



# News Release

PO Box 360, Trenton, N.J. 08625-0360

Heather Howard,  
Commissioner

For Release:  
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## **DHSS Proposes the Readoption of N.J.A.C. 8:57, Communicable Diseases, with Amendments, New Rules, and Repeals**

The Public Health Services Branch of the Department of Health and Senior Services (Department) is proposing the readoption of N.J.A.C. 8:57, Communicable Diseases, with amendments, new rules, and repeals. The Department also proposes amendments at the following chapters N.J.A.C. 8:36-18.4, 8:39-27.4; 8:43D-15.4, 8:43H-20.2, and 8:52-12.3, to provide the correct citations to N.J.A.C. 8:57, which will change because of this rulemaking. The notice of proposal appears in the April 21, 2008 issue of the *New Jersey Register*.

The Department proposes substantive and technical amendments, repeals and new rules at N.J.A.C. 8:57. The rules at N.J.A.C. 8:57 provide the regulatory framework to fulfill the Department's obligation to protect public health through: monitoring, preventing and responding to communicable diseases; monitoring and improving service delivery for persons with HIV and AIDS; establishing required immunizations for entry into schools, child care centers, and institutions of higher education; and establishing the requirement for health insurance coverage for students attending an institution of higher education and for insurance carriers to provide benefits for childhood immunizations.

The Department has determined that it is appropriate to recodify N.J.A.C. 8:57-3 into its own chapter at N.J.A.C. 8:58 because occupational and environmental diseases, injuries, and poisonings are markedly different in scope, source, and preventability than communicable diseases and therefore warrant their own chapter. N.J.A.C. 8:57-3 proposed for recodification as N.J.A.C. 8:58 would continue to establish the regulatory framework for the Department to conduct surveillance and research activities in order to prevent occupational and environmental diseases, injuries, and poisonings.

The Department will convene a public hearing on the proposed readoption with amendments, new rules and repeals between 10:00 A.M. and 12:00 P.M. on Tuesday, May 20, 2008 at the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services, First Floor Auditorium, Health and Agriculture Building, 369 South Warren Street (at Market Street), Trenton, NJ 08608. Persons wishing to comment on the proposal at the public hearing who wish to be placed on the list of speakers are requested to telephone Ms. Maria Moran at 609-588-7500 by Tuesday, May 13, 2008 and to bring an extra written copy of their remarks for submission to the public record.

The public has until June 20, 2008 to comment on the notice of proposal. Persons wishing to comment on the proposal must submit their comments in writing to Ruth Charbonneau, Director, Office of Legal and Regulatory Affairs, Office of the Commissioner, Department of Health and Senior Services, PO Box 360, Trenton, NJ 08625-0360. Written comments on the proposal must be postmarked on or before June 20, 2008, which is the close of the 60-day public comment period.