



MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
JOINT COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE, EXECUTIVE, AND LEGISLATIVE REVIEW

**SYNOPSIS OF EMERGENCY REGULATIONS**

The following document provides synopses of emergency regulations received by the AELR Committee on the dates noted below. Please contact the issuing agency for copies of the text of emergency regulations. For more information, please contact John Joyce, Kathleen Kennedy, or Georgeanne Carter at the number below.

<b>Date Received</b>	<b>Title and Summary</b>	<b>Public Hearing Scheduled, *if any</b>	<b>Date &amp; Summary of any action</b>
January 7, 2021	<p><b>Emergency/Proposed Regulations</b> <b>DLS Control No. 20-169</b> <b>Maryland Department of Labor:</b> <b>Racing Commission:</b> <b>Thoroughbred Rules: COMAR 09.10.01.07</b></p> <p>According to the department, the Racing Commission and industry stakeholders consider this amendment a benefit to the safety and welfare of the horses participating in races.</p>	n/a	Emergency status beginning February 1, 2021, and expiring July 25, 2021.

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December 11, 2020	<p><b>Emergency Regulations</b>  <b>DLS Control No. 20-180</b>  <b>Independent Agencies:</b>  <b>Tax Court: Rules of Procedure:</b>  <b>COMAR 14.12.01.01-.04, .06, .08-.09, .11, .13, .15, and .16</b></p> <p>Because of the global pandemic, and consistent with the Governor’s Executive Orders, this emergency action is needed to clarify the Tax Court’s authority to conduct remote hearings and to establish procedures for such hearings. Unlike agencies where the authority to hold a hearing by “telephone, video conferencing, or other electronic means” is statutory, Md. Code Ann., State Gov’t § 10-211, neither the Tax General Article nor the existing implementing regulations expressly address the authority to hold remote hearings. These emergency regulations would clarify the authority and establish procedures for conducting remote hearings thereby enabling taxpayers to adjudicate their claims promptly and safely.</p>	n/a	Emergency status beginning December 18, 2020, and expiring June 11, 2021.
December 2, 2020	<p><b>Emergency/Proposed Regulations</b>  <b>DLS Control No. 20-162</b>  <b>Maryland Department of Labor:</b>  <b>Commissioner of Financial Regulation:</b>  <b>General Regulations: COMAR 09.03.02.08</b></p> <p>This regulation is designed to provide industry stakeholders with flexibility regarding remote work for their employees. Maryland currently has regulations in place regarding remote work (i.e., Mortgage Loan</p>	n/a	Emergency status beginning January 5, 2021, and expiring May 3, 2021.

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	<p>Originators) that provide flexibility for employees working remote. This regulation speaks to employees of other OCFR-regulated licensees, such as those involved in origination or servicing, who are working remotely.</p> <p>The regulations are meant to ensure that our licensees working and/or doing business remotely, rather than at a corporate office or a branch, remain covered by and are otherwise subject to OCFRs regulatory requirements. Given that the majority of our licensees are working remotely, and will continue to do so for the foreseeable future, we wish to submit them on an Emergency basis.</p>		
November 24, 2020	<p><b>Emergency/Proposed Regulations</b>  <b>DLS Control No. 20-160</b>  <b>Department of Natural Resources:</b>  <b>Boating–Speed Limits and Operation of Vessels:</b>  <b>Potomac River: COMAR 08.18.21.07</b></p> <p>The purpose of this action is to establish a 6-knot speed limit in the Potomac River for the area surrounding the construction site of the Maryland Transportation Authority’s Harry W. Nice/Thomas “Mac” Middleton Bridge Replacement Design-Build Project. The project involves construction of a new bridge and demolition of the existing Governor Harry W. Nice Memorial/Senator Thomas “Mac” Middleton Bridge. The construction of the new bridge is scheduled to be completed by 2023 and the demolition of the old bridge is scheduled to be completed by December 31, 2024. The proposed action describes an area around the construction site and establishes a speed</p>		Emergency status beginning December 22, 2020, and expiring June 20, 2021.

