

AGENCY GUIDE

RULES COORDINATORS



RHODE ISLAND RULES AND REGULATIONS

What is the Rhode Island Code of Regulations?

The Rhode Island Code of Regulations (RICR) is the official publication of the rules promulgated by State agencies, boards, and commissions. The RICR is a uniform code that provides access to all Proposed and Final Regulations filed under the Administrative Procedures Act.

The Department of State's Administrative Records Office (ARO) manages the RICR, which is updated daily and available to the public online.

What is the Administrative Records Office?

The ARO manages the process of regulations filed by State agencies with the Department of State to make government more transparent, accessible, and efficient.

What is the Administrative Procedures Act?

[R.I. Gen. Laws Chapter 42-35](#), Administrative Procedures Act, governs the way Rhode Island State agencies, boards, and commissions may propose and promulgate rules.

What are an agency's responsibilities?

All agency responsibilities regarding rules and regulations can be found in the Administrative Procedures Act ([R.I. Gen. Laws Chapter 42-35](#)).

What do the OMB and the ARO review?

The [Office of Management and Budget](#) (OMB) facilitates the creation and refinement of regulations through a content review process to ensure a clear, predictable, and reliable regulatory system ([EO 15-07](#)).

The ARO facilitates a formatting review process for standardization and display in the RICR ([R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-4\(a\)](#)).

What is "Content"?

"Content" means any text or graphics of the rulemaking records that impacts the meaning and/or intent.

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1 | ADMINISTRATIVE RECORDS

1.1 History of Rhode Island Regulations

Date	Event
1956	<p>Administrative Procedures Act (APA) Adopted For rules previously in effect, and going forward for Final Regulations, to be filed with the Department of State (DOS) and enacted on 01/01/1964.</p>
2000	<p>Rhode Island Small Business Regulatory Flexibility Act Adopted Small business regulatory review board established to consider requests from small business owners to review rules adopted by state agencies.</p>
2001	<p>Launch of 1st Online Regulation Database While paper regulations are still the official copy, the online database makes regulations available for public accessibility and reference only.</p>
2004	<p>APA Amended Regulations are now to be reviewed by the Governor’s Office and Economic Development Corporation (EDC) for small business impact before filing.</p>
2010	<p>Office of Regulatory Reform (ORR) Established (Executive Order 10-13) ORR established within the EDC to improve regulatory process.</p>
2012	<p>ORR Moved to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB)</p>
2015	<p>ORR Review (Executive Order 15-07) Requires most Executive departments, boards, and commissions with rulemaking authority to have rules reviewed by ORR before and after public comment.</p>
2016	<p>APA Amended Rewritten, based on Uniform APA, to revise the rulemaking process.</p>
August 2018	<p>Launch of Rhode Island Code of Regulations (RICR) Administrative Records Office (ARO) reviews rules for formatting compliance, maintains final rulemaking record copies and official copies of regulations, and maintains the online system to file and display regulations for public accessibility. <i>Prior to this time, only agencies were responsible for maintaining all rulemaking records. Now, both the agency and the ARO maintain all rulemaking records.</i></p>
2020	<p>Emergency Rules Extended (Executive Order 20-72) Temporarily suspended a section of the APA allowing only one 60-day extension to allow for multiple extensions, if need be, due to the COVID-19 emergency.</p>

1.2 Administrative Records Definitions

For the purpose of this Guide, the following terms are defined as follows:

“Advance” means the step in the filing process in the RICR Filing System to move the rule one step forward.

“Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking” means the process of when an agency may collect relevant information to a potential rule and may solicit comments and recommendations from the public ([R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.5](#) and [§ 3.3.4 of this Guide](#)).

“Agency Head” means the individual who has ultimate legal authority of an agency ([R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-1\(3\)](#)), is an RICR Filing System user, and may sign rules into effect ([§ 6.1.1 of this Guide](#)).

“Agency” means “a state agency, authority, board, bureau, commission, department, district, division, institution, office, officer, quasi-public agency, or other political subdivisions created by the general assembly or the governor, other than the legislature or the judiciary, that is authorized by law of this state to make rules” ([R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-1\(1\)](#)).

“Declaratory Order” means a document issued by an agency that states whether a statute or regulation applies to the person or entity petitioning the agency for that decision. ([R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-8](#)).

“Effective Date” means the exact date a promulgation goes into effect.

“Filer” means a person approved by an agency to participate in the rulemaking process to file regulations for that agency and is an RICR Filing System user ([§ 6.1.3 of this Guide](#)).

“Filing Date” means the exact date a promulgation is filed with the Department of State.

“Guidance Document” means “a record of general applicability developed by an agency which lacks the force of law but states the agency’s current approach to, or interpretation of, law or describes how and when the agency will exercise discretionary functions” ([R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-1\(9\)](#)).

“Notice of Proposed Rulemaking” means a document published in the RICR for notification to interested parties of a Proposed Rule. The notice must contain the

items described in [R.I. Gen. Laws 42-35-2.7](#).

“Promulgate” means “the process of writing a new rule, or amending or repealing an existing rule”, beginning “with filing the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking...and ending upon the Effective Date of the rule” ([R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-1\(16\)](#)).

“Promulgation,” with respect to a rule filed in the RICR Filing System, means the specific Adoption, Amendment, or Repeal that is being promulgated.

“Promulgation ID” means the distinctive identification number a promulgation is assigned by the RICR Filing System that is used by the Department of State to identify rules.

“Public Comment Period” means a period of time after the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking is published in the RICR during which a person may submit comments on the Proposed Rule.

“Public Hearing” or **“Hearing”** means a meeting regarding a proposed rule which is open to the public, during which members of the public are invited to give testimony or otherwise submit comments on the Proposed Rule. The hearing is recorded and kept as part of the Rulemaking Record for that rule. A hearing may not be scheduled earlier than ten (10) days after the Notice of Proposing Rulemaking is published in the RICR or later than five (5) days prior to the end of the Public Comment Period.

“Rhode Island Code of Regulations” or **“RICR”** (*pronounced are-aye-see-ARE*) means the official publication of Rhode Island Regulations promulgated by agencies that is managed by the Department of State’s Administrative Records Office, which is updated daily and available to the public on the Department of State’s [website](#).

“RICR citation” means the unique number assigned to a rule that includes the Title, Chapter, Subchapter, and Part numbers ([§ 2.3 of this Guide](#)) that is used by agencies and the public to identify rules.

“RICR Filing System” or **“RICR System”** means the [online filing system](#) that allows agencies to file regulations directly with the Department of State.

“Rule” or **“Regulation”** means “the whole or a part of an agency statement of general applicability that implements, interprets, or prescribes law or policy or the organization, procedure, or practice requirements of an agency and has the force of law” ([R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-1\(19\)](#)). “Regulation” has the same meaning and is used interchangeably. Rules may be described by the status in which they are in, including the following:

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“Active Rule” means a rule that was promulgated in accordance with the APA and is currently in effect and enforceable by the agency.

“Final Rule” means a rule that was promulgated in accordance with the APA and currently is, or was at one time, in effect and enforceable by the agency.

“Inactive Rule” means a rule that was previously promulgated in accordance with the APA and in effect that is no longer in effect and enforceable by the agency.

“Proposed Rule” means a rule that is in the promulgation process that has not yet gone into effect to become a Final Rule.

“Terminated Rule” means a Proposed Rule that was in the promulgation process but was discontinued by the agency before going into effect.

“Rules Coordinator” means the designated individual at an agency who has knowledge of all Proposed Rules, maintains rulemaking records for the agency as required in [R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.3](#), responds to public inquiries regarding all agency rules ([R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.1](#)), and is an RICR Filing System user ([§ 6.1 of this Guide](#)).

“Rulemaking” means the promulgation process based on the action and type:

“Rulemaking Action” means the kind of rulemaking, either Proposed Regular, Proposed Direct Final, Emergency, Advance Notice, or APA Exempted ([§ 3.2 of this Guide](#)).

“Rulemaking Type” means the category of rulemaking, either an Adoption, Amendment, Repeal, Technical Revision, or Periodic Refile ([§ 3.1 of this Guide](#)).

“Rulemaking Agenda” means the record an agency must maintain for proposed rules, which is also available in the RICR for each agency ([§ 2.6.3 of this Guide](#)), that states or contains the items described in [R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-5.1](#).

“Rulemaking Record” means the group of records agencies are required to maintain for each rule, which must contain the records described in [R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.3](#).

“Terminate” or **“Termination”** means the irreversible process of ending a rule in the middle of the promulgation process before an Effective Date is set, which stops the Proposed Rule from displaying in the RICR (if it had already gone into the Public Comment Period), removes the rule from the RICR user’s Work Queue, and if the rule

was an Adoption it prevents that Part number from being used again.

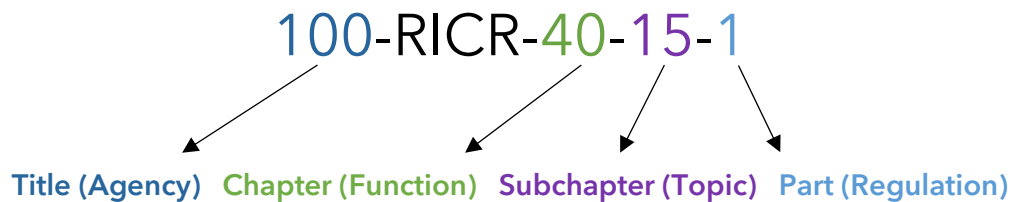
“User” means a person with login credentials to the RICR Filing System, either a Filer, Rules Coordinator, or Agency Head.

2 | RHODE ISLAND CODE OF REGULATIONS

2.1 About the RICR

The Rhode Island Code of Regulations (RICR) is the official publication of rules promulgated by State agencies, boards, and commissions. The Department of State’s Administrative Records Office (ARO) manages the RICR, which is updated daily and available online at <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/organizations>.

Each rule published in the RICR is given a unique citation (XXX-RICR-XX-XX-X) which includes numbers for the Title, Chapter, Subchapter, and Part:



To view the additional information regarding the rulemaking process, definitions for the RICR, and FAQs, visit: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/organizations/help>.

2.2 The Rulemaking Process

2.2.1 Beginnings of a Rule

An agency may only publish a rule for which it has statutory authority. Each Notice of Proposed Rulemaking must include the legal citation that authorizes the rule.

An agency may choose to employ an optional step in the rulemaking process for an Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking ([R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.5](#)). This allows an agency to gather information related to the potential Rulemaking Action by soliciting comments and recommendations from the public before publishing the Proposed Rule and Notice of Proposed Rulemaking.

[Executive Order 15-07](#) requires most executive branch agencies to engage in the Office of Management and Budget’s review process prior to filing regulations.

2.2.2 Preliminary Evaluations and Analysis

Before the rulemaking process begins, an agency must evaluate all alternative approaches, overlap or duplication with other statutes and rules and whether the Rule will have significant economic impact on small business.

2.2.3 Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

After an agency researches the issues and determines whether a new rule is necessary, it often proposes the new language along with a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking. These notices are published in the RICR, are readily available to the public, and contains details about the Proposed Rule including the Rule’s purpose, its statutory authority, and how the public can submit a comment or get further information about the Proposed Rule from the agency, available in the Rulemaking Documents tab of the RICR website ([§ 2.5.5 of this Guide](#)).

2.2.4 Public Comment Period

For most rulemaking actions, agencies must accept comments from the public about the Proposed Rule. Agencies may choose to do so directly through the RICR, or by mail, fax, or email. If a Public Hearing is scheduled, the public can also submit comments via testimony at a Public Hearing. For most Rulemaking Actions, an agency must allow a minimum of thirty (30) days for public comment.

2.2.5 Public Hearing

An agency may schedule one (1) or more Public Hearings on the Proposed Rule. The date, time, and location of any scheduled hearing must be listed in the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking. The Public Hearing must be scheduled at least ten (10) days from the date the Notice is published and at least five (5) days before the Public Comment Period ends. An agency must also schedule a Public Hearing if the hearing is requested by twenty-five (25) people or by an organization with at least twenty-five (25) members ([R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.8](#)).

2.2.6 End of Public Comment Period

Once the Public Comment Period ends, the agency must review all comments received and evaluate whether to make logical changes to the rule based on those comments. The agency must also prepare a Concise Explanatory Statement including its reasons for not incorporating changes suggested by the public, if necessary, and a description of any changes made between the text of the Proposed Rule and the Final Rule to be filed with the DOS.

2.2.7 Final Rule Filing

The Final Rule must be filed no later than one hundred eighty (180) days after the end of the Public Comment Period in the RICR Filing System or the rule will be automatically terminated by the RICR System at that time ([R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-4\(c\)](#)). The Final Rule and its associated documents in the Rulemaking Record must be filed with the DOS for publication in the RICR to become effective ([R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.3](#)).

2.2.8 Emergency Rulemaking

According to [R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.10](#), “if an agency finds that an imminent peril to the public health, safety, or welfare or the loss of federal funding for an agency program requires the immediate promulgation of an emergency rule...” the agency may proceed with the Rulemaking Action without a Public Comment Period or Public Hearing. Emergency Rules come into effect once they are signed by the Agency Head and the Governor or the Governor’s designee. These rules are effective for up to one hundred twenty (120) days and may be extended once for an additional sixty (60) days.

2.3 RICR Classification System

The Rhode Island Code of Regulations (RICR) is a classification system that orders regulations by agency. Each agency is organized by its Title, then further organized into Chapters, Subchapters, and Parts, with each Part organized by Sections. All number representations for Titles, Chapters, Subchapters, or Parts must be whole numbers (decimal points are not permitted).

All rules are assigned an RICR citation using the Title, Chapter, Subchapter, and Part numbers. Sections may be cited after the Part number. For additional information, see [§ 5.2.1.3 of this Guide](#).

2.3.1 Title

A Title is the entity name, represented by a three-digit number for agencies with specific rulemaking authority granted by R.I. Gen. Laws.

The numbering scheme begins with 100 and increases by multiples of 2, 5, or 10, based on the entity type and its relationship to other entities in the RICR. The three-digit indicator allows for growth over time, including the placement of new agencies near related agencies (e.g., Title 210 has sub-agencies represented by 212, 214, etc.).

100-RICR-40-15-1
↑

2.3.2 Chapter

A Chapter is a core function of the agency, which is represented by a two- or three-digit number.

Agencies can distinguish between functions by assigning a Chapter number using a skip ten (10) method (e.g., 10, 20, 30..., 110, etc.). This skip method allows room to insert new functions near related functions in the future. *Agencies may use "00" and "N/A" as the Chapter name if there is no need to differentiate a topic.*

100-RICR-40-15-1
↑

2.3.3 Subchapter

A Subchapter is a topic area within the core function of the agency, which is represented by a two- or three-digit number.

Agencies can distinguish between topics by assigning a Subchapter number using a skip five (5) method (e.g., 05, 10, 15, etc.). Agencies may use “00” and “N/A” as the Subchapter name if there is no need to differentiate a topic.

100-RICR-40-15-1
↑

2.3.4 Part

A Part is the individual rule regulating a specific topic, which is represented by a one-, two-, or three-digit number.

Agencies can distinguish between specific topics by assigning a Part number using a skip one (1) method without a leading zero (e.g., 1, 2, 3, etc., not 01, 02, 03, etc.).

Parts cannot be renumbered to accommodate repealed Rules, nor can Part numbers be reused if terminated before becoming effective. Once a Part number is used, it is in the RICR Filing System database and part of the permanent rulemaking records.

100-RICR-40-15-1
↑

2.3.5 Section

Sections are the individual headings that make up a Part (rule), divided into six (6) levels, including four (4) paragraph levels:

1. **RICR Heading 1** (ex., #.1, #.2, #.3, etc.)
2. **RICR Subheading/Subchapter** (ex., #.#.1, #.#.2, #.#.3, etc.)
3. **RICR Paragraph 1** (ex., A., B., C., etc.)
4. **RICR Paragraph 2** (ex., 1., 2., 3., etc.)

AGENCY GUIDE: RULES COORDINATORS

5. **RICR Paragraph 3** (ex., a., b., c., etc.)


6. **RICR Paragraph 4** (ex., (1), (2), (3), etc.)

Agencies should make every attempt to limit the number of section levels to no more than four (4) paragraph levels to reduce regulatory volume while maintaining readability. In the rare case where additional levels are required, there are two (2) additional paragraph levels available:

7. **RICR Paragraph 5** (ex., (A), (B), (C), etc.)

8. **RICR Paragraph 6** (ex., (i), (ii), (iii), etc.)

100-RICR-40-15-1.2(B)(3)(e)(2)(A)(ii)



2.4 Locating Regulations

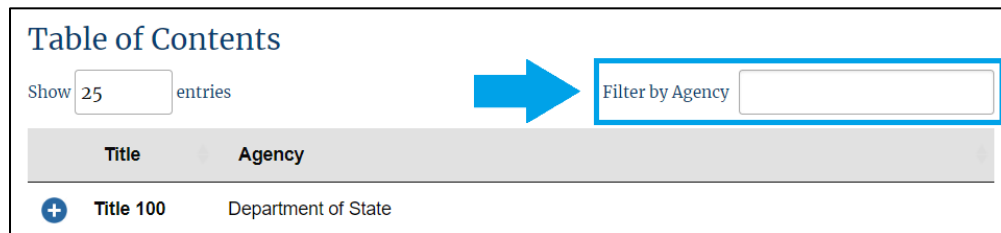
For regulations filed since 2001, there are two (2) ways to find them in the RICR:

1. Browse an agency's rules by exploring the Parts listed within their Title's Chapters and Subchapters in the [RICR Table of Contents](#); or
2. Use the [search feature](#) to search a specific keyword or RICR citation.

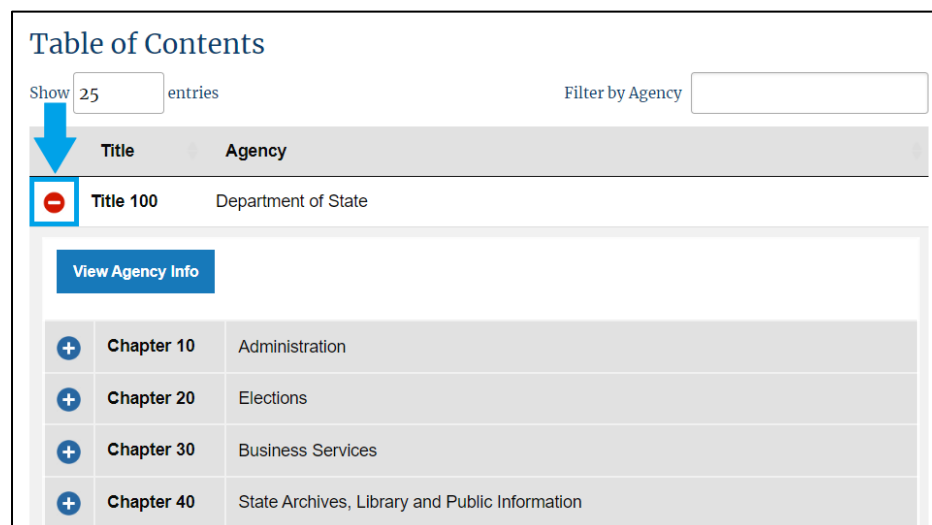
2.4.1 RICR Table of Contents (2001-Current)

To browse a specific agency's rules:

1. Go to: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/Organizations>.
2. Locate the Title of the agency of interest either by scrolling through the agency or using the **Filter by Agency** search box:



3. Click the plus (+) button to toggle open the agency's Title to view the Chapters (click the minus (-) button to toggle the Title closed again):



- Continue to toggle open the associated Chapter and Subchapter, and click on the Part to view the Regulation:

The screenshot shows a web interface for the Department of State. At the top, there is a red minus icon and the text 'Title 100 Department of State'. Below this is a blue button labeled 'View Agency Info'. A navigation tree is displayed with a red minus icon on the left of each level: 'Chapter 10 Administration', 'Subchapter 00 N/A', and a list of parts. The first part, 'Part 1 Access to Public Records (100-RICR-10-00-1)', is highlighted with a blue border. Other parts listed are 'Part 2 Declaratory Order Petitions (100-RICR-10-00-2)', 'Part 3 Petition for Promulgation of a Rule (100-RICR-10-00-3)', and 'Part 4 Conduct of Public Hearings (100-RICR-10-00-4)'.

2.4.2 RICR Search (2001-Current)

There are multiple ways to find RICR rules using the search feature. To search, go to <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/Organizations> and navigate to the **Search Regulations** box:

The screenshot shows the 'Welcome to the Rhode Island Code of Regulations' page. On the right side, there is a blue button labeled 'RICR FAQs' and a search box titled 'Search Regulations'. The search box contains a question mark icon, a 'Keywords' input field with the text 'ex. fish, 120-RICR-00-00-1234', an 'Exact Match' checkbox, an 'Agencies' dropdown menu with 'Select an agency', a 'Sort by' dropdown menu with 'Relevance', and an 'In Order of' dropdown menu with 'Descending'. A blue 'Search' button is located below the search box. At the bottom right, there is a blue button labeled 'Subscribe for Notifications'. On the left side, there is a 'Table of Contents' section with a 'Show 25 entries' dropdown and a 'Filter by Agency' input field. A blue arrow points from the 'Table of Contents' section towards the search box.

AGENCY GUIDE: RULES COORDINATORS

1. **If you know the unique RICR citation for the rule:**
Type the full citation (with "RICR" in all capital letters) and click **Search** to view the currently active version of that Part.
2. **If you do not know the RICR citation, but know the name of the rule:**
Type in keywords and click **Search** to view a list of related regulations.
3. **To view all rules for a specific agency:**
Select the agency from the dropdown, type in keywords if known and/or click **Search** to view all related regulations with that specific agency.
4. **To view all RICR rules:**
Do not type any text or select an agency, just click **Search** with empty fields.

When viewing the **Search Results**, to further narrow down the list of regulations, click to sort between **Active** (*all Rulemaking Actions and Types, § 3 of this Guide*), **Emergency**, **Proposed**, and **Inactive**:

Search Results

Active
Emergency
Proposed
Inactive

Home
RICR FAQs

Displaying 1 - 10 of 1122

Access to Public Records (100-RICR-10-00-1)

100 -RICR- 10 - 00 - 1 | Type of filing: Refile Capabilities

ACTIVE RULE

Title: **Department of State** | Chapter: **Administration** | Subchapter: **N/A**

Effective: 01/04/2022 to Current

[View Details](#) |
 [View Regulation](#) |
 [Additional Information](#)

Search Regulations ?

Keywords

ex. fish, 120 - RICR - 00 - 00 - 12345

Exact Match

Agencies

Select an agency ▼

NOTE: The search function will not recognize two different keywords at once (i.e., "fishing and hunting" will not search simultaneously for results containing both of those terms).

Additionally, the search will scan the entire text of all rules and weight the results first by rules that contain the keyword in the Part name, then by rules which contain the keyword in the full text of the Part.

2.4.3 Historic Regulations (1950-2001)

Since 2001, regulations have been filed electronically and are available in the RICR. To view rules filed with the Department of State in early 2001 and prior:

1. Go to the [Rhode Island State Archives Catalog](#).
2. Select an entity from the **Collection Organization** sidebar:

The screenshot shows the 'Rules and Regulations, c. 1950-2002' collection page. The navigation bar includes Home, Collections, Digital Objects, Subjects, Agents, and Record Groups. The page title is 'Rules and Regulations, c. 1950-2002' with a 'Series - Multiple Containers' and 'Identifier: 2016-04'. The breadcrumb trail is 'Rhode Island State Archives | Rules and Regulations, c. 1950-2002'. The main content area has tabs for 'Collection Overview', 'Collection Organization', 'Container Inventory', and 'View Digital Material'. The 'Collection Organization' tab is active. The 'Scope and Contents' section describes the rules and regulations promulgated by various state agencies. The 'Dates' section shows 'Creation: 1956-'. The 'Language of Materials' section shows 'English'. The 'Conditions Governing Access' section states 'No special restrictions unless otherwise specified.'. The 'Conditions Governing Use' section states 'Copyright is in the public domain unless otherwise specified.'. The 'Biographical / Historical' section states 'In 1956 Rhode Island adopted the Administrative Procedures Act. It has been amended multiple times over the years since and can be read in its current version here: Rhode Island Administrative Procedures Act'. The 'Collection organization' sidebar is highlighted with a blue box and an arrow pointing to it. The sidebar lists various entities, including 'Rules and Regulations, c. 1950-2002', 'Accountancy, Board of, 1974-20...', 'Accounts and Records, Commit...', 'Adjutant General (Includes Cou...', 'Administration, Department of (...', 'Airport Corporation, 1993-2001', 'Architects, Board of Examinatio...', 'Arts, State Council on the, 1975...', 'Atomic Energy Commission, 1993', and 'Attorney General, 1964-1999'.

3. Click **Go to file** to open a list of historic rules for that entity in the Digital Archive:

The screenshot shows the 'Secretary of State, 1967-2001' collection page. The navigation bar includes Home, Collections, Digital Objects, Subjects, Agents, and Record Groups. The page title is 'Secretary of State, 1967-2001' with a 'Sub-Series' and 'Identifier: 2016-04'. The breadcrumb trail is 'Rhode Island State Archives | Rules and Regulations, c. 1950-2002 (2016-04) | Secretary of State, 1967-2001'. The main content area has tabs for 'Collection Overview', 'Collection Organization', 'Container Inventory', and 'View Digital Material'. The 'Collection Organization' tab is active. The 'Scope and Contents' section describes the rules and regulations promulgated by various state agencies. The 'Dates' section shows 'Creation: 1967-2001'. The 'Creator' section shows 'Rhode Island, Department of State (1730-) (Organization)'. The 'Collection organization' sidebar is highlighted with a blue box and an arrow pointing to it. The sidebar lists various entities, including 'Parole Board, 1975-2001', 'Personnel Appeal Board, 1966-1993', 'Planning Program, Statewide, 1...', 'Police, State (Includes E-911 an...', 'Properties Committee, State, 19...', 'Resource Recovery Corporation...', 'Secretary of State, 1967-2001', and 'Solid Waste Management Corp...'. A 'Go to file' button is highlighted with a blue box and an arrow pointing to it.

2.5 Viewing Regulation Information (2001-Current)

2.5.1 Regulation Text

Click the **Regulation Text** tab to view the rule interactively. Click the Section number/name to open and click that Section number/name again to close:



Access to Public Records (100-RICR-10-00-1)

100-RICR-10-00-1 ACTIVE RULE

Regulation Text Overview Regulation History Rulemaking Documents

- 1.1 Authority and Purpose
- 1.2 Definitions
- 1.3 Access to Public Records Policy
- 1.4 Procedures for Obtaining Access
- 1.5 Denial of Access and Administrative Appeals
- 1.6 Public Records Within the State Archives Division
- 1.7 Severability

2.5.2 Overview

To view additional information, including the type of filing, status, effective dates, regulation authority, and purpose and reason for this filing, click the **Overview** tab:



Access to Public Records (100-RICR-10-00-1)

100-RICR-10-00-1 ACTIVE RULE

Regulation Text Overview Regulation History Rulemaking Documents

Notify Me

Title	100	Department of State
Chapter	10	Administration
Subchapter	00	N/A
Part	1	Access to Public Records (100-RICR-10-00-1)

Type of Filing	Periodic Refile
Regulation Status	Active
Effective	01/04/2022

Regulation Authority:
R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2 and R.I. Gen. Laws Chapters 38-2
42-8
42-8.1 and 38-3

Purpose and Reason:
This rule is being refiled by the agency pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-4.1. No changes were made to the text of this rule.

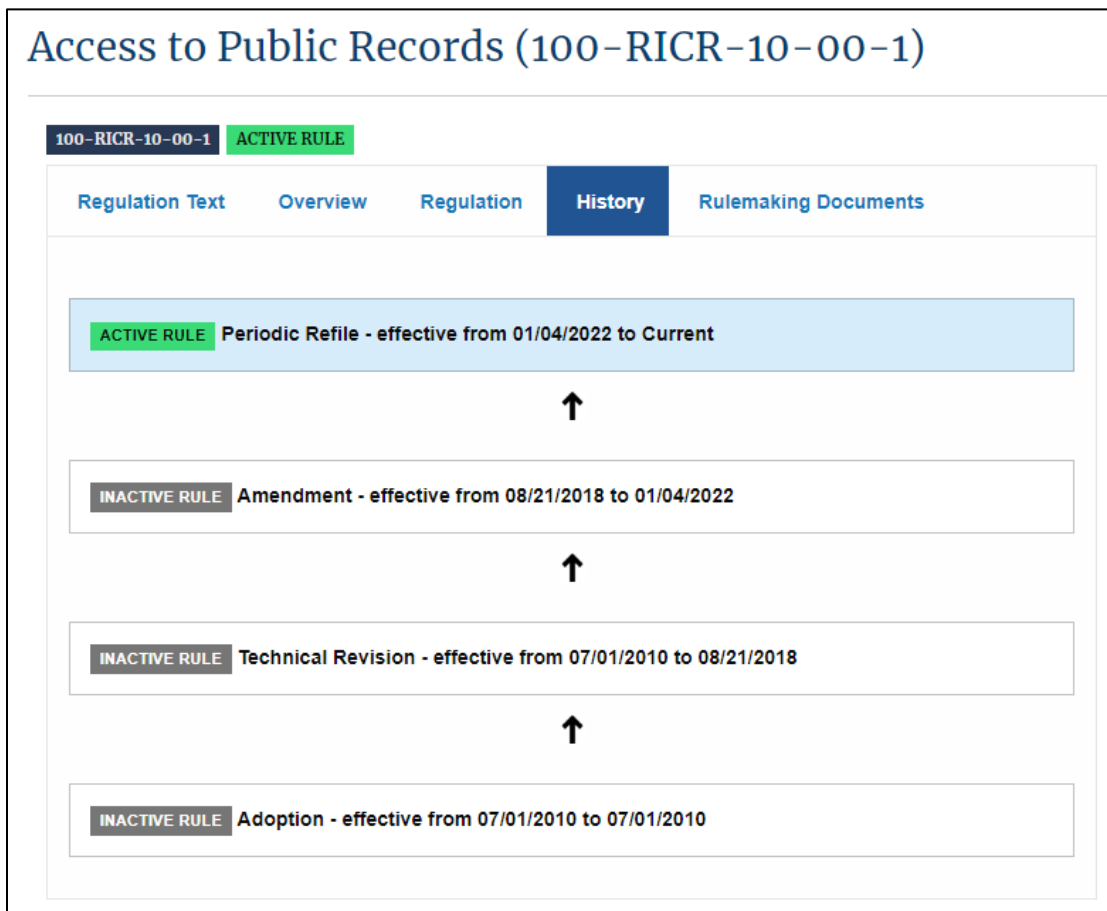
2.5.3 Regulation

To download the rule as a PDF, click the **Regulation** tab > **Download Regulation**:



2.5.4 History

To view a rule's history, click the **History** tab to navigate to any previous filing for that Part (the filing highlighted blue is the rule that is currently being viewed):



2.5.5 Rulemaking Documents

To view all associated documents for the filing (i.e., Concise Explanatory Statement, Public Comment, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, Proposed Rule, etc.), click the **Rulemaking Documents** tab:

Access to Public Records (100-RICR-10-00-1)

100-RICR-10-00-1 **ACTIVE RULE**

[Regulation Text](#) [Overview](#) [Regulation](#) [History](#) **[Rulemaking Documents](#)**

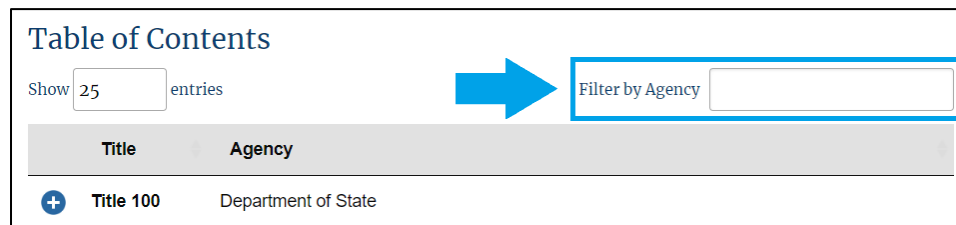
- [Concise Explanatory Statement](#)
- [Public Comment](#)
- [Public Notice of Proposed Rulemaking](#)
- [Proposed Rule](#)
- [Additional Documentation](#)

NOTE: Only **Rulemaking Documents** from rules filed since 2018 are available.

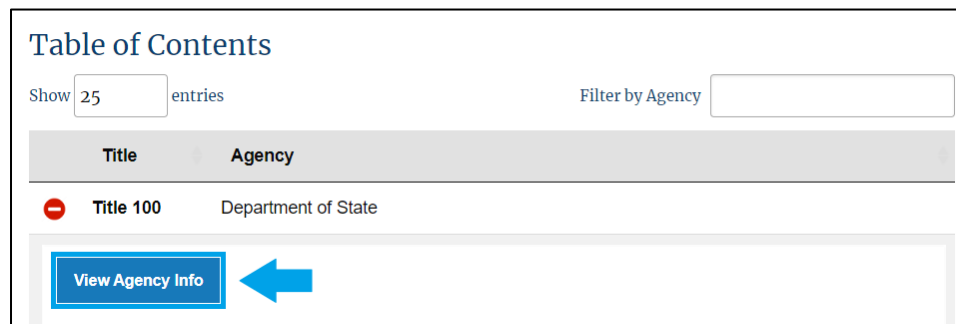
2.6 Locating Agency Information

To view agency information for a specific Title:

1. Go to <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/Organizations>.
2. Locate the Title in the **Table of Contents** or use the **Filter by Agency** search box:



3. Click the plus (+) button next to the Title, then click **View Agency Info**:

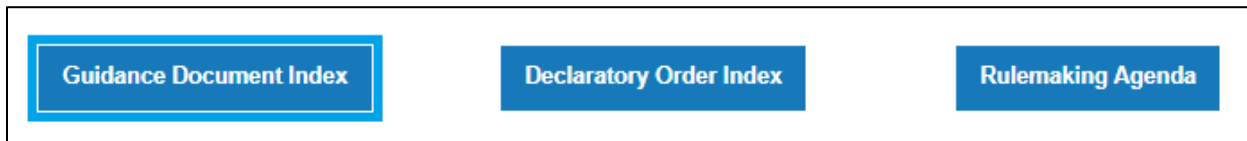


4. The **Agency Info** page includes a description, the agency's address, and the Rules Coordinator's contact information (see [§ 2.6.4 of this Guide](#) to update):



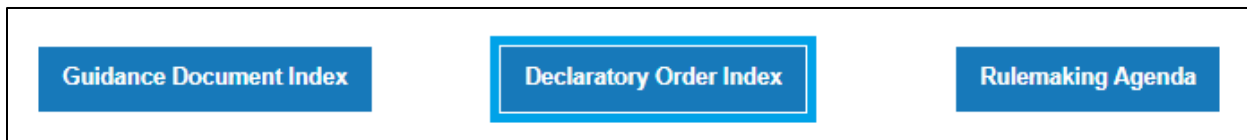
2.6.1 Guidance Document Index

To view an agency's **Guidance Document Index** that lists published Guidance Documents, navigate to the bottom of the **Agency Info** page and click **Guidance Document Index**:



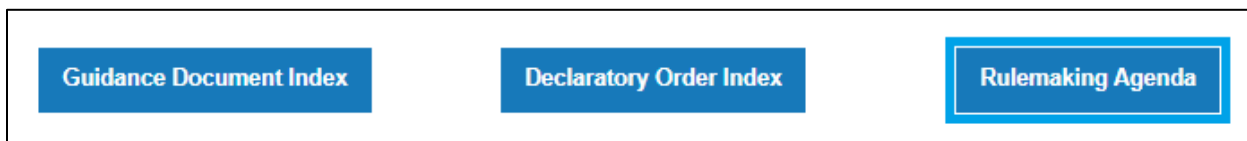
2.6.2 Declaratory Order Index

To view an agency's **Declaratory Order Index** that lists published Declaratory Orders, navigate to the bottom of the **Agency Info** page and click **Declaratory Order Index**:



2.6.3 Rulemaking Agenda

To view an agency's **Rulemaking Agenda** that provides that agency's Proposed Rules, navigate to the bottom of the **Agency Info** page and click **Rulemaking Agenda**:



2.6.4 Updating Agency Information

2.6.4.1 About Description

The Rules Coordinator or Agency Head may [email the Administrative Records Office \(ARO\)](#) the Title number and updated agency description and the ARO can update the RICR on the agency’s behalf:



2.6.4.2 Agency Address

The Rules Coordinator or Agency Head may [email the ARO](#) the Title number and updated agency address and the ARO can update the RICR on the agency’s behalf:



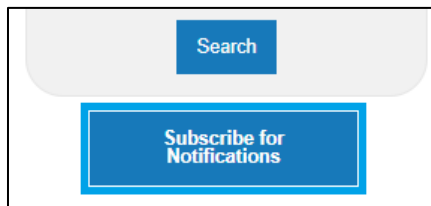
2.6.4.3 Rules Coordinator

To update the Rules Coordinator, see [§ 6.1.2.1 of this Guide](#).

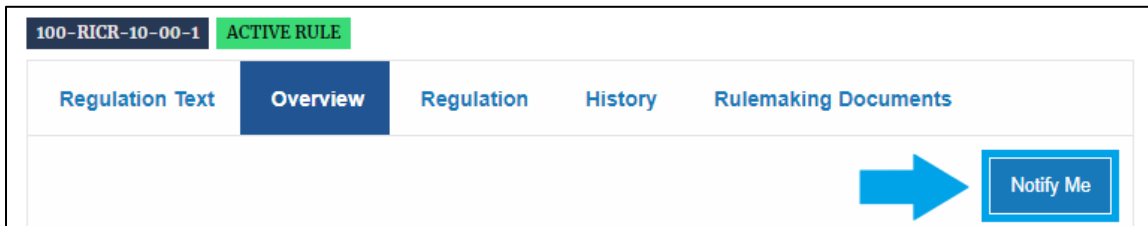
2.7 Subscribing to Regulation Notifications

There are multiple ways to subscribe to email notifications to be alerted of RICR rulemaking activity:

1. **To subscribe to all notifications or notifications for a specific agency:**
Click **Subscribe for Notifications** located below the search box and complete the form to receive daily, weekly, or monthly email notifications for all agencies or specific agencies:



2. **To receive notifications for a specific Chapter, Subchapter, or Part:**
Click **Notify Me** within the Overview tab of any Part and complete the form to receive daily, weekly, or monthly email notifications for the Agency, the Chapter, the Subchapter, or the Part:



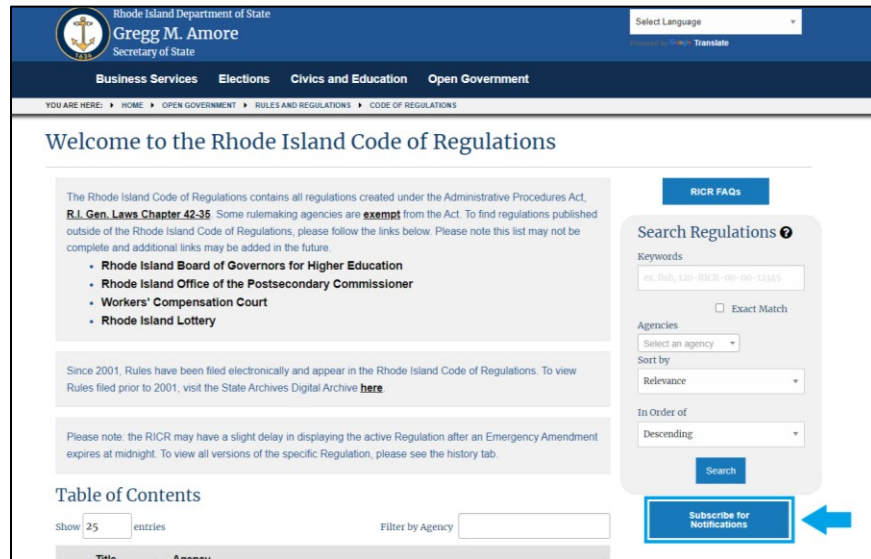
3. **To unsubscribe to RICR Notifications:**

- a. Either:
 - i. Navigate to the bottom of the RICR Notification email and click the link to visit and unsubscribe:

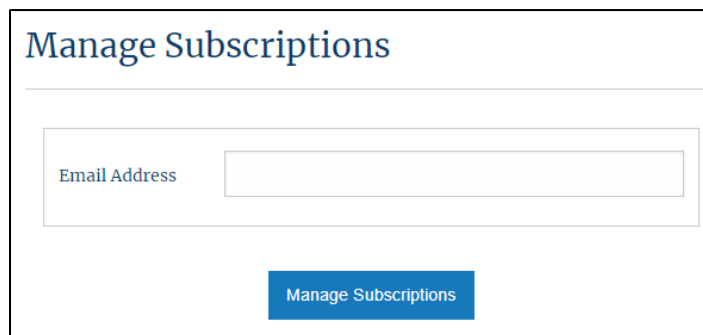
You are receiving this message because you have subscribed to the Rhode Island Department of State Rules and Regulations Tracker. To manage your subscriptions, please visit <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/Subscriptions/view>

OR

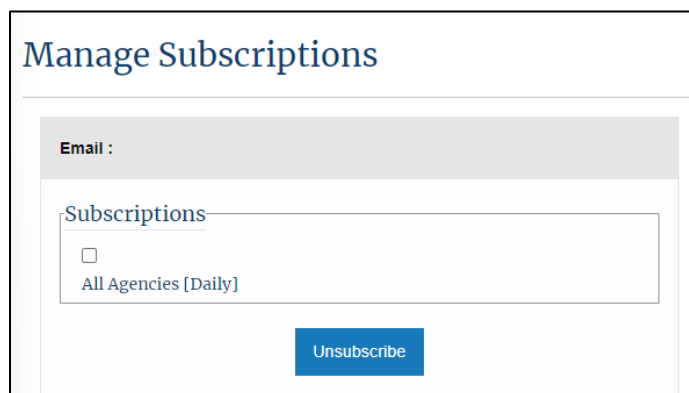
- ii. Go to <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/Organizations> and click **Subscribe for Notifications**:



- b. Enter the email address and click **Manage Subscriptions**:



- c. Select the checkbox for the subscriptions(s) and click **Unsubscribe**:



3 | RULEMAKING TYPES & ACTIONS

3.1 Rulemaking Types

There are five (5) Rulemaking Types:

1. **Adoption**
To create a new rule.
2. **Amendment**
To alter, modify, rephrase, add to, or subtract from an Active Regulation.
3. **Repeal**
To revoke an Active Regulation, abolishing the ability for the rule to be enforced.
4. **Technical Revision***
For minor non-substantive corrections to rules.
5. **Periodic Refile***
To refile all rules on file with the Department of State every successive fifth year.

**For additional information, see [§§ 3.3.6 and 3.3.7 of this Guide](#).*

3.2 Rulemaking Actions

For Adoptions, Amendments, and Repeals, there are five (5) Rulemaking Actions:

1. **Proposed Regular**
Most common type.
2. **Proposed Direct Final**
For non-controversial rules.
3. **Emergency**
To address imminent peril.
4. **Advance Notice**
To gather additional information before promulgating a rule.
5. **APA Exempted**
For exempted entities only.

For exact processes and document requirements, refer to the [Rulemaking Workflows](#).

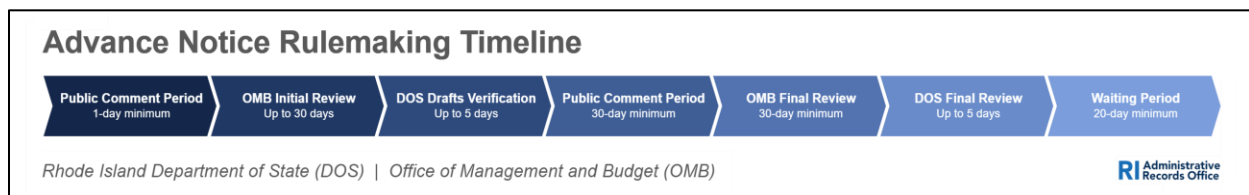
3.3 Rulemaking Timelines

Proposed Adoptions, Amendments, and Repeals, of any Rulemaking Action, must be:

1. Reviewed with content approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB)*;
2. Reviewed with formatting verified by the Department of State (DOS); and
3. Signed by the DOS to be published in the RICR.

**General Officer rules, Judiciary rules, and APA Exempted Rulemaking excluded.*

[Click here](#) to view a visual timeline for each Rulemaking Action, for example:



3.3.1 Proposed Regular Rulemaking

This is the most common type of rulemaking. This Rulemaking Action includes:

1. OMB Initial Review (up to 30 days);
2. DOS Drafts Verification (up to 5 days);
3. Public Comment Period (30-day minimum);
4. OMB Final Review (up to 30 days); and
5. DOS Final Review (up to 5 days).

The Final Rule becomes effective after the 20-day minimum waiting period, starting from when the DOS signs the Regulation, after the above process and the Agency Head signs the rule.

3.3.2 Proposed Direct Final Rulemaking

This is only to be used when the rule is expected to be non-controversial. If the rule receives any objections in the Public Comment Period, the rulemaking process must restart from the beginning using Proposed Regular Rulemaking ([R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.11](#)).

This Rulemaking Action includes:

1. OMB Initial Review (up to 30 days);
2. DOS Drafts Verification (up to 5 days);
3. Public Comment Period (30-day minimum);
4. DOS Final Review (up to 5 days).

The Final Rule becomes effective at the end of the Public Comment Period if no objections were received (and the agency does not request a future Effective Date) once the DOS signs the Regulation, after the above process and the Agency Head signs the rule.

3.3.3 Emergency Rulemaking

This is only to be used if an agency finds that there is an imminent peril to public health, safety, or welfare or the loss of federal funding for an agency program and requires an immediate promulgation ([R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.10](#)).

An Emergency Rule may be effective for one hundred twenty (120) days, renewable once for sixty (60) days.

This Rulemaking Action includes:

1. OMB Initial Review (up to 30 days);
2. OMB Extension Review (up to 30 days, *optional*).

The Final Rule becomes effective as soon as the Agency Head and Governor’s Office signs the Regulation, after the above process.

3.3.4 Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

This is an optional process if an agency chooses to gather information and solicit comments from the public before promulgating ([R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.5](#)).

If an agency chooses to hold a Public Hearing regarding an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, the hearing must be posted to the [Open Meetings database](#) in accordance with the Open Meetings Act ([R.I. Gen. Laws Chapter 42-46](#)).

This Rulemaking Action includes:

1. Public Comment Period (1-day minimum);
2. OMB Initial Review (up to 30 days);
3. DOS Drafts Verification (up to 5 days);
4. Public Comment Period (30-day minimum);
5. OMB Final Review (up to 30 days); and
6. DOS Final Review (up to 5 days).

This Rulemaking Action follows the same process as Proposed Regular Rulemaking after the initial advanced Public Comment Period, and the Final Rule becomes effective after the 20-day minimum waiting period, starting from when the DOS signs the Regulation, after the above process and the Agency Head signs the rule.

3.3.5 APA Exempted Rulemaking

None of the provisions of [R.I. Gen. Laws Chapter 42-35](#) shall apply to the agencies listed in [R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-18\(b\)](#), as they are exempt ([R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-18](#)).

If agencies listed use the RICR to file rules, this Rulemaking Action includes:

1. DOS Review (up to 5 days).

This Rulemaking Action does not require an OMB content review, includes no Public Comment period, and the Final Rule becomes effective either immediately or after an optional waiting period, as requested by the agency, after the above process and the Agency Head and DOS signs the rule.

3.3.6 Technical Revision

Minor non-substantive corrections, including typographical, grammatical, or formatting errors, may be made to final rules ([R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-4\(b\)](#)).

This Rulemaking Action includes:

1. DOS Review (up to 5 days).

This Rulemaking Action does not require an OMB content review, includes no Public Comment Period and no waiting period, and the Final Rule’s Effective Date will be set to the same Effective Date of the original filing that required the Technical Revision, after the above process.

3.3.7 Periodic Refile

All rules that are on file with the DOS must be refiled on the first Tuesday in January of every successive fifth year, starting January 2007 ([R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-4.2](#)).

This Rulemaking Action includes:

1. DOS Review.

This Rulemaking Action does not require an OMB content review or DOS formatting review, includes no Public Comment Period and no waiting period, and the Final Rule’s Effective Date will be set to the first Tuesday in January of every successive fifth year.

4 | WRITING REGULATIONS

4.1 Regulation Drafting Guidance

For resources and guidance on regulatory drafting and other required content components, refer to the Office of Management and Budget’s [online resources](#).

Questions about the OMB content review process can be directed to the agency’s assigned analyst or contact OMB directly at omb.regsubmission@omb.ri.gov.

4.2 APA Requirements

4.2.1 Petition for Promulgation of Rules

Each agency must promulgate a rule providing an explanation of the procedure for an individual to petition the agency to promulgate a rule ([R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-6](#)). The Rule must contain the following:

1. The form of the petition; and
2. The procedure for its submission, consideration, and disposition.

The Department of State has provided a sample [Petition for Promulgation of Rules Regulation](#), intended as a tool for agencies’ use in promulgating their own rule as required in [R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-6](#). *Agencies are not required to use the sample when promulgating their rule.*

4.2.2 Petition for Declaratory Order

Each agency must promulgate a rule providing an explanation of the procedure for an individual to petition the agency to publish a Declaratory Order ([R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-8](#)). The Rule must contain the following:

1. The form of the petition; and
2. The procedure for its submission, consideration, and disposition.

The Department of State has provided a sample [Petition for Declaratory Order Regulation](#), intended as a tool for agencies’ use in promulgating their own rule as required in [R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-8](#). *Agencies are not required to use the sample when promulgating their rule.*

4.2.3 Conduct of Public Hearings

Each agency must promulgate a rule providing the way public hearings are conducted ([R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2](#)).

The Department of State has provided a sample [Conduct of Public Hearings Regulation](#), intended as a tool for agencies' use in promulgating their own rule as required in [R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2](#). *Agencies are not required to use the sample when promulgating their rule.*

4.2.4 Concise Explanatory Statement

When filing a Final Rule, each agency must issue a concise, explanatory statement ([R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.6](#)). The statement must contain the following:

1. Reasons for the Adoption, Amendment, or Repeal;
2. Reasons for not accepting arguments made in testimony or comments;
3. Reasons for changes in text between the Proposed and Final Rule filed; and
4. Regulatory analysis prepared under [R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.9](#).

The Department of State has provided a sample [Concise Explanatory Statement](#), intended as a tool for agencies' use when filing their rule as required in [R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.6](#). *Agencies are not required to use the sample when filing their rule.*

5 | **FORMATTING REGULATIONS**

5.1 Required Formatting

Formatting requirements ensure rules display interactively correctly in the RICR and so that the RICR has a uniform style for public accessibility using ADA standards.

5.1.1 Track Changes

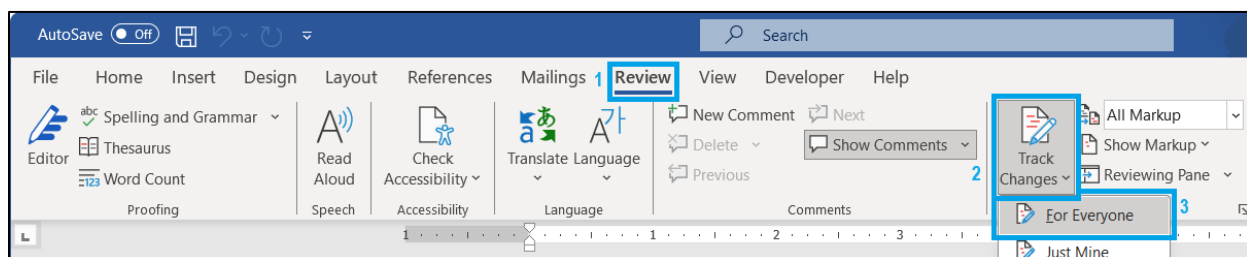
All text changes must be notated using Microsoft Office’s Track Changes feature:

- **Adoptions** must display all text underlined, as the entire document is new text.
- **Amendments** must display a combination of underlined and struck out text.
- **Repeals** must display all text struck out, as the entire document is deleted text.

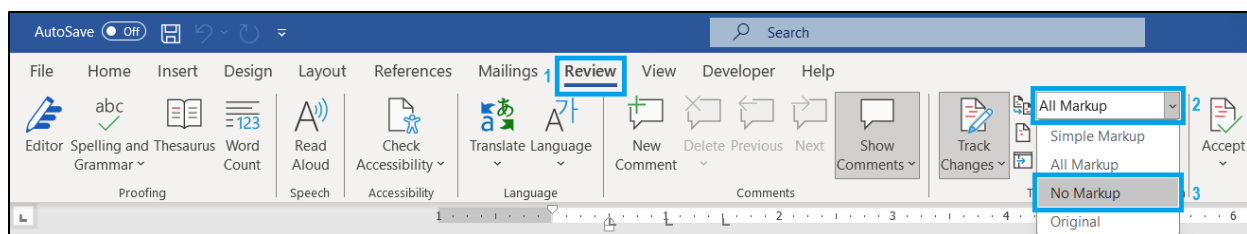
Track Changes will display the following once text is added, moved, or deleted:

- Added text: Example
- Moved text - original location (if text is highlighted and dragged): ~~Example~~
- Moved text - new location (if text is highlighted and dragged): Example
- Deleted text: ~~Example~~

To turn on Track Changes, click **Review > Track Changes > For Everyone**:



Before making any changes, click **Review > All Markup > No Markup** for ease of use:



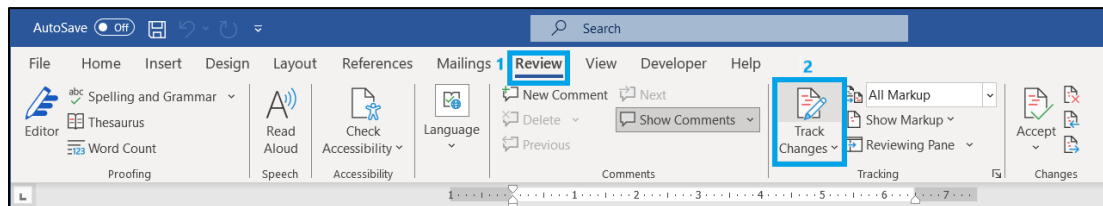
This will show what the rule will look like once all changes are accepted so the document is easier to edit. Switch back to **All Markup** for the changes to display.

5.1.1.1 Track Changes FAQ

What if an adoption didn't use Track Changes?

To fix a document to ensure all text is underlined using Track Changes:

1. If already on, turn off **Track Changes** by clicking **Review > Track Changes**:



2. Highlight all text (**Ctrl+a**) and cut (**Ctrl+x**) to delete and copy the text.
3. Turn on **Track Changes** by clicking **Review > Track Changes** (see above).
4. Paste (**Ctrl+v**) the text back into the document, which will underline all text.

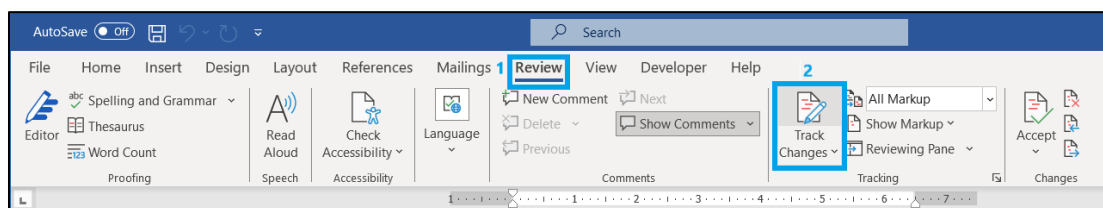
What if an amendment didn't use Track Changes?

The easiest way to ensure text is correctly underlined or struck out using Track Changes is to download the rule from the RICR Filing System again ([§ 5.1.2.2 of this Guide](#)), turn Track Changes on, and manually replicate all changes from the previously used document to the new document.

What if a repeal didn't use Track Changes?

To fix a document to ensure all text is struck out using Track Changes:

1. Highlight all text (**Ctrl+a**) and cut (**Ctrl+x**) to delete and copy the text.
2. Turn off **Track Changes** by clicking **Review > Track Changes**:



3. Paste (**Ctrl+v**) the text back into the document.
4. Turn on **Track Changes** by clicking **Review > Track Changes** (see above).
5. Highlight all text (**Ctrl+a**) and press **Delete** or **Backspace** on the keyboard, which will strike out all text.

5.1.2 RICR Template

The [RICR Template](#) has regulation document, margin, and font requirements built in:

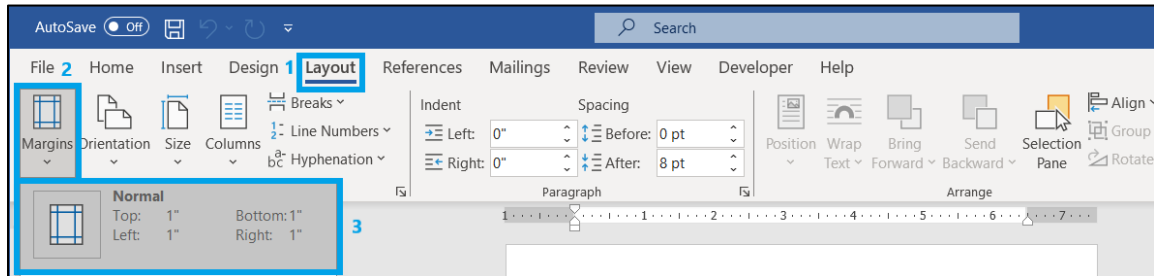
Document Requirements:

Rules must use the **Word Document** file type (.docx) upon saving.

Margin Requirements:

Rules must be set to use **Normal** (1") margins. To verify or to fix the margins:

1. Click **Layout > Margins**, and if not set to **Normal**, click within the text, highlight all text (**Ctrl+a**), and click **Margins > Normal** to correct the margins:



Font Requirements:

Each RICR style ([§ 5.1.3 of this Guide](#)) will automatically format text with the required font, font color, font style, font size, and font spacing.

*The below is for informational purposes only to identify when a style is not correctly implemented, not to be manually implemented within a rule. **RICR styles are required.***

	RICR Number	RICR Title Number	RICR Chapter Number	RICR Subheading/ Subchapter	RICR Part	RICR Heading 1	RICR Paragraph 1-6
Font:	Arial						
Color:	Black (Hex #000000)						
Style:	Bold	Bold	Bold	Bold		Bold	
Size:	12	14	12	12	12	14	12
Spacing:	Before: 12 pt	Before: 12 pt	Before: 12 pt	Before: 12 pt	Before: 12 pt	Before: 12 pt	Before: 12 pt
	After: 10 pt	After: 0 pt	After: 6 pt	After: 6 pt	After: 6 pt	After: 3 pt	After: 0 pt

5.1.2.1 Proposed Adoptions

Adoptions must be drafted using the RICR Template. [Click here](#) to download.

If an adoption is drafted outside of the RICR Template, contact the [Administrative Records Office](#) for assistance merging the drafted text into the RICR Template.

To get started:

1. Open the RICR Template and replace the first five lines with the applicable regulation information in uppercase text:

<p>###-RICR-##-##-#</p> <p>TITLE ### – AGENCY NAME</p> <p>CHAPTER ## – CHAPTER NAME</p> <p>SUBCHAPTER ## – SUBCHAPTER NAME</p> <p>PART # – PART NAME</p>

- a. Replace the first line with the **RICR Citation**.
(i.e., 216-RICR-10-05-1)
- b. Replace the second line with the **Title Number** and **Agency Name**.
(i.e., TITLE 216 – DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH)
- c. Replace the third line with the **Chapter Number** and **Name**.
(i.e., CHAPTER 10 – PUBLIC HEALTH ADMINISTRATION)
- d. Replace the fourth line with the **Subchapter Number** and **Name**.
(i.e., SUBCHAPTER 05 – PRACTICES AND PROCEDURES)
- e. Replace the fifth line with what the **Part Number** and **Name** will be*.
(i.e., PART 1 – ACCESS TO PUBLIC RECORDS)

**Always check the RICR Filing System to ensure the Part number is available before drafting the rule as detailed in § 6.3 of this Guide.*

2. For each new section, replace # with the Part number and replace **Heading** with the section name (i.e., **#.1 Heading** > **7.1 Authority**):

#.1 Heading

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3. OPTIONAL: If using subsections, replace # with the Part Number and replace **Subheading** with the subsection name (i.e., **X.1.1 Subheading > 7.1.1 Use**):

#.1.1 Subheading (optional)

4. Add each paragraph of text (a.k.a. section) based on the correct paragraph level ([§ 5.1.3.1 of this Guide](#)) using the corresponding enumeration designation ([§ 5.1.4 of this Guide](#)):

A. Paragraph 1

1. Paragraph 2

a. Paragraph 3

(1) Paragraph 4

(A) Paragraph 5

(i) Paragraph 6

- a. Every section must have its own corresponding enumeration designation for citation purposes and to display correctly in the RICR.
5. Hit **Enter** or **Return** on the keyboard once to start a new section.
*Do not insert an additional hard return in between paragraphs by hitting **Enter** or **Return** on the keyboard twice.*
6. **Save As** using the correct file name ([§ 5.1.5 of this Guide](#)).

Do not accept any changes before uploading to the RICR Filing System.

By leaving on **Track Changes**, this displays the proposed changes and ensures the final Rulemaking Record ([R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.3](#)) includes changes between the Proposed and Final Regulations.

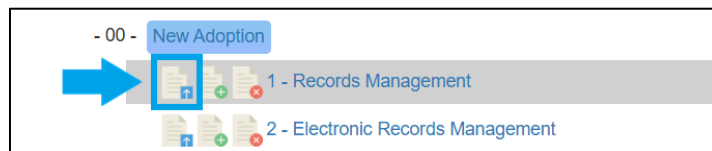
5.1.2.2 Proposed Amendments

Amendments must be drafted using the currently active promulgation’s Final Rule document.

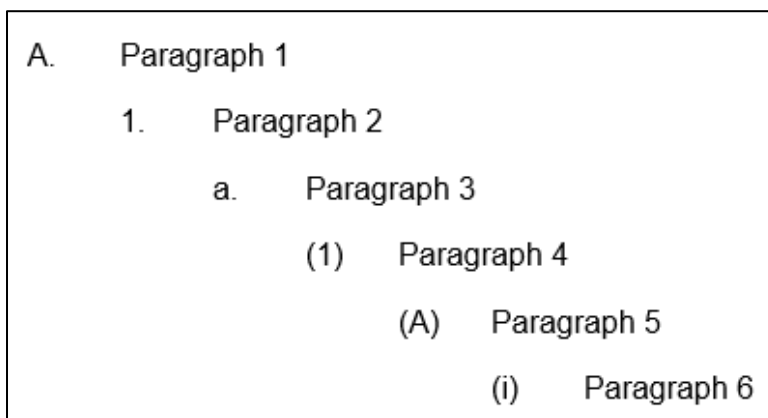
By downloading the document directly from the RICR Filing System, this ensures the correct document is used to draft the new promulgation for the same Part.

To download and use the currently active promulgation’s Final Rule document:

1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. Locate the Part in the **Current Rules** tab by clicking the **Title, Chapter, and Subchapter**.
3. Click the **Download Document** icon next to the Part name (paper with blue arrow):



4. Open the document, ensure **Track Changes** is turned on ([§ 5.1.1 of this Guide](#)), and add, edit, or delete text as needed.
5. If adding new sections, add based on the correct paragraph level ([§ 5.1.3.1 of this Guide](#)) using the corresponding enumeration designation ([§ 5.1.4 of this Guide](#)):



- a. Every section must have its own corresponding enumeration

designation for citation purposes and to display correctly in the RICR.

- b. Ensure enumeration designations and citations are updated as needed if sections are added between other sections.
 - c. Hit **Enter** or **Return** on the keyboard once to start a new section.
Do not insert an additional hard return in between paragraphs.
6. If deleting entire sections, replace section text with “Repealed.” to ensure citations are not invalidated by renumbering the entire rule. For example:
- 3.2 Repealed.
7. **Save As** using the correct file name ([§ 5.1.5 of this Guide](#)).

Do not accept any changes before uploading to the RICR Filing System.

By leaving on **Track Changes**, this displays the proposed changes and ensures the final Rulemaking Record ([R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.3](#)) includes changes between the Proposed and Final Regulations.

5.1.2.3 Proposed Repeals

Repeals must be drafted using the currently active promulgation’s Final Rule document.

By downloading the document directly from the RICR Filing System, this ensures the correct document is used to draft the new promulgation for the same Part.

To download and use the currently active promulgation’s Final Rule document:

1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. Locate the Part in the **Current Rules** tab by clicking the **Title**, **Chapter**, and **Subchapter**.
3. Click the **Download Document** icon next to the Part name (paper with blue arrow):



4. Open the document, ensure **Track Changes** is turned on ([§ 5.1.1 of this Guide](#)), highlight the text (**Ctrl+a**), and hit **Delete** or **Backspace** on the keyboard to delete all text.
5. **Save As** using the correct file name ([§ 5.1.5 of this Guide](#)).

Do not accept any changes before uploading to the RICR Filing System.

By leaving on **Track Changes**, this displays the proposed changes and ensures the final Rulemaking Record ([R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.3](#)) includes changes between the Proposed and Final Regulations.

5.1.2.4 Final Regulations

Final Regulations must be drafted using the exact Proposed Rule that was displayed in the RICR during the Public Comment Period, if applicable.

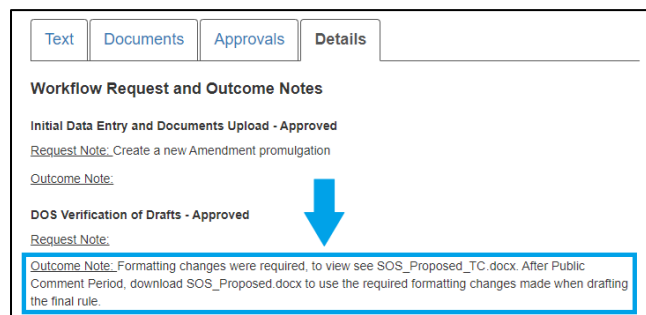
- **If formatting changes were not required** from the Administrative Records Office (ARO), this means the agency must use the document that was uploaded in the RICR Filing System for the Public Comment Period.
- **If formatting changes were required** from the ARO, this means the document used for the Public Comment Period is different than what the agency uploaded, and the correct document must first be downloaded to draft the Final Regulation.

To identify which document to use:

1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. Locate the Rule within the **Work Queue** tab by clicking the **Title, Chapter, Subchapter**, and **Part**:



3. Click the **Details** tab and scroll to view the **Workflow Request and Outcome Notes**:

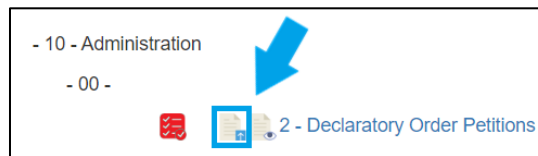


4. The most recent notes will be at the bottom:

If the note indicates formatting changes were not required, use the document the agency uploaded for the Public Comment Period to draft the Final Regulation.

If the note indicates formatting changes were required, complete the following to download and use the correct document.

a. Click the **Upload Documents** icon (piece of paper with blue arrow):



b. Download the most recent **Regulation** Word Document (file at the top of the list ending in .docx) to draft the Final Regulation.

Once the correct document is identified to draft the Final Regulation, use the steps in [§ 5.1.2.2 of this Guide](#) to amend the text (*not permitted for [Direct Final Rulemaking](#)*), and **Save As** using the correct file name ([§ 5.1.5 of this Guide](#)).

Do not accept any changes before uploading to the RICR Filing System.

By leaving on **Track Changes**, this ensures the final Rulemaking Record ([R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.3](#)) includes changes between the Proposed and Final Regulations.

The ARO will apply any required formatting corrections, accept all changes*, and upload the Final Regulation during the final rule review, which is the version that will be displayed in the RICR.

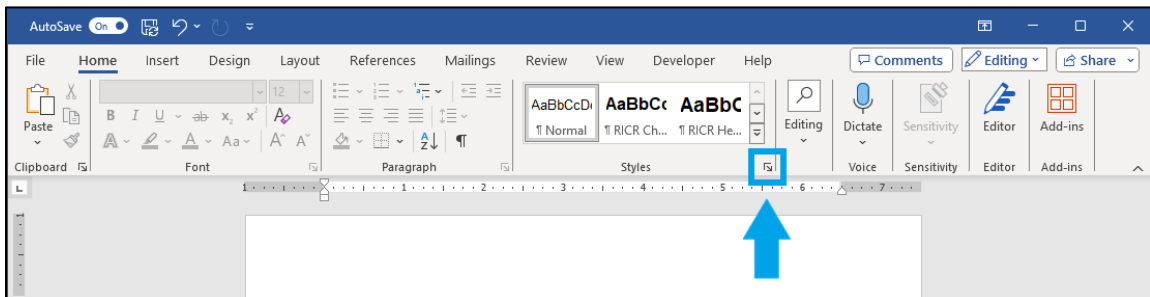
**Changes will not be accepted for Emergency Regulations.*

5.1.3 RICR Styles

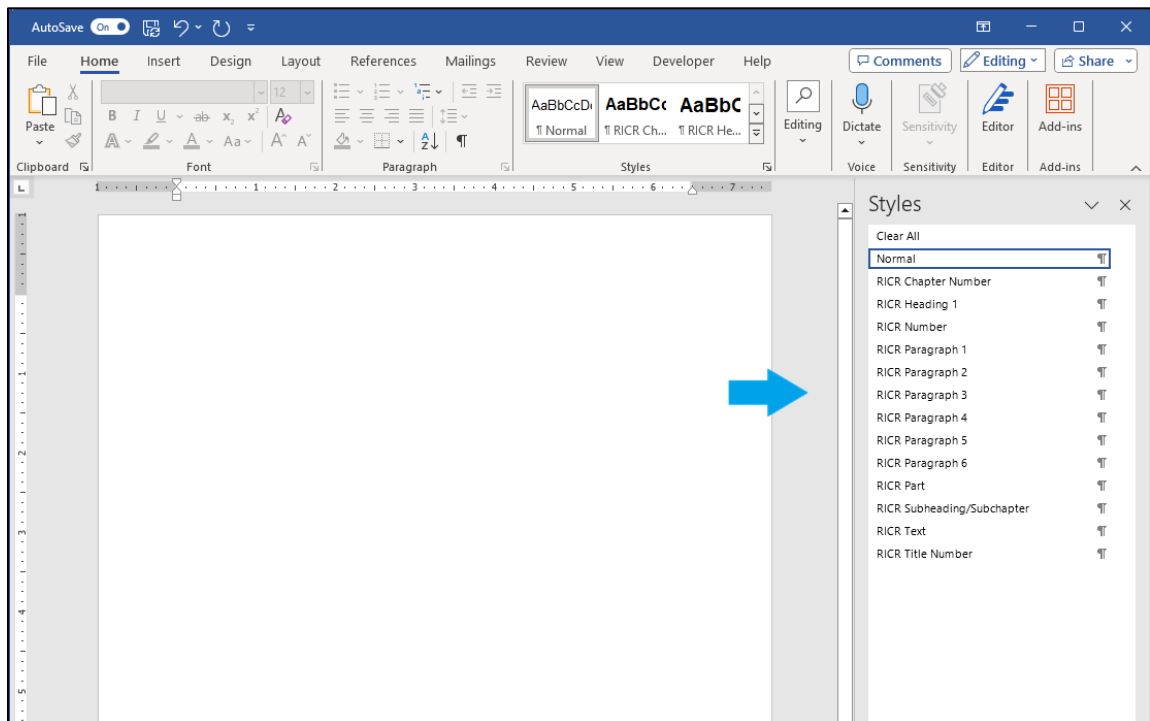
All regulation text must use a corresponding RICR style to format the text. The RICR styles must be applied using the Styles window within the Home tab ribbon, not the Design tab ribbon, within Microsoft Word.

To open the Styles window:

1. Click the small arrow at the bottom-right corner of the Styles section:



2. This will pop out the Styles window. If the Styles window is floating above text, click and drag the Styles window to the upper-right side of the Microsoft Word document to lock the window to the sidebar to prevent the floating window from covering text:



5.1.3.1 Required Styles

All approved RICR styles begin with “RICR” then the name of the style:

RICR Style Name	Used For	Additional Information
RICR Number	RICR citation	Format: ###-RICR-##-##-#
RICR Title Number	Agency number & name	Title number set by the ARO ex. 280 - Department of Revenue
RICR Chapter Number	Function number & name	Do not use leading zeros ex. 20 - Division of Taxation
RICR Subheading/Subchapter	Topic number & name	Use leading zeros ex. 05 - Banks
RICR Part	Rule number & name	Do not use leading zeros ex. 1 - Bank Deposits Tax
RICR Heading 1	Heading title	Starting with Part#.1 (i.e., 2.1)
RICR Subheading/Subchapter*	Subheading title	Starting with Part#.1 (i.e., 2.3.1)
RICR Paragraph 1	Section level 1 text	Starting with “A.”
RICR Paragraph 2*	Section level 2 text	Starting with “1.”
RICR Paragraph 3*	Section level 3 text	Starting with “a.”
RICR Paragraph 4*	Section level 4 text	Starting with “(1)”
RICR Paragraph 5**	Section level 5 text	Starting with “(A)”
RICR Paragraph 6**	Section level 6 text	Starting with “(i)”
RICR Text	Table text	<i>For use within tables only</i>

*Optional level, available to use if needed.

**Agencies should make every attempt to limit the number of section levels to no more than four (4) paragraph levels to reduce regulatory volume while maintaining readability.

Section levels must use the letter/number and include a period after or be within parentheses, not both. No period should be added if the style uses parentheses (i.e., use “(1)”, not “(1.)”).

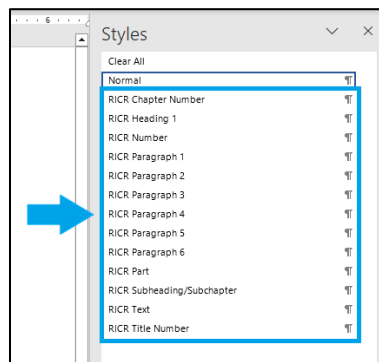
Any style not listed above is prohibited, as the text will not display in the RICR.

5.1.3.2 Using Styles

There are two ways to apply RICR styles, to either apply the style first before typing or to apply it after typing or pasting text.

To apply the RICR style before typing text:

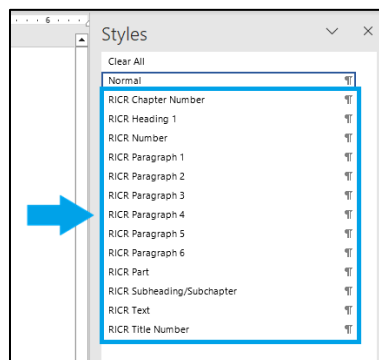
1. Click the corresponding **RICR style** in the Styles window to apply the required formatting:



2. Type text as needed.

To apply the RICR style after typing or pasting text:

1. Highlight the text.
2. Click the corresponding **RICR style** in the Styles window to apply the required formatting:



3. Depending on what formatting may have carried over from pasting, the RICR style may have to be clicked twice to first remove previous formatting and then again to apply the correct formatting.

5.1.3.3 Style Exceptions

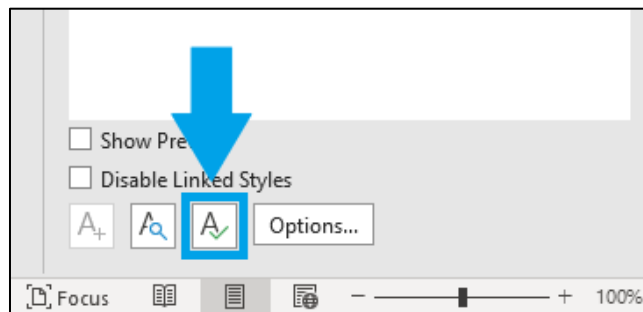
Bold, italics, and underlining may not be used for emphasis. Only the following limited exceptions are permitted:

- *Italics* for Latin, legal, scientific, or medical terminology; or
- **Bold** for headings within tables.

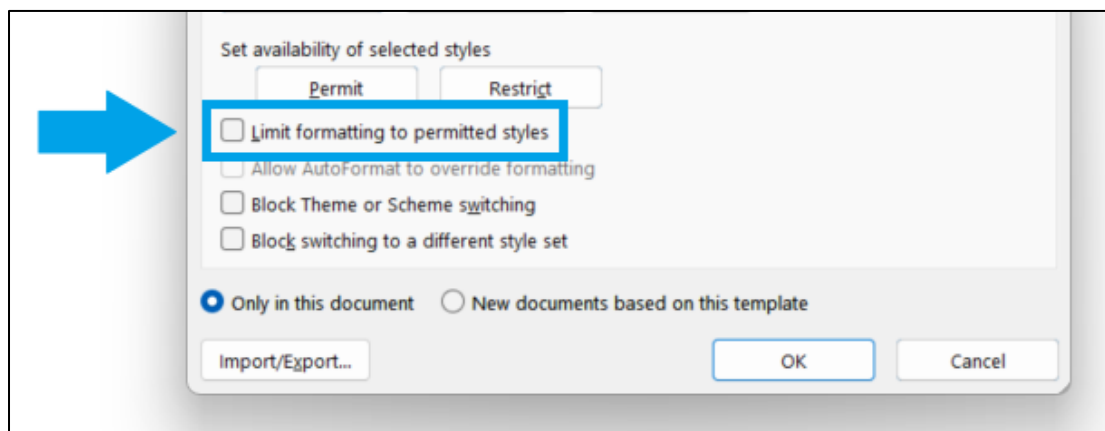
NOTE: For ease of use, complete the following steps after all other content is added, edited, or removed, to avoid repeating the process of applying limited exceptions multiple times.

To apply a limited exception:

1. Click the **A** icon with a **green** checkmark at the bottom of the Styles window to manage styles:

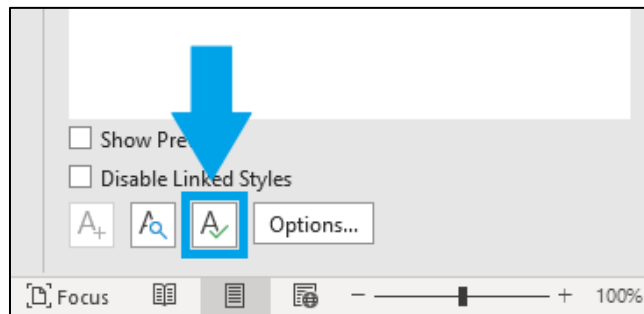


2. In the **Restrict** tab, uncheck **Limit formatting to permitted styles**, and click **OK** to temporarily allow non-RICR styling:

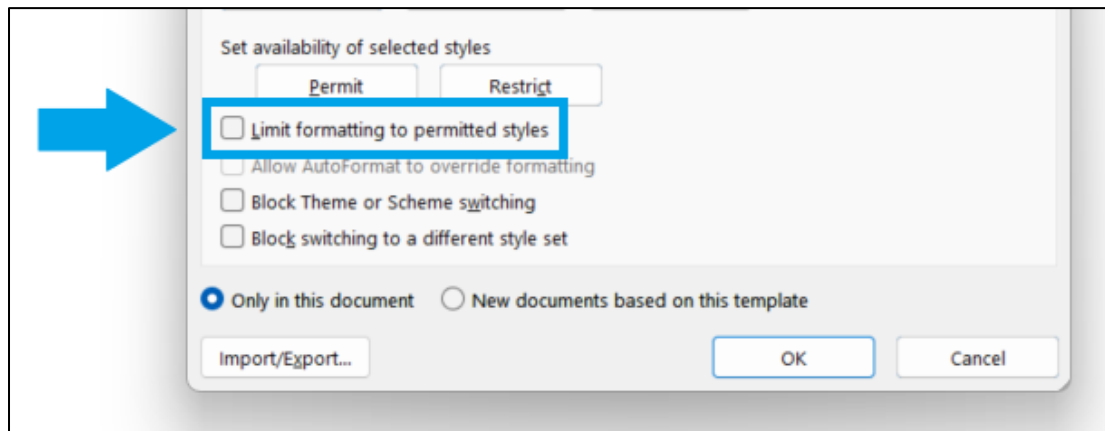


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3. Highlight the applicable text and apply the exception formatting, as permitted above.
4. After all text has had exception formatting applied, click the **A** icon with a **green** checkmark at the bottom of the Styles window to manage styles again to reset the required RICR styles:



5. In the **Restrict** tab, check **Limit formatting to permitted styles**, and click **OK** to continue editing the document:

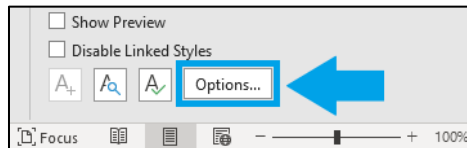


5.1.3.4 RICR Styles FAQ

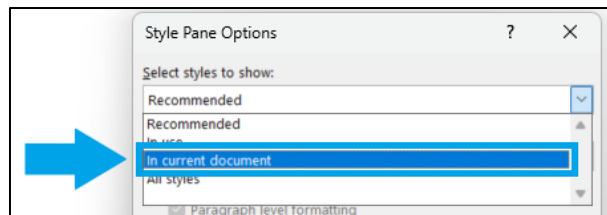
What if extra non-RICR styles are displaying?

If extra styles are displayed in the Styles window, complete the following to lock the document to only display the required RICR styles for ease of use:

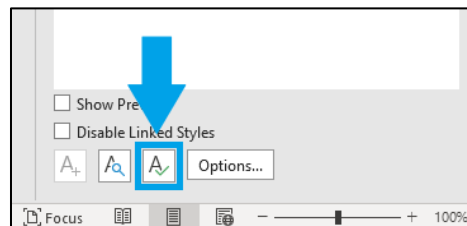
1. At the bottom of the Styles window, click **Options**:



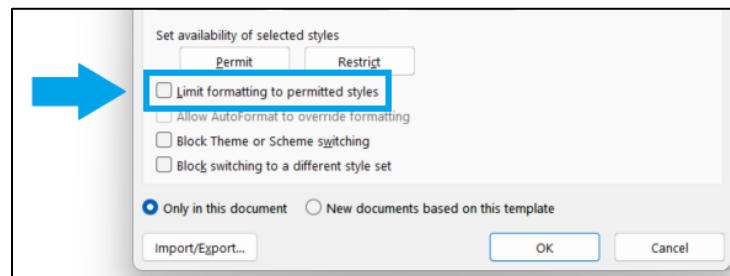
2. In the **Select styles to show** dropdown, select **In current document**, and click **OK** to display all styles currently used in the document.



3. Click the **A** icon with a **green** checkmark at the bottom of the Styles window to manage styles:



4. In the **Restrict** tab, check **Limit formatting to permitted styles**, and click **OK** to continue editing the document:



5. If additional styles still display, [email the Administrative Records Office \(ARO\)](#) to update the document to remove the additional styles.

What if there are missing RICR styles?

If there are missing RICR styles after completing the above, there are two options:

- **Adoptions & Repeals**

Download the [RICR Template](#) and copy and paste the text into the downloaded document using the steps found in [§ 5.1.1.1 of this Guide](#) to ensure all text is either underlined for adoptions or struck out for repeals.

- **Amendments**

[Email the document to the ARO](#) requesting all missing RICR Styles to be merged into that document.

5.1.4 Section Enumeration Designations

Each section (paragraph) in a rule must have its own corresponding number or letter designation for citation purposes and to display correctly in the interactive RICR.

Section levels must use the associated letter/number and either include a period after or be within parentheses, as listed in the table in [§ 5.1.3.1 of this Guide](#). No period should be added if within parentheses (i.e., use "(1)", not "(1.)").

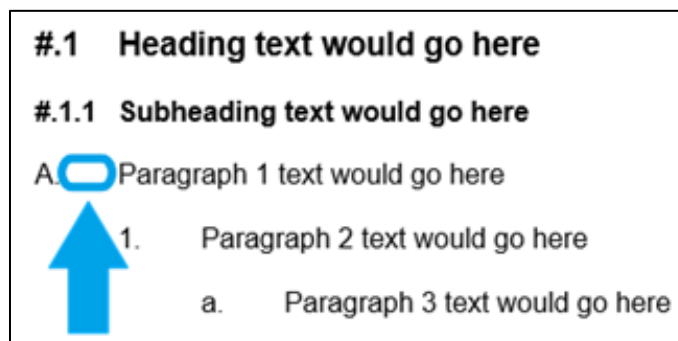
Enumeration designations must be sequential (i.e., "A.", "B.", "C.", etc.). Do not skip letters or numbers when assigning initial section enumeration designations within Adoptions, or when adding sections in Amendments.

5.1.4.1 Adding Enumeration Designations

Enumeration designations must be added manually, as automatic numbering is not permitted ([§ 5.3.1 of this Guide](#)).

To add an enumeration designation:

1. Use the table in [§ 5.1.3.1 of this Guide](#) to determine the starting enumeration designation for the heading or paragraph level needed.
2. Click the location in the document where text needs to go and apply the associated RICR style for the heading or paragraph level.
3. Type the starting enumeration designation, as noted in the table.
Do not add a space after the enumeration designation or before the text.
4. Insert one (1) **Tab** on the keyboard after the enumeration designation to align the section text.
Do not use the ruler or a tab before the enumeration designation to align.



5. Type text to complete the section or paste text and apply the correct RICR style ([§ 5.1.3.2 of this Guide](#)).
 - a. The subsequent lines of text in the section will automatically indent, and no additional inserted tabs are necessary until the next section.
6. Repeat steps 1 through 5 as needed, increasing the enumeration designation sequentially for each subsequent section.
 - a. For letters, if sections surpass the end of the alphabet, continue by using double letters sequentially (i.e., "AA.", "BB.", "CC.", etc.).

