

**Jobs Impact**

The Division anticipates that the proposed amendments will not result in the generation or loss of any jobs.

**Agriculture Industry Impact**

The proposed amendments have no impact on the agriculture industry.

**Regulatory Flexibility Statement**

The proposed amendments govern a public child protective services agency, rather than a private business establishment. The rules govern case management of children and families receiving services with emphasis on case plans and out-of-home placement. The rules affect children and families under the supervision of the Division, whether in-home or in out-of-home placement, as well as out-of-home placement providers. Neither the Division, nor the Division's clients are considered a "small business" as defined in N.J.S.A. 52:14B-16 et seq., the Regulatory Flexibility Act. Most of the Division's out-of-home placement providers are not businesses; they are licensed resource parents providing care for children individually in their own homes. They are not employees of the Division; they are out-of-home placement facilities that may be considered small businesses under the statutory definition, such as group homes and treatment-based out-of-home placement programs. Even though some are small businesses, the requirements of the proposed amendments do not impose reporting, recordkeeping, or compliance requirements on any out-of-home placement providers. Therefore, a regulatory flexibility analysis is not necessary. The proposed amendments state the Division's policies on case plans.

**Housing Affordability Impact Analysis**

There is an extreme unlikelihood that the proposed amendments would evoke a change in the affordability of housing or the average costs associated with housing in New Jersey because the rules pertain to the processing of a case plan for children and families under the supervision of the Division, whether in their own home or placed with out-of-home placement providers.

**Smart Growth Development Impact Analysis**

The proposed amendments have no impact on smart growth development and there is an extreme unlikelihood that the proposed amendments would evoke a change in housing production in Planning Areas 1 or 2, or within designated centers, under the State Development and Redevelopment Plan in New Jersey because the amendments pertain to case management for children and families.

**Full text** of the proposal follows (additions indicated in boldface **thus**; deletions indicated in brackets [thus]):

## SUBCHAPTER 1. CASE PLAN

## 3A:12-1.7 Contents of the written case plan

(a) The written case plan for a family with the child living at home shall include:

1. The reasons for the Division's **current involvement and significant events** with the family;

[2. The underlying needs of each family member;

3. The case goal for each family member receiving services;]

**2. The family's perspective and understanding of their involvement with the Division, and the family's personal history;**

**3. The Division's history with the family, including allegations, dates, concerns, findings, and length of time;**

4.-8. (No change.)

(b) The written case plan for a child in an out-of-home placement shall include:

1.-13. (No change.)

14. How the placement is safe, near the parent's home, and the least restrictive and most family-like **setting** available, consistent with the best interest and special needs of the child;

15.-17. (No change.)

(c)-(e) (No change.)

## 3A:12-1.8 Notice of the case plan

(a) (No change.)

(b) The Division representative shall give a copy of the [case plan] **Case Plan Family Agreement** to each person who participates in the development of or signs the case plan, including the out-of-home placement provider, and to each parent who declines to participate in or sign the case plan. **The Case Plan Family Agreement is a condensed version of the case plan which captures the outcome of the family planning meeting and the family's plan for change, based on the family's strengths.**

(a)

**DIVISION OF CHILD PROTECTION AND PERMANENCY****New Jersey Safe Haven Infant Protection Act Procedures and Requirements****Proposed Amendments: N.J.A.C. 3A:18-1.2 through 1.8 and 1.10 through 1.14****Proposed Repeal: N.J.A.C. 3A:18-1.9**

Authorized By: Allison Blake, Ph.D., L.S.W., Commissioner,  
Department of Children and Families.

Authority: N.J.S.A. 9:3A-7f, 30:4C-4(h), and 30:4C-15.1 and 15.5 et seq.

Calendar Reference: See Summary below for explanation of exception to calendar requirement.

Proposal Number: PRN 2017-130.

Submit written comments by September 15, 2017, to:

Debra A. Hayes  
Department of Children and Families  
PO Box 717  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625  
or  
[rules@dcf.state.nj.us](mailto:rules@dcf.state.nj.us)

The agency proposal follows:

**Summary**

The proposed amendments change the New Jersey Safe Haven Infant Protection Act Procedures and Requirements. Currently, the New Jersey Safe Haven Infant Protection Act Procedures and Requirements allow a parent, or a person acting on behalf of the parent, who wants to permanently give up parental rights to an infant to have a safe place to leave the live infant, rather than abandoning the infant in a life-threatening situation. These rules permit the parent, or the person acting on behalf of the parent, to remain anonymous and provide the parent and the person acting on behalf of the parent with an affirmative defense against prosecution for abandonment under specified circumstances.