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	<p>limit for the area through December 31, 2024. Emergency approval of this action is requested to ensure public safety and protect human life. Without an established speed limit, the construction zone poses safety threats for all waterway users, employees, and contractors.</p>		
<p>November 6, 2020</p>	<p><b>Emergency/Proposed Regulations</b>  <b>DLS Control No. 20–151</b>  <b>Department of Agriculture:</b>  <b>Office of the Secretary: Cost Sharing – Water Pollution Control Program:</b>  <b>COMAR 15.01.05.02 and .05</b></p> <p>The proposed action reflects recent changes to State law governing the State’s Cost-Sharing Program that became effective on October 1, 2020. See Ch. 305 (S.B. 597), Acts of 2020. These changes expressly authorize the use of cost-sharing funds for the following fixed natural filter practices: (1) The planting of riparian forest buffers; (2) The planting of riparian herbaceous cover; (3) Tree plantings that are on agricultural land and outside a riparian buffer; (4) Wetland restoration; or (5) Pasture management, including rotational grazing systems, such as livestock fencing and watering systems implemented as part of the conversion of cropland to pasture.</p> <p>The department is requesting emergency status because it is anticipated that these practices will benefit the waters of the State and assist the State in meeting its Watershed Implementation Plan goals.</p>		<p>Emergency status beginning December 8, 2020, and expiring May 19, 2021.</p>

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October 20, 2020	<p><b>Emergency Regulation DLS Control No. 20-134 State Retirement and Pension System: Board of Trustees: Election of Trustees: COMAR 22.03.01.06</b></p> <p>Due to the Governor’s Declaration of State of Emergency and Existence of Catastrophic Health Emergency, issued on March 5, 2020, and most recently renewed on September 8, 2020, the Board of Trustees for the State Retirement and Pension System is requesting an emergency regulation to amend COMAR 22.03.01.06A(2)(a), to temporarily reduce the number of signed nominations needed to be placed on the ballot as a candidate for election to the Board of Trustees.</p> <p>At this time, two trustees on the board have terms expiring on July 31, 2021. One trustee must be an active member of the Employees’ Pension and Retirement Systems, the Judges’ Retirement System, the Correctional Officers’ Retirement System, the Law Enforcement Officers’ Pension System or the Legislative Pension Plan. The second trustee must be an active member of the Teachers’ Pension System or Retirement System.</p> <p>The State Retirement Agency is currently in the process of accepting nominations for these two trustee positions. COMAR 22.03.01.06 states that potential candidates are required to obtain 500 signatures from their membership in order to be eligible for a nomination to the board. These signatures must be received by the agency on or before</p>		Emergency status beginning November 24, 2020, and expiring April 30, 2021.

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	<p>January 29, 2021. Following receipt of a potential candidate’s nomination form, the Executive Director verifies that the individual has satisfied each of the requirements necessary to qualify as a candidate for trustee. This process includes staff for the agency confirming that each of the 500 signatures collected are valid.</p> <p>In light of the current public health crisis, the Department of Budget and Management requiring mandatory telework for State employees, and many schools only providing remote learning at this time, the board is concerned that requiring a potential candidate to gather signatures of 500 individuals between November 1, 2020 and January 31, 2021, could be nearly impossible while creating unnecessary health risks for both the candidate and the individual signing the candidate’s nomination form. Potential candidates typically obtain nominations at employee gatherings, but due to the current state of emergency, such gatherings are not appropriate at this time. To mitigate the public health risks for the candidate and signatory, the board is seeking a temporary reduction to the signature requirement from 500 to 150.</p> <p>The board believes this amendment would support the Governor’s effort to control and prevent the spread of COVID-19, as provided in his Declaration of State of Emergency and Existence of Catastrophic Health Emergency. Moreover, the Board also believes that reducing the number of signatures to 150 would maintain the spirit of the existing provision in COMAR 22.03.01.06.</p>		

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	<p>To address the public health risk that may remain with regard to still having to collect 150 signatures, the agency has notified eligible potential candidates that it will permit potential candidates to email the nomination forms to individuals to sign. After the individual has signed the document, they may fax or scan and email it back to the potential candidate. This modification of the agency's past practice of requiring all signatures to be made in person between the potential candidate and the individual signing the nomination form, is in acknowledgement that the safest and preferred method for candidates to gather signatures during this time would be by using electronic methods (e.g. email or fax) so that face-to-face interactions are greatly reduced or eliminated altogether. Nevertheless, these new procedures will take additional time, likely making it impossible to meet the current requirement of 500 signatures during the allotted time. The board believes 150 signatures would be more reasonable under these circumstances.</p> <p>The agency wishes to have this modification in place as soon as possible in order to advertise the change to our members in hopes that it will ease worries for existing potential candidates and also attract additional interest in potential trustee candidates for the Board of Trustees.</p>		
October 9, 2020	<p><b>Emergency Regulation DLS Control No. 20-129 Board of Elections: Canvassing: Definitions; General Provisions:</b></p>		

