

Re: Review of OCFS regulations under Executive Order No. 25

As part of the Governor's on-going efforts to reduce costs, paperwork and other regulatory burdens while maintaining appropriate and critical protections, Governor Paterson issued Executive Order No. 25 (EO No. 25) requiring designated state agencies to conduct an internal review of regulations and procedures, and to reach out to interested parties and affected constituencies for their input. OCFS recently was designated to participate in this EO No. 25 review and outreach.

Many of you previously suggested ideas for potential mandate relief and cost savings as part of last year's review of regulations under Executive Order No. 17 (EO No. 17). It is not necessary to resubmit these suggestions. We thank you again for responding with your creative ideas to our on-line survey and other solicitations.

EO No. 25, unlike EO No. 17, requires a broader perspective for review of regulations, in that it is not limited to ideas for mandate relief that would benefit local governments and lead to government cost savings. The EO No. 25 review and outreach is meant to identify unsound or unduly burdensome or costly rules and paperwork that can be eliminated or reformed to improve New York State's economy while maintaining appropriate protections for the public health, safety and welfare and the conduct of business. Prior to receiving the designation under EO No.25, OCFS already began soliciting input from stakeholders as part of a review of its child day care regulations. We will continue with this process as part of OCFS' efforts under EO No. 25 to seek comments on or recommended changes to any of OCFS' regulations.

The EO No. 25 outreach process requires OCFS to issue a public invitation to comment, which will be published in the State Register on September 1, 2010. OCFS also is e-mailing and otherwise sharing this invitation with interested parties such as you. Comments are sought that describe and quantify the burden and suggest appropriate remedies that OCFS may undertake to eliminate or amend regulations that are unnecessary, unbalanced, unwise, duplicative or unduly burdensome. Comment must be received on or before November 1, 2010.

OCFS will review the comments received and select those regulations that have generated the most widespread or substantive criticism and opposition for further analysis. OCFS will be assisted in this analysis by the EO No. 25 Review Committee, which consists of the Secretary to the Governor, the Counsel to the Governor, the Director of State Operations, the Governor's Office of Regulatory Reform, and the Division of the Budget.

Therefore, please take the time to submit your suggestions on OCFS regulations in need of reform. Your comments must be in writing and should be sent to the Office of Children and Family

Services, 52 Washington Street, North Building, Rensselaer, NY 12144, Attn: Catherine Schuth, Esq. (or by email, comments@ocfs.state.ny.us). Your suggestions should also be submitted electronically to Gaurav Vasisht at Gaurav.vasisht@chamber.state.ny.us and to the Governor's Office of Regulatory Reform at EO25@gorr.ny.gov.

Thank you!