The New Jersey Safe Haven Infant Protection Act Procedures and Requirements currently allows for a parent, or person acting on behalf of the parent, to leave an infant, no more than 30-days old, at a police station or hospital emergency department. The proposed amendments mirror the August 2015 amendments to N.J.S.A. 30:4C-15.9, which increase the locations for a parent, or person acting on behalf of a parent, who wants to permanently give up parental rights to an infant to include: fire department and ambulance stations as additional locations to bring a live infant up to 30 days old, under the New Jersey Safe Haven Infant Protection Act Procedures and Requirements.

Definitions for "fire department," "ambulance," "emergency medical responder," and "firefighter," were proposed on June 19, 2017, as part of the readoption with amendments of N.J.A.C. 3A:11, Service Delivery General Provisions (see 49 N.J.R. 1579(a)).

The Division of Child Protection and Permanency (Division) proposes to amend N.J.A.C. 3A:18-1.4(c)2, 1.5(a) and (b), 1.6(a), (b), and (c), the heading of 1.7, 1.7(a), the heading of recodified 1.9, recodified 1.9(a), (b), and (c), recodified 1.10(b)7, recodified 1.11(b), recodified 1.12(a) and (a)3 and 1.13 to reflect the changes at N.J.S.A.

30:4C-15.9, which include the terms: “fire department,” and “ambulance,” as locations in which a safe haven infant can be brought by a parent, or person acting on behalf of the parent, who wishes to permanently give up parental rights to his or her infant. These regulations, in addition to N.J.A.C. 3A:18-1.2, 1.8 and 1.8(a)1 and 5, the heading of recodified 1.13, and recodified 1.13 are proposed for amendment to include “firefighter,” and “emergency medical responder,” as the generic titles of a person employed by and carrying out the official duties associated with a fire department or ambulance service.

The Division proposes to amend N.J.A.C. 3A:18-1.3(b), by deleting the definition of “Act” from the chapter. References to the New Jersey Safe Haven Infant Protection Act are cited using the appropriate statute citation. This change is also proposed at the lead-in text of N.J.A.C. 3A:18-1.4(c), the heading of 1.7, recodified 1.11(b), recodified 1.12(a)3, and recodified 1.13, by removing the language, “pursuant to the Act,” “the Act at,” “in accordance with the Act,” and “related to the Safe Haven Infant Protection Act,” from the chapter. Where appropriate, language was added or replaced to reference the State statute.

The Division further proposes to amend the heading of N.J.A.C. 3A:18-1.8 by removing extraneous language, including reference to the “Act,” and adding the words that address the actions taken by hospital staff when handling safe haven infant at hospital.

The Division proposes to delete N.J.A.C. 3A:18-1.5(d), as the information is also stated at N.J.A.C. 3A:18-1.5(a) and (b).

The Division proposes to delete N.J.A.C. 3A:18-1.7(d), as the information is stated in recodified N.J.A.C. 3A:18-1.9(c). Recodified subsection (d) addresses the role of the Division of State Police in assisting the Division of Child Protection and Permanency to search listings of missing children to determine if the infant has been reported missing to the authorities.

The Division proposes to amend N.J.A.C. 3A:18-1.8 and 1.8(a), 1.8(a)1 and 5 by removing extraneous language and punctuation marks and adding language that directly addresses State statutes related to N.J.A.C. 3A:18.

The Division proposes to repeal N.J.A.C. 3A:18-1.9 as the information in this section is also contained in N.J.A.C. 3A:18-1.7 and 1.8.

The Division proposes to relocate the substance of N.J.A.C. 3A:18-1.9(b)7 as new N.J.A.C. 3A:18-1.8(a)10, as this requirement for hospital staff is not presently contained in N.J.A.C. 3A:18-1.7 or 1.8. This requires the hospital staff to offer services, medical care, or a referral for services, as appropriate, to a person bringing an infant to the hospital as a safe haven infant.

