

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Arkansas Department of Health will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, March 4th, 2008 at 10: 00 a.m. in the Freeway Medical Tower, Suite 400, 5800 West Tenth Street, Little Rock, Arkansas, to allow interested persons to comment on proposed revisions to the Rules and Regulations for Critical Access Hospitals in Arkansas pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. §20-9-201 et seq. The proposed revisions would: (1) change the definition of a “Critical Access Hospital” to mirror that adopted by the federal government; (2) add a specific time within which to authenticate verbal orders; (3) clarify requirements for emergency departments and exceptions; (4) clarify requirement that physicians make final disposition decisions for emergency room patients; (5) prohibit “routine” use of armband identification in recuperation centers; and (6) update physical facility requirements.

Copies of the proposed revisions are available for public inspection and copying at the Arkansas Department of Health, Health Facilities Services, Freeway Medical Tower, Suite 400, 5800 West Tenth Street, Little Rock, Arkansas. The proposed revisions are also available for inspection online through the Secretary of State website: www.sosweb.state.ar.us, Administrative Rules link, and on the Health Department website: www.healthyarkansas.gov, Rules and Regulations link.

The public may submit written comments regarding the proposed changes to: Connie Melton, Section Chief, Health Facilities Services, Freeway Medical Tower, Suite 400, 5800 West Tenth Street, Little Rock, Arkansas 72204 or in person to the Freeway Medical Tower, Suite 400, 5800 West Tenth Street, Little Rock, Arkansas 72204 no later than 12:00 noon on March 4th.