When deleting an entire section:

1. Keep the enumeration designation.
2. Replace section text with "Repealed." to ensure citations are not invalidated by renumbering the entire rule. For example:
 - 3.2 Repealed.

5.1.5 File Naming Conventions

For ease of identification and to distinguish files within the RICR Filing System, use the following file naming conventions, which will also assist in agency folder organization.

Adoptions

- **Drafts**
###-RICR-##-##-#_DATE_ADT_v#
ex. 100-RICR-10-10-1_2025-01-01_ADT_v2.docx
- **Proposed**
###-RICR-##-##-#_DATE_ADT_AGYProposed
ex. 100-RICR-10-10-1_2025-01-01_ADT_AGYProposed.docx
- **Final**
###-RICR-##-##-#_DATE_ADT_AGYFinal
ex. 100-RICR-10-10-1_2025-01-01_ADT_AGYFinal.docx

Amendments

- **Drafts**
###-RICR-##-##-#_DATE_AMD_v#
ex. 100-RICR-10-10-1_2025-01-01_AMD_v2.docx
- **Proposed**
###-RICR-##-##-#_DATE_ADT_AMDProposed
ex. 100-RICR-10-10-1_2025-01-01_AMD_AGYProposed.docx
- **Final**
###-RICR-##-##-#_DATE_ADT_AMDFinal
ex. 100-RICR-10-10-1_2025-01-01_AMD_AGYFinal.docx

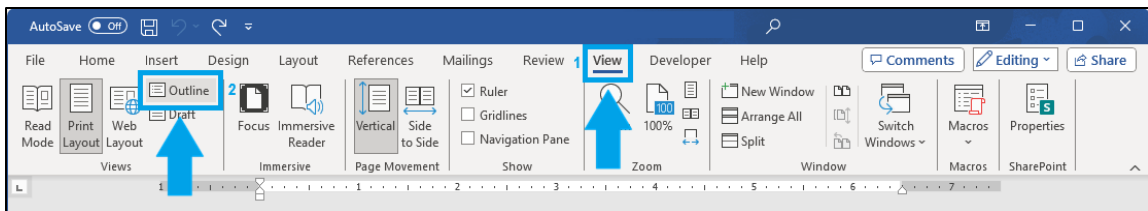
Repeals

- **Drafts**
###-RICR-##-##-#_DATE_RPL_v#
ex. 100-RICR-10-10-1_2025-01-01_RPL_v2.docx
- **Proposed**
###-RICR-##-##-#_DATE_RPL_AGYProposed
ex. 100-RICR-10-10-1_2025-01-01_RPL_AGYProposed.docx
- **Final**
###-RICR-##-##-#_DATE_RPL_AGYFinal
ex. 100-RICR-10-10-1_2025-01-01_RPL_AGYFinal.docx

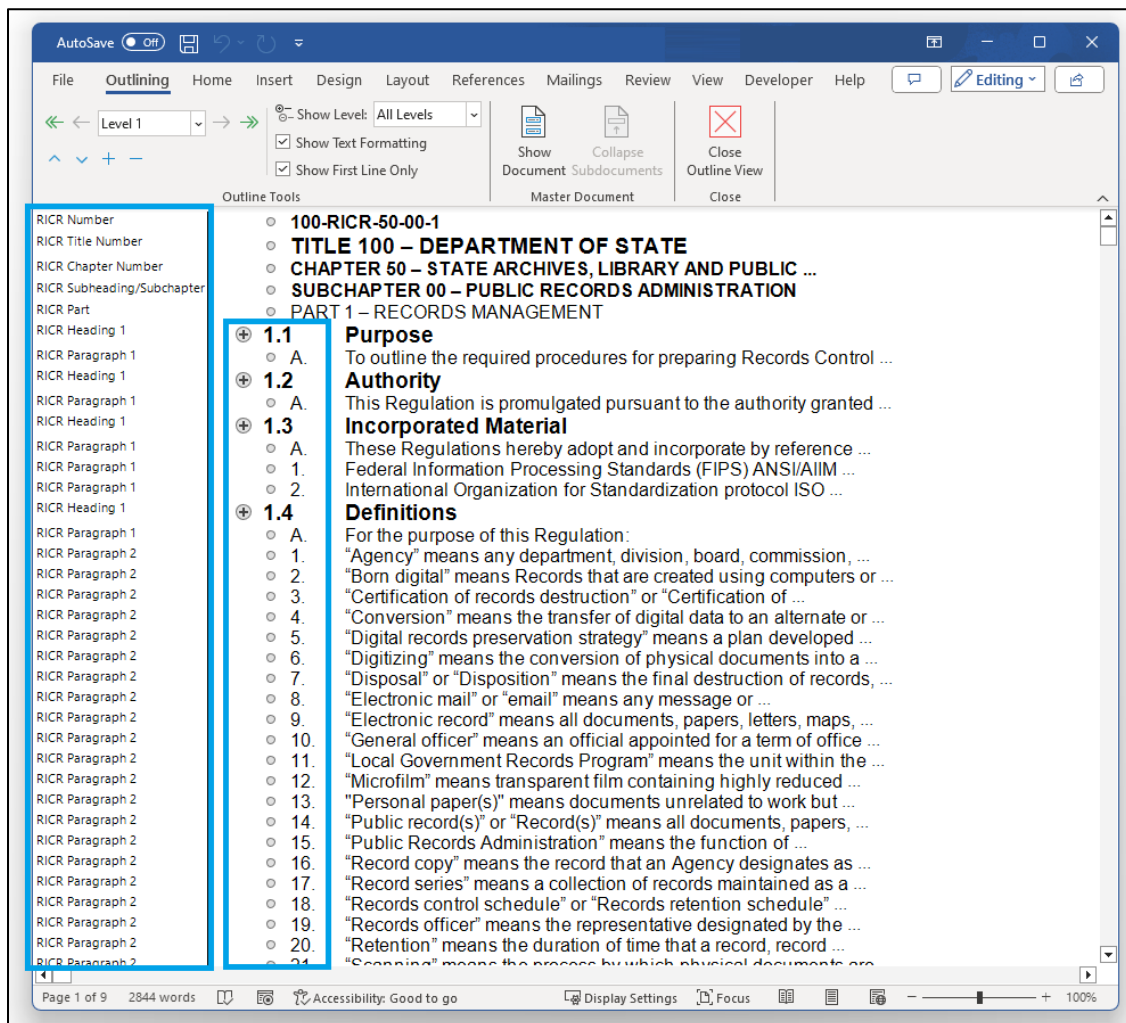
5.1.6 How to Verify Required Formatting

To verify all text is using an RICR style and every section has an enumeration designation:

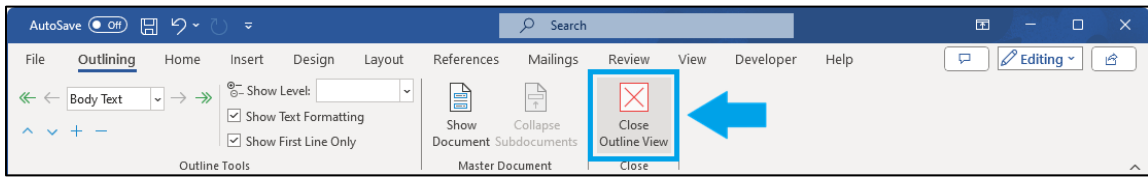
1. Click **View > Outline**:



2. Scroll to check that all text has the correct **RICR style** applied (first column) and every section has an **enumeration designation** (second column):



3. To exit back to normal view, click within the line of text to the right of the second column to see it in normal view and click **Close Outline View**:



4. Repeat steps 1 through 3 to fix each section as necessary to use the correct RICR style and add any missing enumeration designations.

5.2 Permitted Formatting

The following content may be used within rules. If used, the content must be formatted as described below to display the rule correctly in the RICR to view the rule interactively and to ensure consistency across all promulgated regulations.

For questions regarding **permitted content**, contact the Office of Management and Budget at omb.regsubmission@omb.ri.gov.

For questions regarding **the formatting of permitted content**, contact the Administrative Records Office at rulesregs@sos.ri.gov.

5.2.1 Citations

Citations are permitted if formatted per [§ 5.2.1.3 of this Guide](#) to ensure a consistent, uniform system throughout the RICR so other agencies and the public can easily identify and locate the original source.

The citation formats outlined have taken into consideration:

- Ease for the non-lawyer reader;
- Ease for the non-lawyer agency drafter;
- Ease for the out-of-state reader;
- How other states cite within their rules; and
- The requirements of the Rhode Island Administrative Procedures Act.

NOTE: Many citations include the section symbol (§). The section symbol must always have a space before and after when used. To insert a section symbol, use shortcut **Alt+0167** on the keyboard.

If citing multiple sections, the citation must include two section symbols with no space between (i.e., R.I. Gen. Laws §§ 42-35-1 and 42-35-3.2).

5.2.1.1 Direct Citation vs Incorporation by Reference

The Rhode Island Administrative Procedures Act (APA) allows agencies to incorporate certain source materials by reference ([§ 5.2.1.2 of this Guide](#)).

To determine if materials should be directly cited or incorporated by reference, the type of source material needs to be identified. The following source materials may be incorporated by reference without having to include the incorporated material in full ([R.I. Gen. Laws §§ 42-35-3.2\(a\)\(1\) through \(3\)](#)):

- (1) Federal rules, codes, or standards published in full in the Federal Register or the Code of Federal Regulations;
- (2) Federal rules, codes, or standards that have been properly incorporated by reference in the Federal Register as part of a duly promulgated final rule or in the Code of Federal Regulations pursuant to federal legal requirements; and
- (3) Published codes, standards or guidelines of any nationally recognized scientific or technical association or organization.

This means the following published sources may be incorporated by reference:

- Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.);
- United States Code (U.S.C.);
- Materials incorporated in the C.F.R.; or
- Codes, standards or guidelines published by nationally recognized scientific or technical associations or organizations.

By incorporating these materials by reference, this allows agencies to give any of the above full legal effect and force of law so that the agency can enforce compliance.

Only the following published sources may be cited without formally incorporating:

- Rhode Island statute;
- Rhode Island regulation; or
- Federal statute.

Since **State and Federal statutes** already have the force of law behind them, they do not need to be incorporated formally.

Since **Rhode Island Regulations** are analogous to state statutes, in that they already have the force of law behind them on a statewide level, they do not need to be incorporated formally, which helps to avoid conflicting rules in the RICR.

NOTE: Guidance documents, agency policies, or agency guidelines may not be cited or incorporated by reference.

5.2.1.2 Incorporation by Reference

The APA allows for agencies to incorporate certain materials by reference without having to publish the entirety of the material within a rule ([R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-3.2](#)).

If agencies incorporate materials by reference within a regulation, that agency “shall maintain a copy of the material and shall allow public inspection of the material and provide copies of any non-copyrighted material to the public... If any material to be incorporated by reference has been copyrighted, the agency shall upon request provide information about the publisher and the citation to the material.” ([R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-3.2\(e\)](#))

5.2.1.2.1 How to Incorporate Materials by Reference

To incorporate source materials by reference:

1. Create a section labeled, “Incorporated Materials”.

NOTE: It is recommended for the consistency of regulations published in the RICR to insert this section between the “Authority” and “Definition” sections of a rule.

However, there may be circumstances where it is appropriate to incorporate materials by reference in the body of the Regulation. For example, when a material is referenced only once within that Part.

2. Create subsections for each source material to be incorporated.
3. Use the following language:

“These Regulations hereby adopt and incorporate [citation (date)] by reference, not including any further editions or amendments thereof and only to the extent that the provisions therein are not inconsistent with these Regulations.”

4. Replace the bracketed language with:
 - a. The citation ([§ 5.2.1.3 of this Guide](#)); and
 - i. If citing materials published by nationally recognized scientific or technical associations or organizations, per the APA, include both the name of the association or organization and the title of the material in the citation.
 - b. The date of the code edition or scientific/technical material being cited in parentheses directly following the citation.

NOTE: The most recent version of the source material should be incorporated. *If a rule references a prior year, changing the year is a substantive change that requires an Amendment.*

Example Incorporated Materials Section:

3.3 Incorporated Materials

- A. These Regulations hereby adopt and incorporate 16 C.F.R. § 444.1 (2014) by reference, not including any further editions or amendments thereof and only to the extent that the provisions therein are not inconsistent with these Regulations.
- B. These Regulations hereby adopt and incorporate the American Medical Association’s “Standards for Taking Blood Samples” (2001) by reference, not including any further editions or amendments thereof and only to the extent that the provisions therein are not inconsistent with these Regulations.
- C. These Regulations hereby adopt and incorporate the “National Geological Society Guidelines for the Safe Gemstone Excavation” (2015) by reference, not including any further editions or amendments thereof and only to the extent that the provisions therein are not inconsistent with these Regulations.

5.2.1.2.2 How to Cite Incorporated Materials

Once a source material is incorporated by reference, it may be cited within the body of the rule by citing the Incorporated Materials section.

To cite to the Incorporated Materials section:

1. Add the following language:

“[text referencing source material], incorporated above at § [number] of this Part.”

2. Replace the bracketed language with:

- a. The leading text that references the source material; and
- b. The Subsection number of the specific incorporated material.

Examples of Citing the Incorporated Materials Section:

- (A) Phlebotomists must maintain their syringes in the manner prescribed in “Standards for taking Blood Samples”, incorporated above at § 3.3(B) of this Part.
- (B) Geologists must mine for diamonds in accordance with “National Geological Society Guidelines for the Safe Gemstone Excavation”, incorporated above at § 3.3(C) of this Part.

5.2.1.3 Direct Citation Formats

When including a direct citation within a rule, use the tables found in [§§ 5.2.1.3.1 – 5.2.1.3.6 of this Guide](#) to determine how to format the citation.

NOTE: If citing a rule that has not yet been filed with the Department of State and published in the RICR, cite the title of the rule enclosed in quotation marks instead of the citation formats listed below.

For example:
 “Department of Health Rules and Regulations Regarding Health Care Workers”

Once the rule is filed and published in the RICR, the citation may then be changed to the formats found in the below tables via a Technical Revision ([§ 3.3.6 of this Guide](#)).

5.2.1.3.1 RICR: Same Title

For all citations to the Rhode Island Code of Regulations within the same Title as the Part the citation is in, use the following tables to determine the correct required citation format:

Within the Same Title		
Component	Format	Citation Formatting Example
Title	this Title	this Title
Chapter	Chapter ## of this Title	Chapter 20 of this Title
Subchapter	Subchapter ##-## of this Title	Subchapter 20-15 of this Title
Part	Part ##-##-# of this Title	Part 20-15-7 of this Title
Section	§ ##-##-#.# of this Title	§ 20-15-7.2 of this Title
Subsection	§ ##-##-#.#(X) of this Title	§ 20-15-7.2(A) of this Title
Additional Subsections	§ ##-##-#.#(X)(#)(x)(#)(X)(x) of this Title	§ 20-15-7.2(A)(1)(a)(1)(A)(i) of this Title

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Within the Same Chapter		
Component	Format	Citation Formatting Example
Chapter	this Chapter	this Chapter
Subchapter	Subchapter ## of this Chapter	Subchapter 15 of this Chapter
Part	Part #-# of this Chapter	Part 15-7 of this Chapter
Section	§ #-#.# of this Chapter	§ 15-7.2 of this Chapter
Subsection	§ #-#.#(X) of this Chapter	§ 15-7.2(A) of this Chapter
Additional Subsections	§ #-#.#(X)(#)(x)(#)(X)(x) of this Chapter	§ 15-7.2(A)(1)(a)(1)(A)(i) of this Chapter

Within the Same Subchapter		
Component	Format	Citation Formatting Example
Subchapter	this Subchapter	this Subchapter
Part	Part # of this Subchapter	Part 7 of this Subchapter
Section	§ #.# of this Subchapter	§ 7.2 of this Subchapter
Subsection	§ #.#(X) of this Subchapter	§ 7.2(A) of this Subchapter
Additional Subsections	§ #.#(X)(#)(x)(#)(X)(x) of this Subchapter	§ 7.2(A)(1)(a)(1)(A)(i) of this Subchapter

Within the Same Part		
Component	Format	Citation Formatting Example
Part	this Part	this Part
Section	§ # of this Part	§ 2 of this Part
Subsection	§ #(X) of this Part	§ 2(A) of this Part
Additional Subsections	§ #(X)(#)(x)(#)(X)(x) of this Part	§ 2(A)(1)(a)(1)(A)(i) of this Part

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Within the Same Section or Subsection		
Component	Format	Citation Formatting Example
Section	this Section	this Section
Subsection	this Subsection	this Subsection
Specific Section	§ # of this Part	§ 2 of this Part
Specific Subsection	§ #(X) of this Part	§ 2(A) of this Part
Specific Additional Subsections	§ #(X)(#)(x)(#)(X)(x) of this Part	§ 2(A)(1)(a)(1)(A)(i) of this Part

5.2.1.3.2 RICR: Different Title

For all citations to the Rhode Island Code of Regulations within a different Title than the Part the citation is in, use the following table to determine the correct required citation format:

Component	Format	Citation Formatting Example
Title	Title ### of this Code	Title 216 of this Code
Chapter	Chapter ###-## of this Code	Chapter 216-20 of this Code
Subchapter	Subchapter ###-##-## of this Code	Subchapter 216-20-15 of this Code
Part	###-RICR-##-##-#	216-RICR-20-15-7
Section	###-RICR-##-##-#.#	216-RICR-20-15-7.2
Subsection	###-RICR-##-##-#.#(X)	216-RICR-20-15-7.2(A)
Additional Subsections	###-RICR-##-##-#.#(X)(#)(x)(#)(X)(x)	216-RICR-20-15-7.2(A)(1)(a)(1)(A)(i)

5.2.1.3.1 Rhode Island Statutes

Component	Format	Citation Formatting Example
Title	R.I. Gen. Laws Title #	R.I. Gen. Laws Title 9
Chapter	R.I. Gen. Laws Chapter #-#	R.I. Gen. Laws Chapter 9-19
Section	R.I. Gen. Laws § #-#-#	R.I. Gen. Laws § 9-19-39
Subsection	R.I. Gen. Laws § #-#-#(x)	R.I. Gen. Laws § 9-19-39(b)
Additional Subsections	R.I. Gen. Laws § #-#-#(x)(#)	R.I. Gen. Laws § 9-19-39(b)(4)

5.2.1.3.2 Rhode Island Public Laws

Style	Format	Citation Formatting Example
Full	[name], Pub. Laws [session #]-[chapter #]	An Act Relating to Towns and Cities - Retirement of Municipal Employees, Pub. Laws 10-275
Short	Pub. Laws [session #]-[chapter #]	Pub. Laws 10-275

5.2.1.3.3 Code of Federal Regulations

Component	Format	Citation Formatting Example
Title	C.F.R. Title #	C.F.R. Title 7
Subtitle	# C.F.R. Subtitle X	7 C.F.R. Subtitle B
Chapter	# C.F.R. Subtitle X Chapter X	7 C.F.R. Subtitle B Chapter VIII
Subchapter	# C.F.R. Subtitle X Chapter X Subchapter X	7 C.F.R. Subtitle B Chapter VIII Subchapter A
Part	# C.F.R. Part #	7 C.F.R. Part 868
Subpart	# C.F.R. Part # Subpart X	7 C.F.R. Part 868 Subpart C
Section	# C.F.R. § #.#	7 C.F.R. § 868.208

5.2.1.3.4 United States Code

Component	Format	Citation Formatting Example
Title	U.S.C. Title #	U.S.C. Title 7
Chapter	# U.S.C. Chapter #	7 U.S.C. Chapter 13
Subchapter	# U.S.C. Subchapter #-X	7 U.S.C. Subchapter 13-IV
Section	# U.S.C. § #x	7 U.S.C. § 347a
Full Citation	[name], # U.S.C. § #x	Disadvantaged agricultural areas, 7 U.S.C. § 347a

5.2.1.3.5 Federal Public Laws

Style	Format	Citation Formatting Example
Full	[name], Pub. L. No. [congress #]-[law #]	Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, Pub. L. No. 87-195
Short	Pub. L. No. [congress #]-[law #]	Pub. L. No. 87-195

5.2.1.3.6 All Other Citations

For any citations not listed in this Guide, refer to [The Blue Book: A Uniform System of Citation](#) for how to format all other citations to ensure a consistent, uniform system throughout the RICR so other agencies and the public can easily identify and locate the original source.

If the citation includes an acronym, the full name should be written out in its first use within a Part and include the acronym in parentheses directly following. The acronym may then be used within the rest of the Part.

5.2.2 Definitions

Definitions are only permitted if:

1. The “Definitions” section is placed towards the beginning of the rule;
2. Each definition is given its own section and enumeration designation;
3. The sections are arranged alphabetically by the words or terms being defined;
4. Each section includes:
 - a. The words or terms being defined within quotation marks;
 - b. Capitalizing the first letter of the first word within the quotation marks, with all subsequent words lowercase, unless the words or terms being defined are proper nouns;
 - c. The word “means” directly following the words or terms being defined; and
 - d. The definition of the words or terms directly following the word “means”.

Definition Example: “Writing” means a record inscribed on a tangible medium.

The following symbols may not be used within words or terms being defined:

- Dashes [- or -];
- Slashes [/ or \]; or
- Parentheses [(or)].

Instead, separate the words or terms by inserting the word “or” in between:

Incorrect

“Individualized education plan/IEP”
means...

Correct

“Individualized education plan” or “IEP”
means...

NOTE: Always cite the “Definitions” section itself within a rule, not to specific definitions. That way, if definitions need to be added when promulgating amendments, the “Definitions” section can be renumbered without invalidating citations to specific definitions.

5.2.3 Graphics, Figures, Images, and Maps

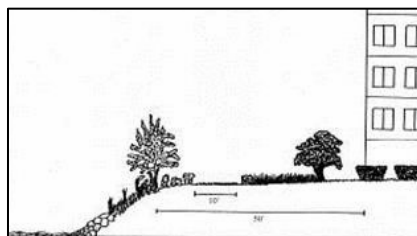
Graphics, figures, images, and maps are only permitted if the visual:

1. Fits within the margins of the rule;
2. Is set to **In Line with Text** (right-click on visual > click **Wrap Text** > click to set style);
3. Is treated as a section by using the next level paragraph RICR style to align the visual with the previous section text;
 - a. For example, if the title or text above the visual uses **RICR Paragraph 2**, the visual itself should use **RICR Paragraph 3** to align with the text, not the enumeration designation;
4. Has a title for interactive display accessibility (see below note); and
5. Includes Alt Text for accessibility and for those using assistive technology to access the rule:
 - a. To insert Alt Text, right-click on the visual and click **View Alt Text**;
 - b. Type text into the box describing the visual, its context to the section/rule, and include contact information where additional information can be requested and click X to close the side window. *Do not use the “Generate alt text for me” feature.*

Alt Text Example:

Visual:

1. Structural Shoreline Protection Standards for Coastal Greenways



Alt Text: “Image of land next to a building, the slope from the land to the coast, and the measurement for the coastal greenway, as described in § 2.2 of this Part. For additional information contact [insert contact information here].”

Visuals that contain only text must be converted to text, when possible, for public accessibility and to be searchable.

If visuals expand beyond the margins, they should be uploaded instead as an

appendix with a reference within the rule to view the appendix.

NOTE: Visuals should only be used when there is no other way of displaying the information, as they do not display interactively on the Part's RICR webpage, and will only display within the downloadable PDF in the Regulation tab.

Adding a title indicates a visual is there, and that the PDF should be viewed.

5.2.4 Hyperlinks

Hyperlinks are permitted to link to other Parts in the RICR, the Code of Federal Regulations, United States Code, Guidance Documents, forms published on an agency website, or Incorporated Materials, as appropriate.

Hyperlinks are only permitted if:

1. Links direct the user to the correct, active webpage; and
2. If linking to other Parts in the RICR, links go to the Part’s RICR webpage, not the PDF, to avoid continuity issues if/when a rule is amended.

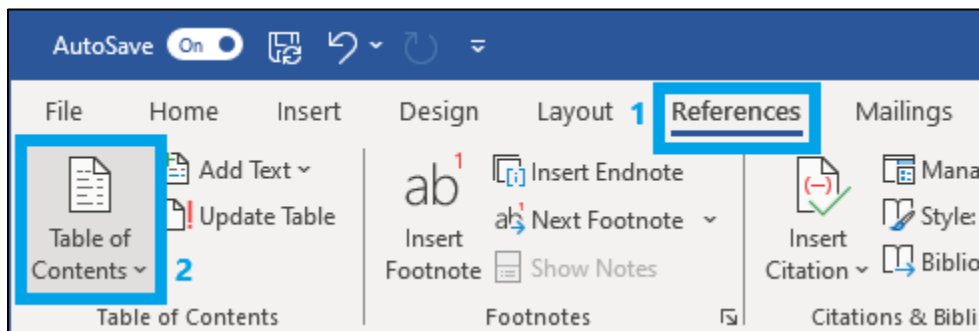
5.2.5 Table of Contents

Table of Contents (TOC) are only permitted if:

1. The rule is longer than thirty (30) pages;
2. The rule begins with the RICR citation information with the TOC inserted immediately following;
3. A page break, using **RICR Text** style, is inserted immediately after the TOC and the first heading of the rule begins at the top of the next page.

To insert a TOC:

1. Click **References** > **Table of Contents** > choose a built-in TOC or custom TOC (if using custom TOC, **Formats** must be **"From template"**):



2. All TOC text must use Arial font and black (hex #000000) font color.

5.2.6 Tables

Tables are only permitted if the table:

1. Uses the RICR style **RICR Text**;
2. Fits within the margins of the document;
3. Is aligned with the text of the section, not the enumeration designation;

a. **Correct:**

Table is aligned with the paragraph text, not the enumeration designation.	
Table Text 1	Table Text 2



b. **Incorrect:**

Table is aligned with the enumeration designation, not the paragraph text, and is not within the document margins.	
Table Text 1	Table Text 2



4. Is added directly after text, and not as its own section (see below note); and

5. Abides by the following options:

Permitted

Borderless cells

Shading

Prohibited

Partial borders

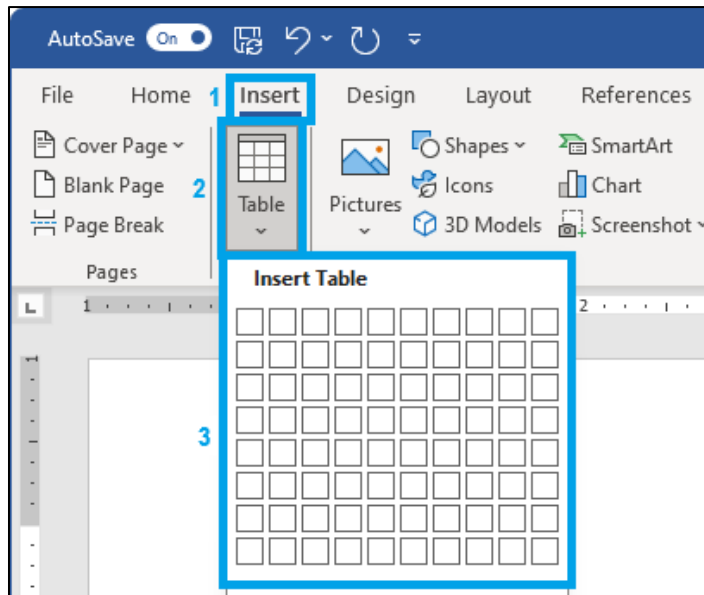
NOTE: Tables must be inserted directly below text with no hard returns in between, not as its own section, otherwise it will not display interactively on the Part's RICR webpage.

If need be, the text before the table may be just a title (i.e., "Table 1").

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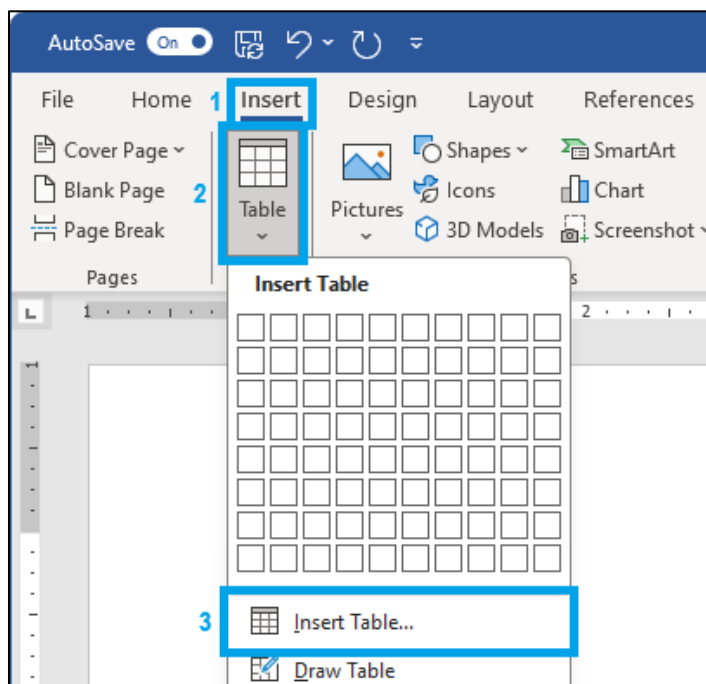
To create a new table, either complete step 1 or step 2:

1. Click **Insert > Table** and use the simple table creator to select the correct number of rows and columns by dragging the mouse over the boxes and clicking once the correct number of rows and columns are highlighted:



OR

2. Click **Insert > Table > Insert Table**:



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- a. Enter the number of columns and rows, ensure the AutoFit behavior is set to **Fixed column width: Auto**, and click **OK**:

The screenshot shows a dialog box titled "Insert Table" with a question mark icon and a close button. It is divided into two main sections: "Table size" and "AutoFit behavior".

- Table size:** Contains two spinners. "Number of columns" is set to 2, and "Number of rows" is set to 2.
- AutoFit behavior:** Contains three radio buttons and one checkbox.
 - The first radio button, "Fixed column width", is selected. Its dropdown menu is open, showing "Auto".
 - The second radio button is "AutoFit to contents".
 - The third radio button is "AutoFit to window".
 - Below the radio buttons is a checkbox labeled "Remember dimensions for new tables", which is currently unchecked.

At the bottom of the dialog are two buttons: "OK" and "Cancel".

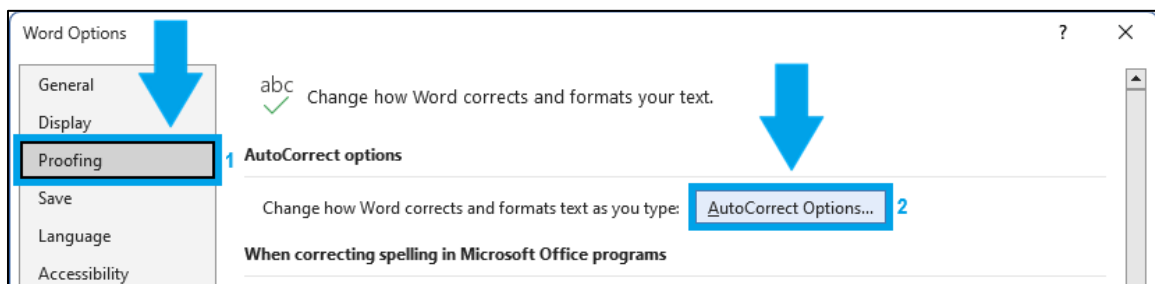
5.3 Prohibited Formatting

5.3.1 Automatic Numbering

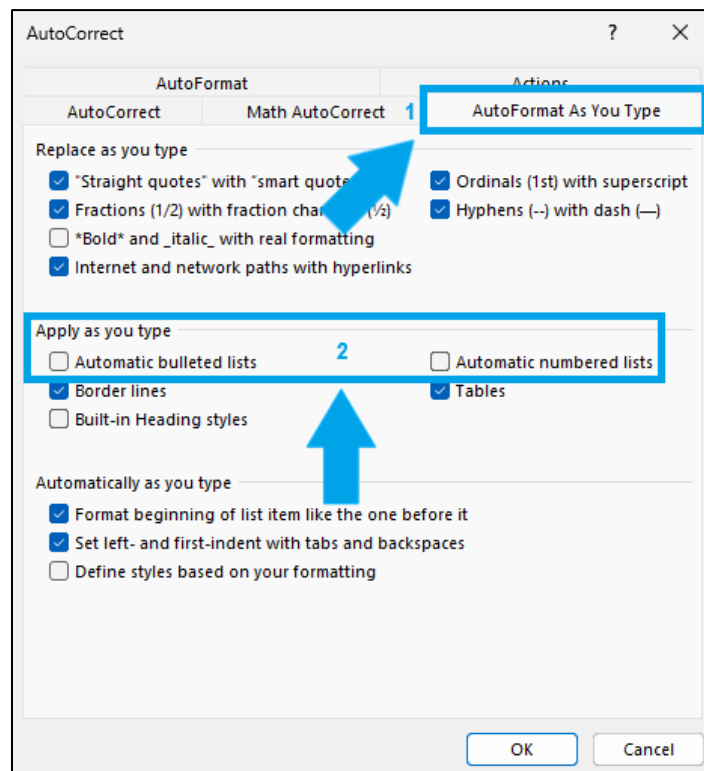
Automatic numbering is not permitted.

If the document tries to initiate automatic numbering, turn off that feature within the document by completing the following:

1. Click **File > Options** and then click **Proofing > AutoCorrect Options...**:



2. Click **AutoCorrect Options > AutoFormat As You Type**, uncheck **Automatic bulleted lists** and **Automatic numbered lists**, and click **OK**:



5.3.2 Bulleted Lists

Bulleted lists are not permitted, including but not limited to:

- Circle Bulleting
- Hollow Circle Bulleting
- Square Bulleting
- ❖ Diamond Bulleting
- Arrow Bulleting
- ✓ Checkmark Bulleting
- Dash Bulleting
- 🚩 Image Bulleting

Lists must be formatted into separate sections with corresponding enumeration designations. For example:

Incorrect

- A. The Department of State requires that all Filers:
- Read the Agency Guide to Administrative Records;
 - Comply with the requirements found therein; and
 - Contact the Administrative Records Office with any questions.

Correct

- A. The Department of State requires that all Filers:
1. Read the Agency Guide: Administrative Records;
 2. Comply with the requirements found therein; and
 3. Contact the Administrative Records Office with any questions.

5.3.3 Enumerations Within Paragraphs

Enumerations within paragraphs are not permitted. Enumerations must be formatted into separate sections with corresponding enumeration designations. For example:

Incorrect

- A. The Department of State requires that all Filers (1) read Agency Guide: Administrative Records; (2) comply with the requirements found therein; and (3) contact the Administrative Records Office with any questions.

Correct

- A. The Department of State requires that all Filers:
1. Read Agency Guide: Administrative Records;
 2. Comply with the requirements found therein; and
 3. Contact the Administrative Records Office with any questions.

5.3.4 Headers/Footers

Headers and footers are not permitted.

5.3.5 Manual Alignment & Spacing

Using the space bar, tab key, or ruler to manually align sections, or adding hard returns between sections, is not permitted. *The RICR styles ([§ 5.1.3 of this Guide](#)) will automatically align text and add spacing between sections.*

5.3.6 Manual Emphasized Text

Using formatting for emphasis is not permitted, including:

1. **Bolded** text*;
2. *Italicized* text*; and
3. Underlined text.

**Permitted only for noted RICR style exceptions ([§ 5.1.3.3 of this Guide](#)).*

5.3.7 Page Numbers

Page numbers are not permitted within **Final Rules**.

Page numbers within **Proposed Rules** are only permitted if:

1. They are in the bottom-right corner of the footer; and
2. They are removed before submitting the Final Rule.

5.3.8 Watermarks

Watermarks are not permitted within **Final Rules**.

Watermarks within **Proposed Rules** are only permitted if:

1. They do not impede the readability of the Rule; and
2. They are removed before submitting the Final Rule.

6 | RICR FILING SYSTEM

6.1 RICR User Role Types

There are three user role types within the RICR: the **Agency Head** (one (1) per entity), the **Rules Coordinator** (one (1) per entity), and **Filers**.

NOTE: For the cybersecurity of agency regulations, users must not share login information, which also ensures an accurate history log for each rule filed.

6.1.1 Agency Head

This user is the individual who has ultimate legal authority of the entity ([R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-1](#)) and signs rules into effect.

6.1.1.1 Updating the Agency Head

[Email the Administrative Records Office \(ARO\)](#) to request and complete the corresponding form to update the Agency Head, including evidence of the change, to be signed by the entity’s legal authority.

6.1.2 Rules Coordinator

This user is the individual designated by the agency ([R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.1](#)) who has knowledge of the subjects of rules being proposed, maintains the rulemaking records, and responds to public inquiries, as their contact information is published on the Agency Info page in the RICR ([§ 2.6 of this Guide](#)). This individual is responsible for overseeing Filers, and for approving and advancing rules submitted by Filers.

6.1.2.1 Updating the Rules Coordinator

[Email the ARO](#) to request and complete the corresponding form to update the Rules Coordinator, to be signed by the entity’s head or legal authority.

6.1.3 Filers

Filers may be any person approved by the agency to participate in the rulemaking process.

6.1.3.1 Adding Filers

The Rules Coordinator or Agency Head can add Filers in the RICR System ([§ 6.4.3.2 of this Guide](#)) or they may [email the ARO](#) to request and complete the corresponding form to add a Filer. Forms will only be accepted if submitted by the Rules Coordinator or Agency Head for the security of the agency's Regulations.

AGENCY GUIDE: RULES COORDINATORS

6.1.4 RICR User Role Permissions

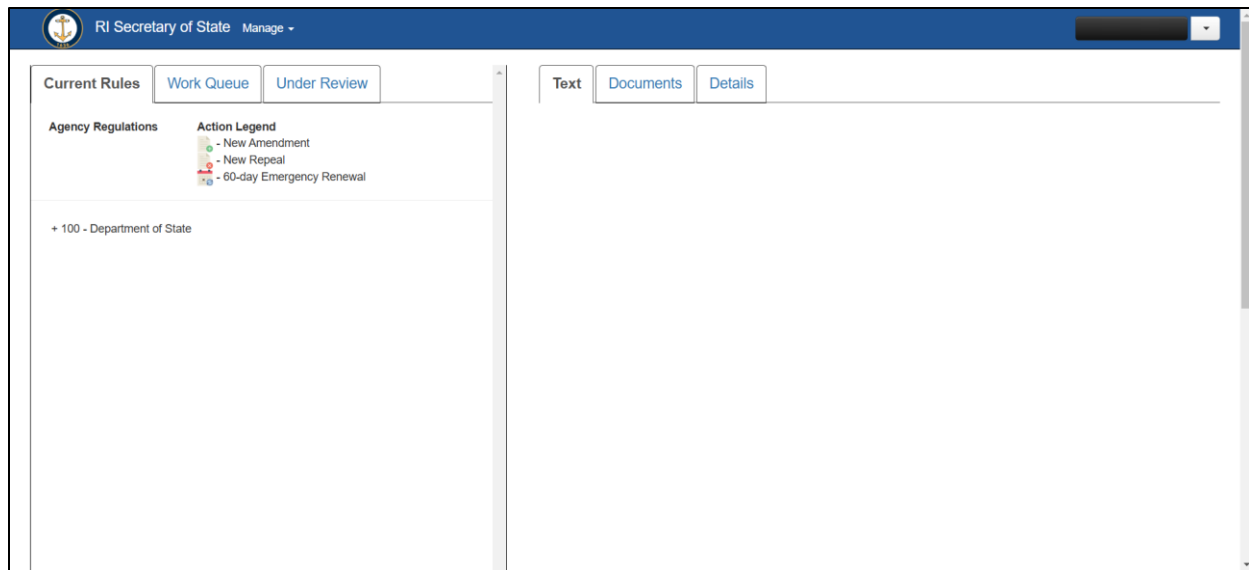
The below table indicates which user roles have permissions for each RICR function:

RICR Function	RICR Permissions	Filer	Rules Coordinator	Agency Head
RICR Views	View Current Rules	X	X	X
	View Work Queue	X	X	X
	View Under Review	X	X	X
Rulemaking	Create Proposed Rules	X	X	X
	Terminate Proposed Rules	X	X	X
	Approve Proposed Rules		X	X
	Sign Final Rules			X
Emergency Rules	View Emergency Rules	X	X	X
	Renew Emergency Rules by 60 days	X	X	X
	Terminate active Emergency Rules	X	X	X
Periodic Refile	Approve rules for Periodic Refile		X	
Guidance Documents	View/create Guidance Documents	X	X	X
	Remove Guidance Documents	X	X	X
	Generate Guidance Document Index	X	X	X
Declaratory Orders	Create Declaratory Orders	X	X	X
	View/approve/reject Declaratory Orders		X	X
	Generate Declaratory Order Index		X	X
	Delete Declaratory Orders		X	X
Account/ User Information	View My Account Details		X	X
	Edit My Account Details		X	X
	View users		X	X
	Edit users		X	X
	Add new Filer		X	X
RICR Structure	View and create new Chapters		X	X
	View and create new Subchapters		X	X
Notifications	View notifications		X	X
	Subscribe/unsubscribe to notifications		X	X

6.1.5 Getting Started in the RICR Filing System

The RICR Filing System allows users to file regulations, guidance documents, and declaratory orders with the Rhode Island Department of State ([R.I. Gen. Laws 42-35](#)).

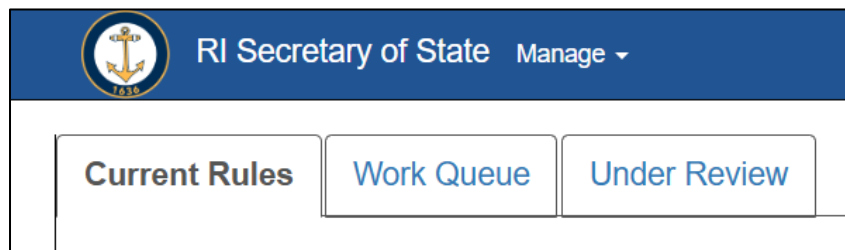
[Click here](#) to log in and view the RICR Filing System homepage:



To File Regulations

Use the following tabs and see [§ 6.3 of this Guide](#) for step-by-step instructions:

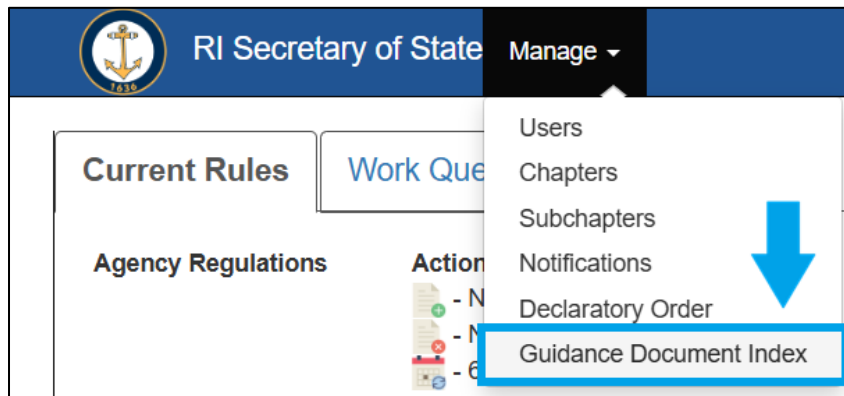
1. **Current Rules** tab to view current regulations or start a new promulgation;
2. **Work Queue** tab to work on a proposed promulgation; and
3. **Under Review** tab to view proposed promulgations that are not yet effective.



To File Guidance Documents

Click **Manage > Guidance Document Index** and see [§ 6.4.4 of this Guide](#) for step-by-

step instructions:



To File Declaratory Orders

Click **Manage** > **Declaratory Order** and see [§ 6.4.5 of this Guide](#) for step-by-step instructions:



NOTE: Different users will see different options under the **Manage** menu. See [§ 6.1.4 of this Guide](#) for more information regarding User Role Permissions.

6.2 RICR Rulemaking Processes

6.2.1 RICR Rulemaking Processes Overview

To identify in the RICR System which rulemaking step a rule is in, after [logging in](#), click **Work Queue** > select a **Rule** > **Approvals**. The Rule is currently in the **bolded** step.

The following tables indicate which user role must complete a rulemaking step in the RICR System. *In some instances, multiple user roles can complete a step. It does not matter which user role completes the step, and the step only has to be completed once.*

Key:

F = Filer

RC = Rules Coordinator

AH = Agency Head

G = Governor’s Office

DOS = Department of State

6.2.1.1 Proposed Regular Rulemaking Process Steps

Rulemaking Step	F	RC	AH	DOS
Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload	X	X	X	
DOS Verification of Drafts				X
Generation of the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*	X	X	X	
Submission for Promulgation	<i>RICR automatic step</i>			
Public Comment Period Begin	<i>RICR automatic step</i>			
Post Public Comment Period Data update and Document Upload	X	X	X	
DOS Final Regulation Approval				X
Agency Head Signature Applied			X	
Final Rule and Signature Acceptance by DOS				X
Promulgation Finalization	<i>RICR automatic step</i>			

*As soon as the user clicks **Publish**, the Proposed Rule is live (viewable) in the RICR.

6.2.1.2 Proposed Direct Final Rulemaking Process Steps

Rulemaking Step	F	RC	AH	DOS
Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload	X	X	X	
DOS Verification of Drafts				X
Generation of the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*	X	X	X	
Submission for Promulgation	<i>RICR automatic step</i>			
Public Comment Period Begin	<i>RICR automatic step</i>			
Post Public Comment Period Data update and Document Upload	X	X	X	
DOS Final Regulation Approval				X
Agency Head Signature Applied			X	
Final Rule and Signature Acceptance by DOS				X
Promulgation Finalization	<i>RICR automatic step</i>			

*As soon as the user clicks **Publish**, the Proposed Rule is viewable in the RICR.

6.2.1.3 Emergency Rulemaking Process Steps

Rulemaking Step	F	RC	AH	G	DOS
Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload	X	X	X		
Rules Coordinator Notification of Emergency Rule		X			
Submission for Promulgation	<i>RICR automatic step</i>				
Agency Head Signature Applied			X		
Governor Signature Applied				X	
Final Rule and Signature Acceptance by DOS*					X
Promulgation Finalization	<i>RICR automatic step</i>				
Submission for Emergency Extension 1	X	X	X		
DOS Final Revision for Emergency Extension 1**					X
Finalization of Emergency Extension 1	<i>RICR automatic step</i>				

*As soon as the DOS signs, the Rule is viewable in the RICR.

**As soon as the DOS approves, the Expiration Date is extended in the RICR.

6.2.1.4 Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking Process Steps

Rulemaking Step	F	RC	AH	DOS
Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload	X	X	X	
Generation of the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*	X	X	X	
Public Comment Period Begin	<i>RICR automatic step</i>			
Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload	X	X	X	
DOS Verification of Drafts				X
Generation of the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking	X	X	X	
Submission for Promulgation	<i>RICR automatic step</i>			
Public Comment Period Begin	<i>RICR automatic step</i>			
Post Public Comment Period Data update and Document Upload	X	X	X	
DOS Final Regulation Approval				X
Agency Head Signature Applied			X	
Final Rule and Signature Acceptance by DOS				X
Promulgation Finalization	<i>RICR automatic step</i>			

*As soon as the user clicks **Publish**, the Proposed Rule is viewable in the RICR.

6.2.1.5 APA Exempt Rulemaking Process Steps

Rulemaking Step	F	RC	AH	DOS
Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload	X	X	X	
Rules Coordinator Approval for Notice of Proposed Rulemaking		X		
DOS Verification of Drafts				X
Submission for Promulgation	<i>RICR automatic step</i>			
Rules Coordinator Approval for Final Submission		X		
Agency Head Signature Applied			X	
Final Rule and Signature Acceptance by DOS*				X
Promulgation Finalization	<i>RICR automatic step</i>			

*As soon as the DOS signs, the Rule is viewable in the RICR.

6.2.1.6 Technical Revision Rulemaking Process Steps

There are no Technical Revision rulemaking process steps required from agencies within the RICR System. See [§ 6.3.1.5 of this Guide](#) for additional information.

6.2.1.7 Periodic Refile Rulemaking Process Steps

After the first step, the subsequent steps will not be visible in the RICR System until after the Refile has gone live in the RICR.

Rulemaking Step	F	RC	AH	DOS
Refile		X		
Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload				X
Submission for Promulgation	<i>RICR automatic step</i>			
Final Rule and Signature Acceptance by DOS				X
Promulgation Finalization*	<i>RICR automatic step</i>			

**The refile is viewable in the RICR on the first Tuesday in January.*

6.2.2 Rulemaking Document Types

The following rulemaking documents may be uploaded in the RICR Filing System to be included in the final Rulemaking Record (see [R.I. Gen. Laws Chapter 42-35](#) for full requirements):

Document	Statutory Requirement	RICR Requirement
Proposed Rule	R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.3(b)(4)	Required
Index of Studies/Reports	R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.3(b)(3)	Optional
Internal Organization Document	R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.3(b)(9)	Optional
Petition	R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.3(b)(8)	Optional
Additional Documentation		Optional
Studies/Reports	R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.3(b)(3)	Optional
Notice of Proposed Rulemaking	R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.7	Auto-generated by the RICR System*
Concise Explanatory Statement	R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.6	Required
Final Rule	R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-4	Required
Public Comment	R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.3(b)(6)	Required
Public Hearing Documents	R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.3(b)(5)	Optional
State Register Publication	R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.3(b)(1)	Optional

*After user enters required information and clicks **Generate**.

6.2.2.1 Permitted File Types




To ensure files are able to upload into the RICR Filing System, use the following to identify what file type the associated document should be saved as:

Process	Document Type	File Type(s) Permitted
Proposed Rulemaking	Proposed Rule	.docx
	Index of Studies/Reports	.doc, .docx, .pdf, .xlsx
	Internal Organization Document	.doc, .docx, .pdf, .xlsx
	Petition	.doc, .docx, .pdf, .xlsx
	Additional Documentation	.doc, .docx, .pdf, .xlsx, .jpg, .jpeg
	Studies/Reports	.doc, .docx, .pdf, .xlsx
Final Rulemaking	Concise Explanatory Statement	.doc, .docx, .pdf, .xlsx
	Final Rule	.docx
	Public Comment	.doc, .docx, .pdf, .xlsx
	Index of Studies/Reports	.doc, .docx, .pdf, .xlsx
	Internal Organization Document	.doc, .docx, .pdf, .xlsx
	Petition	.doc, .docx, .pdf, .xlsx
	Public Hearing Documents	.doc, .docx, .pdf, .xlsx
	Additional Documentation	.doc, .docx, .pdf, .xlsx, .jpg, .jpeg
	State Register publication	.doc, .docx, .pdf, .xlsx
	Studies/Reports	.doc, .docx, .pdf, .xlsx

6.2.3 RICR Rulemaking Process Icons








6.2.3.1 RICR Process Steps Icon Key

In [§ 6.3 of this Guide](#), look for the following icons to identify what step in the process you are at in this Guide, based on the steps in [§ 6.2.1 of this Guide](#):

Icon	Identification Meaning
	Indicates a step in the process to be completed.
	Indicates when the step is completed.
	Indicates what needs to occur before taking the next step.








6.2.3.1 RICR Current Rules Tab Icon Key

In the RICR **Current Rules** tab, use the following clickable icons to navigate:

Icon	Navigation Meaning
	Promulgate New APA-Compliant Adoption
	Promulgate New APA-Exempt Adoption <i>For exempt agencies only, per R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-18.</i>
	Promulgate New Amendment
	Promulgate New Repeal
	Download Currently Active Rule Document
	Renew Emergency Rule by 60 Days
	Terminate Emergency Rule

6.2.3.1 RICR Work Queue Tab Icon Key

In the RICR **Work Queue** tab, use the following clickable icons to navigate:

Icon	Navigation Meaning
	Advance Workflow to Next Step
	Start Rulemaking for Advance Notice Rule
	Terminate Rule
	Upload Rule & Associated Documents
	Generate Notice of Proposed Rulemaking
	Edit Rulemaking Filing Details
	Review Public Comments

6.2.4 Terminating Rules

At multiple stages of the promulgation process (noted for each eligible stage in [§ 6.3 of this Guide](#)), agencies have the option to terminate, which will discontinue the rule before it goes into effect.

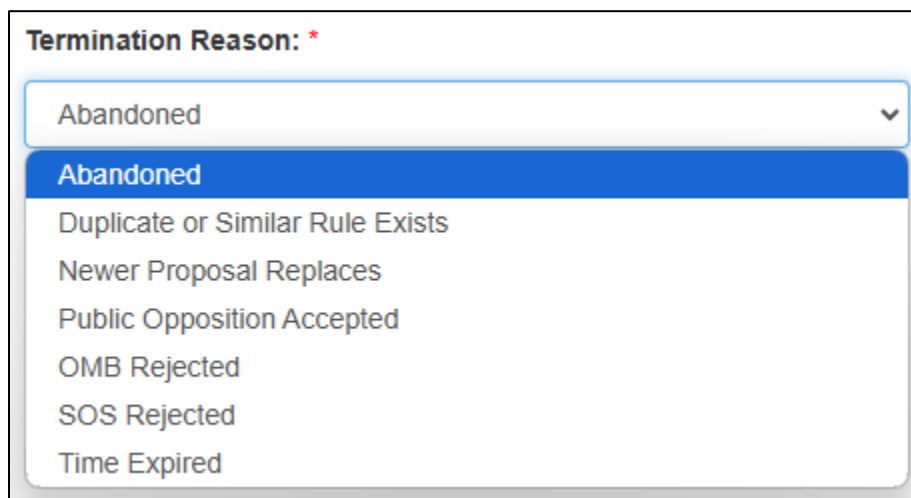
If the rule has already started its Public Comment Period:

1. Anyone who receives Regulation Notifications ([§ 2.7 of this Guide](#)), including the public and other agencies, will receive notice of the termination; and
2. If an adoption was terminated, the Part number cannot be reused in the future due to how the RICR System tracks rulemaking, and the next sequential Part number must be used if starting over.

If the rule has not yet started its Public Comment Period:

1. No notification will be sent; and
2. If an adoption was terminated, the Part number can be reused in the future.

When terminating a rule, a reason for the termination is required for internal purposes only. *The reason will not be published and will never be seen by the public.*



Termination Reason: *

Abandoned

Abandoned

Duplicate or Similar Rule Exists

Newer Proposal Replaces

Public Opposition Accepted

OMB Rejected

SOS Rejected

Time Expired



Once a rule has been terminated, this action cannot be reversed.

If a rule still needs to be promulgated, the rulemaking process must start over.

6.2.5 Identifying the Promulgation ID

All rules promulgated in the RICR Filing System are assigned a Promulgation ID.

Always provide the Promulgation ID when communicating with the Administrative Records Office to ensure the correct rule is investigated if an issue arises.

To identify the Promulgation ID in the RICR Filing System:

1. When a rule is open (in any tab), look at the website URL in the browser.
2. The Promulgation ID is the five (5) numbers following **id=#####**.

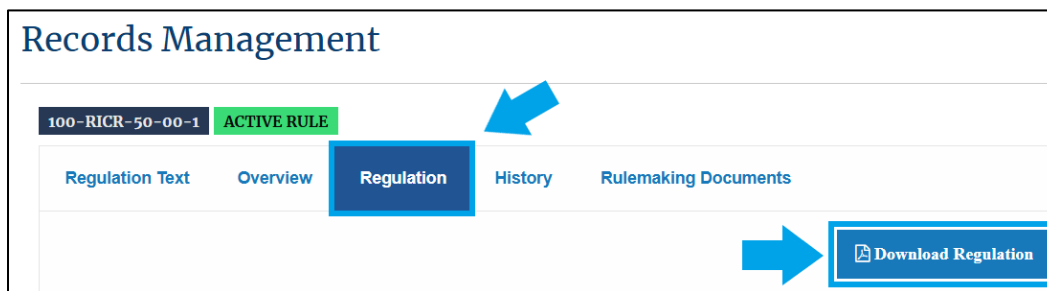
For example:

<https://rules.sos.ri.gov/Dashboard/Landing?id=13121&act=p>

The Promulgation ID is **13121**.

To identify the Promulgation ID in the RICR:

1. When a Part is open to the **Regulation** tab in the RICR, click **Download Regulation** to open the PDF:



2. Look at the website URL of the PDF in the browser.
3. The Promulgation ID is the five (5) numbers following **REG_#####**.

For example:

https://risos-apa-production-public.s3.amazonaws.com/SOS/REG_13122_20240424154529664.pdf

The Promulgation ID is **13122**.

6.3 Step-By-Step Filing Instructions

6.3.1 Rules Coordinator Instructions

6.3.1.1 Adoptions

6.3.1.1.1 Proposed Regular Rulemaking

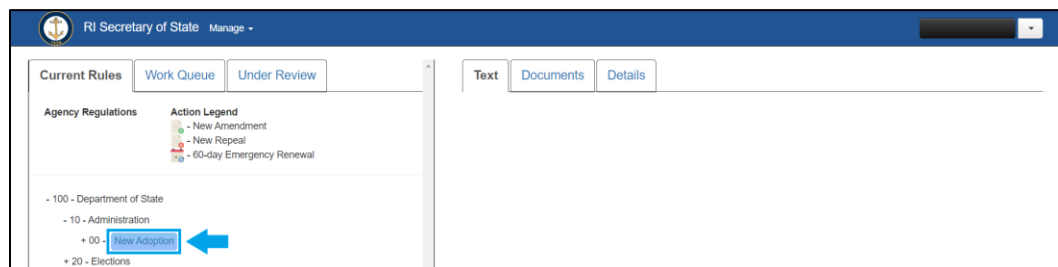
For information regarding this Rulemaking Action, see [§ 3.3.1 of this Guide](#).

Actions to be Completed	User to Complete
Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload	Rules Coordinator
DOS Verification of Drafts	Department of State
Generation of the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking	Rules Coordinator
Submission for Promulgation	RICR Filing System
Public Comment Period Begin	RICR Filing System
Post Public Comment Period Data update and Document Upload	Rules Coordinator
DOS Final Regulation Approval	Department of State
Agency Head Signature Applied	Agency Head
Final Rule and Signature Acceptance by DOS	Department of State
Promulgation Finalization	RICR Filing System



6.3.1.1.1.1 Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. In the **Current Rules** tab, click the **Title**, **Chapter**, and **Subchapter** to open each level, then click **New Adoption** to promulgate a new rule:



3. Enter in the **Rulemaking Filing Details**:

RI Secretary of State Manage ▾

Department of State

Administration

Rulemaking Type: Adoption

Rulemaking Action: * ? **a** Proposed Emergency Advance Notice

Rule Identifier: * ? 100-RICR-10-00- **b**

Regulation Title: * **c**

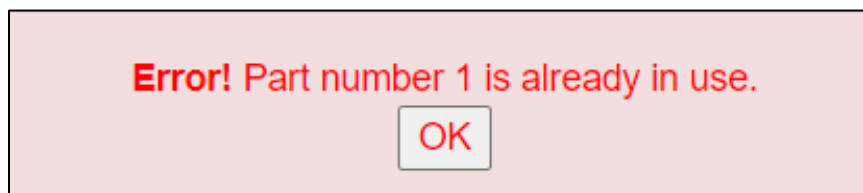
Rulemaking Authority: * **d** R.I. General Laws

- a. Choose **Proposed**, then **Regular**, for the **Rulemaking Action** and **Rulemaking Process**;

Rulemaking Action: * ? Proposed

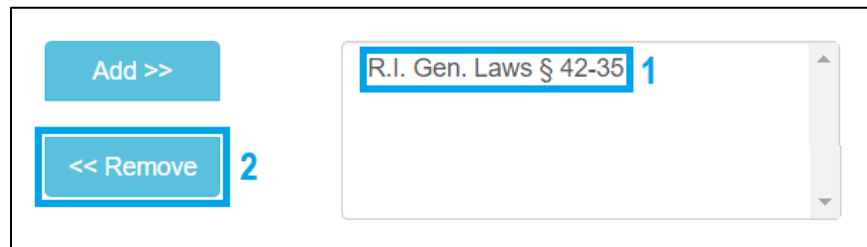
Rulemaking Process: * ? Regular

- b. Enter the **Rule Identifier** (a.k.a. Part number);
- i. Part numbers may only be used once ([§ 2.3.4 of this Guide](#)). The RICR System will display an error message if a Part number has already been used after clicking the next field:

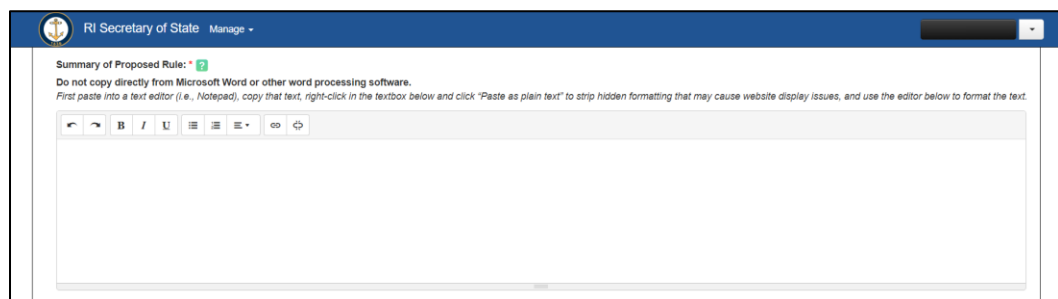


- ii. Enter in a new Part number until you no longer see an error, then update rulemaking documents to use the new Part number.

- c. Enter the **Regulation Title** using sentence case (i.e., use “Conduct of Public Hearings”, not “CONDUCT OF PUBLIC HEARINGS”); and
- d. Choose the appropriate authority from the dropdown, enter the **Rulemaking Authority** citation, and click **Add**.
 - i. If citing a whole R.I. General Law **Title** or **Chapter**, select “Alternative” and write the citation in full. Selecting “R.I. General Laws” automatically adds a section symbol (§).
 - ii. To remove a **Rulemaking Authority**, click to select the citation to remove from the list and click **Remove**:

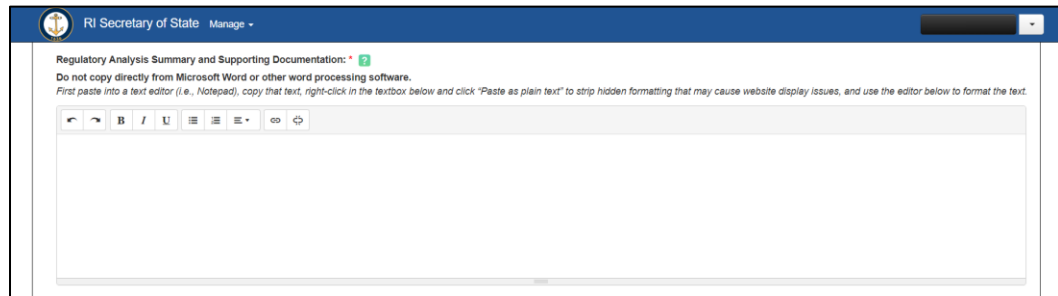


- 4. Enter the **Summary of Proposed Rule** in plain language of terms or substance of intended action, or description of the subjects and issues involved, including changes between current and proposed regulations:
 - a. If copying text from another document, follow the directions on screen to strip all erroneous formatting.



- 5. Enter the **Regulatory Analysis Summary and Supporting Documentation** to provide a brief paragraph of the societal cost and benefits of compliance as prepared under [R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.9](#), including any citations to scientific or statistical studies, reports, and analyses that served as a basis for the proposed rule:

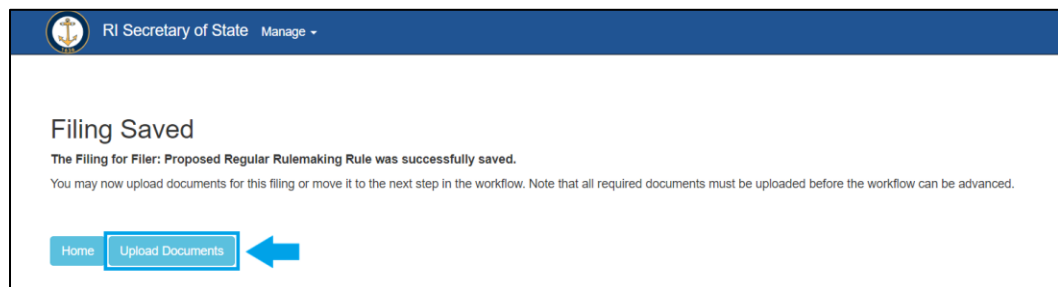
- a. If copying text from another document, follow the directions on screen to strip all erroneous formatting.



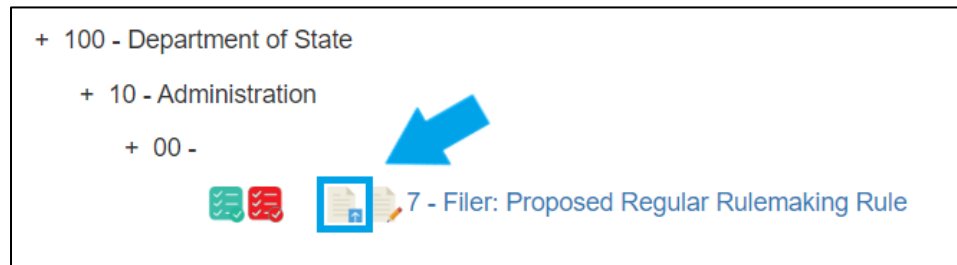
6. Enter the **Additional Information URL** to indicate the location on your website where the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking is published as required by [R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.7](#):

A screenshot of a form field labeled "Additional Information URL: * ?". The input field contains the text "https://" followed by a dropdown arrow and "www.example.com".

7. Review to ensure all entered text is correct and click **Submit**.
 - a. At any point during the above process, if you don't wish to move forward, click **Cancel** to prevent the Part number from being used.
8. This Rulemaking Action requires documents to be uploaded. Click **Upload Documents**:



- a. If you click **Home** by accident, click the **Upload Documents** icon next to the Part in the **Work Queue** tab to go to the correct screen:



9. Upload documents:

- a. Select from the dropdown the **Document Type**:

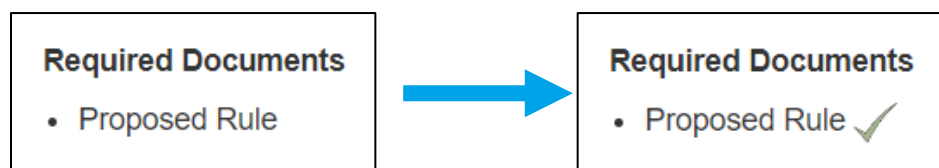
i. **Required:**

- Proposed Rule

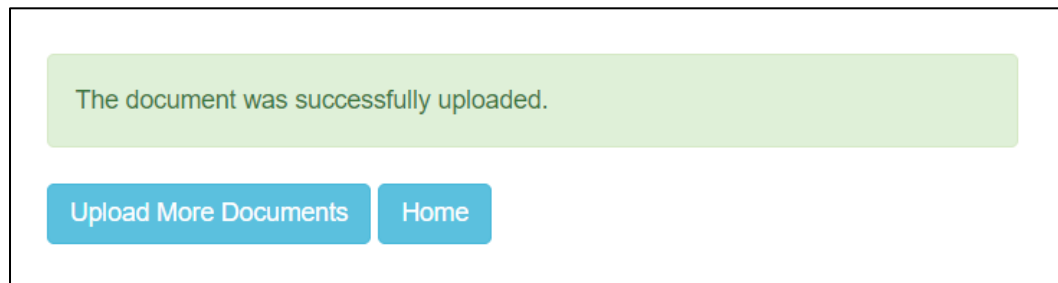
ii. **Optional:**

- Index of Studies/Reports
- Additional Documentation
- Internal Organization Document
- Studies/Reports
- Petition

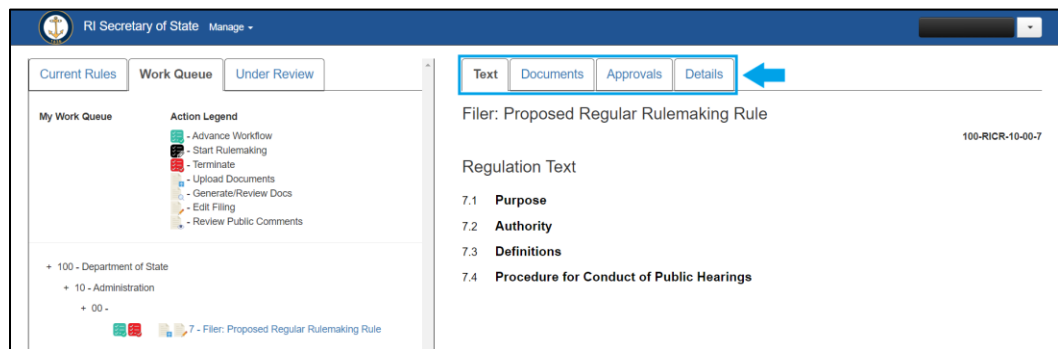
A list of required documents will display, and as documents are uploaded, a green check will be added next to each document:



- b. Click **Choose File** to select the document from your computer; and
 - c. Click **Upload Document** to upload.
10. If additional documents need to be uploaded, click **Upload More Documents** and repeat steps 9-10 for each additional document (*you will not be able to advance the rule until all required documents are uploaded*), or click **Home** to continue to the next step:



11. Click each tab on the right to ensure all information regarding the rule is correct (**Text**, **Documents**, **Approvals**, and **Details**):



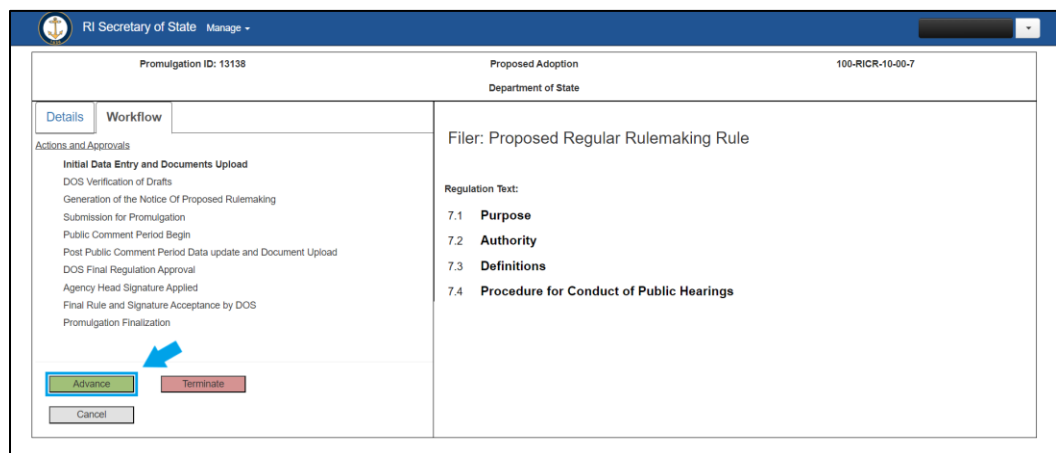
12. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click the **Terminate** icon to end the promulgation process and skip to step 14(b)(i):



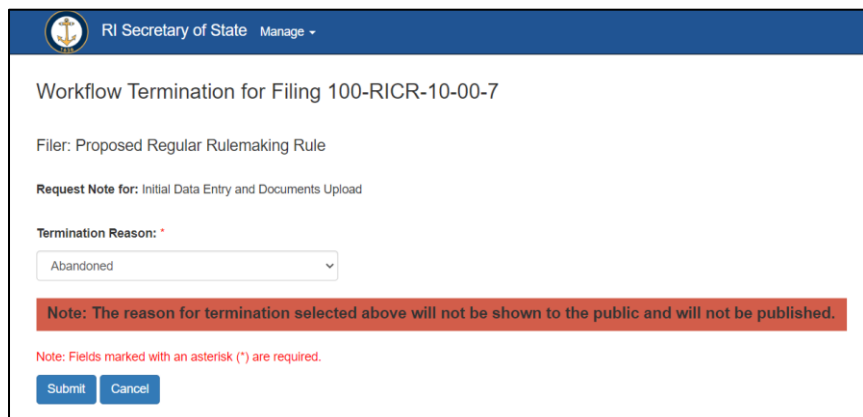
13. To continue, click the **Advance Workflow** icon:



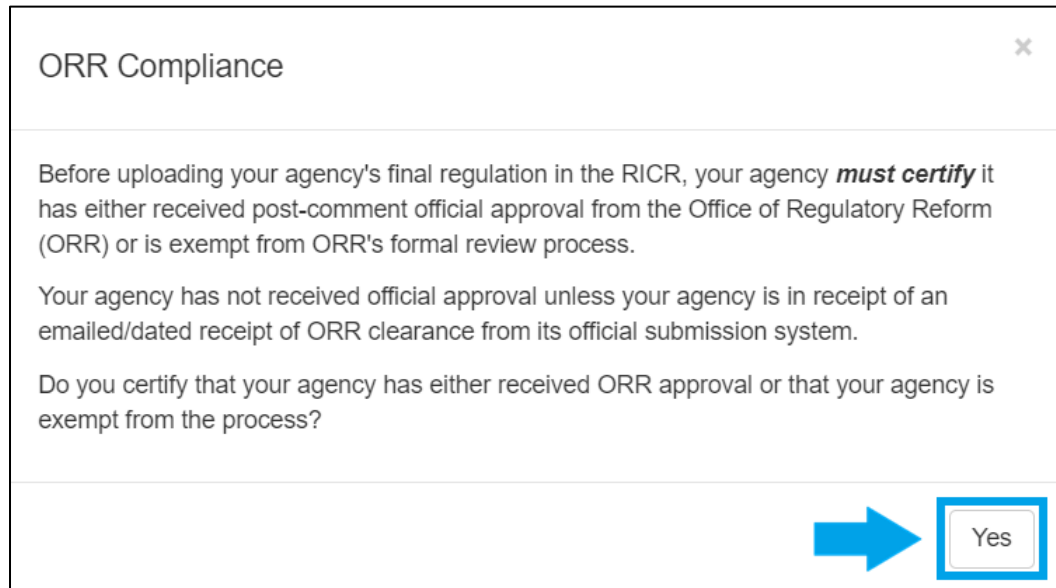
14. To advance the rule for the DOS Formatting Review, click **Advance**:



- a. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click **Cancel** to go back; or
- b. Click **Terminate** to end the promulgation process:
 - i. Select a **Termination Reason**, then click **Submit** to terminate, or click **Cancel** to continue the promulgation process:



15. Certify that your agency has either received official approval from OMB or is exempt from OMB’s review process by clicking **Yes**:




ORR Compliance

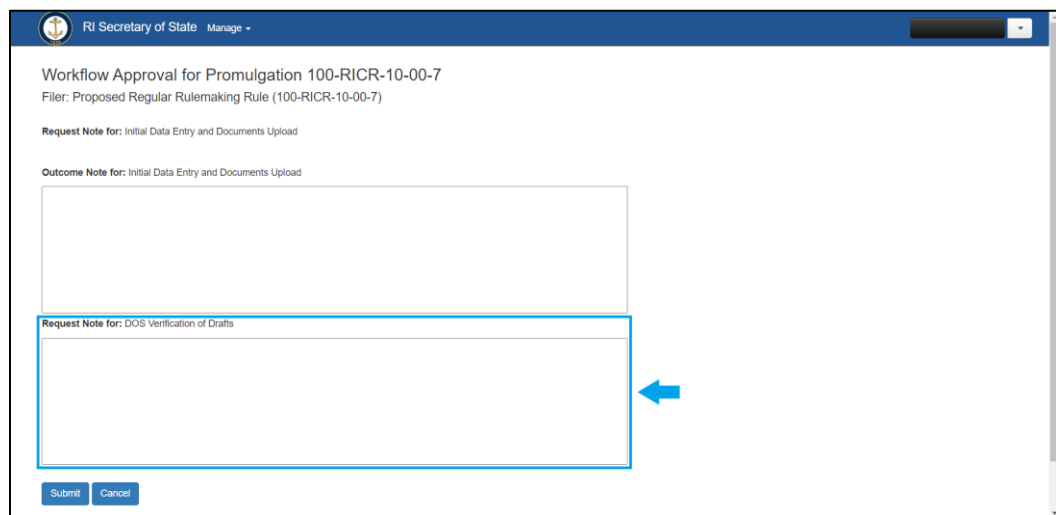
Before uploading your agency's final regulation in the RICR, your agency **must certify** it has either received post-comment official approval from the Office of Regulatory Reform (ORR) or is exempt from ORR's formal review process.

Your agency has not received official approval unless your agency is in receipt of an emailed/dated receipt of ORR clearance from its official submission system.

Do you certify that your agency has either received ORR approval or that your agency is exempt from the process?



- a. **If your agency has not received official approval from OMB and is not exempt**, click the DOS logo in the top-left corner to return to the home page. **Do not proceed in the RICR System** until you have official approval. Once your agency receives approval, go back to step 13 to proceed.
16. If you would like to add a note for the DOS, enter text in the **Request Note** and/or click **Submit**:



RI Secretary of State Manage

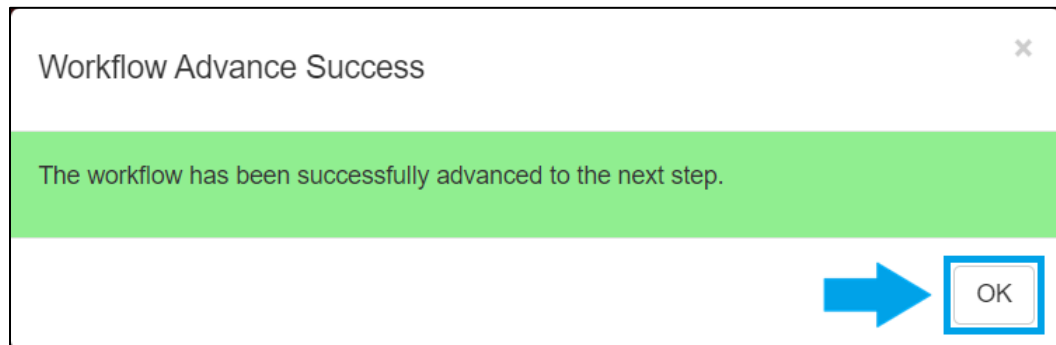
Workflow Approval for Promulgation 100-RICR-10-00-7
Filer: Proposed Regular Rulemaking Rule (100-RICR-10-00-7)

Request Note for: Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

Outcome Note for: Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

Request Note for: DOS Verification of Drafts

17. Upon submitting, click **OK** to return to the RICR System homepage:

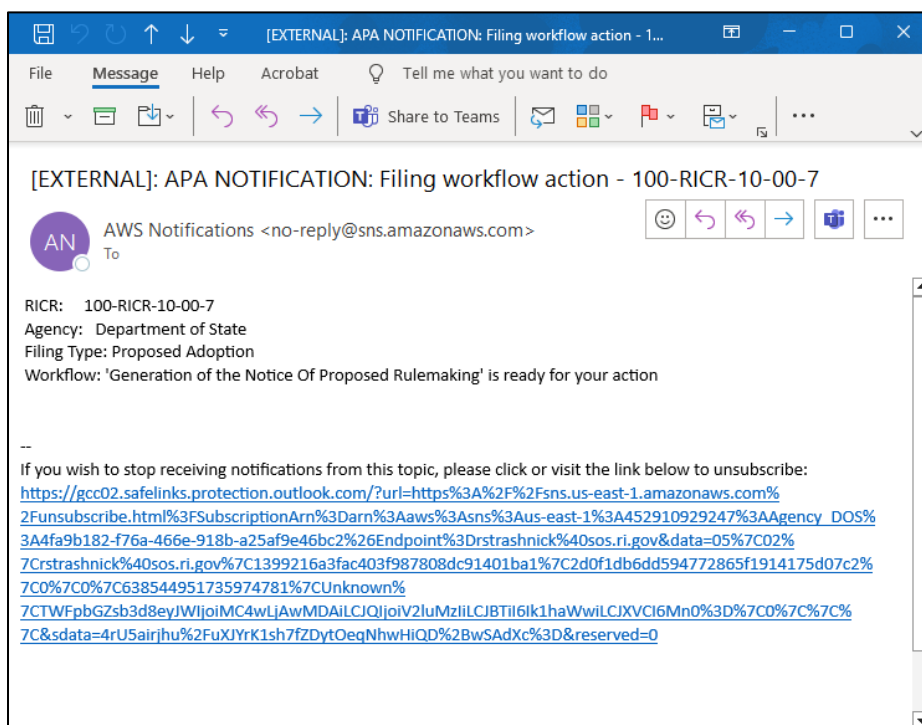


 **COMPLETED:** *Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload*

6.3.1.1.1.2 DOS Verification of Drafts

This step will be completed by the Administrative Records Office.

Once the DOS formatting review has been completed, the Rules Coordinator will receive an AWS Notification email to indicate the next step should be taken:

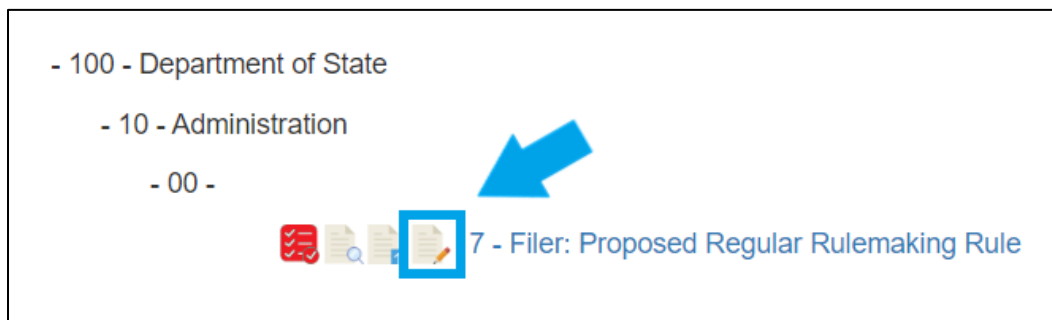




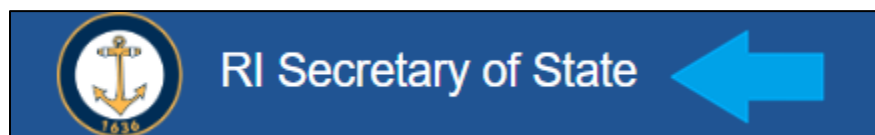
6.3.1.1.1.3 Generation of the Notice Of Proposed Rulemaking

1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. If for any reason the rule details need to be updated, click the **Edit Filing** icon to update the **Regulation Title, Rulemaking Authority, Summary of Proposed Rule,** and **Regulatory Analysis Summary and Supporting Documentation,** then click **Submit** once the details are updated:

Once the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking is generated and published, this information cannot be changed.



- a. Once completed, click the Department of State logo to navigate back to the homepage:



3. In the **Work Queue** tab, click on the **Title, Chapter,** and **Subchapter** to open each level, then click the **Generate/Review Docs** icon:



AGENCY GUIDE: RULES COORDINATORS

- Click **Add >>** under **Public Comment Period List**, and click **Edit** and **<< Remove** as necessary to adjust the Public Comment Period:

Generate Public Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

Add a Public Comment Period

Public Comment Period List:

- Fill out the form to add a Public Comment Period - all fields are required:

Public Comment Period ✕

Date of Public Notice: 08/13/2024

Date of End of Comment Period: * ?

Full Name of Contact Person: *

Contact Person Email: *

Contact Person Address: *

, RI

Allow online public comments? *

Yes No

AGENCY GUIDE: RULES COORDINATORS

- a. The **Date of End of Comment Period** will automatically show the minimum first eligible date to be chosen, but you may choose a future date if needed.
 - b. Agencies may use the RICR Filing System to accept public comments by selecting **Yes** to **Allow online public comments?**. Agencies may opt out by selecting **No**.
 - i. If **Yes** is selected, you have the option to specify dates for when your agency wants to allow online public comments within the Public Comment Period.
6. If there will be a hearing, click on the Public Comment Period, then click **Add >>** under **Add a Public Hearing**:

Generate Public Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

Add a Public Comment Period

Public Comment Period List:

Add >> 08/23/2024 - 08/23/2024 **Edit**

<< Remove

Add a Public Hearing: ?