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	<p><b>COMAR 33.08.01.02-1</b></p> <p>This clarifies that counsel does not need to be present at all pre-election day canvasses for the 2020 General Elections but does need to be present at post-election day canvasses if the ballots being canvassed could decide the outcome of a contest or question. Subsection B requires that counsel be present at any decision meetings on the legality or acceptability of a vote on any ballot, an absentee ballot, provisional ballot application, or provisional ballot. This amended regulation aligns with when the members of the local boards of elections are required to be present at the canvass. Due to the short time period before the general election, this amendment is being requested for emergency status.</p>		
October 9, 2020	<p><b>Emergency/Proposed Regulations</b>  <b>DLS Control No. 20-128</b>  <b>Board of Elections:</b>  <b>Early Voting: Early Voting Activities:</b>  <b>COMAR 33.17.06.05</b></p> <p>This proposed change removes the prohibition of receiving an absentee ballot at an early voting center. This provision is currently in conflict with COMAR 33.11.03.06E , which allows for the return of voted absentee ballots at early voting centers. When COMAR 33.11.03.06E was adopted earlier this year, this provision should have been amended. Due to the short time period before the general election, emergency status is being requested for this amendment</p>		Emergency status beginning October 27, 2020, and expiring December 31, 2020.



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	for the 2020 General Election, but is also being submitted under the normal promulgation process.		
September 11, 2020	<p><b>Emergency Regulations</b>  <b>DLS Control No. 20-111</b>  <b>Board of Elections:</b>  <b>Canvassing: Post Election Verification and Audit:</b>  <b>COMAR 33.08.05.01 and .04</b></p> <p>Emergency status is requested due to the short time frame before the General election. The proposed changes:</p> <p>(1) define an election day vote center and amends the definition of a precinct to include an election day vote center;</p> <p>(2) removes the requirement for the precinct verification and audit of an election day voting center to include precincts with at least 300 registered voters. This change is needed because polling places defined by precincts with a predetermined number of registered voters will not be used on election day. Instead, the 5% requirement remains, with the minimum number of election day vote centers to be audited being one; and</p> <p>(3) extends the definition of precinct through Regulation .09 of the Chapter, to allow for election day vote centers to be audited as a precinct in the manual audit that takes places after the election is certified.</p>		Emergency status beginning October 2, 2020, and expiring March 30, 2021.

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<p>September 8, 2020</p>	<p><b>Emergency Regulations DLS Control No. 20-103 Board of Elections: Absentee Ballots: Applications: COMAR 33.11.02.05 Canvass of Ballots - Procedures: COMAR 33.11.04.01 and .03 Canvass of Ballots – Rejecting Ballots: COMAR 33.11.05.04 Provisional Voting: Canvass of Ballots – Rejecting Ballots: COMAR 33.16.06.04</b></p> <p>The proposed regulations require emergency status due to the short time frame before the November General Election. The proposed amendment to Subtitle 11, Chapter 2 removes the requirement for local boards to date stamp some applications for mail-in ballots. This change is requested because of the large number of applications that have been received and more applications that are expected.</p> <p>The proposed amendment to Regulation .01 of Subtitle 11, Chapter 4 defines when a local board can use a single individual to verify the timeliness of a mail-in ballot, the presence of a signed oath, opening the return envelope, and determining whether the ballot can be scanned. The proposed change to Regulation .03 aligns the start of canvassing to the action the State Board took at its August 19, 2020 meeting.</p> <p>The proposed amendments to Subtitle 11, Chapter 5, and Subtitle 6, Chapter 6, are needed because current</p>		<p>Emergency status beginning October 13, 2020, and expiring December 31, 2020.</p>

