Dear Senators LAKEY, Ricks, Burgoyne, and Representatives HOLTZCLAW, Syme, Chew:

The Legislative Services Office, Research and Legislation, has received the enclosed rules of the Division of Veterans Services:

IDAPA 21.00.00 - Notice of Omnibus Rulemaking (Fee Rule) - Proposed Rule (Docket No. 21-0000-2100F).

Pursuant to Section 67-454, Idaho Code, a meeting on the enclosed rules may be called by the cochairmen or by two (2) or more members of the subcommittee giving oral or written notice to Research and Legislation no later than fourteen (14) days after receipt of the rules' analysis from Legislative Services. The final date to call a meeting on the enclosed rules is no later than 11/15/2021. If a meeting is called, the subcommittee must hold the meeting within forty-two (42) days of receipt of the rules' analysis from Legislative Services. The final date to hold a meeting on the enclosed rules is 12/13/2021.

The germane joint subcommittee may request a statement of economic impact with respect to a proposed rule by notifying Research and Legislation. There is no time limit on requesting this statement, and it may be requested whether or not a meeting on the proposed rule is called or after a meeting has been held.

To notify Research and Legislation, call 334-4854, or send a written request to the address on the memorandum attached below.
MEMORANDUM

TO: Rules Review Subcommittee of the Senate Judiciary & Rules Committee and the House Commerce & Human Resources Committee

FROM: Legislative Drafter - Trevor Ahrens

DATE: October 28, 2021

SUBJECT: Division of Veterans Services

IDAPA 21.00.00 - Notice of Omnibus Rulemaking (Fee Rule) - Proposed Rule (Docket No. 21-0000-2100F)

Summary and Stated Reasons for the Rule

The Division of Veterans Services submits notice of proposed fee rules. According to the division, the rulemaking republishes the following temporary rule chapters that were previously submitted:

• IDAPA 21.01.01, Rules Governing Admission Residency, and Maintenance Charges in Idaho State Veterans Homes and Division of Veterans Services Administrative Procedures; and
• IDAPA 21.01.04, Rules Governing the Idaho Veterans Cemetery.

The division states that the fee rules do not impose a fee or charge, or increase a fee or charge, beyond what was previously submitted to and reviewed by the Legislature in the prior rules. The following is a specific description of the fees or charges:

• IDAPA 21.01.01.915, Maintenance Charges;
• IDAPA 21.01.01.916.01, Monthly Charges and Allowances, Nursing Care;
• IDAPA 21.01.01.916.02, Monthly Charges and Allowances, Residential and Domiciliary Care; and
• IDAPA 21.01.04.024, Fees for Interment, Disinterment, and Reinterment, and Memorial.

Negotiated Rulemaking / Fiscal Impact

The division notes that negotiated rulemaking was not conducted because engaging in negotiated rulemaking for all previously existing rules would inhibit the agency from carrying out its ability to protect health, safety, and welfare. The department also confirms that the rulemaking is not anticipated to have any fiscal impact on the general fund.

Statutory Authority

The rulemaking appears to be authorized pursuant to Sections 65-202, 65-204, and 66-907, Idaho Code.
cc: Division of Veterans Services
    Kevin Wallior

*** PLEASE NOTE ***
Per the Idaho Constitution, all administrative rules may be reviewed by the Legislature during the next legislative session. The Legislature has 3 options with this rulemaking docket: 1) Approve the docket in its entirety; 2) Reject the docket in its entirety; or 3) Reject the docket in part.
AUTHORITY: In compliance with Sections 67-5221(1), Idaho Code, notice is hereby given that this agency has initiated proposed rulemaking procedures. The action is authorized pursuant to Sections 65-202, 65-204, and 66-907, Idaho Code.

PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULE: Oral comment concerning this rulemaking will be scheduled in accordance with Section 67-5222, Idaho Code.

DESCRIPTIVE SUMMARY: The following is a nontechnical explanation of the substance and purpose of the proposed rulemaking:

This proposed rulemaking publishes the following rule chapters previously submitted to and reviewed by the Idaho Legislature under IDAPA 21, rules of the Idaho Division of Veterans Services:

IDAPA 21
• 21.01.01, Rules Governing Admission, Residency, and Maintenance Charges in Idaho State Veterans Homes and Division of Veterans Services Administrative Procedure; and
• 21.01.04, Rules Governing the Idaho Veterans Cemetery.

FEE SUMMARY: This rulemaking does not impose a fee or charge, or increase a fee or charge, beyond what was previously submitted to and reviewed by the Idaho Legislature in the prior rules.

The following is a specific description of the fees or charges:
• IDAPA 21.01.01.915 – Maintenance Charges
• IDAPA 21.01.01.916.01 – Monthly Charges and Allowances, Nursing Care
• IDAPA 21.01.01.916.02 – Monthly Charges and Allowances, Residential and Domiciliary Care
• IDAPA 21.01.04.024 – Fees For Interment, Disinterment, and Reinterment, and Memorial.

FISCAL IMPACT: The following is a specific description, if applicable, of any negative fiscal impact on the state general fund greater than ten thousand dollars ($10,000) during the fiscal year: This rulemaking is not anticipated to have any fiscal impact on the state general fund because the FY2022 budget has already been set by the Legislature, and approved by the Governor, anticipating the existence of the rules and fees being reauthorized by this rulemaking.

NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING: Pursuant to Section 67-5220(2), Idaho Code, negotiated rulemaking was not feasible because engaging in negotiated rulemaking for all previously existing rules will inhibit the agency from carrying out its ability to serve the citizens of Idaho and to protect their health, safety, and welfare.

Negotiated rulemaking conducted outside of this omnibus rulemaking under docket 21-0104-2101 published in the June 2021 Idaho Administrative Bulletin, Vol. 21-6, page 58, and affects the following rule chapter included in this proposed rulemaking: IDAPA 21.01.04.

INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE: Pursuant to Section 67-5229(2)(a), Idaho Code, incorporated material may be obtained or electronically accessed as provided in the text of the proposed rules attached hereto.

ASSISTANCE ON TECHNICAL QUESTIONS, SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN COMMENTS: For assistance on technical questions concerning the proposed rules, contact Kevin Wallior, 208-780-1308 or kevin.wallior@veterans.idaho.gov.

Anyone may submit written comments regarding the proposed rulemaking. All written comments must be directed to the undersigned and must be delivered within twenty-one (21) days after publication of this Notice in the Idaho Administrative Bulletin. Oral presentation of comments may be requested pursuant to Section 67-5222(2), Idaho Code, and must be delivered to the undersigned within fourteen (14) days of the date of publication of this Notice in the Idaho Administrative Bulletin.
DATED this October 20, 2021.

Kevin R. Wallior
Management Assistant
Idaho Division of Veterans Services
351 Collins Road
Boise, ID 83702
Ph: 208-780-1380
Fax: 208-780-1301
000. LEGAL AUTHORITY.
The Administrator of the Division of Veterans Services with the advice of the Veterans Affairs Commission is authorized by the Idaho Legislature to establish rules governing requirements for admission to Idaho State Veterans Homes and to establish rules governing charges for residency, pursuant to Sections 65-202, 65-204 and 66-907, Idaho Code.

001. TITLE AND SCOPE.

01. Title. These rules are titled IDAPA 21.01.01, “Rules Governing Admission, Residency, and Maintenance Charges in Idaho State Veterans Homes and Division of Veterans Services Administrative Procedure.”

02. Scope. These rules contain provisions for determining eligibility for admission and for establishing charges for residency in Idaho State Veterans Homes, together with rules of administrative procedure before the Idaho Veterans Affairs Commission.

002. POLICY.
Through the facilities and services available at Idaho State Veterans Homes, the Division of Veterans Services will provide necessary care for honorably discharged eligible veterans. No applicant will be denied admission on the basis of sex, race, color, age, political or religious opinion or affiliation, national origin, or lack of income, nor will any care or other benefit at a Home be provided in a manner, place, or quality different than that provided for other residents with comparable disabilities and circumstances. However, if residents are financially able to do so, they must contribute to the cost of their care, with allowances made for retention of funds for their personal needs.

003. INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE.

01. Incorporated Documents. These rules incorporate by reference:


004. -- 009. (RESERVED)

010. DEFINITIONS.
For the purposes of the rules contained in this Chapter, the following terms are used as defined:

01. Applicant. A person who has expressed interest in applying for residency in an Idaho State Veterans Home.

02. Asset. Real or personal property that is owned in whole or in part by an applicant or resident, including stocks, bonds, goods, rights of action, evidences of debt, and cash or money that is not income. Insurance payments or monetary compensation for loss of or damage to an asset is an asset. Income not expended in the calendar month received is an asset beginning on the first day of the next calendar month.

