law. The second amendment will update the appeals process to allow the Division of Administrative Law Appeals to conduct SDO’s appeals. The SDO is also considering technical changes to improve the readability of the regulations.

The Public Hearing will be held online on January 25, 2024, from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM Eastern Time, using Zoom. See below for how to access the hearing:

Link to register in advance:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwpfuysqz8pGNTD09OYQ1XsblQW4XgSlrSj>

Zoom Details:

Meeting ID: 884 9545 4320

Passcode: 364955

A copy of the proposed amendments may be viewed on SDO’s website at [www.mass.gov/sdo](http://www.mass.gov/sdo), or they may be requested from the Office of the General Counsel by emailing [sdoregulations@mass.gov](mailto:sdoregulations@mass.gov).

While it is not necessary to pre-register to provide oral testimony, anyone who emails their intention to provide oral testimony at the hearing in advance will receive preference in the order of testimony provided. Such optional notice must include the person’s name, telephone number, and email address. Please send via email to [sdoregulations@mass.gov](mailto:sdoregulations@mass.gov) by January 22, 2024 by 5:00 p.m.

Speakers who testify at the hearing are asked to submit a copy of their oral comment. All submissions must include the sender’s full name and address.

In addition, for anyone who does not wish to provide oral testimony at the Public Hearing, written comments can also be submitted. Please submit any written comments via email to [sdoregulations@mass.gov](mailto:sdoregulations@mass.gov) by no later than 5:00 p.m. on January 31, 2024.

Note that all written testimony and comments received as part of this process may be released in response to a public records request.

If you require a reasonable accommodation, please email [sdoregulations@mass.gov](mailto:sdoregulations@mass.gov) at least 10 days before the hearing.

## Small Business Impact Statement

(As required by M.G.L. c. 30A §§ 2, 3 & 5)

**CMR No: 425 CMR 2.00**

**Estimate of the Number of Small Businesses Impacted by the Regulation: 0**

**Select Yes or No and Briefly Explain**

Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>Will small businesses have to create, file, or issue additional reports?</u>
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>Will small businesses have to implement additional recordkeeping procedures?</u>
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>Will small businesses have to provide additional administrative oversight?</u>
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>Will small businesses have to hire additional employees in order to comply with the proposed regulation?</u>
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>Does compliance with the regulation require small businesses to hire other professionals (e.g. a lawyer, accountant, engineer, etc.)?</u>
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>Does the regulation require small businesses to purchase a product or make any other capital investments in order to comply with the regulation?</u>
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Are performance standards more appropriate than design/operational standards to accomplish the regulatory objective?
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>Do any other regulations duplicate or conflict with the proposed regulation?</u>
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does the regulation require small businesses to cooperate with audits, inspections or other regulatory enforcement activities?
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does the regulation require small businesses to provide educational services to keep up to date with regulatory requirements?
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Is the regulation likely to <i>deter</i> the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts?

Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Is the regulation likely to <i>encourage</i> the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts?  <i>With a more inclusive definition of eligible person, more businesses may decide to form and become certified.</i>
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does the regulation provide for less stringent compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses?
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does the regulation establish less stringent schedules or deadlines for compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses?
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Did the agency consolidate or simplify compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses?
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Can performance standards for small businesses replace design or operational standards without hindering delivery of the regulatory objective?
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Are there alternative regulatory methods that would minimize the adverse impact on small businesses?