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	<p>regulations do not work when mail-in ballots are counted before election day. The proposed change requires the local board to reject a provisional ballot from a voter who also returned a mail-in ballot. This approach means that voters who vote a mail-in ballot and provisional ballot are treated the same – that is, their mail-in ballot will be counted (assuming that the mail-in ballot is timely and the oath is signed) – regardless of when they return their voted mail-in ballot or when their mail-in ballot is counted.</p>		
<p>August 31, 2020</p>	<p><b>Emergency Regulation</b>  <b>DLS Control No. 20-099</b>  <b>Board of Elections:</b>  <b>Early Voting: Early Voting Centers:</b>  <b>COMAR 33.17.02.02</b></p> <p>These changes are necessary to allow the local boards of elections to change previously approved early voting centers or add additional early voting centers. The proposed emergency changes allow a local board to change the location of or establish a new early voting center if: (1) a previously approved center is no longer available; (2) a local board determines that there is a more suitable location; and (3) a local board approves an early voting center authorized under Election Law Article, § 10-301.1(b)(7). Due to the short time before early voting, the State Board of Elections adopted these regulations as an emergency measure.</p>		<p>Emergency status beginning September 25, 2020, and expiring December 31, 2020.</p>

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August 25, 2020	<p><b>Emergency Regulation DLS Control No. 20-097 Maryland Department of Labor: Commissioner of Financial Regulation: Credit and Other Regulation: COMAR 09.03.10.05</b></p> <p>We currently have a Proposed Regulation in motion (New Regulation 09.03.10.05: a link to a one page disclosure statement). Pursuant to Senate Bill 155 from last year’s Session, Enacted under Article II, Section 17(c) of the Maryland Constitution – Chapter 49, said disclosure statement is mandated to be on a form prescribed by the Commissioner by Regulation.</p> <p>However, the provisions of that new law have an effective date of October 1, 2020, and we now believe the adoption date for the aforementioned Proposed Regulation will fall beyond that date.</p>	n/a	Emergency status beginning October 1, 2020 and expiring March 1, 2021.
August 14, 2020	<p><b>Emergency Regulations DLS Control No. 20-096 Board of Elections: Meetings and Training: Judges’ Manuals and Training: COMAR 33.02.03.04 Canvassing: Definitions; General Provisions: 33.08.01.02 Absentee Ballots: Issuance and Return: 33.11.03.06 and .08 Early Voting: Election Judges: 33.17.05.01</b></p> <p>The proposed emergency amendments are all necessary to conduct the 2020 General Election in accordance with</p>		Emergency status beginning September 4, 2020 and expiring December 31, 2020.

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	<p>CDC social distancing guidelines. The amendments to Subtitles 8, 11, and 17 are identical to emergency regulations that the State Board adopted and AELR approved for the June primary election. The amendment to Subtitle 2 is also necessary to allow for social distancing during the pandemic. Due to the short turnaround from the primary election to the general election, there is not time to pass these regulations under the normal promulgation schedule.</p>		
<p>August 13, 2020</p>	<p><b>Emergency/Proposed Regulations</b>  <b>DLS Control No. 20-095</b>  <b>Maryland Insurance Administration:</b>  <b>General Regulations: Emergency Powers:</b>  <b>COMAR 31.01.02.02 , .03, .06</b></p> <p>Based on the fact that the COVID-19 emergency has continued longer than anticipated and the continued state of emergency in Maryland, the Maryland Insurance Administration is implementing emergency regulations along with permanent regulations addressing several issues dealing with the diagnosis, treatment, and testing for a specified illness, in this case the administration would activate the regulations through bulletin to aid in the COVID-19 pandemic. If this emergency action is not approved before the permanent regulations go into effect then the current emergency regulations providing that carriers cannot charge consumers cost sharing, including co-payments, deductibles, and co-payments for the testing, diagnosis, and treatment will expire and carriers may start</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<p>Emergency status beginning September 1, 2020 and expiring February 12, 2021.</p>