03. Bona Fide Resident. A person who maintains a principal or primary home or place of abode in the state of Idaho coupled with the present intent to remain at that home or abode and return to it after any period of absence pursuant to Section 66-901, Idaho Code.


05. Division. Division of Veterans Services in the Idaho Department of Self Governing Agencies.
06. **Division Administrator.** The Administrator of the Division of Veterans Services in the Department of Self Governing Agencies, or his designee. The chief officer of the Division of Veterans Services.

07. **Home Administrator.** Administrator of an Idaho State Veterans Home. The chief officer of each respective Veterans Home.

08. **Home.** An Idaho State Veterans Home.

09. **Idaho State Veterans Home.** Pursuant to Section 66-901, Idaho Code, a Home for eligible veterans.

10. **Income.** Money received from any source including wages, tips, commissions, private pension and retirement payments, social security benefits, unemployment compensation, veterans assistance benefits, and gifts.

11. **Legal Dependents.** The mother, father, spouse, or minor children of an applicant or a resident who, by reason of insufficient financial resources, or non-minor children who because of disease, handicap, or disability, must have financial support from the applicant or resident in order to maintain themselves.

12. **Liquid Assets.** Those assets which are cash or can be liquidated for cash within a reasonable period of time including, but not limited to, money market certificates, certificates of deposit, stocks and bonds, and some tax shelter investments.

13. **Maintenance Charge.** A charge made for care and residence at an Idaho State Veterans Home, based upon the current established rate.

14. **Net Income.** That income used to compute charges after allowable deductions have been made.

15. **Resident.** A person who is a resident of an Idaho State Veterans Home.

16. **Spouse.** The husband or wife, under a marriage recognized by Title 32, Idaho Code, of a veteran or the widow or widower of a veteran under a marriage recognized by Title 32, Idaho Code.

17. **VA.** United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

18. **Veteran.** Has the meaning established in Section 65-203, Idaho Code. The separation or discharge considered under this definition means the conditions of the most recent separation or discharge from military service.

011. -- 049. (RESERVED)

050. **ADMINISTRATIVE POWERS.**

The Home Administrator has full authority in the management of a Home, subject to review by the Division Administrator and Commission. A Home Administrator can, in the execution of his duties, delegate certain responsibilities to his staff. When requested by the Division Administrator, the Home Administrator will attend regular and special meetings of the Commission.

01. **Representative Powers.** The Division Administrator is authorized to represent the Commission in all official transactions between the Homes and other departments of Idaho state government.

02. **Investigation Powers.** Upon receipt of an application for residency and for the duration of residency of any resident, the Division is authorized to conduct an investigation to determine the total value of the property and assets of the applicant/resident to determine his ability to pay maintenance charges established in this Chapter pursuant to Section 66-907, Idaho Code.
03. Inspection Powers. Inspection of the rooms and facilities of a Home, as well as of the dress and appearance of all residents, can be conducted at any time by the Home Administrator.

04. Emergency Powers. In an emergency, the Home Administrator is authorized to use his judgment in matters not specifically covered by a statute, order, rule, or policy.

051. -- 074. (RESERVED)

075. ADMINISTRATIVE DUTIES.
The Home Administrator will enforce all orders and rules and implement all policies of the Division in the administration of a Home.

01. Management of Records. The Home Administrator must maintain accurate fiscal and resident records.


b. Residential and domiciliary care records. Records relating to each residential care resident of a Home will be kept in accordance with VA Rules 38 CFR Part 51; Subpart A, B, C, and E dated December 28, 2018.

02. Response to Complaints. The Home Administrator will respond in writing to any written and signed complaint made by a resident pursuant to Section 300 of these rules.

076. -- 099. (RESERVED)

100. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.
Applicants and residents must satisfy the following requirements:

01. Veterans or Eligible Spouse.

a. Nursing Care. Applicants for and residents of nursing care must be a veteran or the spouse of a veteran who is eligible for admission to a Home. The death of a veteran shall not disqualify a resident spouse if the veteran was eligible for admission to a Home at the time of death.

b. Residential Care and Domiciliary Care. Applicants for and residents of residential care and domiciliary care must be a veteran. A Home will not grant spouses admission for residential care or domiciliary care.

02. Idaho Residency. The applicant must be a bona fide resident of the state of Idaho at the time of admission to a Home.

03. Incompetent Applicants. Applicants and residents who are incompetent must provide copies of a legally sufficient guardianship or power of attorney.

04. Necessity of Services. Applicants and residents must meet the requirements for the level of care for which they apply or are receiving. At the request of the Home, residents must provide recertification of their need for services from a VA physician or a physician currently licensed by the Idaho Board of Medicine to practice medicine or surgery in the state of Idaho.

a. Nursing Care. To be eligible to receive nursing care in a Home, applicants must be referred by a VA physician or a physician currently licensed by the Idaho Board of Medicine to practice medicine or surgery in the state of Idaho.
b. Residential and Domiciliary Care. Each applicant must submit to a physical examination performed by a licensed physician and meet the physical limitation requirements for residential care and domiciliary care. Applicants and residents must be unable to earn a living and have no adequate means of support due to wounds, old age, or physical or mental disabilities. However, each residential care and domiciliary care resident must ambulate independently or with the aid of a wheelchair, walker, or similar device and be capable of performing at the time of admission, and for the duration of his residency, all of the following with minimal assistance:

   i. Making his bed daily; 
   ii. Maintaining his room in a neat and orderly manner at all times; 
   iii. Keeping all clothing clean through proper laundering; 
   iv. Observing cleanliness in person, dress and living habits and dressing himself; 
   v. Bathing or showering frequently; 
   vi. Shaving daily or keeping his mustache or beard neatly groomed; 
   vii. Proceeding to and returning from the dining room and feeding himself; 
   viii. Securing medical attention on an ambulatory basis and managing medications; 
   ix. Maintaining voluntary control over body eliminations or control by use of an appropriate prosthesis; and 
   x. Making rational decisions as to his desire to remain or leave the Home.

05. Placement Restriction. A Home shall not accept applicants or continue to extend care to residents for whom the facility does not have the capability or services to provide an appropriate level of care.

06. Financial Statement. Each applicant must file a signed, dated statement with the Home Administrator containing a report of income from all sources and a report of all liquid assets which will be used to determine the amount of the maintenance charge which is required in accordance with Section 66-907, Idaho Code, and these rules.

07. Social Security Benefits. If eligible for Social Security benefits, the applicants and residents and their spouses must apply for those benefits unless waived by the Home Administrator.

08. Medicare Coverage. If eligible for Medicare, the applicants and residents must elect to participate, unless participation is waived by the Home Administrator.

09. Income Limitation.

a. Nursing Care. None.

b. Residential and Domiciliary Care. An applicant whose total monthly net income, at the time of his application for residency, exceeds the current maximum annual rate of VA pension for a single veteran pursuant to Public Law 95588 divided by twelve (12) cannot be admitted unless granted a waiver by the Home Administrator. This waiver must include a statement from a VA Medical Center physician indicating the veteran is in “need of continuing medical care.”

10. VA Pension -- Nursing Care. Unless waived by the Home Administrator, a wartime veteran, as defined in 5 U.S.C. Section 2108, who is a nursing care applicant or resident must be eligible for, apply for, or be in receipt of a VA disability pension in accordance with Public Law 95588. Such waivers may be considered only when the applicant or resident has signed a statement that he is able to defray the necessary expenses of the medical care for which he is applying or receiving and arrangements are made to secure medical services not provided by the VA.
11. **Agreements for Behavior and Care Needs.** The Homes may require that applicants or residents enter into agreements concerning the applicant or resident’s behavior or care needs while residing in the Home. The resident’s failure to perform these agreements is a basis for discharge from the Home.

12. **Limit on Admission of Spouses.** Unless waived in writing by the Division Administrator, a Home shall not accept spouses for admission if the Home’s residency is at ninety-five percent (95%) or more of capacity. Homes shall not admit a spouse if the number of spouses residing in the home will exceed twenty-five percent (25%) of the residents of the Home following admission of the applicant.

150. **APPLICATION PROCEDURE.**

01. **Submission of Application.** An application may be submitted to the administrative offices of a Home on a form from the Division.

