

OFFICE OF THE TREASURER AND RECEIVER GENERAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that in accordance with M.G.L. c. 30A, §2, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Office of the Treasurer and Receiver General will hold a public hearing to gather any comments in connection with the proposed Regulations at **960 CMR 7.00: Procedures for the Administration of Certain Bonuses Awarded To Eligible Service Members**. The proposed Regulations establish and clarify procedures for awarding certain bonuses administered through the Veterans' Bonus Division and are authorized by M.G.L. c. 10, § 78; M.G.L. c. 4, § 7, cl. 43rd; Chapter 731, Acts of 1945; Chapter 440, Acts of 1953; Chapter 646, Acts of 1968.

The State Treasurer's Office will hold this public hearing in person and remotely on **Tuesday**, **October 24, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.**, at 1 Ashburton Place, 12th Floor, Boston, MA 02108. To participate in the remote public hearing, please call 1 (305) 224-1968 and enter Meeting ID 88305960422# (Passcode 179624) when prompted. The public hearing can also be accessed by entering the following link: <u>State Treasury Public Hearing-Veterans Bonus</u>

A copy of the proposed Regulations referenced above may be viewed by visiting <u>www.mass.gov/orgs/veterans-bonus-division</u>. Any person who would like to offer comments may participate in the public hearing at the date and time indicated above or submit written comments. Those who wish to receive a written copy of the proposed Regulations, or to submit written comments, may do so by sending an email to <u>Cassandra.m.chung@tre.state.ma.us</u>, or by mail to:

Cassandra Chung – Paralegal Commonwealth of Massachusetts Office of the State Treasurer and Receiver General One Ashburton Place, 12th Floor Boston, MA 02108.

Written comments must be received by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 25, 2023.

Attached please find the accompanying Small Business Impact Statement in accordance with M.G.L. c. 30A, §2.

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

CMR No: 960 CMR 7.00 Procedures for the Administration of Certain Bonuses Awarded to Eligible Service Members Estimate of the Number of Small Businesses Impacted by the Regulation:				
Yes	No	Will small businesses have to create, file, or issue additional reports?		
		The proposed Regulations will have no impact on Small Businesses.		
Yes	No	Will small businesses have to implement additional recordkeeping procedures?		
		The proposed Regulations will have no impact on Small Businesses.		
Yes	No	Will small businesses have to provide additional administrative oversight?		
		The proposed Regulations will have no impact on Small Businesses.		
Yes	No	Will small businesses have to hire additional employees in order to comply with the proposed		
	\square	regulation?		
		The proposed Regulations will have no impact on Small Businesses.		
Yes	No 🖂	Does compliance with the regulation require small businesses to hire other professionals (e.g. a lawyer,		
		accountant, engineer, etc.)?		
		The proposed Regulations will have no impact on Small Businesses.		
Yes	No X	Does the regulation require small businesses to purchase a product or make any other capital		
		investments in order to comply with the regulation?		
		The proposed Regulations will have no impact on Small Businesses.		
Yes	No	Are performance standards more appropriate than design/operational standards to accomplish the		
		regulatory objective?		
		Performance standards are more appropriate than design/operational standards to accomplish the		
		regulatory objective.		
Yes	No	Do any other regulations duplicate or conflict with the proposed regulation?		
		The proposed Regulations duplicate some requirements included in 108 CMR 11.00: Persian Gulf War		
		Bonus Under St. 1992, Chapter 153, governing the administration of certain bonuses to service		
		members relative to the Persian Gulf War, published by the Department of Veterans Services [(now		
		Executive Office of Veterans Services ("EOVS")], and conflict with said Regulations regarding the		
		agency responsible for the administration and appeal of said bonuses. An Internal Service Agreement		
		between the State Treasurer and DVS executed on October 1, 2021, transferred complete administration, including appeals, of the Persian Gulf War Bonus to the State Treasurer's Office		
		("STO"). The STO has requested that EOVS repeal its Regulations regarding the Gulf War Bonus to be		
		consistent with STO's proposed Regulations at 960 CMR 7.00. EOVS has indicated that it supports the		
		STO in the administration of the Gulf War Bonus and is considering repealing its Regulations. EOVS		
		did not provide any public comment regarding the proposed Regulations.		
Yes	No 🖾	Does the regulation require small businesses to cooperate with audits, inspections or other regulatory		
		enforcement activities?		
		The proposed Regulations will have no impact on Small Businesses.		

Yes	No 🖾	Does the regulation require small businesses to provide educational services to keep up to date with regulatory requirements? The proposed Regulations will have no impact on Small Businesses.
Yes	No 🖾	Is the regulation likely to <i>deter</i> the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts? The proposed Regulations are not likely to deter the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts.
Yes 🖂	No	<u>Is the regulation likely to <i>encourage</i> the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts?</u> By providing bonuses to veterans, the proposed Regulations may encourage the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts.
Yes	No ⊠	Does the regulation provide for less stringent compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses? The proposed Regulations will have no impact on Small Businesses.
Yes	No ⊠	Does the regulation establish less stringent schedules or deadlines for compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses? The proposed Regulations will have no impact on Small Businesses.
Yes	No ⊠	Did the agency consolidate or simplify compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses? The proposed Regulations will have no impact on Small Businesses.
Yes	No ⊠	Can performance standards for small businesses replace design or operational standards without hindering delivery of the regulatory objective? The proposed Regulations will have no impact on Small Businesses.
Yes	No 🖾	Are there alternative regulatory methods that would minimize the adverse impact on small businesses? The proposed Regulations will have no impact on Small Businesses.