Add >> **<< Remove** **Edit**

7. Fill out the form to add a Public Hearing - all fields are required:

Public Hearing ✕

Hearing date/time: *

Time:

Hearing Location: *

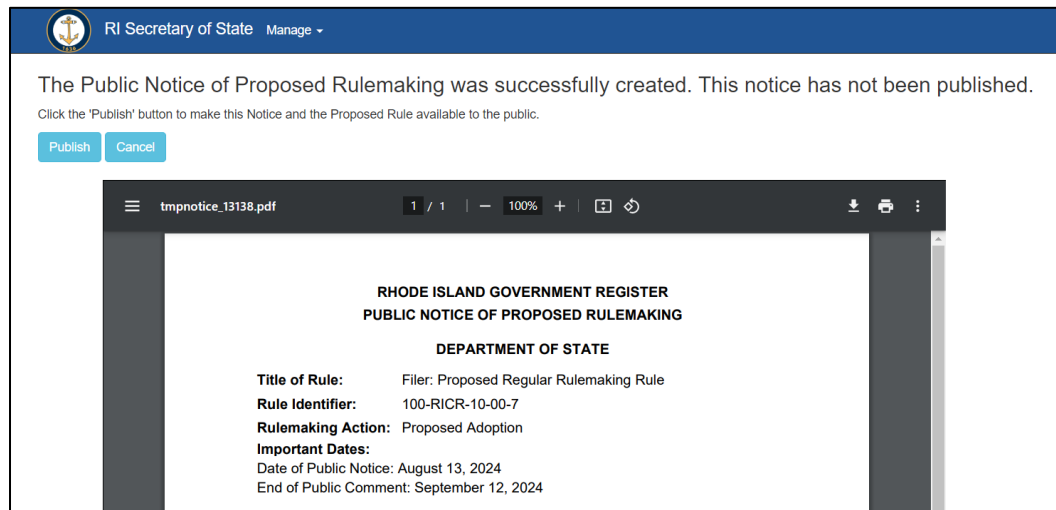
State: Rhode Island

Phone Number for Special Assistance: *

8. Click **Generate Notice** (this will not publish the rule, only preview the notice):



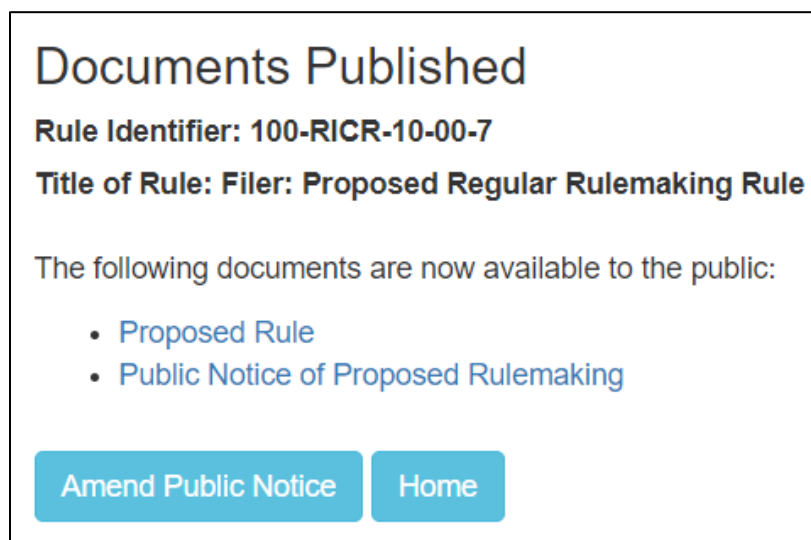
9. Review the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking:



- a. If any information within the notice is incorrect, click **Cancel** to go back and edit to update the information and complete steps as necessary.
- b. Once information is confirmed to be correct, click **Publish** to approve the notice and publish the rule in the RICR.

10. Click **Home** to return to the RICR home page:

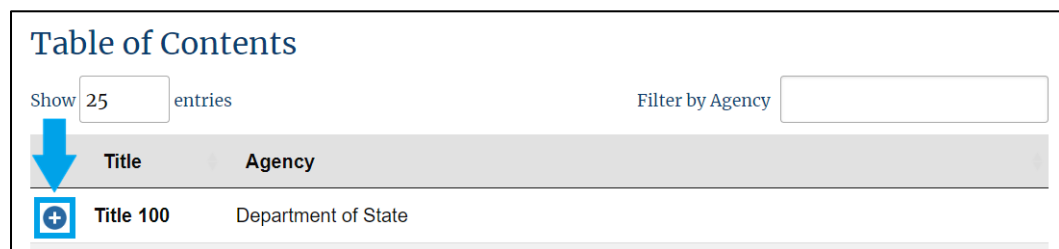
- a. If after the notice is published there needs to be any changes made, click **Amend Public Notice** to create and publish an additional notice with corrections.



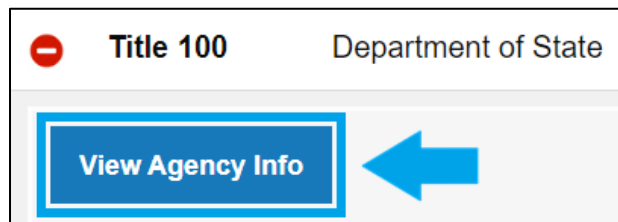
 **COMPLETED: Generation of the Notice Of Proposed Rulemaking**

At this time, the Proposed Rule is now live in the RICR and may be viewed by completing the following:

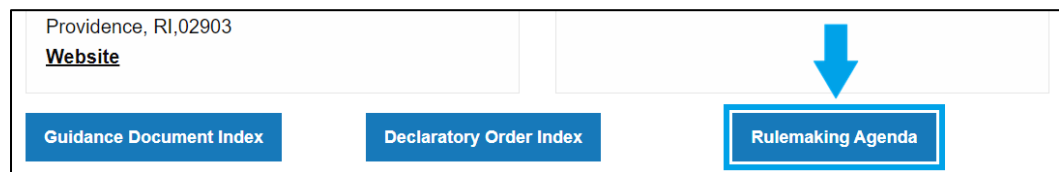
1. Go to <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/organizations>.
2. Locate the associated Title within the Table of Contents.
3. Click the plus sign (+) next to the Title:



4. Click **Agency Info**:



5. Click **Rulemaking Agenda**:



6. Locate the correct Proposed Rule and click the rule name to view:

Department of State Rulemaking Agenda

Proposed Rules for Department of State

Displaying 1 - 1 of 1

Filer: Proposed Regular Rulemaking Rule ←

100 -RICR - 10 - 00 - 7 | Type of filing: Adoption
PROPOSED RULE

Title: **Department of State** | Chapter: **Administration** | Subchapter: **N/A**

Public Comment Term(s): 08/13/2024 to 09/12/2024 | Notice Date: 08/13/2024

[View Details](#) | [View Proposed](#) | [Additional Information](#)

7. Click through the navigation tabs to view the **Overview**, **Regulation**, **History**, **Rulemaking Documents**, and **Comments**:

Filer: Proposed Regular Rulemaking Rule

100-RICR-10-00-7 **PROPOSED RULE**

[Overview](#) | [Regulation](#) | [History](#) | [Rulemaking Documents](#) | [Comments](#) ←

[Download Regulation](#)

100-RICR-10-00-7
TITLE 100 – DEPARTMENT OF STATE
CHAPTER 10 – ADMINISTRATION
SUBCHAPTER 00 - N/A
PART 7 – CONDUCT OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

Home
RICR FAQs

Search Regulations ⓘ

Keywords
ex. fish, 120 -RICR - 00 - 00 - 12345

Exact Match

Agencies
Select an agency ▼

Sort by
Relevance ▼

In Order of
Descending ▼

8. The **Overview** tab displays the rule details:

Filer: Proposed Regular Rulemaking Rule

100-RICR-10-00-7
PROPOSED RULE

Overview
Regulation
History
Rulemaking Documents
Comments

Notify Me

Title	100	Department of State
Chapter	10	Administration
Subchapter	00	N/A
Part	7	Filer: Proposed Regular Rulemaking Rule

Type of Filing	Adoption
Regulation Status	Proposed
Filing Notice Date	08/13/2024
Public Comment Dates	08/13/2024 to 09/12/2024

Regulation Authority:
R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35

Purpose and Reason:
Filer: Proposed Regular Rulemaking Rule



6.3.1.1.1.4 Submission for Promulgation and Public Comment Period Begin

These steps will be completed automatically by the RICR System.

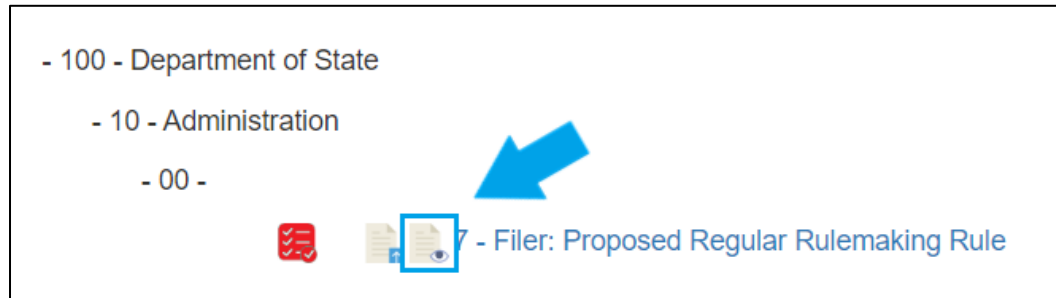
Once the Public Comment Period ends, the RICR System will automatically advance the rule to the next step.

If online public comments were allowed, you may review comments as they are submitted, or at the end of the Public Comment Period. See step 2 in the following section ([§ 6.3.1.1.1.5 of this Guide](#)) for how to review comments and generate a public comment document compiling all submitted rules.

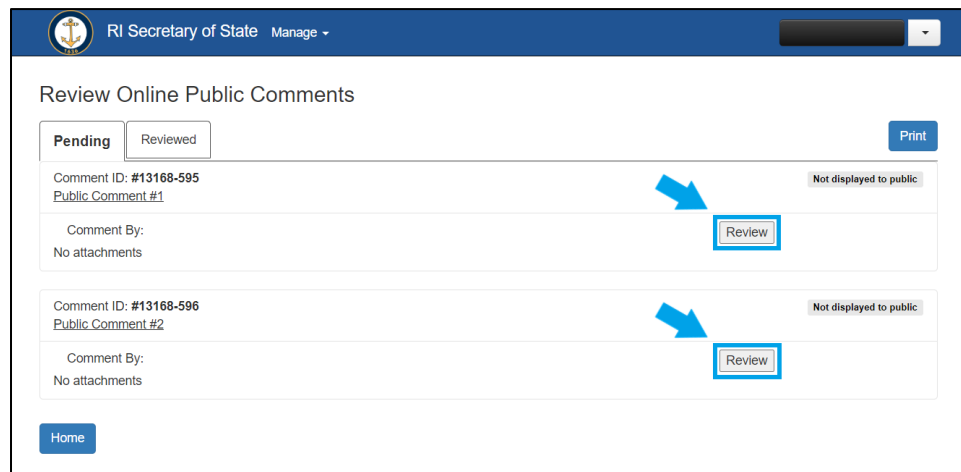


6.3.1.1.1.5 Post Public Comment Period Data update and Document Upload

1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. If online public comments were allowed, click the Review Comments icon, otherwise skip to step 3:



- a. Review every rule listed under the **Pending** tab by clicking **Review** for each comment submitted:



- i. Select to display the comment in the RICR or not, add any internal and public notes, and click **OK** to approve:

Online Public Comment Review

Comment By: **First Last**
On: **08/13/2024**
Comment: **Public Comment #1**
Comment display to public is **disabled** and not yet reviewed

Enable public comment display? Yes No

Internal Review Notes

Public Review Notes

Display these Public Review Notes to the public: ?

OK Cancel

- b. Click the **Reviewed** tab to view who reviewed the comment, when it was approved, and review again if necessary:

RI Secretary of State Manage

Review Online Public Comments

Pending **Reviewed** Print

Comment ID: #13168-596
Public Comment #1

Comment By:
No attachments
Reviews:

Reviewed By:
On:

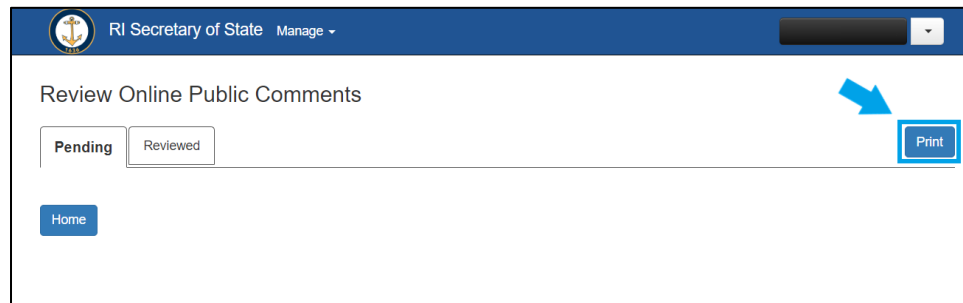
Comment ID: #13168-596
Public Comment #2

Comment By:
No attachments
Reviews:

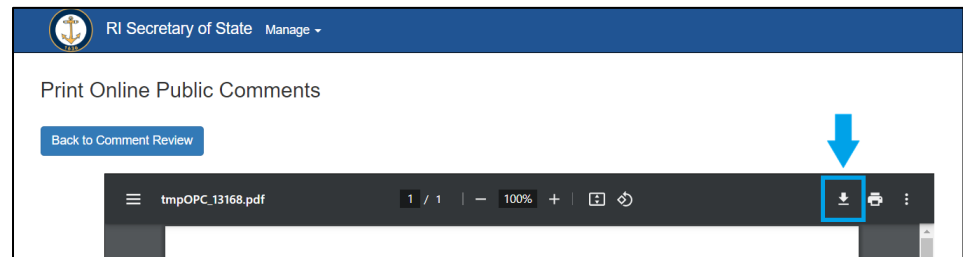
Reviewed By:
On:

Home

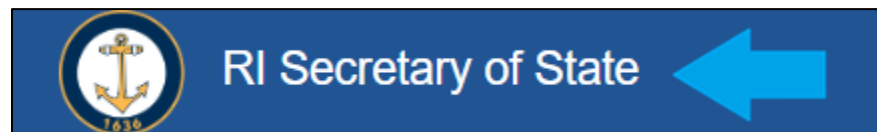
- c. Click **Print** to generate a public comment document:



- d. Click the down arrow at the top-right of the PDF viewer to download the document so that it can be used to upload as the part of the final rulemaking documents in step 4:



- e. To navigate back to the homepage, click the Department of State logo:



3. In the **Work Queue** tab, click on the **Title**, **Chapter**, and **Subchapter** to open each level, then click the **Upload Documents** icon:



4. Upload documents:

a. Select from the dropdown the **Document Type**:

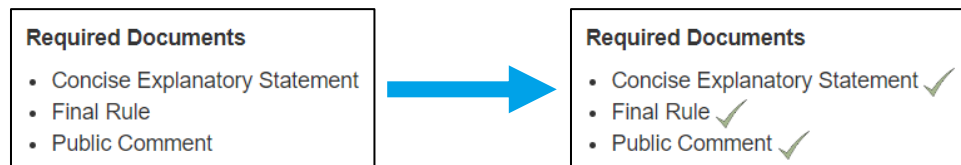
i. **Required:**

- Concise Explanatory Statement
- Final Rule
- Public Comment (*may upload multiple, if necessary*)

ii. **Optional:**

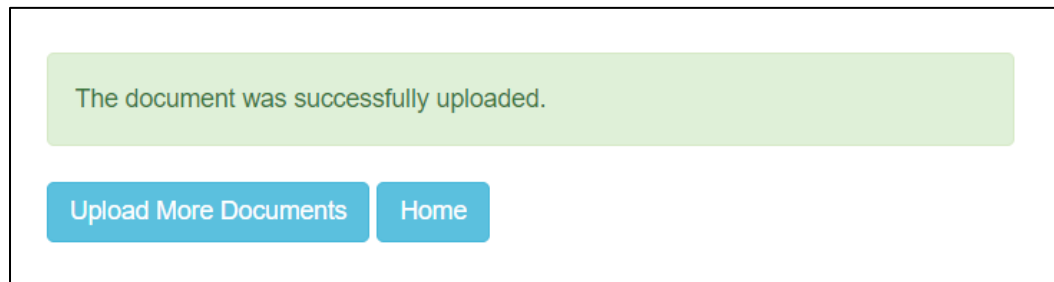
- Index of Studies/Reports
- Internal Organization Document
- Petition
- Public Hearing Documents
- Additional Documentation
- State Register publication
- Studies/Reports

A list of required documents will display, and as documents are uploaded, a green check will be added next to each document:

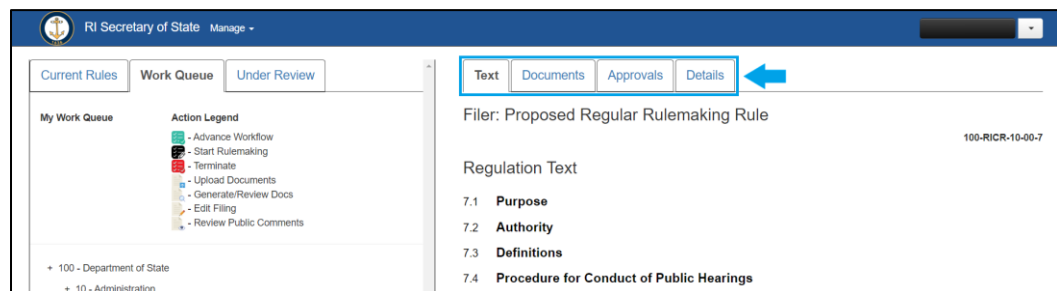


b. Click **Choose File** to select the document from your computer; and

- c. Click **Upload Document** to upload.
5. If additional documents need to be uploaded, click **Upload More Documents** and repeat steps 4-5 for each additional document (*you will not be able to advance the rule until all required documents are uploaded*), or click **Home** to continue to the next step:



6. Click each tab on the right to ensure rule information and all rulemaking documents are correct (**Text**, **Documents**, **Approvals**, and **Details**):



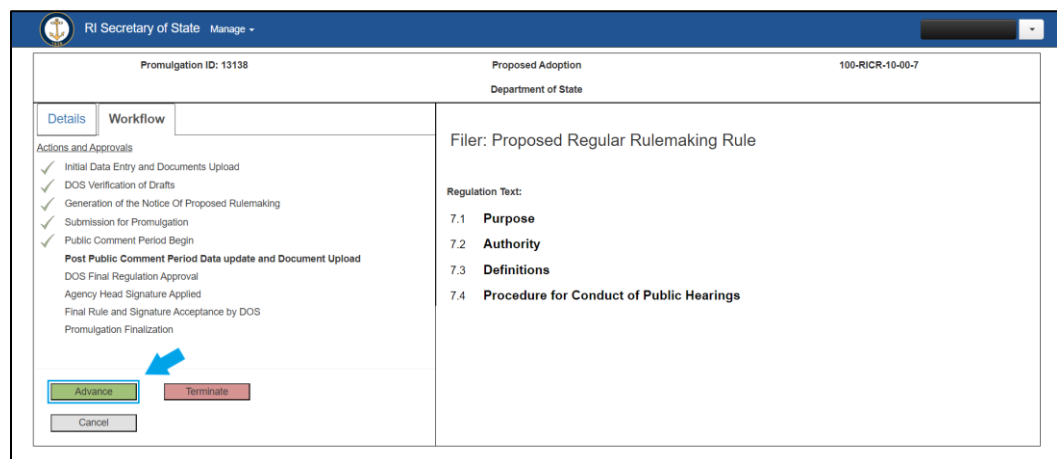
7. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click the **Terminate** icon to end the promulgation process and skip to step 9(b)(i):



8. To continue, click the **Advance Workflow** icon:



9. To advance the rule for the DOS Formatting Review, click **Advance**:



- a. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click **Cancel** to go back; or
- b. Click **Terminate** to end the promulgation process:

- i. Select a **Termination Reason**, then click **Submit** to terminate, or click **Cancel** to continue the promulgation process:

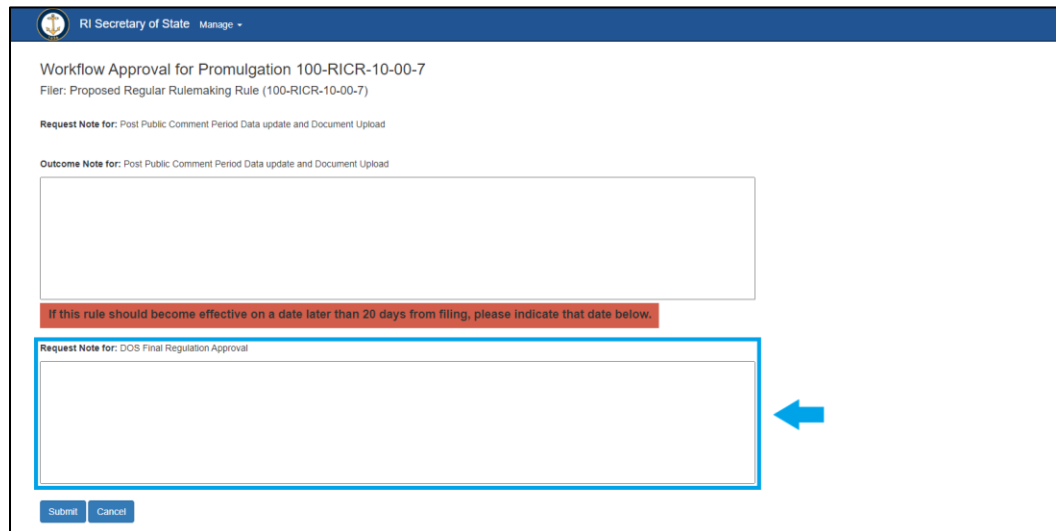
The screenshot shows a web form titled "Workflow Termination for Filing 100-RICR-10-00-7". The header includes the RI Secretary of State logo and a "Manage" dropdown. The form content includes: "Filer: Proposed Regular Rulemaking Rule", a red warning box stating "Note: If you terminate this Part, you will not be able to use this Part number in the future.", a "Request Note for: Post Public Comment Period Data update and Document Upload", a "Termination Reason:" dropdown menu with "Abandoned" selected, another red warning box stating "Note: The reason for termination selected above will not be shown to the public and will not be published.", a red note at the bottom stating "Note: Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required.", and "Submit" and "Cancel" buttons.

- 10. Certify that your agency has either received official approval from OMB or is exempt from OMB’s review process by clicking **Yes**:

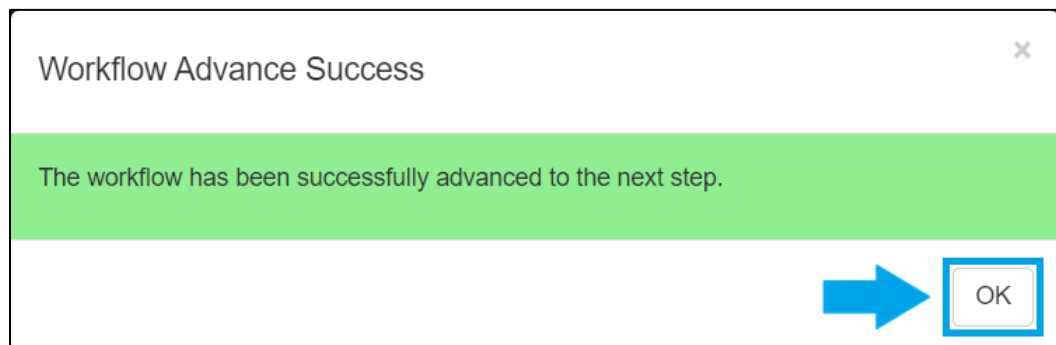
The screenshot shows a dialog box titled "ORR Compliance" with a close button (X) in the top right corner. The text inside reads: "Before uploading your agency's final regulation in the RICR, your agency **must certify** it has either received post-comment official approval from the Office of Regulatory Reform (ORR) or is exempt from ORR's formal review process. Your agency has not received official approval unless your agency is in receipt of an emailed/dated receipt of ORR clearance from its official submission system. Do you certify that your agency has either received ORR approval or that your agency is exempt from the process?" At the bottom right, there is a blue arrow pointing to a "Yes" button, which is highlighted with a blue border.

- a. **If your agency has not received official approval from OMB and is not exempt**, click the DOS logo in the top-left corner to return to the home page. **Do not proceed in the RICR System** until you have official approval. Once your agency receives approval, go back to step 8 to proceed.

11. If you would like to add a note for the DOS (i.e., if you would like the rule to become effective on a future date other than the minimum 20-day waiting period), enter text in the **Request Note** and/or click **Submit**:



12. Upon submitting, click **OK** to return to the RICR System homepage:



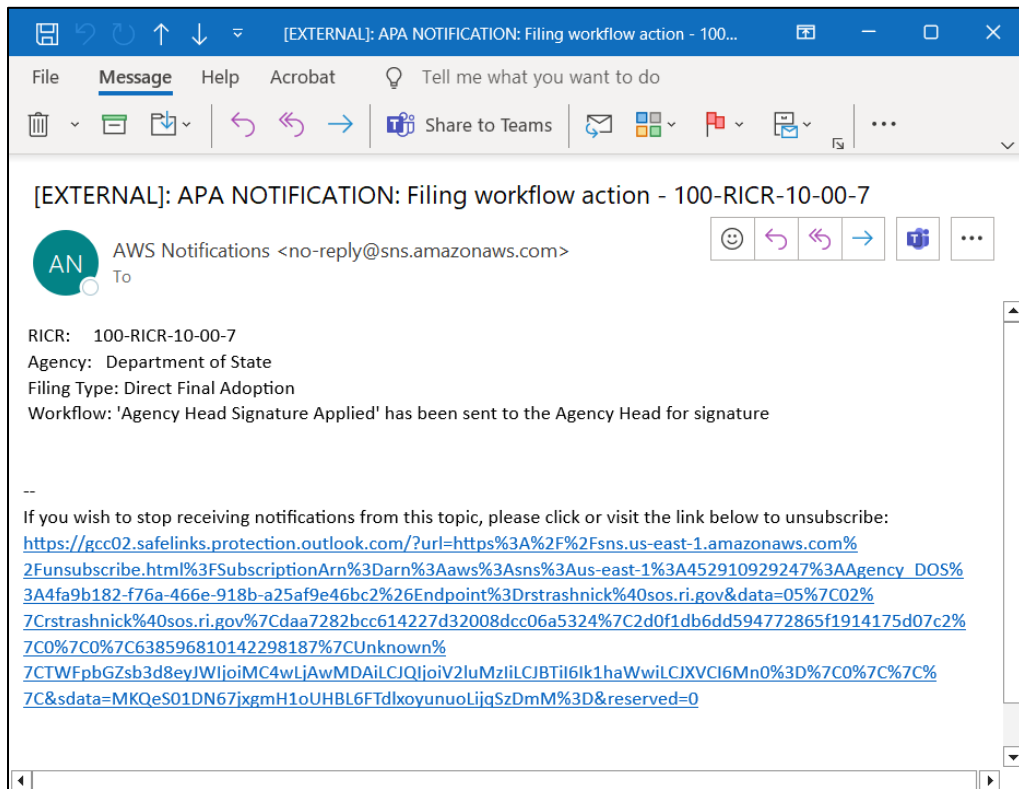
 **COMPLETED:** *Post Public Comment Period Data update and Document Upload*

 **6.3.1.1.1.6 DOS Final Regulation Approval**

This step will be completed by the Administrative Records Office.

Once the DOS formatting review has been completed, the Rules Coordinator and Agency Head will receive an AWS Notification email to

indicate the rule is ready to be signed by the Agency Head:



6.3.1.1.1.7 Agency Head Signature Applied

This step will be completed by the Agency Head.

The Agency Head will receive an automated email from OneSpan, the signature provider, to sign the rule.

6.3.1.1.1.8 Final Rule and Signature Acceptance by DOS

This step will be completed by the Administrative Records Office.

Once the Agency Head signs the rule, the Department of State will sign the rule and set the rule's Effective Date.



6.3.1.1.1.9 Promulgation Finalization

This step will be completed automatically by the RICR System.

The RICR System will automatically display the Final Regulation in the RICR the day it becomes effective.

It is the Rules Coordinator's responsibility to download the signed Regulation for the agency's files to be permanently retained per [GRS2.5 Rulemaking Files](#).

Final Regulations can be downloaded by opening the active Part in the [RICR](#), clicking the **Regulation** tab, and clicking **Download Regulation**:



6.3.1.1.2 Proposed Direct Final Rulemaking

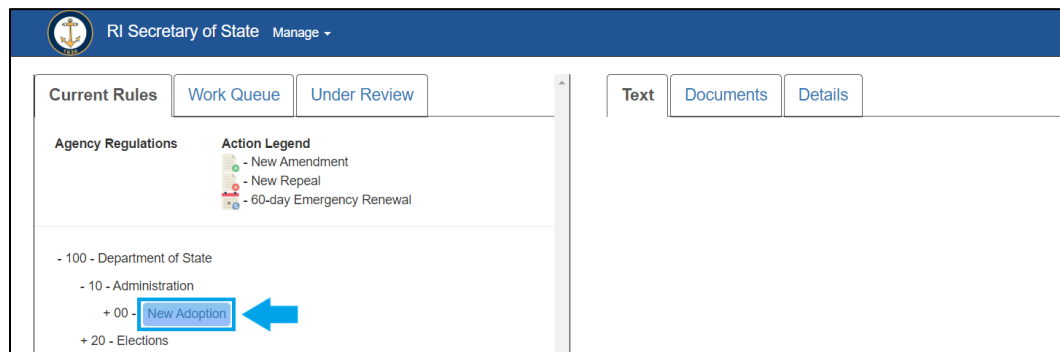
For information regarding this Rulemaking Action, see [§ 3.3.2 of this Guide](#).

Actions to be Completed	User to Complete
Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload	Rules Coordinator
DOS Verification of Drafts	Department of State
Generation of the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking	Rules Coordinator
Submission for Promulgation	RICR Filing System
Public Comment Period Begin	RICR Filing System
Post Public Comment Period Data update and Document Upload	Rules Coordinator
DOS Final Regulation Approval	Department of State
Agency Head Signature Applied	Agency Head
Final Rule and Signature Acceptance by DOS	Department of State
Promulgation Finalization	RICR Filing System



6.3.1.1.2.1 Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. In the **Current Rules** tab, click the **Title**, **Chapter**, and **Subchapter** to open each level, then click **New Adoption** to promulgate a new rule:



3. Enter in the **Rulemaking Filing Details**:

RI Secretary of State Manage ▾

Department of State

Administration

Rulemaking Type: Adoption

Rulemaking Action: * ? a Proposed Emergency Advance Notice

Rule Identifier: * ? b 100-RICR-10-00-

Regulation Title: * c

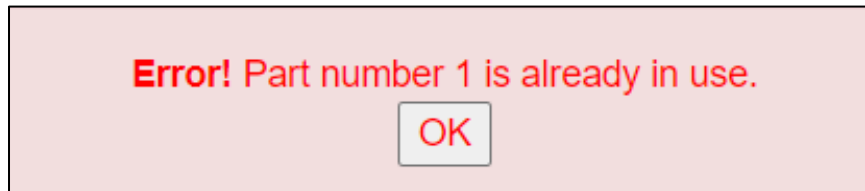
Rulemaking Authority: * d

- a. Choose **Proposed**, then **Direct Final**, for the **Rulemaking Action** and **Rulemaking Process**;

Rulemaking Action: * ? Proposed Emergency

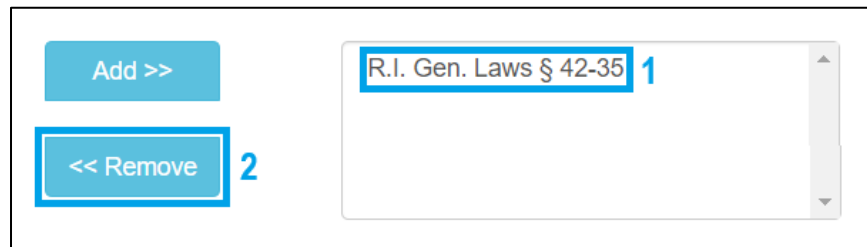
Rulemaking Process: * ? Regular Direct Final

- b. Enter the **Rule Identifier** (a.k.a. Part number);
- i. Part numbers may only be used once ([§ 2.3.4 of this Guide](#)). The RICR System will display an error message if a Part number has already been used after clicking the next field:

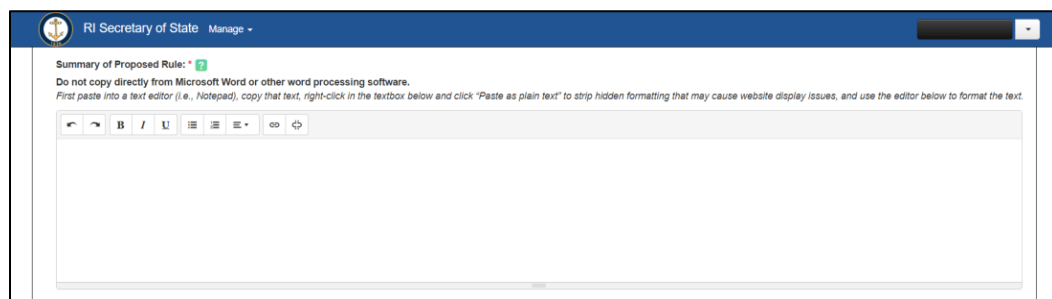


- ii. Enter in a new Part number until you no longer see an error, then update rulemaking documents to use the new Part number.

- c. Enter the **Regulation Title** using sentence case (i.e., use “Conduct of Public Hearings”, not “CONDUCT OF PUBLIC HEARINGS”); and
- d. Choose the appropriate authority from the dropdown, enter the **Rulemaking Authority** citation, and click **Add**.
 - i. If citing a whole Title or Chapter in the R.I. General Laws, select “Alternative” and write the citation in full. Selecting “R.I. General Laws” automatically adds a section symbol (§).
 - ii. To remove a **Rulemaking Authority**, click to select the citation to remove from the list and click **Remove**:

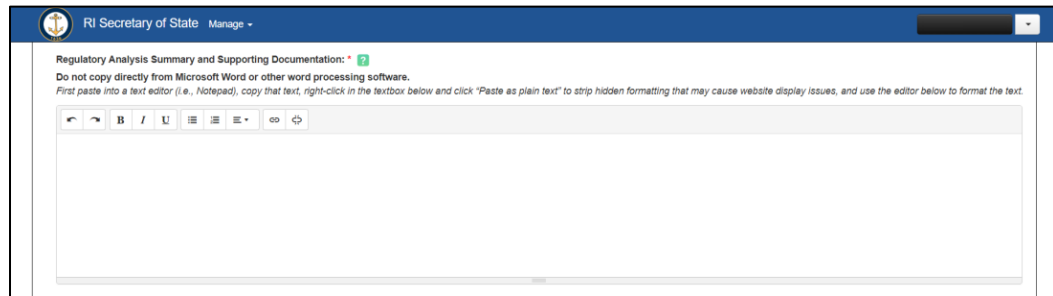


- 4. Enter the **Summary of Proposed Rule** in plain language of terms or substance of intended action, or description of the subjects and issues involved, including changes between current and proposed regulations:
 - a. If copying text from another document, follow the directions on screen to strip all erroneous formatting.



- 5. Enter the **Regulatory Analysis Summary and Supporting Documentation** to provide a brief paragraph of the societal cost and benefits of compliance as prepared under [R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.9](#), including any citations to scientific or statistical studies, reports, and analyses that served as a basis for the proposed rule:

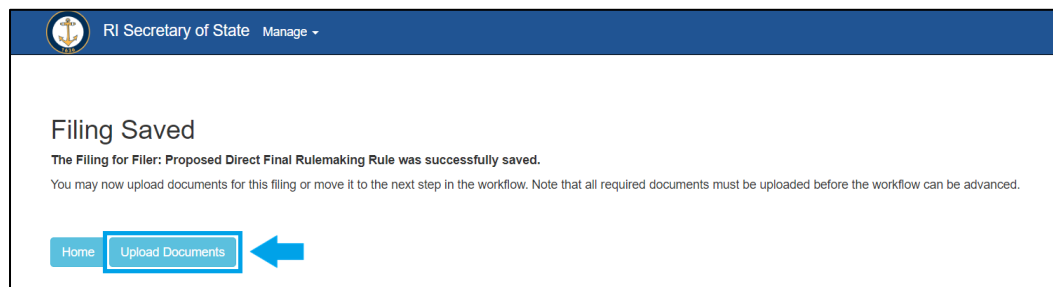
- a. If copying text from another document, follow the directions on screen to strip all erroneous formatting.



6. Enter the **Additional Information URL** to indicate the location on your website where the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking is published as required by [R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.7](#):

A screenshot of a form field labeled 'Additional Information URL: *' with a green question mark icon. The input field contains the text 'https://' followed by a dropdown arrow and 'www.example.com'.

7. Review to ensure all entered text is correct and click **Submit**.
 - a. At any point during the above process, if you don't wish to move forward, click **Cancel** to prevent the Part number from being used.
8. This Rulemaking Action requires documents to be uploaded. Click **Upload Documents**:



- a. If you click **Home** by accident, click the **Upload Documents** icon next to the Part in the **Work Queue** tab to go to the correct screen:



9. Upload documents:

- a. Select from the dropdown the **Document Type**:

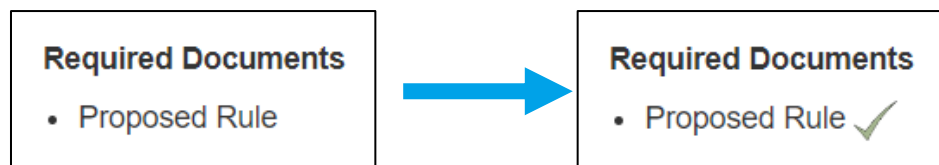
i. **Required:**

- Proposed Rule

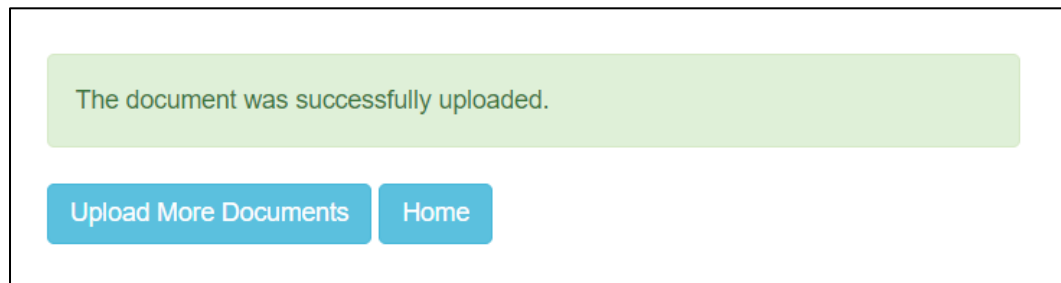
ii. **Optional:**

- Index of Studies/Reports
- Additional Documentation
- Internal Organization Document
- Studies/Reports
- Petition

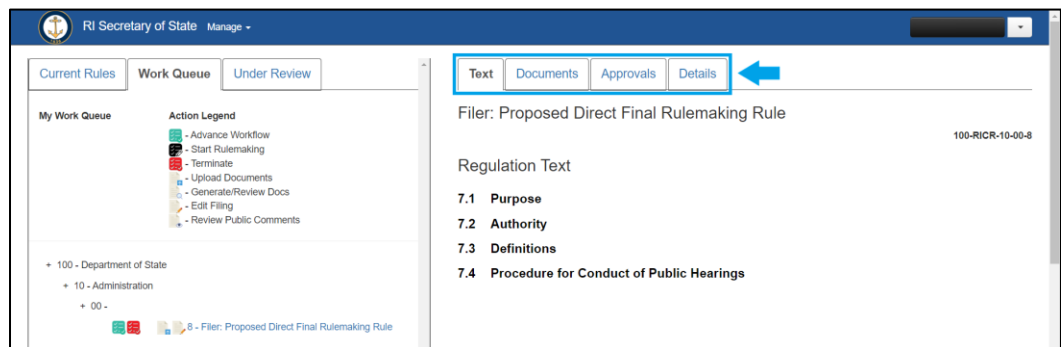
A list of required documents will display, and as documents are uploaded, a green check will be added next to each document:



- b. Click **Choose File** to select the document from your computer; and
 - c. Click **Upload Document** to upload.
10. If additional documents need to be uploaded, click **Upload More Documents** and repeat steps 9-10 for each additional document (*you will not be able to advance the rule until all required documents are uploaded*), or click **Home** to continue to the next step:



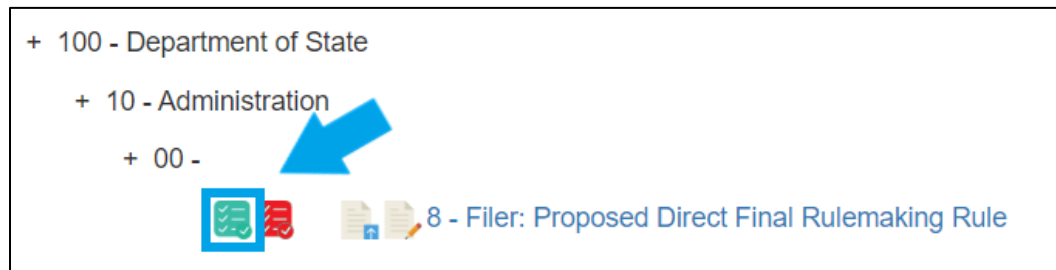
11. Click each tab on the right to ensure all information regarding the rule is correct (**Text**, **Documents**, **Approvals**, and **Details**):



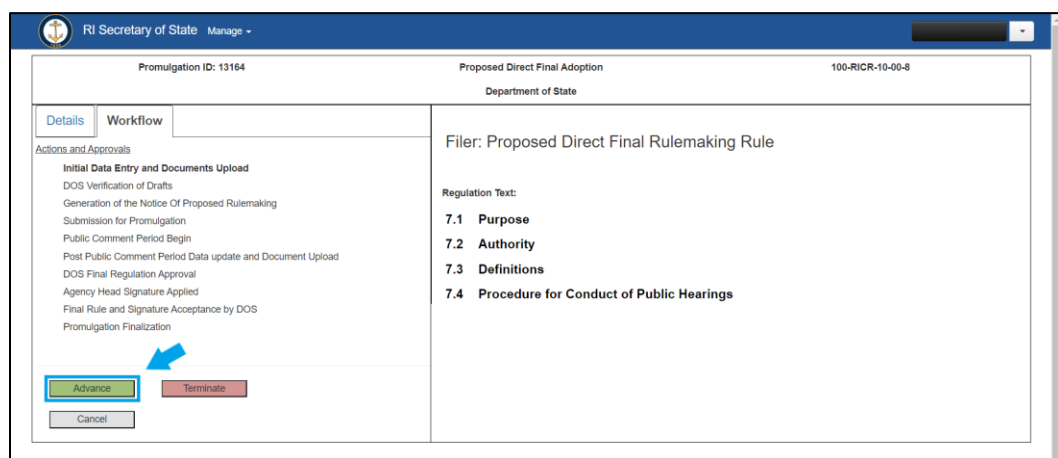
12. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click the **Terminate** icon to end the promulgation process and skip to step 14(b)(i):



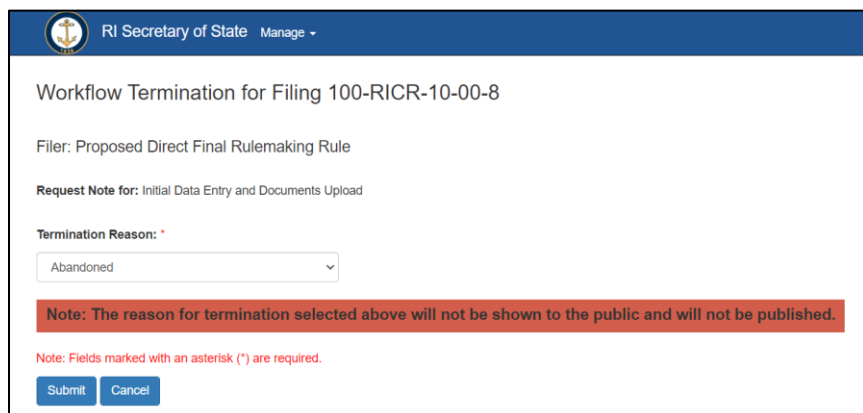
13. To continue, click the **Advance Workflow** icon:



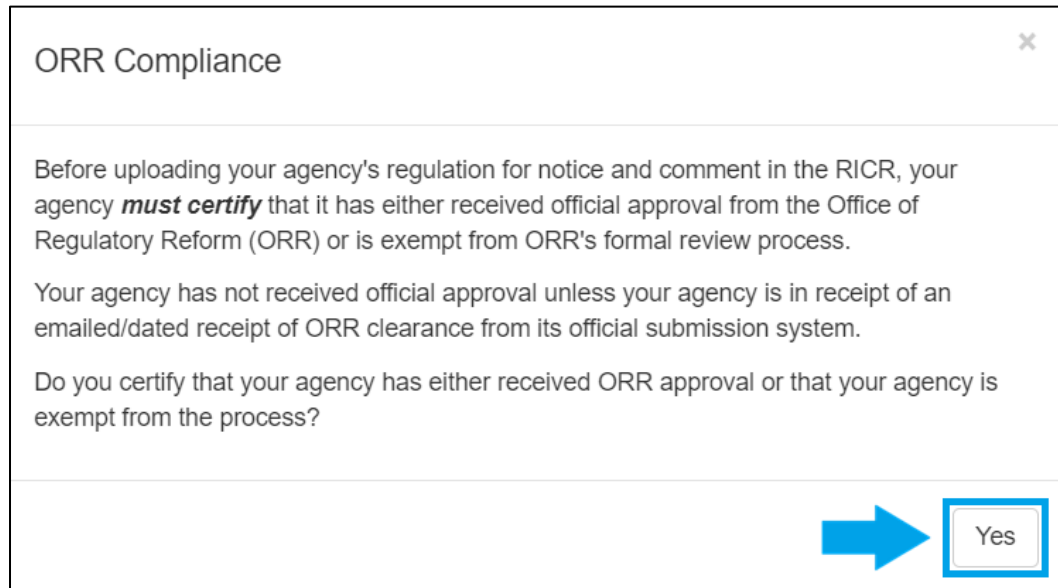
14. To advance the rule for the DOS Formatting Review, click **Advance**:



- a. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click **Cancel** to go back; or
- b. Click **Terminate** to end the promulgation process:
 - i. Select a **Termination Reason**, then click **Submit** to terminate, or click **Cancel** to continue the promulgation process:



15. Certify that your agency has either received official approval from OMB or is exempt from OMB’s review process by clicking **Yes**:



ORR Compliance

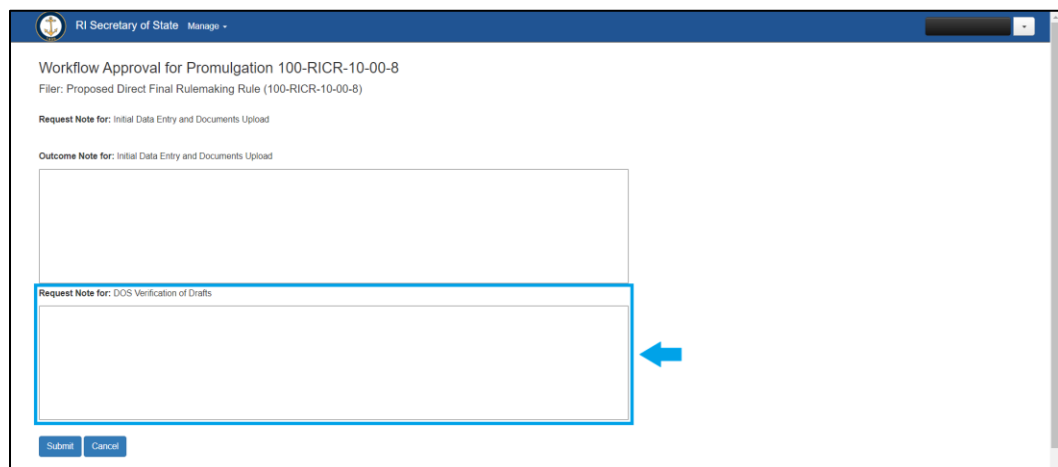
Before uploading your agency's regulation for notice and comment in the RICR, your agency **must certify** that it has either received official approval from the Office of Regulatory Reform (ORR) or is exempt from ORR's formal review process.

Your agency has not received official approval unless your agency is in receipt of an emailed/dated receipt of ORR clearance from its official submission system.

Do you certify that your agency has either received ORR approval or that your agency is exempt from the process?

Yes

- a. **If your agency has not received official approval from OMB and is not exempt**, click the DOS logo in the top-left corner to return to the home page. **Do not proceed in the RICR System** until you have official approval. Once your agency receives approval, go back to step 13 to proceed.
16. If you would like to add a note for the DOS, enter text in the **Request Note** and/or click **Submit**:



RI Secretary of State Manage

Workflow Approval for Promulgation 100-RICR-10-00-8
Filer: Proposed Direct Final Rulemaking Rule (100-RICR-10-00-8)

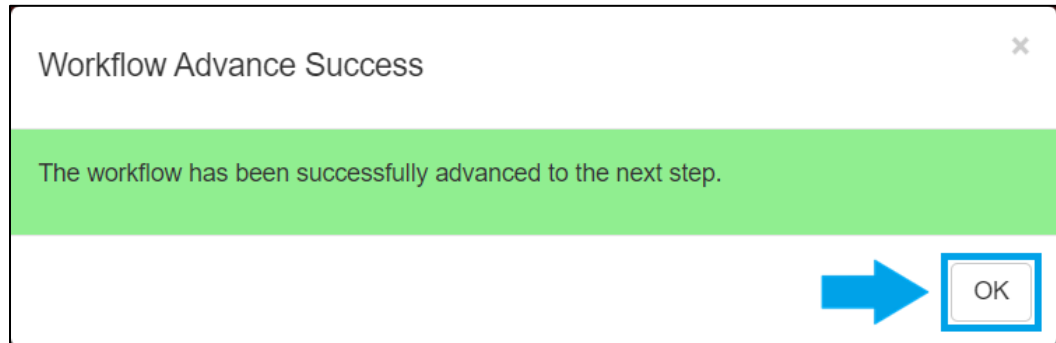
Request Note for: Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

Outcome Note for: Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

Request Note for: DOS Verification of Drafts

Submit Cancel

17. Upon submitting, click **OK** to return to the RICR System homepage:

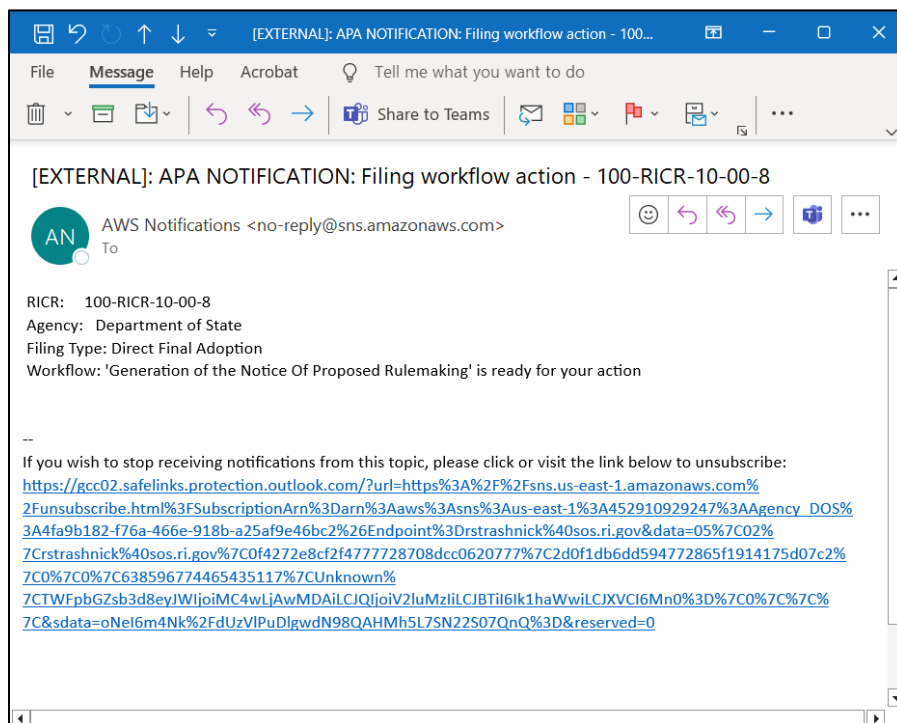


 **COMPLETED:** *Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload*

6.3.1.1.2.2 DOS Verification of Drafts

This step will be completed by the Administrative Records Office.

Once the DOS formatting review has been completed, the Rules Coordinator will receive an AWS Notification email to indicate the next step should be taken:





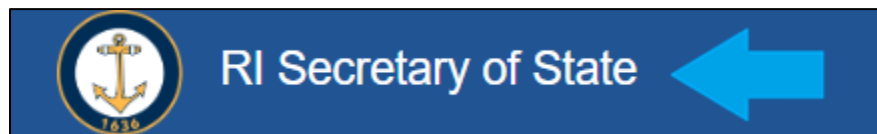
6.3.1.1.2.3 Generation of the Notice Of Proposed Rulemaking

1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. If for any reason the rule details need to be updated, click the **Edit Filing** icon to update the **Regulation Title, Rulemaking Authority, Summary of Proposed Rule,** and **Regulatory Analysis Summary and Supporting Documentation,** then click **Submit** once the details are updated:

Once the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking is generated and published, this information cannot be changed.



- a. Once completed, click the Department of State logo to navigate back to the homepage:



3. In the **Work Queue** tab, click on the **Title, Chapter,** and **Subchapter** to open each level, then click the **Generate/Review Docs** icon:



AGENCY GUIDE: RULES COORDINATORS

- Click **Add >>** under **Public Comment Period List**, and click **Edit** and **<< Remove** as necessary to adjust the Public Comment Period:

Generate Public Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

Add a Public Comment Period

Public Comment Period List:

Add >>

<< Remove

Edit

- Fill out the form to add a Public Comment Period - all fields are required:

Public Comment Period ✕

Date of Public Notice: 08/13/2024

Date of End of Comment Period: * ?

Full Name of Contact Person: *

Contact Person Email: *

Contact Person Address: *

, RI

Allow online public comments? *

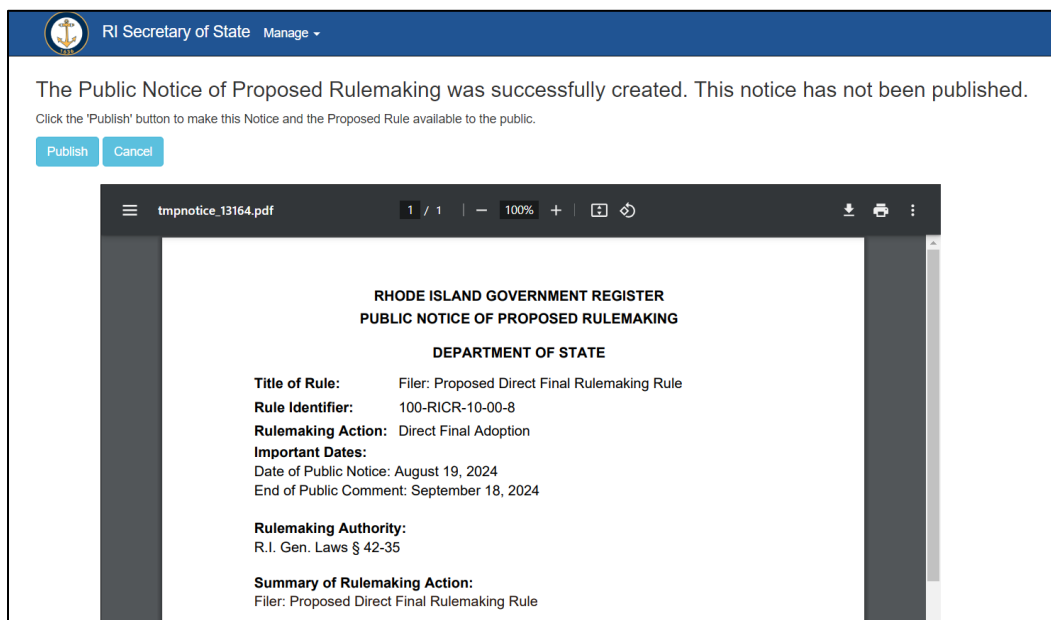
Yes No

OK **Cancel**

- a. The **Date of End of Comment Period** will automatically show the minimum first eligible date to be chosen, but you may choose a future date if needed.
 - b. Agencies may use the RICR Filing System to accept public comments by selecting **Yes to Allow online public comments?** Agencies may opt out by selecting **No**.
 - i. If **Yes** is selected, you have the option to specify dates for when your agency wants to allow online public comments within the Public Comment Period.
6. Click **Generate Notice** (this will not publish the rule, only preview the notice):



7. Review the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking:



- a. If any information within the notice is incorrect, click **Cancel** to go

back and edit to update the information and complete steps as necessary.

- b. Once information is confirmed to be correct, click **Publish** to approve the notice and publish the rule in the RICR.
8. Click **Home** to return to the RICR home page:
- a. If after the notice is published there needs to be any changes made, click **Amend Public Notice** to create and publish an additional notice with corrections.

Documents Published

Rule Identifier: 100-RICR-10-00-8

Title of Rule: Filer: Proposed Direct Final Rulemaking Rule

The following documents are now available to the public:

- [Proposed Rule](#)
- [Public Notice of Proposed Rulemaking](#)

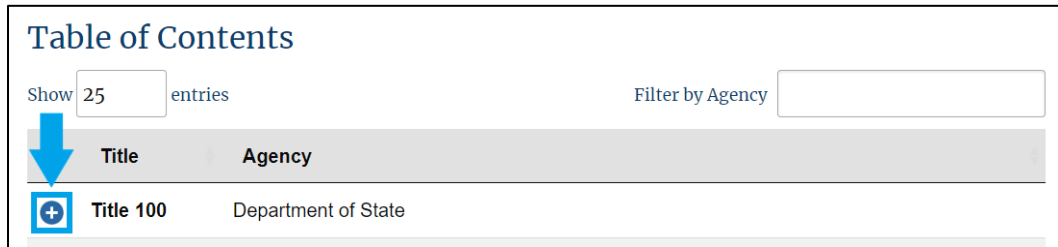
Amend Public NoticeHome

 **COMPLETED:** *Generation of the Notice Of Proposed Rulemaking*

At this time, the Proposed Rule is now live in the RICR and may be viewed by completing the following:

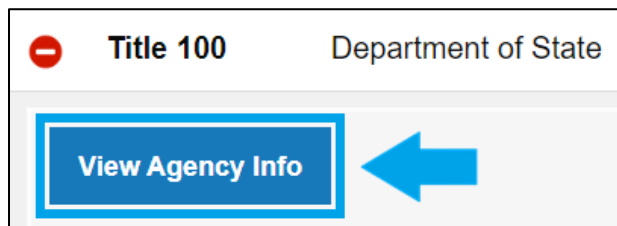
1. Go to <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/organizations>.
2. Locate the associated Title within the Table of Contents.

3. Click the plus sign (+) next to the Title:



Title	Agency
+ Title 100	Department of State

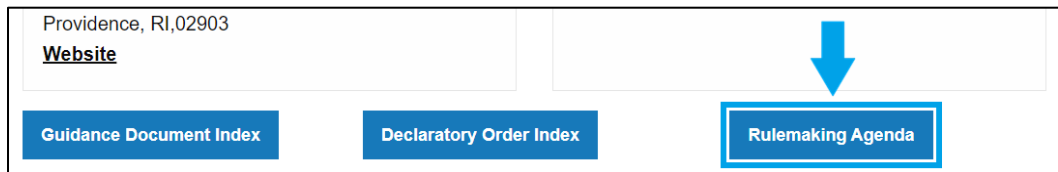
4. Click **Agency Info**:



Title 100 Department of State

[View Agency Info](#)

5. Click **Rulemaking Agenda**:



Providence, RI,02903
[Website](#)

[Guidance Document Index](#) [Declaratory Order Index](#) [Rulemaking Agenda](#)

6. Locate the correct Proposed Rule and click the rule name to view:



Department of State Rulemaking Agenda

Proposed Rules for Department of State

Displaying 1 - 1 of 1

[Filer: Proposed Direct Final Rulemaking Rule](#)

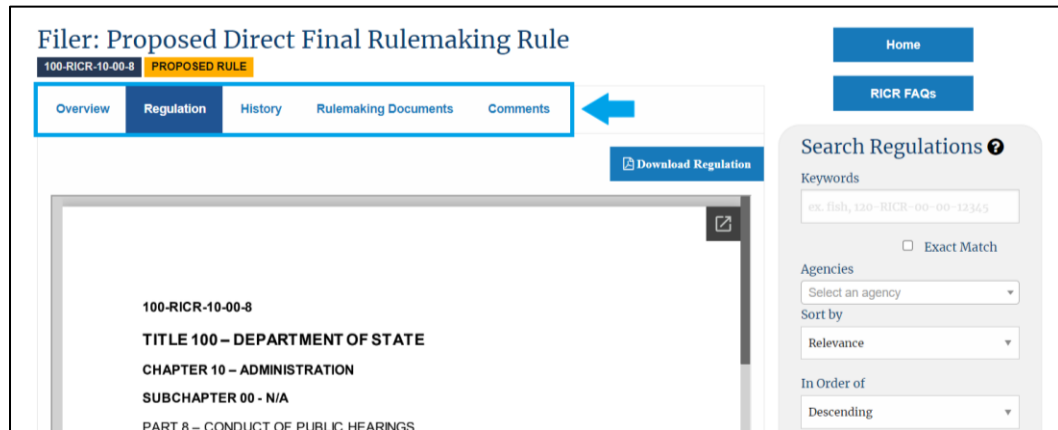
100 -RICR - 10 - 00 - 8 | Type of filing: Adoption
PROPOSED RULE

Title: **Department of State** | Chapter: **Administration** | Subchapter: **N/A**

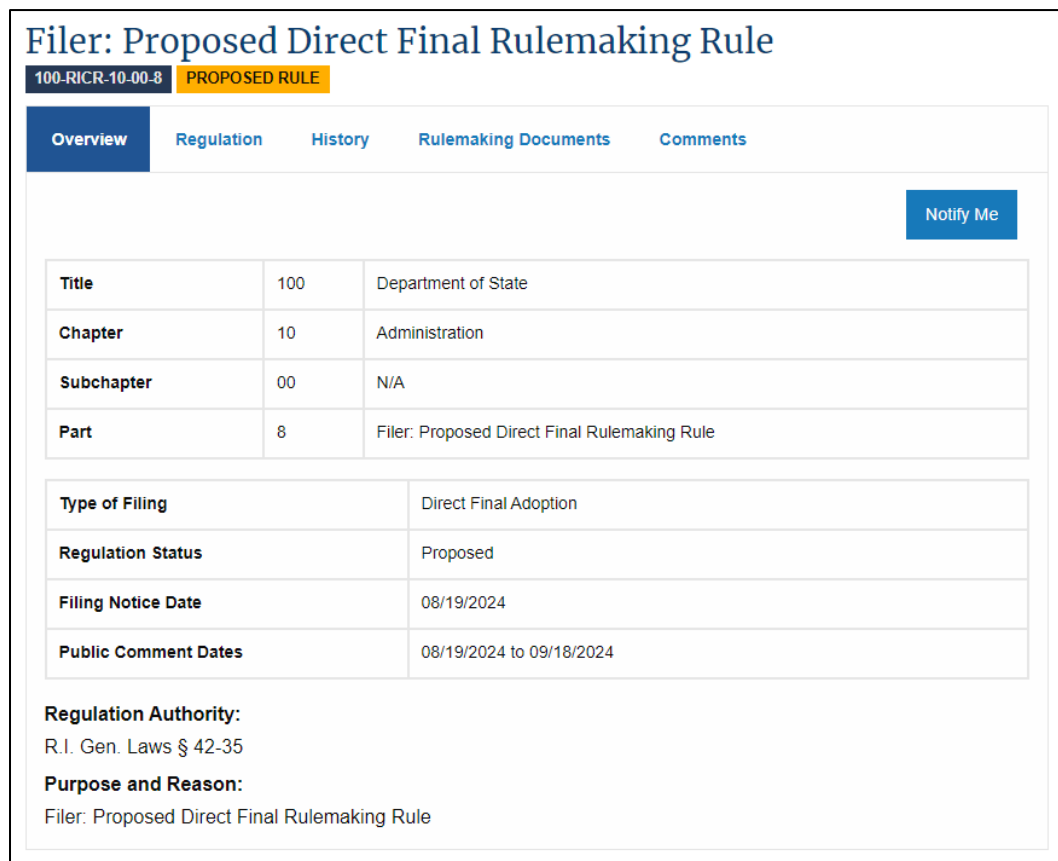
Public Comment Term(s): 08/19/2024 to 09/18/2024 | Notice Date: 08/19/2024

[View Details](#) | [View Proposed](#) | [Additional Information](#)

- Click through the navigation tabs to view the **Overview**, **Regulation**, **History**, **Rulemaking Documents**, and **Comments**:



- The **Overview** tab displays the rule details:





6.3.1.1.2.4 Submission for Promulgation and Public Comment Period Begin

These steps will be completed automatically by the RICR System.

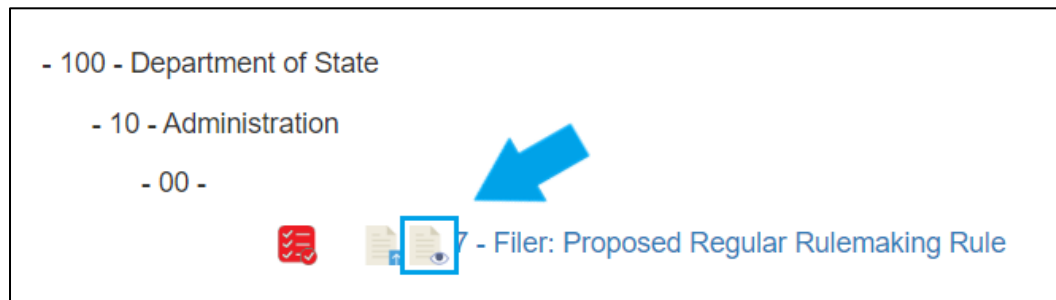
Once the Public Comment Period ends, the RICR System will automatically advance the rule to the next step.

If online public comments were allowed, you may review comments as they are submitted, or at the end of the Public Comment Period. See step 2 in the following section ([§ 6.3.1.1.2.5 of this Guide](#)) for how to review comments and generate a public comment document compiling all submitted rules.

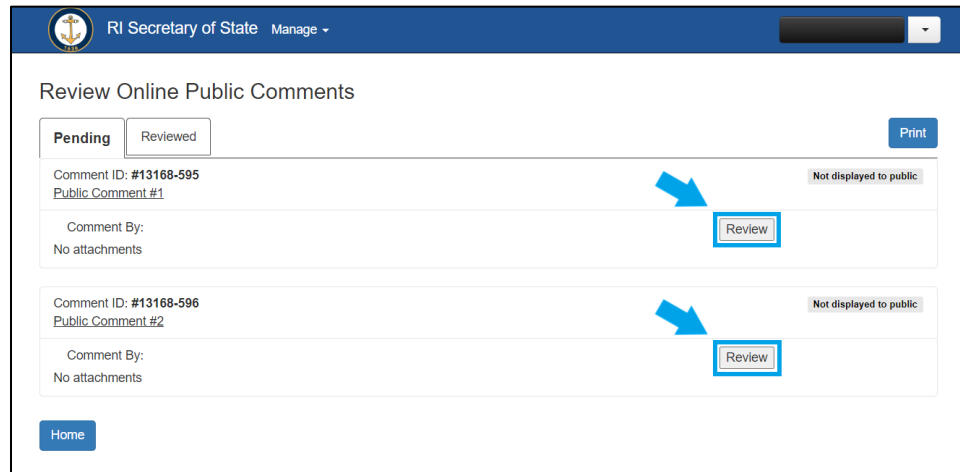


6.3.1.1.2.5 Post Public Comment Period Data update and Document Upload

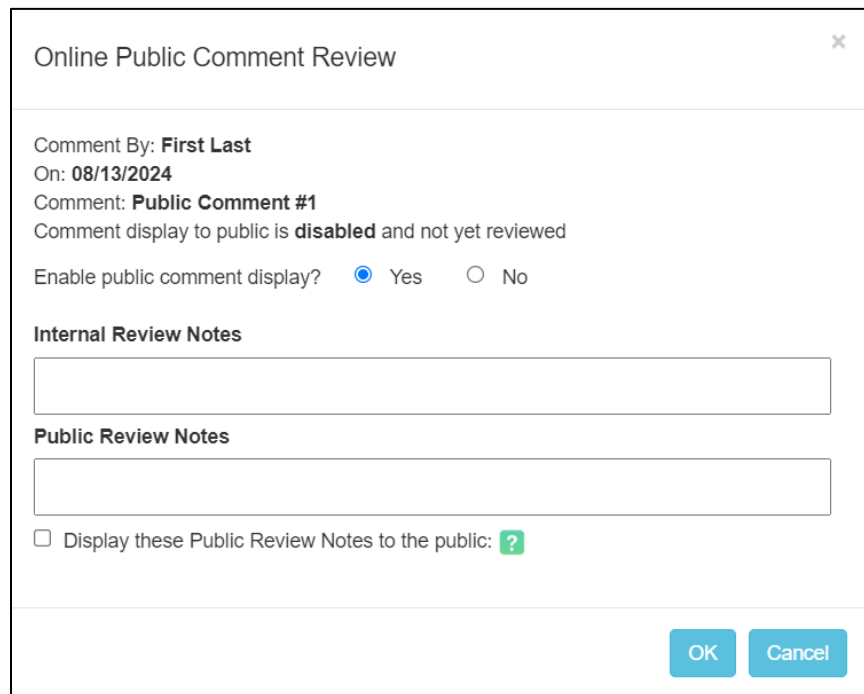
1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. If online public comments were allowed, click the **Review Comments** icon, otherwise skip to step 3:



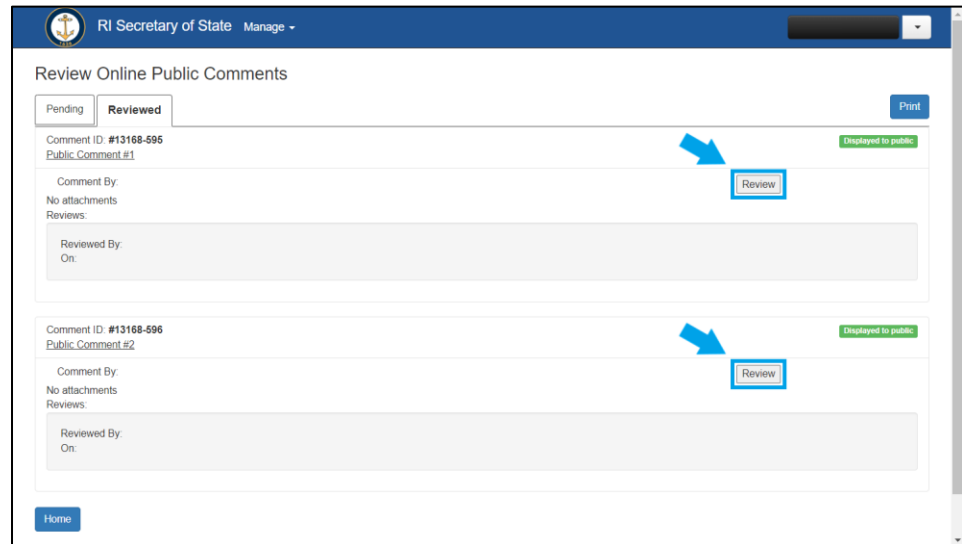
- a. Review every rule listed under the **Pending** tab by clicking **Review** for each comment submitted:



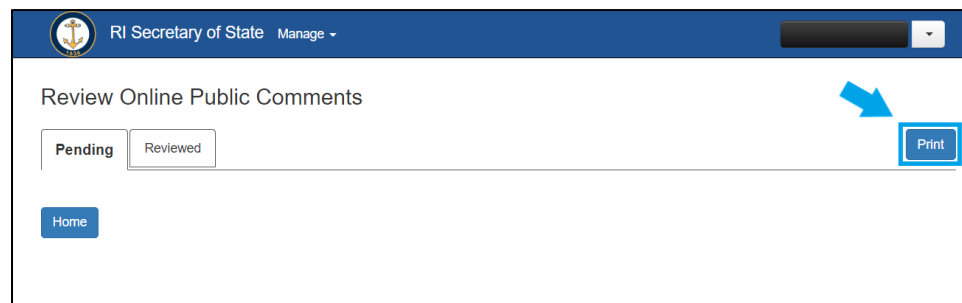
- i. Select to display the comment in the RICR or not, add any internal and public notes, and click **OK** to approve:



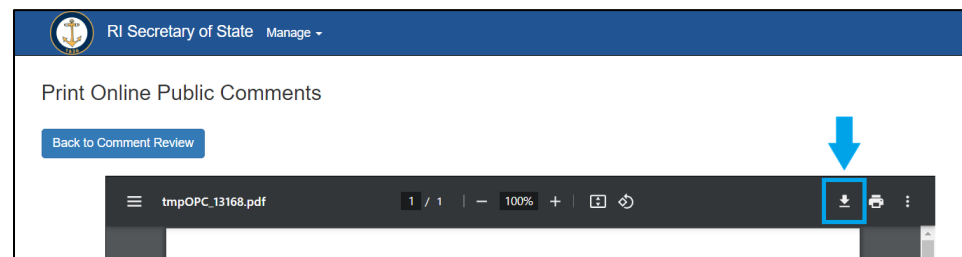
- b. Click the **Reviewed** tab to view who reviewed the comment, when it was approved, and review again if necessary:



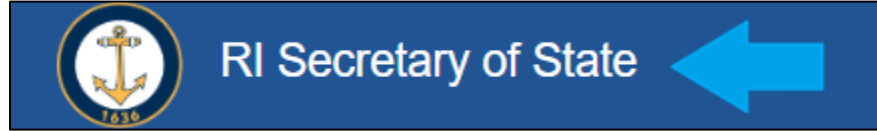
- c. Click **Print** to generate a public comment document:



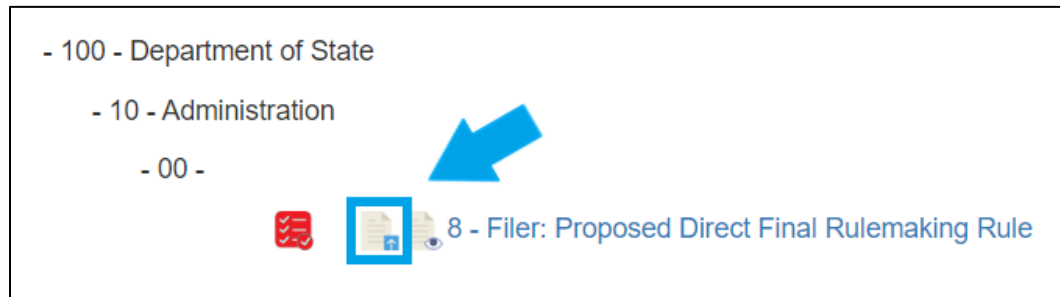
- d. Click the down arrow at the top-right of the PDF viewer to download the document so that it can be used to upload as the part of the final rulemaking documents in step 4:



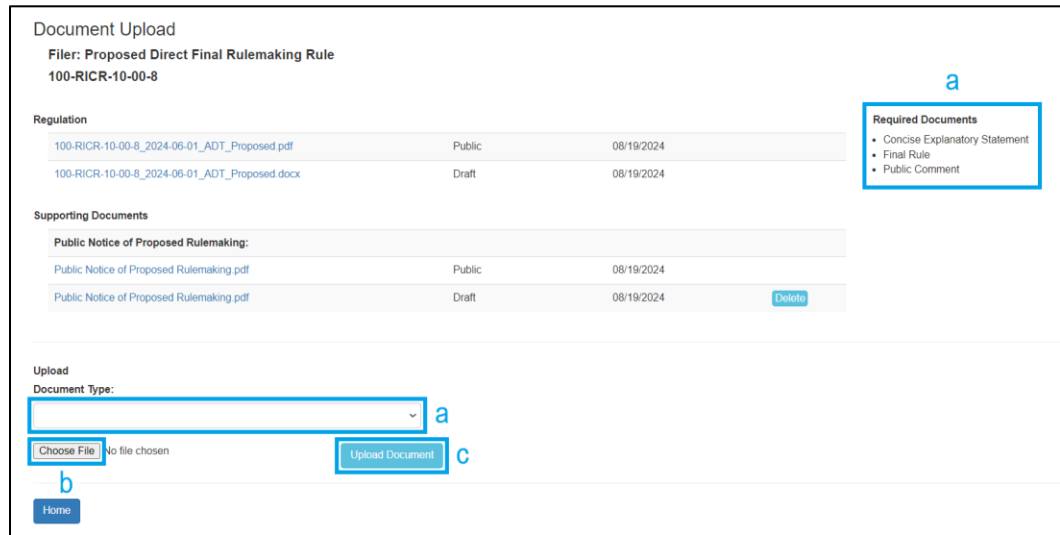
- e. To navigate back to the homepage, click the Department of State logo:



- 3. In the **Work Queue** tab, click on the **Title**, **Chapter**, and **Subchapter** to open each level, then click the **Upload Documents** icon:



- 4. Upload documents:



- a. Select from the dropdown the **Document Type**:

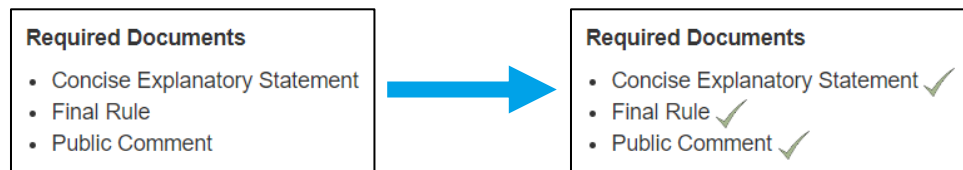
- i. **Required**:

- Concise Explanatory Statement
- Final Rule
- Public Comment (*may upload multiple, if necessary*)

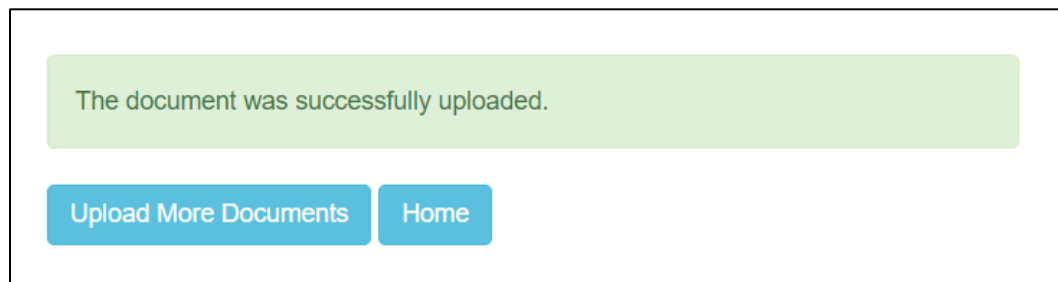
ii. **Optional:**

- Index of Studies/Reports
- Internal Organization Document
- Petition
- Public Hearing Documents
- Additional Documentation
- State Register publication
- Studies/Reports

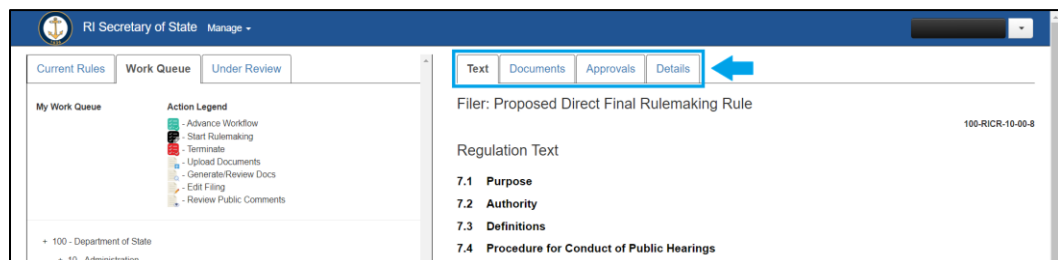
A list of required documents will display, and as documents are uploaded, a green check will be added next to each document:



- b. Click **Choose File** to select the document from your computer; and
- c. Click **Upload Document** to upload.
5. If additional documents need to be uploaded, click **Upload More Documents** and repeat steps 4-5 for each additional document (*you will not be able to advance the rule until all required documents are uploaded*), or click **Home** to continue to the next step:



6. Click each tab on the right to ensure rule information and all rulemaking documents are correct (**Text**, **Documents**, **Approvals**, and **Details**):



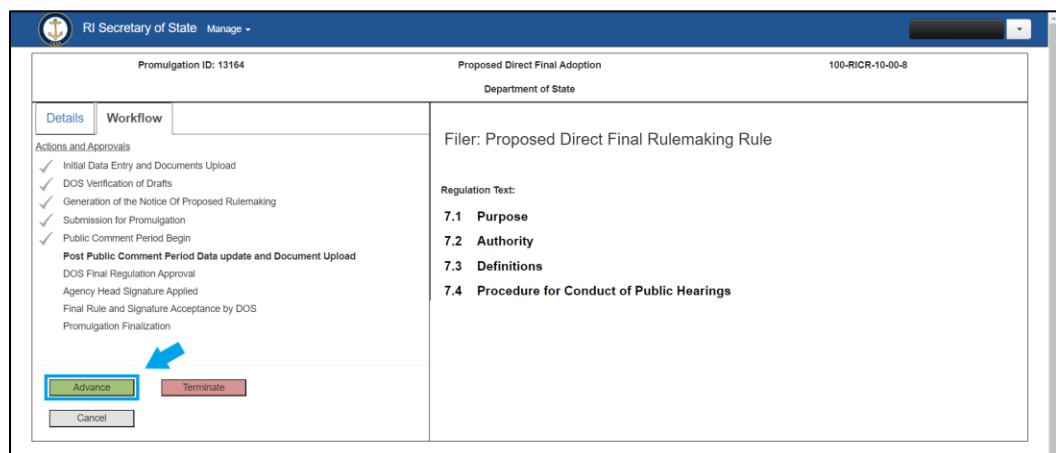
7. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click the **Terminate** icon to end the promulgation process and skip to step 9(b)(i):



8. To continue, click the **Advance Workflow** icon:



9. To advance the rule for the DOS Formatting Review, click **Advance**:



- a. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click **Cancel** to go back; or
- b. Click **Terminate** to end the promulgation process:

- i. Select a **Termination Reason**, then click **Submit** to terminate, or click **Cancel** to continue the promulgation process:

RI Secretary of State Manage

Workflow Termination for Filing 100-RICR-10-00-8

Filer: Proposed Direct Final Rulemaking Rule

Note: If you terminate this Part, you will not be able to use this Part number in the future.

Request Note for: Post Public Comment Period Data update and Document Upload

Termination Reason: *

Abandoned

Note: The reason for termination selected above will not be shown to the public and will not be published.

Note: Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required.

Submit Cancel

- 10. If you would like to add a note for the DOS (i.e., if you would like the rule to become effective on a future date rather than the last day of the Public Comment Period), enter text in the **Request Note** and/or click **Submit**:

RI Secretary of State Manage

Workflow Approval for Promulgation 100-RICR-10-00-8

Filer: Proposed Direct Final Rulemaking Rule (100-RICR-10-00-8)

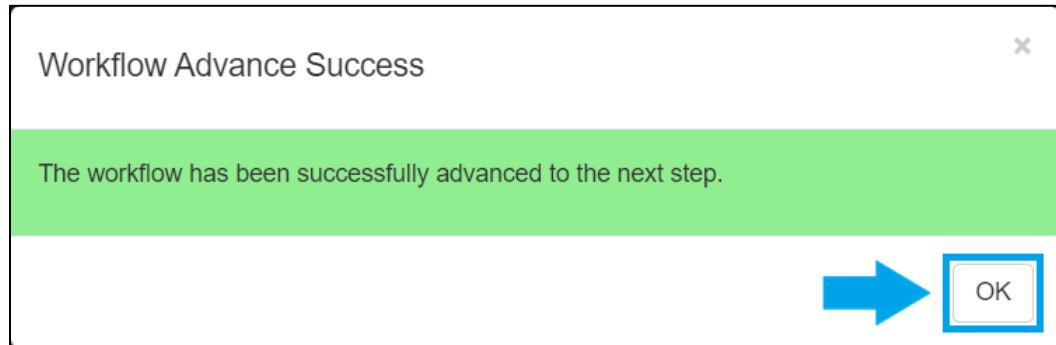
Request Note for: Post Public Comment Period Data update and Document Upload

Outcome Note for: Post Public Comment Period Data update and Document Upload

Request Note for: DOS Final Regulation Approval

Submit Cancel

11. Upon submitting, click **OK** to return to the RICR System homepage:

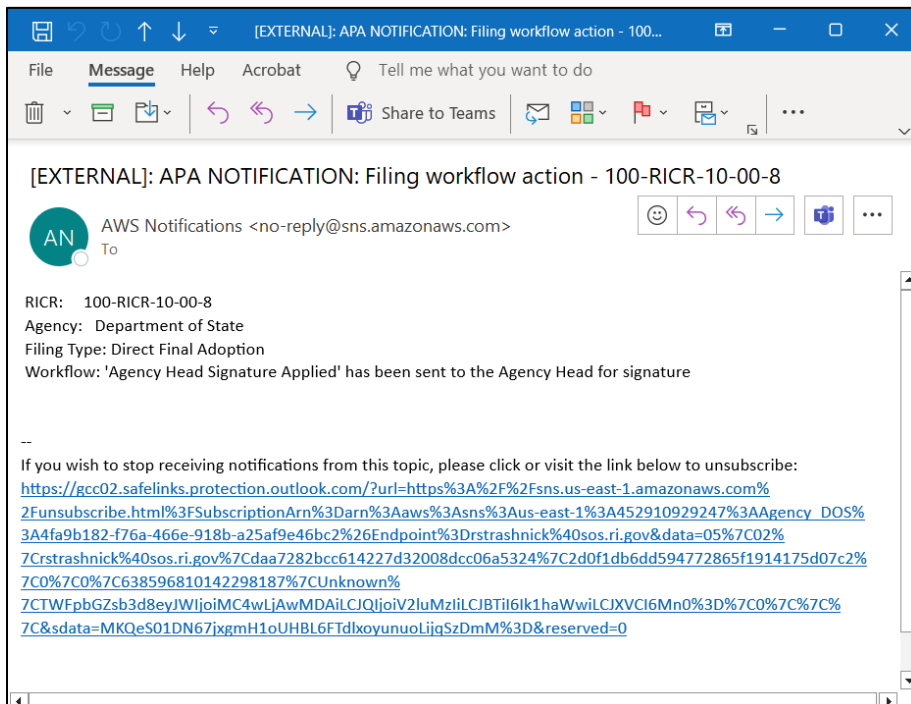


 **COMPLETED:** *Post Public Comment Period Data update and Document Upload*

6.3.1.1.2.6 **DOS Final Regulation Approval**

This step will be completed by the Administrative Records Office.