02. **Application Processing.** Completed applications will be processed no later than three (3) working days from receipt.

03. **Waiting List.** An applicant who is approved for admission for whom a vacancy does not exist will be placed on a waiting list and accepted on a first come, first served basis dependent on the Home’s ability to provide a level of care consistent with the needs of the applicant. The Home Administrator may award “priority status” to prospective Home residents resulting in their names being placed near the top of the Home waiting list, provided they have completed all preadmission requirements and meet one (1) or more of the following criteria:

a. Veterans who served during any war or conflict officially engaged in by the government of the United States.

b. Previous residents of Homes who have been discharged for therapeutic treatment or to live in a lesser level of care or in an independent setting and whose discharge plan indicates a readmission priority.

c. Current Home residents who demonstrate a need for a level of care provided by a Home and who would benefit from maintaining a stable environment.

d. Receive special consideration as per the request of the medical director because of his desire to provide a very specific continuum of care.

04. **Provision If Application Rejected.** An applicant whose application has been rejected and who feels he meets the eligibility requirements can request a hearing in accordance with the procedures specified in Section 982, et seq., of these rules.

151. -- 199. (RESERVED)

200. **CONDITIONS FOR ADMISSION.**

01. **Denial of Admission.** Admission may be denied to an otherwise eligible applicant for any reason for which an admitted resident could be involuntarily discharged.

02. **Assignment of Personal Property.** Prior to admission to a Home, an eligible applicant must agree that while he is a resident of a Home he will assign the following, under the conditions specified:

a. Pursuant to Section 66-906, Idaho Code, all personal property owned, money held, or assets to which he is entitled at the time of his death -- unless disposed of by will or rightfully claimed within five (5) years of the death of the resident by an heir or person named in the resident’s will -- must be assigned to the Division Administrator at the time of application for the sole use and benefit of a Home.
b. Upon discharge or voluntary departure from a Home, and after written notification is sent to the resident, all personal property owned or money deposited with the Home which is unclaimed by the former resident will be converted for the sole use and benefit of a Home as specified below:

i. Personal property unclaimed within thirty (30) days of departure or discharge will be made available to needy Home residents or disposed of at public auction or private sale and the proceeds deposited with the state; or

ii. Money deposited with the Home will be retained and deposited with the state; however, said money may be claimed by the former resident within five (5) years of departure or discharge.

201. WEAPONS.
Weapons including, but not limited to, firearms, ammunition, straight razors, and knives are not allowed.

202. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF CONDITIONS LEADING TO DISCHARGE.
Upon admission to a Home, each resident will be advised in writing of the conditions under which immediate discharge will occur, as specified in Section 350 of these rules. Each resident must acknowledge receipt of this information by signature, and that acknowledgment will be a permanent part of each resident's file.

203. -- 299. (RESERVED)

300. CONDUCT OF RESIDENTS.
Each resident must comply with applicable rules in this Chapter and with any order or directive of the Home Administrator. All complaints made by the residents concerning food, quarters, ill treatment, neglect, abusive language, or other violations of any rule or standard applicable to the Home, or complaints against the operation of a Home may be made either verbally or in writing to the Home Administrator.

01. No Operation of Motor Vehicles by Nursing Care Residents. The operation or storage of privately owned motor vehicles by nursing care residents is prohibited on Home property.

02. Operation of Motor Vehicles by Domiciliary and Residential Care Residents. Each authorized domiciliary and residential care resident who drives a motor vehicle onto the grounds of a Home must adhere to the following:

a. Requirements:

i. Possess a valid driver's license;

ii. Have a current motor vehicle registration;

iii. Operator is insured against liability and property damage in accordance with Idaho law; and

iv. Park only in assigned spaces.

b. Prohibitions. Nonoperable motor vehicles and motor vehicle repairs are not permitted on the grounds of a Home.

03. Housekeeping.

a. Housekeeping services for nursing care residents shall be provided by the Home.

b. Each residential and domiciliary care resident must adhere to the following requirements (residential care residents may need minimal assistance):

i. Making his bed daily;
ii. Maintaining his room in a neat and orderly manner at all times; and

iii. Assuring that all clothing is appropriately marked, stored and kept clean through proper laundering.

c. All residents are prohibited from:

i. Washing clothes or other articles which present a health or safety hazard in resident rooms or bathrooms;

ii. Using electrical devices, including televisions, radios, recorders, and shavers, until they have been certified by Home maintenance staff as being safe for use;

iii. Entering the kitchen, laundry, shop or mechanical spaces without permission; and

iv. Interfering or tampering with the heating, refrigeration or air conditioning systems, televisions, lighting, appliances, plumbing, or mechanical equipment at the Home without authorization.

04. Personal Conduct. Each resident must adhere to the following:

a. Requirements:

i. Observing cleanliness in person, dress and in living habits;

ii. Bathing or showering frequently;

iii. Observing the smoking policies of a Home; and

iv. Residential and domiciliary care residents must retire to a recreation area or utilize an individual bed light if desiring to read between 10 p.m. and 6:30 a.m. during which time all room overhead lights are turned off.

b. Prohibitions:

i. Creating a disturbance or using intoxicating beverages or nonprescribed controlled substances in the buildings or on the grounds (unless prescribed by a physician);

ii. Marking or writing on the walls of a building, or damaging the grounds or any other property;

iii. Using profanity or exhibiting vulgar behavior in the Home or in any other public place;

iv. Becoming involved in quarrels, persistent dissension or criticism of others;

v. Lending money to, or borrowing money from, another resident or an employee of the Home;

vi. Smoking in an unauthorized area;

vii. Taking food (other than fresh fruit for consumption within a reasonable time period), condiments, dishes or utensils from the dining room;

viii. Cooking or using heating devices in residents' rooms or other unauthorized areas; and

ix. Storing flammable or combustible material including, but not limited to, gasoline, butane, solvents, and acetone on Home grounds.
301. -- 349. (RESERVED)

350. TRANSFER AND DISCHARGE OF RESIDENTS.
A resident can be transferred or discharged, for a period to be determined by the Home Administrator, for the bases set forth in Section 350 of these rules. The Home Administrator will provide notice of transfer or discharge and the opportunity to appeal a transfer or discharge in accordance with Section 980 of these rules.

01. Emergency Discharge or Transfer. Upon determination by the Home Administrator that an emergency exists, a resident may be immediately discharged or transferred.

02. General Discharge or Transfer. If the Home Administrator determines that one (1) or more of the following is present or has occurred, the resident may be discharged or transferred from the Home:

a. Possession of a lethal weapon of any kind by the resident on Division property; possession of wine, beer, or liquor by the resident on Division property; or possession of a controlled substance or medication by the resident, unless prescribed by the resident's physician;

b. Excessive or habitual intoxication;

c. Willfully destroys or wrongfully appropriates state or another person's property;

d. Failure to comply with the rules of this Chapter or a written directive of the Home Administrator or the Division Administrator;

e. Financial conditions set forth in Section 950 of these rules are present;

f. Engages in a pattern of behavior that infringes upon the rights of another person;

g. Unauthorized absences from the Home in excess of those permitted by Section 352 of these rules;

h. Endangers the safety, wellbeing, or health of the resident or other persons or disrupts the peace of the home;

i. The resident is required by law to register as a sex offender. Should it be determined by the Home that it must provide resources in excess of those provided to other residents to ensure the safety of the resident or other persons;

j. The resident does not meet the requirements and limitations set forth in Section 100 of these rules.

03. Discharge or Transfer During Absence. A resident who is absent from the Home may be discharged or transferred due to one (1) or more of the following:

a. The Home will not have the capability or services to provide an appropriate level of care to the resident upon the resident’s return to the Home;

b. The resident has not returned to the Home from an absence prior to the expiration of the bed hold period established by a third party payer paying more than half of the resident’s maintenance charges;

c. The resident ceases to pay the resident’s maintenance charges or a bed hold charge applicable to an absence.

04. Voluntary Transfer or Discharge. A resident may be transferred or discharged at any time upon voluntary consent of the resident.
352. UNAUTHORIZED ABSENCES -- RESIDENTIAL AND DOMICILIARY CARE.

01. Unauthorized Absences Prohibited. For residential and domiciliary care residents, no more than three (3) unauthorized absences may be accumulated in a thirty (30) day period. If more than three (3) unauthorized absences are accumulated, the resident may be discharged for a period of thirty (30) days.