The Division proposes to amend recodified N.J.A.C. 3A:18-1.13 by adding the language “or private organization” to the sentence to include non-public organizations that provide policing, fire safety and intervention, or emergency medical assistance to the public or private sector and who may, during the course of their work, encounter a safe haven infant. All organizations employing police officers, firefighters, or emergency medical responders, whether municipal, county, State, or private, shall adhere to N.J.S.A. 30:4C-15.6 et seq.

As the Division has provided a 60-day comment period on this notice of proposal, this notice is excepted from the rulemaking calendar requirement, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 1:30-3.3(a)5.

#### **Social Impact**

The proposed amendments and repeal benefit an infant who appears to be no more than 30 days old and whose parent or parents wish to give up his and/or her parental rights to the infant, by increasing the locations in which a parent, or a person acting on behalf of the parent, can bring the live infant. The intent of the Act and this chapter is to save infants’ lives by providing a safe place for unwanted infants to be left, and expedite permanency for the infant, consistent with the Federal Adoption and Safe Families Act, 1997, 42 U.S.C. §§ 671 et seq.

#### **Economic Impact**

For Fiscal Year 2017, the Division received \$96,467,000 to maintain the foster care maintenance and adoption assistance payments program provisions of the Title IV-E State Plan and to be eligible to receive Federal financial participation.

Since the Safe Haven population is expected to be limited in size to no more than six per year, the proposed amendments do not have a negative economic or administrative impact on State, county, and municipal police departments, the Division, hospitals, ambulances, fire departments, or the courts.

The proposed amendments and repeal make no substantive change to existing rules that will have any economic impact.

#### **Federal Standards Statement**

The proposed amendments and repeal are consistent with, but do not exceed, the Federal regulations implementing the Adoption and Safe Families Act, (ASFA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 671 et seq.). Specifically, in situations in which a child has been abandoned, 45 CFR 1356.21(b)(3) permits a state child protection agency to seek an exception to the requirements to provide reasonable efforts toward family reunification. Also, 45 CFR 1356.21(i) requires the Division, as the State child protection agency, to promptly seek termination of parental rights for abandoned children.

#### **Jobs Impact**

The Division anticipates no generation or loss of jobs, as a result of the proposed amendments and repeal.

#### **Agriculture Industry Impact**

The proposed amendments and repeal have no impact on the agriculture industry.

#### **Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**

The State of New Jersey has approximately 568 ambulance companies. Some ambulance companies may be considered “small business,” as defined by the Regulatory Flexibility Act, N.J.S.A. 52:14B-16 et seq. The proposed amendments would impose reporting, recordkeeping, or compliance requirements on ambulances, as described in the Summary above. The Economic Impact above describes the potential cost associated with compliance of the New Jersey Safe Infant Protection Act procedures and requirements and the limited number of expected Safe Haven infants.

The proposed amendments require a standard necessary for the Department to comply with its obligation to implement the New Jersey Safe Haven Infant Protection Act through rulemaking. The proposed amendments minimize the burden on ambulances that are small businesses by enabling them to balance the burden of compliance within its workforce. The rules do not distinguish between small businesses and others. Anyone employed in the capacity of an emergency medical responder has to follow the same procedures in order to protect and care for an infant, under the New Jersey Safe Haven Infant Protection Act.

#### **Housing Affordability Impact Analysis**

The proposed amendments and repeal will have no impact on the affordability of housing in New Jersey and there is an extreme unlikelihood that the proposed amendments and repeal would evoke a change in the average cost associated with housing because the proposed amendments and repeal pertain to the Division’s implementation of the New Jersey Safe Haven Infant Protection Act.

#### **Smart Growth Development Impact Analysis**

The proposed amendments and repeal have no impact on smart growth and there is an extreme unlikelihood that the proposed amendments and repeal would evoke a change in housing production in Planning Areas 1 or 2, or within designated centers, under the State Development and Redevelopment Plan in New Jersey because the rules pertain to the Division’s implementation of the New Jersey Safe Haven Infant Protection Act.

