RHODE ISLAND GOVERNMENT REGISTER

PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Title of Rule: Rhode Island Works Program Rules and Regulations (218-RICR-20-00-2)

Rule Identifier: 218-RICR-20-00-2

Rulemaking Action: Direct Final Amendment

Important Dates:

Date of Public Notice: July 27, 2023

End of Public Comment: August 26, 2023

Rulemaking Authority:

Title XIX of the Social Security Act

R.I. Gen. Laws § 40-5.2-1 et seq.

2024 Rhode Island State Budget

Summary of Rulemaking Action:

The Rhode Island Works Program (R.I. Gen. Laws Chapter 40-5.2-1 et seq.) establishes the legal basis for a welfare to work program to assist needy families to prepare for, accept and retain employment with necessary supports, as quickly as possible, and is the law through which the Federal assistance program, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, is available to families in Rhode Island who meet program eligibility criteria. This Direct Final Amendment is being filed to implement the Legislative changes that were signed by the Governor with the 2024 Rhode Island State Budget. These changes were effective July 1st, 2023.

The Agency does not expect this filing to be controversial and therefore, a public hearing will not be held.

Additional Information and Public Comments:

If no formal objection is received on or before August 26, 2023, the Department of Human Services will file the Amendment and the Final Rule will take effect on this date.

Objections should be addressed to:

Mary Beth Slinko

Department of Human Services

DHS Policy, Hazard Bldg., West Road

Cranston, RI 02920

mary.slinko@dhs.ri.gov

Regulatory Analysis Summary and Supporting Documentation:

The Department of Human Services is filing the following changes to the Rhode Island Works Rule as a Direct Final Amendment to update the category of pregnant applicant. These changes were approved with the 2024 Rhode Island State Budget and will ensure that pregnant applicants will be reviewed for eligibility for the Rhode Island Works Program from the time they submit verification of the pregnancy:

• Section 2.2 A. 16., 25., 26., 2.5.8 A. 2., 2.11.2 E. 1., 2.12.1 C. 2., and 2.18.3 A. 4.

For full regulatory analysis or supporting documentation contact the agency staffperson listed above.