02. Yearly Maximum. The maximum number of unauthorized absences allowable in a one (1) year period is twelve (12). Any resident who exceeds twelve (12) unauthorized absences in one (1) year may be discharged for a period of up to one (1) year.

03. Readmission Requirements. Residents discharged for unauthorized absences must reapply for admission and are subject to the same restrictions and conditions as other applicants.

353. AVAILABLE SERVICES.

01. Residential and Domiciliary Care. The Division will make available the services listed below for residential and domiciliary care residents:
   a. Barber/Beauty Shop.
   b. Chaplain.
   c. Dietary.
   d. Laundry.
   e. Nursing (limited).
   f. Referral.
   g. Social Work.
   h. Therapeutic Recreation.
   i. Limited Transportation.

02. Nursing Care. In addition to the services listed in Subsection 851.01, the Division will make available the services listed below for nursing care residents:
   a. Dental Hygiene.
   b. Lab.
   c. Nursing (Skilled).
   d. Pharmaceutical.
   e. Physical Therapy.
   f. Physician.
   g. Speech Therapy.
880. FINANCIAL CONDITION OF APPLICANTS/RESIDENTS.
Each applicant/resident or his legal representative must submit a signed and dated financial statement to the Home Administrator on which his income and liquid assets from all sources are reported. The statement must also indicate whether the applicant/resident is responsible for the support of any legal dependent who should be considered in fixing the amount of monthly charges. If changes occur in the applicant's/resident's income or liquid assets, it is the applicant's/resident's responsibility to submit an accurate financial statement immediately.

01. Investigation of Financial Condition. The Division is authorized to investigate the financial condition of applicants/residents to determine their ability to pay maintenance charges. An applicant/resident may need to provide a power of attorney or a release of information to the Home Administrator in order to assist in investigating his financial condition and to aid in securing any benefits for which he may be eligible.

02. Retroactive Income. In the event an applicant/resident is awarded retroactive income from any source, he is responsible to report this award to the Home Administrator and to pay his maintenance charge retroactive to the effective date of income.

881. -- 914. (RESERVED)

915. MAINTENANCE CHARGES.
Upon becoming a resident of a Home, each resident is liable for the payment of a maintenance charge as well as expenses for supplies, medication, equipment, and services (other than basic services for the assigned level of care) that are not provided or paid for by VA, Medicaid, Medicare, or other insurance unless otherwise determined by the Home Administrator. Residents living in a Home for any part of a month must pay for each day, based on the actual number of days in the month, at that fraction of their total charge. Refusal or failure to pay the established maintenance charge or related expenses is cause for discharge from the Home.

01. Nursing Care Charges. Charges shall be computed, based on payment source to include VA, Medicaid, Medicare, or full cost of care.

02. Residential and Domiciliary Care Charges. Charges will be computed, based on the following factors:

a. If the resident has an income, those items used to compute the charge will include:

i. Social Security benefits;

ii. Retirement benefits;

iii. Income from annuities;

iv. Insurance benefits;

v. Rental from property;

vi. Farm income;

vii. VA pensions or compensations;

viii. Tax refunds; and

ix. Income from any and all other sources.
b. If the resident is single, incompetent, and has liquid assets in excess of one thousand five hundred dollars ($1,500), he will be assessed the current maximum charge until those assets are reduced to less than one thousand five hundred dollars ($1,500).

c. If the resident is single, competent, and has liquid assets in excess of fifteen hundred dollars ($1,500), he will be assessed the current maximum charge until those assets are reduced to less than fifteen hundred dollars ($1,500).

d. Joint income will be used in computing charges for married persons. If the resident has dependents who rely upon him for financial support, the amount of liquid assets will not be drawn upon after they have declined to a level of five thousand dollars ($5,000).

e. Residential Care. After allowable deductions, a resident will be assessed a fee of seventy-five percent (75%) of the remaining portion of his net monthly income up to the maximum charge. The maximum monthly maintenance charge shall be seventy-five percent (75%) of the current maximum annual rate of VA pension for a single veteran pursuant to Public Law 95 588 divided by twelve (12).

f. Domiciliary Care. After allowable deductions, a resident will be assessed a fee of sixty percent (60%) of the remaining portion of his net monthly income up to the maximum charge. The maximum monthly maintenance charge shall be sixty percent (60%) of the current maximum annual rate of VA pension for a single veteran pursuant to Public Law 95 588 divided by twelve (12).

03. Exclusions from Income or Payment for Residential and Domiciliary Care. The only exclusions in computing monthly charges will be:

a. Those funds which a resident receives from the sale of hobby/craft items constructed and sold as part of a Home occupational therapy program; or

b. Those unusual expenses specified below, which are incurred after the resident's admission to a Home and are approved by the Home Administrator, up to a maximum monthly allowance which is established pursuant to Section 916 of these rules:

i. Prosthetic, orthopedic, and paraplegic appliances;

ii. Sensory aids;

iii. Wheelchairs;

iv. Therapy services;

v. Hospital, medical, surgical expenses and bills for prescription drugs incurred and paid by the individual in the current month and documented by a paid receipt.

c. Reasonable medical insurance premiums, as paid, with documentation of payment. Other insurance premiums are excluded from consideration; or

d. An allowance established pursuant to Section 916 of these rules for retention by a resident for personal needs;

e. That amount necessary for a resident of a Home to contribute to the support of a legal dependent where proof of actual payment is documented. A monthly allowance will be established for a spouse or additional dependents pursuant to Section 916 of these rules. (These allowances take into consideration housing and utility costs.)

04. Income Eligibility Limits.

a. Nursing Care. None.
b. Residential and Domiciliary Care. A resident's total monthly net income, from all sources, may not exceed the current maximum annual rate of VA pension for a single veteran pursuant to Public Law 95-588 divided by twelve (12) unless waived by the Home Administrator in accordance with Subsection 100.08 of these rules.

( )

c. While in residence at a Home, a domiciliary resident may seek outside employment and receive income so that his total monthly net income from all sources will exceed the current maximum annual rate of VA pension for a single veteran pursuant to Public Law 95-588 divided by twelve (12) for a one-month transitional period. At the end of this one-month transitional period, the resident will be discharged.

( )

05. Continued Eligibility.

a. Nursing Care. A resident may continue to be eligible for residency in a Home, regardless of income changes, if the conditions defined in Subsection 100.09 of these rules continue to be met.

( )

b. Residential and Domiciliary Care. If a resident's net monthly income exceeds the income eligibility limit after admission to the Home, the resident may appeal to the Home Administrator for a waiver of the income eligibility limit which may be granted for good cause. Consideration for good cause must include "need for continuing medical care" as documented by a VA Medical Center physician.

( )

06. Payment Schedule. Maintenance charges are due the first of each month and must be paid in full by the resident or guardian on or before the tenth day of the month. Payments may be made either by cash or by check, and a receipt will be issued.

( )

07. Security Deposit. A deposit of one hundred dollars ($100) will be required by domiciliary and residential care residents upon admission to a Home, unless waived by the Home Administrator. This deposit will be held until the resident leaves. Any debts or liabilities on behalf of the resident will be offset against this deposit at that time. After payment of any debts or liabilities, the remaining balance of the deposit will be returned to the outgoing resident.

( )

08. Leave of Absence or Hospitalization. Residents receiving Medicaid, Medicare, or VA per diem will be charged for leave of absence or hospitalization in accordance with Medicaid, Medicare, and VA requirements. The Home will not reduce charges for leave of absence or hospitalization of residents not qualifying for Medicaid, Medicare, or VA payment for such absence and each day will count as if the resident were present at a Home. Unless waived by the Home Administrator or prohibited by law, the Home will charge residents receiving Medicaid, Medicare, or VA per diem the current VA per diem rate for each absent day of a leave of absence or hospitalization in excess of the period eligible for payment by Medicaid, Medicare, or the VA.

( )

09. Medicaid Eligibility. All nursing care residents, including re-admitted residents must either apply for or become eligible for Medicaid benefits, or must pay the maximum monthly charge as it may be established from time to time. Eligibility for Medicaid benefits is determined entirely by the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare and its agents. Residents who cannot, or choose not to, qualify for Medicaid are required to pay for services in full from other than Medicaid funds. Care and services for those residents who are Medicaid eligible will be billed to and paid by Medicaid. Residents eligible for Medicaid will be assessed a fee equal to the resident’s liability as determined by Medicaid.

