



NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT

Pursuant to its authority under M.G.L. c. 69, §1B, and in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, M.G.L. c. 30A, § 3, the Massachusetts Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (Board) is soliciting public comment on proposed amendments to 603 CMR 41.00, Regulations for Regional School Districts.

The proposed amendments will update, streamline, and simplify definitions and procedures related to regional school districts, including establishment of such districts and membership changes in existing districts; clarify the required Commissioner approval and Department review of proposed regional school district agreements and proposed amendments to such agreements; further refine the Commissioner's role in setting of interim budgets when required by law, along with associated Department activities; and add waiver and severability sections to the regulations.

Copies of the proposed amendments are available on the Department's website at <https://www.doe.mass.edu/bese/regs-comments/default.html>, or at <http://www.doe.mass.edu/lawsregs/>, or by calling 781-338-6585. Public comments may be submitted online by completing this form <https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/8223889/Proposed-Amendments-to-Regional-School-District-Regulations-2025>, or by email to RegionalGovernance@mass.gov or by mail to: Regulations Public Comment, c/o Commissioner's Office, Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 135 Santilli Highway, Everett, MA 02149. The deadline to submit public comment is **June 28, 2025 at 5:00 pm**. The Board is expected to vote on the proposed amendments at its regular monthly meeting in **September 2025**.



Small Business Impact Statement Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, §2

This statement accompanies the filing by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education of the proposed amendments to 603 CMR 41.00, Regulations for Regional School Districts.

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1. The proposed amendments do not affect small businesses.
2. Since the proposed amendments do not affect small businesses, the following considerations are not applicable:
 - a. Reporting, record keeping or other administrative costs required of small businesses for compliance associated with the amendments.
 - b. Appropriateness of performance standards vs. design standards.
 - c. Regulations of this agency or any other state agency, which may duplicate or conflict with the proposed amendments.
 - d. Analysis of whether the proposed amendments are likely to deter or encourage the formation of new business in the state.

Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rhoda E. Schneider".

Rhoda E. Schneider, on behalf of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

Date: May 1, 2025