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	<p>to require consumers to pay for these services prior to the permanent regulations going into effect.</p> <p>Specifically, this action will amend Regulations .02, .03, and .06 under COMAR 31.01.02 Emergency Powers. This regulation will establish additional emergency powers of the Commissioner related to health insurance coverage requirements for a specified illness for which a state of emergency is declared.</p> <p>Additionally changes are being made to Regulations .02 and .06 to ensure that Medicaid enrollees do not inadvertently lose their right to a guaranteed issue period for enrollment in a Medicare Supplement policy without medical underwriting. Under current Maryland law (§ 15-909 of the Insurance Article), there is a six-month period following the date an individual first enrolls in Medicare (the guaranteed issue period) during which an individual may apply for a Medicare supplement policy and be guaranteed acceptance by the carrier, regardless of health status. After the guaranteed issue period, an individual may still apply for a Medicare supplement policy, but they are subject to medical underwriting and may be denied coverage by the carrier.</p> <p>Due to certain federal and state requirements, a Medicare supplement carrier generally may not issue a Medicare supplement policy to a Medicaid enrollee. Prior to the pandemic, when a Medicaid enrollee enrolled in Medicare Part B, the Medicaid coverage automatically terminated, and the individual could enroll in a Medicare supplement</p>		

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	<p>policy during the guaranteed issue period. For the duration of the national Public Health Emergency for COVID-19, however, the federal government is prohibiting states from terminating Medicaid coverage based on an individual's enrollment in Medicare. If Medicaid terminations resume after the national Public Health Emergency exists for longer than six months, individuals terminated from Medicaid may no longer be eligible for the guaranteed issue period for enrollment in a Medicare supplement period. If such an individual is not able to pass medical underwriting, they will be unable to purchase a Medicare supplement policy through no fault of their own.</p>		
<p>August 12, 2020</p>	<p><b>Emergency Regulation DLS Control No. 20-094 Board of Elections: Early Voting: Early Voting Centers: COMAR 33.17.02.01 and .02</b></p> <p>The purpose of this action is to (1) require the State Administrator of Elections to allow a local board of elections to establish an additional early voting center under certain circumstances and (2) establish deadlines for the submission of a request to do so, and action on the request by the State Board of Elections.</p>		<p>Withdrawn by State Board of Elections on August 28, 2020.</p>
<p>July 24, 2020</p>	<p><b>Emergency/Proposed Regulations DLS Control No. 20-089 Board of Elections: Same Day Registration and Address Changes: Public Notice: COMAR 33.19.02.01</b></p>		<p>Emergency status beginning August 20, 2020 and expiring December 31, 2020.</p>

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	<p>The purpose of this action is to alter the time period during which the State Administrator of Elections must send a pre-election mailing to each pre-qualified voter that either includes the correct polling place for the pre-qualified voter's address or instructs the pre-qualified voter how to find the correct polling place. The regulation requires the State Administrator to send the pre-election mailing after the close of the voter registration period but before election day, instead of requiring the mailing before the close of the voter registration period. Emergency status is being requested due to the time required for printing and mailing in advance of the 2020 general election.</p>		
<p>July 17, 2020</p>	<p><b>Emergency Regulation DLS Control No. 20-085 Maryland Department of Labor: Racing Commission: Prohibited Acts: COMAR 09.10.03.08</b></p> <p>The Maryland Jockey Club (Laurel and Pimlico) and the Maryland Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association have entered into an agreement that would prohibit the use of Lasix to a two year old thoroughbred horse that is entered to run. To effectuate that agreement the Maryland Racing Commission has to amend its current regulation. The reason for requesting emergency status is because the owners of two year olds have been waiting to run those horses since April 2020 without having an opportunity to gain some return on their investment. By enacting an emergency regulation, the Safety and Welfare Committee</p>		<p>Emergency status beginning July 31, 2020 and expiring January 26, 2021.</p>



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	created by recent legislation will have sufficient time to review the issue and make a recommendation to the commission.		
June 8, 2020	<p><b>Emergency Regulation DLS Control No. 20-061 Maryland Department of Labor: Board of Cosmetologists: General Regulations: COMAR 09.22.01.11</b></p> <p>To reduce the spread of COVID-19 and allow qualified candidates to take the practical exam, the board is allowing Esthetician candidates to take their practical exam with a head mannequin instead of a live model for the duration of the COVID-19 State of Emergency, plus an additional 90 days thereafter.</p>	n/a	Emergency status beginning July 8, 2020 and expiring November 30, 2020.
May 15, 2020	<p><b>Emergency Regulations DLS Control No. 20-048 Board of Elections: Election Day Activities: Officials' Duties Generally: COMAR 33.07.03.04 Absentee Ballots: Issuance and Return: COMAR 33.11.03.06 and .08</b></p> <p>This action (1) repeals the requirement for local election directors to conduct a polling place evaluation program; (2) repeals provisions establishing procedures for handling absentee ballots returned at early voting centers and election day polling places; and (3) allows voters to return a voted ballot at a ballot drop off container outside</p>		Emergency status beginning June 1, 2020 and expiring July 31, 2020.