( )

916. MONTHLY CHARGES AND ALLOWANCES.

01. Nursing Care. Pursuant to Section 66-907, Idaho Code, maximum monthly charges are established by the Division Administrator with the advice of the Commission. A schedule of charges will be available in the business office of each Home. Charges will be reviewed from time to time by the Division Administrator and the Commission.

( )

a. Changes to Charges. Members of the public may comment on proposed changes at meetings of the Commission when changes are considered.

( )
b. Notification and Posting. When changes are made to charges, residents or their families or sponsors will receive written notification and changes will be posted in the business office of each Home a minimum of thirty (30) days prior to the effective date of the change.

02. Residential and Domiciliary Care. Pursuant to Section 66-907, Idaho Code, maximum monthly charges and allowances are established by the Division Administrator with the advice of the Commission. A schedule of charges and allowances will be available in the business office of the Homes. Allowances will be reviewed from time to time by the Division Administrator and the Commission.

a. Changes to Charges and Allowances. Pursuant to Paragraphs 915.02.e. and 915.02.f. of these rules, monthly charges for residential and domiciliary care will be adjusted automatically when a change is made to the current maximum annual rate of VA pension for a single veteran pursuant to Public Law 95-588 divided by twelve (12). Relative to monthly allowances, members of the public may comment on proposed changes at meetings of the Commission when changes are considered.

b. Notification and Posting of Changes to Allowances. When changes are made to allowances, residents or their families or sponsors will receive written notification, and changes will be posted in the business office of the Veterans Homes directly following notification pursuant to Public Law 95-588.

917. -- 949. (RESERVED)

950. FINANCIAL GROUNDS FOR REJECTION OR DISCHARGE.
The following circumstances may be considered as grounds for rejection of an application for residency or for revocation of residency and subsequent discharge. (When an application is rejected or a resident discharged, the applicant/resident will be given notification of intended application rejection or discharge, in accordance with the provisions in Section 982 of these rules.)

01. Disposal of Assets. If the Home Administrator determines that an applicant/resident has disposed of assets following or within sixty (60) months preceding initial application for residency, which would have the effect of reducing his maintenance charge, such action can lead to rejection of the application or discharge from a Home.

02. Failure to Pay Maintenance Charge. Refusal or failure to pay the established maintenance charge can be cause for discharge from a Home. If the resident is so discharged, or leaves a Home voluntarily, the resident will not be eligible for readmission to a Home until all indebtedness to the Home is paid in full, or acceptable arrangements have been made with the Home Administrator for repayment.

03. Failure to Pay for Services.

a. Residents who are excluded from receiving free services from a VA Medical Center may elect to purchase such services through a sharing agreement or contract between a Home and a VA Medical Center or an outside provider when such sharing agreement or contract exists. In those cases where sharing agreement or contract costs are borne by a Home, the resident must reimburse the Home for the costs of services provided.

b. Failure to reimburse a Home or a service provider within ten (10) days after receipt of a bill for services provided under a sharing agreement or contract may result in a resident's discharge from the Home.

951. -- 979. (RESERVED)

980. NOTICE OF RESIDENT TRANSFER OR DISCHARGE AND NOTICE OF DENIAL OF AN APPLICATION FOR RESIDENCY.
The Home Administrator or his designee must notify the applicant or resident of any action to be taken regarding rejection of an application or involuntary transfer or discharge from a Home.

01. Form of Notice.
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**02. Content of Notice of Transfer or Discharge.** The notice must state the following:

| a. | The reason for the impending action and a reference to the pertinent rules under which the action is being brought or decision has been made; |
| b. | The effective date of the action; |
| c. | The location to which the resident is transferred or discharge, which is established for Nursing Care transfers and discharges only; |
| d. | The applicant's or resident's right to request a hearing according to the provisions in Section 982 of these rules; and |
| e. | The procedure for requesting a hearing, as provided in Subsection 982.03 of these rules. |
| f. | The name, address, and telephone number of the State long term care ombudsman; |
| g. | The name, address, and telephone number of the State Disability Rights agency responsible for the protection and advocacy for those residents with developmental disabilities or mental illness. |

**03. Notification Deadlines for Domiciliary Care.** The following notification deadlines are established for Domiciliary Care only:

| a. | Discharge notices must be sent to the resident three (3) days prior to the intended effective date of the action, except under the conditions noted in Subsections 350.01, 350.03 and 350.04 of these rules. |
| b. | Notification of findings of ineligibility for residency will be mailed to the applicant within three (3) working days after receipt of the completed application citing the reasons for rejection. |

**04. Notification Deadlines for Residential Care.** The following notification deadlines are established for Residential Care only:

| a. | Discharge notices must be sent to the resident fifteen (15) days prior to the intended effective date of the action, except under the conditions noted in Subsections 350.01, 350.03 and 350.04 of these rules. |
| b. | Notification of findings of ineligibility for residency will be mailed to the applicant within three (3) working days after receipt of the completed application citing the reasons for rejection. |

**05. Notification Deadlines for Nursing Care.** The following notification deadlines are established for Nursing Care only:

| a. | Notices of general discharge or transfer pursuant to Subsection 350.02 of these rules must be sent to the resident thirty (30) days prior to the intended effective date of the action. |
| b. | Notices of emergency discharge or transfer pursuant to Subsection 350.01 of these rules must be sent to the resident as soon as practical. |
| c. | Notices of discharge or transfer during absence pursuant to Subsection 350.03 of these rules must be sent to the resident within three (3) working days of the Home’s determination to transfer. |
| d. | Notice of discharge for unauthorized absences pursuant to Paragraph 350.02.g. of these rules must be sent to the resident within three (3) days of the last unauthorized absence establishing a basis for discharge. |
e. The Home does not need to provide notice of voluntary transfer or discharge pursuant to Subsection 350.04 of these rules.

f. Notification of the denial of an application for residency will be mailed to the applicant within three (3) working days after receipt of the completed application citing the reasons for rejection.

981. APPEAL PROCEDURE.
Upon notification to a resident of transfer or discharge from a Home by the Home Administrator, the resident may request a hearing in accordance with the provisions in Section 982, “Provisions for Contested Cases,” of these rules. Any additional violation of Home rules by a resident while on notice of transfer or discharge will be treated independent of any pending appeal.

982. PROVISIONS FOR CONTESTED CASES.

01. Inapplicability of Idaho Rules of Administrative Procedure of the Attorney General. All contested cases shall be governed by the provisions of these rules. The Commission and Division Administrator find that the provisions of IDAPA 04.11.01, et seq., “Idaho Rules of Administrative Procedure of the Attorney General,” are inapplicable and inappropriate for contested cases before the Commission, because of the specific and unique requirements of federal and state law regarding notices, hearing processes, procedural requirements, time lines, and other provisions requiring the Division to adopt its own procedures pursuant to Section 67-5206(5)(b), Idaho Code, and hereby affirmatively promulgate and adopt alternative procedures and elect not to be governed by any of the provisions of IDAPA 04.11.01, et seq., “Idaho Rules of Administrative Procedure of the Attorney General.”

02. Hearing Rights. Residents and applicants have the following rights to a hearing:

a. If a resident of a Home is notified of transfer or discharge, the resident will be afforded an opportunity for a hearing. A resident of a Home must attempt to resolve the bases stated on the notice of action through verbal discussions with the Home Administrator or his designee prior to submission of a written request for a hearing. A resident will not be afforded an opportunity for a hearing based upon a voluntary transfer or discharge under Subsection 350.04 of these rules.

b. If an application for residency in a Home is rejected, the applicant may request a hearing.

03. Requesting a Hearing for Nursing Care. A request for a hearing from a nursing care resident for residency in a Home must be submitted to the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, Fair Hearing Office, P.O. Box 83720, Boise, Idaho 83720. Requests for appeal should be received by the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare before thirty (30) days have passed in order to stop the discharge before it occurs.

04. Requesting a Hearing for Residential and Domiciliary Care.

a. A request for a hearing from a resident for residential and domiciliary care residency in a Home must be submitted through the Home Administrator to the Division Administrator for possible resolution or the scheduling of a hearing. A resident's request must contain a description of what effort he has taken to satisfy the requirements of Paragraph 982.02.a. of these rules.

b. A request for a hearing must be in writing and signed by the applicant/resident.

c. A request for a hearing must be submitted within three (3) days of receipt of the written notice of action or denial.

d. Pending a hearing, benefits will be continued or held in abeyance as follows:

i. Benefits for domiciliary care, residential care, and nursing care residents will not be continued when the transfer or discharge is an emergency discharge under Subsection 350.01 of these rules or a discharge for unauthorized absences under Paragraph 350.02.g. of these rules. If the hearing request is made before the effective
date of action and within three (3) days of receipt of the notice, no action will be taken by the Home Administrator on a general discharge under Subsection 350.02 of these rules, except Paragraph 350.02.g., or a transfer under Subsection 350.03 of these rules pending receipt of the final order.

e. The Division Administrator will not accept a request for a hearing from a voluntary transfer or discharge pursuant to Subsection 350.04 of these rules.