Once the DOS formatting review has been completed, the Rules Coordinator and Agency Head will receive an AWS Notification email to indicate the rule is ready to be signed by the Agency Head:





6.3.1.1.2.7 Agency Head Signature Applied

This step will be completed by the Agency Head.

The Agency Head will receive an automated email from OneSpan, the esignature provider, to sign the rule.



6.3.1.1.2.8 Final Rule and Signature Acceptance by DOS

This step will be completed by the Administrative Records Office.

Once the Agency Head signs the rule, the Department of State will sign the rule and set the rule’s Effective Date.



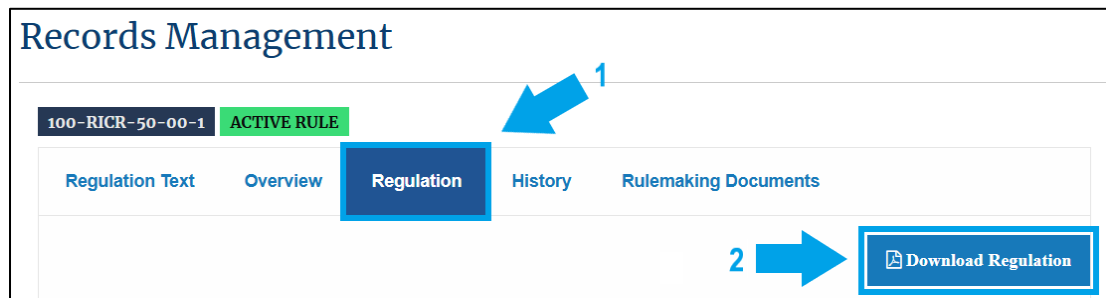
6.3.1.1.2.9 Promulgation Finalization

This step will be completed automatically by the RICR System.

The RICR System will automatically display the Final Regulation in the RICR the day it becomes effective.

It is the Rules Coordinator’s responsibility to download the signed Regulation for the agency’s files to be permanently retained per [GRS2.5 Rulemaking Files](#).

Final Regulations can be downloaded by opening the active Part in the [RICR](#), clicking the **Regulation** tab, and clicking **Download Regulation**:



6.3.1.1.3 Emergency Rulemaking

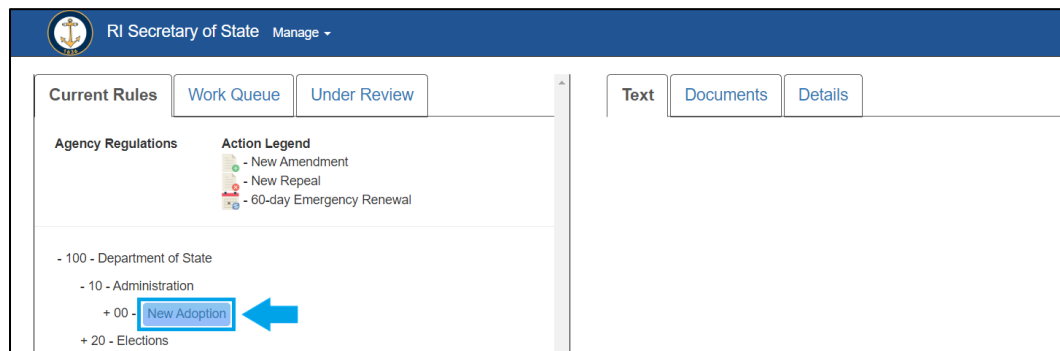
For information regarding this Rulemaking Action, see [§ 3.3.3 of this Guide](#).

Actions to be Completed	User to Complete
Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload	Rules Coordinator
Rules Coordinator Notification of Emergency Rule	Rules Coordinator
Submission for Promulgation	RICR Filing System
Agency Head Signature Applied	Agency Head
Governor Signature Applied	Governor
Final Rule and Signature Acceptance by DOS	Department of State
Promulgation Finalization	RICR Filing System
Submission for Emergency Extension 1	Rules Coordinator
DOS Final Revision for Emergency Extension 1	Department of State
Finalization of Emergency Extension 1	RICR Filing System



6.3.1.1.3.1 Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. In the **Current Rules** tab, click the **Title**, **Chapter**, and **Subchapter** to open each level, then click **New Adoption** to promulgate a new rule:



3. Enter in the **Rulemaking Filing Details**:

RI Secretary of State Manage ▾

Department of State

Administration

Rulemaking Type: Adoption

Rulemaking Action: * ? a Proposed Emergency Advance Notice

Rule Identifier: * ? b 100-RICR-10-00-

Regulation Title: * c

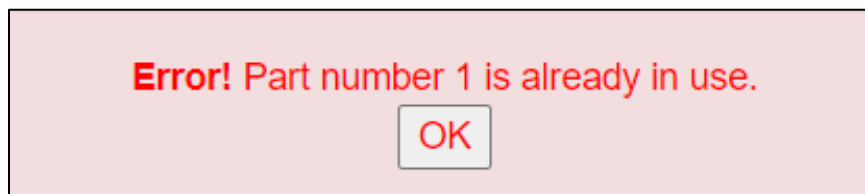
Rulemaking Authority: * d

a. Choose **Emergency** for the **Rulemaking Action**;

Rulemaking Action: * ? Proposed Emergency

b. Enter the **Rule Identifier** (a.k.a. Part number);

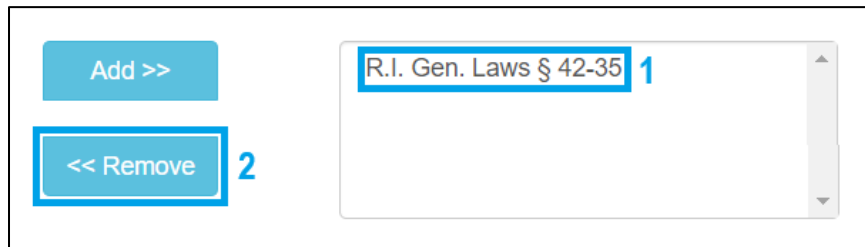
- i. Part numbers may only be used once ([§ 2.3.4 of this Guide](#)). The RICR System will display an error message if a Part number has already been used after clicking the next field:



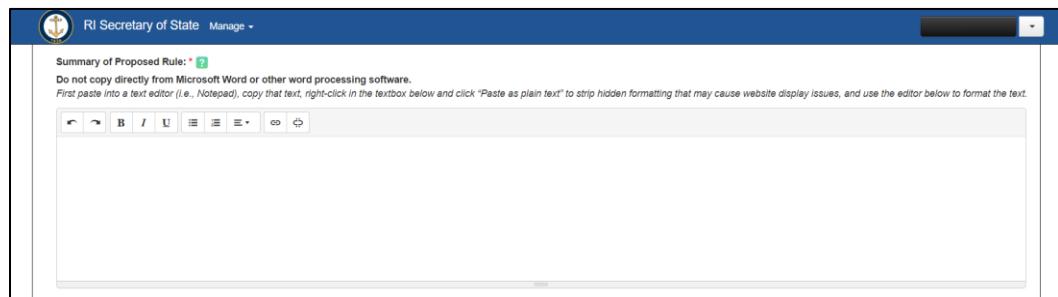
- ii. Enter in a new Part number until you no longer see an error, then update rulemaking documents to use the new Part number.

c. Enter the **Regulation Title** using sentence case (i.e., use “Conduct of Public Hearings”, not “CONDUCT OF PUBLIC HEARINGS”); and

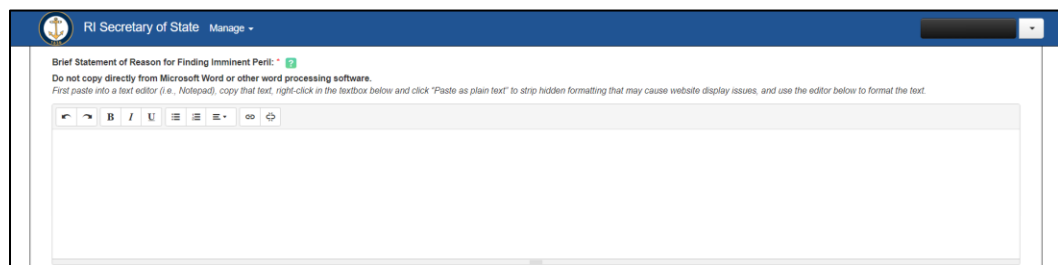
- d. Choose the appropriate authority from the dropdown, enter the **Rulemaking Authority** citation, and click **Add**.
 - i. To remove a **Rulemaking Authority**, click to select the citation to remove from the list and click **Remove**:



4. Enter the **Summary of Proposed Rule** in plain language of terms or substance of intended action, or description of the subjects and issues involved, including changes between current and proposed regulations:
 - a. If copying text from another document, follow the directions on screen to strip all erroneous formatting.



5. Enter the **Brief Statement of Reason for Finding Imminent Peril** to state the reason this rule is required in order to avoid a threat to public health, safety, or welfare, or the loss of federal funding for an agency program ([R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.10](#)):
 - a. If copying text from another document, follow the directions on screen to strip all erroneous formatting.

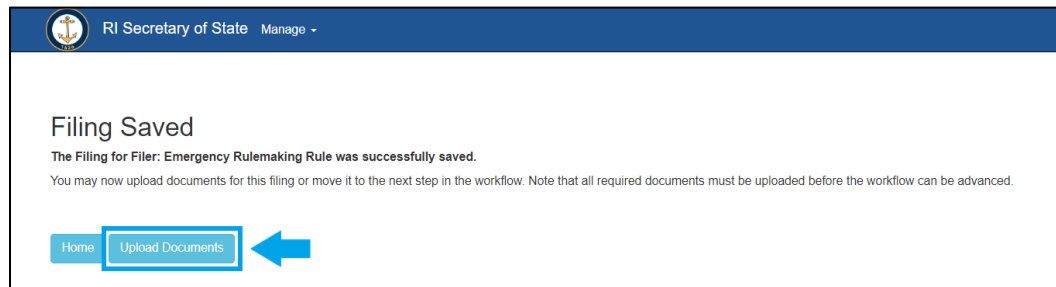


6. Enter the **Additional Information URL** to indicate the location on your website where the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking is published as required by [R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.7](#):

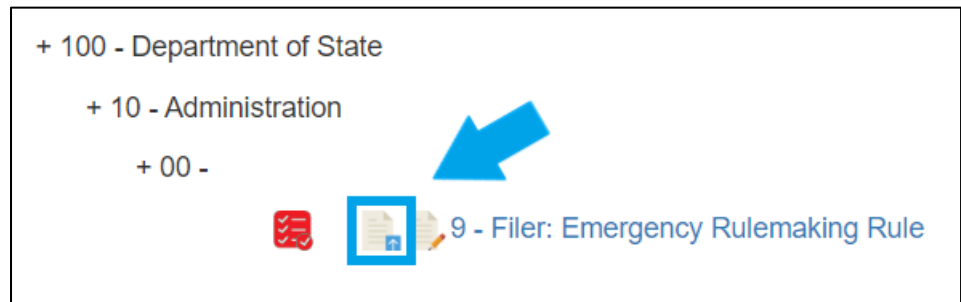


A screenshot of a web form field labeled "Additional Information URL: * ?". The field contains the text "https://" followed by a dropdown arrow and "www.example.com".

7. Review to ensure all entered text is correct and click **Submit**.
 - a. At any point during the above process, if you don't wish to move forward, click **Cancel** to prevent the Part number from being used.
8. This Rulemaking Action requires documents to be uploaded. Click **Upload Documents**:



- a. If you click **Home** by accident, click the **Upload Documents** icon next to the Part in the **Work Queue** tab to go to the correct screen:



9. Upload documents:

Document Upload

Regulation

Supporting Documents

Upload

Document Type:

Choose File No file chosen

Upload Document

Home

Required Documents

- Proposed Rule

a. Select from the dropdown the **Document Type**:

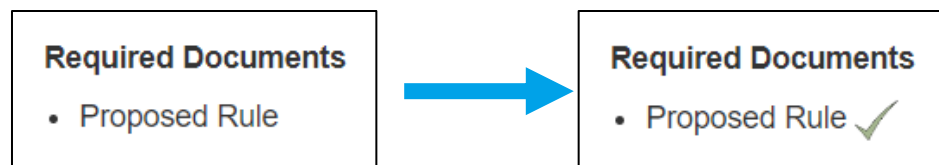
i. **Required:**

- Proposed Rule

ii. **Optional:**

- Index of Studies/Reports
- Additional Documentation
- Internal Organization Document
- Studies/Reports
- Petition

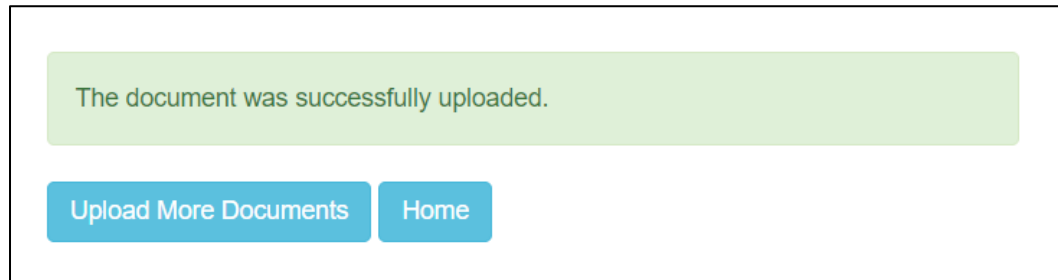
A list of required documents will display, and as documents are uploaded, a green check will be added next to each document:



b. Click **Choose File** to select the document from your computer;
and

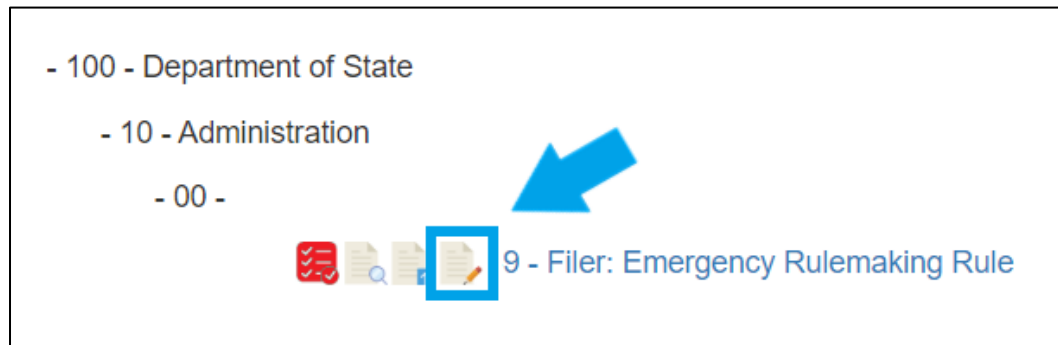
c. Click **Upload Document** to upload.

10. If additional documents need to be uploaded, click **Upload More Documents** and repeat steps 9-10 for each additional document (*you will not be able to advance the rule until all required documents are uploaded*), or click **Home** to continue to the next step:

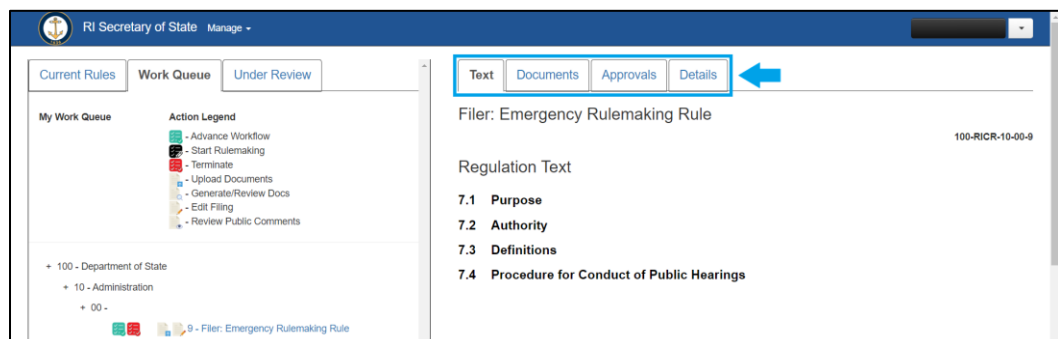


11. If for any reason the rule details need to be updated, click the **Edit Filing** icon to update the **Regulation Title, Rulemaking Authority, Summary of Proposed Rule, and Brief Statement of Reason for Finding Imminent Peril**, then click **Submit** once the details are updated:

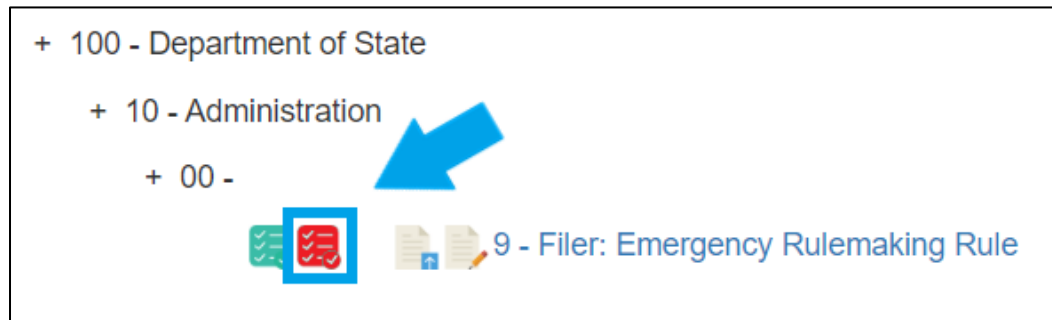
Once the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking is generated and published, this information cannot be changed.



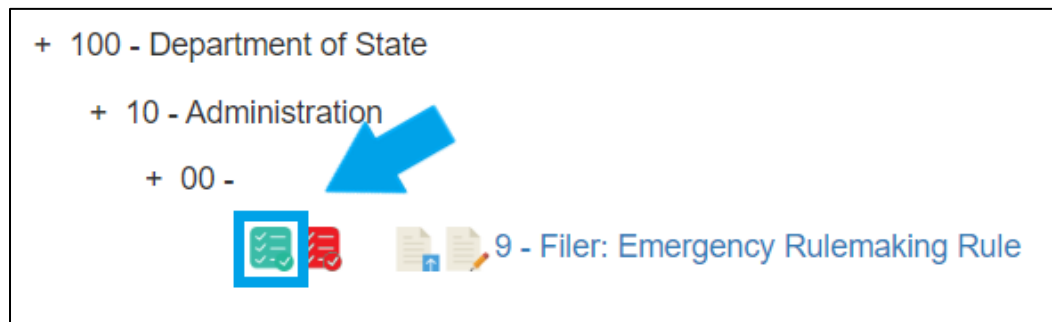
12. Click each tab on the right to ensure all information regarding the rule is correct (**Text, Documents, Approvals, and Details**):



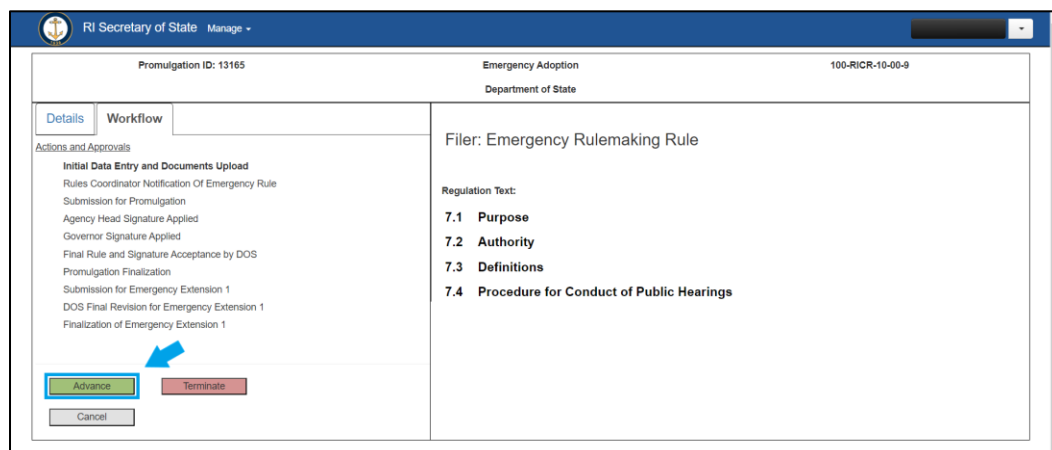
13. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click the **Terminate** icon to end the promulgation process and skip to step 15(b)(i):



14. To continue, click the **Advance Workflow** icon:

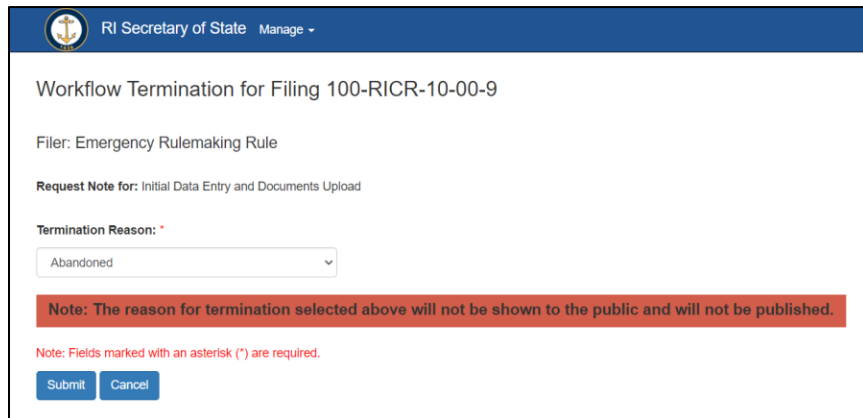


15. To advance the rule for the DOS Formatting Review, click **Advance**:



- a. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click **Cancel** to go back; or

- b. Click **Terminate** to end the promulgation process:
 - i. Select a **Termination Reason**, then click **Submit** to terminate, or click **Cancel** to continue the promulgation process:



RI Secretary of State Manage

Workflow Termination for Filing 100-RICR-10-00-9

Filer: Emergency Rulemaking Rule

Request Note for: Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

Termination Reason: *

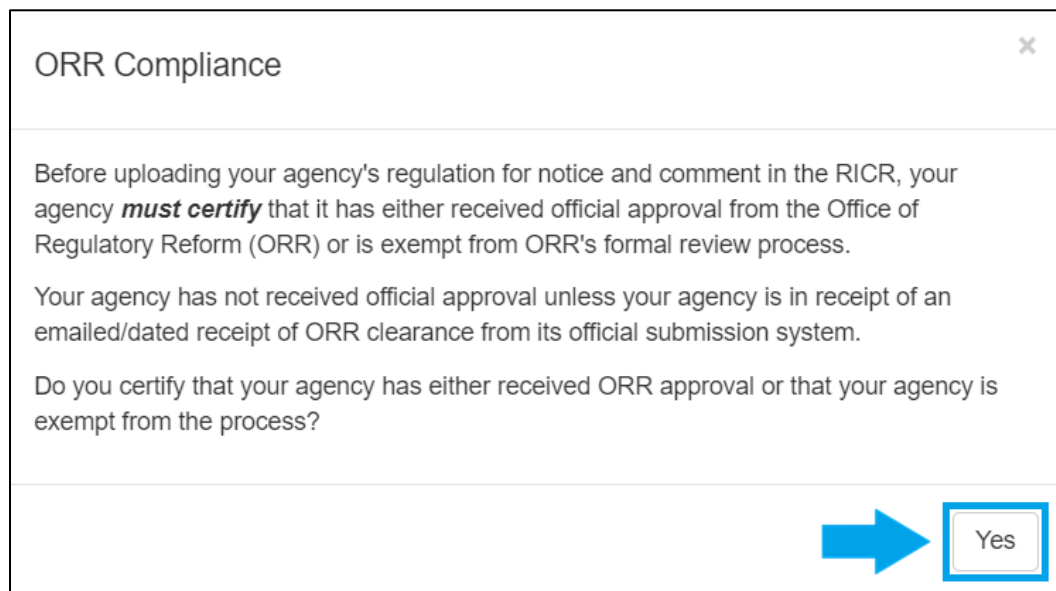
Abandoned

Note: The reason for termination selected above will not be shown to the public and will not be published.

Note: Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required.

Submit Cancel

16. Certify that your agency has either received official approval from OMB or is exempt from OMB’s review process by clicking **Yes**:



ORR Compliance

Before uploading your agency's regulation for notice and comment in the RICR, your agency **must certify** that it has either received official approval from the Office of Regulatory Reform (ORR) or is exempt from ORR's formal review process.

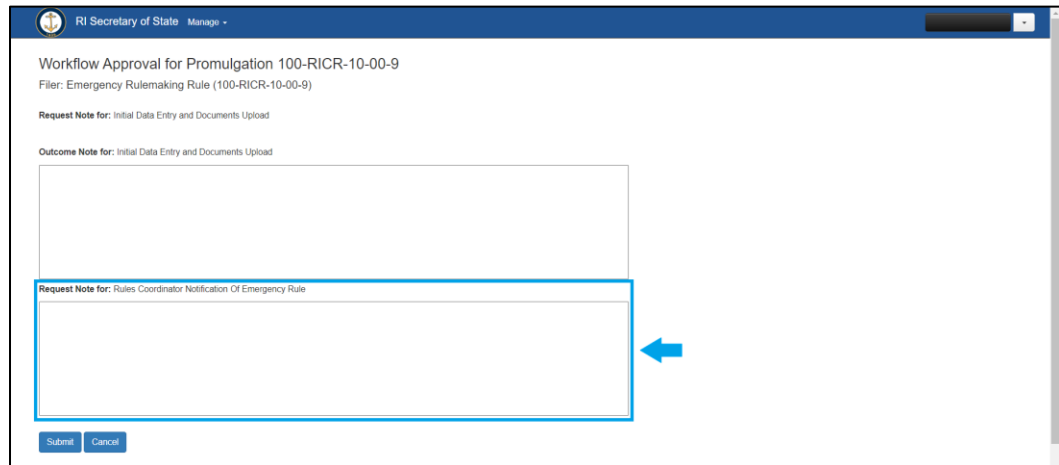
Your agency has not received official approval unless your agency is in receipt of an emailed/dated receipt of ORR clearance from its official submission system.

Do you certify that your agency has either received ORR approval or that your agency is exempt from the process?

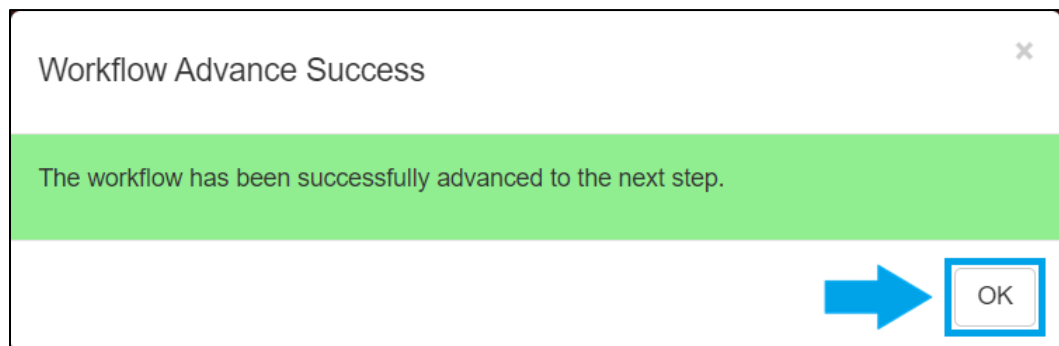
Yes

- a. **If your agency has not received official approval from OMB and is not exempt**, click the DOS logo in the top-left corner to return to the home page. **Do not proceed in the RICR System** until you have official approval. Once your agency receives approval, go back to step 14 to proceed.

17. If you would like to add a note for the DOS, enter text in the **Request Note** and/or click **Submit**:



18. Upon submitting, click **OK** to return to the RICR System homepage:



 **COMPLETED:** *Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload*



6.3.1.1.3.2 Rules Coordinator Notification of Emergency Rule

The Rules Coordinator will receive an AWS Notification when it is time to advance if a Filer completed the Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload.

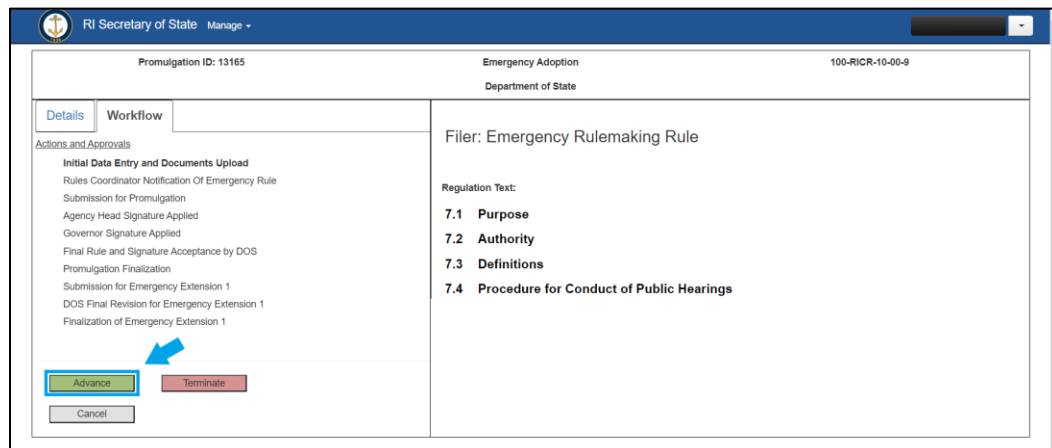
1. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click the **Terminate** icon to end the promulgation process and skip to step 3(b)(i):



2. To continue, click the **Advance Workflow** icon:



3. To advance the rule for the DOS Formatting Review, click **Advance**:



- a. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click **Cancel** to go back; or
- b. Click **Terminate** to end the promulgation process:
 - i. Select a **Termination Reason**, then click **Submit** to terminate, or click **Cancel** to continue the promulgation process:

RI Secretary of State Manage

Workflow Termination for Filing 100-RICR-10-00-9

Filer: Emergency Rulemaking Rule

Request Note for: Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

Termination Reason: *

Abandoned

Note: The reason for termination selected above will not be shown to the public and will not be published.

Note: Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required.

Submit Cancel

- 4. If you would like to add a note for the DOS, enter text in the **Request Note** and/or click **Submit**:

RI Secretary of State Manage

Workflow Approval for Promulgation 100-RICR-10-00-9

Filer: Emergency Rulemaking Rule (100-RICR-10-00-9)

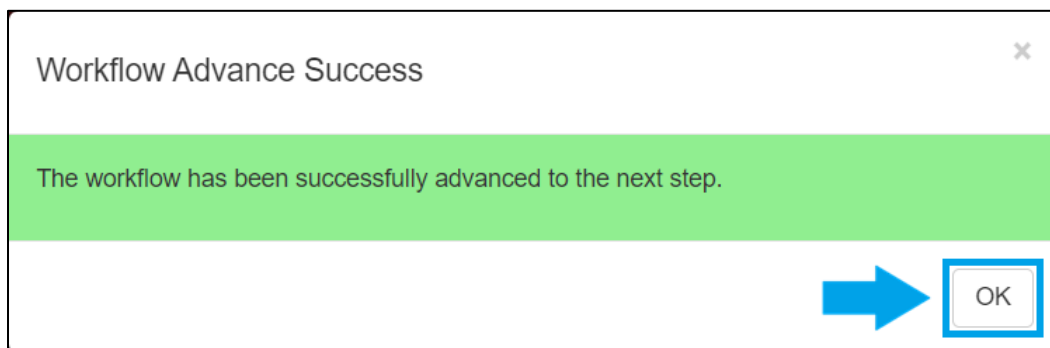
Request Note for: Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

Outcome Note for: Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

Request Note for: Rules Coordinator Notification Of Emergency Rule

Submit Cancel

5. Upon submitting, click **OK** to return to the RICR System homepage:



 **COMPLETED: *Rules Coordinator Notification of Emergency Rule***

 **6.3.1.1.3.3 Submission for Promulgation**

This step will be completed automatically by the RICR System.

The RICR System will automatically advance the rule to the next step.

 **6.3.1.1.3.4 Agency Head Signature Applied**

This step will be completed by the Agency Head.

The Agency Head will receive an automated email from OneSpan, the esignature provider, to sign the rule.

 **6.3.1.1.3.5 Governor Signature Applied**

This step will be completed by the Agency Head.

The Governor will receive an automated email from OneSpan, the esignature provider, to sign the rule.



6.3.1.1.3.6 Final Rule and Signature Acceptance by DOS

This step will be completed by the Administrative Records Office.

Once the Agency Head and Governor signs the rule, the Department of State will sign the rule and set the rule’s Effective Date.



6.3.1.1.3.7 Promulgation Finalization

This step will be completed automatically by the RICR System.

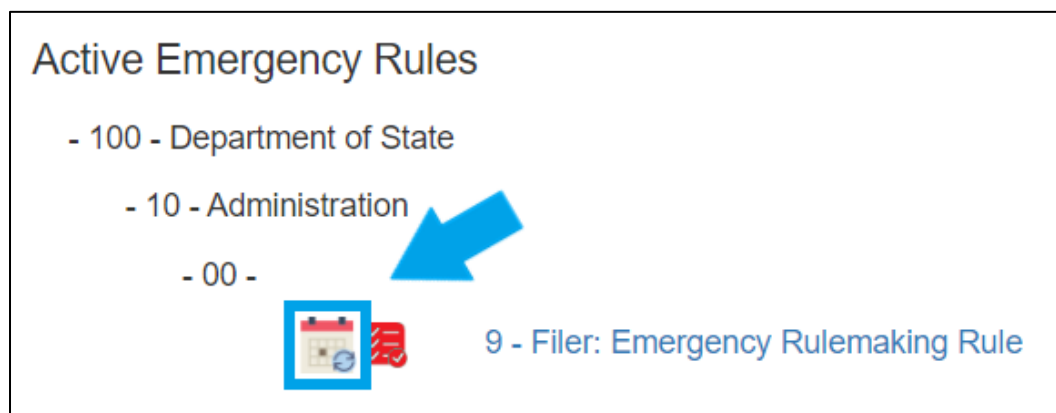
The RICR System will automatically display the Final Regulation in the RICR the day it becomes effective.



6.3.1.1.3.8 Submission for Emergency Extension 1

If the Emergency Rule must be extended:

1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. Under **Active Emergency Rules**, click the **Title**, **Chapter**, and **Subchapter** to open each level, and click the **60-Day Emergency Renewal** icon (calendar) next to the Part to be extended:



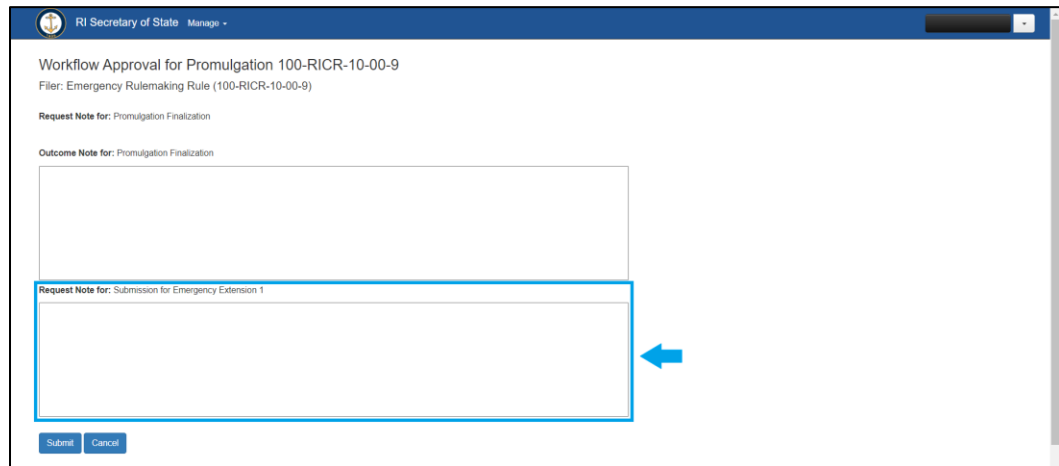
3. To confirm the Part should be extended, click **Advance**:

The screenshot shows the 'RI Secretary of State' workflow management interface. At the top, it displays 'Promulgation ID: 13165' and 'Emergency Adoption 100-RICR-10-00-9 Department of State'. The interface is divided into two main sections: 'Actions and Approvals' on the left and 'Regulation Text' on the right. The 'Actions and Approvals' section lists several completed steps, including 'Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload', 'Rules Coordinator Notification Of Emergency Rule', 'Submission for Promulgation', 'Agency Head Signature Applied', 'Final Rule and Signature Acceptance by DOS', and 'Promulgation Finalization' (Submission for Emergency Extension 1, DOS Final Revision for Emergency Extension 1, Finalization of Emergency Extension 1). The 'Regulation Text' section shows the 'Filer: Emergency Rulemaking Rule' and lists sections 7.1 Purpose, 7.2 Authority, 7.3 Definitions, and 7.4 Procedure for Conduct of Public Hearings. At the bottom left, there are three buttons: 'Advance' (highlighted with a blue arrow), 'Terminate', and 'Cancel'.

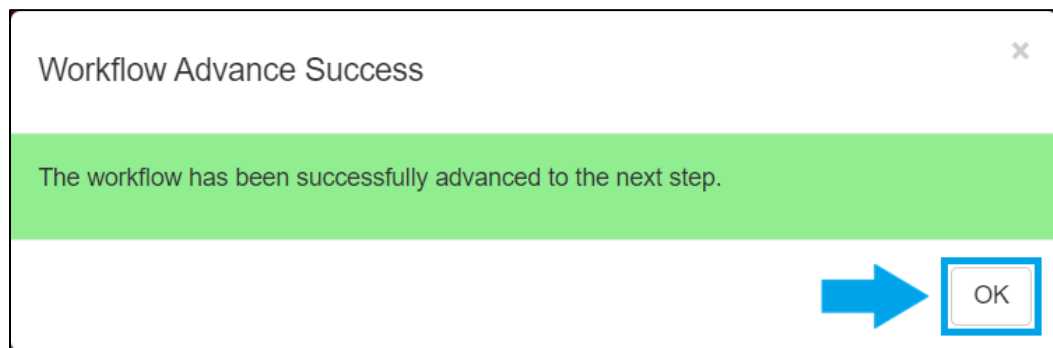
- a. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click **Cancel** to go back; or
- b. Click **Terminate** to end the Emergency Rule immediately, which will change the rule's Expiration Date to be set as today's date:
 - i. Select a **Termination Reason**, then click **Submit** to terminate, or click **Cancel** to continue the promulgation process:

The screenshot shows the 'Workflow Termination for Filing 100-RICR-10-00-9' form. The form title is 'Workflow Termination for Filing 100-RICR-10-00-9' and the filer is 'Emergency Rulemaking Rule'. A red callout box states: 'Note: If you terminate this Part, you will not be able to use this Part number in the future.' Below this, it says 'Request Note for: Promulgation Finalization'. The 'Termination Reason:' field is a dropdown menu with 'Abandoned' selected. Another red callout box states: 'Note: The reason for termination selected above will not be shown to the public and will not be published.' At the bottom, there is a red note: 'Note: Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required.' and two buttons: 'Submit' and 'Cancel'.

4. If you would like to add a note for the DOS, enter text in the **Request Note** and/or click **Submit**:



5. Upon submitting, click **OK** to return to the RICR System homepage:



 **COMPLETED:** *Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload*

 **6.3.1.1.3.9 DOS Final Revision for Emergency Extension 1**

This step will be completed by the Administrative Records Office.

The Department of State will confirm the extension and advance the rule.



6.3.1.1.3.10 Finalization of Emergency Extension 1

This step will be completed automatically by the RICR System.

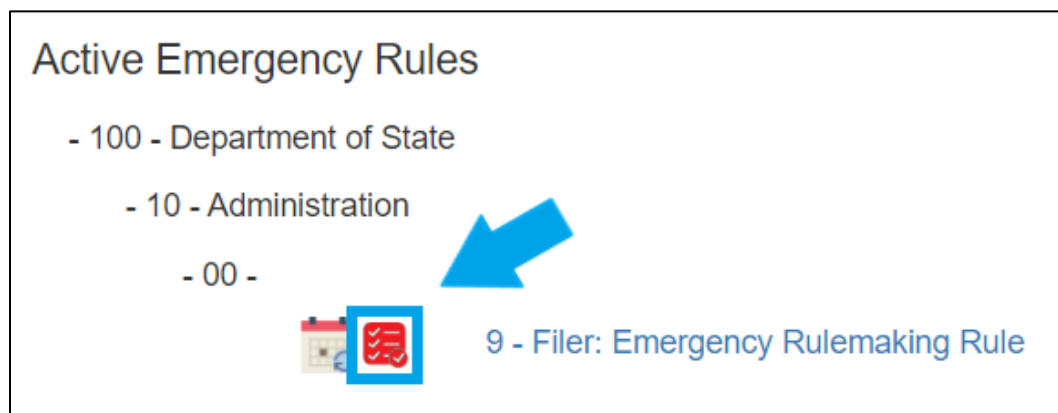
The RICR System will automatically extend the Expiration Date for the Emergency Regulation in the RICR.



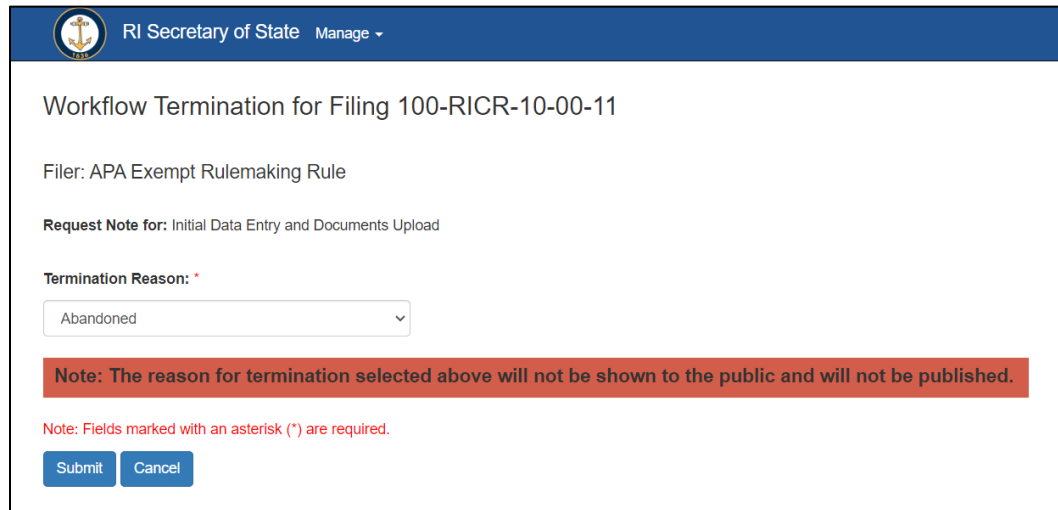
6.3.1.1.3.11 Early Termination

If the Emergency Rule must be terminated before the set Expiration Date:

1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. Under **Active Emergency Rules**, click the **Title**, **Chapter**, and **Subchapter** to open each level, and click the **Terminate** icon next to the Part to be terminated:



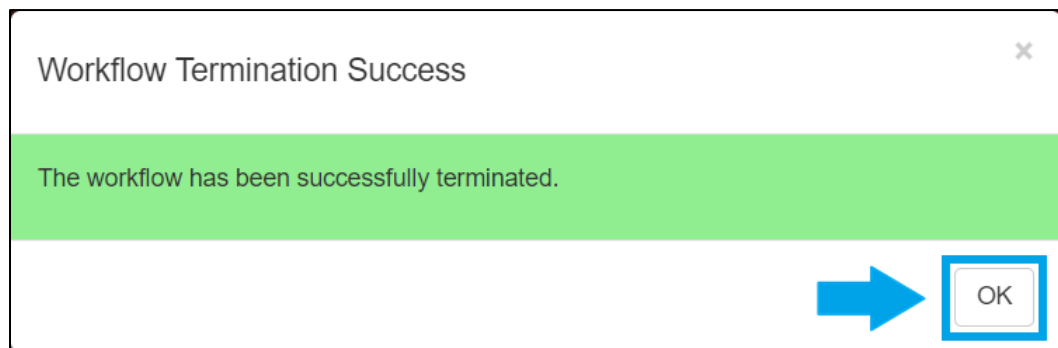
3. Select a **Termination Reason**, then click **Submit** to terminate, or click **Cancel**:



The screenshot shows a web form titled "Workflow Termination for Filing 100-RICR-10-00-11". The form includes the following fields and elements:

- Header: "RI Secretary of State" with a "Manage" dropdown menu.
- Title: "Workflow Termination for Filing 100-RICR-10-00-11"
- Filer: "APA Exempt Rulemaking Rule"
- Request Note: "Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload"
- Termination Reason: A dropdown menu with "Abandoned" selected.
- Note: "Note: The reason for termination selected above will not be shown to the public and will not be published." (highlighted in red)
- Warning: "Note: Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required." (in red)
- Buttons: "Submit" and "Cancel".

4. Upon submitting, click **OK** to return to the RICR System homepage:



6.3.1.1.3.11.1 Finalization of Termination

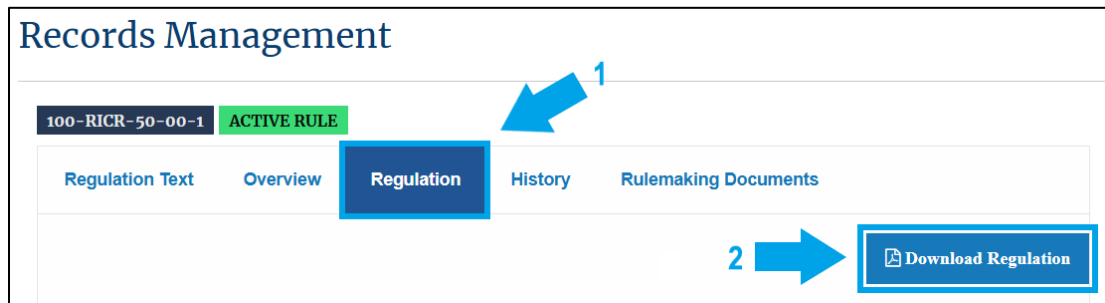
This step will be completed automatically by the RICR System.

The RICR System will automatically change the Expiration Date for the Emergency Regulation in the RICR to today's date.

It is the Rules Coordinator's responsibility to download the signed Regulation for the agency's files to be permanently retained per [GRS2.5 Rulemaking Files](#).

Final Regulations can be downloaded by opening the active Part in the

[RICR](#), clicking the **Regulation** tab, and clicking **Download Regulation**:



6.3.1.1.4 Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

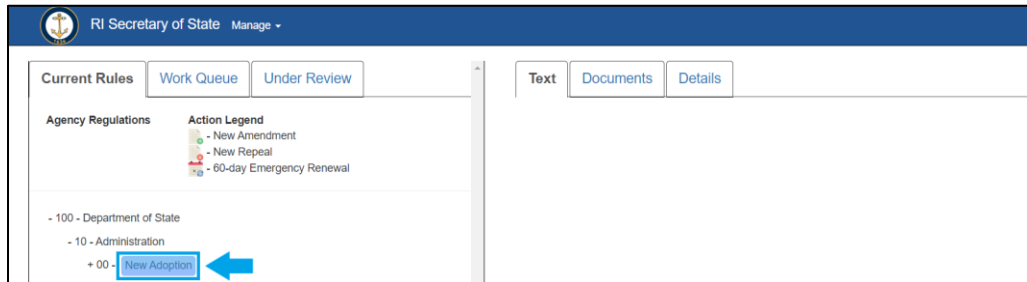
For information regarding this Rulemaking Action, see [§ 3.3.4 of this Guide](#).

Actions to be Completed	User to Complete
Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload	Rules Coordinator
Generation of the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking	Rules Coordinator
Public Comment Period Begin	RICR Filing System & Rules Coordinator



6.3.1.1.4.1 Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

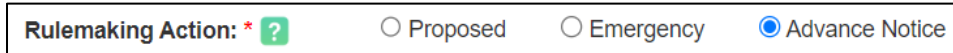
1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. In the **Current Rules** tab, click the **Title**, **Chapter**, and **Subchapter** to open each level, then click **New Adoption** to promulgate a new rule:



3. Enter in the **Rulemaking Filing Details**:

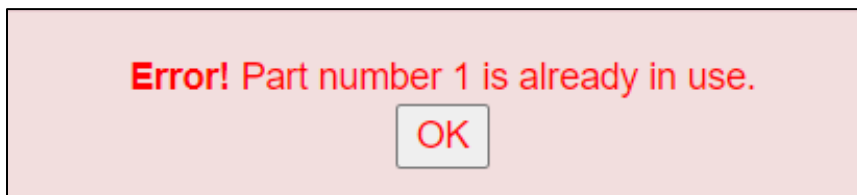
AGENCY GUIDE: RULES COORDINATORS

- a. Choose **Proposed**, then **Regular**, for the **Rulemaking Action** and **Rulemaking Process**;

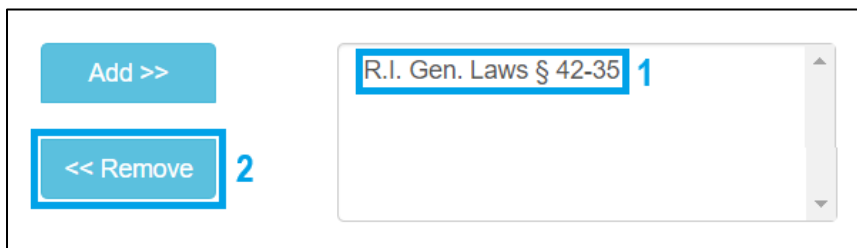


A horizontal selection bar with the text "Rulemaking Action: * ?" on the left. To the right are three radio button options: "Proposed", "Emergency", and "Advance Notice". The "Advance Notice" option is selected, indicated by a blue dot.

- b. Enter the **Rule Identifier** (a.k.a. Part number);
- i. Part numbers may only be used once ([§ 2.3.4 of this Guide](#)). The RICR System will display an error message if a Part number has already been used after clicking the next field:

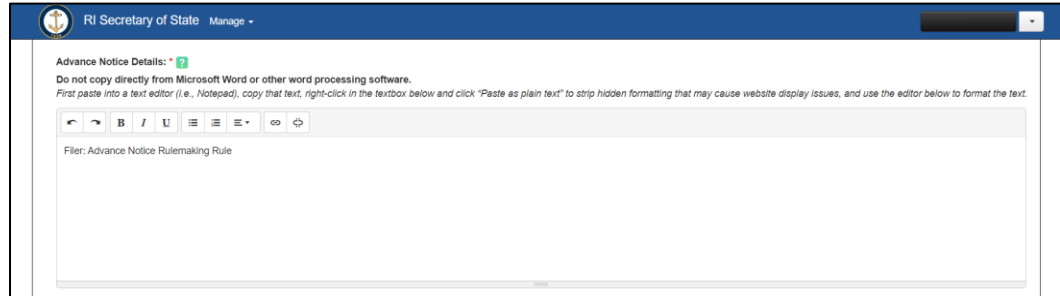


- ii. Enter in a new Part number until you no longer see an error, then update rulemaking documents to use the new Part number.
- c. Enter the **Regulation Title** using sentence case (i.e., use "Conduct of Public Hearings", not "CONDUCT OF PUBLIC HEARINGS"); and
- d. Choose the appropriate authority from the dropdown, enter the **Rulemaking Authority** citation, and click **Add**.
- i. To remove a **Rulemaking Authority**, click to select the citation to remove from the list and click **Remove**:



4. Enter the **Advance Notice Details** to indicate where, when, and how persons may comment before the rulemaking process begins (any meeting held is open to the Open Meetings Act and subject to [R.I. Gen. Laws Chapter 42-46](#)):

- a. If copying text from another document, follow the directions on screen to strip all erroneous formatting.



5. Enter the **Additional Information URL** to indicate the location on your website where the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking is published as required by [R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.7](#):



6. Review to ensure all entered text is correct and click **Submit**.
 - a. At any point during the above process, if you don't wish to move forward, click **Cancel** to prevent the Part number from being used.



7. **DO NOT CLICK ANYTHING UNTIL ALL OPTIONS ARE REVIEWED**
There are three (3) options to move forward based on if documents need to be uploaded or not, *and two (2) options have immediate ramifications.*

Advance Notice Rulemaking does not require documents to be uploaded, however, if the promulgating agency wants or needs to upload documents, the following optional documents may be uploaded:

- Proposed Rule
- Index of Studies/Reports*
- Internal Organization Document*
- Petition*
- Additional Documentation*
- Studies/Reports*

**This document type cannot be uploaded alone. A Proposed Rule must*

also be uploaded to be able to advance to the next step.

Read through all three options carefully before determining and taking action to advance to the next step:

- a. **Advance Workflow** - Choose if you don't need to upload documents.
If you choose this option, documents may still be uploaded later if need be.

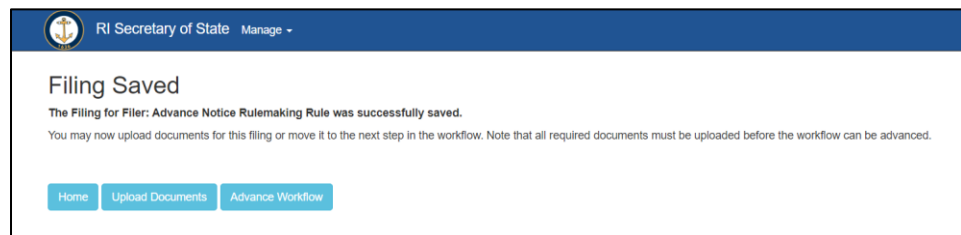
See step 8 for next steps.

- b. **Upload Documents** - Choose if you need to upload documents.
*If you choose this option and documents do not actually need to be uploaded, the RICR System will not allow you to advance the workflow until a Proposed Rule is uploaded, so you **will need to terminate the rule and start over** if you do not wish to upload a Proposed Rule.*

See step 9 for next steps.

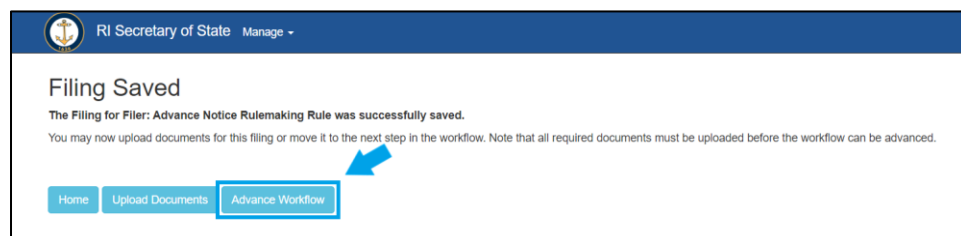
- c. **Home** - Equivalent to choosing Upload Documents, do not use.
*If you choose this option and documents do not actually need to be uploaded, the RICR System will not allow you to advance the workflow until a Proposed Rule is uploaded, so you **will need to terminate the rule and start over** if you do not wish to upload a Proposed Rule.*

If accidentally clicked, see step 10 for next steps.

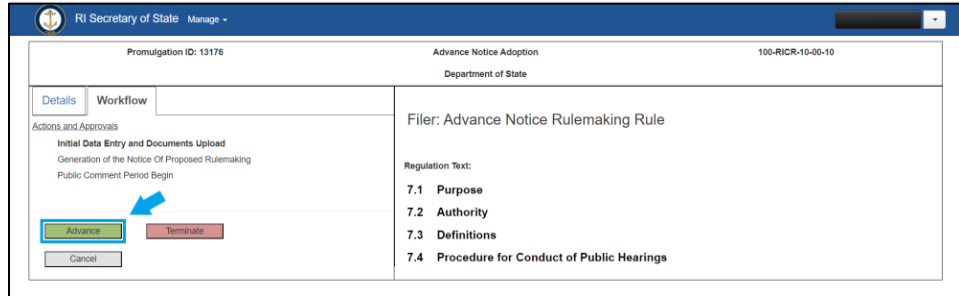


8. For **Advance Workflow**:

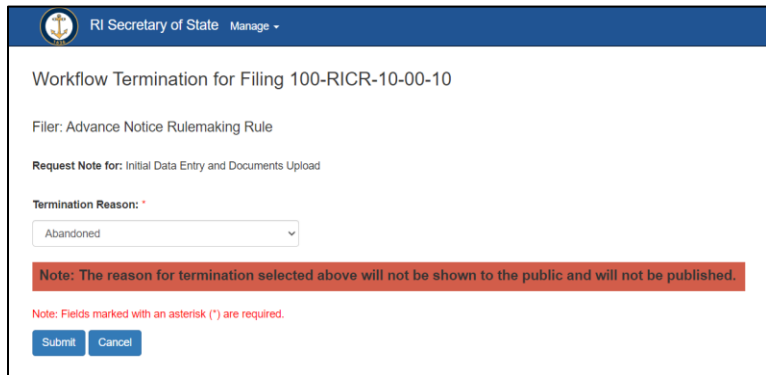
- a. Click **Advance Workflow**:



- b. To advance the rule to generate the Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, click **Advance** and skip to step 11:

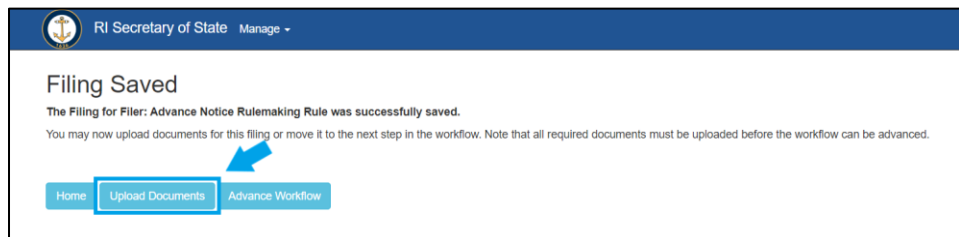


- i. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that documents need to be uploaded, click **Cancel** and skip to step 10(b); or
- ii. Click **Terminate** to end the promulgation process:
 - (1) Select a **Termination Reason**, then click **Submit** to terminate, or click **Cancel** to continue the promulgation process:



9. For **Upload Documents**:

- a. Click **Upload Documents**:



b. Select from the dropdown the **Document Type**:

Document Upload

Regulation

Supporting Documents

Upload

Document Type:

Choose File No file chosen Upload Document

Home

- Proposed Rule
- Index of Studies/Reports*
- Internal Organization Document*
- Petition*
- Additional Documentation*
- Studies/Reports*

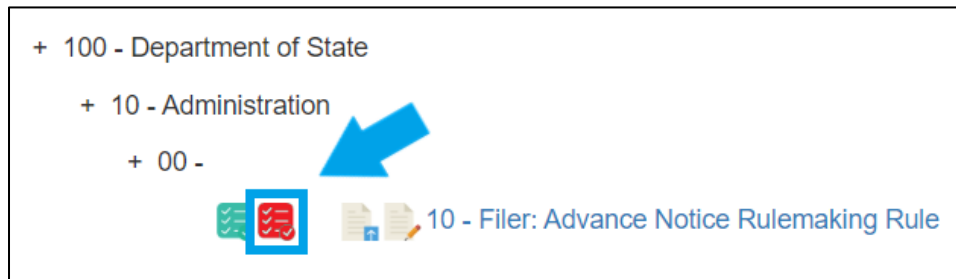
**This document type cannot be uploaded alone. A Proposed Rule must also be uploaded to be able to advance to the next step.*

- c. Click **Choose File** to select the document from your computer.
- d. Click **Upload Document** to upload.
- e. If additional documents need to be uploaded, click **Upload More Documents** and repeat steps b-e for each additional document (you will not be able to advance the rule until the Proposed Rule is uploaded), or click **Home**:

The document was successfully uploaded.

Upload More Documents Home

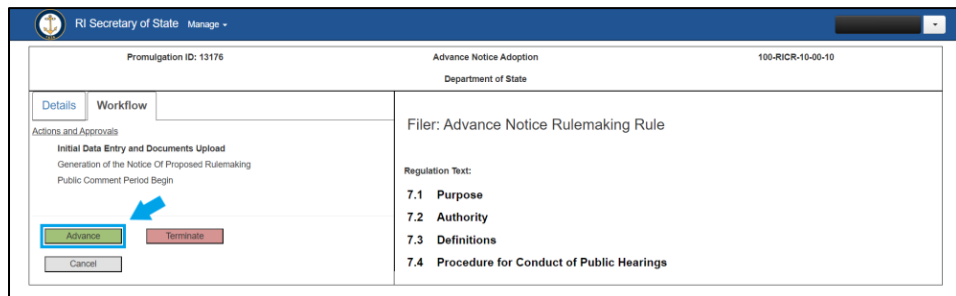
- f. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click the **Terminate** icon to end the promulgation process and skip to step 9(h)(ii)(1):



- g. To continue, click the **Advance Workflow** icon:

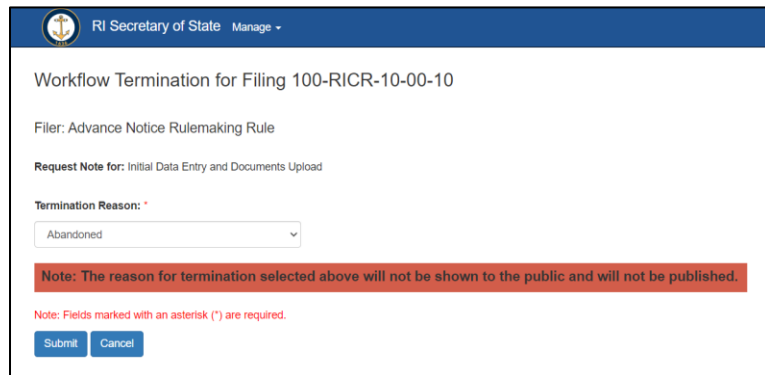


- h. To advance the rule to generate the Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, click **Advance** and skip to step 11:



- i. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click **Cancel** to go back; or
- ii. Click **Terminate** to end the promulgation process:

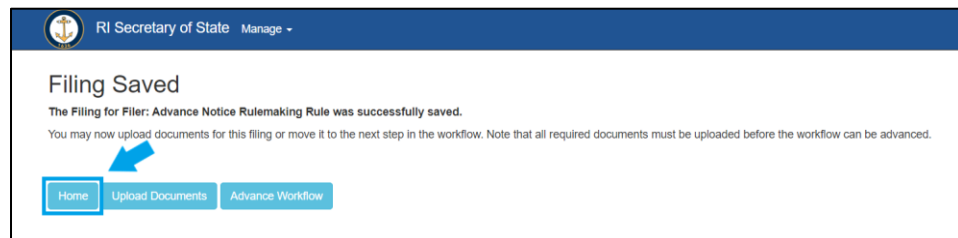
- (1) Select a **Termination Reason**, then click **Submit** to terminate, or click **Cancel** to continue the promulgation process:



10. **DO NOT USE - ONLY FOLLOW IF ACCIDENTALLY CHOSEN**

For **Home**:

- a. Click **Home**:



- b. Click the **Upload Documents** icon next to the Part in the **Work Queue** tab to upload documents to be able to advance the rule:



- c. Select from the dropdown the **Document Type**:

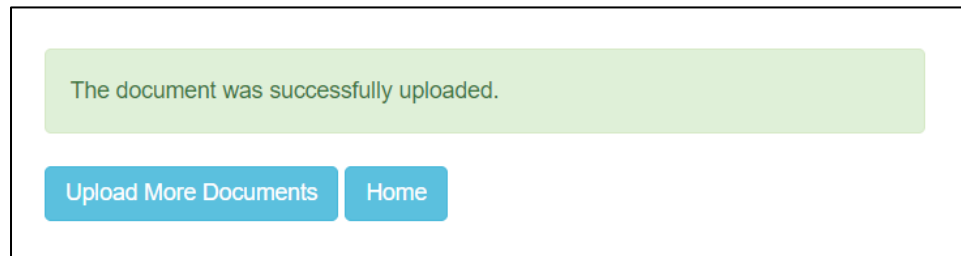
The screenshot shows a web form titled "Document Upload". It contains the following elements: a "Regulation" label, a "Supporting Documents" label, an "Upload" section, a "Document Type:" label, a dropdown menu (highlighted with a blue box and labeled 'c'), a "Choose File" button (highlighted with a blue box and labeled 'd'), the text "No file chosen", an "Upload Document" button (highlighted with a blue box and labeled 'e'), and a "Home" button at the bottom left.

- Proposed Rule
- Index of Studies/Reports*
- Internal Organization Document*
- Petition*
- Additional Documentation*
- Studies/Reports*

**This document type cannot be uploaded alone. A Proposed Rule must also be uploaded to be able to advance to the next step.*

- d. Click **Choose File** to select the document from your computer.
- e. Click **Upload Document** to upload.

- f. If additional documents need to be uploaded, click **Upload More Documents** and repeat steps c-f for each additional document, or click **Home**:



- g. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click the **Terminate** icon to end the promulgation process and skip to step 10(i)(ii)(1):



- h. To continue, click the **Advance Workflow** icon:



- i. To advance the rule to generate the Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, click **Advance** and skip to step 11:

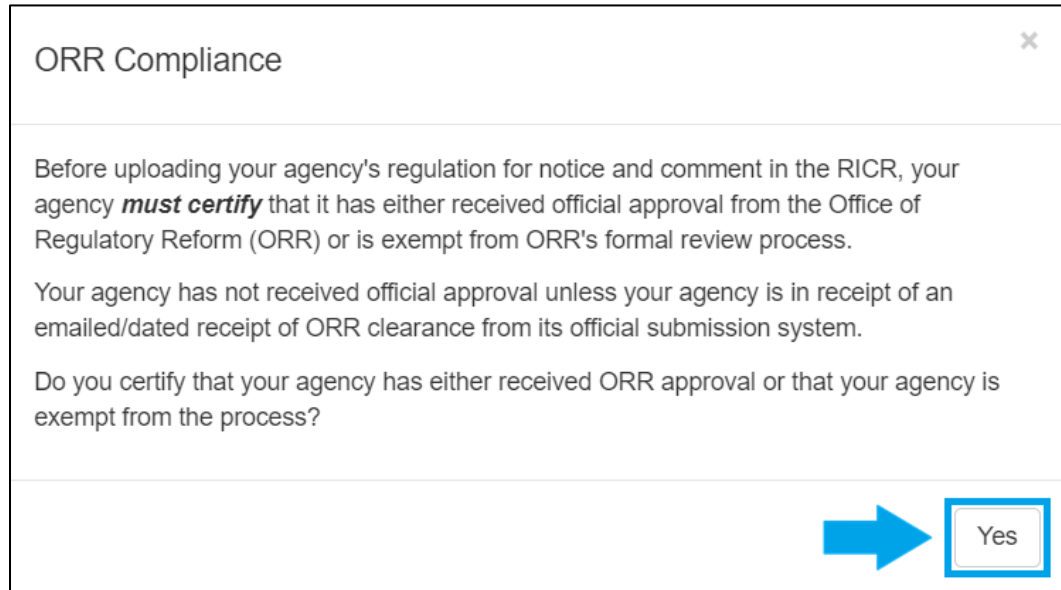
The screenshot shows the 'RI Secretary of State' portal. At the top, it displays 'Promulgation ID: 13176', 'Advance Notice Adoption', and '100-RICR-10-00-10'. Below this, there are tabs for 'Details' and 'Workflow'. The 'Workflow' tab is active, showing a progress bar with three steps: 'Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload', 'Generation of the Notice Of Proposed Rulemaking', and 'Public Comment Period Begin'. The first step is highlighted in green. Below the progress bar are three buttons: 'Advance' (highlighted with a blue arrow), 'Terminate', and 'Cancel'. To the right of the workflow, there is a section for 'Regulation Text' with a list of sections: 7.1 Purpose, 7.2 Authority, 7.3 Definitions, and 7.4 Procedure for Conduct of Public Hearings.

- i. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click **Cancel** to go back; or
- ii. Click **Terminate** to end the promulgation process:
 - (1) Select a **Termination Reason**, then click **Submit** to terminate, or click **Cancel** to continue the promulgation process:

The screenshot shows the 'Workflow Termination for Filing 100-RICR-10-00-10' form. It includes the following fields and elements:

- 'Filer: Advance Notice Rulemaking Rule'
- 'Request Note for: Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload'
- 'Termination Reason: *' dropdown menu with 'Abandoned' selected
- A red highlighted note: 'Note: The reason for termination selected above will not be shown to the public and will not be published.'
- A red note: 'Note: Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required.'
- 'Submit' and 'Cancel' buttons at the bottom.

11. Certify that your agency *will* receive official approval from OMB if the rule is to be fully promulgated or is exempt from OMB’s review process by clicking **Yes**:




ORR Compliance ✕

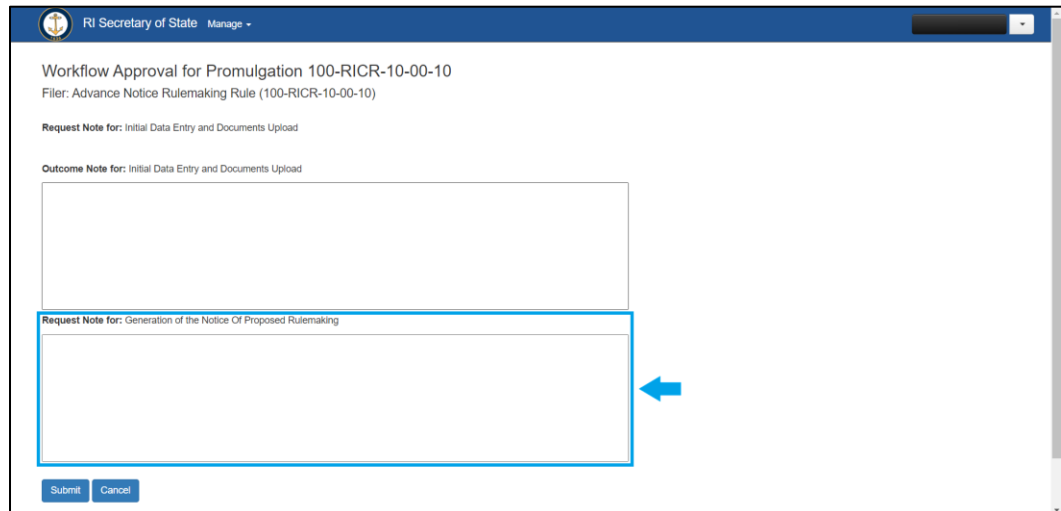
Before uploading your agency's regulation for notice and comment in the RICR, your agency **must certify** that it has either received official approval from the Office of Regulatory Reform (ORR) or is exempt from ORR's formal review process.

Your agency has not received official approval unless your agency is in receipt of an emailed/dated receipt of ORR clearance from its official submission system.

Do you certify that your agency has either received ORR approval or that your agency is exempt from the process?



12. If you would like to add a note for the DOS for the future DOS review, enter text in the **Request Note** and/or click **Submit**:



RI Secretary of State Manage

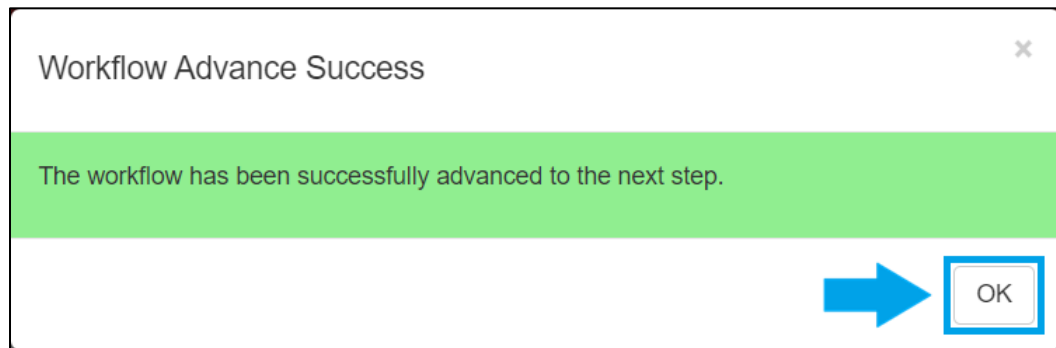
Workflow Approval for Promulgation 100-RICR-10-00-10
Filer: Advance Notice Rulemaking Rule (100-RICR-10-00-10)

Request Note for: Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

Outcome Note for: Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

Request Note for: Generation of the Notice Of Proposed Rulemaking

13. Upon submitting, click **OK** to return to the RICR System homepage:



 **COMPLETED:** *Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload*

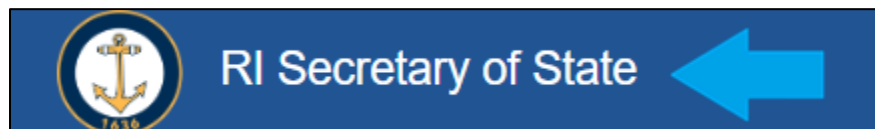
6.3.1.1.4.2 **Generation of the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking**

1. In the **Work Queue** tab, click on the **Title**, **Chapter**, and **Subchapter** to open each level to view the rule.
2. If for any reason the rule details need to be updated, click the **Edit Filing** icon to update the **Regulation Title**, **Rulemaking Authority**, and **Advance Notice Details**, then click **Submit** once the details are updated:

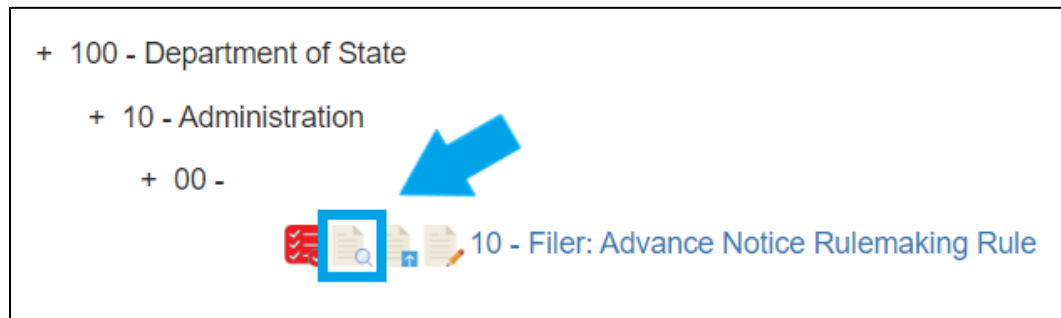
Once the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking is generated and published, this information cannot be changed.



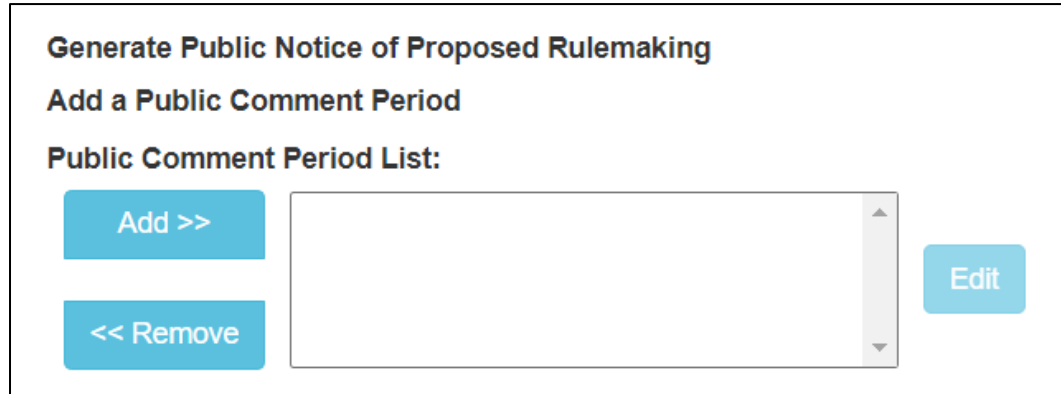
- a. Once completed, click the Department of State logo to navigate back to the homepage:



3. Click the **Generate/Review Docs** icon:



4. Click **Add >>** under **Public Comment Period List**, and click **Edit** and **<< Remove** as necessary to adjust the Public Comment Period:



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5. Fill out the form to add a Public Comment Period – all fields are required:

Public Comment Period
✕

Date of Public Notice:
08/13/2024

Date of End of Comment Period: * ?

Full Name of Contact Person: *

Contact Person Email: *

Contact Person Address: *

, RI

Allow online public comments? *

Yes No

- a. The **Date of End of Comment Period** will automatically show the minimum first eligible date to be chosen, but you may choose a future date if needed.
- b. Agencies may use the RICR Filing System to accept public comments by selecting **Yes** to **Allow online public comments?**. Agencies may opt out by selecting **No**.
 - i. If **Yes** is selected, you have the option to specify dates for when your agency wants to allow online public comments within the Public Comment Period.

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6. If there will be a hearing, click on the Public Comment Period, then click **Add >>** under **Add a Public Hearing:**

Generate Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

Add a Public Comment Period

Public Comment Period List:

08/23/2024 - 08/23/2024

Add a Public Hearing: ?

7. Fill out the form to add a Public Hearing - all fields are required:

Public Hearing [Close]

Hearing date/time: *

Time:

Hearing Location: *

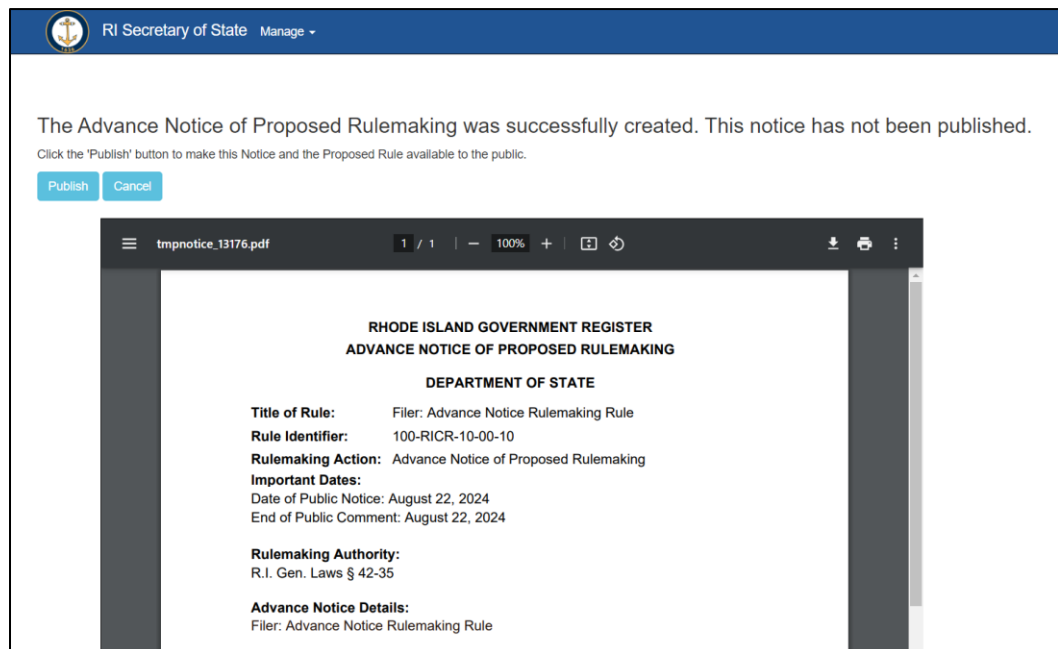
State: Rhode Island

Phone Number for Special Assistance: *

8. Click **Generate Notice** (this will not publish the rule, only preview the notice):



9. Review the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking:



- a. If any information within the notice is incorrect, click **Cancel** to go back and edit to update the information and complete steps as necessary.
- b. Once information is confirmed to be correct, click **Publish** to approve the notice and publish the rule in the RICR.

10. Click **Home** to return to the RICR home page:

- a. If after the notice is published there needs to be any changes made, click **Amend Public Notice** to create and publish an additional notice with corrections.

Documents Published

Rule Identifier: 100-RICR-10-00-10

Title of Rule: Filer: Advance Notice Rulemaking Rule

The following documents are now available to the public:

- [Proposed Rule](#)
- [Public Notice of Proposed Rulemaking](#)

Amend Public NoticeHome



 **COMPLETED:** *Generation of the Notice Of Proposed Rulemaking*

At this time, the Proposed Rule is now live in the RICR and may be viewed by completing the following:

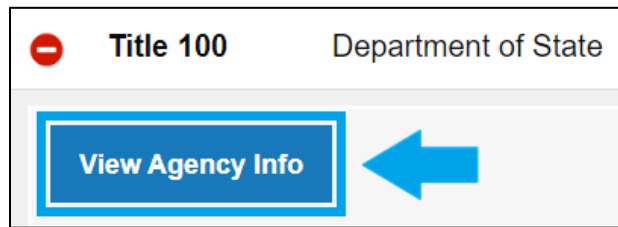
1. Go to <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/organizations>.
2. Locate the associated Title within the Table of Contents.
3. Click the plus sign (+) next to the Title:

Table of Contents

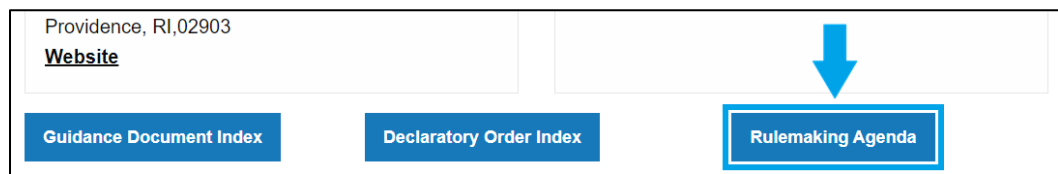
Show entries Filter by Agency

	Title	Agency
	 Title 100	Department of State

4. Click **Agency Info**:



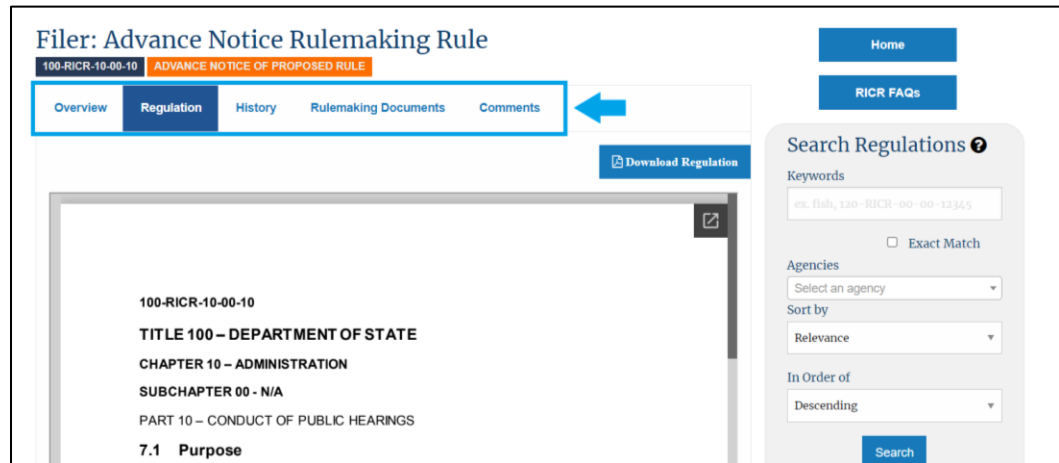
5. Click **Rulemaking Agenda**:



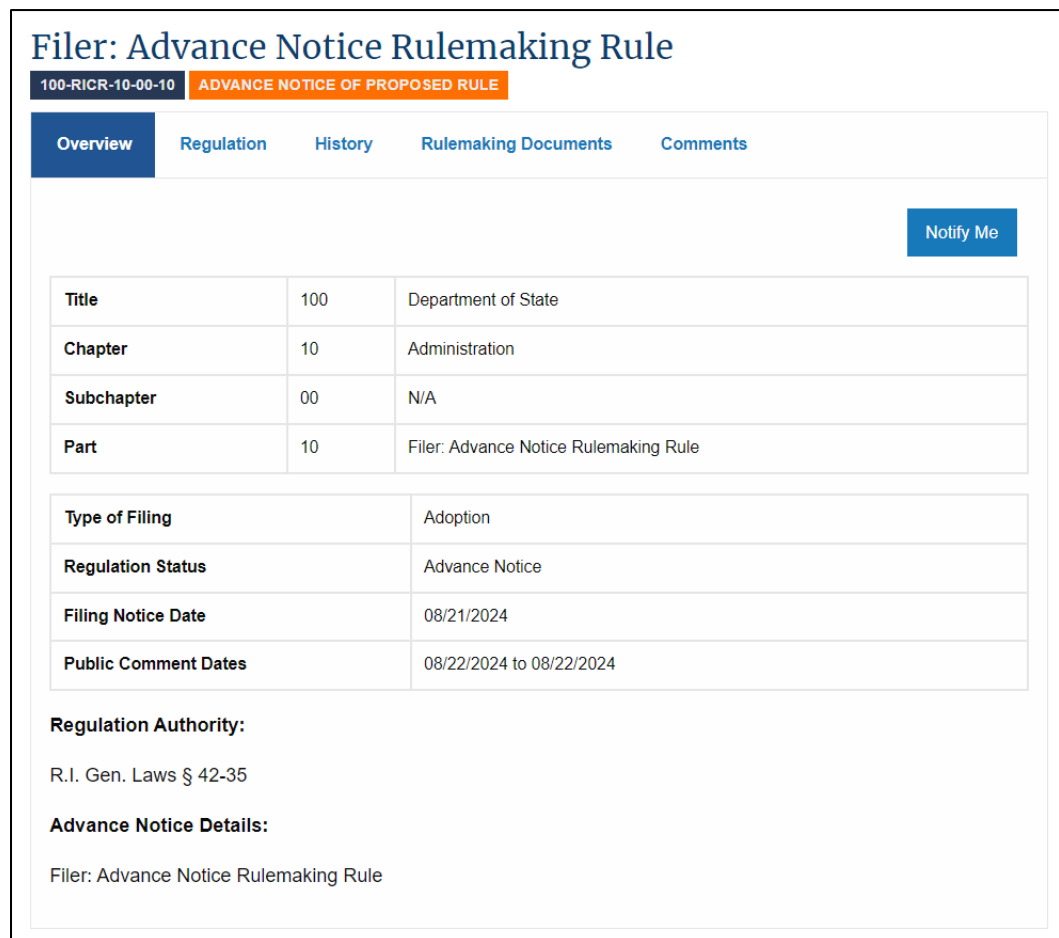
6. Locate the correct Proposed Rule and click the rule name to view:



- Click through the navigation tabs to view the **Overview**, **Regulation**, **History**, **Rulemaking Documents**, and **Comments**:



- The **Overview** tab displays the rule details:





6.3.1.1.4.3 Public Comment Period Begin

The first half of this step will be completed automatically by the RICR System to start the Public Comment Period in the RICR.