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	<p>locations designated by the local board of elections. The State Board of Elections indicates the action is necessary to allow local boards of elections to comply with social distancing guidelines issued by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention when conducting the June 2, 2020 primary election, in accordance with the Governor's proclamations.</p>		
<p>May 15, 2020</p>	<p><b>Emergency/Proposed Regulation DLS Control No. 20-047 Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems: Emergency Medical Services Providers: Licensure and Certification: COMAR 30.02.02.13</b></p> <p>The purpose of this action is to establish licensure and certification requirements for emergency medical services (EMS) providers who hold provisional licenses or certificates issued under the executive order of the Governor to augment the EMS workforce during the COVID-19-related state of emergency and catastrophic health emergency.</p>		<p>Emergency status beginning June 1, 2020 and expiring October 30, 2020.</p>
<p>May 6, 2020</p>	<p><b>Emergency/Proposed Regulations DLS Control No. 20-045 Department of Agriculture: Soil and Water Conservation: Manure Transportation Project: COMAR 15.20.05.01 through .10</b></p>		<p>Emergency status beginning May 29, 2020 and expiring November 1, 2020.</p>

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	<p>The purpose of this action is to expand and increase the efficiency of the Manure Transportation Project. The regulations clarify and expand the processes under which specified entities may apply to receive State cost share grants for handling and transporting animal manure, including a process for expediting the transport of poultry or livestock manure and a process for transporting poultry manure to farms outside of the Chesapeake Bay watershed. The Department of Agriculture indicates that the proposed action is necessary to help keep the implementation of the Phosphorus Management Tool (PMT) on schedule.</p>		
<p>May 1, 2020</p>	<p><b>Emergency/Proposed Regulations</b>  <b>DLS Control No. 20-044</b>  <b>State Board of Education:</b>  <b>Certification: General Provisions:</b>  <b>COMAR 13A.12.01.14</b></p> <p>This regulation authorizes the State Superintendent of Schools, during a declared state of emergency, to issue a temporary, nonrenewable emergency certificate to specified individuals employed by a local school system, state institution, or nonpublic school. Applicants for an emergency certificate must meet specified requirements. The Maryland State Department of Education indicates that this action is necessary to prevent the worsening of an existing teacher shortage by allowing local school systems to hire teacher candidates who have not yet taken certification assessments due to the pandemic-related closure of testing centers.</p>		<p>Emergency status beginning May 26, 2020 and expiring November 20, 2020.</p>

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April 24, 2020	<p><b>Emergency Regulation DLS Control No. 20-043 Board of Elections: Absentee Ballots: Issuance and Return: COMAR 33.11.03.06</b></p> <p>This action alters an existing regulation to require that, for the special general election for the 7th Congressional District on April 28, 2020, and the presidential primary election on June 2, 2020, a local election director shall stamp an absentee ballot return envelope with the date it was received only if the local board received the return envelope on the day before the election or any day thereafter. The action also requires the election director to store all ballot return envelopes in a container labeled with the date the ballots were received. The State Board of Elections indicates that these changes are necessary due to the elections being conducted primarily by mail in response to the coronavirus pandemic and the significant increase in the number of ballots expected to be returned to local boards by mail.</p>		Emergency status beginning May 14, 2020 and expiring July 31, 2020.
April 14, 2020	<p><b>Emergency Regulations DLS Control No. 20-038 Board of Elections: Canvassing: Definitions; General Provisions: COMAR 33.08.01.02 Absentee Ballots: Canvass of Ballots - Procedures: COMAR 33.11.04.05 and .07 Special Elections by Mail: Election Judges: COMAR 33.21.05.01</b></p>		Emergency status beginning May 11, 2020 and expiring July 31, 2020.

