STATE BOARD OF HEALTH NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

AGENCY NAME: Alabama Department of Public Health

RULE NUMBER AND TITLE: 420-5-7-.03 Classification of Hospitals

INTENDED ACTION: To Amend

SUBSTANCE OF PROPOSED ACTION: The proposed rule amendment addresses the accessibility and staffing of the emergency department; requires that the emergency department screen and treat patients within the hospital's capacity; and that the hospital will arrange for emergency medical care beyond the hospital's capacity. The requirement for a dedicated emergency department shall not apply to hospitals operating solely as a Long Term Care Hospital, Rehabilitation Hospital or Psychiatric Hospital.

TIME, PLACE, AND MANNER OF PRESENTING VIEWS: A public hearing will be held on August 12, 2008, at 10:00 a.m., in Suite 1586 of the RSA Tower, located at 201 Monroe Street in Montgomery, Alabama.

FINAL DATE FOR COMMENTS AND COMPLETION OF NOTICE: Written or oral comments will be received until the close of the record at 5:00 p.m. on September 4, 2008. All comments and requests for copies of the proposed amendments should be addressed to the contact person listed below.

CONTACT PERSON AT AGENCY: Ray Sherer, Division of Provider Services, Department of Public Health, P.O. Box 303017, Montgomery, Alabama 36130-3017. Telephone number: (334) 206-5175.

John R. Wible, Agency Secretary