If online public comments were allowed, you may review comments as they are submitted, or at the end of the Public Comment Period. See step 2 in the following section ([§ 6.3.1.1.4.4 of this Guide](#)) for how to review comments and generate a public comment document compiling all submitted rules.

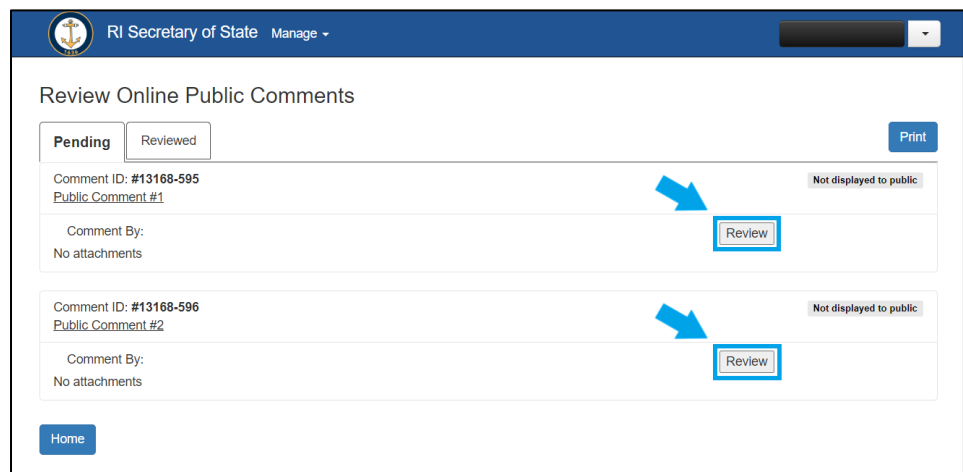


6.3.1.1.4.4 Public Comment Period Begin

1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. If online public comments were allowed, click the Review Comments icon, otherwise skip to step 3:



- a. Review every rule listed under the **Pending** tab by clicking **Review** for each comment submitted:



- i. Select to display the comment in the RICR or not, add any internal and public notes, and click **OK** to approve:

Online Public Comment Review

Comment By: **First Last**
On: **08/13/2024**
Comment: **Public Comment #1**
Comment display to public is **disabled** and not yet reviewed

Enable public comment display? Yes No

Internal Review Notes

Public Review Notes

Display these Public Review Notes to the public: ?

OK Cancel

- b. Click the **Reviewed** tab to view who reviewed the comment, when it was approved, and review again if necessary:

RI Secretary of State Manage

Review Online Public Comments

Pending **Reviewed** Print

Comment ID: #13168-595
Public Comment #1 Displayed to public

Comment By:
No attachments
Reviews:

Reviewed By:
On:

Review

Comment ID: #13168-596
Public Comment #2 Displayed to public

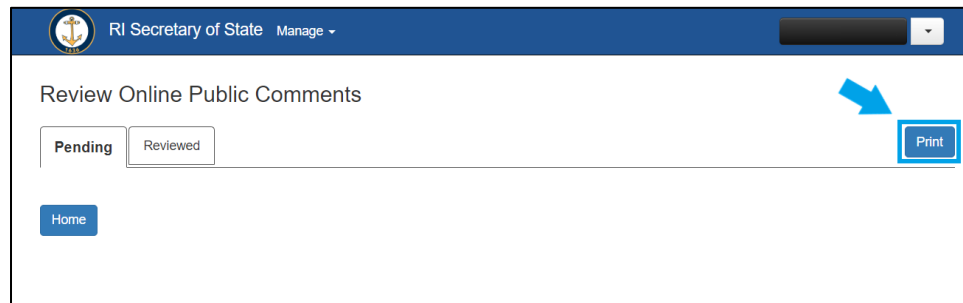
Comment By:
No attachments
Reviews:

Reviewed By:
On:

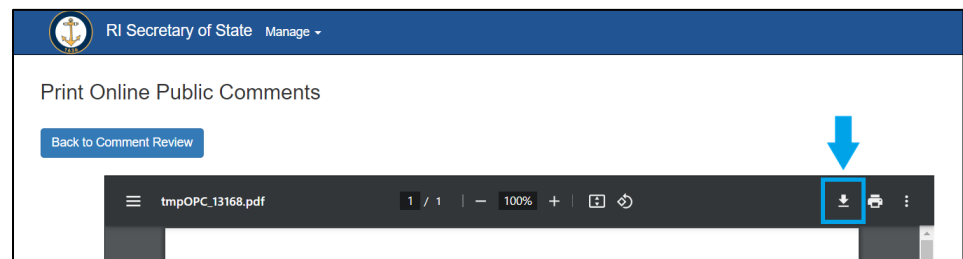
Review

Home

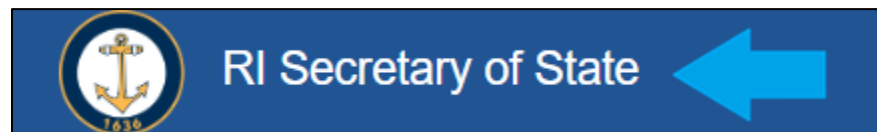
- c. Click **Print** to generate a public comment document:



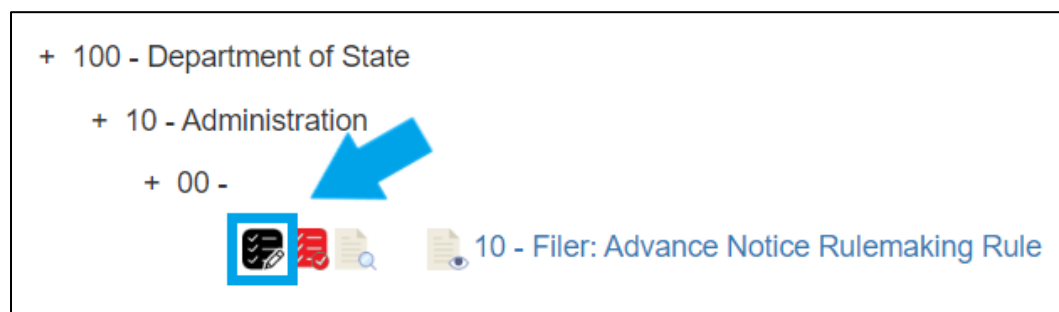
- d. Click the down arrow at the top-right of the PDF viewer to download the document so that it can be used to upload as the part of the final rulemaking documents:



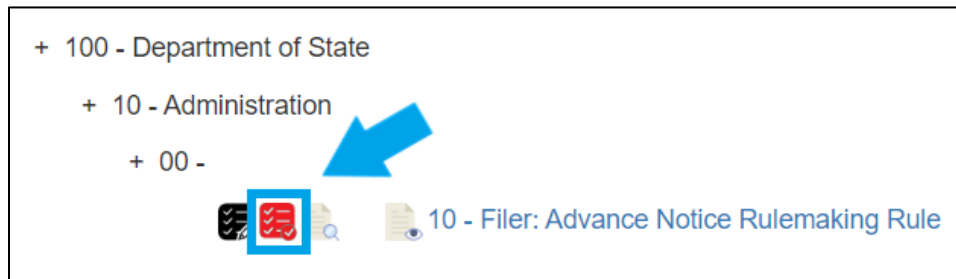
- e. To navigate back to the homepage, click the Department of State logo:



3. To start rulemaking, in the **Work Queue** tab, click on the **Title**, **Chapter**, and **Subchapter** to open each level, then click the **Start Rulemaking** icon:



- a. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click the **Terminate** icon to end the promulgation process:

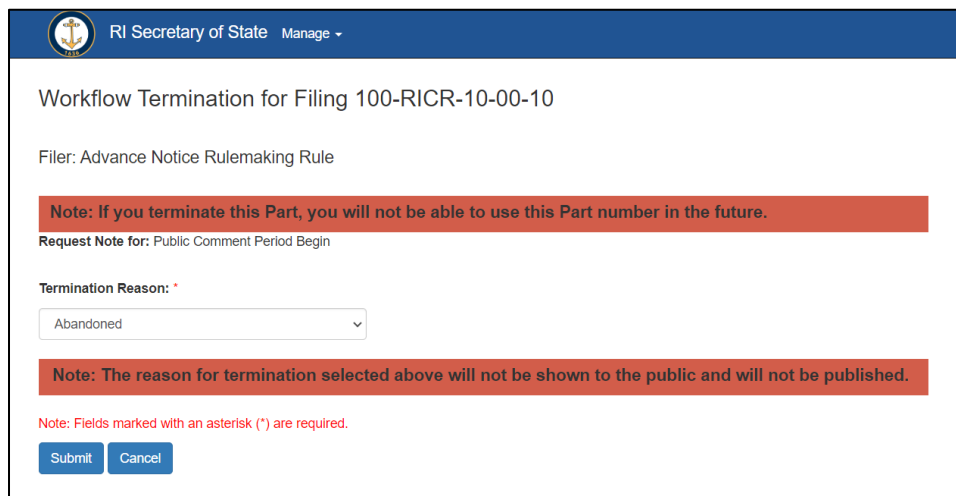


- b. Select a **Termination Reason**, then click **Submit** to terminate.



DO NOT CLICK Cancel - THIS WILL START PROPOSED REGULAR RULEMAKING.

Instead, click the RICR logo at the top-left corner to go back if need be.



RI Secretary of State Manage ▾

Workflow Termination for Filing 100-RICR-10-00-10

Filer: Advance Notice Rulemaking Rule

Note: If you terminate this Part, you will not be able to use this Part number in the future.

Request Note for: Public Comment Period Begin

Termination Reason: *

Abandoned ▾

Note: The reason for termination selected above will not be shown to the public and will not be published.

Note: Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required.

Submit Cancel

4. Enter and confirm the **Rulemaking Filing Details**:
 - a. Choose the **Rulemaking Action** and **Rulemaking Process** to start rulemaking, either **Proposed Regular**, **Proposed Direct Final**, or **Emergency**:

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If another Advance Notice Public Comment Period is necessary, choose Advance Notice.

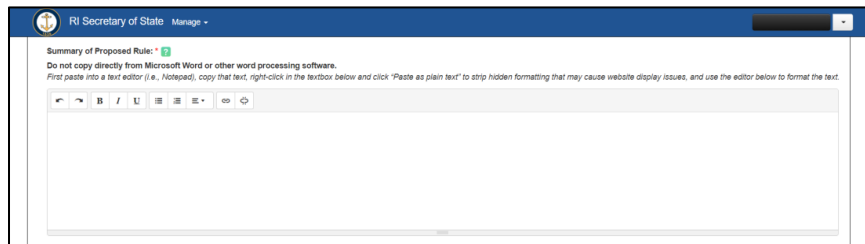
Rulemaking Action: * ?	<input type="radio"/> Proposed	<input type="radio"/> Emergency	<input type="radio"/> Advance Notice
Rulemaking Process: * ?	<input type="radio"/> Regular	<input type="radio"/> Direct Final	

- b. Confirm the **Regulation Title** is correct and uses sentence case (i.e., use “Conduct of Public Hearings”, not “CONDUCT OF PUBLIC HEARINGS”); and
- c. Confirm the Rulemaking Authority is correct and update as necessary by selecting the appropriate authority from the dropdown, enter the **Rulemaking Authority** citation, and click **Add**.
 - i. To remove a **Rulemaking Authority**, click to select the citation to remove from the list and click **Remove**:

<input type="button" value="Add >>"/>	<input type="text" value="R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35 1"/>
<input type="button" value="<< Remove"/> 2	

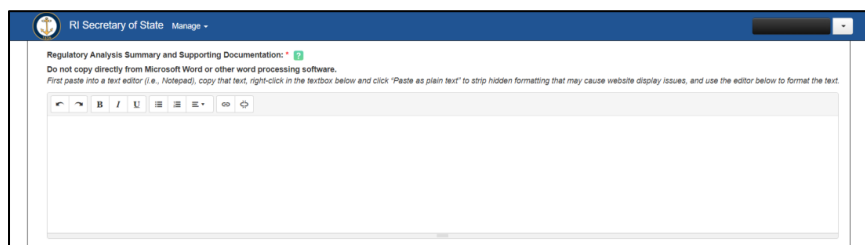
- d. If **Proposed Regular** or **Proposed Direct Final** was chosen:
 - i. Enter the **Summary of Proposed Rule** in plain language of terms or substance of intended action, or description of the subjects and issues involved, including changes between current and proposed regulations:

1. If copying text from another document, follow the directions on screen to strip all erroneous formatting.



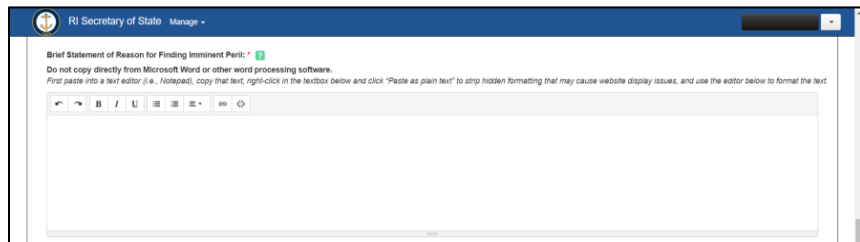
- ii. Enter the **Regulatory Analysis Summary and Supporting Documentation** to provide a brief paragraph of the societal cost and benefits of compliance as prepared under [R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.9](#), including any citations to scientific or statistical studies, reports, and analyses that served as a basis for the proposed rule:

1. If copying text from another document, follow the directions on screen to strip all erroneous formatting.



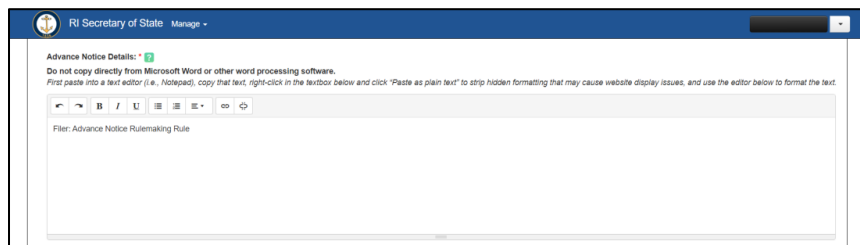
- e. If **Emergency** was chosen:
 - i. Enter the **Brief Statement of Reason for Finding Imminent Peril** to state the reason this rule is required in order to avoid a threat to public health, safety, or welfare, or the loss of federal funding for an agency program ([R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.10](#)):

1. If copying text from another document, follow the directions on screen to strip all erroneous formatting.



- f. If **Advance Notice** was chosen:
 - i. Enter the **Advance Notice Details** to indicate where, when, and how persons may comment before the rulemaking process begins (any meeting held is open to the Open Meetings Act and subject to [R.I. Gen. Laws Chapter 42-46](#)):

1. If copying text from another document, follow the directions on screen to strip all erroneous formatting.



5. Confirm the **Additional Information URL** is correct to indicate the location on your website where the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking is published as required by [R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.7](#):

Additional Information URL: * ?

https:// www.example.com

6. Review to ensure all entered text is correct and click **Submit**.



DO NOT CLICK Cancel - THIS WILL START PROPOSED REGULAR

RULEMAKING.

Instead, click the RICR logo at the top-left corner to go back if need be.



COMPLETED: *Public Comment Period Begin*



6.3.1.1.4.5 Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

1. Based on the Rulemaking Action and Process chosen, continue rulemaking by following:
 - a. **Proposed Regular** Rulemaking in [§ 6.3.1.1.1.1\(9\) of this Guide](#);
 - b. **Proposed Direct Final** Rulemaking in [§ 6.3.1.1.2.1\(9\) of this Guide](#);
 - c. **Emergency** Rulemaking in [§ 6.3.1.1.3.1\(9\) of this Guide](#); or
 - d. Restart **Advance Notice** Rulemaking in [§ 6.3.1.1.4.1\(7\) of this Guide](#).

6.3.1.1.5 APA Exempted Rulemaking

For information regarding this Rulemaking Action, see [§ 3.3.5 of this Guide](#).

Actions to be Completed	User to Complete
Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload	Rules Coordinator
Rules Coordinator Approval for Notice of Proposed Rulemaking	Rules Coordinator
DOS Verification of Drafts	Department of State
Submission for Promulgation	RICR Filing System
Rules Coordinator Approval for Final Submission	Rules Coordinator
Agency Head Signature Applied	Agency Head
Final Rule and Signature Acceptance by DOS	Department of State
Promulgation Finalization	RICR Filing System

Before initiating the process in the RICR Filing System, email the [Administrative Records Office \(ARO\)](#) to request the APA Exemption be applied to the Part to be promulgated:

1. Provide the full RICR Citation (##-RICR-##-##-#); and
2. Confirm the promulgating agency/division may use the exemption per [R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-18](#).

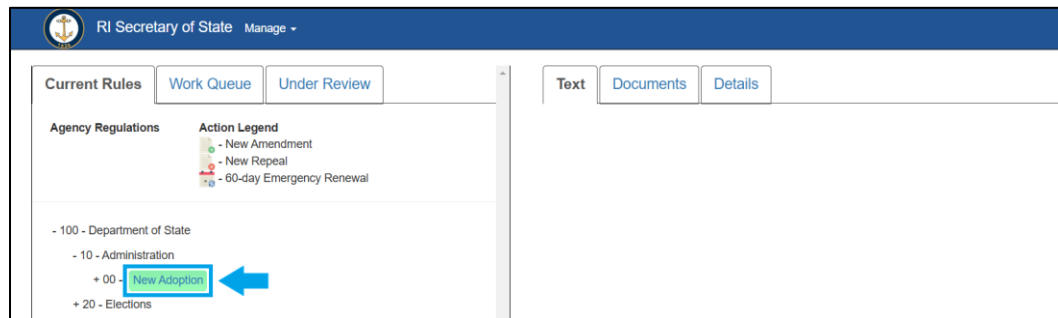
Only once the ARO confirms in an email reply that the exemption was applied can the promulgation process be started in the RICR Filing System.



6.3.1.1.5.1 Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. In the **Current Rules** tab, click the **Title**, **Chapter**, and **Subchapter** to open each level, and:
 - a. Ensure the New Adoption button is **green**, not **blue**; and
*If the button is **blue**, do not move forward with the promulgation and immediately contact the ARO per [§ 6.3.1.1.5 of this Guide](#).*

- b. Click **New Adoption** to promulgate a new rule:



3. Enter in the **Rulemaking Filing Details**:

A screenshot of the RI Secretary of State web application showing the 'Rulemaking Filing Details' form. The header shows the RI Secretary of State logo and a 'Manage' dropdown menu. The form is titled 'Department of State' and 'Administration'. The 'Rulemaking Type' is set to 'Adoption'. The 'Rulemaking Action' field has three radio buttons: 'Proposed', 'Emergency', and 'Advance Notice'. The 'Rule Identifier' field is pre-filled with '100-RICR-10-00-' followed by a text input field. The 'Regulation Title' field is empty. The 'Rulemaking Authority' field is a dropdown menu with 'R.I. General Laws' selected. There are 'Add >>' and '<< Remove' buttons. The form fields are highlighted with blue boxes and letters: 'a' for the 'Rulemaking Action' radio buttons, 'b' for the 'Rule Identifier' text input, 'c' for the 'Regulation Title' text input, and 'd' for the 'Rulemaking Authority' dropdown menu.

- a. Do not choose a **Rulemaking Action**;
- b. Enter the **Rule Identifier** (a.k.a. Part number) as confirmed in the email exchange with the ARO.

After clicking the next field to fill out, this should immediately update the Rulemaking Action to display **APA Exempted**:

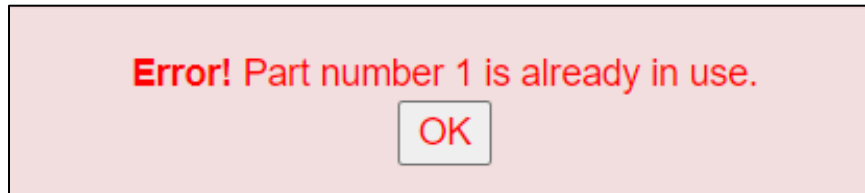


If the Rulemaking Action does not change to APA Exempted, *do not move forward with the promulgation* and instead scroll to the

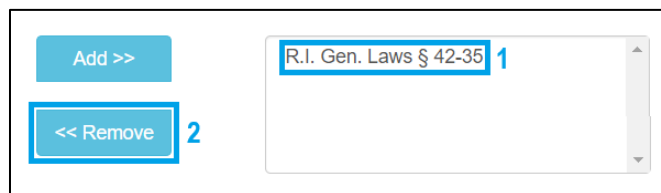
AGENCY GUIDE: RULES COORDINATORS

bottom of the page to click **Cancel** and [email the ARO](#) immediately to fix this;

- i. Part numbers may only be used once ([§ 2.3.4 of this Guide](#)). The RICR System will display an error message if a Part number has already been used after clicking the next field:

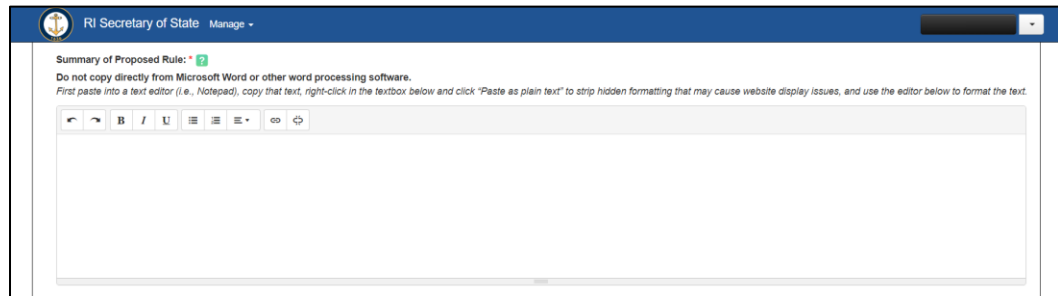


- ii. Enter in a new Part number until you no longer see an error, then update rulemaking documents and work with the ARO to apply the exemption to use the new Part number.
- c. Enter the **Regulation Title** using sentence case (i.e., use "Conduct of Public Hearings", not "CONDUCT OF PUBLIC HEARINGS"); and
- d. Choose the appropriate authority from the dropdown, enter the **Rulemaking Authority** citation, and click **Add**.
 - i. To remove a **Rulemaking Authority**, click to select the citation to remove from the list and click **Remove**:



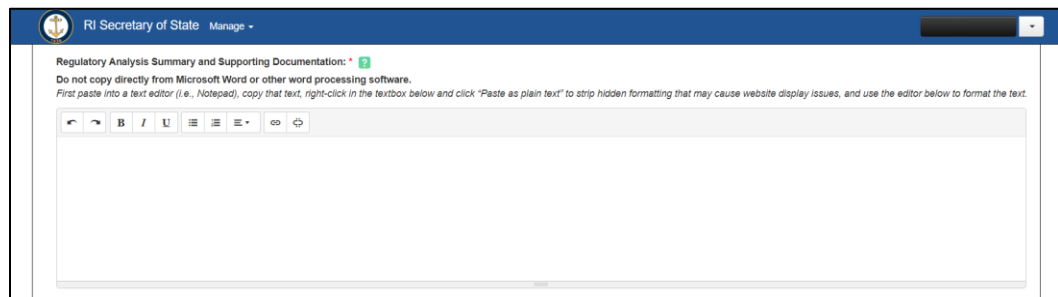
4. Enter the **Summary of Proposed Rule** in plain language of terms or substance of intended action, or description of the subjects and issues involved, including changes between current and proposed regulations:

- a. If copying text from another document, follow the directions on screen to strip all erroneous formatting.



5. Enter the **Regulatory Analysis Summary and Supporting Documentation** to provide a brief paragraph of the societal cost and benefits of compliance as prepared under [R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.9](#), including any citations to scientific or statistical studies, reports, and analyses that served as a basis for the proposed rule:

- a. If copying text from another document, follow the directions on screen to strip all erroneous formatting.



6. Enter the **Additional Information URL** to indicate the location on your website where the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking is published as required by [R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.7](#):

Additional Information URL: * ?

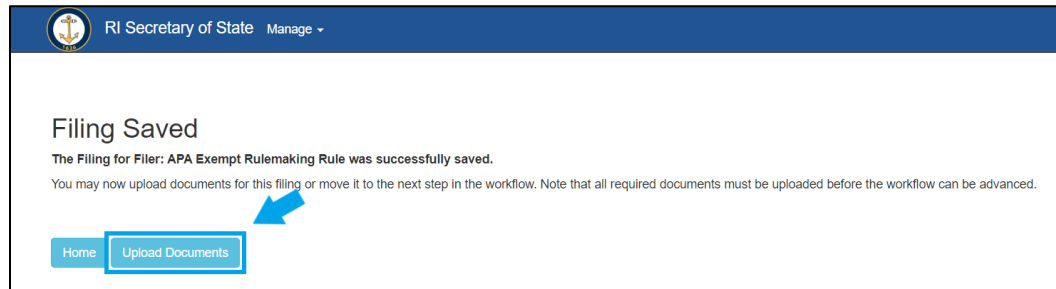
https://

www.example.com

7. Review to ensure all entered text is correct and click **Submit**.
 - a. At any point during the above process, if you don't wish to move forward, click **Cancel** to prevent the Part number from being

used.

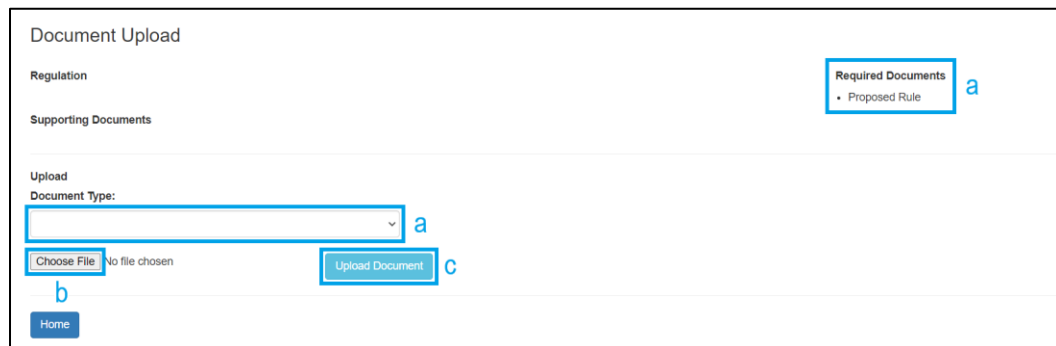
8. This Rulemaking Action requires documents to be uploaded. Click **Upload Documents**:



- a. If you click **Home** by accident, click the **Upload Documents** icon next to the Part in the **Work Queue** tab to go to the correct screen:



9. Upload documents:



- a. Select from the dropdown the **Document Type**:
 - i. **Required**:
 - Proposed Rule*

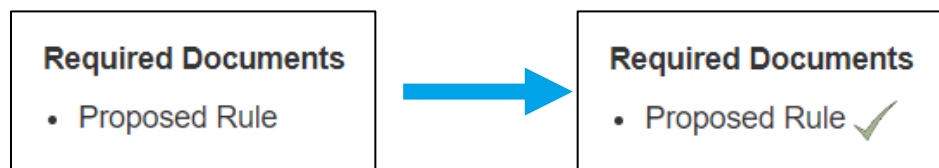
ii. **Optional:**

- Index of Studies/Reports
- Internal Organization Document
- Petition
- Additional Documentation
- Studies/Reports

****There will be no option to upload a Final Rule.***

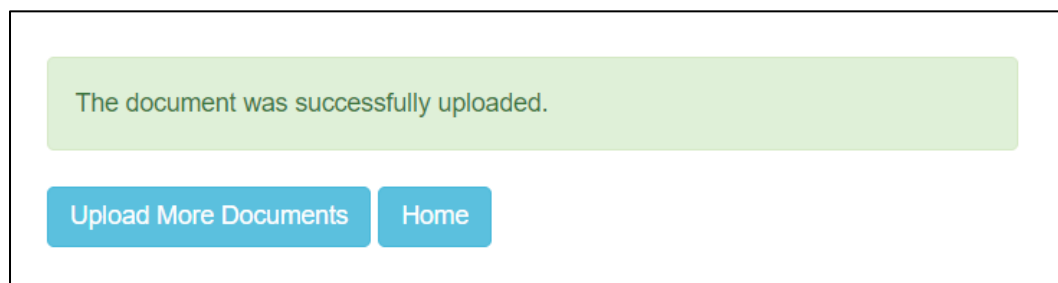
Upload the Final Rule with Track Changes still on as the Proposed Rule in the RICR Filing System. The ARO will accept all changes before the Final Rule goes into effect.

A list of required documents will display, and as documents are uploaded, a green check will be added next to each document:



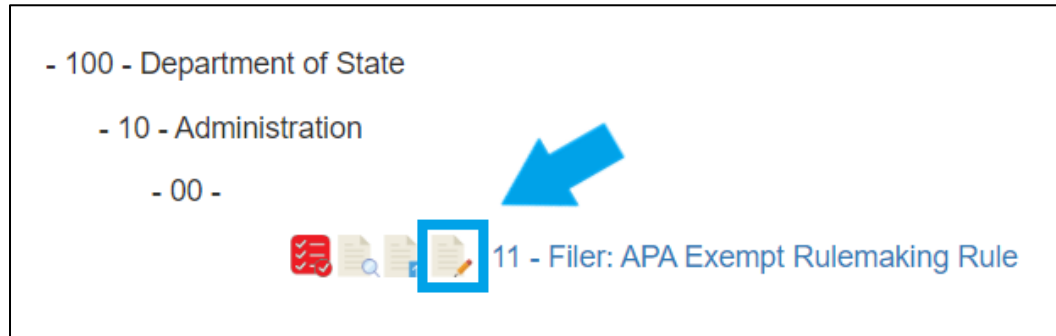
- b. Click **Choose File** to select the document from your computer; and
- c. Click **Upload Document** to upload.

10. If additional documents need to be uploaded, click **Upload More Documents** and repeat steps 9-10 for each additional document (*you will not be able to advance the rule until all required documents are uploaded*), or click **Home** to continue to the next step:

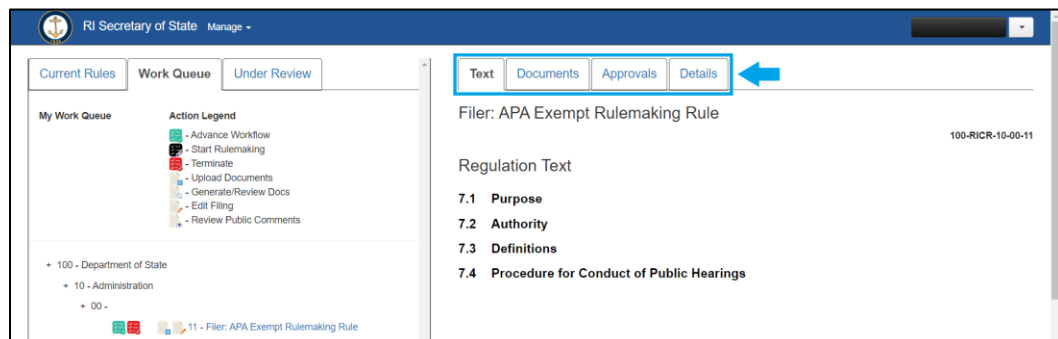


11. If for any reason the rule details need to be updated, click the **Edit Filing** icon to update the **Regulation Title**, **Rulemaking Authority**, **Summary of Proposed Rule**, and **Regulatory Analysis Summary and Supporting Documentation**, then click **Submit** once the details are updated:

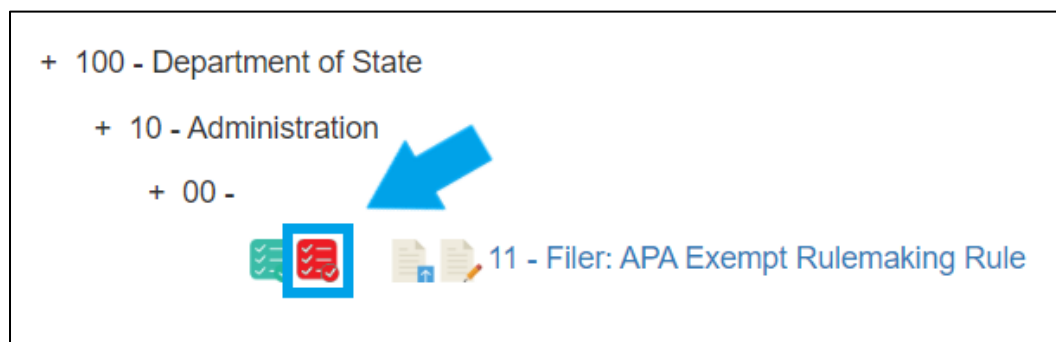
Once the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking is generated and published, this information cannot be changed.



12. Click each tab on the right to ensure all information regarding the rule is correct (**Text**, **Documents**, **Approvals**, and **Details**):



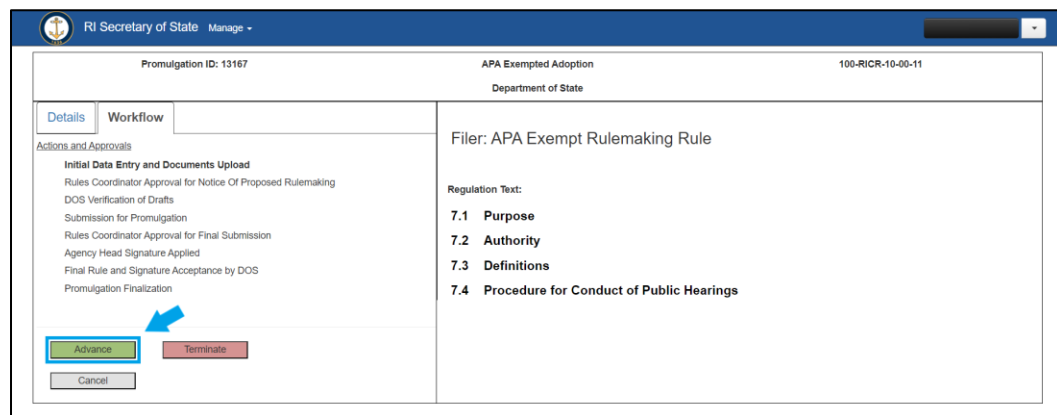
13. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click the **Terminate** icon to end the promulgation process and skip to step 15(b)(i):



14. To continue, click the **Advance Workflow** icon:



15. To advance the rule for the DOS Formatting Review, click **Advance**:



- a. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click **Cancel** to go back; or
- b. Click **Terminate** to end the promulgation process:

- i. Select a **Termination Reason**, then click **Submit** to terminate, or click **Cancel** to continue the promulgation process:

RI Secretary of State Manage -

Workflow Termination for Filing 100-RICR-10-00-11

Filer: APA Exempt Rulemaking Rule

Request Note for: Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

Termination Reason: *

Abandoned

Note: The reason for termination selected above will not be shown to the public and will not be published.

Note: Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required.

Submit Cancel

- 16. Enter what the Effective Date should be set to (i.e., either a minimum 20-day waiting period or other date) in the **Request Note** and click **Submit**:

RI Secretary of State Manage -

Workflow Approval for Promulgation 100-RICR-10-00-11

Filer: APA Exempt Rulemaking Rule (100-RICR-10-00-11)

Request Note for: Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

Outcome Note for: Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

Request Note for: Rules Coordinator Approval for Notice Of Proposed Rulemaking

Submit Cancel

- 17. Upon submitting, click **OK** to return to the RICR System homepage:

Workflow Advance Success

The workflow has been successfully advanced to the next step.

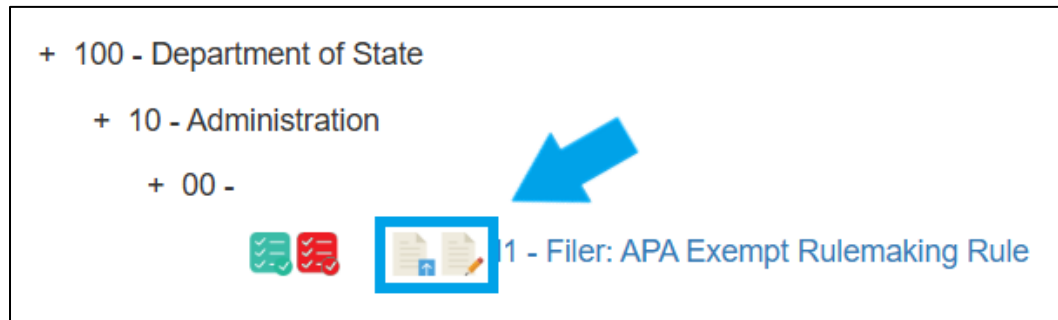
OK

 **COMPLETED:** *Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload*

 **6.3.1.1.5.2 Rules Coordinator Approval for Notice of Proposed Rulemaking**

The Rules Coordinator will receive an AWS Notification when it is time to advance if a Filer completed the Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload.

1. If for any reason at this stage it is determined the filing details needs updating or additional documents need to be uploaded, click on the **Edit Filing** icon (paper with pencil) or the **Upload Documents** icon (paper with blue arrow):



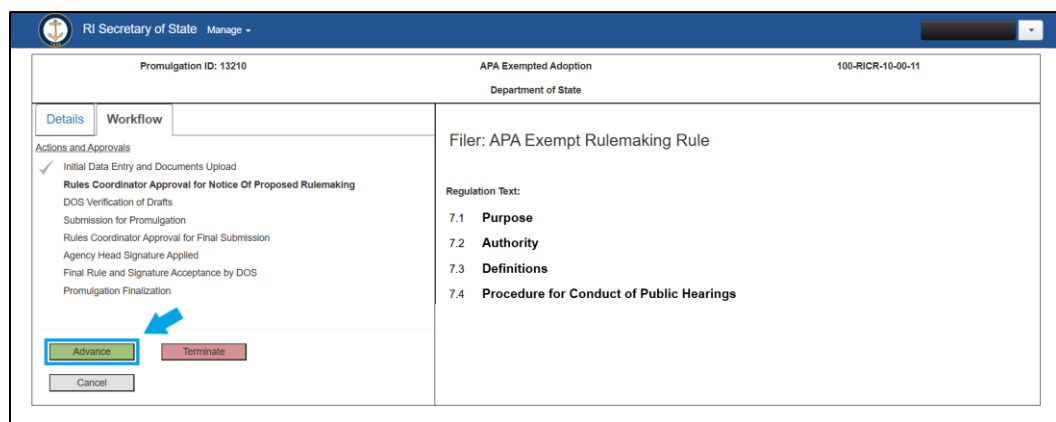
2. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click the **Terminate** icon to end the promulgation process and skip to step 4(b)(i):



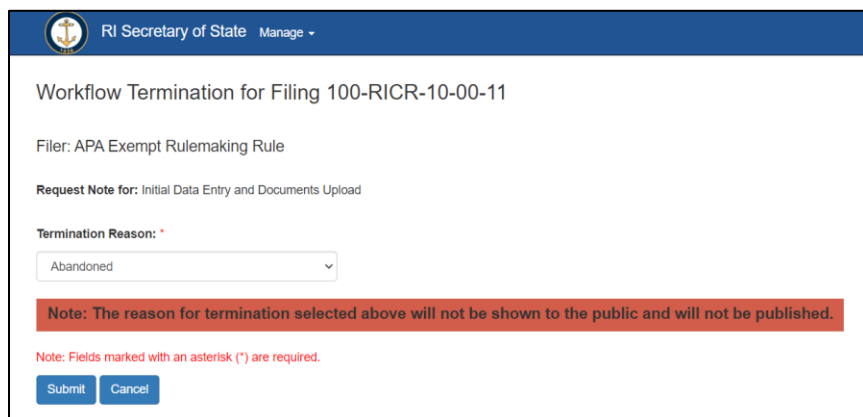
3. To continue, click the **Advance Workflow** icon:



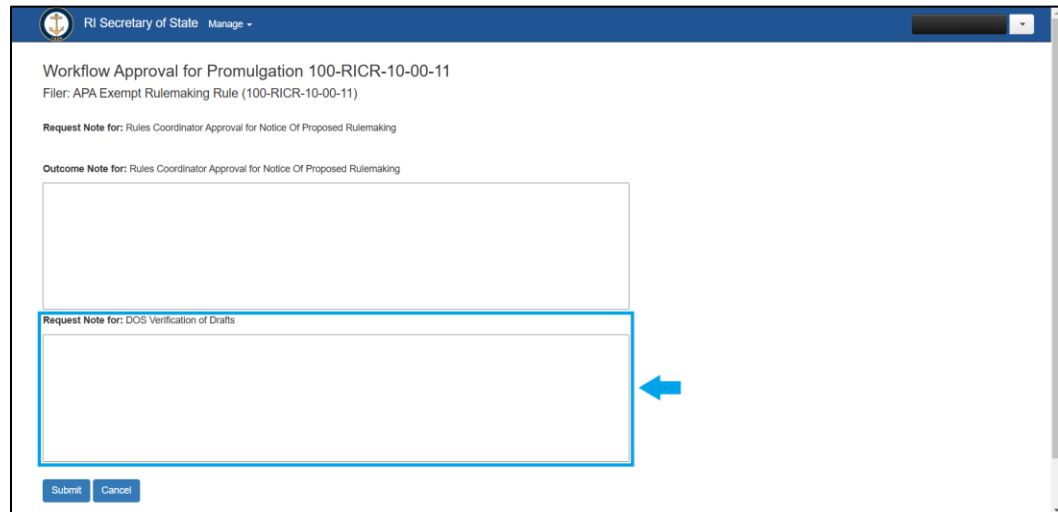
4. To advance the rule for the DOS Formatting Review, click **Advance**:



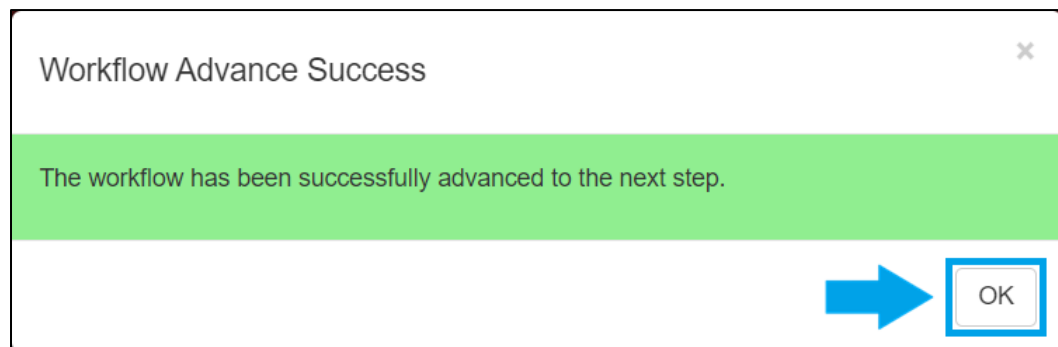
- a. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click **Cancel** to go back; or
- b. Click **Terminate** to end the promulgation process:
 - i. Select a **Termination Reason**, then click **Submit** to terminate, or click **Cancel** to continue the promulgation process:



5. If you would like to add a note for the DOS, enter text in the **Request Note** and/or click **Submit**:



6. Upon submitting, click **OK** to return to the RICR System homepage:



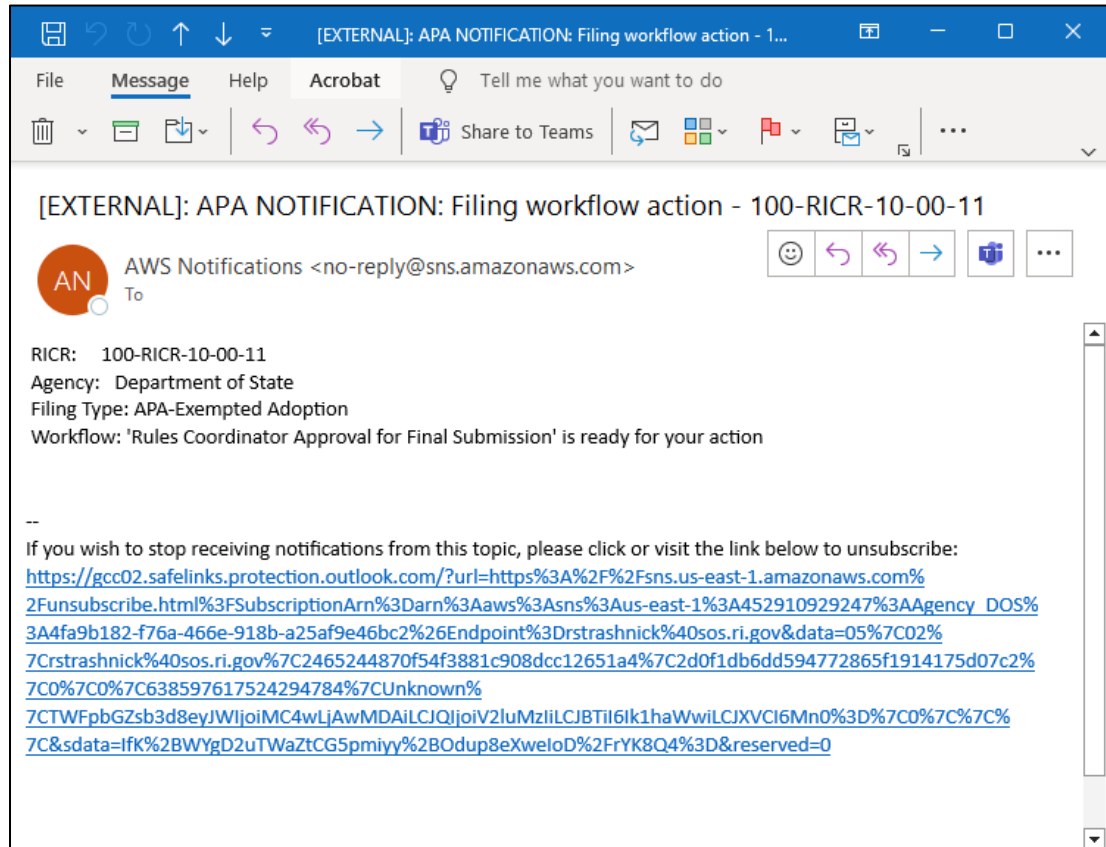
 **COMPLETED:** *Rules Coordinator Approval for Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*



6.3.1.1.5.3 DOS Verification of Drafts

This step will be completed by the Administrative Records Office.

Once the DOS formatting review has been completed, the Rules Coordinator will receive an AWS Notification email to indicate the next step should be taken:





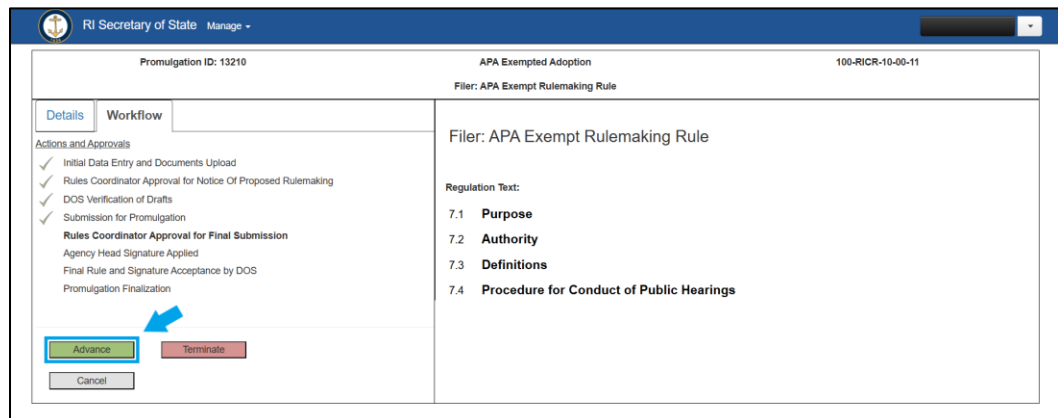
6.3.1.1.5.4 Rules Coordinator Approval for Final Submission

The Rules Coordinator will receive an AWS Notification when it is time to advance once the Administrative Records Office has completed their formatting review.

1. To advance the rule for final signatures or to terminate the rule, click the **Advance Workflow** icon:



2. To advance the rule for the DOS Formatting Review, click **Advance**:



- a. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click **Cancel** to go back; or
- b. Click **Terminate** to end the promulgation process:

- i. Select a **Termination Reason**, then click **Submit** to terminate, or click **Cancel** to continue the promulgation process:

RI Secretary of State Manage

Workflow Termination for Filing 100-RICR-10-00-11

Filer: APA Exempt Rulemaking Rule

Request Note for: Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

Termination Reason: *

Abandoned

Note: The reason for termination selected above will not be shown to the public and will not be published.

Note: Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required.

Submit Cancel

- 3. If you would like to add a note for the DOS, enter text in the **Request Note** and/or click **Submit**:

RI Secretary of State Manage

Workflow Approval for Promulgation 100-RICR-10-00-11

Filer: APA Exempt Rulemaking Rule (100-RICR-10-00-11)

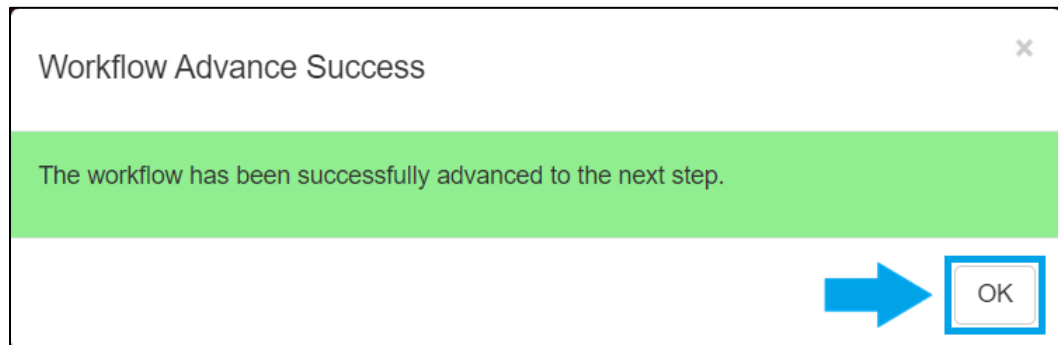
Request Note for: Rules Coordinator Approval for Notice Of Proposed Rulemaking

Outcome Note for: Rules Coordinator Approval for Notice Of Proposed Rulemaking

Request Note for: DOS Verification of Drafts

Submit Cancel

4. Upon submitting, click **OK** to return to the RICR System homepage:



 **COMPLETED: *Rules Coordinator Approval for Final Submission***

 **6.3.1.1.5.5 Agency Head Signature Applied**

This step will be completed by the Agency Head.

Once the Rules Coordinator advances the rule, the Agency Head will receive an automated email from OneSpan, the esignature provider, to sign the rule.

 **6.3.1.1.5.6 Final Rule and Signature Acceptance by DOS**

This step will be completed by the Administrative Records Office.

Once the Agency Head signs the rule, the Department of State will sign the rule and set the rule's Effective Date.

 **6.3.1.1.5.7 Promulgation Finalization**

This step will be completed automatically by the RICR System.

The RICR System will automatically display the Final Regulation in the RICR the day it becomes effective.

It is the Rules Coordinator's responsibility to download the signed

Regulation for the agency's files to be permanently retained per [GRS2.5 Rulemaking Files](#).

Final Regulations can be downloaded by opening the active Part in the [RICR](#), clicking the **Regulation** tab, and clicking **Download Regulation**:



6.3.1.2 Amendments

6.3.1.2.1 Proposed Regular Rulemaking

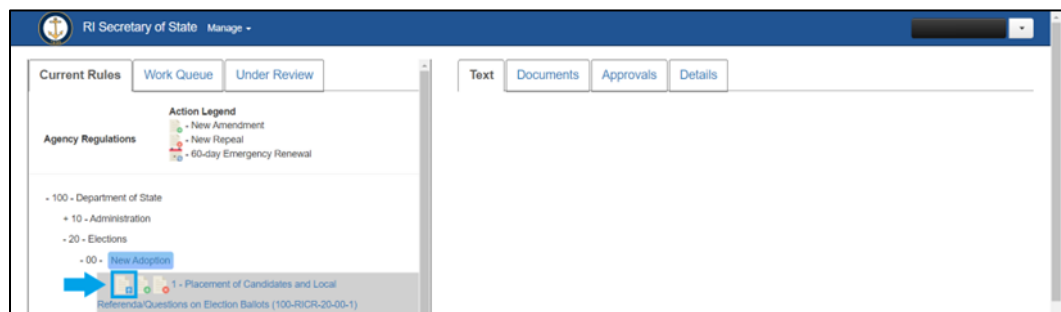
For information regarding this Rulemaking Action, see [§ 3.3.1 of this Guide](#).

Actions to be Completed	User to Complete
Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload	Rules Coordinator
DOS Verification of Drafts	Department of State
Generation of the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking	Rules Coordinator
Submission for Promulgation	RICR Filing System
Public Comment Period Begin	RICR Filing System
Post Public Comment Period Data update and Document Upload	Rules Coordinator
DOS Final Regulation Approval	Department of State
Agency Head Signature Applied	Agency Head
Final Rule and Signature Acceptance by DOS	Department of State
Promulgation Finalization	RICR Filing System

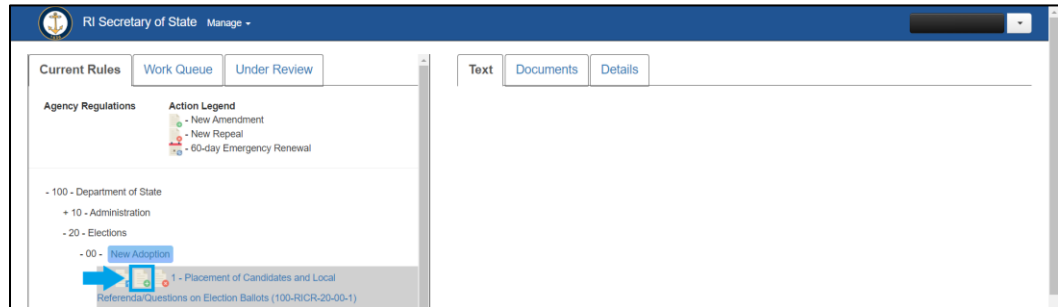


6.3.1.2.1.1 Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. In the **Current Rules** tab, click the **Title**, **Chapter**, **Subchapter**, and **Part** to open each level, then click the **Download Document** icon to draft the amendment (see [§ 5.1.2.2 of this Guide](#) for additional information):



3. Once the Proposed Rule draft is ready, in the **Current Rules** tab, click the **Title, Chapter, Subchapter, and Part** to open each level, then click the **New Amendment** icon promulgate an amendment:



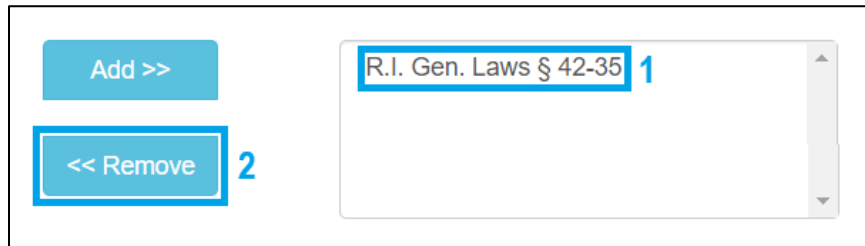
4. Enter and confirm the **Rulemaking Filing Details**:

- a. Choose **Proposed**, then **Regular**, for the **Rulemaking Action** and **Rulemaking Process**;

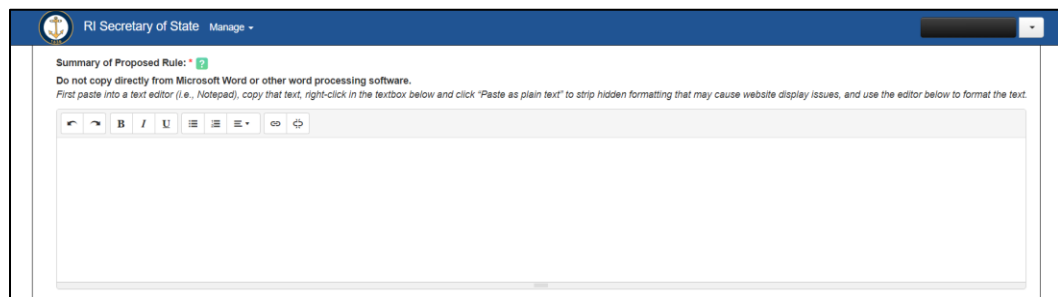
- b. Confirm the **Regulation Title** using sentence case (i.e., use "Conduct of Public Hearings", not "CONDUCT OF PUBLIC HEARINGS"); and
- c. Confirm the appropriate authority from the dropdown, enter the

Rulemaking Authority citation, and click **Add**.

- i. To remove a **Rulemaking Authority**, click to select the citation to remove from the list and click **Remove**:

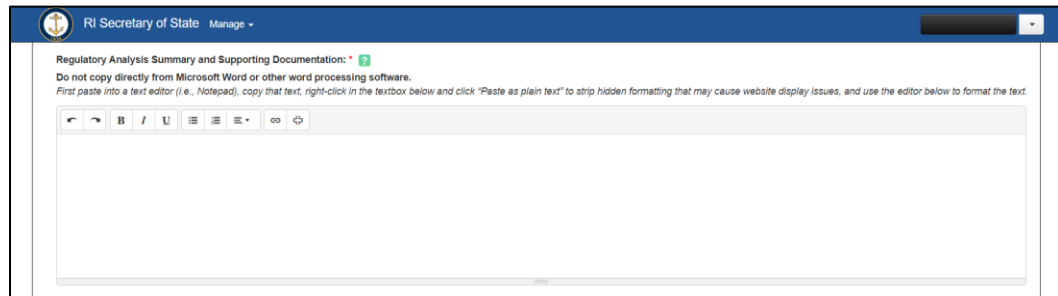


5. Enter the **Summary of Proposed Rule** in plain language of terms or substance of intended action, or description of the subjects and issues involved, including changes between current and proposed regulations:
 - a. If copying text from another document, follow the directions on screen to strip all erroneous formatting.



6. Enter the **Regulatory Analysis Summary and Supporting Documentation** to provide a brief paragraph of the societal cost and benefits of compliance as prepared under [R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.9](#), including any citations to scientific or statistical studies, reports, and analyses that served as a basis for the proposed rule:

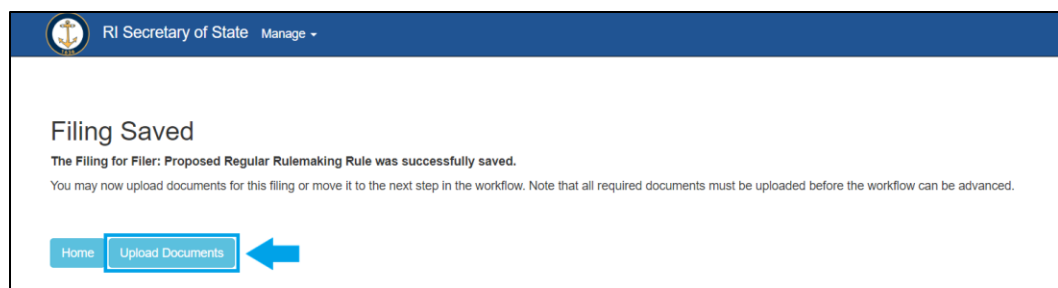
- a. If copying text from another document, follow the directions on screen to strip all erroneous formatting.



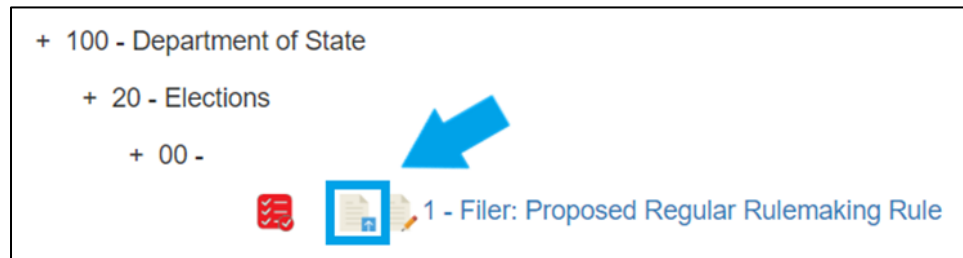
7. Confirm the **Additional Information URL** to indicate the location on your website where the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking is published as required by [R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.7](#):

A screenshot of a web form field labeled "Additional Information URL: * ?". The field contains a dropdown menu with "https://" selected and a text input box containing "www.example.com".

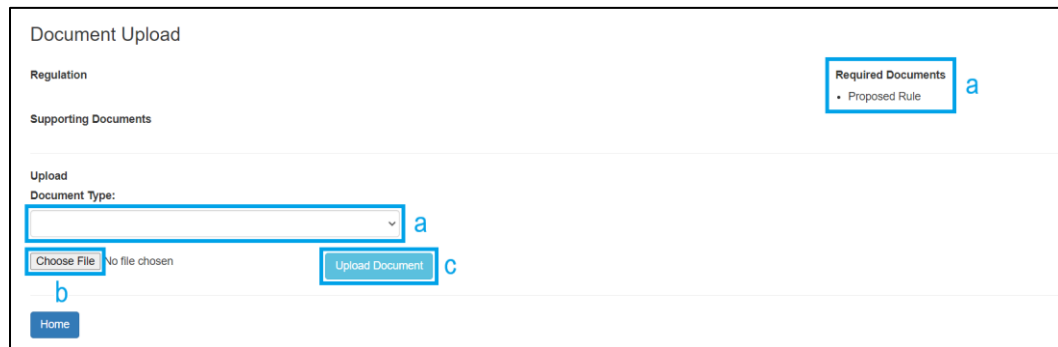
8. Review to ensure all entered text is correct and click **Submit**.
 - a. At any point during the above process, if you don't wish to move forward, click **Cancel**.
9. This Rulemaking Action requires documents to be uploaded. Click **Upload Documents**:



- a. If you click **Home** by accident, click the **Upload Documents** icon next to the Part in the **Work Queue** tab to go to the correct screen:



10. Upload documents:



- a. Select from the dropdown the **Document Type**:

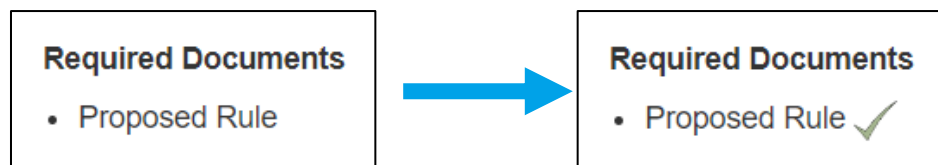
i. **Required:**

- Proposed Rule

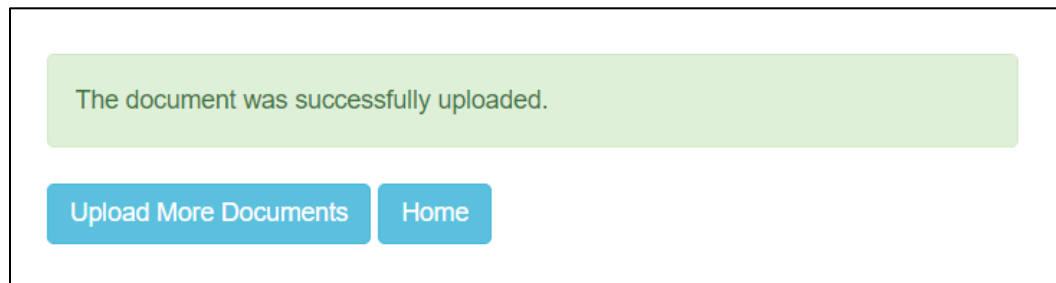
ii. **Optional:**

- Index of Studies/Reports
- Internal Organization Document
- Petition
- Additional Documentation
- Studies/Reports

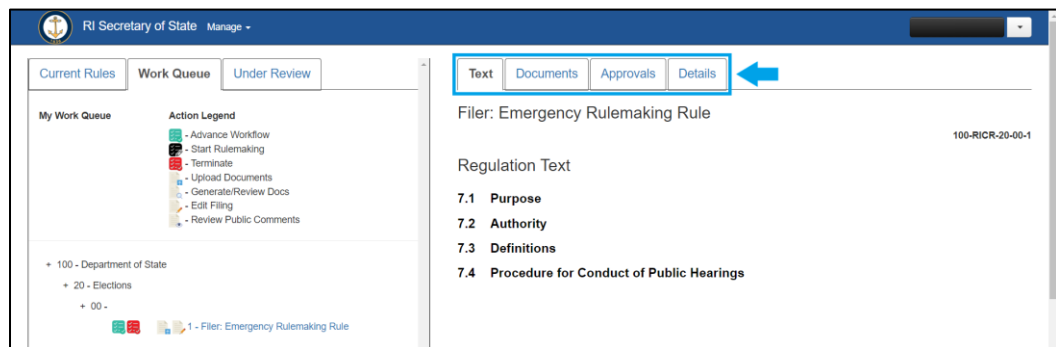
A list of required documents will display, and as documents are uploaded, a green check will be added next to each document:



- b. Click **Choose File** to select the document from your computer; and
 - c. Click **Upload Document** to upload.
11. If additional documents need to be uploaded, click **Upload More Documents** and repeat steps 9-10 for each additional document (*you will not be able to advance the rule until all required documents are uploaded*), or click **Home** to continue to the next step:



12. Click each tab on the right to ensure all information regarding the rule is correct (**Text**, **Documents**, **Approvals**, and **Details**):



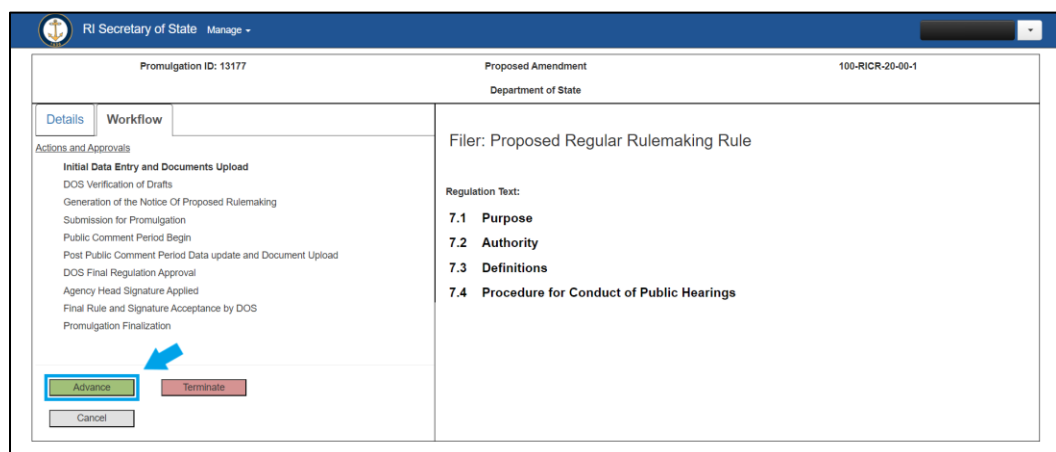
13. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click the **Terminate** icon to end the promulgation process and skip to step 14(b)(i):



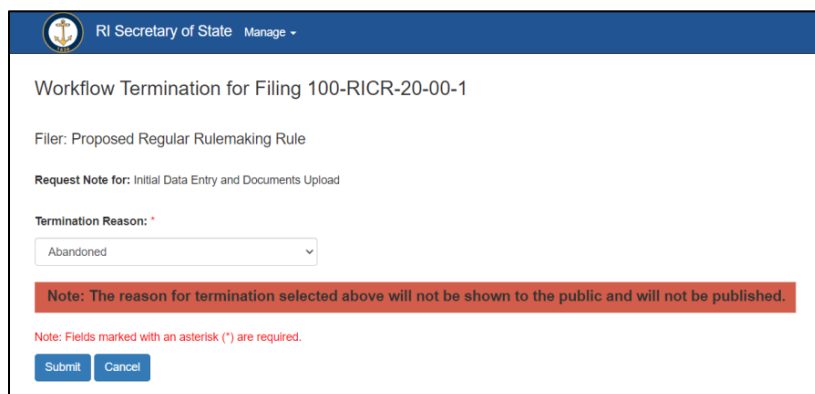
14. To continue, click the **Advance Workflow** icon:



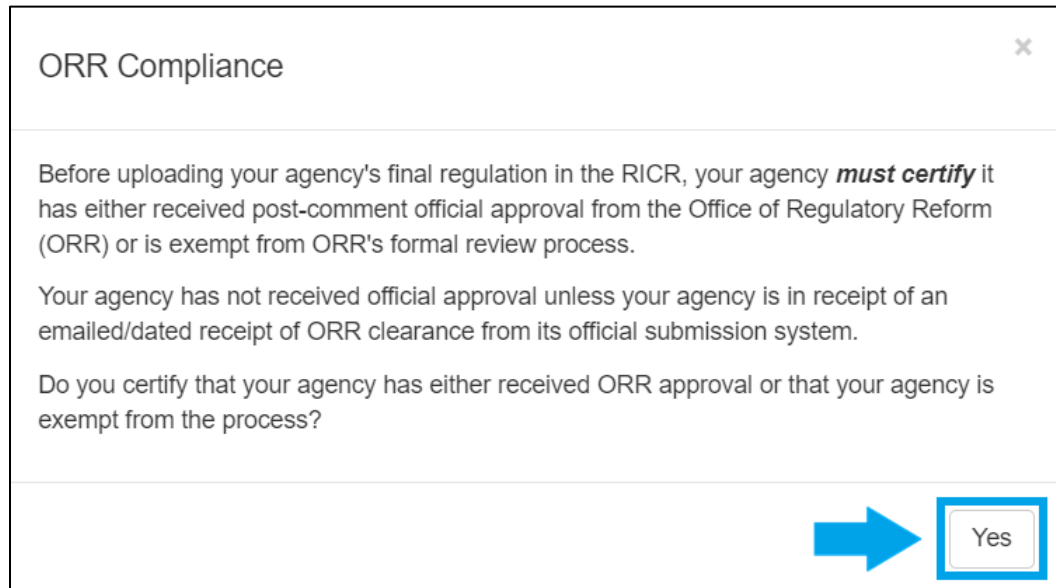
15. To advance the rule for the DOS Formatting Review, click **Advance**:



- a. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click **Cancel** to go back; or
- b. Click **Terminate** to end the promulgation process:
 - i. Select a **Termination Reason**, then click **Submit** to terminate, or click **Cancel** to continue the promulgation process:



16. Certify that your agency has either received official approval from OMB or is exempt from OMB’s review process by clicking **Yes**:




ORR Compliance

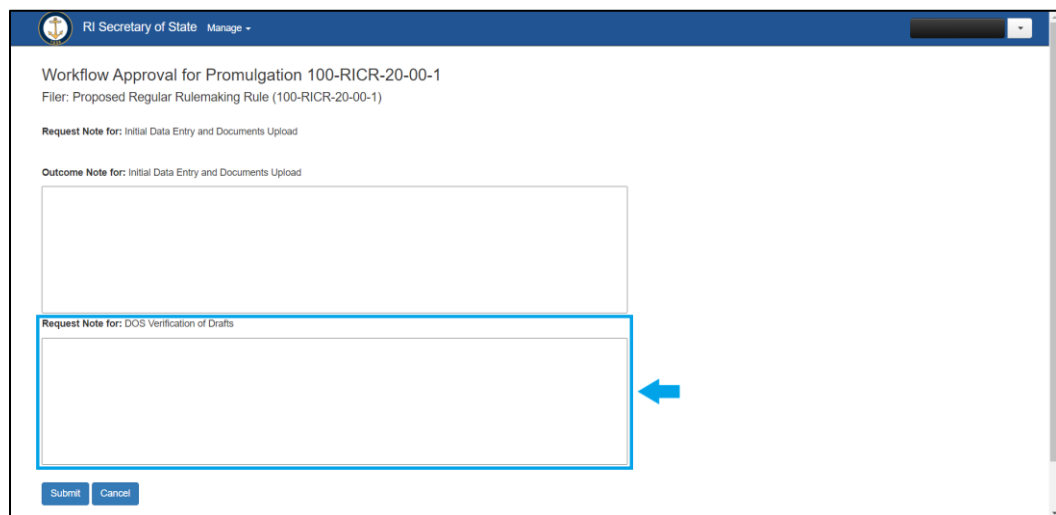
Before uploading your agency's final regulation in the RICR, your agency **must certify** it has either received post-comment official approval from the Office of Regulatory Reform (ORR) or is exempt from ORR's formal review process.

Your agency has not received official approval unless your agency is in receipt of an emailed/dated receipt of ORR clearance from its official submission system.

Do you certify that your agency has either received ORR approval or that your agency is exempt from the process?



- a. **If your agency has not received official approval from OMB and is not exempt**, click the DOS logo in the top-left corner to return to the home page. **Do not proceed in the RICR System** until you have official approval. Once your agency receives approval, go back to step 13 to proceed.
17. If you would like to add a note for the DOS, enter text in the **Request Note** and/or click **Submit**:



RI Secretary of State Manage

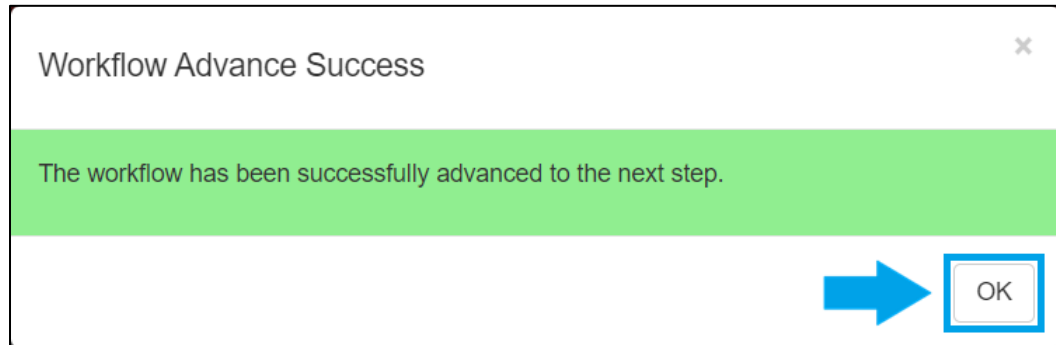
Workflow Approval for Promulgation 100-RICR-20-00-1
Filer: Proposed Regular Rulemaking Rule (100-RICR-20-00-1)

Request Note for: Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

Outcome Note for: Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

Request Note for: DOS Verification of Drafts

18. Upon submitting, click **OK** to return to the RICR System homepage:

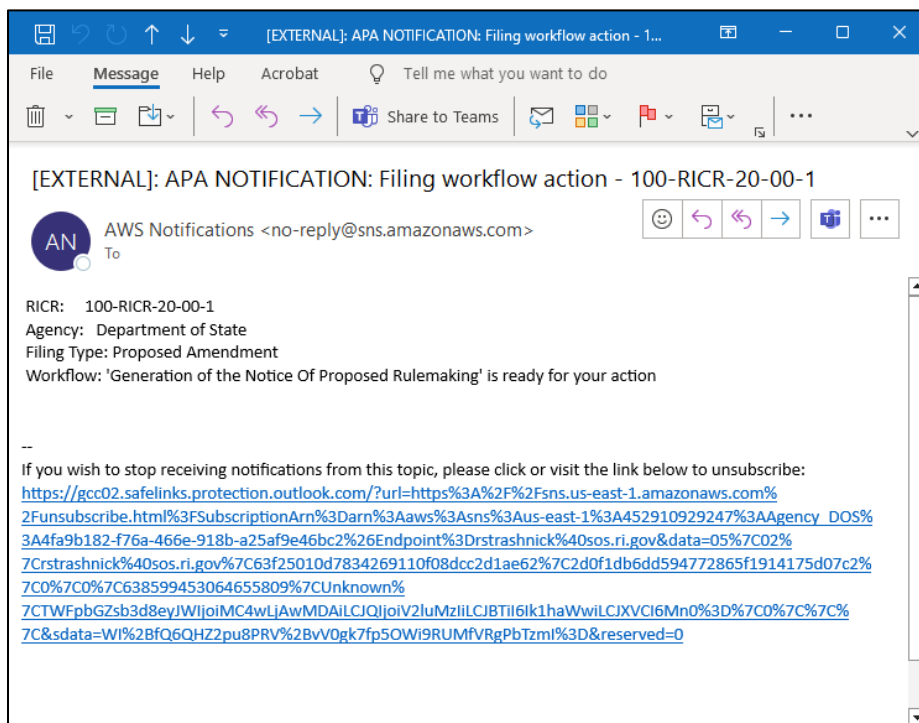


 **COMPLETED: *Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload***

6.3.1.2.1.2 DOS Verification of Drafts

This step will be completed by the Administrative Records Office.

Once the DOS formatting review has been completed, the Rules Coordinator will receive an AWS Notification email to indicate the next step should be taken:





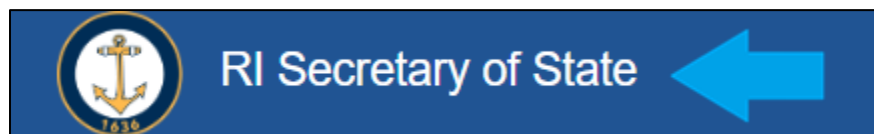
6.3.1.2.1.3 Generation of the Notice Of Proposed Rulemaking

1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. If for any reason the rule details need to be updated, click the **Edit Filing** icon to update the **Regulation Title, Rulemaking Authority, Summary of Proposed Rule,** and **Regulatory Analysis Summary and Supporting Documentation,** then click **Submit** once the details are updated:

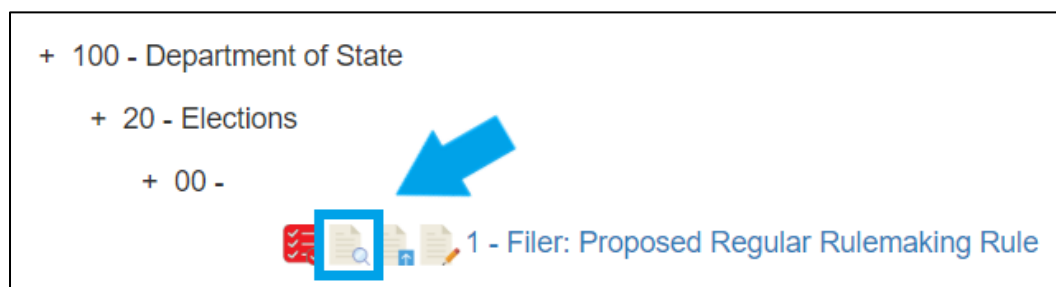
Once the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking is generated and published, this information cannot be changed.



- a. Once completed, click the Department of State logo to navigate back to the homepage:



3. In the **Work Queue** tab, click on the **Title, Chapter,** and **Subchapter** to open each level, then click the **Generate/Review Docs** icon:



AGENCY GUIDE: RULES COORDINATORS

- Click **Add >>** under **Public Comment Period List**, and click **Edit** and **<< Remove** as necessary to adjust the Public Comment Period:

Generate Public Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

Add a Public Comment Period

Public Comment Period List:

Add >>

<< Remove

Edit

- Fill out the form to add a Public Comment Period - all fields are required:

Public Comment Period ✕

Date of Public Notice: 08/13/2024

Date of End of Comment Period: * ?

Full Name of Contact Person: *

Contact Person Email: *

Contact Person Address: *

, RI

Allow online public comments? *

Yes No

OK **Cancel**

AGENCY GUIDE: RULES COORDINATORS

- a. The **Date of End of Comment Period** will automatically show the minimum first eligible date to be chosen, but you may choose a future date if needed.
 - b. Agencies may use the RICR Filing System to accept public comments by selecting **Yes** to **Allow online public comments?**. Agencies may opt out by selecting **No**.
 - i. If **Yes** is selected, you have the option to specify dates for when your agency wants to allow online public comments within the Public Comment Period.
6. If there will be a hearing, click on the Public Comment Period, then click **Add >>** under **Add a Public Hearing**:

Generate Public Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

Add a Public Comment Period

Public Comment Period List:

Add >> 08/23/2024 - 08/23/2024 **Edit**

<< Remove

Add a Public Hearing: ?

Add >> **2** **Edit**

<< Remove

7. Fill out the form to add a Public Hearing - all fields are required:

Public Hearing ✕

Hearing date/time: *


Time:

Hearing Location: *

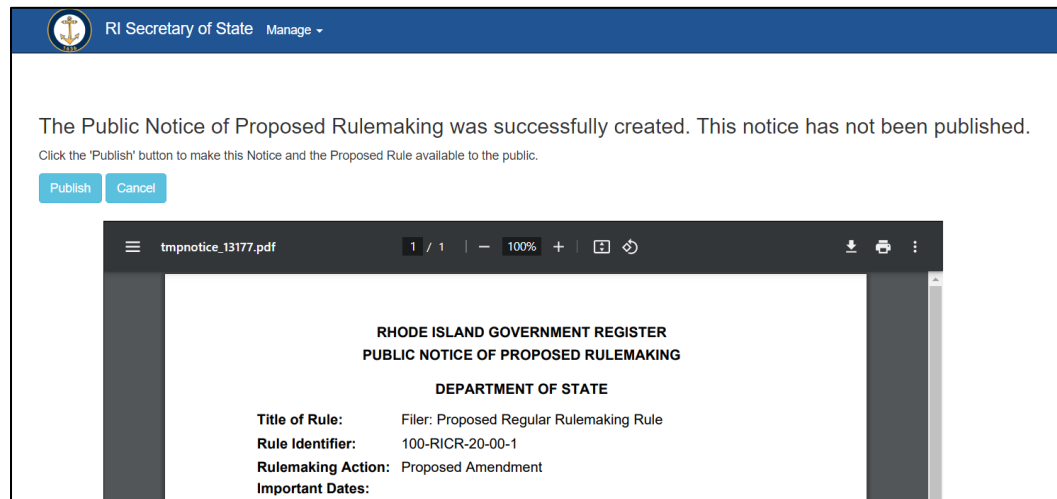
State: Rhode Island

Phone Number for Special Assistance: *

8. Click **Generate Notice** (this will not publish the rule, only preview the notice):



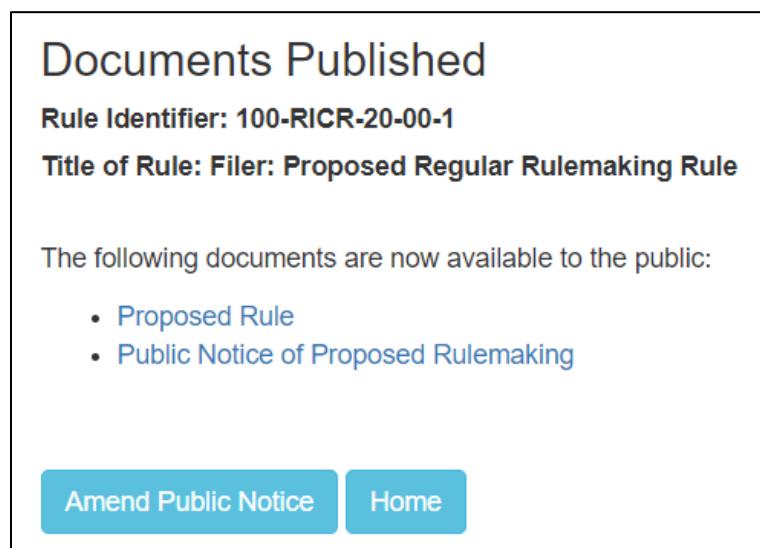
9. Review the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking:



- If any information within the notice is incorrect, click **Cancel** to go back and edit to update the information and complete steps as necessary.
- Once information is confirmed to be correct, click **Publish** to approve the notice and publish the rule in the RICR.

10. Click **Home** to return to the RICR home page:

- If after the notice is published there needs to be any changes made, click **Amend Public Notice** to create and publish an additional notice with corrections.