983. PREHEARING PROVISIONS FOR RESIDENTIAL AND DOMICILIARY CARE.
The following general provisions are applicable to those phases of all appeals which occur before the hearing is conducted unless precluded by statute or rule.

01. Notice of Hearing. Upon the receipt of a timely request for a hearing, the hearing shall be arranged by the Division Administrator and a notice sent to all parties that includes:

a. A statement of the time, place and nature of the hearing;

b. A statement of the legal authority under which the hearing is to be held;

c. A reference to the particular sections of any statutes and rules involved;

d. A statement of the issues involved;

e. A statement that all documents to be relied upon by the hearing officer to make its order or notice of decision, or otherwise related to the issues involved in the hearing and relied upon by any party, are to be filed with the Division Administrator and that each party must serve its own documents unless otherwise stated by law;

f. A statement that all parties may be represented by counsel; and

g. A statement concerning advance requests for hearing transcripts pursuant to Subsection 983.08 of these rules.

h. The assignment of a hearing officer for the hearing. The Division Administrator may designate the Commission as a hearing officer.

02. Prehearing Conference. The Division Administrator or hearing officer may, upon written or other sufficient notice to all interested parties, hold a prehearing conference for the following purposes:

a. To formulate or simplify the issues;

b. To obtain admissions or stipulations of fact and of documents;

c. To arrange for exchange of proposed exhibits or prepared expert testimony;

d. To limit the number of witnesses;

e. To determine the procedure at the hearing; and

f. To determine any other matters which may expedite the orderly conduct and disposition of the proceeding.

03. Disposition of Case Without a Hearing. Unless precluded by law, disposition without a hearing may be made of any contested case by stipulation, agreed settlement, consent order, motions to dismiss, summary judgment, or default.

04. Withdrawal of Appeal. The initiating party at any time may withdraw from any contested case proceeding upon serving written notice of withdrawal to the Division Administrator.
05. **Withdrawal of Attorney or Representative.** Any attorney or other person representing a party in a contested case proceeding who wants to withdraw from such proceeding must immediately notify, in writing, the Division Administrator, and all involved parties.

06. **Intervention.** Persons, other than the original parties to the proceeding, who are directly and substantially affected by the proceeding, may intervene if they first secure an order from the Division Administrator granting leave to intervene.

   a. **Granting of Leave to Intervene.** The granting of leave to intervene or to otherwise appear in any matter or proceeding shall not be construed to be a finding or determination that such party will or may be a party aggrieved by any ruling, order or decision of the agency for purposes of judicial review or appeal.

   b. **Form and Content of Petitions.** Petitions for leave to intervene must be in writing and must clearly:
      
      i. Identify the proceeding in which it is sought to intervene, setting forth the name and address of the intervenor;
      
      ii. Make a clear and concise statement of the direct and substantial interest of the intervenor in such proceeding and the relationship of the intervenor to the other parties;
      
      iii. State the manner in which such intervenor will be affected by such proceeding, outlining the matters and things relied upon by such intervenor as a basis for his request to intervene in such cause;
      
      iv. If affirmative relief is sought, the petition must contain a clear and concise statement of relief sought and the basis thereof; and
      
      v. A statement as to the nature and quantity of evidence the intervenor will present if such petition is granted.

   c. **Filing of Petitions.** All petitions must be filed with the Division Administrator. Petitions to intervene and proof of service thereof on all other parties of record must be filed within seven (7) days after receiving notice of the proceeding, or if no notice is received, not less than fourteen (14) days prior to the date set for hearing and, if filed thereafter, must state a substantial reason for such delay; otherwise the petition will not be considered.

07. **Hearing Record.** The hearing officer or the Division Administrator will arrange for a record to be made of the hearing. The record must be a verbatim record and it will be recorded by a recording device, unless a party requests a stenographic recording by a certified court reporter, in writing, at least seven (7) days prior to the date of hearing. The record will be transcribed at the expense of the party requesting a transcription, and prepayment or guarantee of payment may be required. Once a transcription is requested, any party may obtain a copy at the party’s own expense. The recorded proceedings will be provided to the Division Administrator for inclusion into the record. The Division will maintain an official record of each contested case for a period of not less than six (6) months after the expiration of the last date for judicial review, unless otherwise provided by law. The record will include all notices of proceedings, pleadings, motions, briefs, petitions and intermediate rulings, evidence received or considered, any oral or written statements allowed by the hearing officer or the Division Administrator, statement of matters officially noticed, offers of proof and objections and rulings thereon, the recording of the proceedings or any transcript of all or part of the proceedings, staff memoranda or data submitted to the hearing officer or the Division Administrator in connection with the proceeding, and any recommended order, preliminary order, final order or order on reconsideration.

08. **Subpoenas.** Where authorized by law, the hearing officer may compel the attendance of specific persons and the production of specific documents, materials, or objects at any hearing by subpoena issued by the Division Administrator.

09. **Stipulations.** The parties to a contested case proceeding may stipulate as to any fact at issue, either
by written stipulation or by oral statement shown upon the record. Any such stipulation is binding upon all parties so stipulating and may be considered by the hearing officer and the Division Administrator. The hearing officer and the Division Administrator may require proof by evidence of any facts stipulated to, notwithstanding the stipulation of the parties.

10. **Rules of Civil Procedure.** As contested case proceedings and hearings are informal, the Idaho Rules of Civil Procedure do not apply. The hearing officer shall provide the procedure at the hearing, as required by the provisions of Section 67-5242(3), Idaho Code.

11. **Discovery.** Prehearing discovery shall be strictly limited to obtaining the names of witnesses and copies of documents the opposing party intends to offer or present at the hearing. The hearing officer may order disclosure of this information if a party refuses to comply after receiving a written request.

12. **Briefing Schedule.** The hearing officer may require briefs and written memoranda to be filed by the parties, and may establish a reasonable briefing schedule.

13. **Informal Disposition.** Unless otherwise prohibited by statute or rule, the hearing officer may decline to initiate a contested case. Informal disposition may be made of any contested case by negotiation, stipulation, agreed settlement or consent order, which informal settlement is encouraged. The parties may stipulate as to the facts, reserving their right to appeal to a court of competent jurisdiction on issues of law. The hearing officer may request such additional information as may be necessary to decide whether to initiate or to decide a contested case. If the hearing officer declines to initiate or decide a contested case, a brief statement of the reasons for that decision will be furnished to all persons or parties involved. This disposition of a contested case by informal disposition is a final agency action pursuant to Section 67-5241, Idaho Code.

984. **HEARING PROVISIONS FOR RESIDENTIAL AND DOMICILIARY CARE.**
The following general provisions are applicable to those phases of all hearings, unless precluded by statute or rule.

01. **Computation of Time.** In computing any period of time relating to a hearing, the first day of the period is not to be included. The last day of the period is to be included unless it is a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, in which case the period runs until 5 p.m. of the next working day, unless otherwise provided by law.

02. **Service of Documents.** Documents concerning hearings must be served as follows:

a. All pleadings, briefs and subsequent papers must be served upon every party of record concurrently with the filing with the Division Administrator.

b. All notices and orders required to be served, other than the initial complaint or petition, must be served in person or by first-class mail.

c. The initial complaint or petition must be served in person or by certified mail.

d. The initial hearing request must be served in person or by certified mail.

d. Service by first-class or certified mail will be deemed complete when the document, properly addressed and stamped, is deposited in the United States mail. The postmark will be the determinant date for all time lines.

e. Proof of service must accompany all documents when they are filed with the Division Administrator.