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	<p>The purpose of this action is to reduce the number of individuals who must be physically present in the same room at a voting center and during the canvass of absentee votes for the April 28, 2020 special general election and the June 2, 2020 presidential primary election in order to reduce the potential for transmission of the coronavirus in accordance with the Governor’s proclamations of March 17, 2020 and April 10, 2020.</p>		
<p>April 14, 2020</p>	<p><b>Emergency Regulation</b>  <b>DLS Control No. 20-037</b>  <b>Board of Elections:</b>  <b>Special Elections by Mail: Voting Center Procedures:</b>  <b>COMAR 33.21.06.01</b></p> <p>The purpose of this action is to repeal a requirement that the local election directors conduct a voting center evaluation program for voting centers established for a special election conducted by mail in order to limit the number of individuals at voting centers to reduce the potential for transmission of the coronavirus in accordance with the Governor’s proclamations of March 17, 2020 and April 10, 2020.</p>		<p>Emergency status beginning May 1, 2020 and expiring July 31, 2020.</p>
<p>April 13, 2020</p>	<p><b>Emergency Regulations</b>  <b>DLS Control No. 20-036</b>  <b>Maryland Insurance Administration:</b>  <b>General Regulations: Emergency Powers:</b>  <b>COMAR 31.01.02.02, and .06</b></p>		<p>Emergency status beginning April 28, 2020 and expiring October 12, 2020.</p>

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	<p>Following the Governor’s declaration of a State of Emergency on March 5, 2020, the rapidly escalating COVID-19 pandemic prompted the Governor, on March 16, 2020, to direct the Maryland Department of Health to increase hospital capacity by an additional 6,000 beds to prepare for the expected surge in COVID-19 in-patient hospitalizations. As the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in Maryland continued to escalate, the Governor issued a Stay at Home Order on March 30, 2020. Pursuant to Insurance Article Section 2-115, Annotated Code of Maryland, the Insurance Administration is adopting changes to COMAR 31.01.02 Emergency Powers to provide safeguards to consumers with respect to their dealings with entities licensed or registered to transact insurance business in the State during the COVID-19 crisis. The adoption of these regulatory amendments are necessary to make certain that consumers and providers of essential medical and pharmaceutical services do not have barriers to receiving and providing essential medical treatment during the COVID-19 crisis. Specifically, the regulatory changes would require insurance carriers to relax utilization review requirements for inpatient hospitalizations, and would require insurance carriers and pharmacy benefits managers to relax auditing requirements for pharmacies. These measures will allow hospitals and pharmacists to direct additional critical resources to patient care, rather than less essential administrative tasks, resulting in an increase in the availability and timeliness of care provided to consumers.</p>		

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April 13, 2020	<p><b>Emergency/Proposed Regulations</b>  <b>DLS Control No. 20-035</b>  <b>Department of Transportation:</b>  <b>Maryland Transportation Authority: Electronic Toll Collection and Toll Violation Enforcement:</b>  <b>COMAR 11.07.07.02, .06, and .09</b></p> <p>Emergency status is needed so that important provisions of MDTA can be initiated upon the activation of MDTA's new Third Generation (3G) Electronic Toll Collection system on July 1, 2020.</p>		Emergency status beginning June 30, 2020 and expiring December 26, 2020.
March 26, 2020	<p><b>Emergency Regulation</b>  <b>DLS Control No. 20-028</b>  <b>Board of Elections: Same Day Registration and Address Changes: Public Notice:</b>  <b>COMAR 33.19.02.01</b></p> <p>This action removes the requirement that the State Board send a pre-election mailing to each pre-qualified voter. The State Board had contracted with the Maryland Correctional Enterprises (MCE) to print and mail this postcard for the April 28, 2020 election. However, due to the Governor's Proclamation of March 17, 2020, MCE notified the State Board on March 18, 2020 that they had reduced their workforce in response to COVID-19 and could not produce the postcards in the required timeframe.</p> <p>The State Board will take appropriate measures to notify potential registrants of where they can take advantage of the same day registration process, which may include</p>		Emergency status beginning April 15, 2020 and expiring July 31, 2020.