 **COMPLETED: *Generation of the Notice Of Proposed Rulemaking***

At this time, the Proposed Rule is now live in the RICR and may be viewed by completing the following:

1. Go to <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/organizations>.
2. Locate the associated Title within the Table of Contents.
3. Click the plus sign (+) next to the Title:

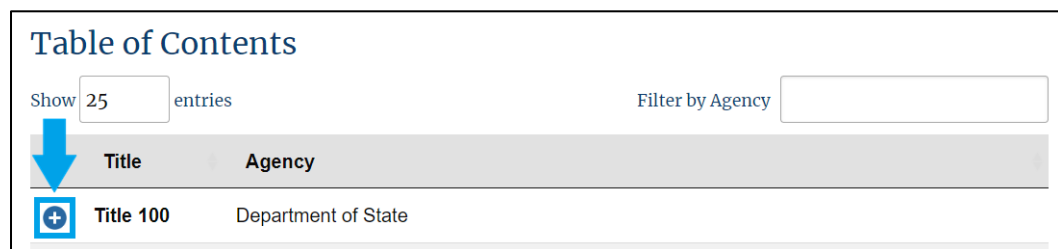

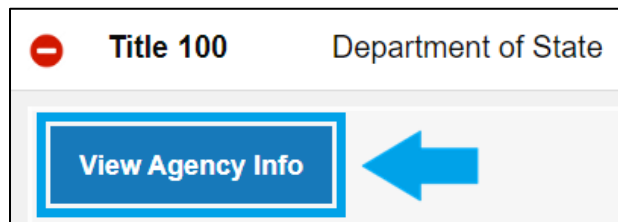
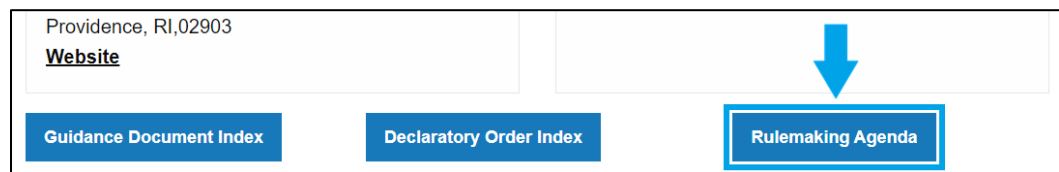


Table of Contents	
Show <input type="text" value="25"/> entries	Filter by Agency <input type="text"/>
Title	Agency
 Title 100	Department of State

4. Click **Agency Info**:



5. Click **Rulemaking Agenda**:



6. Locate the correct Proposed Rule and click the rule name to view:

Department of State Rulemaking Agenda

Advance Notice of Proposed Rules for Department of State

Displaying 1 - 1 of 1

Filer: Proposed Regular Rulemaking Rule ←

100 -RICR - 20 - 00 - 1 | Type of filing: Amendment
PROPOSED RULE

Title: **Department of State** | Chapter: **Elections** | Subchapter: **N/A**

Public Comment Term(s): 08/22/2024 to 09/21/2024 | Notice Date: 08/22/2024

[View Details](#) | [View Proposed](#) | [Additional Information](#)

7. Click through the navigation tabs to view the **Overview**, **Regulation**, **History**, **Rulemaking Documents**, and **Comments**:

Filer: Proposed Regular Rulemaking Rule

100-RICR-20-00-1 **PROPOSED RULE**

[Overview](#) | **[Regulation](#)** | [History](#) | [Rulemaking Documents](#) | [Comments](#) ←

[Download Regulation](#)

100-RICR-20-00-1

TITLE 100 – DEPARTMENT OF STATE

CHAPTER 20 – ADMINISTRATION

SUBCHAPTER 00 - N/A

PART 1 – CONDUCT OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

7.1 Purpose

Home

RICR FAQs

Search Regulations ⓘ

Keywords
ex. Fish, 120 - RICR - 00 - 00 - 12345

Exact Match

Agencies
Select an agency

Sort by
Relevance

In Order of
Descending

Search

8. The **Overview** tab displays the rule details:

Filer: Proposed Regular Rulemaking Rule

100-RICR-20-00-1
PROPOSED RULE

Overview

Regulation

History

Rulemaking Documents

Comments

Notify Me

Title	100	Department of State
Chapter	20	Elections
Subchapter	00	N/A
Part	1	Filer: Proposed Regular Rulemaking Rule

Type of Filing	Amendment
Regulation Status	Proposed <div style="float: right; background-color: #007bff; color: white; padding: 2px 5px; border-radius: 4px;">View Active Rule</div>
Filing Notice Date	08/22/2024
Public Comment Dates	08/22/2024 to 09/21/2024

Regulation Authority:
R.I. Gen. Laws Chapter 17-28

Purpose and Reason:
Filer: Proposed Regular Rulemaking Rule



6.3.1.2.1.4 Submission for Promulgation and Public Comment Period Begin

These steps will be completed automatically by the RICR System.

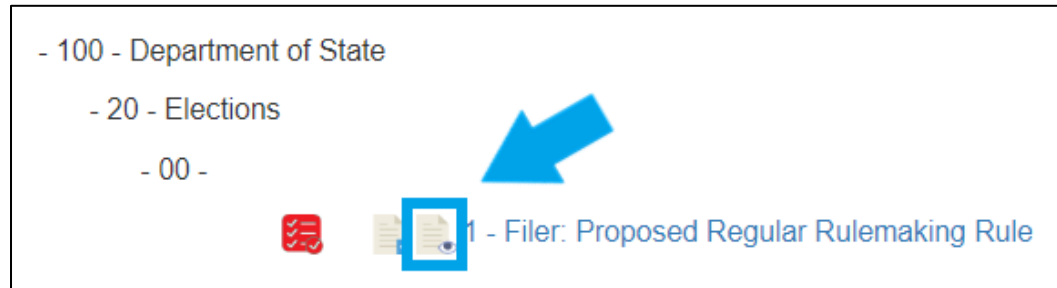
Once the Public Comment Period ends, the RICR System will automatically advance the rule to the next step.

If online public comments were allowed, you may review comments as they are submitted, or at the end of the Public Comment Period. See step 2 in the following section ([§ 6.3.1.2.1.5 of this Guide](#)) for how to review comments and generate a public comment document compiling all submitted rules.

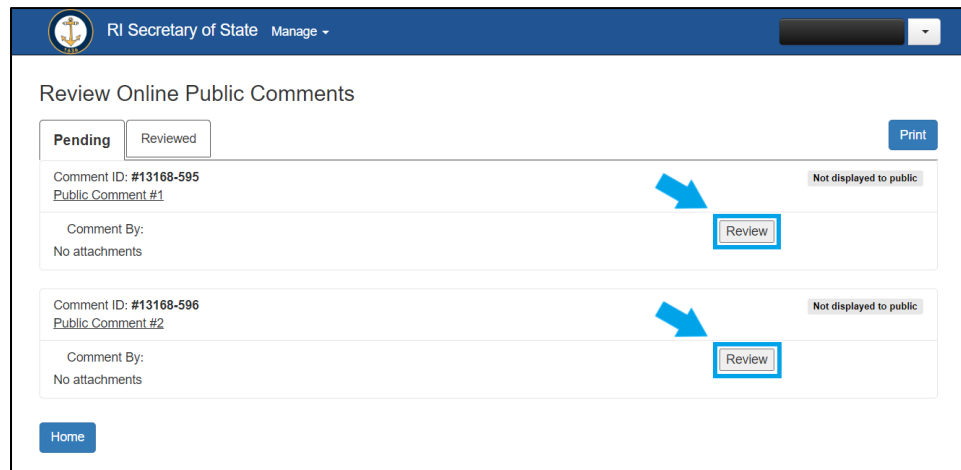


6.3.1.2.1.5 Post Public Comment Period Data update and Document Upload

1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. If online public comments were allowed, click the **Review Comments** icon, otherwise skip to step 3:



- a. Review every rule listed under the **Pending** tab by clicking **Review** for each comment submitted:



- i. Select to display the comment in the RICR or not, add any internal and public notes, and click **OK** to approve:

Online Public Comment Review

Comment By: **First Last**
On: **08/13/2024**
Comment: **Public Comment #1**
Comment display to public is **disabled** and not yet reviewed

Enable public comment display? Yes No

Internal Review Notes

Public Review Notes

Display these Public Review Notes to the public: ?

OK Cancel

- b. Click the **Reviewed** tab to view who reviewed the comment, when it was approved, and review again if necessary:

RI Secretary of State Manage

Review Online Public Comments

Pending **Reviewed** Print

Comment ID: #13168-596
Public Comment #1

Comment By:
No attachments
Reviews:

Reviewed By:
On:

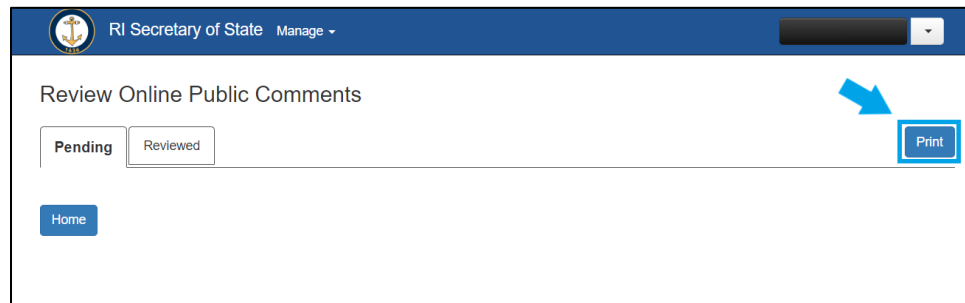
Comment ID: #13168-596
Public Comment #2

Comment By:
No attachments
Reviews:

Reviewed By:
On:

Home

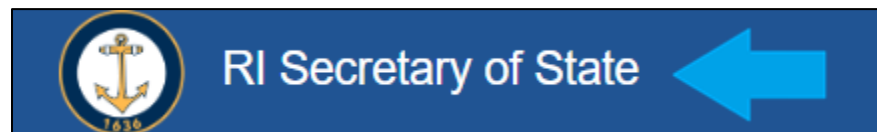
- c. Click **Print** to generate a public comment document:



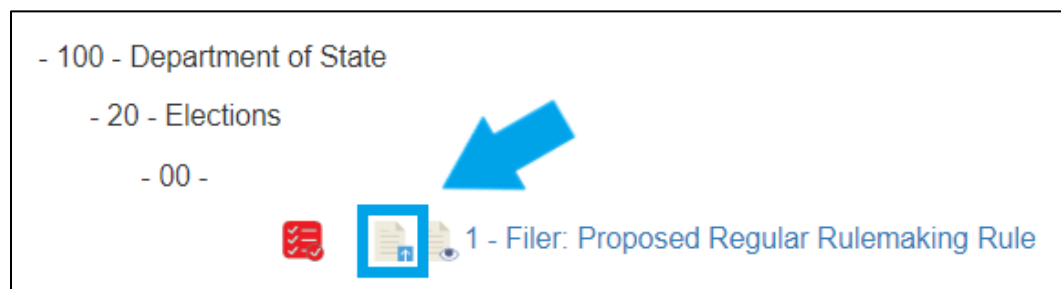
- d. Click the down arrow at the top-right of the PDF viewer to download the document so that it can be used to upload as the part of the final rulemaking documents in step 4:



- e. To navigate back to the homepage, click the Department of State logo:



3. In the **Work Queue** tab, click on the **Title**, **Chapter**, and **Subchapter** to open each level, then click the **Upload Documents** icon:



4. Upload documents:

a. Select from the dropdown the **Document Type**:

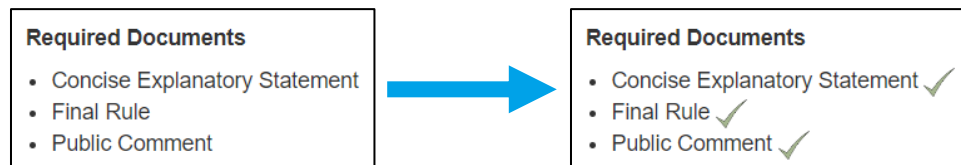
i. **Required:**

- Concise Explanatory Statement
- Final Rule
- Public Comment (*may upload multiple, if necessary*)

ii. **Optional:**

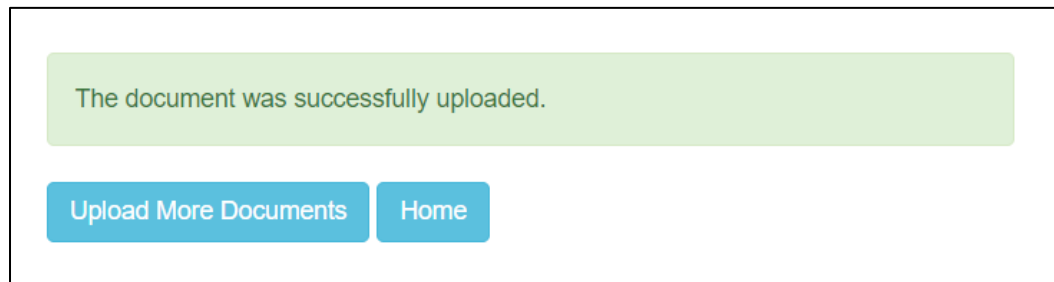
- Index of Studies/Reports
- Internal Organization Document
- Petition
- Public Hearing Documents
- Additional Documentation
- State Register publication
- Studies/Reports

A list of required documents will display, and as documents are uploaded, a green check will be added next to each document:

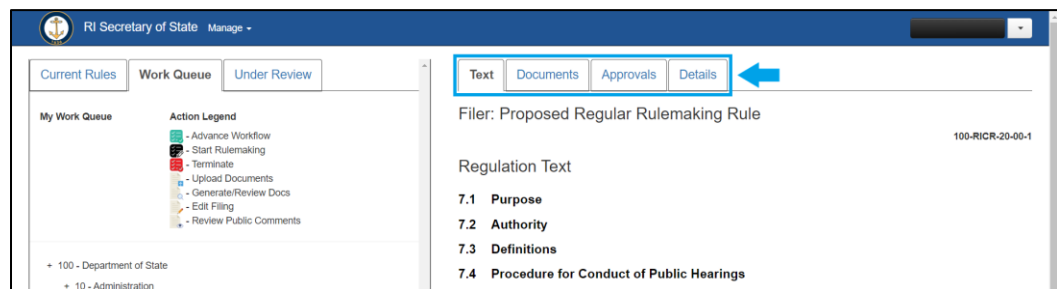


b. Click **Choose File** to select the document from your computer; and

- c. Click **Upload Document** to upload.
5. If additional documents need to be uploaded, click **Upload More Documents** and repeat steps 4-5 for each additional document (*you will not be able to advance the rule until all required documents are uploaded*), or click **Home** to continue to the next step:



6. Click each tab on the right to ensure rule information and all rulemaking documents are correct (**Text**, **Documents**, **Approvals**, and **Details**):



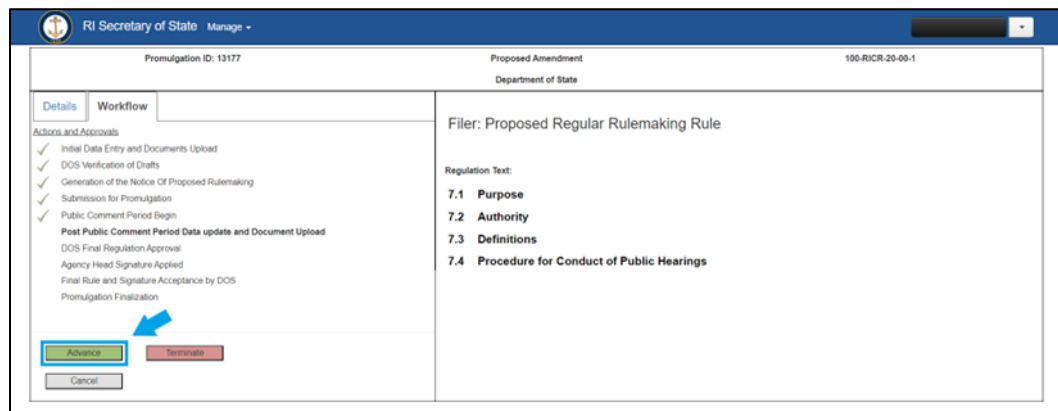
7. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click the **Terminate** icon to end the promulgation process and skip to step 9(b)(i):



8. To continue, click the **Advance Workflow** icon:

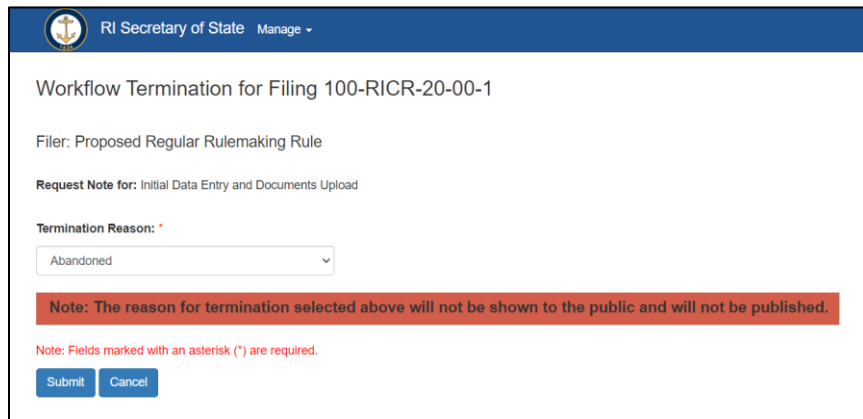


9. To advance the rule for the DOS Formatting Review, click **Advance**:



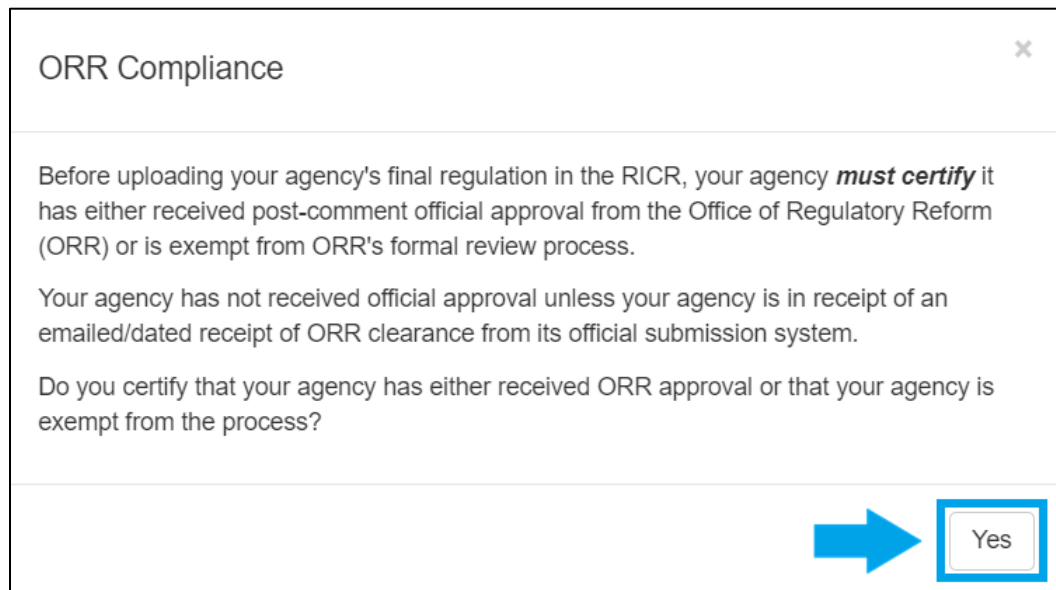
- a. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click **Cancel** to go back; or
- b. Click **Terminate** to end the promulgation process:

- i. Select a **Termination Reason**, then click **Submit** to terminate, or click **Cancel** to continue the promulgation process:



The screenshot shows a web interface for terminating a workflow. At the top, it says "RI Secretary of State" with a "Manage" dropdown. The main heading is "Workflow Termination for Filing 100-RICR-20-00-1". Below that, it identifies the filer as "Proposed Regular Rulemaking Rule" and the request note as "Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload". A "Termination Reason" dropdown menu is set to "Abandoned". A red banner below the dropdown states: "Note: The reason for termination selected above will not be shown to the public and will not be published." A smaller red note below that says: "Note: Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required." At the bottom, there are "Submit" and "Cancel" buttons.

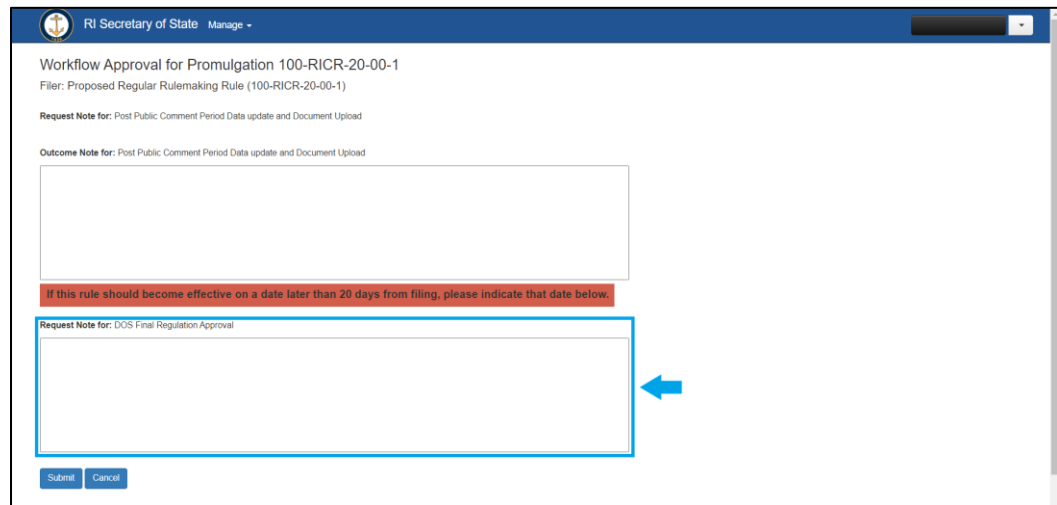
- 10. Certify that your agency has either received official approval from OMB or is exempt from OMB’s review process by clicking **Yes**:



The screenshot shows a dialog box titled "ORR Compliance" with a close button (X) in the top right corner. The text inside reads: "Before uploading your agency's final regulation in the RICR, your agency **must certify** it has either received post-comment official approval from the Office of Regulatory Reform (ORR) or is exempt from ORR's formal review process. Your agency has not received official approval unless your agency is in receipt of an emailed/dated receipt of ORR clearance from its official submission system. Do you certify that your agency has either received ORR approval or that your agency is exempt from the process?" At the bottom right, there is a blue arrow pointing to a "Yes" button, which is highlighted with a blue border.

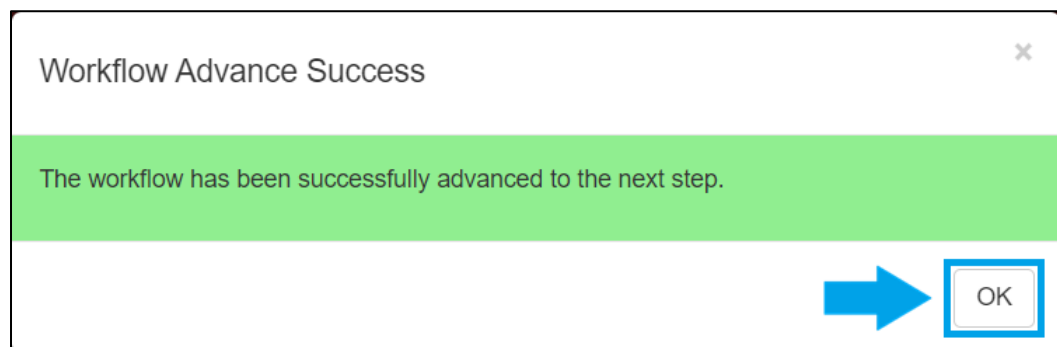
- a. **If your agency has not received official approval from OMB and is not exempt**, click the DOS logo in the top-left corner to return to the home page. **Do not proceed in the RICR System** until you have official approval. Once your agency receives approval, go back to step 8 to proceed.
- 11. If you would like to add a note for the DOS (i.e., if you would like the rule to become effective on a future date other than the minimum 20-day

waiting period), enter text in the **Request Note** and/or click **Submit**:



The screenshot shows a web interface for the RI Secretary of State. The title bar reads "RI Secretary of State Manage". The main content area displays "Workflow Approval for Promulgation 100-RICR-20-00-1" and "Filer: Proposed Regular Rulemaking Rule (100-RICR-20-00-1)". Below this, there are two text input fields: "Request Note for: Post Public Comment Period Data update and Document Upload" and "Outcome Note for: Post Public Comment Period Data update and Document Upload". A red banner below the outcome note field contains the text: "If this rule should become effective on a date later than 20 days from filing, please indicate that date below." Below the banner is another text input field labeled "Request Note for: DOS Final Regulation Approval", which is highlighted with a blue border and a blue arrow pointing to it from the right. At the bottom left of the form are "Submit" and "Cancel" buttons.

12. Upon submitting, click **OK** to return to the RICR System homepage:



The screenshot shows a notification dialog box titled "Workflow Advance Success" with a close button (X) in the top right corner. The main text of the dialog reads: "The workflow has been successfully advanced to the next step." At the bottom right of the dialog is an "OK" button, which is highlighted with a blue border and a blue arrow pointing to it from the left.

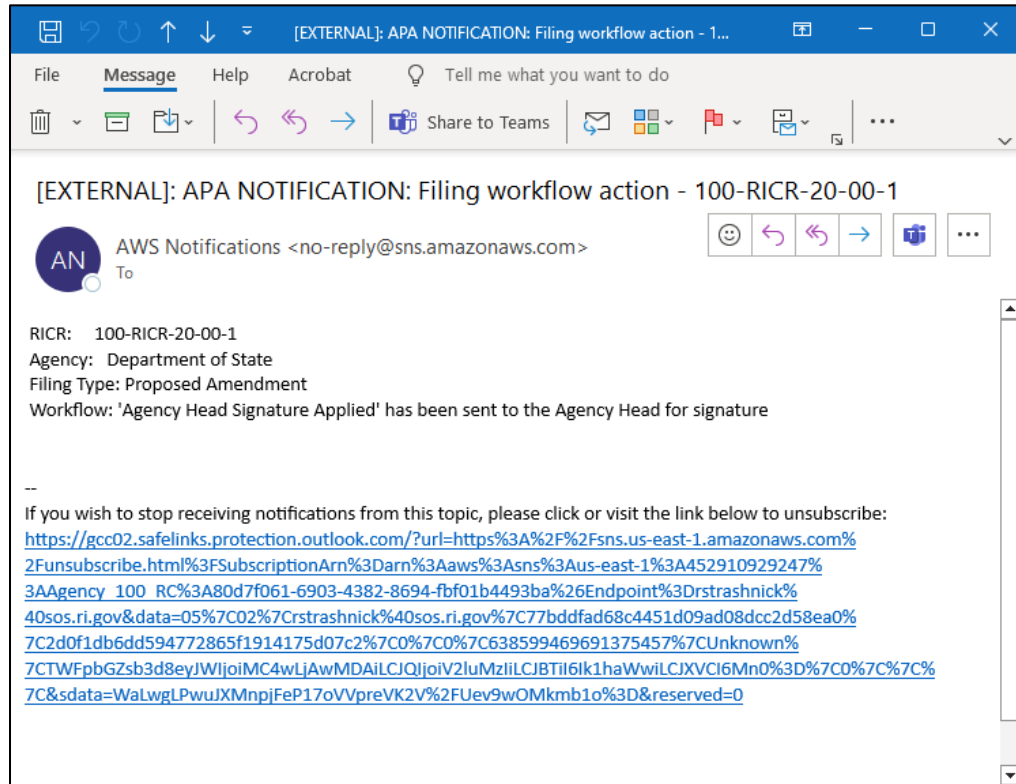
 **COMPLETED:** *Post Public Comment Period Data update and Document Upload*



6.3.1.2.1.6 DOS Final Regulation Approval

This step will be completed by the Administrative Records Office.

Once the DOS formatting review has been completed, the Rules Coordinator and Agency Head will receive an AWS Notification email to indicate the rule is ready to be signed by the Agency Head:



6.3.1.2.1.7 Agency Head Signature Applied

This step will be completed by the Agency Head.

The Agency Head will receive an automated email from OneSpan, the signature provider, to sign the rule.



6.3.1.2.1.8 Final Rule and Signature Acceptance by DOS

This step will be completed by the Administrative Records Office.

Once the Agency Head signs the rule, the Department of State will sign the rule and set the rule's Effective Date.

 **6.3.1.2.1.9 Promulgation Finalization**

This step will be completed automatically by the RICR System.

The RICR System will automatically display the Final Regulation in the RICR the day it becomes effective.

It is the Rules Coordinator's responsibility to download the signed Regulation for the agency's files to be permanently retained per [GRS2.5 Rulemaking Files](#).

Final Regulations can be downloaded by opening the active Part in the [RICR](#), clicking the **Regulation** tab, and clicking **Download Regulation**:



6.3.1.2.2 Proposed Direct Final Rulemaking

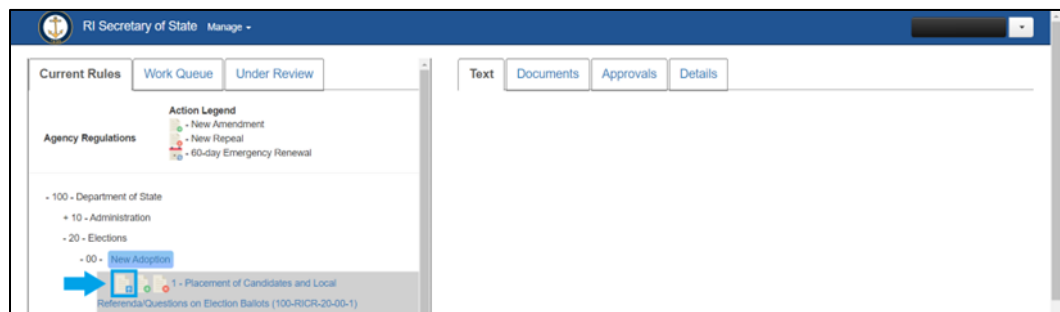
For information regarding this Rulemaking Action, see [§ 3.3.2 of this Guide](#).

Actions to be Completed	User to Complete
Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload	Rules Coordinator
DOS Verification of Drafts	Department of State
Generation of the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking	Rules Coordinator
Submission for Promulgation	RICR Filing System
Public Comment Period Begin	RICR Filing System
Post Public Comment Period Data update and Document Upload	Rules Coordinator
DOS Final Regulation Approval	Department of State
Agency Head Signature Applied	Agency Head
Final Rule and Signature Acceptance by DOS	Department of State
Promulgation Finalization	RICR Filing System

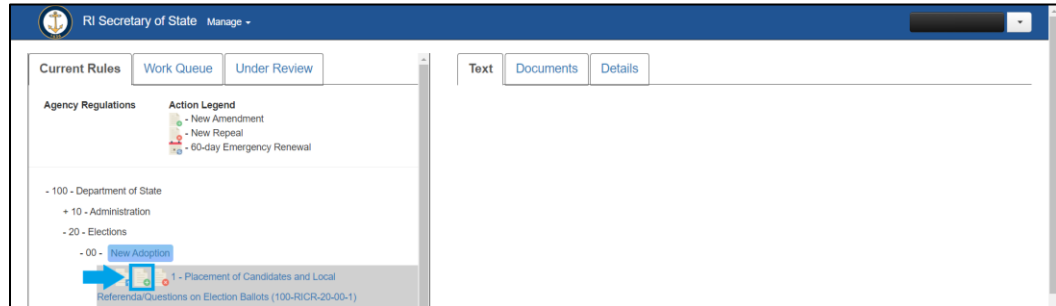


6.3.1.2.2.1 Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. In the **Current Rules** tab, click the **Title**, **Chapter**, **Subchapter**, and **Part** to open each level, then click the **Download Document** icon to draft the amendment (see [§ 5.1.2.2 of this Guide](#) for additional information):



- Once the Proposed Rule draft is ready, in the **Current Rules** tab, click the **Title, Chapter, Subchapter, and Part** to open each level, then click the **New Amendment** icon promulgate an amendment:

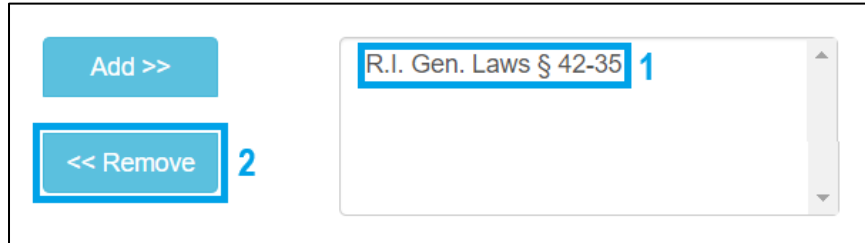


- Enter and confirm the **Rulemaking Filing Details**:

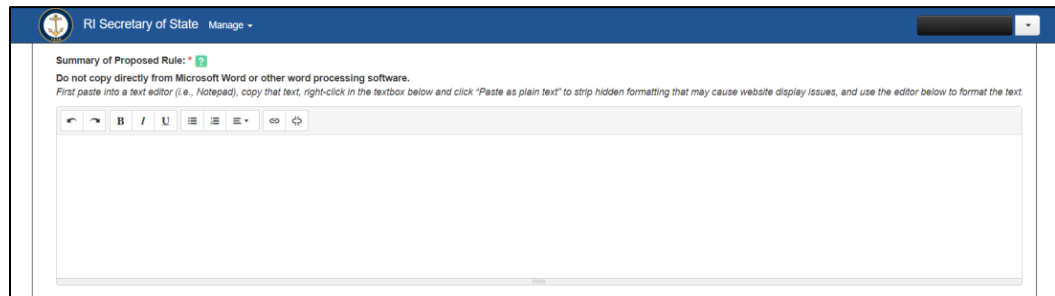
- Choose **Proposed**, then **Direct Final**, for the **Rulemaking Action** and **Rulemaking Process**;

- Confirm the **Regulation Title** using sentence case (i.e., use “Conduct of Public Hearings”, not “CONDUCT OF PUBLIC HEARINGS”); and
- Confirm the appropriate authority from the dropdown, enter the **Rulemaking Authority** citation, and click **Add**.

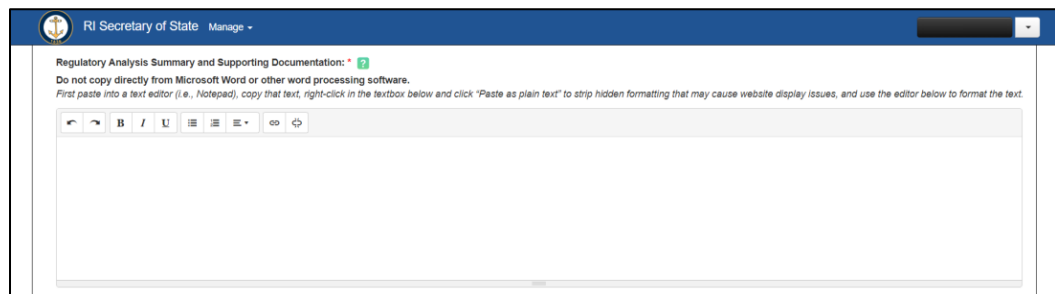
- i. To remove a **Rulemaking Authority**, click to select the citation to remove from the list and click **Remove**:



- 5. Enter the **Summary of Proposed Rule** in plain language of terms or substance of intended action, or description of the subjects and issues involved, including changes between current and proposed regulations:
 - a. If copying text from another document, follow the directions on screen to strip all erroneous formatting.



- 6. Enter the **Regulatory Analysis Summary and Supporting Documentation** to provide a brief paragraph of the societal cost and benefits of compliance as prepared under [R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.9](#), including any citations to scientific or statistical studies, reports, and analyses that served as a basis for the proposed rule:
 - a. If copying text from another document, follow the directions on screen to strip all erroneous formatting.



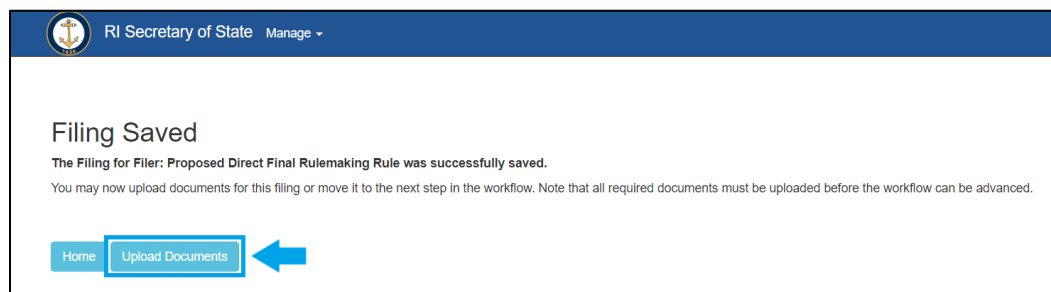
7. Confirm the **Additional Information URL** to indicate the location on your website where the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking is published as required by [R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.7](#):



Additional Information URL: * ?

https:// www.example.com

8. Review to ensure all entered text is correct and click **Submit**.
 - a. At any point during the above process, if you don't wish to move forward, click **Cancel**.
9. This Rulemaking Action requires documents to be uploaded. Click **Upload Documents**:



RI Secretary of State Manage

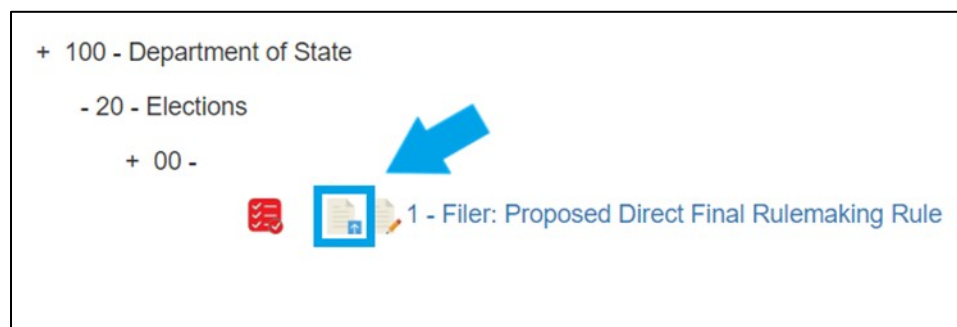
Filing Saved

The Filing for Filer: Proposed Direct Final Rulemaking Rule was successfully saved.

You may now upload documents for this filing or move it to the next step in the workflow. Note that all required documents must be uploaded before the workflow can be advanced.

Home Upload Documents

- a. If you click **Home** by accident, click the **Upload Documents** icon next to the Part in the **Work Queue** tab to go to the correct screen:



+ 100 - Department of State

- 20 - Elections

+ 00 -

1 - Filer: Proposed Direct Final Rulemaking Rule

10. Upload documents:

Document Upload

Regulation

Supporting Documents

Upload

Document Type:

Choose File No file chosen Upload Document

Home

Required Documents
• Proposed Rule

a. Select from the dropdown the **Document Type**:

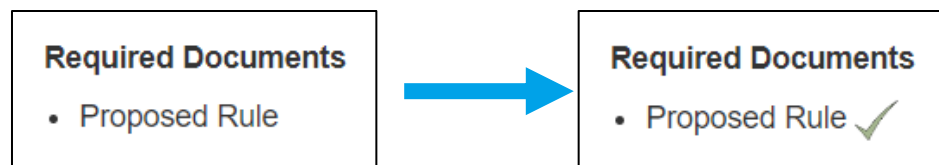
i. **Required:**

- Proposed Rule

ii. **Optional:**

- Index of Studies/Reports
- Additional Documentation
- Internal Organization Document
- Studies/Reports
- Petition

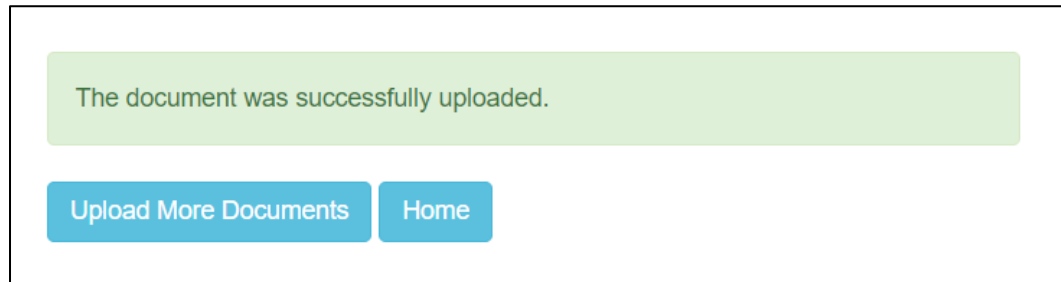
A list of required documents will display, and as documents are uploaded, a green check will be added next to each document:



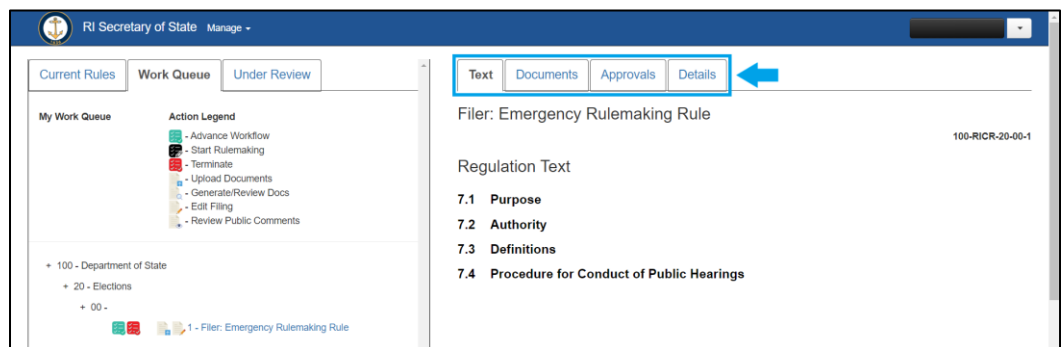
b. Click **Choose File** to select the document from your computer;
and

c. Click **Upload Document** to upload.

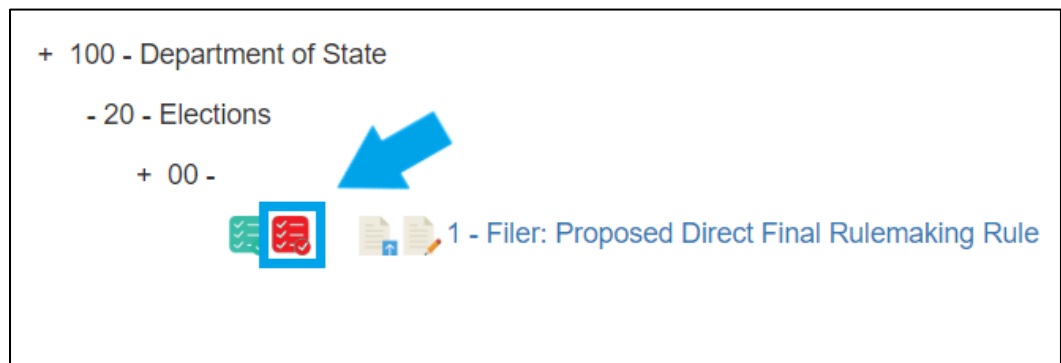
11. If additional documents need to be uploaded, click **Upload More Documents** and repeat steps 10-11 for each additional document (*you will not be able to advance the rule until all required documents are uploaded*), or click **Home** to continue to the next step:



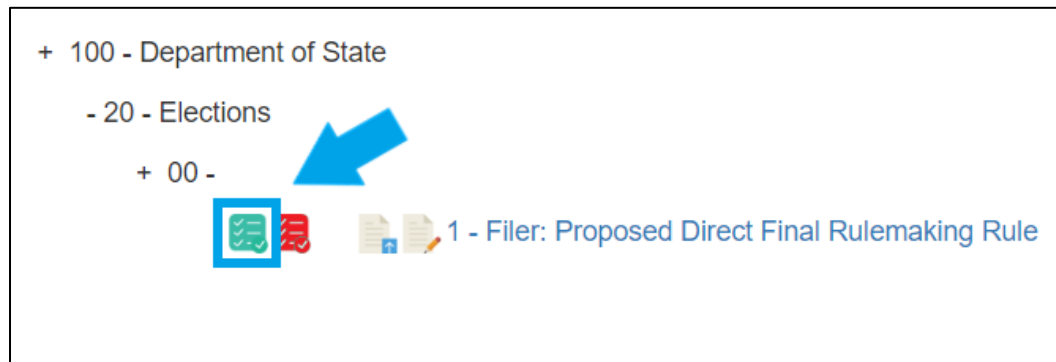
12. Click each tab on the right to ensure all information regarding the rule is correct (**Text**, **Documents**, **Approvals**, and **Details**):



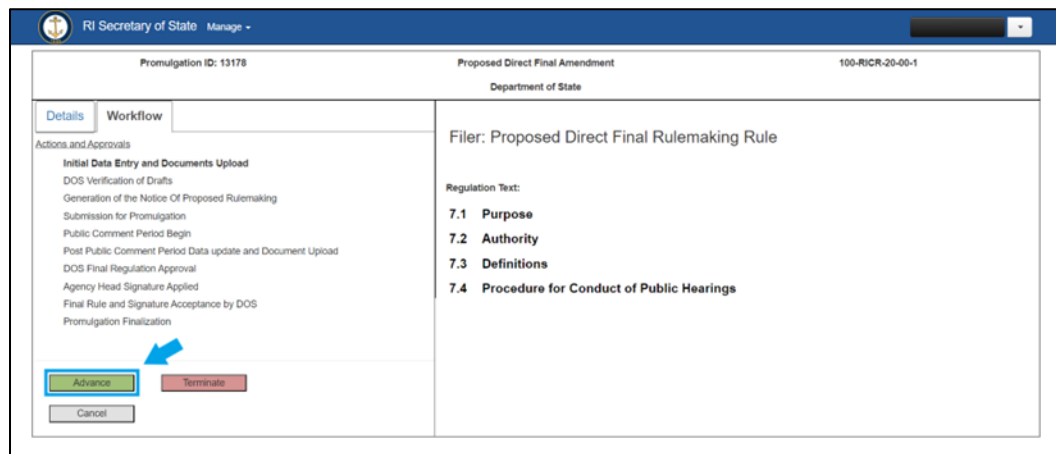
13. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click the **Terminate** icon to end the promulgation process and skip to step 15(b)(i):



14. To continue, click the **Advance Workflow** icon:



15. To advance the rule for the DOS Formatting Review, click **Advance**:



- a. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click **Cancel** to go back; or
- b. Click **Terminate** to end the promulgation process:

- i. Select a **Termination Reason**, then click **Submit** to terminate, or click **Cancel** to continue the promulgation process:

RI Secretary of State Manage

Workflow Termination for Filing 100-RICR-20-00-1

Filer: Proposed Direct Final Rulemaking Rule

Request Note for: Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

Termination Reason: *

Abandoned

Note: The reason for termination selected above will not be shown to the public and will not be published.

Note: Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required.

Submit Cancel

- 16. Certify that your agency has either received official approval from OMB or is exempt from OMB’s review process by clicking **Yes**:

ORR Compliance

Before uploading your agency's regulation for notice and comment in the RICR, your agency **must certify** that it has either received official approval from the Office of Regulatory Reform (ORR) or is exempt from ORR's formal review process.

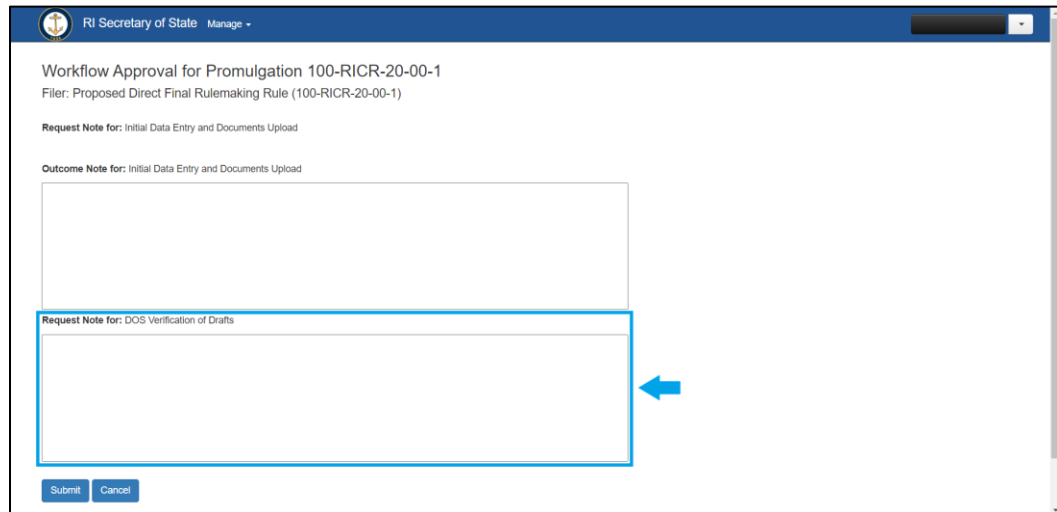
Your agency has not received official approval unless your agency is in receipt of an emailed/dated receipt of ORR clearance from its official submission system.

Do you certify that your agency has either received ORR approval or that your agency is exempt from the process?

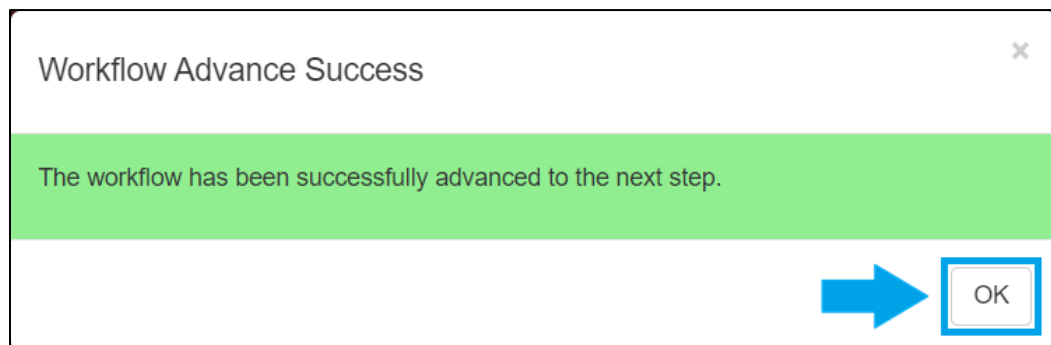
Yes

- a. **If your agency has not received official approval from OMB and is not exempt**, click the DOS logo in the top-left corner to return to the home page. **Do not proceed in the RICR System** until you have official approval. Once your agency receives approval, go back to step 14 to proceed.

17. If you would like to add a note for the DOS, enter text in the **Request Note** and/or click **Submit**:



18. Upon submitting, click **OK** to return to the RICR System homepage:



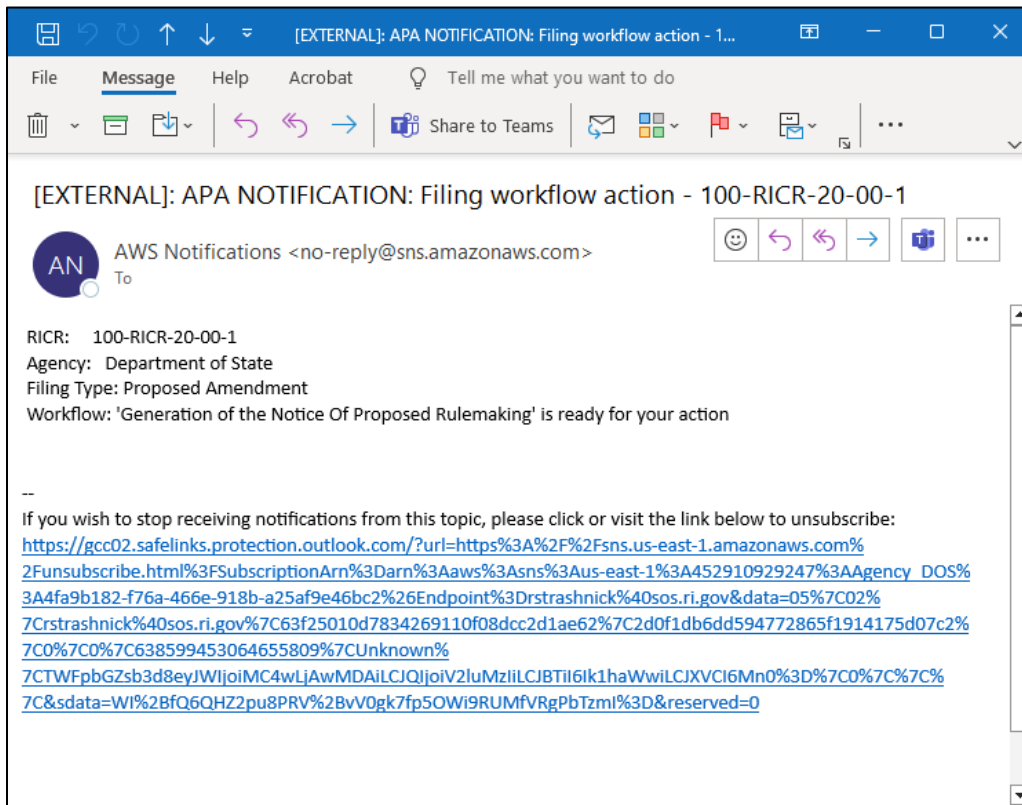
 **COMPLETED:** *Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload*



6.3.1.2.2.2 DOS Verification of Drafts

This step will be completed by the Administrative Records Office.

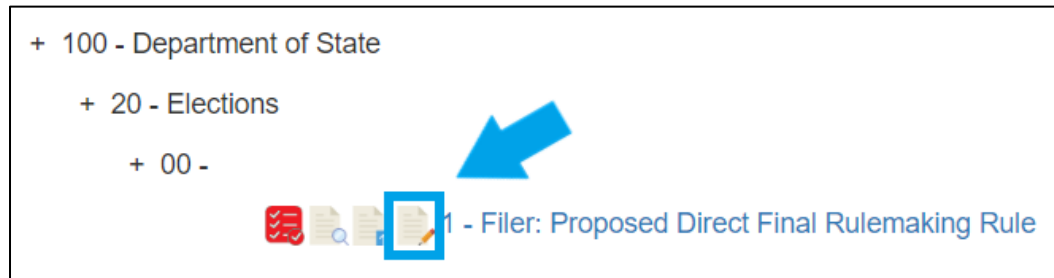
Once the DOS formatting review has been completed, the Rules Coordinator will receive an AWS Notification email to indicate the next step should be taken:



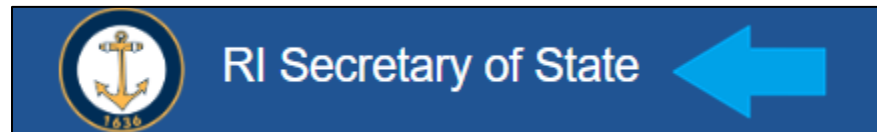
6.3.1.2.2.3 Generation of the Notice Of Proposed Rulemaking

1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. If for any reason the rule details need to be updated, click the **Edit Filing** icon to update the **Regulation Title**, **Rulemaking Authority**, **Summary of Proposed Rule**, and **Regulatory Analysis Summary and Supporting Documentation**, then click **Submit** once the details are updated:

Once the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking is generated and published, this information cannot be changed.



- a. Once completed, click the Department of State logo to navigate back to the homepage:



3. In the **Work Queue** tab, click on the **Title**, **Chapter**, and **Subchapter** to open each level, then click the **Generate/Review Docs** icon:



4. Click **Add >>** under **Public Comment Period List**, and click **Edit** and **<< Remove** as necessary to adjust the Public Comment Period:

Generate Public Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

Add a Public Comment Period

Public Comment Period List:

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5. Fill out the form to add a Public Comment Period – all fields are required:

Public Comment Period
✕

Date of Public Notice:
08/13/2024

Date of End of Comment Period: * ?

Full Name of Contact Person: *

Contact Person Email: *

Contact Person Address: *

, RI

Allow online public comments? *

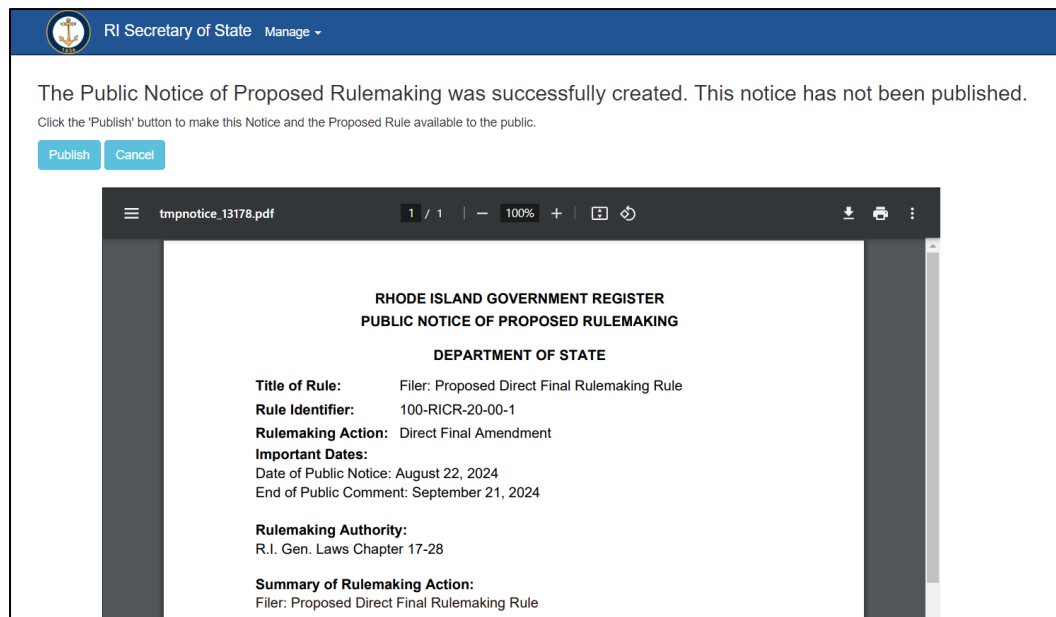
Yes No

- a. The **Date of End of Comment Period** will automatically show the minimum first eligible date to be chosen, but you may choose a future date if needed.
- b. Agencies may use the RICR Filing System to accept public comments by selecting **Yes** to **Allow online public comments?**. Agencies may opt out by selecting **No**.
 - i. If **Yes** is selected, you have the option to specify dates for when your agency wants to allow online public comments within the Public Comment Period.

6. Click **Generate Notice** (this will not publish the rule, only preview the notice):



7. Review the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking:



- a. If any information within the notice is incorrect, click **Cancel** to go back and edit to update the information and complete steps as necessary.
- b. Once information is confirmed to be correct, click **Publish** to approve the notice and publish the rule in the RICR.

8. Click **Home** to return to the RICR home page:
 - a. If after the notice is published there needs to be any changes made, click **Amend Public Notice** to create and publish an additional notice with corrections.

Documents Published

Rule Identifier: 100-RICR-20-00-1

Title of Rule: Filer: Proposed Direct Final Rulemaking Rule

The following documents are now available to the public:

- [Proposed Rule](#)
- [Public Notice of Proposed Rulemaking](#)

Amend Public Notice
Home



 **COMPLETED:** *Generation of the Notice Of Proposed Rulemaking*

At this time, the Proposed Rule is now live in the RICR and may be viewed by completing the following:

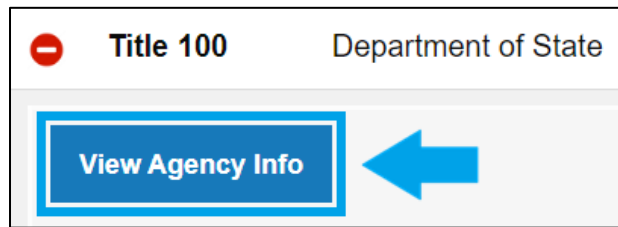
1. Go to <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/organizations>.
2. Locate the associated Title within the Table of Contents.
3. Click the plus sign (+) next to the Title:

Table of Contents

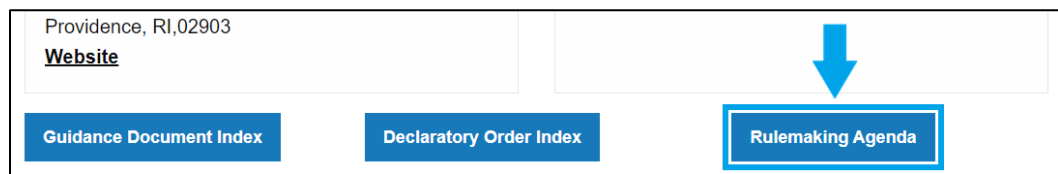
Show entries Filter by Agency

	Title	Agency
 	Title 100	Department of State

4. Click **Agency Info**:



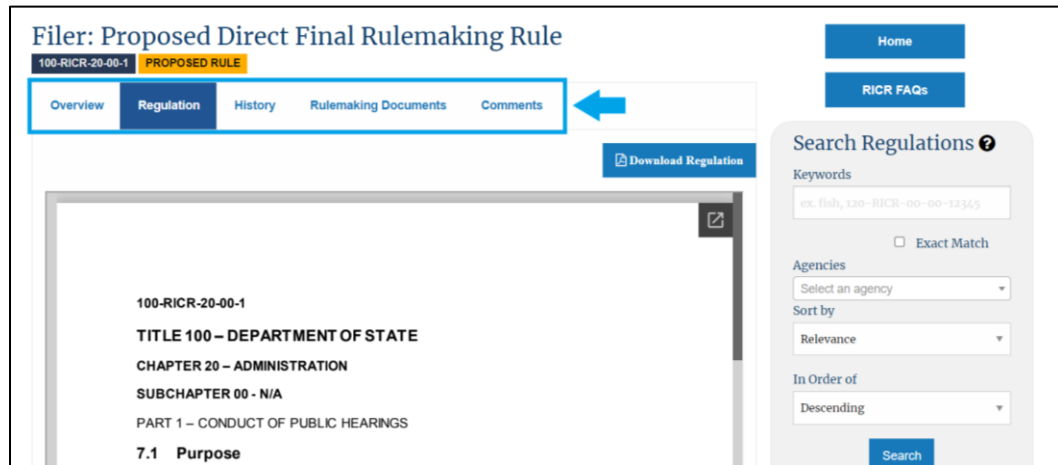
5. Click **Rulemaking Agenda**:



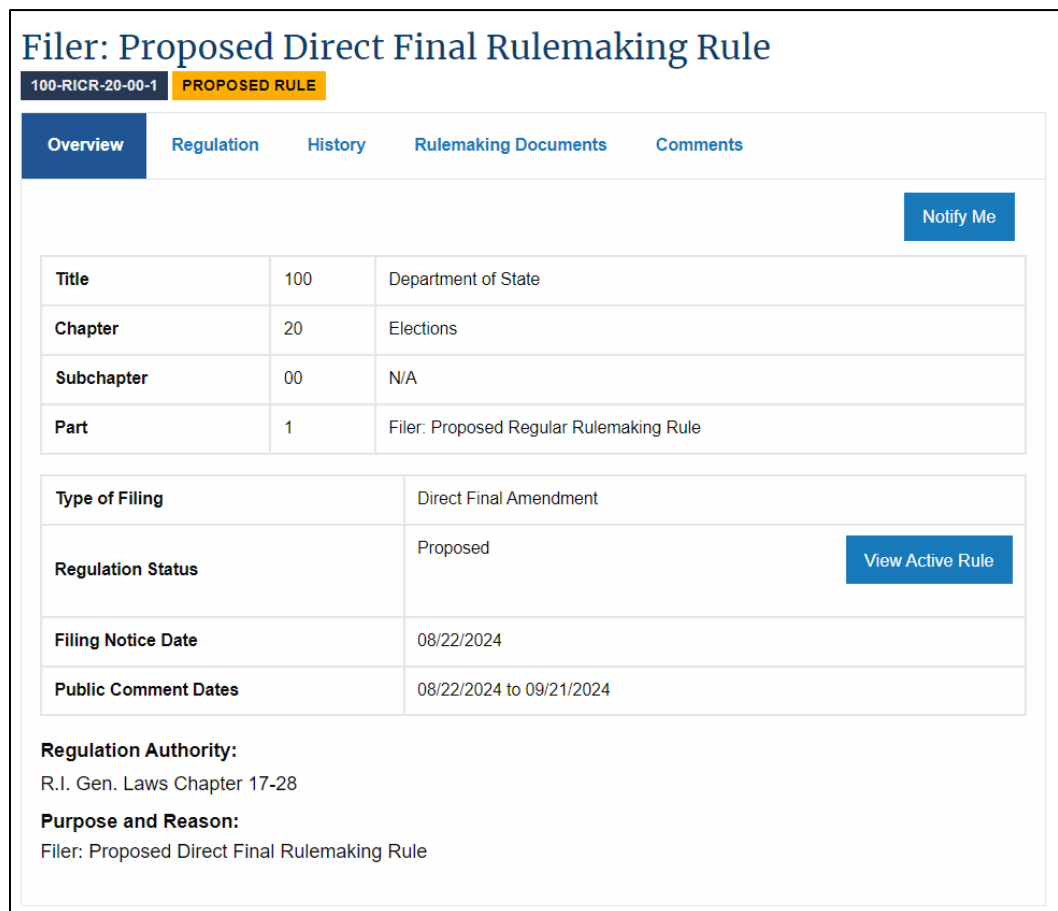
6. Locate the correct Proposed Rule and click the rule name to view:



- Click through the navigation tabs to view the **Overview**, **Regulation**, **History**, **Rulemaking Documents**, and **Comments**:



- The **Overview** tab displays the rule details:





6.3.1.2.2.4 Submission for Promulgation and Public Comment Period Begin

These steps will be completed automatically by the RICR System.

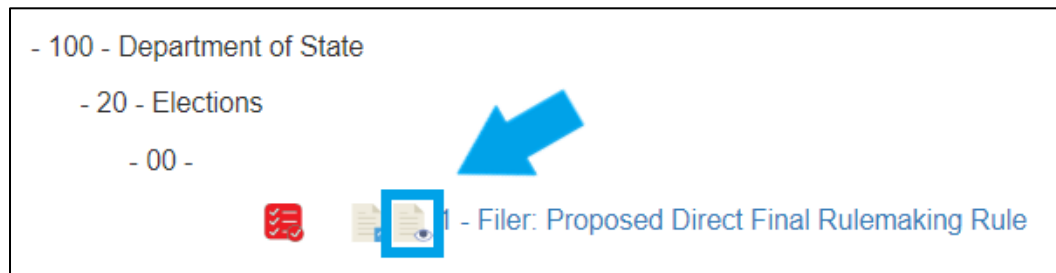
Once the Public Comment Period ends, the RICR System will automatically advance the rule to the next step.

If online public comments were allowed, you may review comments as they are submitted, or at the end of the Public Comment Period. See step 2 in the following section ([§ 6.3.1.2.2.5 of this Guide](#)) for how to review comments and generate a public comment document compiling all submitted rules.

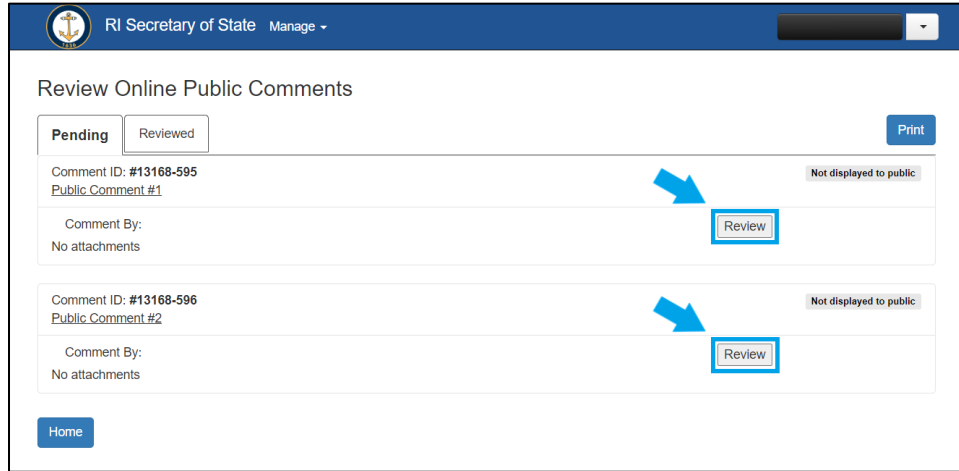


6.3.1.2.2.5 Post Public Comment Period Data update and Document Upload

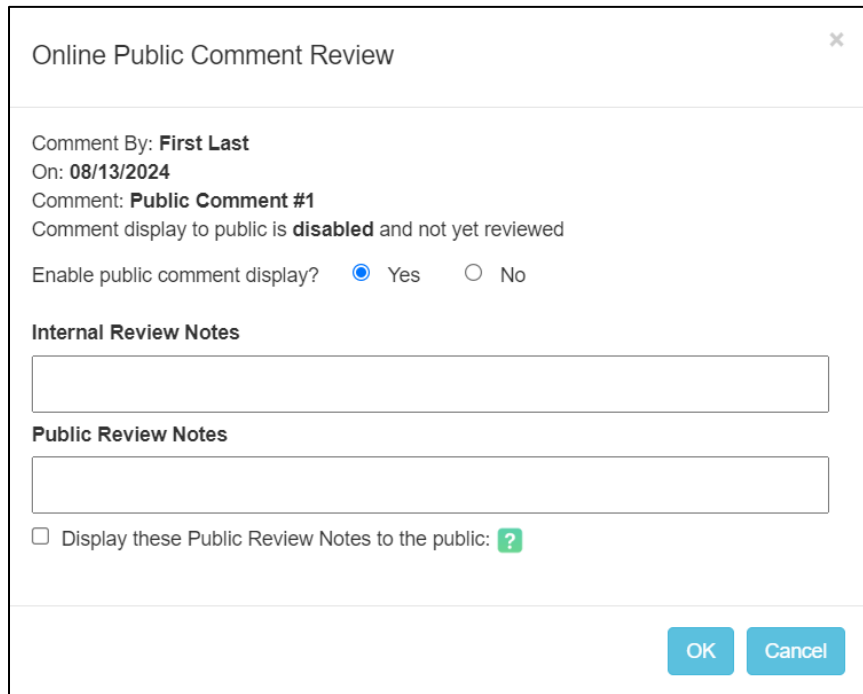
1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. If online public comments were allowed, click the **Review Comments** icon, otherwise skip to step 3:



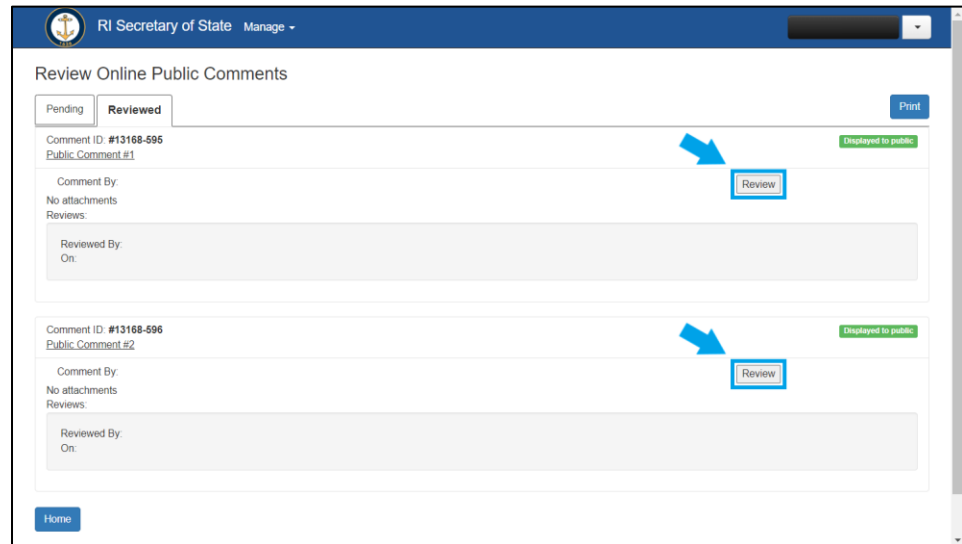
- a. Review every rule listed under the **Pending** tab by clicking **Review** for each comment submitted:



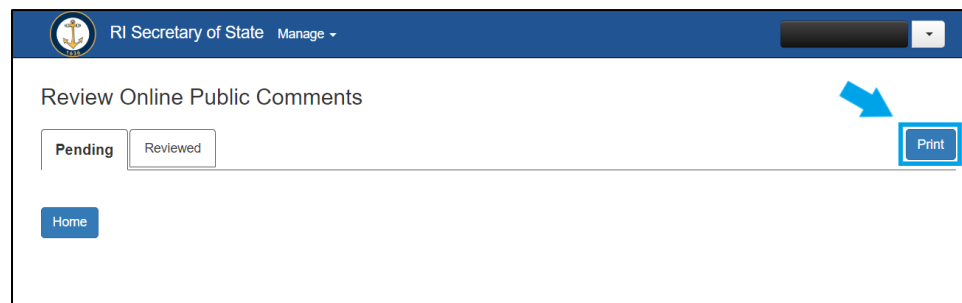
- i. Select to display the comment in the RICR or not, add any internal and public notes, and click **OK** to approve:



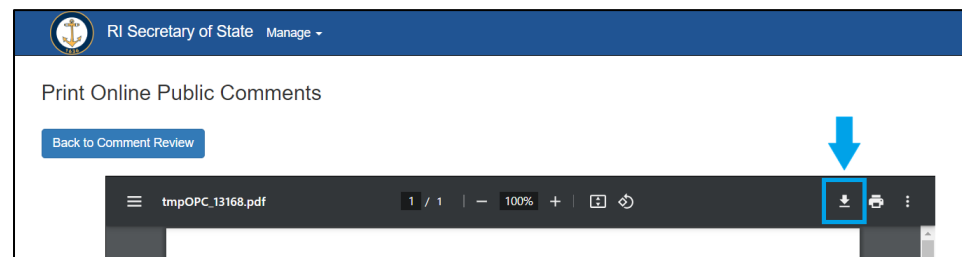
- b. Click the **Reviewed** tab to view who reviewed the comment, when it was approved, and review again if necessary:



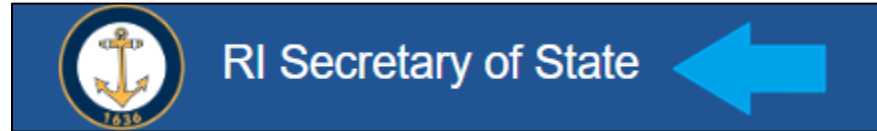
- c. Click **Print** to generate a public comment document:



- d. Click the down arrow at the top-right of the PDF viewer to download the document so that it can be used to upload as the part of the final rulemaking documents in step 4:



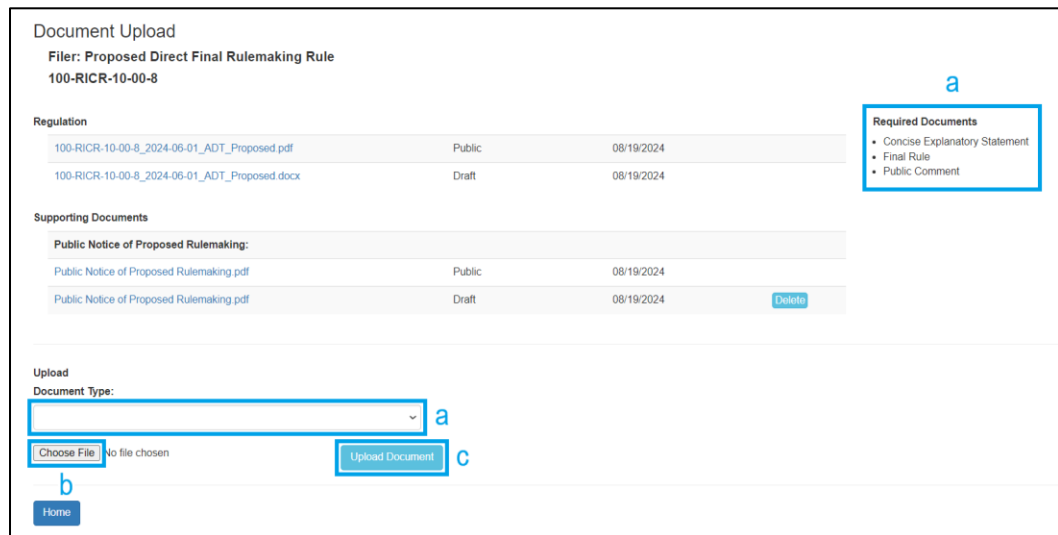
- e. To navigate back to the homepage, click the Department of State logo:



- 3. In the **Work Queue** tab, click on the **Title**, **Chapter**, and **Subchapter** to open each level, then click the **Upload Documents** icon:



- 4. Upload documents:



- a. Select from the dropdown the **Document Type**:

- i. **Required**:

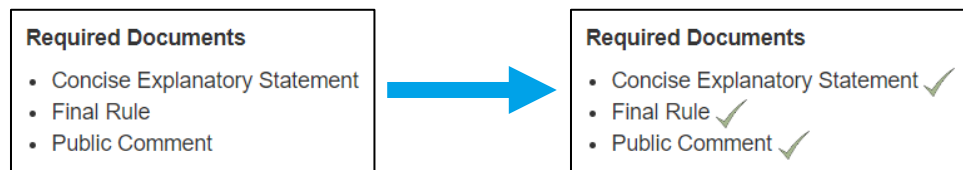
- Concise Explanatory Statement
- Final Rule
- Public Comment (*may upload multiple, if necessary*)

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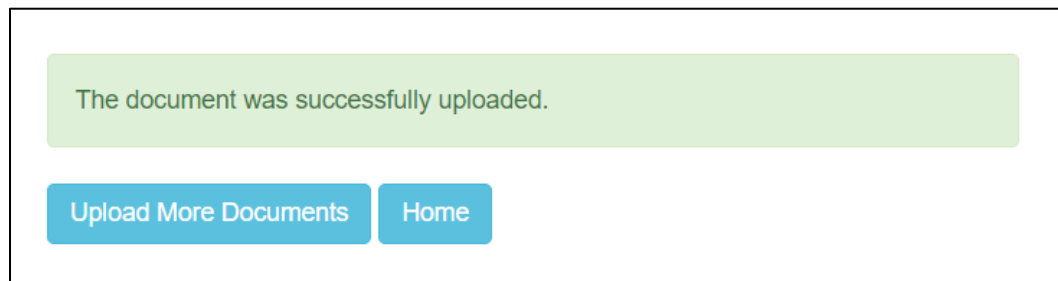
ii. **Optional:**

- Index of Studies/Reports
- Internal Organization Document
- Petition
- Public Hearing Documents
- Additional Documentation
- State Register publication
- Studies/Reports

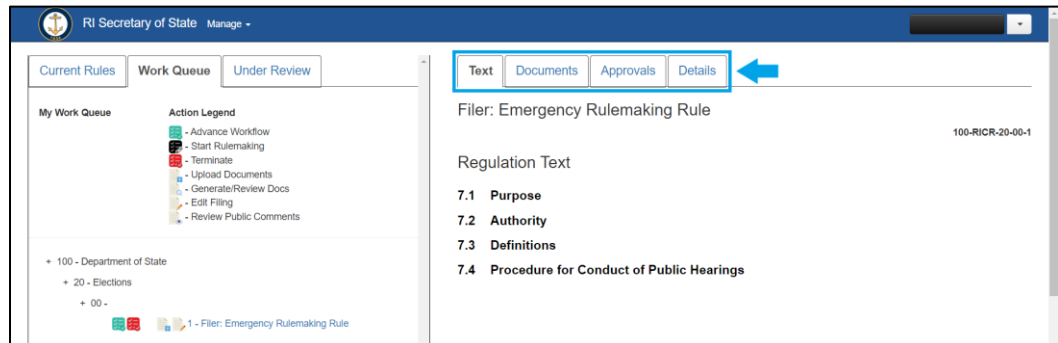
A list of required documents will display, and as documents are uploaded, a green check will be added next to each document:



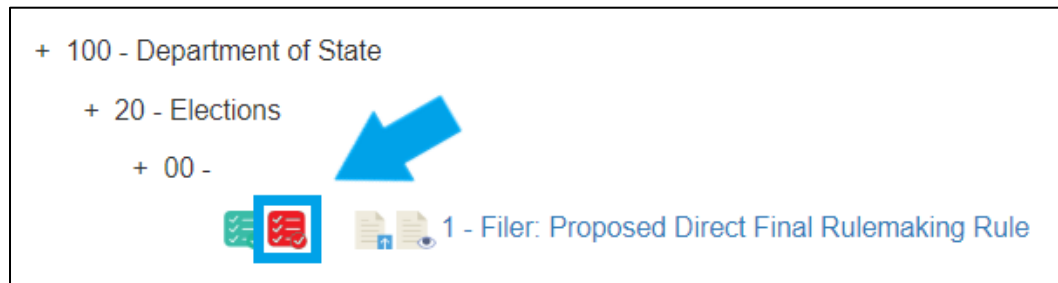
- b. Click **Choose File** to select the document from your computer;
and
- c. Click **Upload Document** to upload.
5. If additional documents need to be uploaded, click **Upload More Documents** and repeat steps 4-5 for each additional document (*you will not be able to advance the rule until all required documents are uploaded*), or click **Home** to continue to the next step:



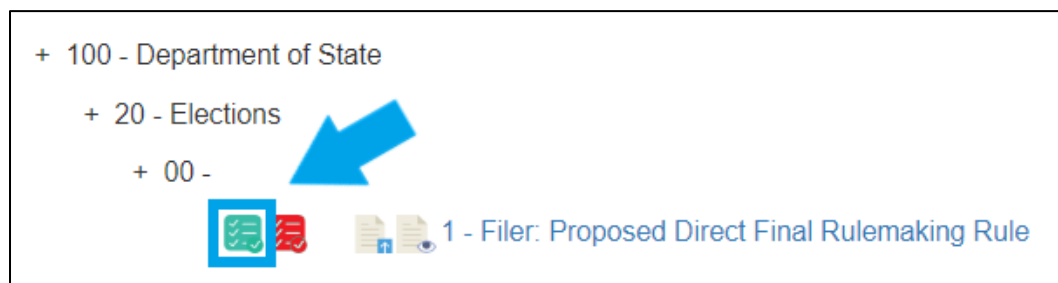
6. Click each tab on the right to ensure rule information and all rulemaking documents are correct (**Text**, **Documents**, **Approvals**, and **Details**):



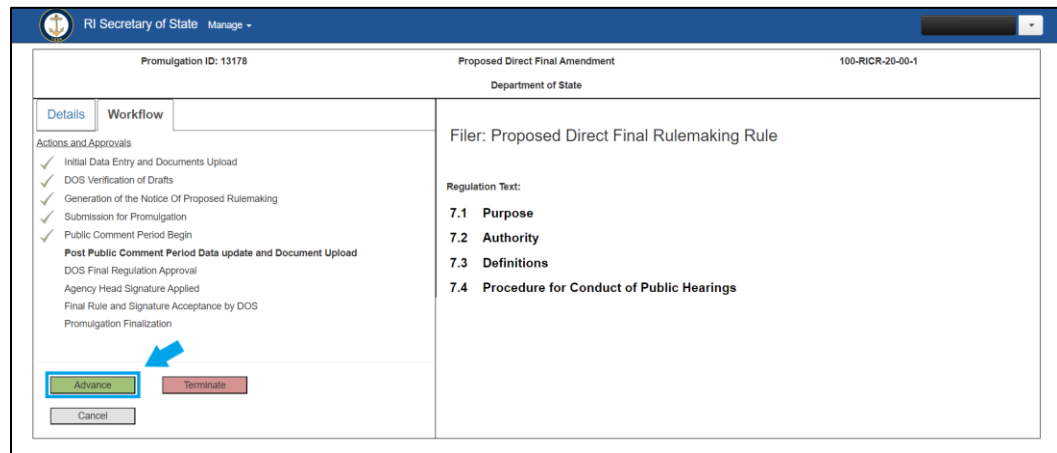
7. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click the **Terminate** icon to end the promulgation process and skip to step 9(b)(i):



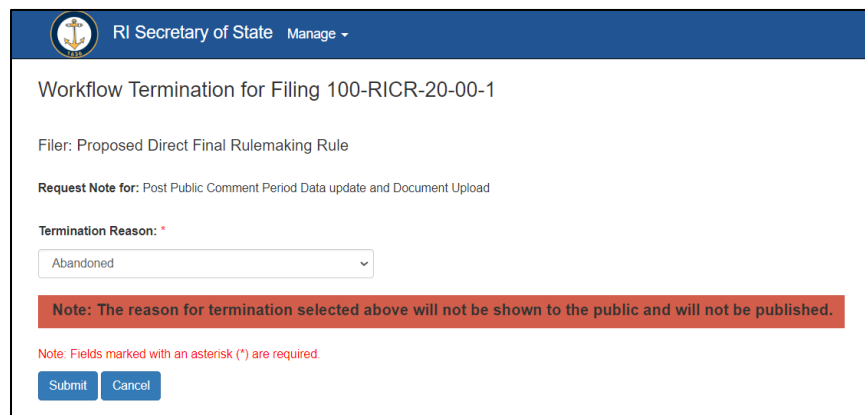
8. To continue, click the **Advance Workflow** icon:



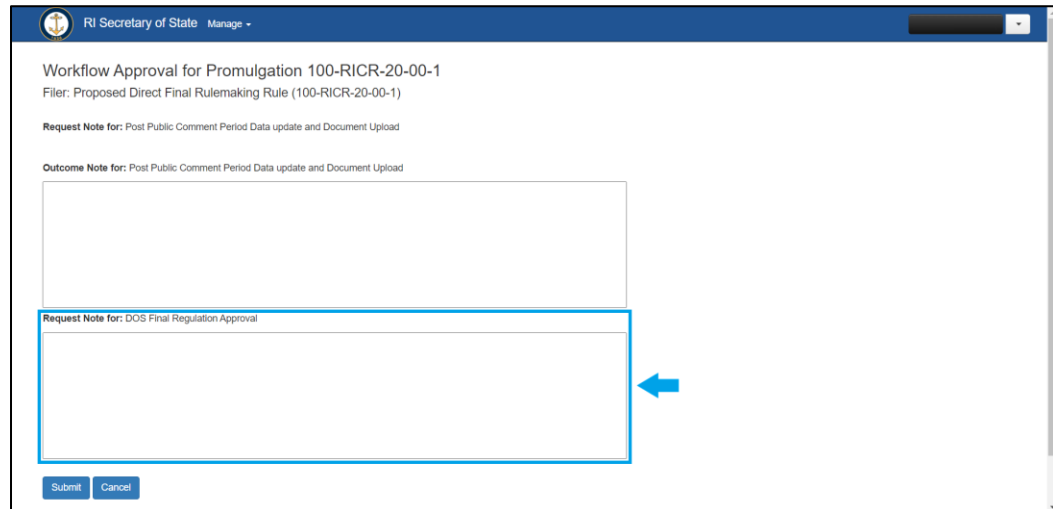
9. To advance the rule for the DOS Formatting Review, click **Advance**:



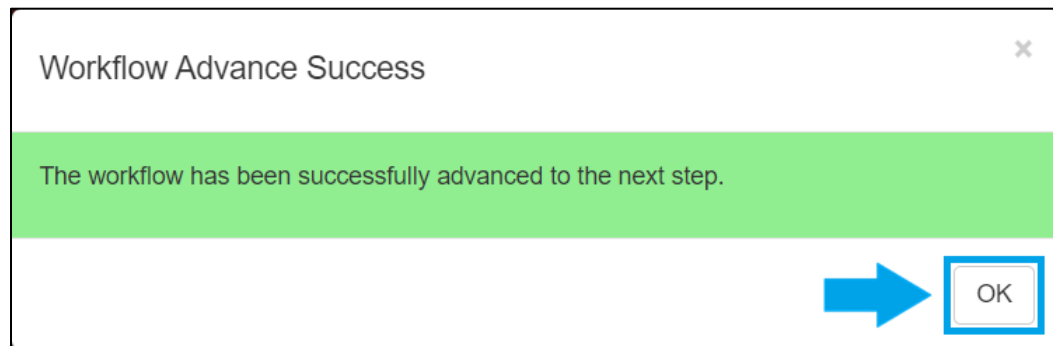
- a. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click **Cancel** to go back; or
- b. Click **Terminate** to end the promulgation process:
 - i. Select a **Termination Reason**, then click **Submit** to terminate, or click **Cancel** to continue the promulgation process:



10. If you would like to add a note for the DOS (i.e., if you would like the rule to become effective on a future date rather than the last day of the Public Comment Period), enter text in the **Request Note** and/or click **Submit**:



11. Upon submitting, click **OK** to return to the RICR System homepage:



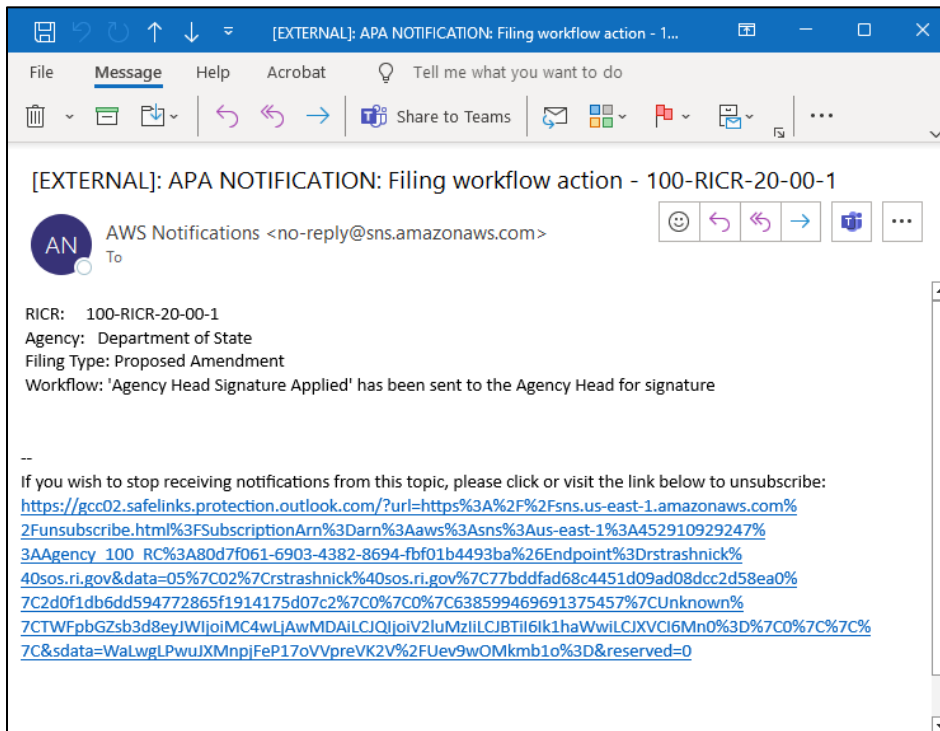
 **COMPLETED:** *Post Public Comment Period Data update and Document Upload*



6.3.1.2.2.6 DOS Final Regulation Approval

This step will be completed by the Administrative Records Office.