03. **Hearing Officer Authority.** In the context of each proceeding and unless precluded by law, the hearing officer has the discretion, power and authority to:

a. Determine the order of presentation;
b. Grant or deny petitions for reconsideration;

c. Determine the need, if any, for consolidation;

d. Rule on all evidentiary questions;

e. Rule on motions and objections and dispose of procedural requests;

f. Determine the need for prehearing conferences, recesses, adjournments, hearings on motions and postponements;

g. Administer oaths and affirmations;

h. Examine witnesses;

i. Issue subpoenas or request orders in the form of subpoenas as provided by law;

j. Prescribe general rules of hearing decorum and conduct;

k. Regulate the course of the proceeding;

l. Formulate a reasoned statement in support of the decision. Findings of fact should be set forth in statutory language and be accompanied by a concise and explicit statement of the underlying facts of record supporting the findings.

m. Perform any functions including those set forth in Sections 67-5241 through 67-5251, Idaho Code; and

n. All other functions specifically authorized by statute or rule.

o. The hearing officer shall not have the jurisdiction or authority to invalidate any federal or state statute, rule, or regulation.

04. Ex Parte Consultations. Ex parte communications between the hearing officer and any party to a contested case proceeding are precluded pursuant to Section 67-5253, Idaho Code.

05. Representation by Counsel. Any party in a contested case proceeding may be represented by counsel, at the party's own expense.

06. Open Hearings. All hearings may be open to the public, unless precluded by law. When the Commission is acting as a hearing officer, hearings will be held during regular meetings of the Commission unless otherwise scheduled by the Commission and will be arranged by the Division Administrator.

07. Testimony Under Oath. All testimony to be considered, with the exception of matters officially noticed or entered by stipulation, must be given under oath, as administered by the hearing officer or other authority authorized to administer oaths.

08. Appearance and Representation. Any party to a proceeding may appear and be heard in person or may authorize an attorney to represent the party at the party's own expense. Unless otherwise prohibited by law and with the prior approval of the hearing officer, a party may be assisted, but not represented, by a friend or relative. When a party chooses to appear in person and does not speak or understand the English language, an interpreter shall be allowed to interpret under oath. The interpreter is not allowed to act as a representative of the party and shall act at the party's own expense.

09. Default. If a party fails to appear at a scheduled hearing or at any stage of a contested case without good cause and reasonable notice to the hearing officer and to all other parties, the hearing officer may enter a notice
of proposed default order against the nonappearing party. A default order may be altered or set aside upon petition filed within seven (7) days of service of the order showing sufficient good cause stating the grounds relied on, and providing reasonable notice to all parties.

10. **Order of Presentation and Burden of Proof.** At any contested case hearing, the party having the burden of proof shall be the first to present testimony unless the hearing officer determines otherwise. Unless otherwise determined, in advance, by the hearing officer, the burden of proof shall be preponderance of the evidence.

11. **Evidence.** Pursuant to Section 67-5251, Idaho Code, the hearing shall be informal and technical rules of evidence do not apply, except that irrelevant, immaterial, incompetent, duly repetitious evidence, or evidence excludable on constitutional or statutory grounds protected by the rules of privilege recognized by law may be excluded. Hearsay evidence may be received if it is relevant to or corroborates competent evidence, but shall not be the sole basis for any finding of fact. Any part of the evidence may be received in written form if doing so will expedite the hearing without substantially prejudicing the interest of any party. Documentary evidence may be received in the form of copies or excerpts if the original is not readily available.

12. **Testimony by Telephone or Other Electronic Means.** With the prior approval of the hearing officer, witnesses may testify by telephone or other electronic means, provided the examination and responses are audible to all parties.

13. **Official Notice.**

a. Discretionary Notice. Notice may be taken of judicially cognizable facts by the hearing officer on its own motion or on motion of a party. In addition, notice may be taken of generally recognized technical or scientific facts within the hearing officer’s specialized knowledge. Parties shall be notified either before or during the hearing, or by reference in preliminary reports or otherwise, of the material noticed including any staff memoranda or data, and the parties shall be afforded an opportunity to contest the material so noticed. The hearing officer’s experience, technical competence, and specialized knowledge may be utilized in the evaluation of the evidence.

b. Mandatory Notice. For all hearings, the hearing officer must take official notice of the following materials on its own motion or on the motion of any party. Objections going to such notice must become a part of the record. For the purposes of the hearing, it is established as true without proof that the following are admissible, valid and enforceable:

i. Rules of the Division and other state agencies;

ii. Federal regulations;

iii. The constitution and statutes of the United States and Idaho;

iv. Public records; and

v. Such other materials that a court of law must judicially notice.

14. **Hearing Officer Decision.** The hearing officer will issue a written order as provided in Section 67-5243, Idaho Code.

a. Recommended orders will contain a statement of the schedule for review of that order by the Division Administrator.

b. Preliminary orders will include notice of the right to seek a review of the order by the Division Administrator and a statement that the order will become final without a request for such review. A request for review shall be filed no later than fourteen (14) days following the issuance of the preliminary order, unless a request for reconsideration by the hearing officer is filed prior to the expiration of such fourteen (14) day period. If a petition for reconsideration is made, a request shall be filed within fourteen (14) days of the hearing officer’s order disposing of the petition or the deemed denial of the petition pursuant to Section 67-5243, Idaho Code.
c. A party may file a motion for reconsideration with the hearing officer no later than fourteen (14) days following the issuance of the preliminary order or the recommended order. ( )

15. **Contents of the Record.** Pursuant to Section 67-5249(2), Idaho Code, the record in a contested case proceeding will be kept by the Division Administrator, on behalf of the hearing officer, and must include the following: ( )

a. All notices, pleadings, motions and rulings; ( )

b. All evidence received or considered; ( )

c. A statement of all matters officially noticed; ( )

d. A record of testimony and offers of proof, objections and rulings thereon; ( )

e. A record of proposed findings and exceptions; ( )

f. Any decision, opinion, or report by the Commission; ( )

g. All staff memoranda or data submitted to the Commission in connection with consideration of the case; ( )

h. All briefs or memoranda submitted by any party; and ( )

i. Any recommended order, preliminary order, final order, or order on reconsideration. ( )

16. **Review by the Division Administrator and Issuance of the Final Order.** Following the issuance of an order by the hearing officer, the Division Administrator will: ( )

a. Review recommended orders as provided in Section 67-5244, Idaho Code; ( )

b. Review preliminary orders upon the appeal of a party or upon the Division Administrator’s own motion as provided in Section 67-5245, Idaho Code; and ( )

c. Issue a final order as provided in Section 67-5246, Idaho Code. ( )

17. **Judicial Review.** In accordance with Section 67-5271, Idaho Code, a party which has exhausted all administrative remedies available within the Division may seek judicial review. Proceedings for judicial review shall be instituted in accordance with Sections 67-5270 and 67-5273, Idaho Code. ( )

985. **POST HEARING PROVISIONS FOR RESIDENTIAL AND DOMICILIARY CARE.**
The following provisions are applicable to those phases of all contested case proceedings which occur after the hearing has been conducted: ( )

01. **Service of Decisions and Orders.** Decisions and orders are deemed to have been served when copies thereof are mailed to all parties of record or their attorneys by the Division Administrator. ( )

02. **No Motions for Reconsideration.** Unless otherwise provided by law or these rules, motions for reconsideration shall not be permitted. ( )

03. **Public Inspection.** All final decisions and orders of the Commission must be maintained by the Division Administrator and made available for public inspection after service on the parties. ( )

04. **Effect of Petition for Judicial Review.** The filing of a petition for judicial review shall not stay compliance with the decision and order or suspend the effectiveness of the decision and order, unless otherwise ordered or mandated by law. ( )
986. -- 999.  (RESERVED)
000. LEGAL AUTHORITY.
The Idaho Legislature has given the Administrator of the Division of Veterans Services the authority to promulgate rules governing the Idaho State Veterans Cemetery pursuant to Section 65-202, Idaho Code.

001. SCOPE.
These rules contain provisions for eligibility for interment at Idaho State Veterans Cemeteries and the provisions for operation and maintenance of Idaho State Veterans Cemeteries.

002. INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE.

01. Incorporated Documents. These rules incorporate by reference the following:
   c. 38 CFR 39.5(d), dated July 1, 2008.


