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## DRC Comment Policy

(Adopted by the Dispute Resolution Commission on May 16, 2014 ; revised May 12, 2017.)

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There shall be a thirty day comment period (the “Comment Period”) for proposed program rules and rule changes, amendments to the Standards of Professional Conduct for Mediators (the “Standards”), proposed advisory opinions, and Commission policies (the “Proposal”). Comments shall be invited by the Dispute Resolution Commission (the “Commission”) upon approval by the Commission of the Proposal. The Commission’s chair may determine that a Proposal with minor proposed changes not substantive in nature need not be posted for comment under this Policy.

The Comment Period shall begin with the posting of the Proposal on the Commission website and shall end no less than thirty days thereafter; Commission staff shall post the Proposal as soon as possible after the vote by the Commission, and the posting on the website shall state the date on which the Comment Period will end. Commission staff shall also send the Proposal by electronic mail to all certified mediators and all judges who will be affected by the rule, rule change, Standard, or advisory opinion, or Commission policy along with instructions for making written comments. All comments received during the Comment Period shall be forwarded to the committee charged by the Chair of the Commission to review them.

The Commission shall adopt the Proposal only upon a favorable majority vote after review of any comments received during the Comment Period and the committee’s recommendations.