Once the DOS formatting review has been completed, the Rules Coordinator and Agency Head will receive an AWS Notification email to indicate the rule is ready to be signed by the Agency Head:



6.3.1.2.2.7 Agency Head Signature Applied

This step will be completed by the Agency Head.

The Agency Head will receive an automated email from OneSpan, the esignature provider, to sign the rule.



6.3.1.2.2.8 Final Rule and Signature Acceptance by DOS

This step will be completed by the Administrative Records Office.

Once the Agency Head signs the rule, the Department of State will sign the

rule and set the rule's Effective Date.

6.3.1.2.2.9 Promulgation Finalization

This step will be completed automatically by the RICR System.

The RICR System will automatically display the Final Regulation in the RICR the day it becomes effective.

It is the Rules Coordinator's responsibility to download the signed Regulation for the agency's files to be permanently retained per [GRS2.5 Rulemaking Files](#).

Final Regulations can be downloaded by opening the active Part in the [RICR](#), clicking the **Regulation** tab, and clicking **Download Regulation**:



6.3.1.2.3 Emergency Rulemaking

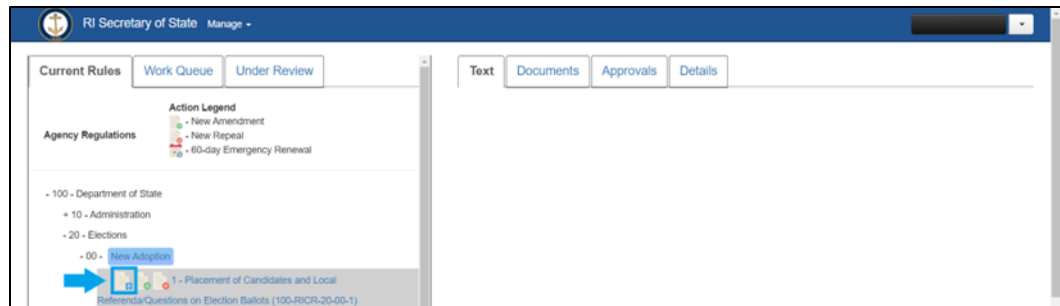
For information regarding this Rulemaking Action, see [§ 3.3.3 of this Guide](#).

Actions to be Completed	User to Complete
Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload	Rules Coordinator
Rules Coordinator Notification of Emergency Rule	Rules Coordinator
Submission for Promulgation	RICR Filing System
Agency Head Signature Applied	Agency Head
Governor Signature Applied	Governor
Final Rule and Signature Acceptance by DOS	Department of State
Promulgation Finalization	RICR Filing System
Submission for Emergency Extension 1	Rules Coordinator
DOS Final Revision for Emergency Extension 1	Department of State
Finalization of Emergency Extension 1	RICR Filing System

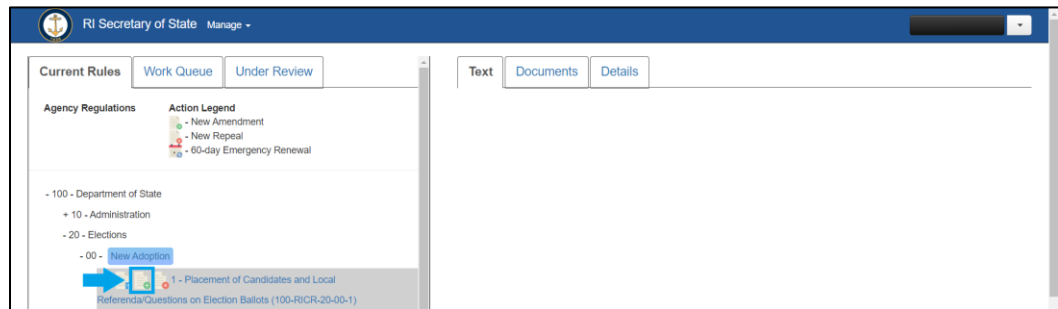


6.3.1.2.3.1 Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. In the **Current Rules** tab, click the **Title**, **Chapter**, **Subchapter**, and **Part** to open each level, then click the **Download Document** icon to draft the amendment (see [§ 5.1.2.2 of this Guide](#) for additional information):



3. Once the Proposed Rule draft is ready, in the **Current Rules** tab, click the **Title, Chapter, Subchapter, and Part** to open each level, then click the **New Amendment** icon promulgate an amendment:

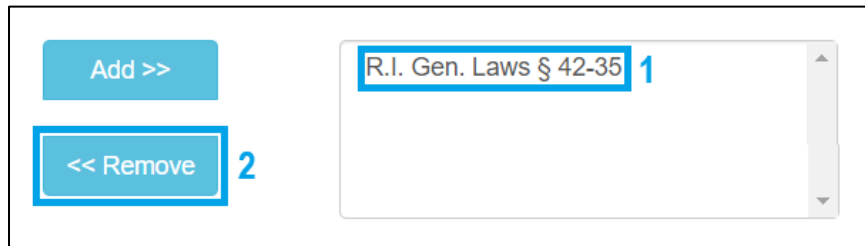


4. Enter and confirm the **Rulemaking Filing Details**:

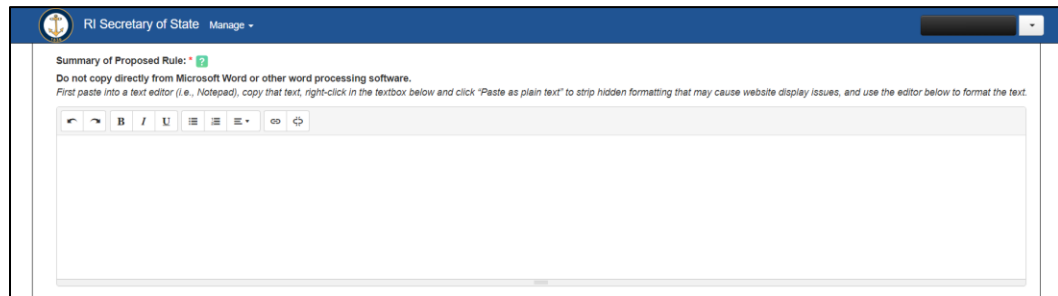
- a. Choose **Emergency** for the **Rulemaking Action**;

- b. Confirm the **Regulation Title** using sentence case (i.e., use "Conduct of Public Hearings", not "CONDUCT OF PUBLIC HEARINGS"); and
- c. Confirm the appropriate authority from the dropdown, enter the **Rulemaking Authority** citation, and click **Add**.

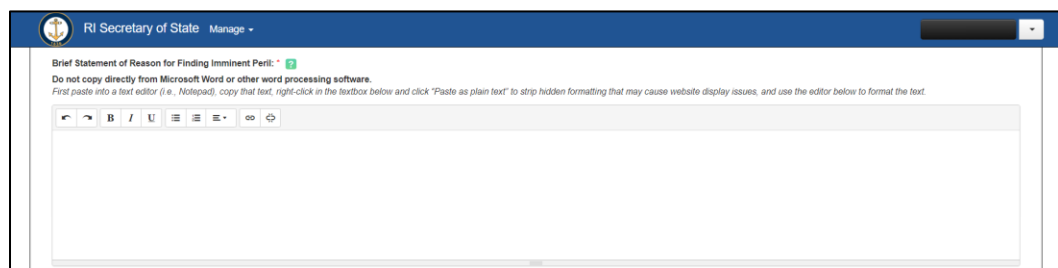
- i. To remove a **Rulemaking Authority**, click to select the citation to remove from the list and click **Remove**:



- 5. Enter the **Summary of Proposed Rule** in plain language of terms or substance of intended action, or description of the subjects and issues involved, including changes between current and proposed regulations:
 - a. If copying text from another document, follow the directions on screen to strip all erroneous formatting.



- 6. Enter the **Brief Statement of Reason for Finding Imminent Peril** to state the reason this rule is required in order to avoid a threat to public health, safety, or welfare, or the loss of federal funding for an agency program ([R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.10](#)):
 - a. If copying text from another document, follow the directions on screen to strip all erroneous formatting.



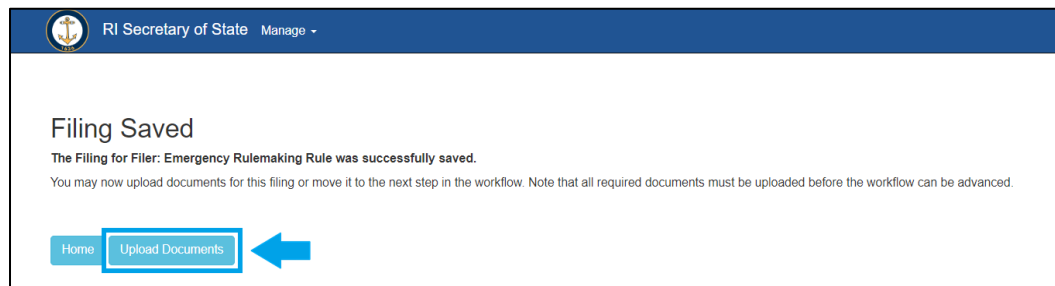
7. Confirm the **Additional Information URL** to indicate the location on your website where the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking is published as required by [R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.7](#):



Additional Information URL: * ?

https:// www.example.com

8. Review to ensure all entered text is correct and click **Submit**.
 - a. At any point during the above process, if you don't wish to move forward, click **Cancel**.
9. This Rulemaking Action requires documents to be uploaded. Click **Upload Documents**:



RI Secretary of State Manage

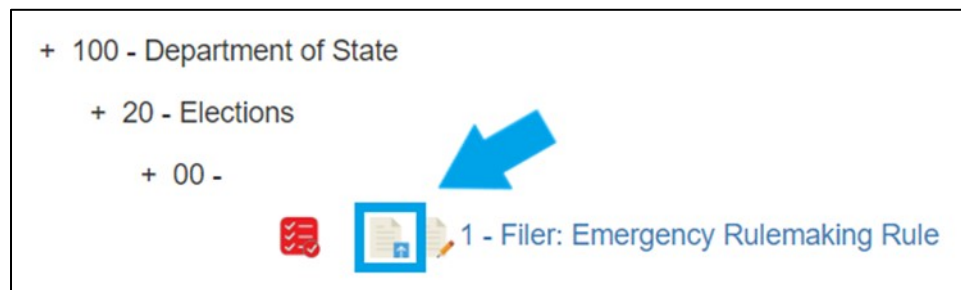
Filing Saved

The Filing for Filer: Emergency Rulemaking Rule was successfully saved.

You may now upload documents for this filing or move it to the next step in the workflow. Note that all required documents must be uploaded before the workflow can be advanced.

Home Upload Documents

- a. If you click **Home** by accident, click the **Upload Documents** icon next to the Part in the **Work Queue** tab to go to the correct screen:



+ 100 - Department of State

+ 20 - Elections

+ 00 -

1 - Filer: Emergency Rulemaking Rule

10. Upload documents:

Document Upload

Regulation

Supporting Documents

Upload

Document Type:

Choose File No file chosen Upload Document

Home

Required Documents

- Proposed Rule

a. Select from the dropdown the **Document Type**:

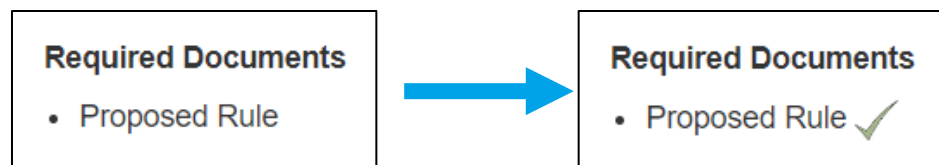
i. **Required:**

- Proposed Rule

ii. **Optional:**

- Index of Studies/Reports
- Additional Documentation
- Internal Organization Document
- Studies/Reports
- Petition

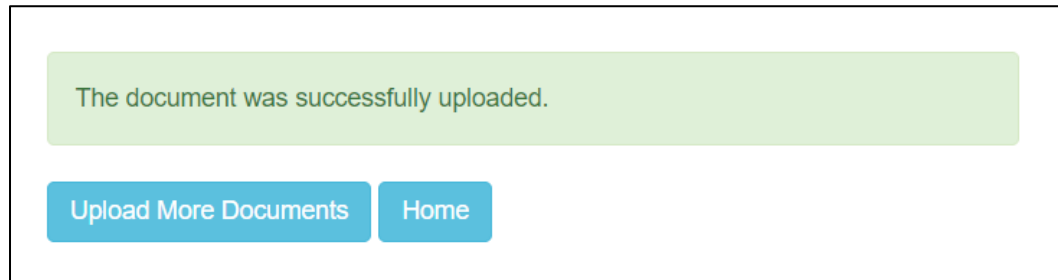
A list of required documents will display, and as documents are uploaded, a green check will be added next to each document:



b. Click **Choose File** to select the document from your computer;
and

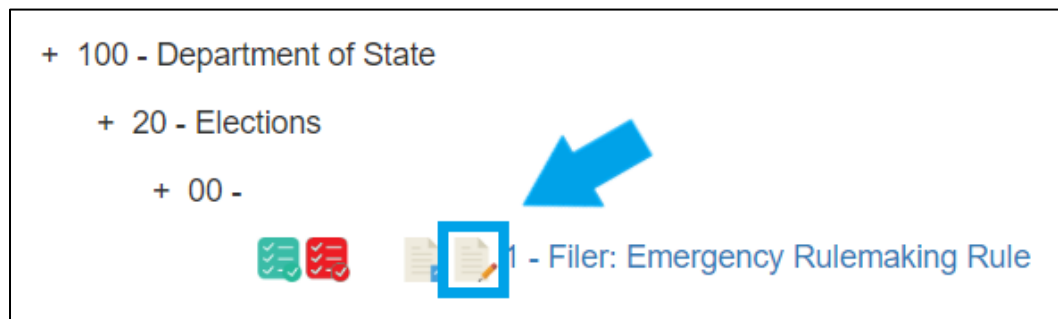
c. Click **Upload Document** to upload.

11. If additional documents need to be uploaded, click **Upload More Documents** and repeat steps 10-11 for each additional document (*you will not be able to advance the rule until all required documents are uploaded*), or click **Home** to continue to the next step:

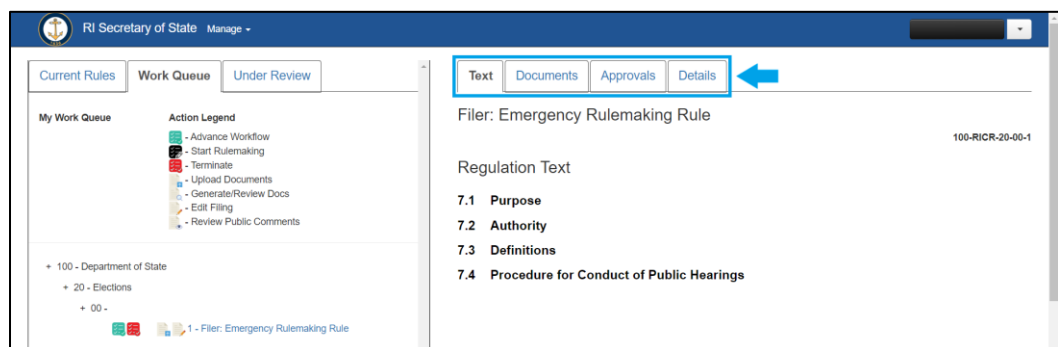


12. If for any reason the rule details need to be updated, click the **Edit Filing** icon to update the **Regulation Title**, **Rulemaking Authority**, **Summary of Proposed Rule**, and **Brief Statement of Reason for Finding Imminent Peril**, then click **Submit** once the details are updated:

Once the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking is generated and published, this information cannot be changed.



13. Click each tab on the right to ensure all information regarding the rule is correct (**Text**, **Documents**, **Approvals**, and **Details**):



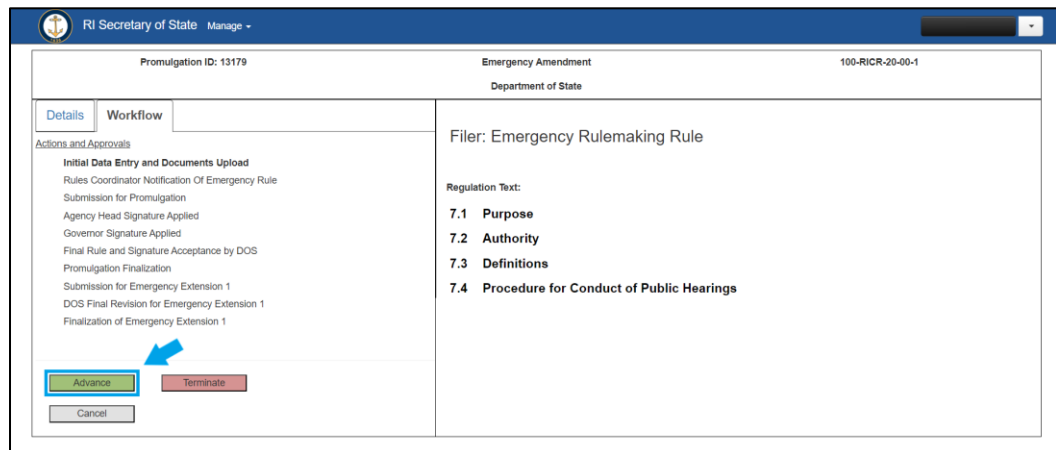
14. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click the **Terminate** icon to end the promulgation process and skip to step 16(b)(i):



15. To continue, click the **Advance Workflow** icon:



16. To advance the rule for the DOS Formatting Review, click **Advance**:



a. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click **Cancel** to go back; or

b. Click **Terminate** to end the promulgation process:

- i. Select a **Termination Reason**, then click **Submit** to terminate, or click **Cancel** to continue the promulgation process:

RI Secretary of State Manage

Workflow Termination for Filing 100-RICR-20-00-1

Filer: Emergency Rulemaking Rule

Request Note for: Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

Termination Reason: *

Abandoned

Note: The reason for termination selected above will not be shown to the public and will not be published.

Note: Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required.

Submit Cancel

17. Certify that your agency has either received official approval from OMB or is exempt from OMB’s review process by clicking **Yes**:

ORR Compliance

Before uploading your agency's regulation for notice and comment in the RICR, your agency **must certify** that it has either received official approval from the Office of Regulatory Reform (ORR) or is exempt from ORR's formal review process.

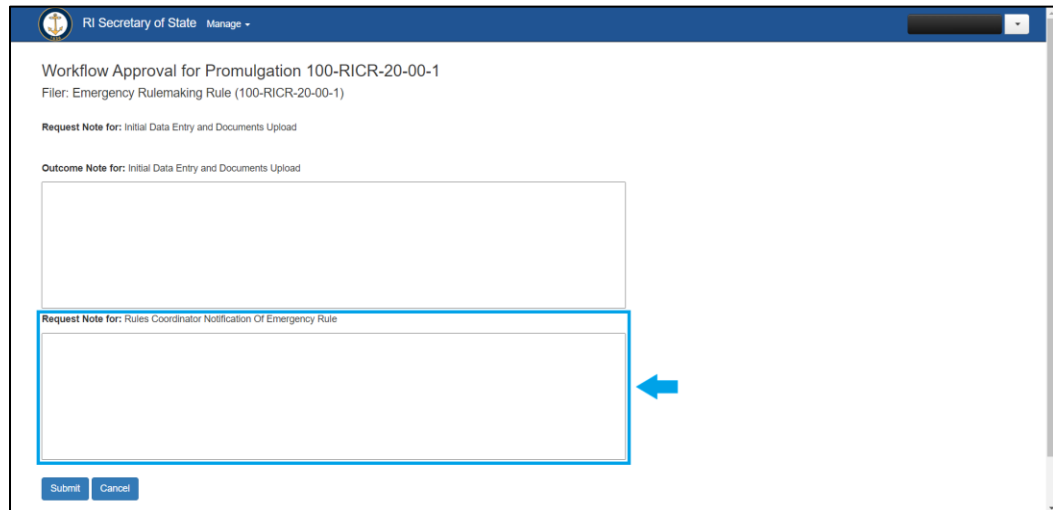
Your agency has not received official approval unless your agency is in receipt of an emailed/dated receipt of ORR clearance from its official submission system.

Do you certify that your agency has either received ORR approval or that your agency is exempt from the process?

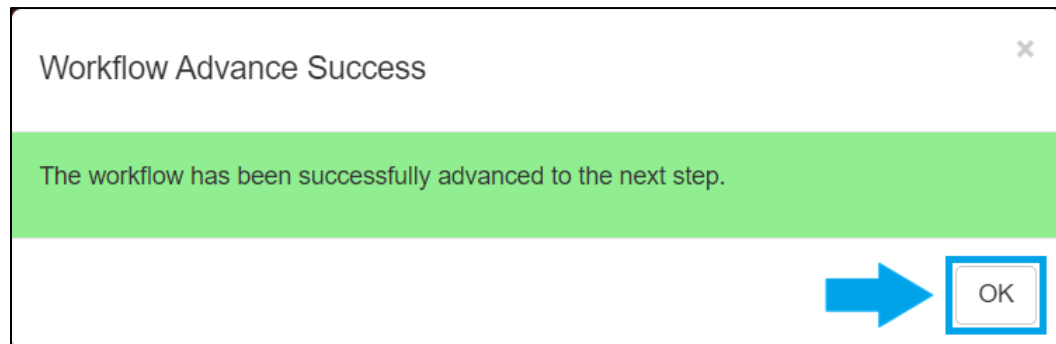
Yes

- a. **If your agency has not received official approval from OMB and is not exempt**, click the DOS logo in the top-left corner to return to the home page. **Do not proceed in the RICR System** until you have official approval. Once your agency receives approval, go back to step 15 to proceed.

18. If you would like to add a note for the DOS, enter text in the **Request Note** and/or click **Submit**:



19. Upon submitting, click **OK** to return to the RICR System homepage:



 **COMPLETED:** *Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload*



6.3.1.2.3.2 Rules Coordinator Notification of Emergency Rule

The Rules Coordinator will receive an AWS Notification when it is time to advance if a Filer completed the Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload.

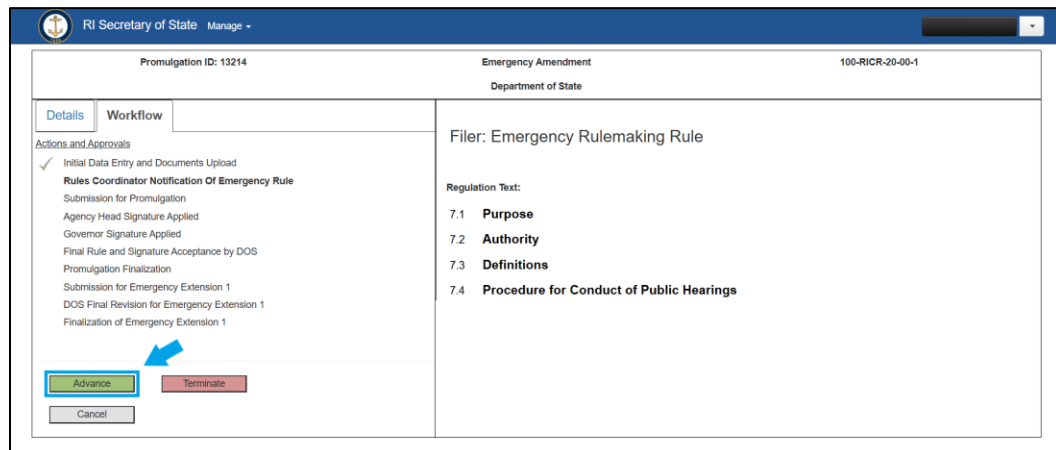
1. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click the **Terminate** icon to end the promulgation process and skip to step 3(b)(i):



2. To continue, click the **Advance Workflow** icon:



3. To advance the rule for the DOS Formatting Review, click **Advance**:



- a. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click **Cancel** to go back; or
- b. Click **Terminate** to end the promulgation process:
 - i. Select a **Termination Reason**, then click **Submit** to terminate, or click **Cancel** to continue the promulgation process:

RI Secretary of State Manage

Workflow Termination for Filing 100-RICR-20-00-1

Filer: Emergency Rulemaking Rule

Request Note for: Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

Termination Reason: *

Abandoned

Note: The reason for termination selected above will not be shown to the public and will not be published.

Note: Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required.

Submit Cancel

- 4. If you would like to add a note for the DOS, enter text in the **Request Note** and/or click **Submit**:

RI Secretary of State Manage

Workflow Approval for Promulgation 100-RICR-20-00-1

Filer: Emergency Rulemaking Rule (100-RICR-20-00-1)

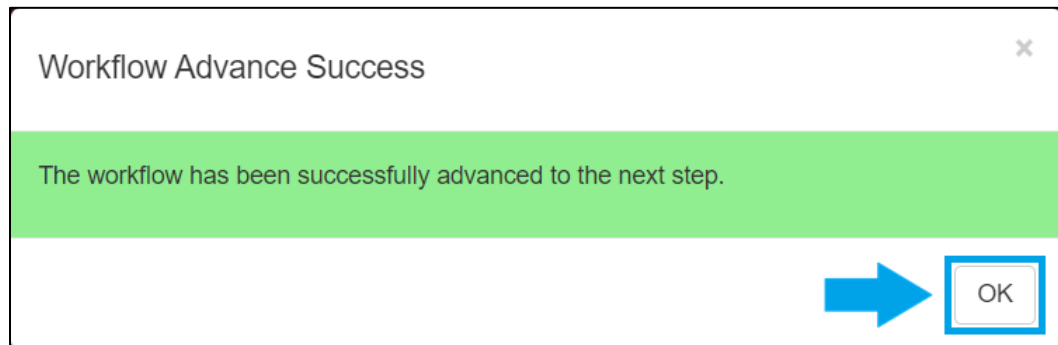
Request Note for: Rules Coordinator Notification Of Emergency Rule

Outcome Note for: Rules Coordinator Notification Of Emergency Rule

Request Note for: Submission for Promulgation

Submit Cancel

5. Upon submitting, click **OK** to return to the RICR System homepage:



 **COMPLETED: *Rules Coordinator Notification of Emergency Rule***

 **6.3.1.2.3.3 Submission for Promulgation**

This step will be completed automatically by the RICR System.

The RICR System will automatically advance the rule to the next step.

 **6.3.1.2.3.4 Agency Head Signature Applied**

This step will be completed by the Agency Head.

The Agency Head will receive an automated email from OneSpan, the esignature provider, to sign the rule.

 **6.3.1.2.3.5 Governor Signature Applied**

This step will be completed by the Agency Head.

The Governor will receive an automated email from OneSpan, the esignature provider, to sign the rule.



6.3.1.2.3.6 Final Rule and Signature Acceptance by DOS

This step will be completed by the Administrative Records Office.

Once the Agency Head and Governor signs the rule, the Department of State will sign the rule and set the rule's Effective Date.



6.3.1.2.3.7 Promulgation Finalization

This step will be completed automatically by the RICR System.

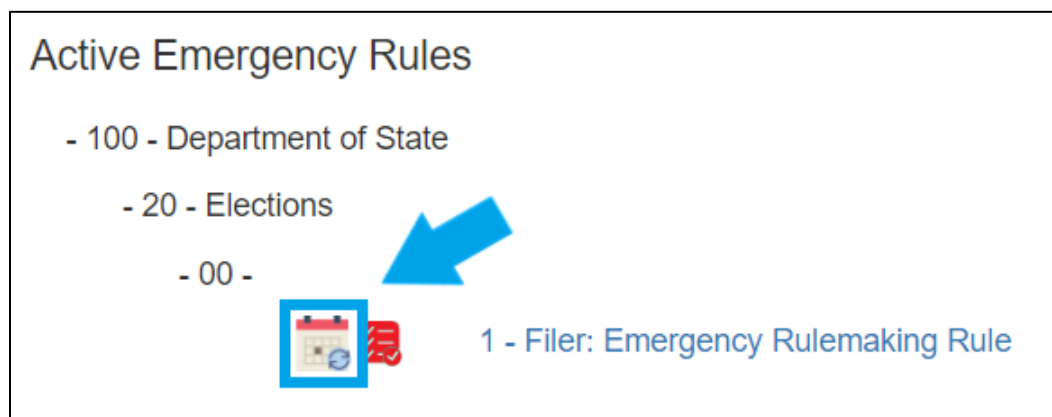
The RICR System will automatically display the Final Regulation in the RICR the day it becomes effective.



6.3.1.2.3.8 Submission for Emergency Extension 1

If the Emergency Rule must be extended:

1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. Under **Active Emergency Rules**, click the **Title**, **Chapter**, and **Subchapter** to open each level, and click the **60-Day Emergency Renewal** icon (calendar) next to the Part to be extended:



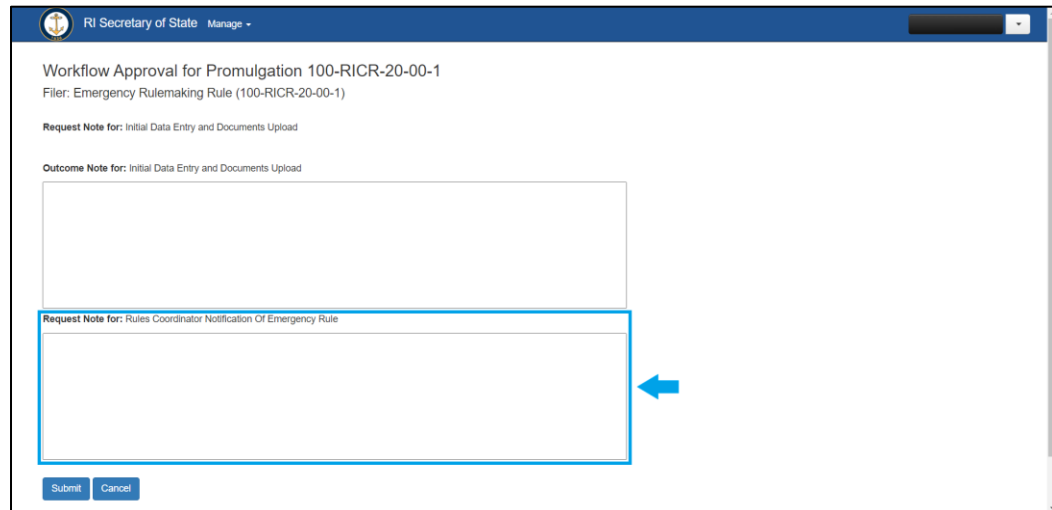
3. To confirm the Part should be extended, click **Advance**:

The screenshot shows the 'RI Secretary of State' interface for managing an 'Emergency Amendment' (Promulgation ID: 13187, Filing 100-RICR-20-00-1). The 'Workflow' tab is active, displaying a list of 'Actions and Approvals' with checkmarks for: Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload, Rules Coordinator Notification Of Emergency Rule, Submission for Promulgation, Agency Head Signature Applied, Governor Signature Applied, and Final Rule and Signature Acceptance by DOS. Under 'Promulgation Finalization', there are three items: Submission for Emergency Extension 1, DOS Final Revision for Emergency Extension 1, and Finalization of Emergency Extension 1. At the bottom, three buttons are visible: 'Advance' (highlighted with a blue arrow), 'Terminate', and 'Cancel'. The right side of the interface shows 'Filer: Emergency Rulemaking Rule' and 'Regulation Text:'.

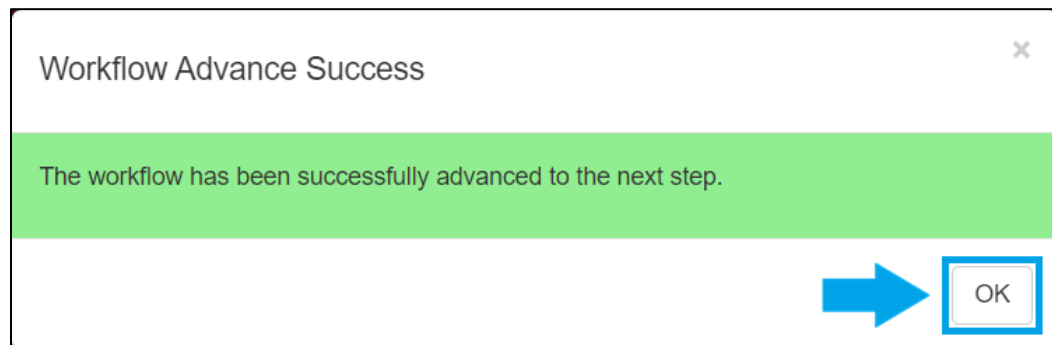
- a. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click **Cancel** to go back; or
- b. Click **Terminate** to end the Emergency Rule immediately, which will change the rule's Expiration Date to be set as today's date:
 - i. Select a **Termination Reason**, then click **Submit** to terminate, or click **Cancel** to continue the promulgation process:

The screenshot shows the 'Workflow Termination for Filing 100-RICR-20-00-1' form. It includes the following fields and elements: 'Filer: Emergency Rulemaking Rule', 'Request Note for: Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload', and a 'Termination Reason:' dropdown menu with 'Abandoned' selected. A red banner note states: 'Note: The reason for termination selected above will not be shown to the public and will not be published.' Below this, a smaller note says: 'Note: Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required.' At the bottom are 'Submit' and 'Cancel' buttons.

4. If you would like to add a note for the DOS, enter text in the **Request Note** and/or click **Submit**:



5. Upon submitting, click **OK** to return to the RICR System homepage:



 **COMPLETED:** *Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload*

 **6.3.1.2.3.9 DOS Final Revision for Emergency Extension 1**

This step will be completed by the Administrative Records Office.

The Department of State will confirm the extension and advance the rule.



6.3.1.2.3.10 Finalization of Emergency Extension 1

This step will be completed automatically by the RICR System.

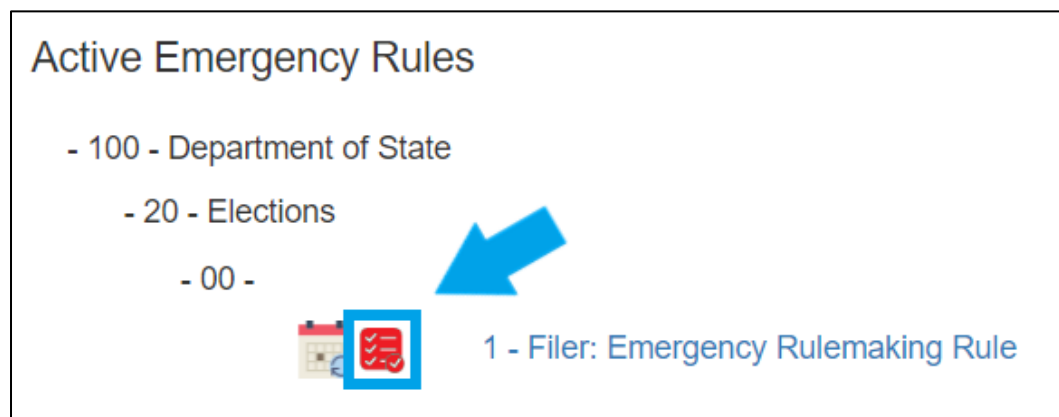
The RICR System will automatically extend the Expiration Date for the Emergency Regulation in the RICR.



6.3.1.2.3.11 Early Termination

If the Emergency Rule must be terminated before the set Expiration Date:

1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. Under **Active Emergency Rules**, click the **Title**, **Chapter**, and **Subchapter** to open each level, and click the **Terminate** icon next to the Part to be terminated:



3. Select a **Termination Reason**, then click **Submit** to terminate, or click **Cancel**:

RI Secretary of State Manage

Workflow Termination for Filing 100-RICR-20-00-1

Filer: Emergency Rulemaking Rule

Request Note for: Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

Termination Reason: *

Abandoned

Note: The reason for termination selected above will not be shown to the public and will not be published.

Note: Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required.

Submit Cancel

4. Upon submitting, click **OK** to return to the RICR System homepage:

Workflow Termination Success

The workflow has been successfully terminated.

OK



6.3.1.2.3.11.1 Finalization of Termination

This step will be completed automatically by the RICR System.

The RICR System will automatically change the Expiration Date for the Emergency Regulation in the RICR to today's date.

It is the Rules Coordinator's responsibility to download the signed Regulation for the agency's files to be permanently retained per [GRS2.5 Rulemaking Files](#).

Final Regulations can be downloaded by opening the active Part in the [RICR](#), clicking the **Regulation** tab, and clicking **Download Regulation**:

The screenshot displays the 'Records Management' interface. At the top left, the identifier '100-RICR-50-00-1' is shown next to a green 'ACTIVE RULE' tag. Below this is a horizontal navigation bar with five tabs: 'Regulation Text', 'Overview', 'Regulation', 'History', and 'Rulemaking Documents'. The 'Regulation' tab is highlighted with a blue box and a blue arrow labeled '1' points to it. Below the navigation bar, a 'Download Regulation' button is visible, highlighted with a blue box and a blue arrow labeled '2' points to it.

6.3.1.2.4 Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

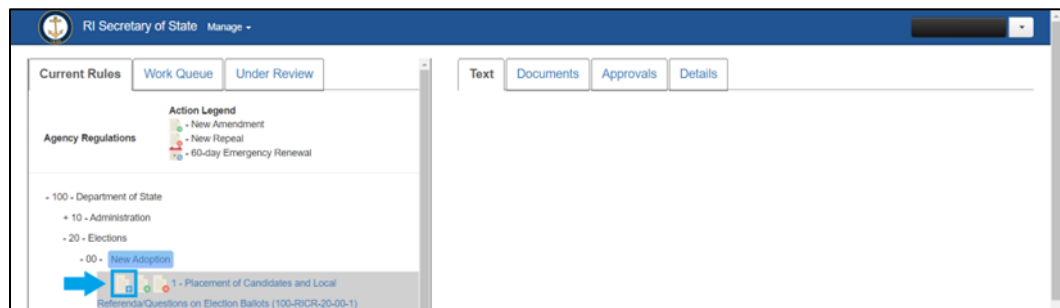
For information regarding this Rulemaking Action, see [§ 3.3.4 of this Guide](#).

Actions to be Completed	User to Complete
Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload	Rules Coordinator
Generation of the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking	Rules Coordinator
Public Comment Period Begin	RICR Filing System & Rules Coordinator

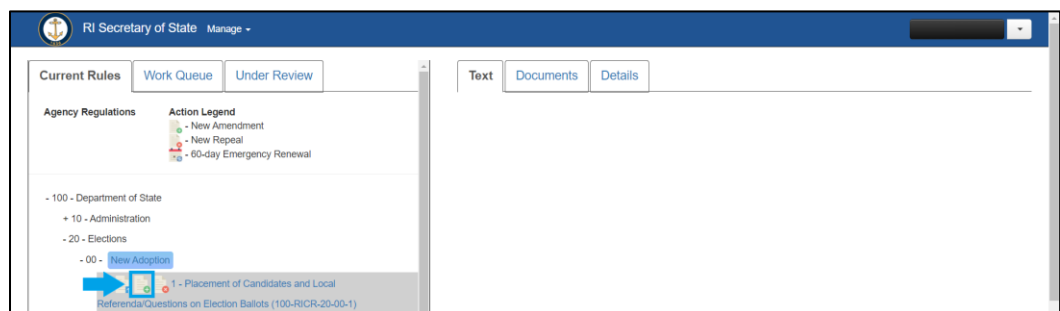


6.3.1.2.4.1 Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. In the **Current Rules** tab, click the **Title**, **Chapter**, **Subchapter**, and **Part** to open each level, then click the **Download Document** icon to draft the amendment (see [§ 5.1.2.2 of this Guide](#) for additional information):



3. Once the Proposed Rule draft is ready, in the **Current Rules** tab, click the **Title**, **Chapter**, **Subchapter**, and **Part** to open each level, then click the **New Amendment** icon promulgate an amendment:



4. Enter and confirm the **Rulemaking Filing Details**:

RI Secretary of State Manage ▾

Department of State

Rulemaking Type: Amendment

Rulemaking Action: * ? a Proposed Emergency Advance Notice

Rule Identifier: 100-RICR-20-00-1

Regulation Title: * b

Rulemaking Authority: * c

- a. Choose **Advance Notice** for the **Rulemaking Action** and **Rulemaking Process**;

Rulemaking Action: * ? Proposed Emergency Advance Notice

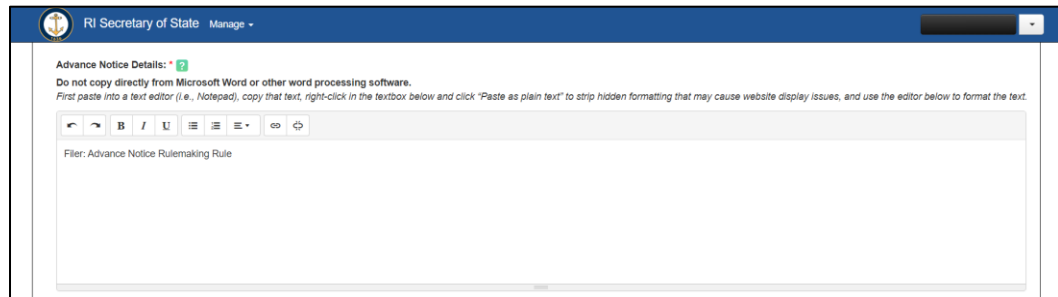
- b. Confirm the **Regulation Title** using sentence case (i.e., use “Conduct of Public Hearings”, not “CONDUCT OF PUBLIC HEARINGS”); and
- c. Confirm the appropriate authority from the dropdown, enter the **Rulemaking Authority** citation, and click **Add**.
- i. To remove a **Rulemaking Authority**, click to select the citation to remove from the list and click **Remove**:

1

2

5. Enter the **Advance Notice Details** to indicate where, when, and how persons may comment before the rulemaking process begins (any meeting held is open to the Open Meetings Act and subject to [R.I. Gen. Laws Chapter 42-46](#)):

- a. If copying text from another document, follow the directions on screen to strip all erroneous formatting.



6. Confirm the **Additional Information URL** to indicate the location on your website where the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking is published as required by [R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.7](#):

7. Review to ensure all entered text is correct and click **Submit**.
 - a. At any point during the above process, if you don't wish to move forward, click **Cancel** to prevent the Part number from being used.



8. **DO NOT CLICK ANYTHING UNTIL ALL OPTIONS ARE REVIEWED**
There are three (3) options to move forward based on if documents need to be uploaded or not, *and two (2) options have immediate ramifications*.

Advance Notice Rulemaking does not require documents to be uploaded, however, if the promulgating agency wants or needs to upload documents, the following optional documents may be uploaded:

- Proposed Rule
- Index of Studies/Reports*
- Internal Organization Document*
- Petition*
- Additional Documentation*
- Studies/Reports*

**This document type cannot be uploaded alone. A Proposed Rule must also be uploaded to be able to advance to the next step.*

Read through all three options carefully before determining and taking action to advance to the next step:

- a. **Advance Workflow** – Choose if you don't need to upload documents.
If you choose this option, documents may still be uploaded later if need be.

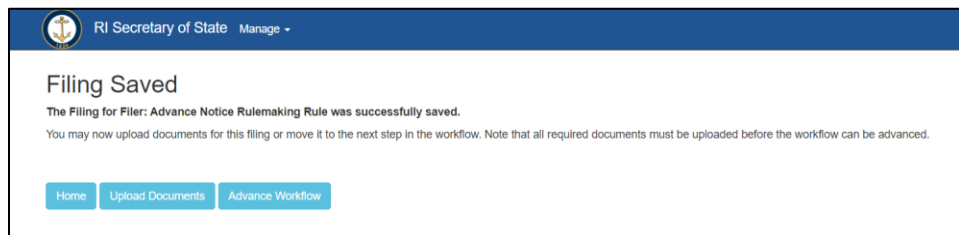
See step 9 for next steps.

- b. **Upload Documents** – Choose if you need to upload documents.
*If you choose this option and documents do not actually need to be uploaded, the RICR System will not allow you to advance the workflow until a Proposed Rule is uploaded, so you **will need to terminate the rule and start over** if you do not wish to upload a Proposed Rule.*

See step 10 for next steps.

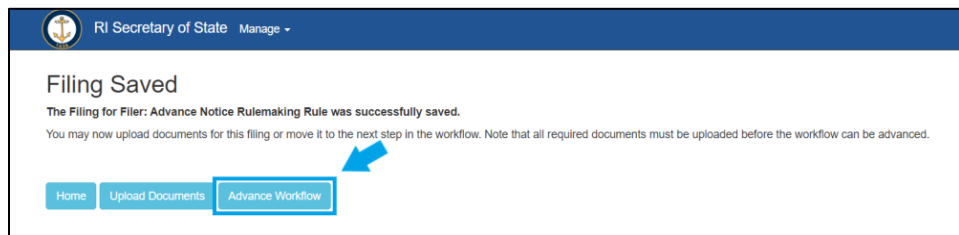
- c. **Home** – Equivalent to choosing Upload Documents, do not use.
*If you choose this option and documents do not actually need to be uploaded, the RICR System will not allow you to advance the workflow until a Proposed Rule is uploaded, so you **will need to terminate the rule and start over** if you do not wish to upload a Proposed Rule.*

If accidentally clicked, see step 11 for next steps.

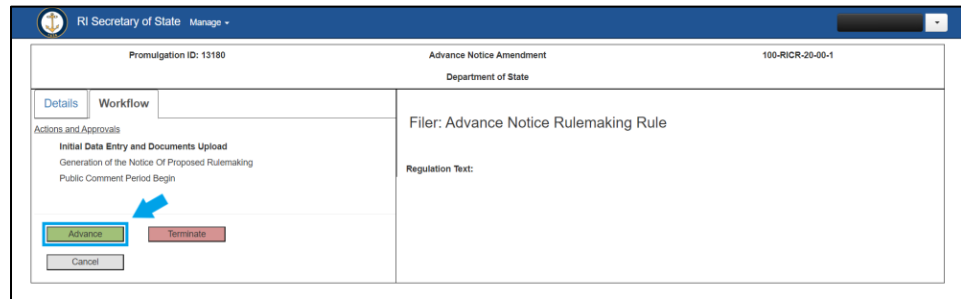


9. For **Advance Workflow**:

- a. Click **Advance Workflow**:

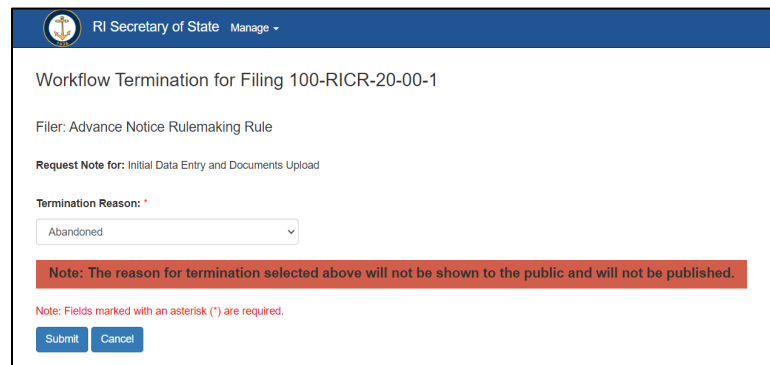


- b. To advance the rule to generate the Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, click **Advance** and skip to step 12:



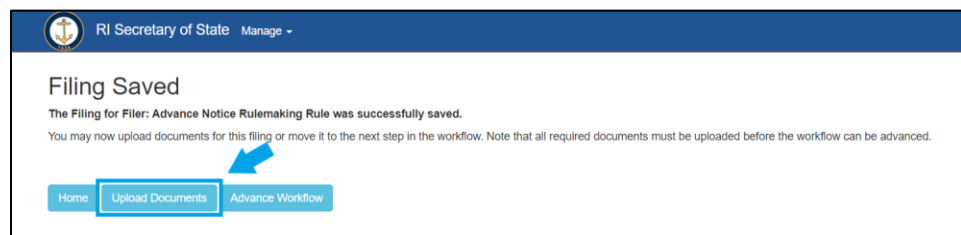
- i. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that documents need to be uploaded, click **Cancel** and skip to step 11(b); or
- ii. Click **Terminate** to end the promulgation process:

- (1) Select a **Termination Reason**, then click **Submit** to terminate, or click **Cancel** to continue the promulgation process:



10. For **Upload Documents**:

- a. Click **Upload Documents**:



b. Select from the dropdown the **Document Type**:

Document Upload

Regulation

Supporting Documents

Upload

Document Type:

Choose File No file chosen Upload Document

Home

- Proposed Rule
- Index of Studies/Reports*
- Internal Organization Document*
- Petition*
- Additional Documentation*
- Studies/Reports*

**This document type cannot be uploaded alone. A Proposed Rule must also be uploaded to be able to advance to the next step.*

- c. Click **Choose File** to select the document from your computer.
- d. Click **Upload Document** to upload.
- e. If additional documents need to be uploaded, click **Upload More Documents** and repeat steps b-e for each additional document (you will not be able to advance the rule until the Proposed Rule is uploaded), or click **Home**:

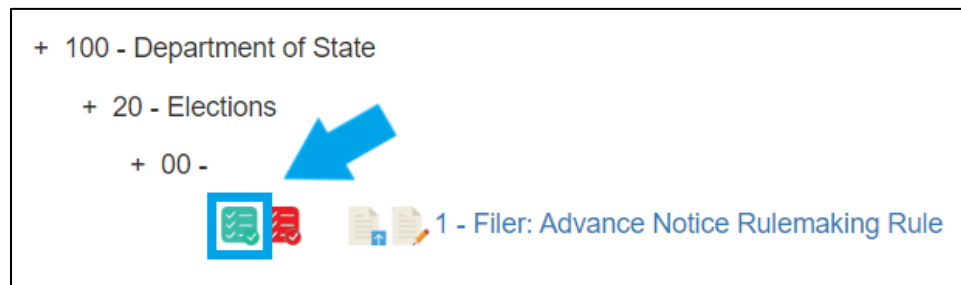
The document was successfully uploaded.

Upload More Documents Home

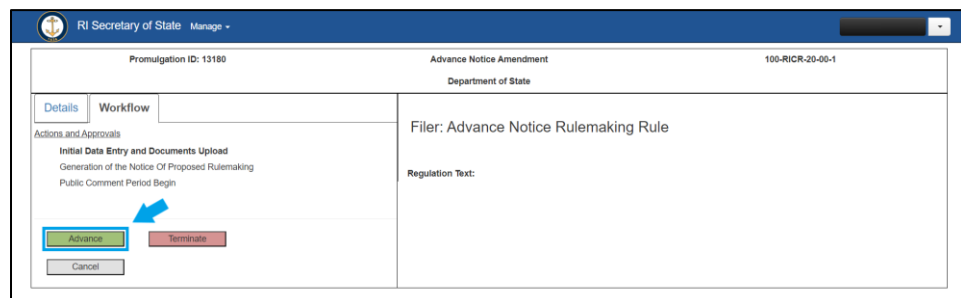
- f. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click the **Terminate** icon to end the promulgation process and skip to step 10(h)(ii)(1):



- g. To continue, click the **Advance Workflow** icon:



- h. To advance the rule to generate the Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, click **Advance** and skip to step 12:



- i. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click **Cancel** to go back; or
- ii. Click **Terminate** to end the promulgation process:

- (1) Select a **Termination Reason**, then click **Submit** to terminate, or click **Cancel** to continue the promulgation process:

RI Secretary of State Manage -

Workflow Termination for Filing 100-RICR-20-00-1

Filer: Advance Notice Rulemaking Rule

Request Note for: Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

Termination Reason: *

Abandoned

Note: The reason for termination selected above will not be shown to the public and will not be published.

Note: Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required.

Submit Cancel

11. **DO NOT USE - ONLY FOLLOW IF ACCIDENTALLY CHOSEN**

For **Home**:

- a. Click **Home**:

RI Secretary of State Manage -

Filing Saved

The Filing for Filer: Advance Notice Rulemaking Rule was successfully saved.

You may now upload documents for this filing or move it to the next step in the workflow. Note that all required documents must be uploaded before the workflow can be advanced.

Home Upload Documents Advance Workflow

- b. Click the **Upload Documents** icon next to the Part in the **Work Queue** tab to upload documents to be able to advance the rule:

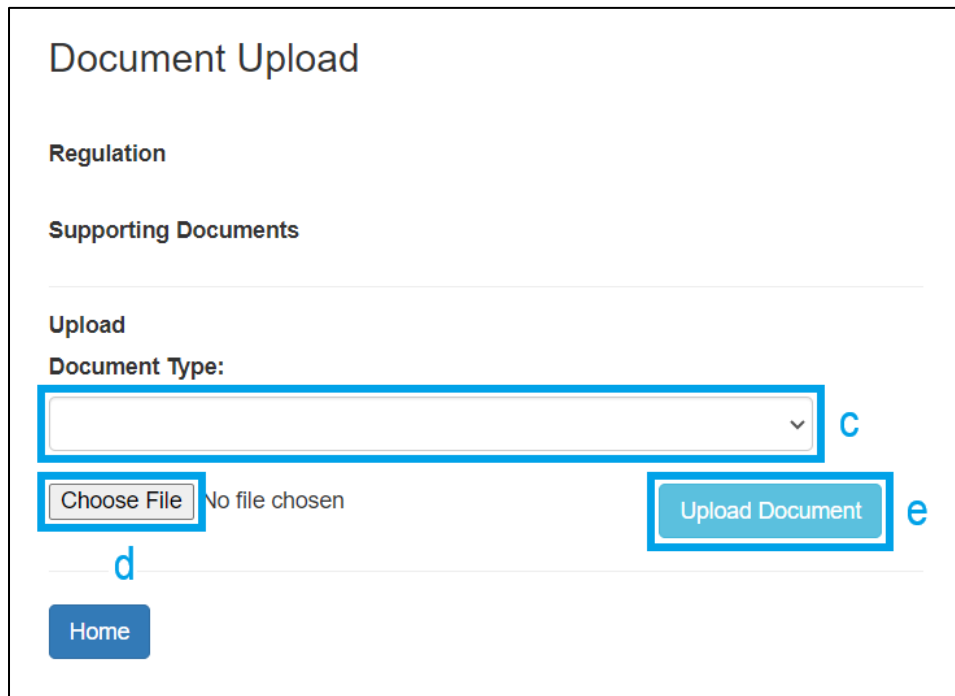
+ 100 - Department of State

+ 20 - Elections

+ 00 -

1 - Filer: Advance Notice Rulemaking Rule

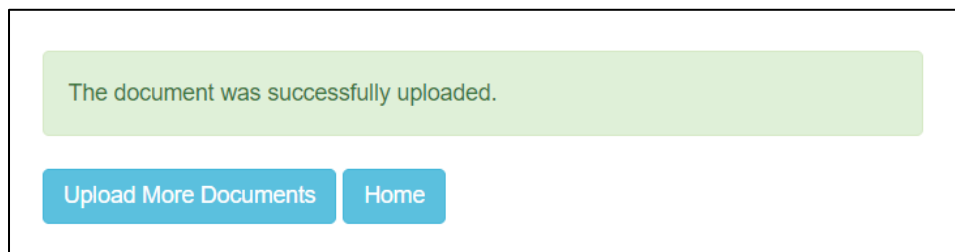
- c. Select from the dropdown the **Document Type**:



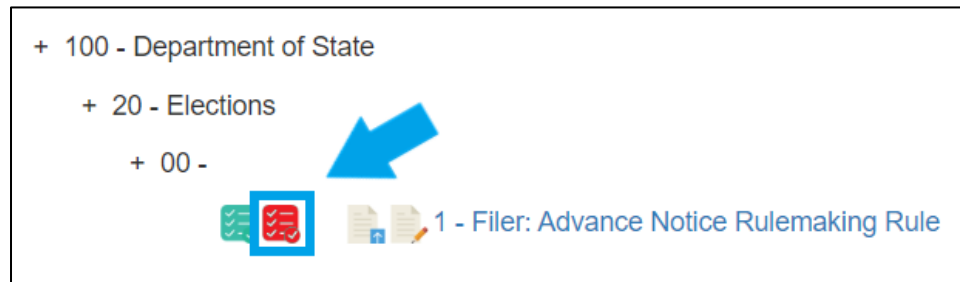
- Proposed Rule
- Index of Studies/Reports*
- Internal Organization Document*
- Petition*
- Additional Documentation*
- Studies/Reports*

**This document type cannot be uploaded alone. A Proposed Rule must also be uploaded to be able to advance to the next step.*

- d. Click **Choose File** to select the document from your computer.
- e. Click **Upload Document** to upload.
- f. If additional documents need to be uploaded, click **Upload More Documents** and repeat steps c-f for each additional document (you will not be able to advance the rule until the Proposed Rule is uploaded), or click **Home**:



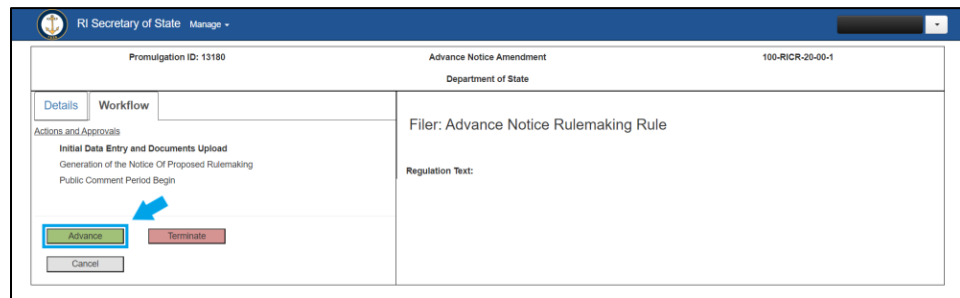
- g. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click the **Terminate** icon to end the promulgation process and skip to step 11(i)(ii)(1):



- h. To continue, click the **Advance Workflow** icon:

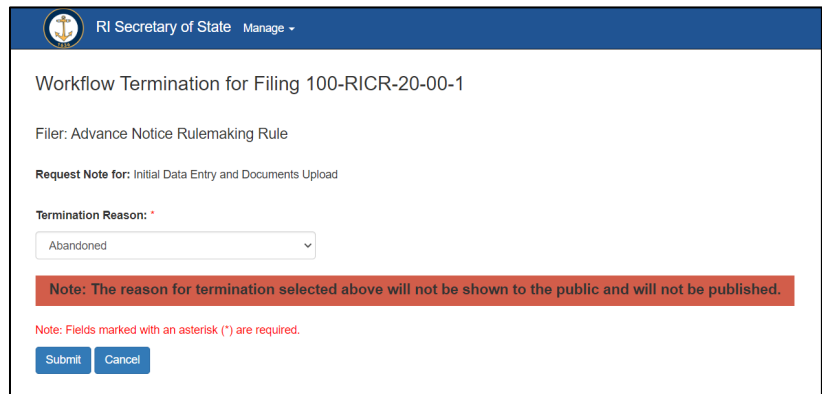


- i. To advance the rule to generate the Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, click **Advance** and skip to step 12:



- i. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click **Cancel** to go back; or
- ii. Click **Terminate** to end the promulgation process:

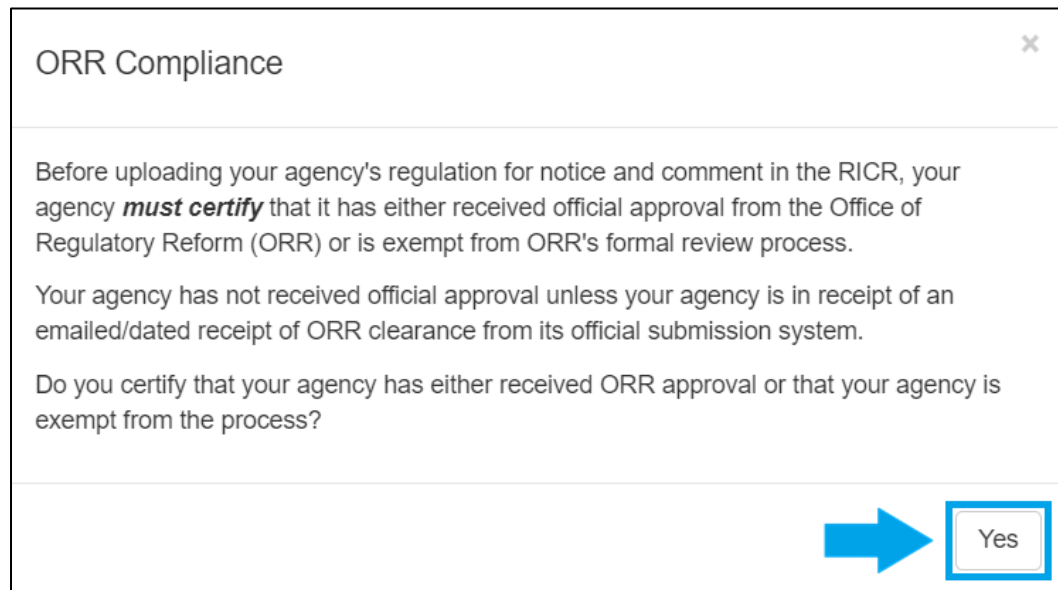
- (1) Select a **Termination Reason**, then click **Submit** to terminate, or click **Cancel** to continue the promulgation process:



The screenshot shows a web form titled "Workflow Termination for Filing 100-RICR-20-00-1". The form includes the following elements:

- Header: "RI Secretary of State" with a "Manage" dropdown menu.
- Title: "Workflow Termination for Filing 100-RICR-20-00-1"
- File Information: "Filer: Advance Notice Rulemaking Rule"
- Request Note: "Request Note for: Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload"
- Termination Reason: A dropdown menu with "Abandoned" selected. The label "Termination Reason:" has an asterisk.
- Note: A red banner states, "Note: The reason for termination selected above will not be shown to the public and will not be published."
- Footer Note: "Note: Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required."
- Buttons: "Submit" and "Cancel" buttons.

12. Certify that your agency *will* receive official approval from OMB if the rule is to be fully promulgated or is exempt from OMB's review process by clicking **Yes**:



The screenshot shows a dialog box titled "ORR Compliance" with a close button (X) in the top right corner. The text inside the dialog box reads:

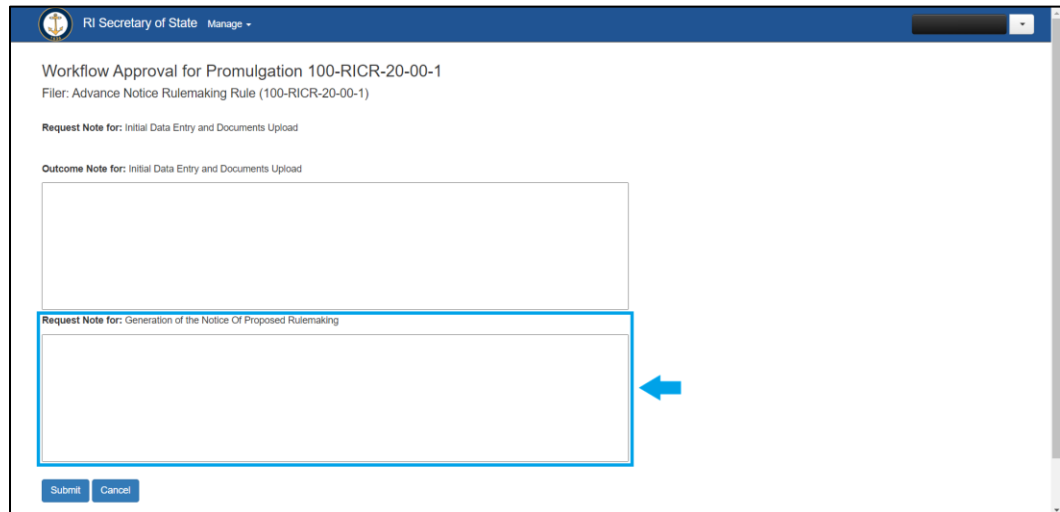
Before uploading your agency's regulation for notice and comment in the RICR, your agency **must certify** that it has either received official approval from the Office of Regulatory Reform (ORR) or is exempt from ORR's formal review process.

Your agency has not received official approval unless your agency is in receipt of an emailed/dated receipt of ORR clearance from its official submission system.

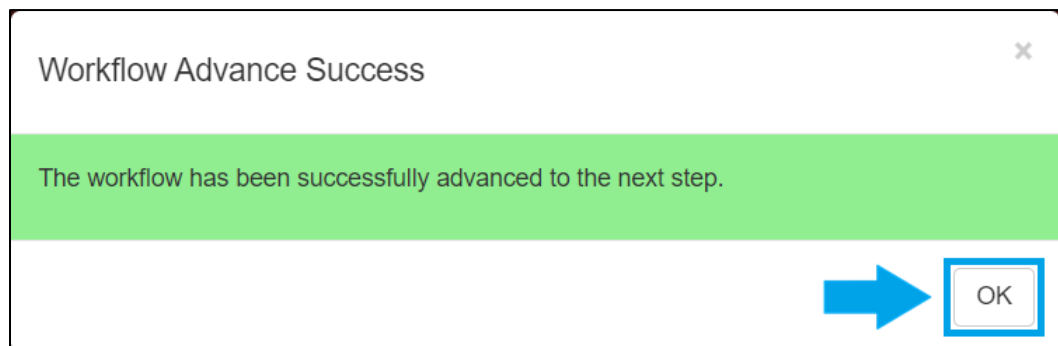
Do you certify that your agency has either received ORR approval or that your agency is exempt from the process?

At the bottom right of the dialog box, there is a blue arrow pointing to a button labeled "Yes".

13. If you would like to add a note for the DOS for the future DOS review, enter text in the **Request Note** and/or click **Submit**:



14. Upon submitting, click **OK** to return to the RICR System homepage:



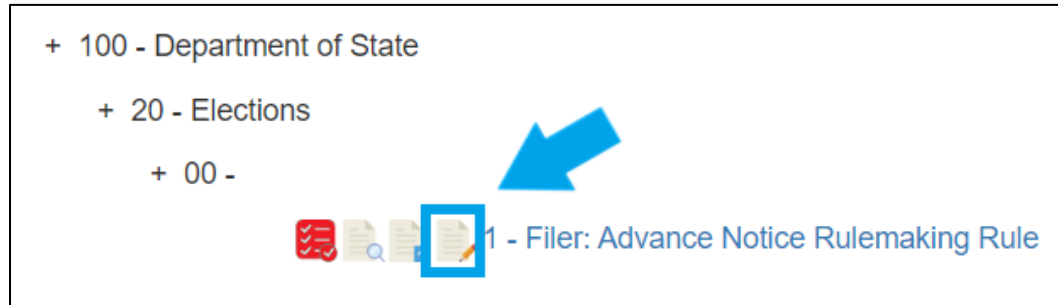
 **COMPLETED:** *Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload*

6.3.1.2.4.2 Generation of the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

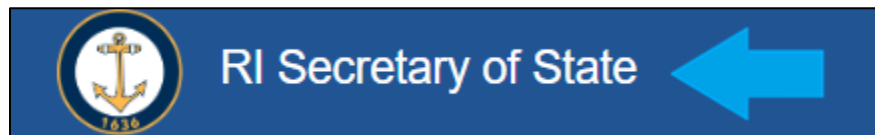
1. In the **Work Queue** tab, click on the **Title**, **Chapter**, and **Subchapter** to open each level to view the rule.
2. If for any reason the rule details need to be updated, click the **Edit Filing** icon to update the **Regulation Title**, **Rulemaking Authority**, and

Advance Notice Details, then click **Submit** once the details are updated:

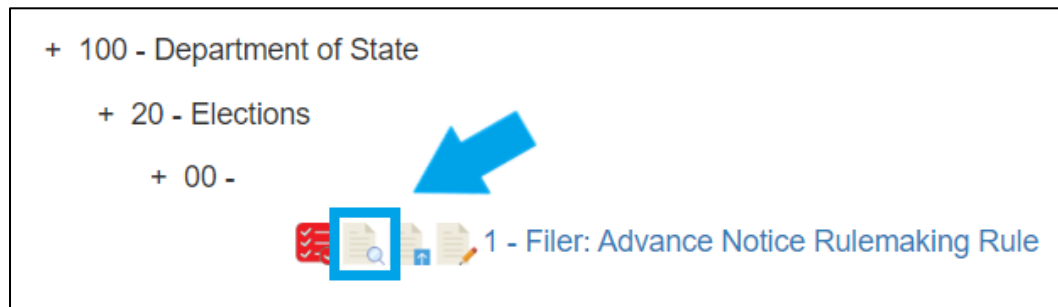
Once the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking is generated and published, this information cannot be changed.



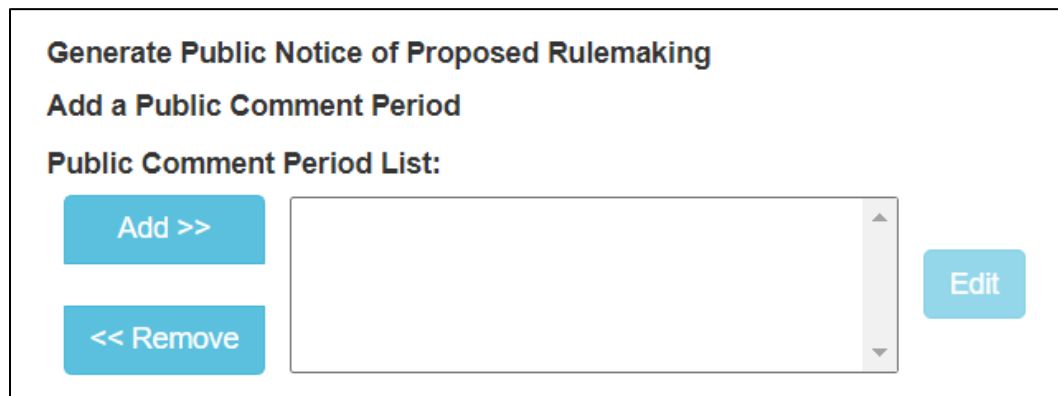
- a. Once completed, click the Department of State logo to navigate back to the homepage:



3. Click the **Generate/Review Docs** icon:



4. Click **Add >>** under **Public Comment Period List**, and click **Edit** and **<< Remove** as necessary to adjust the Public Comment Period:



AGENCY GUIDE: RULES COORDINATORS

5. Fill out the form to add a Public Comment Period – all fields are required:

Public Comment Period
✕

Date of Public Notice:
08/13/2024

Date of End of Comment Period: * ?

Full Name of Contact Person: *

Contact Person Email: *

Contact Person Address: *

, RI

Allow online public comments? *

Yes No

- a. The **Date of End of Comment Period** will automatically show the minimum first eligible date to be chosen, but you may choose a future date if needed.
- b. Agencies may use the RICR Filing System to accept public comments by selecting **Yes** to **Allow online public comments?** Agencies may opt out by selecting **No**.
 - i. If **Yes** is selected, you have the option to specify dates for when your agency wants to allow online public comments within the Public Comment Period.

AGENCY GUIDE: RULES COORDINATORS

6. If there will be a hearing, click on the Public Comment Period, then click **Add >>** under **Add a Public Hearing:**

Generate Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

Add a Public Comment Period

Public Comment Period List:

08/23/2024 - 08/23/2024

Add a Public Hearing: ?

7. Fill out the form to add a Public Hearing - all fields are required:

Public Hearing [Close]

Hearing date/time: *

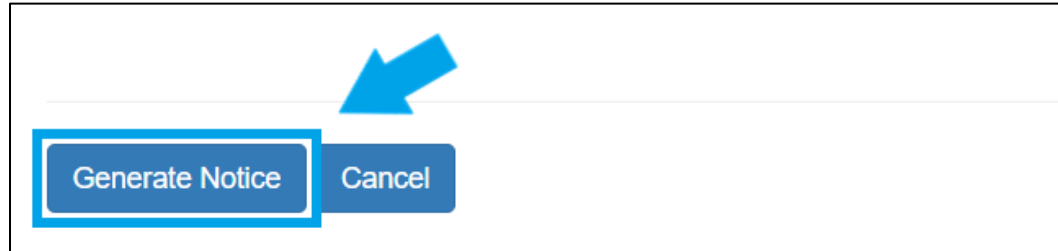
Time:

Hearing Location: *

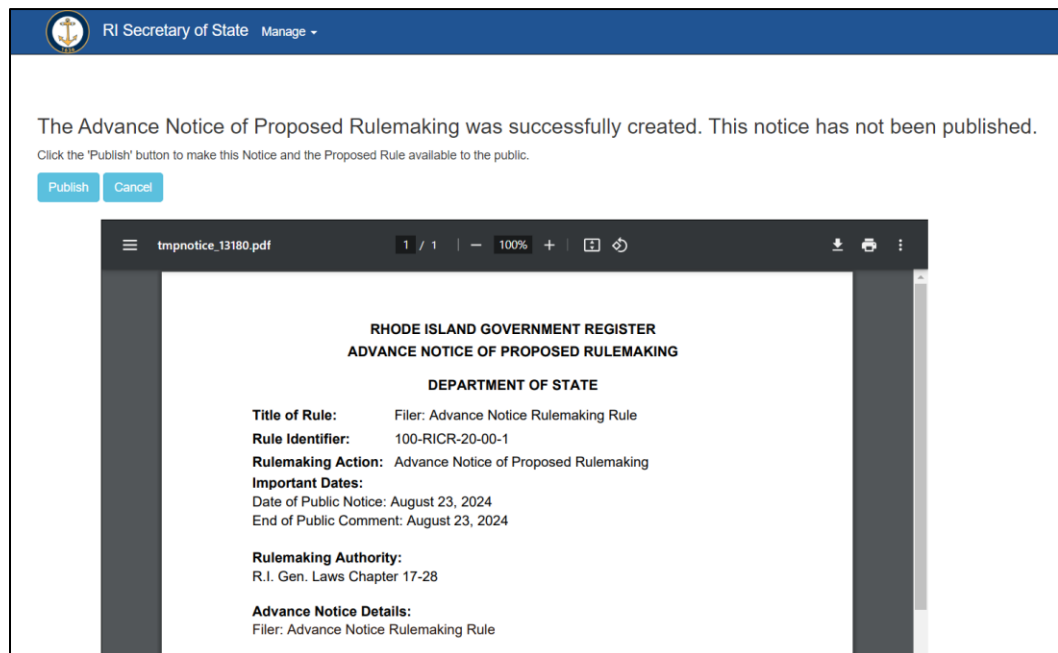
State: Rhode Island

Phone Number for Special Assistance: *

8. Click **Generate Notice** (this will not publish the rule, only preview the notice):



9. Review the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking:



- a. If any information within the notice is incorrect, click **Cancel** to go back and edit to update the information and complete steps as necessary.
 - b. Once information is confirmed to be correct, click **Publish** to approve the notice and publish the rule in the RICR.
10. Click **Home** to return to the RICR home page:

AGENCY GUIDE: RULES COORDINATORS

- a. If after the notice is published there needs to be any changes made, click **Amend Public Notice** to create and publish an additional notice with corrections.

Documents Published

Rule Identifier: 100-RICR-20-00-1

Title of Rule: Filer: Advance Notice Rulemaking Rule

The following documents are now available to the public:

- [Proposed Rule](#)
- [Public Notice of Proposed Rulemaking](#)

Amend Public Notice Home


COMPLETED: *Generation of the Notice Of Proposed Rulemaking*

At this time, the Proposed Rule is now live in the RICR and may be viewed by completing the following:


1. Go to <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/organizations>.
2. Locate the associated Title within the Table of Contents.
3. Click the plus sign (+) next to the Title:


Table of Contents

Show entries Filter by Agency

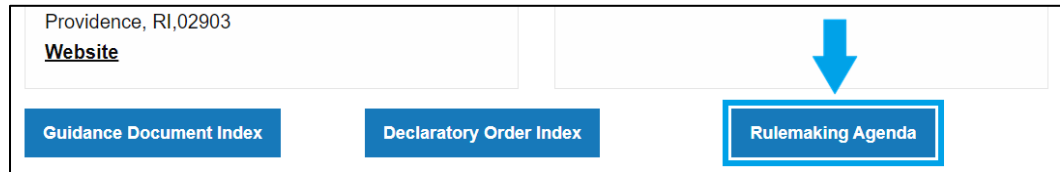
	Title	Agency
	Title 100	Department of State

4. Click **Agency Info**:

 **Title 100**Department of State

View Agency Info 

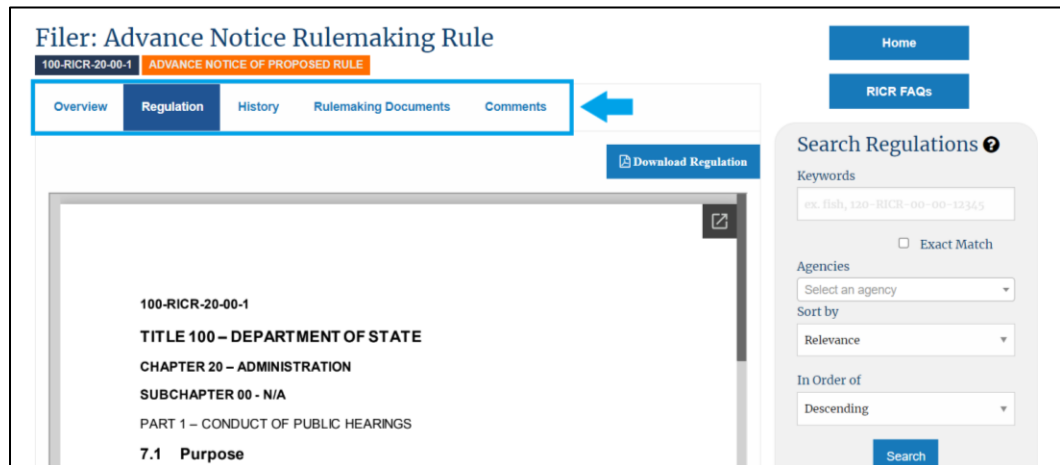
5. Click **Rulemaking Agenda**:



6. Locate the correct Proposed Rule and click the rule name to view:



7. Click through the navigation tabs to view the **Overview**, **Regulation**, **History**, **Rulemaking Documents**, and **Comments**:



8. The **Overview** tab displays the rule details:

Filer: Advance Notice Rulemaking Rule

100-RICR-20-00-1
ADVANCE NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE

Overview

Regulation

History

Rulemaking Documents

Comments

Notify Me

Title	100	Department of State
Chapter	20	Elections
Subchapter	00	N/A
Part	1	Filer: Proposed Regular Rulemaking Rule

Type of Filing	Amendment
Regulation Status	Advance Notice <div style="float: right; background-color: #333; color: white; padding: 2px 5px; border-radius: 3px;">View Active Rule</div>
Filing Notice Date	08/23/2024
Public Comment Dates	08/23/2024 to 08/23/2024

Regulation Authority:
R.I. Gen. Laws Chapter 17-28

Advance Notice Details:
Filer: Advance Notice Rulemaking Rule



6.3.1.2.4.3 Public Comment Period Begin

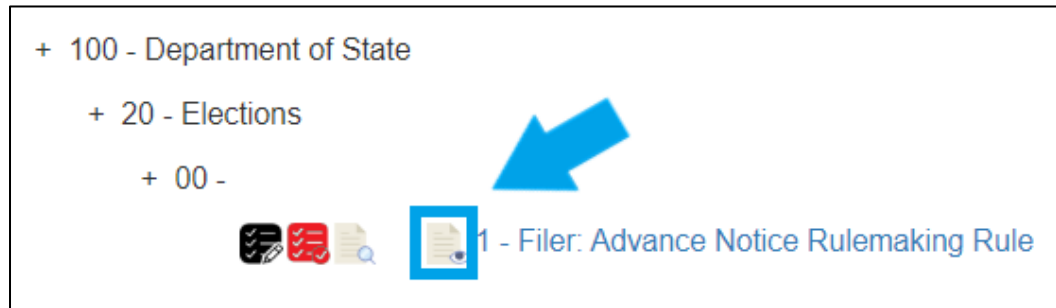
The first half of this step will be completed automatically by the RICR System to start the Public Comment Period in the RICR.

If online public comments were allowed, you may review comments as they are submitted, or at the end of the Public Comment Period. See step 2 in the following section ([§ 6.3.1.2.4.4 of this Guide](#)) for how to review comments and generate a public comment document compiling all submitted rules.

