

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 119.03, notice is hereby given that the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) intends to conduct a public hearing for the purpose of rescinding Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) Section 123:5-1-16. This rule had required DAS to administer the Veteran-friendly Business Enterprise (VBE) Program. However, House Bill (HB) 110 of the 134th General Assembly transferred this responsibility to the Ohio Department of Development. Subsequently, provisions of the rule governing application of procurement preferences were incorporated into OAC 123:5-1-06, which became effective July 4, 2022. Due to these changes, DAS is proposing that the rule be rescinded.

The public hearing will be conducted on Tuesday, April 23, 2024, beginning at 9:00 a.m., in the Administrative Hearing Room, located on the 3rd Floor of the James A. Rhodes State Office Tower, 30 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215. At this hearing, any person affected by the rule may appear and be heard in person, by the person's attorney, or both; may present the person's position, arguments, or contentions orally or in writing; offer and examine witnesses; and present evidence that tends to show that the rule, if effectuated, will be unreasonable or unlawful.

Individuals desiring to submit their position, arguments, or contentions in writing only (written statement) may do so by submitting them to the following address:

The Department of Administrative Services
Office of Legal Services
Attn: Chief Legal Counsel
30 East Broad Street, Suite 4023
Columbus, Ohio 43215
das.legalservices@das.ohio.gov

Any such written statements actually received by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 16, 2024, will be considered by the Department of Administrative Services. A person who timely submits a written statement is not required to appear at the hearing to have the written statement considered in the rule making process.

Those persons who wish to provide oral testimony are encouraged to contact the Department of Administrative Services through das.legalservices@das.ohio.gov no later than Tuesday, April 16, 2024, at 5:00 p.m., and may be given preference in the order of their testimony.

Copies of the proposed rules are available from:

- Dept. of Administrative Services, Office of Legal Services, 30 E. Broad St., Suite 4023, Columbus, Ohio 43215, 614-644-1773;
- Register of Ohio website: <http://www.registerofohio.state.oh.us>