NOTICE OF REGULATORY ACTIONS AND PUBLIC HEARINGS

TO REPEAL "REGULATION NO. 112 OF THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH TO REGULATE THE EVALUATION PROCESS FOR APPLICATIONS FOR THE CONCESSION OF CERTIFICATES OF NEED AND CONVENIENCE", REGULATION NO. 6786 FROM MARCH 9, 2004 AND TO ADOPT THE "REGULATION OF THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH TO REGULATE THE CONCESSION OF CERTIFICATES OF NEED AND CONVENIENCE"

By virtue of the powers and faculties granted by the Health Department Act, Act No. 81 from March 14, 1912, as amended, the Certificates of Need and Convenience Act, Act No. 2 from November 7, 1975, as amended, and the Government of Puerto Rico Administrative Procedures Act, Act No. 38 from June 30, 2017, as amended, The Secretary of Health hereby gives notice of his intention to repeal Regulation No. 112 of the Secretary of Health to Regulate the Evaluation Process for Applications for the Concession of Certificates of Need and Convenience, Regulation No. 6786 from March 9, 2004, as registered in the Department of State of Puerto Rico and to adopt the "Regulation of the Secretary of Health to Regulate the Concession of Certificates of Need and Convenience". The proposed regulation clarifies and simplifies the procedures related to Certificates of Need and Convenience in order to encourage the efficient development of healthcare services in Puerto Rico.

A public hearing will be held in regards to the proposed regulation on December 11, 2018, from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. and on December 12, 2018, from 1:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. in the Guillermo Arbona Hall of the Department of Health, located in Building A of the Former Psychiatric Hospital on the grounds of the Medical Center in Río Piedras.

The general public is invited to present their comments and suggestions, within thirty (30) days from the publication date of this notice, in person or by mail to the following address: Office of the Auxiliary Secretary for the Regulation and Accreditation of Healthcare Facilities (SARAFS, as per its Spanish acronym), 1090 Marginal Ruiz Soler, Bayamón, PR 00961-7329. In addition, comments can be submitted by email to the following addresses: veronica.nunez@salud.pr.gov and/or nmatos@salud.pr.gov.

A copy of the proposed regulation and the Administrative Flexibility Analysis can be obtained in the offices of SARAFS, located in the previously mentioned address, Mondays through Fridays from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 m. and from 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. or through the Department of Health's internet page located at: www.salud.gov.pr.

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, on November 8, 2018

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Secretaría Auxiliar para Reglamentación y Acreditación de Facilidades de Salud (SANAFS) RAFAEL RODRÍGUEZ MERCADO, MD, FAANS, FACS SECRETARIO DE SALUD

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