

(a)

**STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE****Availability of Grants****Notice of Online Publication of Grant Opportunities Administered by the Department of Agriculture**

Take notice that, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 52:14-34.4 and 34.5, the New Jersey Department of Agriculture (Department) makes available on its website, on an ongoing basis, an updated, categorized directory of grant programs administered by the Department. Online publication of the Department's notices of grant availability, subject to fund availability, may be viewed online at: <https://www.nj.gov/agriculture/grants/>. Copies of that directory can be obtained by contacting the Office of the Secretary, New Jersey Department of Agriculture, PO Box 330, Trenton, NJ 08625-0330.

**CIVIL SERVICE**

(b)

**CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION****Notice of Action on Petition for Rulemaking Purpose, Scope, and Definitions****N.J.A.C. 4A:1-1.3**

Petitioner: Bergen County Sheriff's Office.

Take notice that on May 2, 2025, the Chair/Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Civil Service Commission (Commission) received a petition for rulemaking from the Bergen County Sheriff's Office seeking an amendment at N.J.A.C. 4A:1-1.3 that would add a definition for the term "working day," a term found at N.J.S.A. 11A:6-2, 11A:6-3, and 11A:6-5; and in various provisions of Title 4A of the New Jersey Administrative Code. The petitioner proposes a definition that would limit "working day" to no more than eight hours, regardless of the number of hours worked in a given shift, based on the Commission's decision in *In the Matter of Raul Mier* (CSC, decided October 7, 2015). A notice acknowledging receipt of the petition was published in the New Jersey Register at 57 N.J.R. 1338(a) on June 16, 2025.

In accordance with applicable law, the Chair/CEO has reviewed the petition and has determined to refer the matter for further deliberations pursuant to N.J.A.C. 1:30-4.2(a)3 because, prior to the receipt of this rulemaking petition, Commission staff commenced reviewing and evaluating this subject matter. However, Commission staff have not yet completed this review. In the Chair/CEO's estimation, this review process needs to be completed in order that the Commission may make an informed determination on the petition.

Additionally, based upon the foregoing, the Commission has obtained the consent of the petitioner to extend the time for deliberation on the petition for rulemaking until November 28, 2025, consistent with the requirements at N.J.A.C. 1:30-4.2(b).

In accordance with the provisions at N.J.A.C. 1:30-4.2, the Chair/CEO shall mail the results of the further deliberations on the petition to the petitioner and submit the results to the Office of Administrative Law for publication in the New Jersey Register.

In accordance with the provisions at N.J.A.C. 1:30-4.2 and 4A:1-1.4, a copy of this notice has been mailed to the petitioner.

**COMMUNITY AFFAIRS**

(c)

**DIVISION OF CODES AND STANDARDS****Notice of Action on Petition for Rulemaking Uniform Construction Code****N.J.A.C. 5:23-3.21**

Petitioner: Gregory D'Antonio.

Take notice that on May 16, 2025, the Department of Community Affairs (Department) received a petition for rulemaking from Greg D'Antonio seeking an amendment to N.J.A.C. 5:23-3.21<sup>2</sup> with the intention of increasing public safety and uniformity for all habitable spaces below-grade. The petitioner states that the requested amendment would modify the one- and two-family dwelling subcode of the Uniform Construction Code (UCC), N.J.A.C. 5:23-3.21, to incorporate the following language:

"All below-grade habitable spaces—regardless of current sleeping use—shall include at least one code-compliant emergency escape and rescue opening (egress window or door) to provide a direct means of egress to the exterior of the structure."

Take further notice that the Commissioner of the Department (Commissioner) certifies that the petition was duly considered pursuant to law and, upon due deliberation, has determined that the requested amendment to N.J.A.C. 5:23-3.21 is denied. The one- and two-family dwelling subcode of the UCC is adopted pursuant to the requirements set forth in the UCC Act, N.J.S.A. 52:27D-119 et seq. Specifically, N.J.S.A. 52:27D-123.b(4) authorizes the Commissioner to review the latest edition of a national model code and states, "in the event that the commissioner, after consultation with the code advisory board, determines pursuant to this subsection that a provision of a model code or standard currently in effect as a subcode of the State Uniform Construction Code is less consistent with the intent and purpose of P.L.1975, c.217 (C.52:27D-119 et seq.) than was the corresponding provision of a previously adopted edition of the same model code or standard, the commissioner may delete the provision in effect and substitute in its place the corresponding provision of the previously adopted edition of the same model code or standard determined to be more consistent with the intent and purpose of P.L.1975, c.217 (C.52:27D-119 et seq.)." Thus, this provision limits the language that may be adopted within the UCC subcodes to either the latest edition of the national model code, or a version of the text as previously adopted by the Department.

The language provided by the petitioner is neither in the latest edition of the International Residential Code (IRC), as adopted as the one- and two-family dwelling subcode, nor in a previously adopted version of the IRC. Therefore, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:27D-123.b(4), the Department does not have the authority to make the requested amendment.

A copy of this notice has been mailed to the petitioner pursuant to N.J.A.C. 1:30-2.7.

<sup>2</sup> While the Petition seeks an amendment to N.J.A.C. 5:23-3.14, the referenced model code section, R310, is incorporated by reference into the Uniform Construction Code at N.J.A.C. 5:23-3.21.