**Full text** of the rules proposed for repeal may be found in the New Jersey Administrative Code at N.J.A.C. 3A:18-1.9.

**Full text** of the proposed amendments follows (additions indicated in boldface **thus**; deletions indicated in brackets [thus]):

## SUBCHAPTER 1. PROCEDURES AND REQUIREMENTS

## 3A:18-1.2 Scope

The provisions of this chapter shall apply to each safe haven infant, a parent who wishes to permanently give up parental rights to his or her infant, a person acting on behalf of the parent, police officers, **firefighters, emergency medical responders**, and hospital staff who have before them an infant who may be a safe haven infant, and employees of the Department of Children and Families and the Division of Child Protection and Permanency.

## 3A:18-1.3 Definitions

(a) (No change.)

(b) The words and terms used in this chapter shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

["Act" means the New Jersey Safe Haven Infant Protection Act, P.L. 2000, c.58, amending N.J.S.A. 30:4C-15.1 et seq.]

...

## 3A:18-1.4 Role of the State Central Registry for safe haven infant[s] cases

(a)-(b) (No change.)

(c) The hotline shall serve the following purposes [related to the Safe Haven Infant Protection Act]:

1. (No change.)

2. To receive and process a call from a hospital emergency department, when a live infant is brought there from a police station, **fire department, ambulance**, or when a live infant is brought directly to the hospital emergency department by a parent or other person acting on behalf of the parent pursuant to [the Act] N.J.S.A. 30:4C-15.7.b. Upon receipt of the call from a hospital emergency department, a hotline representative shall document the incident in writing;

3. To provide education and information to the public to:

i. (No change.)

ii. Explain procedures established by [the Act] N.J.S.A. 30:4C-15.5 et seq., including the confidentiality offered to parents pursuant to N.J.S.A. 30:4C-[15.7g]15.7.g, and that [the Act] N.J.S.A. 30:4C-15.7.e provides for an affirmative defense to prosecution for abandonment [pursuant to N.J.S.A. 30:4C-15.7e];

iii.-iv. (No change.)

4. (No change.)

## 3A:18-1.5 Affirmative defense to prosecution

(a) Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 30:4C-[15.7e]15.7.e, it shall be an affirmative defense to a charge of infant abandonment if a parent, or a person acting on behalf of the parent, voluntarily brings a live infant, to, and leaves the infant with, an officer at a police station, **a firefighter at a fire department, or an emergency medical responder at an ambulance**, or an employee of a hospital emergency department, without expressing an intent to return for the infant.

(b) Nothing in this section shall be construed to create a defense to any prosecution arising from an act of abuse or neglect committed against the infant before he or she was brought to and left at a police station, **fire department, ambulance**, or hospital emergency department.

(c) (No change.)

[(d) Nothing in this section shall be construed to create a defense to prosecution arising from any conduct other than the act of bringing a live infant to, and leaving the infant with, an officer at a police station, or an employee of a hospital emergency department. A person who abandons an infant or an older child under circumstances not governed by this Act shall not have an affirmative defense against prosecution under the Act.]

## 3A:18-1.6 Anonymity of the parent or other person acting on behalf of the parent permitted, provision of information strictly voluntary

(a) A parent or other person who brings an infant to, and leaves the infant at, a police station, **fire department, ambulance**, or hospital emergency department pursuant to N.J.S.A. 30:4C-15.7 shall not be required to disclose his or her name or the name of the parent, provide any identifying or non-identifying information about the infant or birth

family, or provide any background or medical information about the infant or birth family.

(b) A parent or other person who brings an infant to, and leaves the infant at, a police station, **fire department, ambulance**, or hospital emergency department pursuant to N.J.S.A. 30:4C-15.7 may voluntarily disclose identifying or non-identifying information to assist in planning for the infant's care and treatment pursuant to N.J.S.A. 30:4C-[15.7g]15.7.g.

(c) A parent or other person who brings an infant to, and leaves the infant at, a police station, **fire department, ambulance**, or hospital emergency department pursuant to N.J.S.A. 30:4C-15.7 shall be provided with the Safe Haven for Infants Hotline telephone number in case he or she wants to provide additional information about the infant at a later date or has any questions regarding the status of the infant.

3A:18-1.7 Actions taken by police [pursuant to the Act], **firefighter, emergency medical responder, or hospital staff** when infant brought to the police station, **fire department, ambulance, or emergency department of hospital**

(a) When a person appears at a police station, **fire department, ambulance, or emergency department of a hospital** with an infant and demonstrates, by action or in words, that he or she wishes to leave the infant behind, a police officer, **firefighter, emergency medical responder, or hospital staff** shall initiate action, as necessary, in an attempt to determine:

1.-2. (No change.)

