

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**

**To: Interested Parties**

**From: DHS Office of Policy Development**

**Date: March 30, 2016**

**Subject: Proposed DHS Rule-Making for RI Veterans Memorial Cemetery**

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In accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act, the Department of Human Services is advertising the following proposed and amended DHS rules. This rule is being amended in compliance with state and federal law and good practice. The proposed rule is as follows:

**RI VETERANS MEMORIAL CEMETERY RULES & REGULATIONS**

Proposed revisions include clarifying the authority for reservations of gravesites and enforcement of cemetery rules to rest with the Director of Veterans Affairs or his or her designee. Additionally, eligibility criteria and internment policies have been updated, set visitors hours were established, graveside adornment rules have been consolidated and further clarified, and the general cemetery rules were revised to reflect best practices of other veterans' cemeteries, with specific guidance taken from Arlington National Cemetery. A section on the process for having monument placed in the cemetery was added as well. Please see the concise summary of changes for more detailed information.

**A public hearing will be held to consider the proposed amendments on Friday, May 6, 2016 at 2:00 PM at the Louis Pasteur Building, 57 Howard Avenue, Cranston, RI 02920, in the West Wing Conference Room.** This proposed rule is accessible through the RI Secretary of State's Proposed Rules and Regulations Database Search (<http://www.sec.state.ri.us/ProposedRules/>), on the DHS website (<http://www.dhs.ri.gov/>) or available in hard copy upon request (401 462-2018). Interested persons should submit data, views or written comments by Friday, May 6, 2016 to Bethany Caputo, Office of Policy Development, Department of Human Services FL # 1, Louis Pasteur Building, 57 Howard Avenue, Cranston, RI 02920, [Bethany.caputo@dhs.ri.gov](mailto:Bethany.caputo@dhs.ri.gov)