Date Received	Title and Summary	Public Hearing Scheduled, *if any	Date & Summary of any action
	posting information on the State Board’s and the local boards’ websites, social media messaging, press releases, and sharing information with voter advocacy organizations and political campaigns.		
March 12, 2020	<p><b>Emergency Regulations DLS Control No. 20-023 Emergency Powers of Chairman of the Commission: COMAR 14.09.17.01, .02, and .03</b></p> <p>The regulations grant, under certain circumstances, authority to the Chairman of the Workers’ Compensation Commission to exercise certain authority as part of the commission’s response to situations in which the Governor has declared an emergency under Title 14 of the Public Safety Article, or in the event of a natural or other event causing a certain significant disruption.</p>	n/a	Emergency status beginning March 13, 2020 and expiring September 8, 2020.
March 6, 2020	<p><b>Emergency Regulations DLS Control No. 20-022 Maryland Insurance Administration: General Regulations: Emergency Powers: COMAR 31.01.02.03 and .06</b></p> <p>A new Coronavirus (“COVID-19”) has been detected in humans, and cases have been confirmed in Maryland. In accordance with § 2-115 of the Insurance Article, the Insurance Administration is adopting changes to COMAR 31.01.02 Emergency Powers to provide safeguards to consumers with respect to their dealings with entities licensed or registered to transact insurance</p>	n/a	Emergency status beginning March 9, 2020 and expiring September 5, 2020.



Date Received	Title and Summary	Public Hearing Scheduled, *if any	Date & Summary of any action
	<p>business in the State now that the Governor has declared a State of Emergency. The adoption of these regulatory amendments are necessary to make certain that consumers do not have barriers to obtaining testing, diagnosis, and treatment of COVID-19. Specifically, the regulatory changes would prohibit insurance carriers from passing on co-payment, coinsurance, and deductible charges to consumers for the diagnosis, testing, laboratory fees, or vaccination for COVID-19.</p>		
<p>March 4, 2020</p>	<p><b>Emergency/Proposed Regulations</b>  <b>DLS Control No. 20-019</b>  <b>Department of Agriculture:</b>  <b>Pesticide Use Control: Use and Sale of Pesticides, Certification of Pesticide Applicators and Pest Control Consultants, and Licensing of Pesticide Businesses:</b>  <b>COMAR 15.05.01.02</b></p> <p>This regulation prohibits the aerial application of insecticides containing chlorpyrifos after the effective date of this action and generally prohibits a person from using insecticides containing chlorpyrifos or seeds that have been treated with chlorpyrifos after December 31, 2020, with specified exemptions. The regulation also requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a committee that will determine alternatives to using insecticides that contain chlorpyrifos or seeds that have been treated with chlorpyrifos.</p>		<p>Emergency status beginning March 27, 2020 and expiring August 1, 2020.</p>

<b>Date Received</b>	<b>Title and Summary</b>	<b>Public Hearing Scheduled, *if any</b>	<b>Date &amp; Summary of any action</b>
<p>February 10, 2020</p>	<p><b>Emergency Regulation  DLS Control No. 20-007  Department of State Police:  Fire Prevention Commission: Fire Prevention Code:  COMAR 29.06.01.09</b></p> <p>The purpose of this action is to correct an oversight in the Fire Prevention Code to allow the enforcement of Sections 11.2 and 11.3 of NFPA 495 Explosive Materials Code (2013 edition), a national standard adopted by reference under the Fire Prevention Code. These sections deal with ground vibration and air overpressure requirements related to blasting operations. Similar requirements were previously enforced under regulations 29.06.01.10A and 29.06.01.10B which were deleted from the Fire Prevention Code effective October 7, 2019, in an effort to conform to nationally recognized industry standards.</p>		<p>Emergency status beginning February 7, 2020 and expiring August 3, 2020.</p>
<p>January 23, 2020</p>	<p><b>Emergency Regulations  DLS Control No. 20-003  Board of Elections: Same Day Registration and  Address Changes: Definitions; General Provisions:  COMAR 33.19.01.01</b></p> <p>The purpose of this action is to authorize same day registration and address changes during the early voting period before the special general election in the 7th Congressional District that will be held concurrently with the regularly scheduled primary election on April 28, 2020.</p>		<p>Emergency status beginning February 12, 2020 and expiring May 5, 2020.</p>