(b) If the police officer, **fire fighter, emergency medical responder, or hospital staff** determines that the person appears to be acting voluntarily, on his or her own volition, and has no intent to return for the infant, the police officer, **firefighter, emergency medical responder, or hospital staff** shall:

1.-3. (No change.)

(c) If the infant is injured or appears to be abused or neglected, the police, **firefighter, emergency medical responder, or hospital staff** shall immediately notify the Division of Child Protection and Permanency in accordance with N.J.S.A. 9:6-8:10, and consult the county prosecutor in accordance with local protocols.

[(d) A police officer shall record in the police incident report and shall share with hospital staff any identifying and non-identifying information about the infant that was voluntarily provided by the person who brought the infant to the police station.]

[(e)] (d) The Division of State Police shall assist the Division representative to search listings of missing children pursuant to N.J.S.A. 30:4C-[15.7c]15.7.c and in accordance with N.J.A.C. 3A:18-[1.11(a)2]1.10(a)2, to determine if the infant has been reported missing to the authorities.

1. (No change.)

3A:18-1.8 Actions taken by hospital staff when **handling safe haven** infant [brought to the] **at** hospital [by the police pursuant to the Act]

(a) When [the police bring a safe haven infant to the hospital emergency department] **hospital staff has a safe haven infant before him or her**, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 30:4C-15.7.f(1) through (4), hospital staff shall:

1. Take physical custody of the infant from the **parent or other person, police officer, firefighter, or emergency medical responder**;

2.-4. (No change.)

5. Obtain information from the **parent, other person, police officer, firefighter, or emergency medical responder** and document it in the infant's medical chart in accordance with N.J.A.C. 3A:18-[1.10]1.9, including all identifying and non-identifying information about the infant, his or her parents and birth family, where available, and details regarding the full circumstances of the infant's appearance at the police station, **fire department, or ambulance**;

6.-7. (No change.)

8. Comply with any court order obtained by the Division, including deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) profiling and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) testing and other medical testing of the infant; [and]

9. Notify the Division of the infant's anticipated discharge date, to enable the Division to identify and prepare a selected adoptive home for

the infant, if a suitable home is available which can meet the infant's needs[.]; and

**10. Offer the person services, medical care, or a referral for services, as appropriate.**

3A:18-[1.10]**1.9** Police officers, **firefighters, emergency medical responders**, and hospital staff gather information, record in police, **fire department, or ambulance** incident report and infant's medical chart

(a) To assist the Division of Child Protection and Permanency in planning for the care of the safe haven infant, the police, **firefighter, emergency medical responder**, or hospital staff shall gather and record identifying and non-identifying information about the infant, if voluntarily provided by the person who brought the infant to, and left the infant at, the police station, **fire department, ambulance**, or hospital emergency department.

(b) In accordance with N.J.A.C. 3A:18-1.6(a), before gathering or recording any information, the police officer, **firefighter, emergency medical responder**, or hospital employee shall advise the person who brought the infant to the police station, **fire department, ambulance**, or hospital emergency department of his or her right to remain anonymous pursuant to N.J.S.A. 30:4C-[15.7g]**15.7.g**.

(c) If the parent or other person who brought the infant to the police station, **fire department, or ambulance** demonstrates a willingness to provide background or health information, a police officer, **firefighter, or emergency medical responder** shall record the information, to the extent such information is voluntarily provided, in the police, **fire department, or ambulance** incident report and shall share the information with a hospital employee. A hospital employee shall record background or health information in the infant's medical chart, if provided by the police officer, **firefighter, emergency medical responder**, or when provided by the parent or other person who brought an infant directly to the hospital, to the extent such information is voluntarily provided. The information to record includes, but is not limited to, the following:

1.-11. (No change.)

3A:18-[1.11]**1.10** Action taken by the Division upon receipt of a referral of a safe haven infant

(a) (No change.)

(b) Upon receipt of a referral from the Safe Haven for Infants Hotline pursuant to N.J.A.C. 3A:18-1.4(c)2i, the Division representative shall:

1.-5. (No change.)