003. -- 009. (RESERVED)

010. DEFINITIONS.

01. Administrator. The Administrator of the Idaho Division of Veterans Services or his designee.
02. Applicant. The individual requesting interment, disinterment or reinterment of a qualified person.
03. Armed Forces Member. A member or former member of the armed forces of the United States, the reserve component of the armed forces of the United States, the reserve officers training corps of the United States, or the armed forces of an ally of the United States who is eligible for burial in national cemeteries pursuant to 38 CFR 38.620 and 38 U.S.C. Section 2402.
05. Committal Service. A gathering of one (1) or more individuals prior to interment or reinterment.
06. Cremains. Cremated human remains.
07. Designated Interpretive Trail. A public recreational trail designated by a sign or marker.
08. Disinterment. The removal of human remains from their place of interment.
09. Division. The Idaho Division of Veterans Services.
10. Interment. The disposition of human remains by burial or the placement of cremains in a grave plot or in any location designated by the Administrator for use as a permanent location of cremains.
11. Qualified Person. A person who satisfies the requirements for eligibility for interment in national cemeteries found at 38 CFR 38.620 and 38 U.S.C. Section 2402 and is not prohibited from being interred by 38 CFR 39.10(b).
12. Reinterment. The interment of previously interred human remains.
13. Unremarried Spouse. An individual who is the surviving spouse of a deceased armed forces
020. ELIGIBILITY FOR INTERMENT.

01. Eligibility. A qualified person is eligible for interment at the cemetery. An individual who is a qualified person based upon a relationship to an armed forces member is eligible for interment at the cemetery if the armed forces member is pre-registered for interment at the cemetery or is interred at the cemetery.

02. Requirements.

a. Proof of qualification as an Armed Forces Member as evidenced by:
   i. A valid discharge from the armed forces of the United States in the name of the individual indicating that the character of discharge was other than dishonorable;
   ii. A copy of a Reserve Retirement Eligibility Benefits Letter in the name of the individual;
   iii. A valid certificate of naturalization or a valid United States passport in the name of the individual and a valid discharge in the name of the individual from the armed forces of an ally of the United States in a war during which the individual served indicating that the character of discharge was other than dishonorable;
   iv. Any other evidence satisfactory to the Administrator.

b. Proof of qualification for relatives of an Armed Forces Member as evidenced by the documentation necessary for an Armed Forces Member and the following:
   i. For a parent of the individual, a valid birth or adoption record identifying such parent, and proof of the individual’s birth date; or
   ii. For the spouse of the individual, a valid record of marriage between the individual and the armed forces member, and a certification that the individual was an unremarried spouse at the time of death, if the armed forces member predeceased the individual; or
   iii. Any other evidence satisfactory to the Administrator.

03. Burden of Proof. The burden of proof in establishing eligibility for interment or reinterment in the cemetery is on the applicant.

04. Application. Applications must be submitted on a form prescribed by the Administrator by a qualified person or their legal representative, the Administrator of their estate, or the personal representative or a relative of a deceased person.

021. (RESERVED)

022. INTERMENT AND REINTERMENT.

01. Remains. Remains shall be delivered to the cemetery in a casket or, if cremated, in a recoverable container. The container for cremains designated by the applicant for interment in a location other than a grave plot shall not exceed nine (9) inches in width, thirteen (13) inches in height, and nine (9) inches in depth.

02. Committal Services. The cemetery will provide a designated non-gravesite location for committal services. The cemetery will not provide facilities for viewing of remains. The arrangements for and any expenses associated with committal services are the responsibility of the applicant.
023. DISINTERMENT AND REINTERMENT.

01. Disinterment. The Administrator may approve an application for disinterment where the applicant for interment, the surviving unremarried spouse, if any, and the children of the interred person, or the legal representatives of any of the foregoing persons, complete and sign an application form prescribed by the Administrator and submit proof of applicable governmental approval of the disinterment, transporting, and reinterment of the remains. The Administrator shall approve an application for disinterment accompanied by the order of a court of competent jurisdiction.

02. Reinterment.

   a. Who May Be Reinterred. The Administrator may approve an application for reinterment of remains in the cemetery where the remains are of a qualified person and the applicant for interment desires that the remains be interred with remains interred in the cemetery or with the remains of a qualified person pre-registered for interment in the cemetery.

   b. Application and Proof of Eligibility. The applicant for reinterment shall complete an application form prescribed by the Administrator and submit proof of the eligibility of the qualified person and proof of applicable governmental approval of the disinterment, transporting, and reinterment of the remains. If the application seeks reinterment of the remains of a qualified person, the applicant shall identify the qualified person with whom the reinterred remains will be interred.

024. FEES FOR INTERMENT, DISINTERMENT, REINTERMENT, AND MEMORIAL.
The Administrator shall charge the following fees:

01. Interment.

   a. A fee equal to the then current USDVA reimbursement for opening and closing an interment site containing a pre-placed crypt. The Administrator will accept, as full payment the amount of reimbursement by the USDVA to the Division for opening and closing an interment site containing a pre-placed crypt for a qualified veteran.

   b. In addition to the fee charged under Paragraph 024.01.a. of this rule, the Administrator shall charge a fee of seven hundred dollars ($700) for preparation of an interment site not containing a pre-placed crypt.

02. Disinterment. A fee equal to the then current USDVA reimbursement for opening and closing an interment site. The expenses of removal, transportation and reinterment of remains, and the expenses of removal, transportation and reinstallation of the grave marker, if any, shall be paid by the applicant for disinterment.

03. Reinterment. A fee equal to the then current USDVA reimbursement for opening and closing an interment site for reinterment. The expenses of reinterment of remains and reinstallation of the grave marker, if any, shall be paid by the applicant for reinterment.

04. Memorial Marker. A fee of two hundred dollars ($200) to order, install, and provide perpetual care of a furnished flush granite marker to commemorate an eligible deceased Veteran whose remains have not been recovered or identified, were buried at sea, donated to science, or cremated and the remains scattered.

025. -- 029. (RESERVED)

030. CEMETERY USE.

01. Public Use. The cemetery will be open to public access from 8 a.m. to sunset daily. The Administrator may close the cemetery at 6 p.m. when a public fireworks display is planned.

02. Interment Schedule. Cemetery staff will schedule interments to ensure that cemetery staff complete their duties between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Cemetery staff will not schedule interments on
Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays without the prior approval of the Administrator.

03. **Public Behavior.** The Administrator may adopt and enforce policies regarding public behavior in the cemetery, including but not limited to preservation of property, recreation, ceremonies and gatherings, animals, motor vehicles, alcohol, and photography.

031. -- 039. (RESERVED)

040. **MEMORIALS AND DONATIONS.**

01. **Flowers and Grave Decorations.** The Administrator will post the requirements for natural and artificial flowers and other grave decorations in the cemetery. Cemetery personnel may remove and discard grave decorations that fail to comply with the posted requirements or that are faded, wilted, tattered or worn.

02. **Plaques, Statues, and Other Memorials.** The Administrator may approve plaques, statues, and other memorials to commemorate events, units, individuals, groups, and organizations. Persons wishing to install such memorials at their own cost may submit an application on a form prescribed by the Administrator. Memorials approved by the Administrator are considered donations to the cemetery.

03. **Grave Markers.** Grave markers issued by the USDVA are approved as follows:


b. Interments in an area reserved for the interment of cremains in the soil – Flush granite markers.

04. **Donations and Gifts.** The Administrator may accept gifts and donations to the Veterans Cemetery Maintenance Fund established pursuant to Section 65-107, Idaho Code.

041. -- 999. (RESERVED)
Section 67-5223(3), Idaho Code, requires the preparation of an economic impact statement for all proposed rules imposing or increasing fees or charges. This cost/benefit analysis, which must be filed with the proposed rule, must include the reasonably estimated costs to the agency to implement the rule and the reasonably estimated costs to be borne by citizens, or the private sector, or both.

Department or Agency: Idaho Division of Veterans Services

Agency Contact: Kevin Wallior Phone: 208-780-1308

Date: 09/08/2021

IDAPA, Chapter and Title Number and Chapter Name:

IDAPA 21, 21.01.04, Rules Governing Idaho State Veterans Cemeteries

Fee Rule Status: X Proposed _____ Temporary

Rulemaking Docket Number: 21-0000-2100F

STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC IMPACT:

STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC IMPACT: These fee changes are needed to preserve a cash positive position in order to maintain the operational budget of the State Veterans Cemeteries. The impetus for these fee changes is the incremental increase of materials and labor costs associated with placing crypts. Pursuant to the authority provided in Section 65-202, Idaho Code, the Administrator is proposing a fee increase of $200 to $700 for preparation of an interment site not containing a pre-placed crypt. This fee was set at $300 in 2005 and increased to $500 five years later in 2010. IDVS is also proposing a fee of $200 to order, install, and provide perpetual care of a furnished flush granite marker to commemorate an eligible deceased Veteran whose remains have not been recovered or identified, were buried at sea, donated to science, or cremated and the remains scattered.