6. Request a copy of the infant's medical chart, including any written identifying and non-identifying information about the safe haven infant recorded therein pursuant to N.J.A.C. 3A:18-[1.10]**1.9**;

7. Request a copy of the police, **fire department, or ambulance** incident report, if the safe haven infant was brought to a police station, **fire department, or ambulance** before being transported to the hospital; and

8. File for a termination of parental rights in accordance with N.J.A.C. 3A:21, Termination of Parental Rights, and pursuant to [the Act at] N.J.S.A. 30:4C-[15.1b(3)]**15.1.b(3)**, no later than 21 days after assuming care, custody and control of the infant, if no parent or relative has come forward by that date who is willing and able to care for the infant, except as specified at N.J.A.C. 3A:18-[1.13]**1.12**.

3A:18-[1.12]**1.11** Division not required to search for or identify parents or reunify birth family

(a) (No change.)

(b) If the Division becomes aware of the identity of the infant's parent, birth family or the person who brought the infant to, and left the infant at, the police station, **fire department, ambulance**, or hospital emergency department [pursuant to the Act], a Division representative shall consult the Deputy Attorney General to determine a course of action, as specified at N.J.A.C. 3A:18-[1.13]**1.12**.

3A:18-[1.13]**1.12** Actions taken when identification of safe haven infant's parent or family is determined

(a) If the Division becomes aware of the identity of a safe haven infant's parent, birth family, or the person who brought the infant to, and left the infant at, the police station, **fire department, ambulance**, or

hospital emergency department before the parental rights of the infant's parent or parents are terminated, the Division representative shall consult the Deputy Attorney General in order to make a determination, on a case-by-case basis, whether to attempt to contact the parent or parents or to notify members of the birth family of the existence of the safe haven infant, to thereby work with the parent or parents or family in developing a permanent plan for the infant, or to pursue another course of action. When making a determination, the factors to consider shall include, but shall not be limited to, the following:

1.-2. (No change.)

3. The intent or apparent intent of the parent, or other person acting on behalf of the parent, who brought the infant to the police station, **fire department, ambulance**, or hospital emergency department under the protections provided by [the Act] N.J.S.A. 30:4C-15.7.e;

4.-5. (No change.)

3A:18-[1.14]**1.13** Police officers, **firefighters, emergency medical responders**, and hospital staff acting in good faith immune from liability

Each police officer, **firefighter, emergency medical responder**, and the governmental jurisdiction or private organization employing that police officer, **firefighter, or emergency medical responder** and each employee of a hospital emergency department and the hospital employing that individual shall incur no civil or criminal liability for any good faith acts or omissions performed [in accordance with the Act,] pursuant to N.J.S.A. 30:4C-[15.7f]**15.7.f**.

## COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

### (a)

#### DIVISION OF CODES AND STANDARDS

#### Emergency Shelters for the Homeless

#### Proposed Readoption with Amendments: N.J.A.C. 5:15

Authorized By: Charles A. Richman, Commissioner, Department of Community Affairs.

Authority: N.J.S.A. 55:13C-5.

Calendar Reference: See Summary below for explanation of exception to calendar requirement.

Proposal Number: PRN 2017-122.

Submit written comments by September 15, 2017, to:

Kathleen Asher  
Department of Community Affairs  
PO Box 800  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625  
Fax Number: (609) 984-6696  
E-mail: [kathleen.asher@dca.nj.gov](mailto:kathleen.asher@dca.nj.gov)

The agency proposal follows.

#### Summary

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-5.1, the rules governing emergency shelters for the homeless, N.J.A.C. 5:15, were scheduled to expire on June 11, 2017. As the Department of Community Affairs (Department) submitted this notice of proposal to the Office of Administrative Law prior to that date, the expiration date was extended 180 days to December 8, 2017, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-5.1.c(2). The Department has reviewed these rules and finds that they continue to be necessary for the purpose for which they were adopted and is, therefore, proposing that they be readopted with two amendments.

Subchapter 1 sets forth that the public officer appointed by a municipality is responsible for the administration and enforcement of this chapter and that, if no public officer has been appointed, the Bureau of Rooming and Boarding House Standards has that responsibility in the municipality. The public officer is responsible for the licensure, regulation, and inspection of emergency shelters for the homeless.

Subchapter 2 provides definitions.