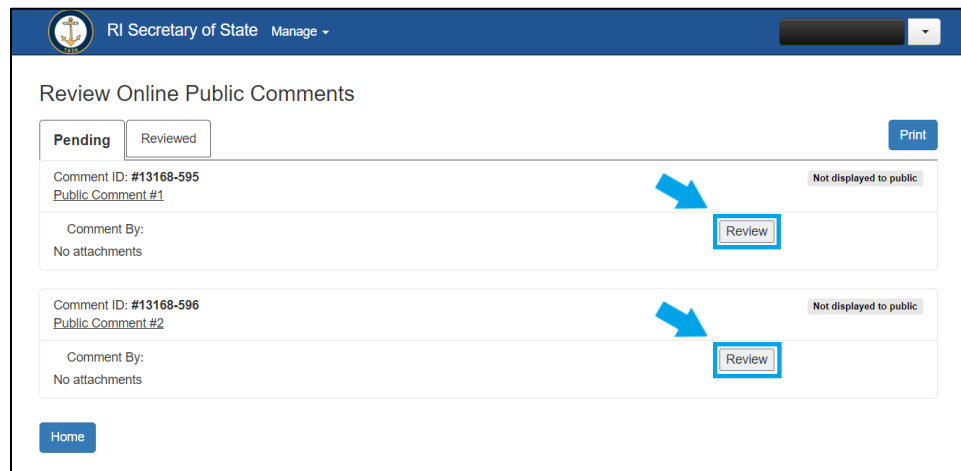


6.3.1.2.4.4 Public Comment Period Begin

1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. If online public comments were allowed, click the **Review Comments** icon, otherwise skip to step 3:



- a. Review every rule listed under the **Pending** tab by clicking **Review** for each comment submitted:



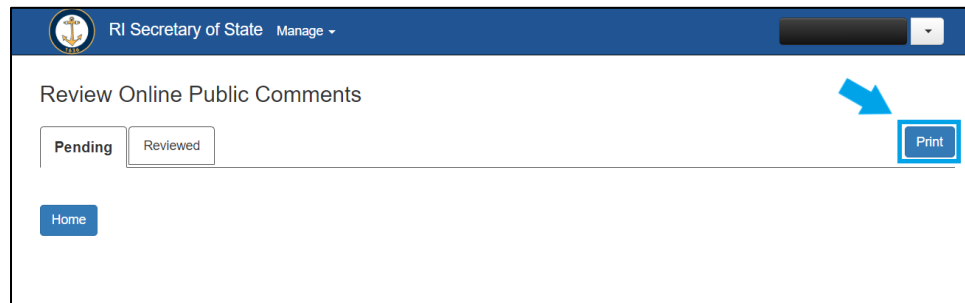
- i. Select to display the comment in the RICR or not, add any internal and public notes, and click **OK** to approve:

The screenshot shows a dialog box titled "Online Public Comment Review" with a close button (X) in the top right corner. The content includes:
- Comment By: **First Last**
- On: **08/13/2024**
- Comment: **Public Comment #1**
- Comment display to public is **disabled** and not yet reviewed
- Enable public comment display? Yes No
- Internal Review Notes: A text input field.
- Public Review Notes: A text input field.
- Display these Public Review Notes to the public: ?
- At the bottom right, there are two buttons: "OK" and "Cancel".

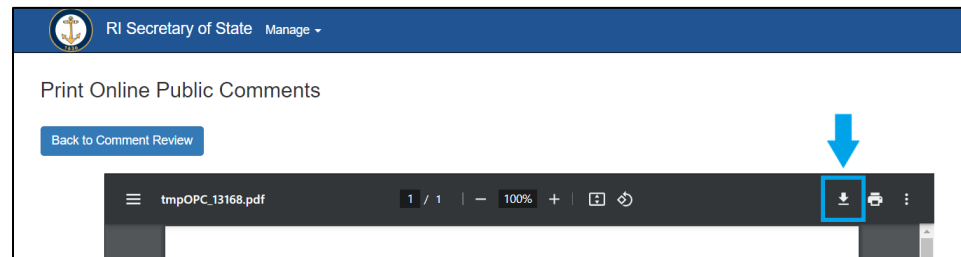
- b. Click the **Reviewed** tab to view who reviewed the comment, when it was approved, and review again if necessary:

The screenshot shows the "Review Online Public Comments" interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the RI Secretary of State logo and a "Manage" dropdown. Below the navigation bar, there are two tabs: "Pending" and "Reviewed", with "Reviewed" being the active tab. A "Print" button is located in the top right corner. The main content area displays two comment entries. Each entry includes:
- Comment ID: #13168-595 (Public Comment #1) and #13168-596 (Public Comment #2).
- A "Reviewed" button with a blue arrow pointing to it.
- A "Reviewed By:" and "On:" field.
- A "Reviewed" button with a blue arrow pointing to it.
- A "Home" button at the bottom left.

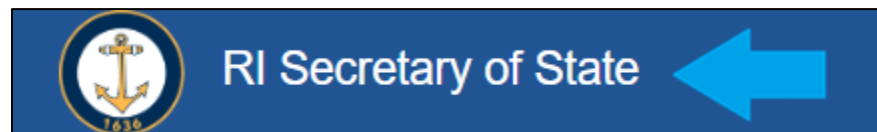
- c. Click **Print** to generate a public comment document:



- d. Click the down arrow at the top-right of the PDF viewer to download the document so that it can be used to upload as the part of the final rulemaking documents:



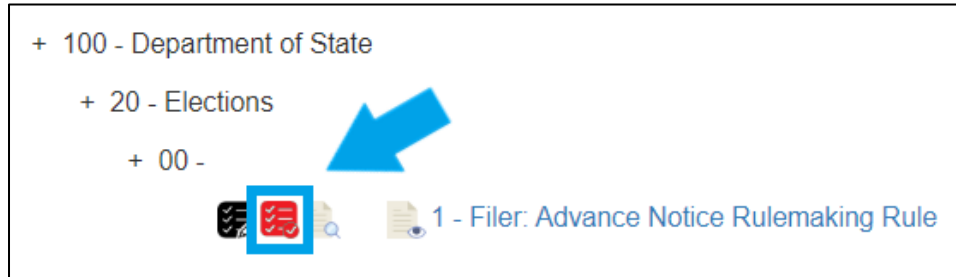
- e. To navigate back to the homepage, click the Department of State logo:



3. To start rulemaking, in the **Work Queue** tab, click on the **Title**, **Chapter**, and **Subchapter** to open each level, then click the **Start Rulemaking** icon:



- a. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click the **Terminate** icon to end the promulgation process:



- b. Select a **Termination Reason**, then click **Submit** to terminate.



DO NOT CLICK Cancel - THIS WILL START PROPOSED REGULAR RULEMAKING.

Instead, click the RICR logo at the top-left corner to go back if need be.

4. Enter and confirm the **Rulemaking Filing Details**:

- a. Choose the **Rulemaking Action** and **Rulemaking Process** to start rulemaking, either **Proposed Regular**, **Proposed Direct Final**, or **Emergency**:

If another Advance Notice Public Comment Period is necessary, choose Advance Notice.

Rulemaking Action: * ?	<input type="radio"/> Proposed	<input type="radio"/> Emergency	<input type="radio"/> Advance Notice
Rulemaking Process: * ?	<input type="radio"/> Regular	<input type="radio"/> Direct Final	

- b. Confirm the **Regulation Title** is correct and uses sentence case (i.e., use “Conduct of Public Hearings”, not “CONDUCT OF PUBLIC HEARINGS”); and
- c. Confirm the Rulemaking Authority is correct and update as necessary by selecting the appropriate authority from the dropdown, enter the **Rulemaking Authority** citation, and click **Add**.
 - i. To remove a **Rulemaking Authority**, click to select the citation to remove from the list and click **Remove**:

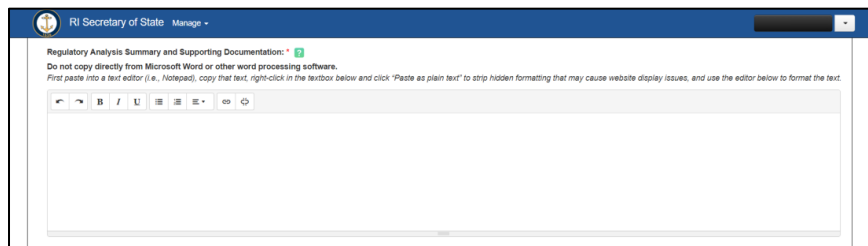
The screenshot shows a web interface for selecting rulemaking authorities. On the left, there are two buttons: 'Add >>' and '<< Remove'. The 'Remove' button is highlighted with a red box and a '2' next to it. On the right, there is a dropdown menu with 'R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35' selected, and a '1' next to it.

- d. If **Proposed Regular** or **Proposed Direct Final** was chosen:
 - i. Enter the **Summary of Proposed Rule** in plain language of terms or substance of intended action, or description of the subjects and issues involved, including changes between current and proposed regulations:
 - (1) If copying text from another document, follow the directions on screen to strip all erroneous formatting.

The screenshot shows a text editor window titled 'RI Secretary of State - Manage'. The editor contains a message: 'Summary of Proposed Rule: * ? Do not copy directly from Microsoft Word or other word processing software. First paste into a text editor (i.e., Notepad), copy that text, right-click in the textbox below and click "Paste as plain text" to strip hidden formatting that may cause website display issues, and use the editor below to format the text.' Below the message is a text area with a toolbar containing icons for bold, italic, underline, and text color.

- ii. Enter the **Regulatory Analysis Summary and Supporting Documentation** to provide a brief paragraph of the societal cost and benefits of compliance as prepared under [R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.9](#), including any citations to scientific or statistical studies, reports, and analyses that served as a basis for the proposed rule:

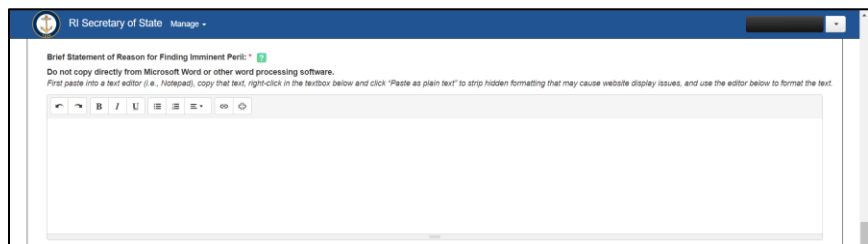
(1) If copying text from another document, follow the directions on screen to strip all erroneous formatting.



- e. If **Emergency** was chosen:

- i. Enter the **Brief Statement of Reason for Finding Imminent Peril** to state the reason this rule is required in order to avoid a threat to public health, safety, or welfare, or the loss of federal funding for an agency program ([R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.10](#)):

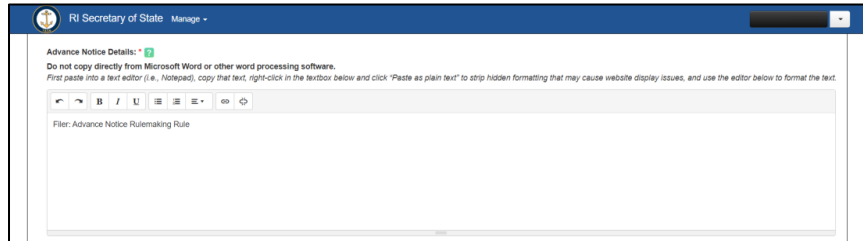
(1) If copying text from another document, follow the directions on screen to strip all erroneous formatting.



- f. If **Advance Notice** was chosen:

- i. Enter the **Advance Notice Details** to indicate where, when, and how persons may comment before the rulemaking process begins (any meeting held is open to the Open Meetings Act and subject to [R.I. Gen. Laws Chapter 42-46](#)):

- (1) If copying text from another document, follow the directions on screen to strip all erroneous formatting.



5. Confirm the **Additional Information URL** is correct to indicate the location on your website where the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking is published as required by [R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.7](#):

Additional Information URL: * ?

https://

6. Review to ensure all entered text is correct and click **Submit**.



DO NOT CLICK Cancel - THIS WILL START PROPOSED REGULAR RULEMAKING.

Instead, click the RICR logo at the top-left corner to go back if need be.



COMPLETED: *Public Comment Period Begin*



6.3.1.2.4.5 Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

1. Based on the Rulemaking Action and Process chosen, continue rulemaking by following:
 - a. **Proposed Regular** Rulemaking in [§ 6.3.1.2.1.1\(9\) of this Guide](#);
 - b. **Proposed Direct Final** Rulemaking in [§ 6.3.1.2.2.1\(9\) of this Guide](#);
 - c. **Emergency** Rulemaking in [§ 6.3.1.2.3.1\(9\) of this Guide](#); or
 - d. Restart **Advance Notice** Rulemaking in [§ 6.3.1.2.4.1\(7\) of this Guide](#).

6.3.1.2.5 APA Exempted Rulemaking

For information regarding this Rulemaking Action, see [§ 3.3.5 of this Guide](#).

Actions to be Completed	User to Complete
Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload	Rules Coordinator
Rules Coordinator Approval for Notice of Proposed Rulemaking	Rules Coordinator
DOS Verification of Drafts	Department of State
Submission for Promulgation	RICR Filing System
Rules Coordinator Approval for Final Submission	Rules Coordinator
Agency Head Signature Applied	Agency Head
Final Rule and Signature Acceptance by DOS	Department of State
Promulgation Finalization	RICR Filing System

Before initiating the process in the RICR Filing System, [email the Administrative Records Office \(ARO\)](#) to request the APA Exemption be applied to the Part to be promulgated:

1. Provide the full RICR Citation (##-RICR-##-##-#); and
2. Confirm the promulgating agency/division may use the exemption per [R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-18](#).

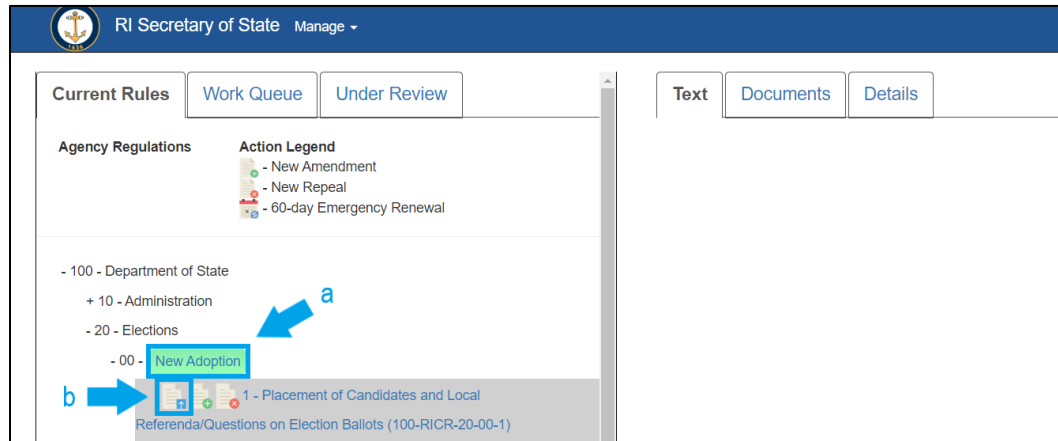
Only once the ARO confirms in an email reply that the exemption was applied can the process be started in the RICR Filing System.



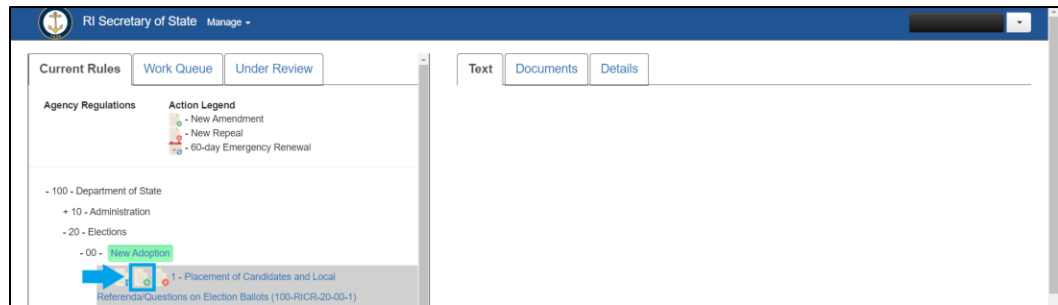
6.3.1.2.5.1 Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. In the **Current Rules** tab, click the **Title**, **Chapter**, **Subchapter**, and **Part** to open each level, and:
 - a. Ensure the New Adoption button is **green**, not **blue**; and
*If the button is **blue**, do not move forward with the promulgation and immediately contact the ARO per [§ 6.3.1.2.5 of this Guide](#).*

- b. Click the **Download Document** icon to draft the amendment (see [§ 5.1.2.2 of this Guide](#) for additional information):



3. Once the Proposed Rule draft is ready, in the **Current Rules** tab, click the **Title, Chapter, Subchapter, and Part** to open each level, then click the **New Amendment** icon promulgate an amendment:



4. Enter and confirm the **Rulemaking Filing Details**:

The screenshot shows the 'Rulemaking Filing Details' form in the 'RI Secretary of State' web application. The form fields are:

- Rulemaking Type: Amendment
- Rulemaking Action: * ? a APA Exempted
- Rule Identifier: 100-RICR-20-00-1
- Regulation Title: * b (empty field)
- Rulemaking Authority: * c R.I. General Laws (dropdown menu)

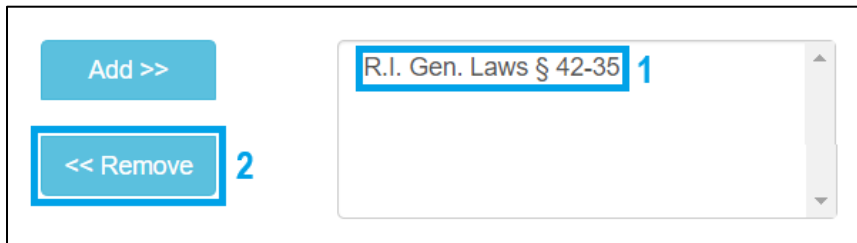
The 'Add >>' and '<< Remove' buttons are visible at the bottom right of the form.

- a. The **Rulemaking Action** should immediately display **APA Exempted**:

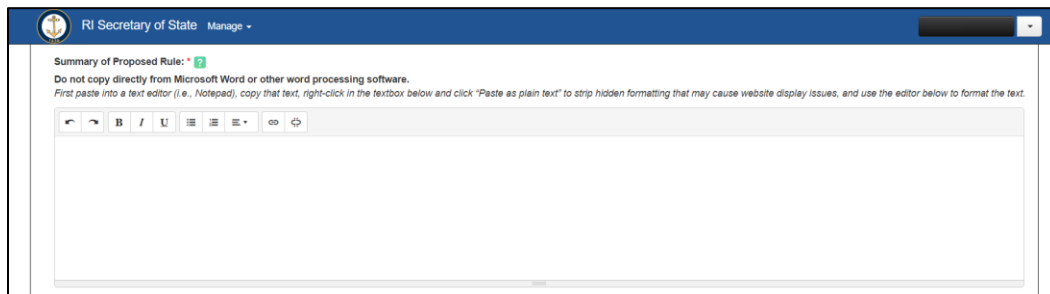


If the Rulemaking Action does not display APA Exempted, *do not move forward with the promulgation* and instead scroll to the bottom of the page to click **Cancel** and [email the ARO](#) immediately to fix this;

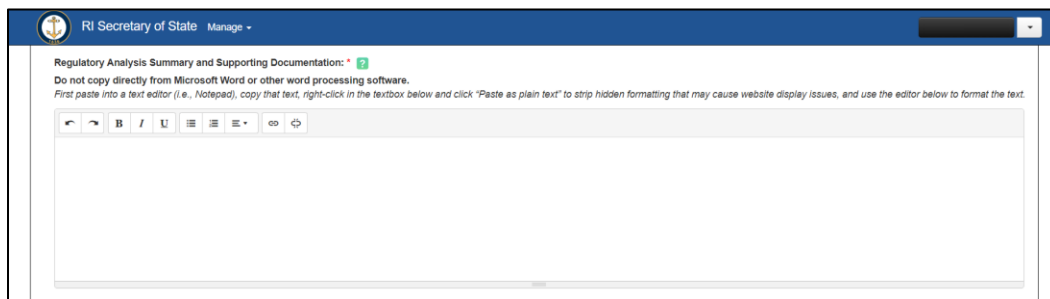
- b. Confirm the **Regulation Title** uses sentence case (i.e., use “Conduct of Public Hearings”, not “CONDUCT OF PUBLIC HEARINGS”); and
- c. Confirm the appropriate authority from the dropdown, enter the **Rulemaking Authority** citation, and click **Add**.
 - i. To remove a **Rulemaking Authority**, click to select the citation to remove from the list and click **Remove**:



- 5. Enter the **Summary of Proposed Rule** in plain language of terms or substance of intended action, or description of the subjects and issues involved, including changes between current and proposed regulations:
 - a. If copying text from another document, follow the directions on screen to strip all erroneous formatting.



6. Enter the **Regulatory Analysis Summary and Supporting Documentation** to provide a brief paragraph of the societal cost and benefits of compliance as prepared under [R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.9](#), including any citations to scientific or statistical studies, reports, and analyses that served as a basis for the proposed rule:
 - a. If copying text from another document, follow the directions on screen to strip all erroneous formatting.

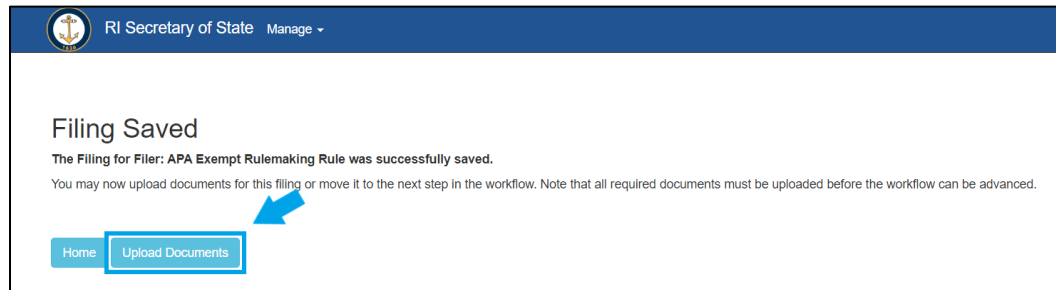


7. Confirm the **Additional Information URL** to indicate the location on your website where the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking is published as required by [R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.7](#):

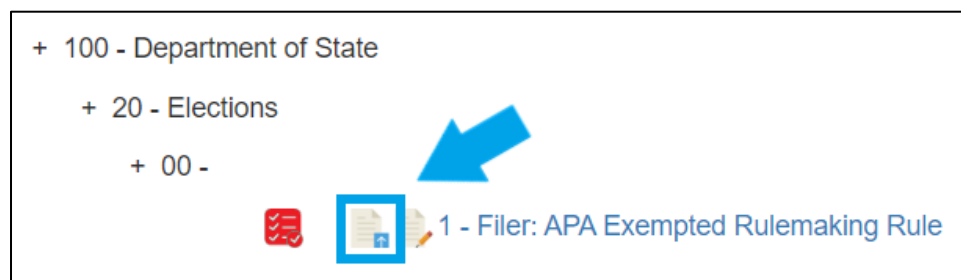


8. Review to ensure all entered text is correct and click **Submit**.
 - a. At any point during the above process, if you don't wish to move forward, click **Cancel** to prevent the Part number from being used.

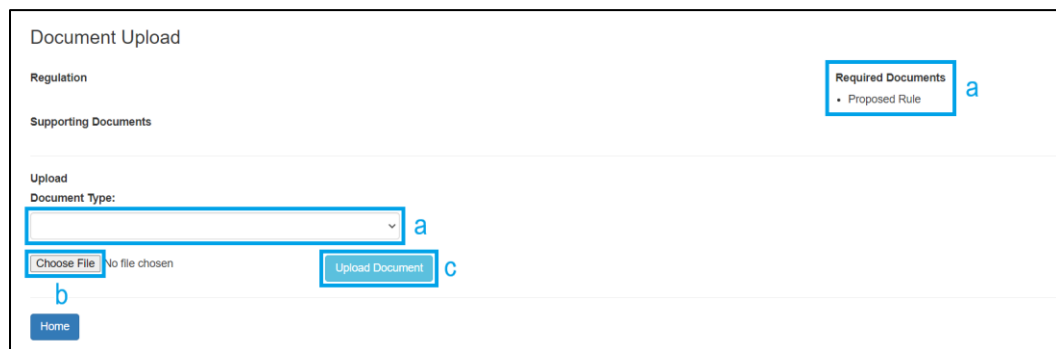
9. This Rulemaking Action requires documents to be uploaded. Click **Upload Documents**:



- a. If you click **Home** by accident, click the **Upload Documents** icon next to the Part in the **Work Queue** tab to go to the correct screen:



10. Upload documents:



- a. Select from the dropdown the **Document Type**:
- i. **Required**:
 - Proposed Rule*

AGENCY GUIDE: RULES COORDINATORS

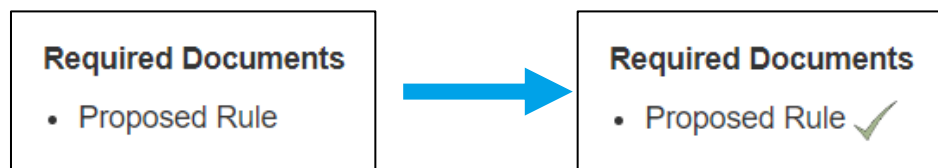
ii. **Optional:**

- Index of Studies/Reports
- Internal Organization Document
- Petition
- Additional Documentation
- Studies/Reports

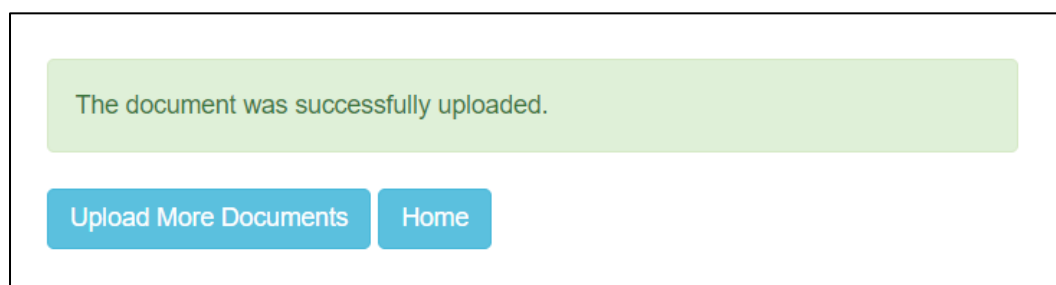
****There will be no option to upload a Final Rule.***

Upload the Final Rule with Track Changes still on as the Proposed Rule in the RICR Filing System. The ARO will accept all changes before the Final Rule goes into effect.

A list of required documents will display, and as documents are uploaded, a green check will be added next to each document:



- b. Click **Choose File** to select the document from your computer; and
- c. Click **Upload Document** to upload.
11. If additional documents need to be uploaded, click **Upload More Documents** and repeat steps 10-11 for each additional document (*you will not be able to advance the rule until all required documents are uploaded*), or click **Home** to continue to the next step:

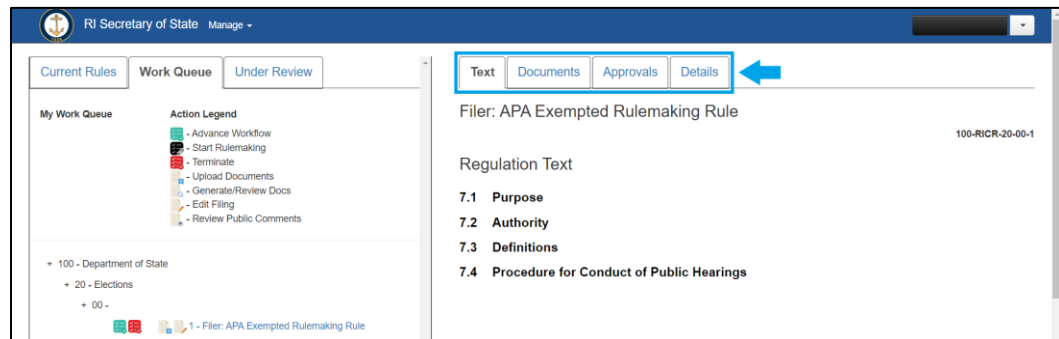


12. If for any reason the rule details need to be updated, click the **Edit Filing** icon to update the **Regulation Title, Rulemaking Authority, Summary of Proposed Rule, and Regulatory Analysis Summary and Supporting Documentation**, then click **Submit** once the details are updated:

Once the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking is generated and published, this information cannot be changed.



13. Click each tab on the right to ensure all information regarding the rule is correct (**Text**, **Documents**, **Approvals**, and **Details**):



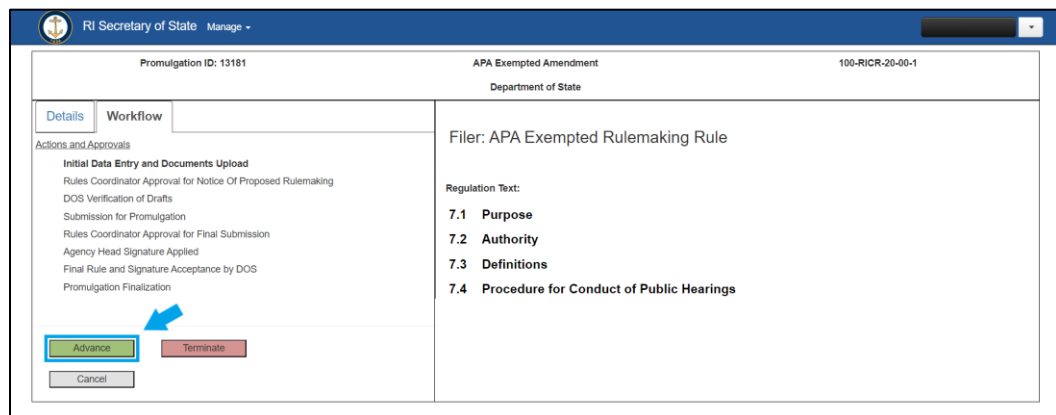
14. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click the **Terminate** icon to end the promulgation process and skip to step 16(b)(i):



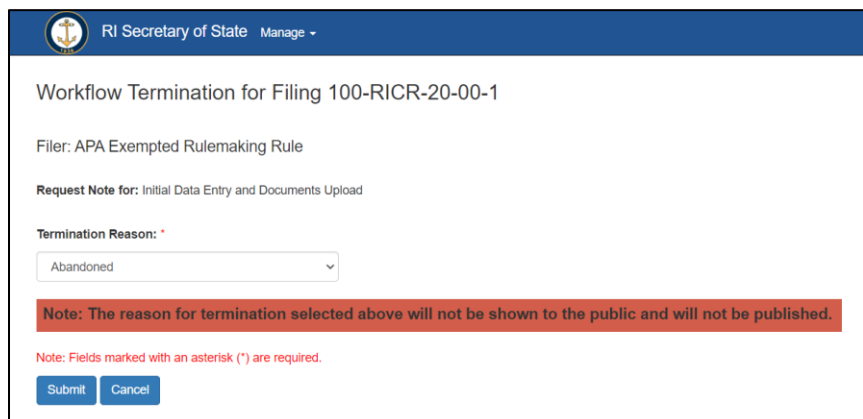
15. To continue, click the **Advance Workflow** icon:



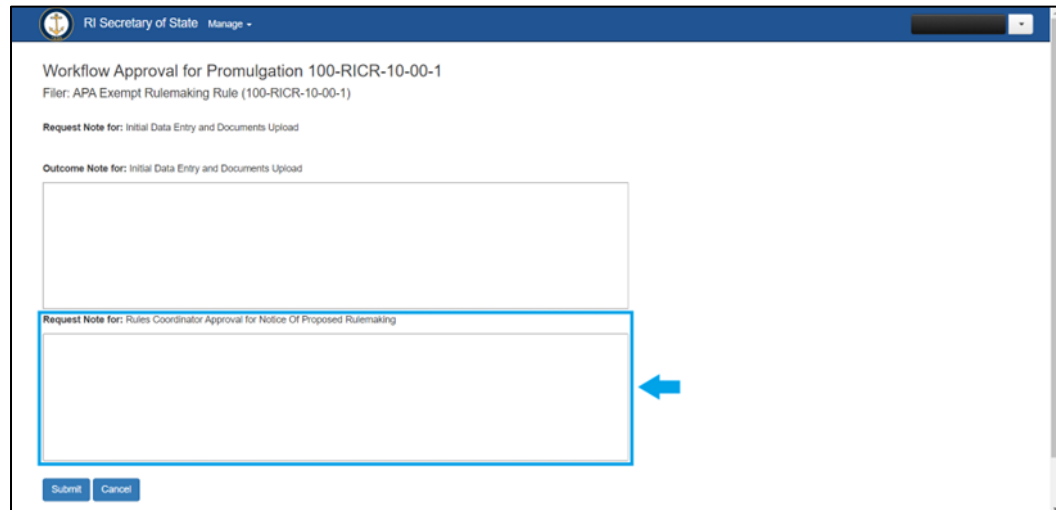
16. To advance the rule for the DOS Formatting Review, click **Advance**:



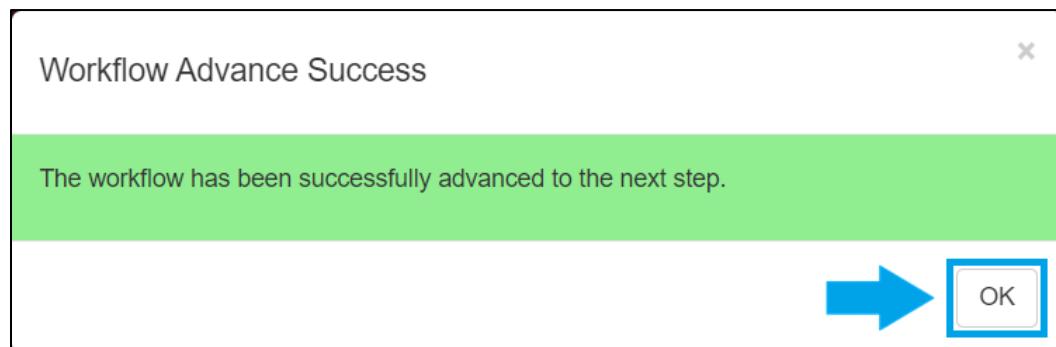
- a. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click **Cancel** to go back; or
- b. Click **Terminate** to end the promulgation process:
 - i. Select a **Termination Reason**, then click **Submit** to terminate, or click **Cancel** to continue the promulgation process:



17. Enter what the Effective Date should be set to (i.e., either a minimum 20-day waiting period or other date) in the **Request Note** and click **Submit**:



18. Upon submitting, click **OK** to return to the RICR System homepage:



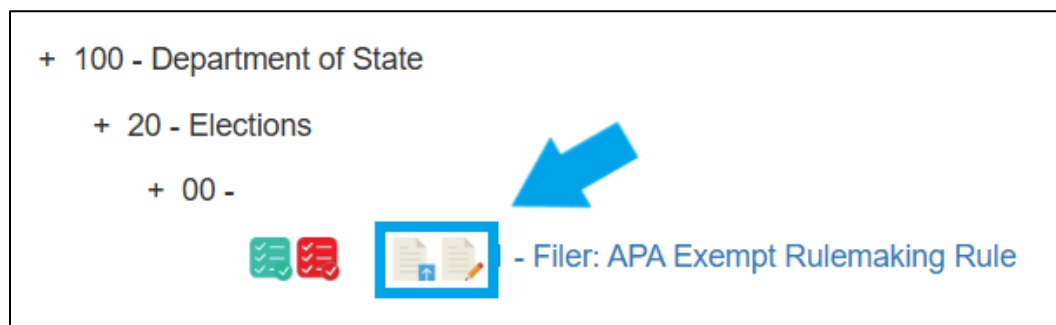
 **COMPLETED:** *Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload*



6.3.1.2.5.2 Rules Coordinator Approval for Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

The Rules Coordinator will receive an AWS Notification when it is time to advance if a Filer completed the Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload.

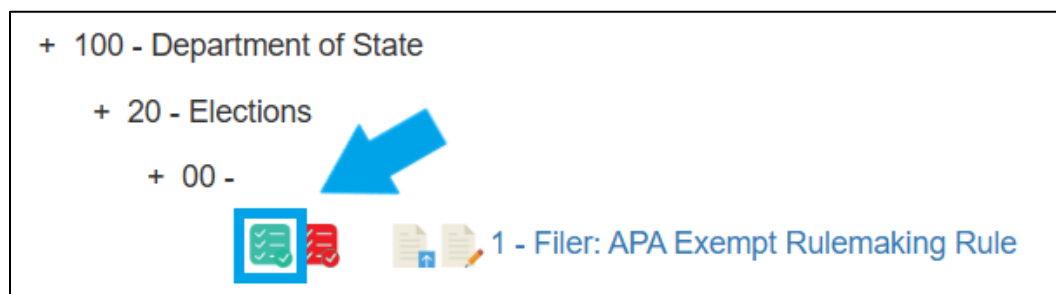
1. If for any reason at this stage it is determined the filing details needs updating or additional documents need to be uploaded, click on the **Edit Filing** icon (paper with pencil) or the **Upload Documents** icon (paper with blue arrow):



2. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click the **Terminate** icon to end the promulgation process and skip to step 4(b)(i):



3. To continue, click the **Advance Workflow** icon:



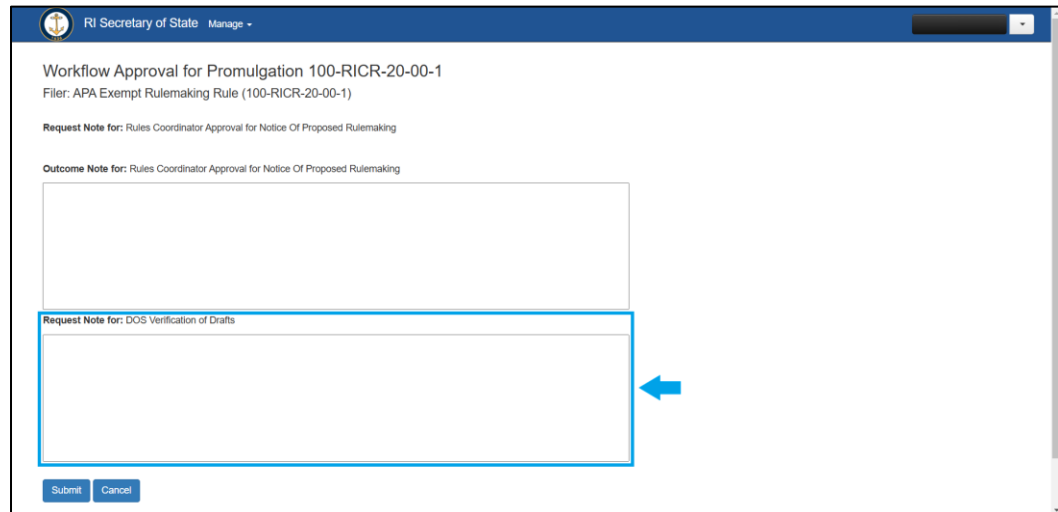
4. To advance the rule for the DOS Formatting Review, click **Advance**:

The screenshot shows the 'RI Secretary of State' workflow interface. At the top, it displays 'Promulgation ID: 13210', 'APA Exempted Amendment', and '100-RICR-20-00-1'. Below this, there are tabs for 'Details' and 'Workflow'. The 'Workflow' tab is active, showing a list of steps: 'Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload' (checked), 'Rules Coordinator Approval for Notice Of Proposed Rulemaking', 'DOS Verification of Drafts', 'Submission for Promulgation', 'Rules Coordinator Approval for Final Submission', 'Agency Head Signature Applied', 'Final Rule and Signature Acceptance by DOS', and 'Promulgation Finalization'. At the bottom of the workflow list, there are three buttons: 'Advance' (highlighted with a blue arrow), 'Terminate', and 'Cancel'. To the right of the workflow list, there is a section for 'Regulation Text' with the following content: 'Filer: APA Exempt Rulemaking Rule', 'Regulation Text:', '7.1 Purpose', '7.2 Authority', '7.3 Definitions', and '7.4 Procedure for Conduct of Public Hearings'.

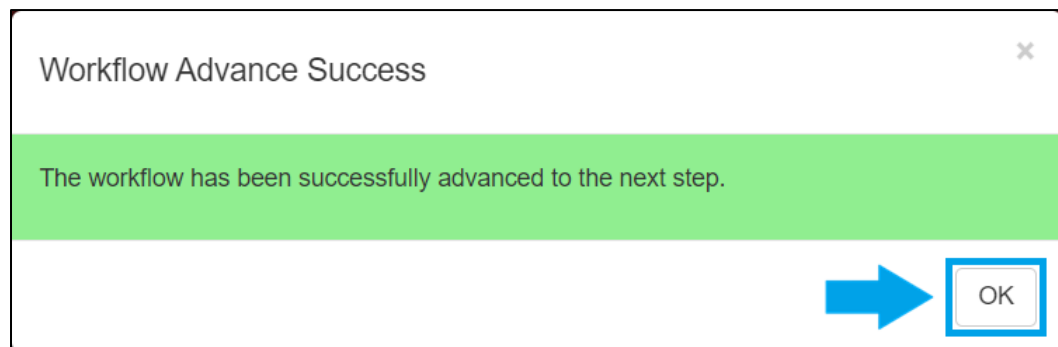
- a. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click **Cancel** to go back; or
- b. Click **Terminate** to end the promulgation process:
 - i. Select a **Termination Reason**, then click **Submit** to terminate, or click **Cancel** to continue the promulgation process:

The screenshot shows the 'Workflow Termination for Filing 100-RICR-20-00-1' form. At the top, it displays 'RI Secretary of State' and 'Manage'. Below this, the form title is 'Workflow Termination for Filing 100-RICR-20-00-1'. The form contains the following fields and text: 'Filer: APA Exempted Rulemaking Rule', 'Request Note for: Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload', and 'Termination Reason: *' with a dropdown menu showing 'Abandoned'. Below the dropdown, there is a red box containing the text: 'Note: The reason for termination selected above will not be shown to the public and will not be published.' At the bottom of the form, there is a note: 'Note: Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required.' and two buttons: 'Submit' and 'Cancel'.

5. If you would like to add a note for the DOS, enter text in the **Request Note** and/or click **Submit**:



6. Upon submitting, click **OK** to return to the RICR System homepage:



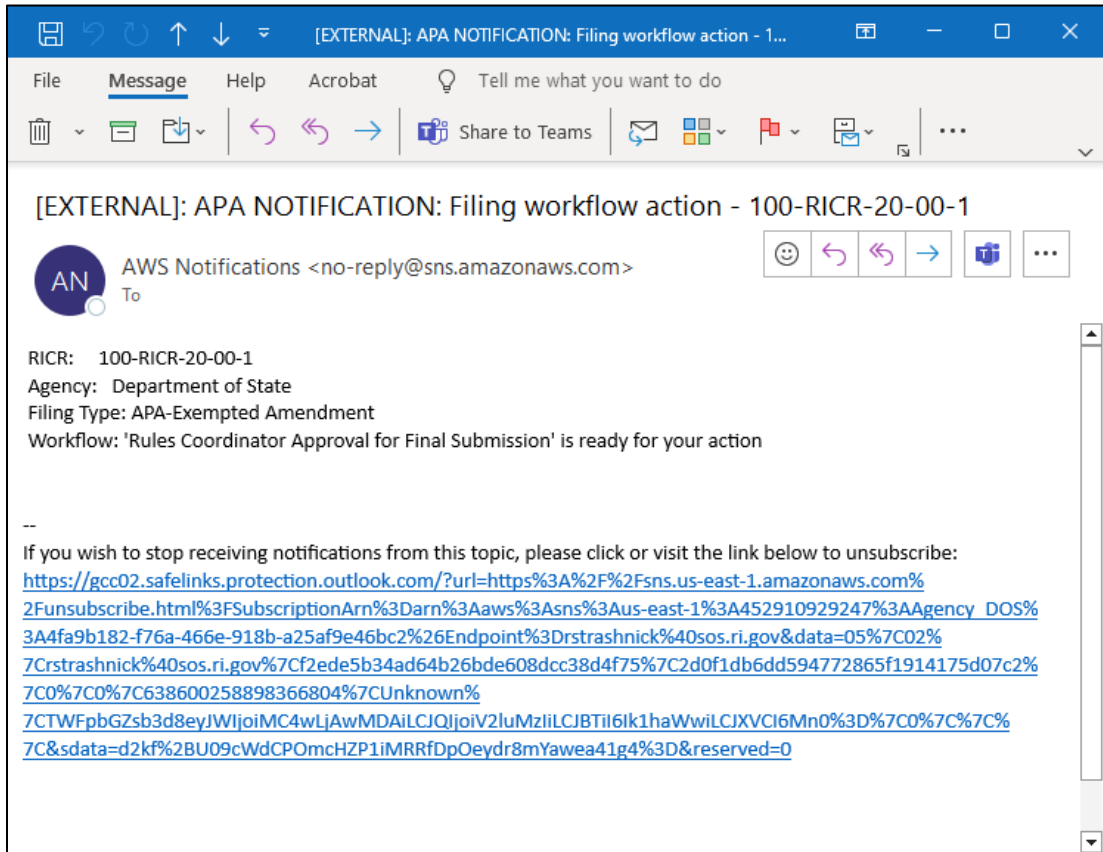
 **COMPLETED:** *Rules Coordinator Approval for Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*



6.3.1.2.5.3 DOS Verification of Drafts

This step will be completed by the Administrative Records Office.

Once the DOS formatting review has been completed, the Rules Coordinator will receive an AWS Notification email to indicate the next step should be taken:





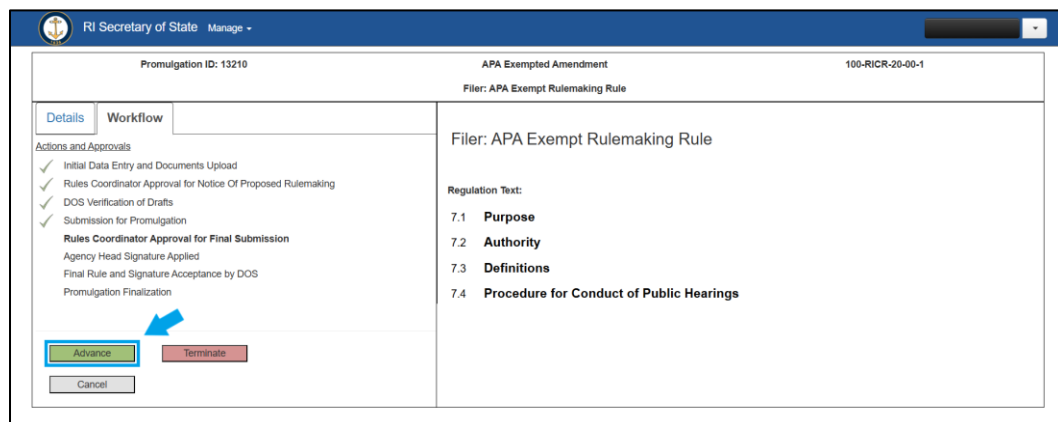
6.3.1.2.5.4 Rules Coordinator Approval for Final Submission

The Rules Coordinator will receive an AWS Notification when it is time to advance once the Administrative Records Office has completed their formatting review.

1. To advance the rule for final signatures or to terminate the rule, click the **Advance Workflow** icon:



2. To advance the rule for the DOS Formatting Review, click **Advance**:



- a. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click **Cancel** to go back; or
- b. Click **Terminate** to end the promulgation process:

- i. Select a **Termination Reason**, then click **Submit** to terminate, or click **Cancel** to continue the promulgation process:

RI Secretary of State Manage

Workflow Termination for Filing 100-RICR-20-00-1

Filer: APA Exempted Rulemaking Rule

Request Note for: Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

Termination Reason: *

Abandoned

Note: The reason for termination selected above will not be shown to the public and will not be published.

Note: Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required.

Submit Cancel

- 3. If you would like to add a note for the DOS, enter text in the **Request Note** and/or click **Submit**:

RI Secretary of State Manage

Workflow Approval for Promulgation 100-RICR-20-00-1

Filer: APA Exempt Rulemaking Rule (100-RICR-20-00-1)

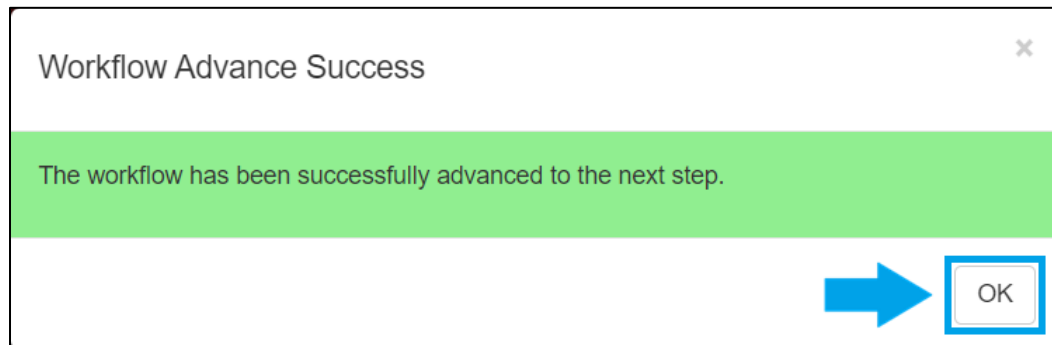
Request Note for: Rules Coordinator Approval for Notice Of Proposed Rulemaking

Outcome Note for: Rules Coordinator Approval for Notice Of Proposed Rulemaking

Request Note for: DOS Verification of Drafts

Submit Cancel

4. Upon submitting, click **OK** to return to the RICR System homepage:



 **COMPLETED: *Rules Coordinator Approval for Final Submission***

 **6.3.1.2.5.5 Agency Head Signature Applied**

This step will be completed by the Agency Head.

Once the Rules Coordinator advances the rule, the Agency Head will receive an automated email from OneSpan, the esignature provider, to sign the rule.

 **6.3.1.2.5.6 Final Rule and Signature Acceptance by DOS**

This step will be completed by the Administrative Records Office.

Once the Agency Head signs the rule, the Department of State will sign the rule and set the rule's Effective Date.

 **6.3.1.2.5.7 Promulgation Finalization**

This step will be completed automatically by the RICR System.

The RICR System will automatically display the Final Regulation in the RICR the day it becomes effective.

It is the Rules Coordinator's responsibility to download the signed

Regulation for the agency's files to be permanently retained per [GRS2.5 Rulemaking Files](#).

Final Regulations can be downloaded by opening the active Part in the [RICR](#), clicking the **Regulation** tab, and clicking **Download Regulation**:



6.3.1.3 Repeals

6.3.1.3.1 Proposed Regular Rulemaking

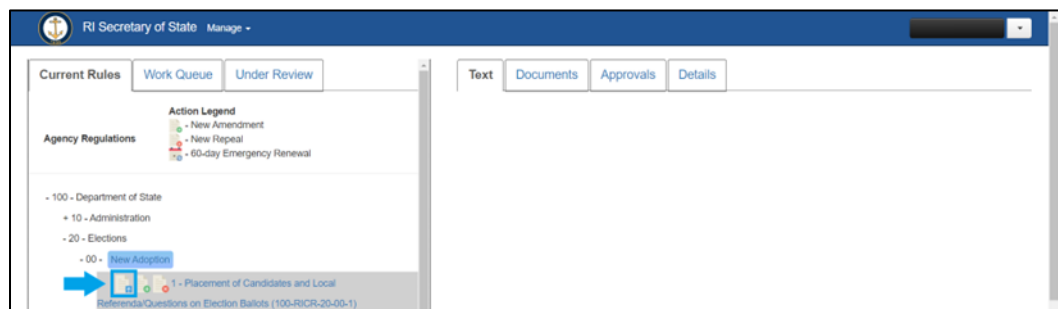
For information regarding this Rulemaking Action, see [§ 3.3.1 of this Guide](#).

Actions to be Completed	User to Complete
Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload	Rules Coordinator
DOS Verification of Drafts	Department of State
Generation of the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking	Rules Coordinator
Submission for Promulgation	RICR Filing System
Public Comment Period Begin	RICR Filing System
Post Public Comment Period Data update and Document Upload	Rules Coordinator
DOS Final Regulation Approval	Department of State
Agency Head Signature Applied	Agency Head
Final Rule and Signature Acceptance by DOS	Department of State
Promulgation Finalization	RICR Filing System

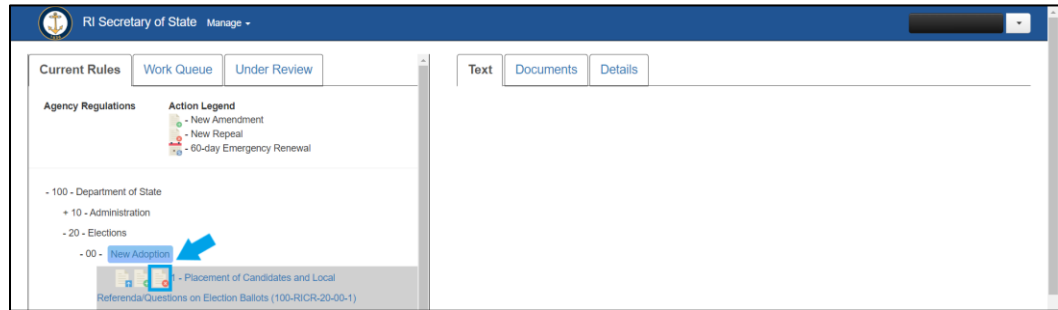


6.3.1.3.1.1 Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

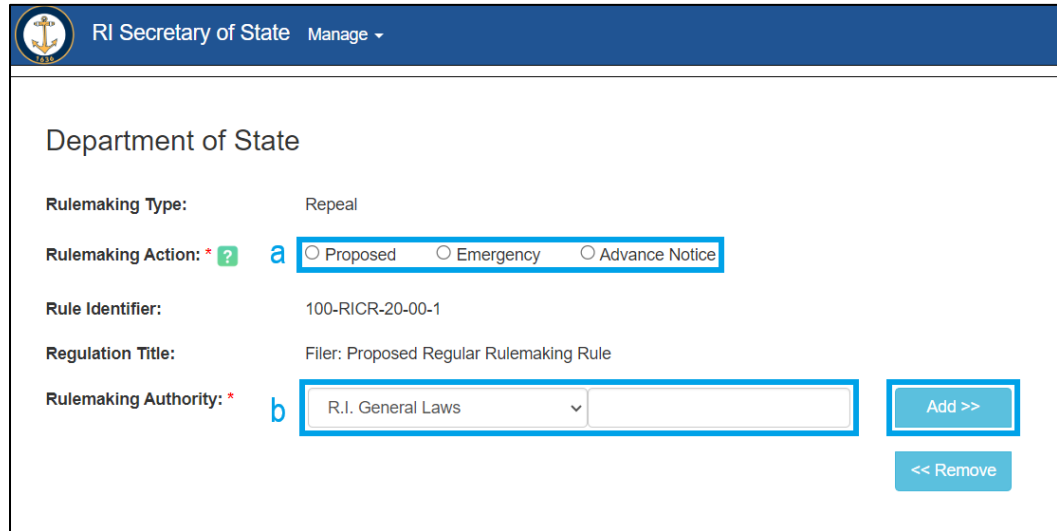
1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. In the **Current Rules** tab, click the **Title**, **Chapter**, **Subchapter**, and **Part** to open each level, then click the **Download Document** icon to draft the repeal (see [§ 5.1.2.3 of this guide](#) for additional information):



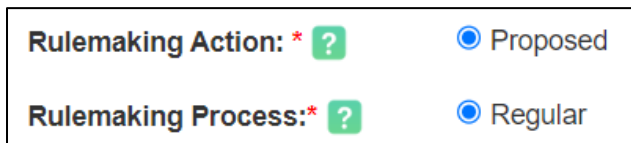
3. Once the Proposed Rule draft is ready, in the **Current Rules** tab, click the **Title, Chapter, Subchapter, and Part** to open each level, then click the **New Repeal** icon promulgate a repeal:



4. Confirm the **Rulemaking Filing Details**:

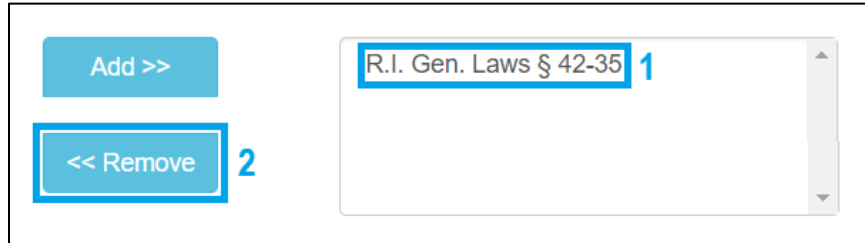


- a. Confirm **Proposed**, then **Regular**, for the **Rulemaking Action** and **Rulemaking Process**; and

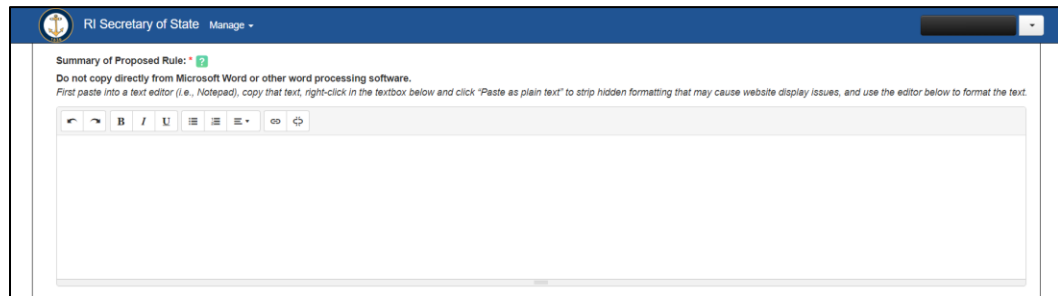


- b. Confirm the appropriate authority from the dropdown, enter the **Rulemaking Authority** citation, and click **Add**.

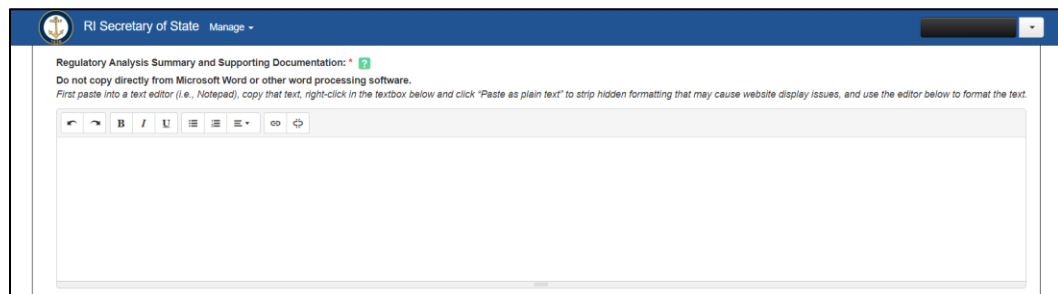
- i. To remove a **Rulemaking Authority**, click to select the citation to remove from the list and click **Remove**:



- 5. Enter the **Summary of Proposed Rule** in plain language of terms or substance of intended action, or description of the subjects and issues involved, including changes between current and proposed regulations:
 - a. If copying text from another document, follow the directions on screen to strip all erroneous formatting.



- 6. Enter the **Regulatory Analysis Summary and Supporting Documentation** to provide a brief paragraph of the societal cost and benefits of compliance as prepared under [R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.9](#), including any citations to scientific or statistical studies, reports, and analyses that served as a basis for the proposed rule:
 - a. If copying text from another document, follow the directions on screen to strip all erroneous formatting.



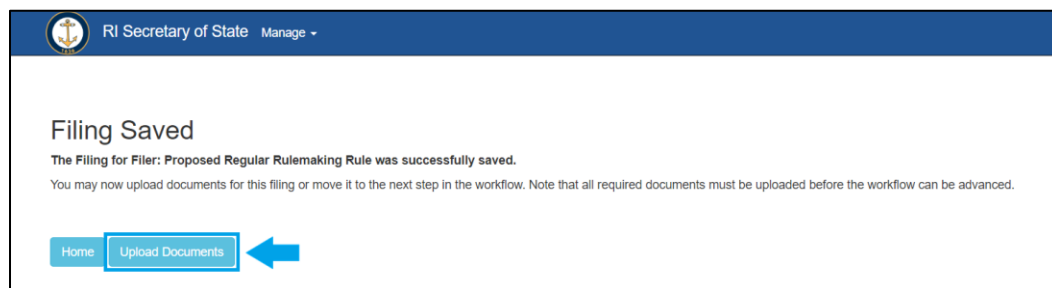
7. Confirm the **Additional Information URL** to indicate the location on your website where the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking is published as required by [R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.7](#):



Additional Information URL: * ?

https:// www.example.com

8. Review to ensure all entered text is correct and click **Submit**.
 - a. At any point during the above process, if you don't wish to move forward, click **Cancel**.
9. This Rulemaking Action requires documents to be uploaded. Click **Upload Documents**:



- a. If you click **Home** by accident, click the **Upload Documents** icon next to the Part in the **Work Queue** tab to go to the correct screen:



10. Upload documents:

Document Upload

Regulation

Supporting Documents

Upload

Document Type:

Choose File No file chosen Upload Document

Home

Required Documents

- Proposed Rule

a. Select from the dropdown the **Document Type**:

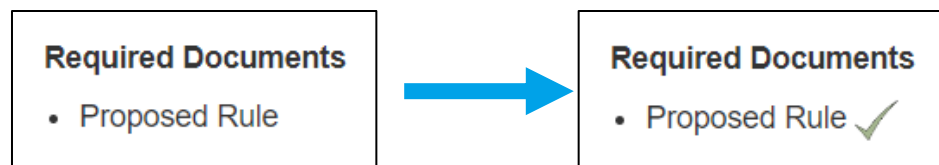
i. **Required:**

- Proposed Rule

ii. **Optional:**

- Index of Studies/Reports
- Additional Documentation
- Internal Organization Document
- Studies/Reports
- Petition

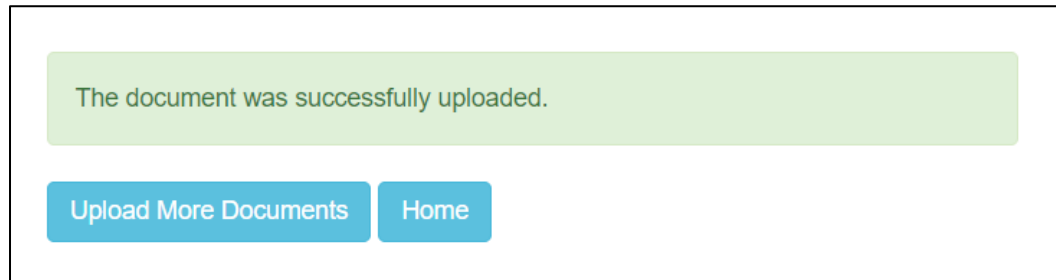
A list of required documents will display, and as documents are uploaded, a green check will be added next to each document:



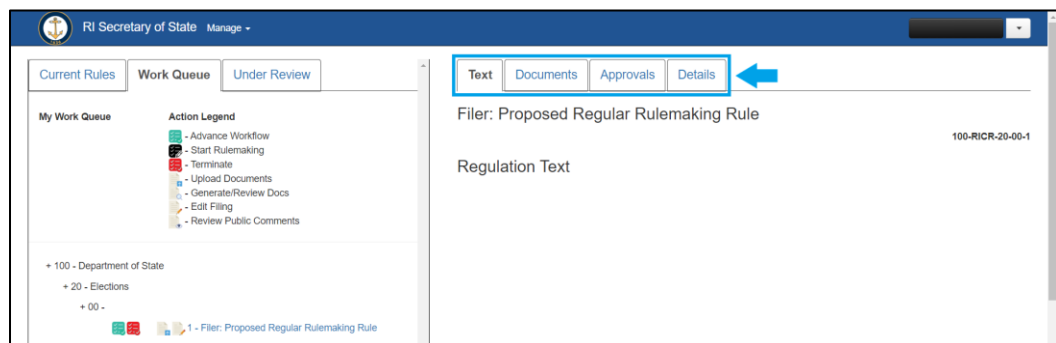
b. Click **Choose File** to select the document from your computer; and

c. Click **Upload Document** to upload.

11. If additional documents need to be uploaded, click **Upload More Documents** and repeat steps 10-11 for each additional document (*you will not be able to advance the rule until all required documents are uploaded*), or click **Home** to continue to the next step:



12. Click each tab on the right to ensure all information regarding the rule is correct (**Text**, **Documents**, **Approvals**, and **Details**):



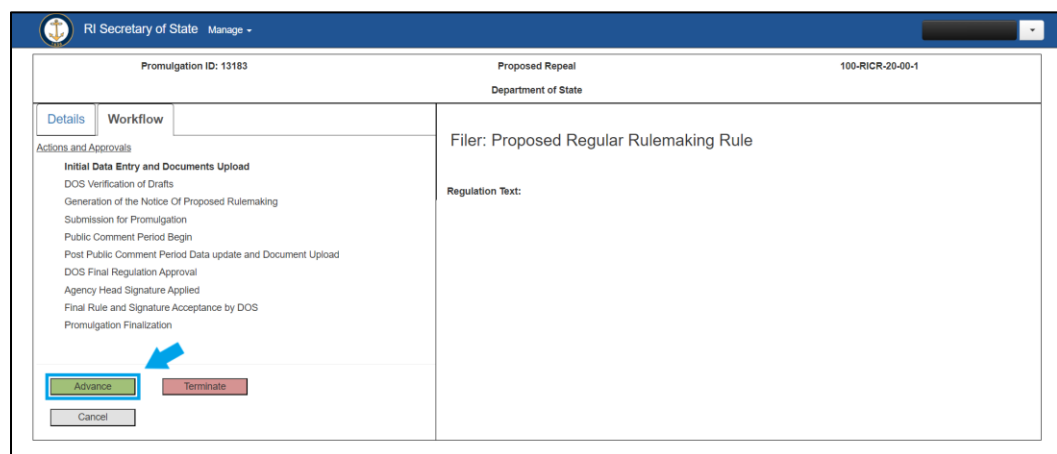
13. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click the **Terminate** icon to end the promulgation process and skip to step 15(b)(i):



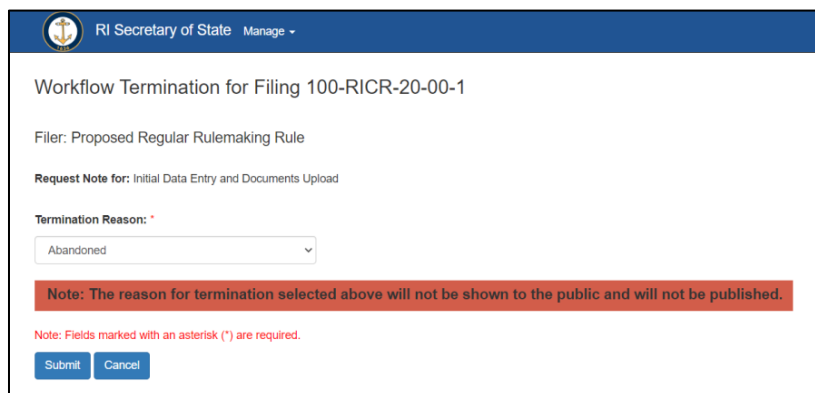
14. To continue, click the **Advance Workflow** icon:



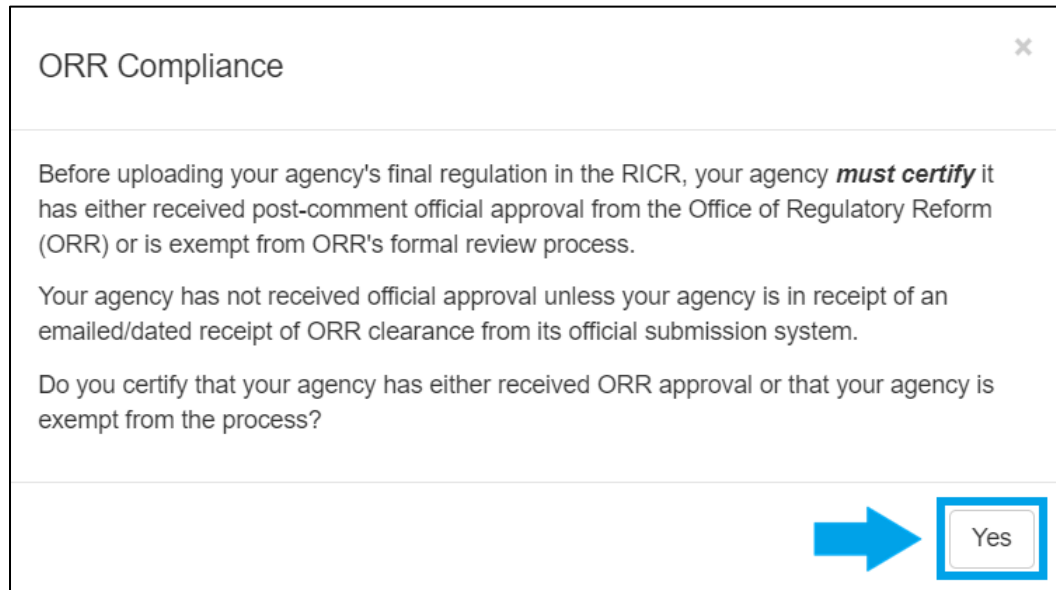
15. To advance the rule for the DOS Formatting Review, click **Advance**:



- a. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click **Cancel** to go back; or
- b. Click **Terminate** to end the promulgation process:
 - i. Select a **Termination Reason**, then click **Submit** to terminate, or click **Cancel** to continue the promulgation process:



16. Certify that your agency has either received official approval from OMB or is exempt from OMB’s review process by clicking **Yes**:




ORR Compliance

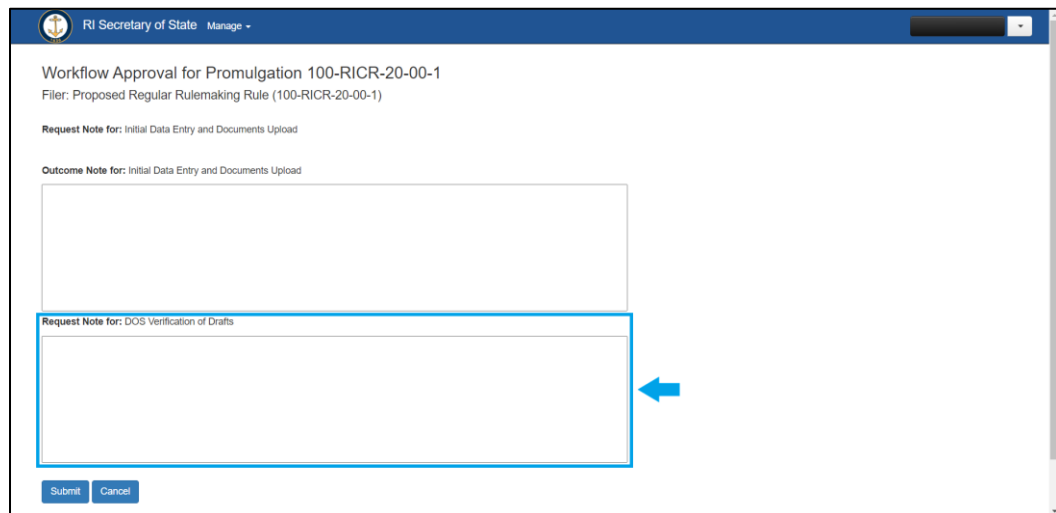
Before uploading your agency's final regulation in the RICR, your agency **must certify** it has either received post-comment official approval from the Office of Regulatory Reform (ORR) or is exempt from ORR's formal review process.

Your agency has not received official approval unless your agency is in receipt of an emailed/dated receipt of ORR clearance from its official submission system.

Do you certify that your agency has either received ORR approval or that your agency is exempt from the process?



- a. **If your agency has not received official approval from OMB and is not exempt**, click the DOS logo in the top-left corner to return to the home page. **Do not proceed in the RICR System** until you have official approval. Once your agency receives approval, go back to step 14 to proceed.
17. If you would like to add a note for the DOS, enter text in the **Request Note** and/or click **Submit**:



RI Secretary of State Manage

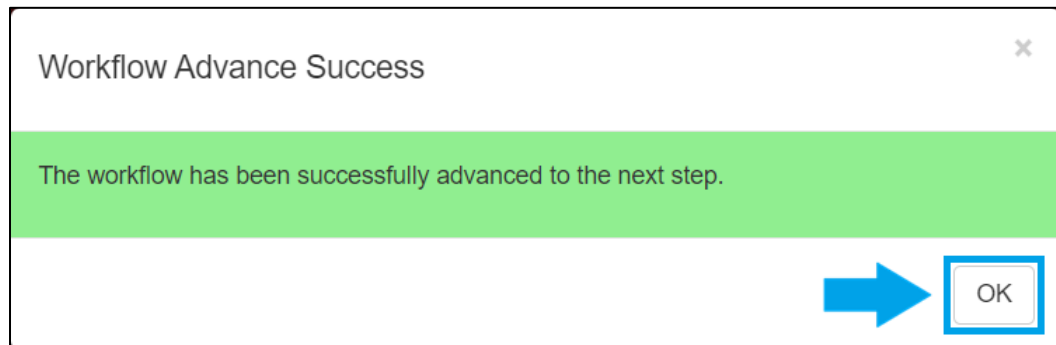
Workflow Approval for Promulgation 100-RICR-20-00-1
Filer: Proposed Regular Rulemaking Rule (100-RICR-20-00-1)

Request Note for: Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

Outcome Note for: Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

Request Note for: DOS Verification of Drafts

18. Upon submitting, click **OK** to return to the RICR System homepage:

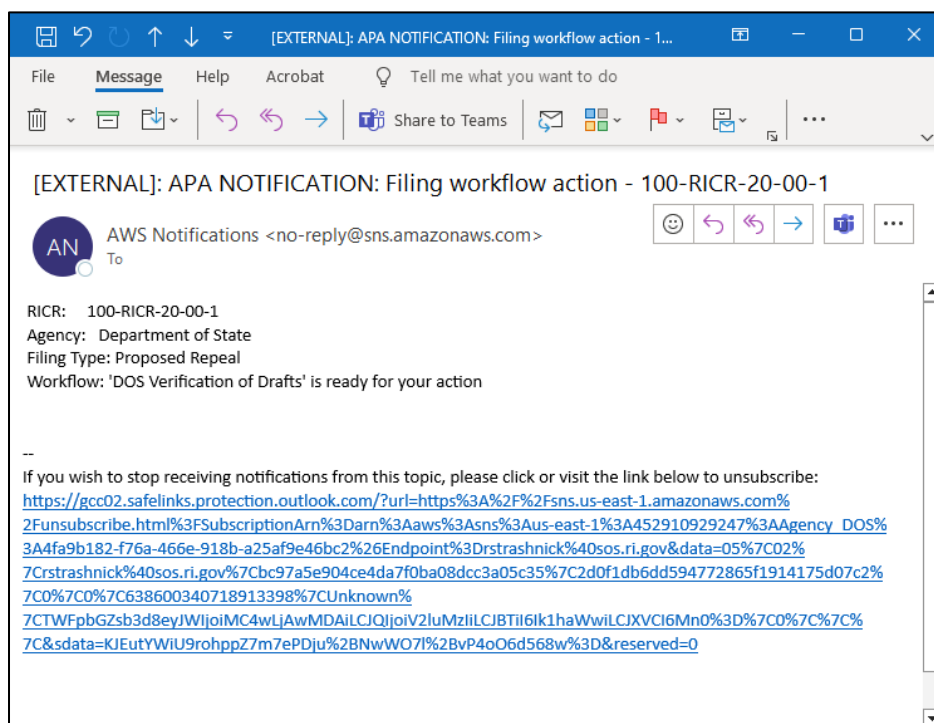


 **COMPLETED:** *Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload*

6.3.1.3.1.2 DOS Verification of Drafts

This step will be completed by the Administrative Records Office.

Once the DOS formatting review has been completed, the Rules Coordinator will receive an AWS Notification email to indicate the next step should be taken:





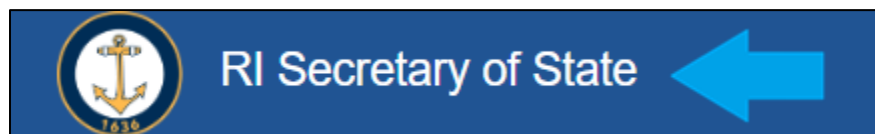
6.3.1.3.1.3 Generation of the Notice Of Proposed Rulemaking

1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. If for any reason the rule details need to be updated, click the **Edit Filing** icon to update the **Regulation Title, Rulemaking Authority, Summary of Proposed Rule,** and **Regulatory Analysis Summary and Supporting Documentation,** then click **Submit** once the details are updated:

Once the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking is generated and published, this information cannot be changed.



- a. Once completed, click the Department of State logo to navigate back to the homepage:



3. In the **Work Queue** tab, click on the **Title, Chapter,** and **Subchapter** to open each level, then click the **Generate/Review Docs** icon:



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- Click **Add >>** under **Public Comment Period List**, and click **Edit** and **<< Remove** as necessary to adjust the Public Comment Period:

Generate Public Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

Add a Public Comment Period

Public Comment Period List:

Add >>

<< Remove

Edit

- Fill out the form to add a Public Comment Period - all fields are required:

Public Comment Period ✕

Date of Public Notice: 08/13/2024

Date of End of Comment Period: * ?

Full Name of Contact Person: *

Contact Person Email: *

Contact Person Address: *

, RI

Allow online public comments? *

Yes No

OK **Cancel**

AGENCY GUIDE: RULES COORDINATORS

- a. The **Date of End of Comment Period** will automatically show the minimum first eligible date to be chosen, but you may choose a future date if needed.
 - b. Agencies may use the RICR Filing System to accept public comments by selecting **Yes** to **Allow online public comments?**. Agencies may opt out by selecting **No**.
 - i. If **Yes** is selected, you have the option to specify dates for when your agency wants to allow online public comments within the Public Comment Period.
6. If there will be a hearing, click on the Public Comment Period, then click **Add >>** under **Add a Public Hearing**:

Generate Public Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

Add a Public Comment Period

Public Comment Period List:

Add >> 08/23/2024 - 08/23/2024 **Edit**

<< Remove

Add a Public Hearing: ?

Add >> **<< Remove** **Edit**

7. Fill out the form to add a Public Hearing - all fields are required:

Public Hearing ✕

Hearing date/time: *


Time:

Hearing Location: *

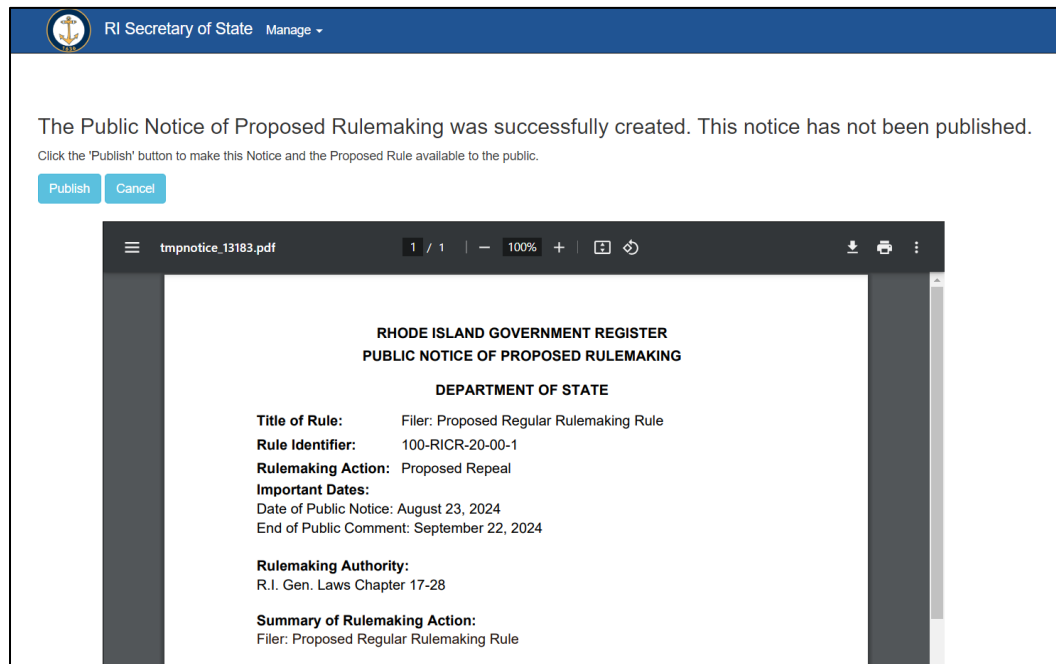
State: Rhode Island

Phone Number for Special Assistance: *

8. Click **Generate Notice** (this will not publish the rule, only preview the notice):



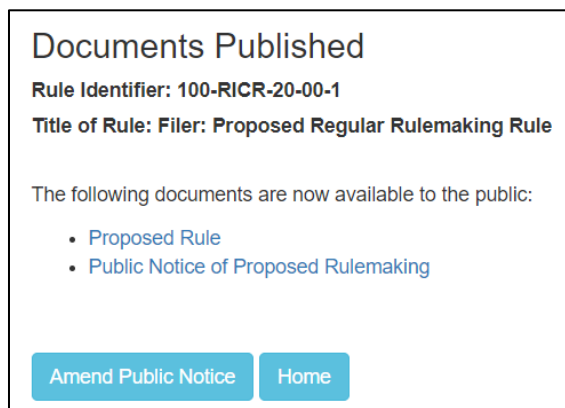
9. Review the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking:



- a. If any information within the notice is incorrect, click **Cancel** to go back and edit to update the information and complete steps as necessary.
- b. Once information is confirmed to be correct, click **Publish** to approve the notice and publish the rule in the RICR.

10. Click **Home** to return to the RICR home page:

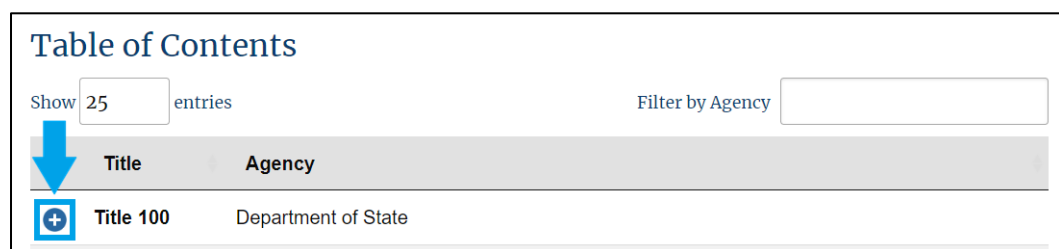
- a. If after the notice is published there needs to be any changes made, click **Amend Public Notice** to create and publish an additional notice with corrections.



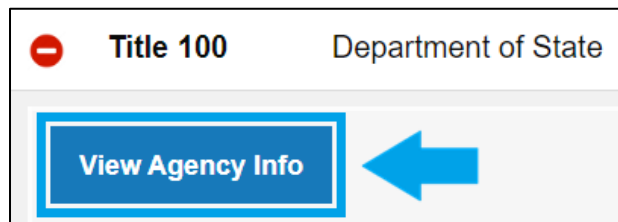
 **COMPLETED:** *Generation of the Notice Of Proposed Rulemaking*

At this time, the Proposed Rule is now live in the RICR and may be viewed by completing the following:

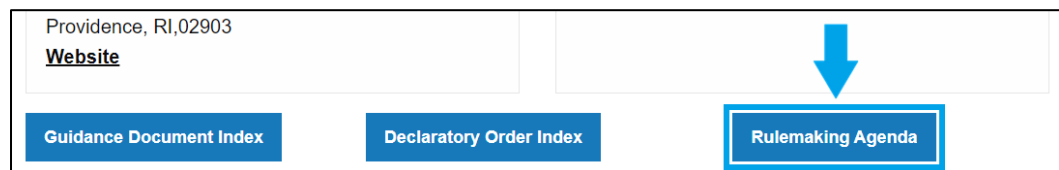
1. Go to <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/organizations>.
2. Locate the associated Title within the Table of Contents.
3. Click the plus sign (+) next to the Title:



4. Click **Agency Info:**



5. Click **Rulemaking Agenda:**



6. Locate the correct Proposed Rule and click the rule name to view:

Department of State Rulemaking Agenda

Proposed Rules for Department of State

Displaying 1 - 1 of 1

Filer: Proposed Regular Rulemaking Rule ←

100 -RICR - 20 - 00 - 1 | Type of filing: Repeal

PROPOSED RULE

Title: **Department of State** | Chapter: **Elections** | Subchapter: **N/A**

Public Comment Term(s): 08/23/2024 to 09/22/2024 | Notice Date: 08/23/2024

[View Details](#) | [View Proposed](#) | [Additional Information](#)

7. Click through the navigation tabs to view the **Overview**, **Regulation**, **History**, **Rulemaking Documents**, and **Comments**:

Filer: Proposed Regular Rulemaking Rule

100-RICR-20-00-1 **PROPOSED RULE**

[Overview](#) | [Regulation](#) | [History](#) | [Rulemaking Documents](#) | [Comments](#) ←

[Download Regulation](#)

100-RICR-20-00-1

TITLE 100—DEPARTMENT OF STATE

CHAPTER 20—ADMINISTRATION

SUBCHAPTER 00—N/A

PART 1—CONDUCT OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

7.1—Purpose

[Home](#)

[RICR FAQs](#)

Search Regulations ⓘ

Keywords
ex. fish, 120 - RICR - 00 - 00 - 12345

Exact Match

Agencies
Select an agency

Sort by
Relevance

In Order of
Descending

[Search](#)

8. The **Overview** tab displays the rule details:

Filer: Proposed Regular Rulemaking Rule

100-RICR-20-00-1 **PROPOSED RULE**

Overview Regulation History Rulemaking Documents Comments

[Notify Me](#)

Title	100	Department of State
Chapter	20	Elections
Subchapter	00	N/A
Part	1	Filer: Proposed Direct Final Rulemaking Rule

Type of Filing	Repeal
Regulation Status	Proposed View Active Rule
Filing Notice Date	08/23/2024
Public Comment Dates	08/23/2024 to 09/22/2024

Regulation Authority:
R.I. Gen. Laws Chapter 17-28

Purpose and Reason:
Filer: Proposed Regular Rulemaking Rule



6.3.1.3.1.4 Submission for Promulgation and Public Comment Period Begin

These steps will be completed automatically by the RICR System.

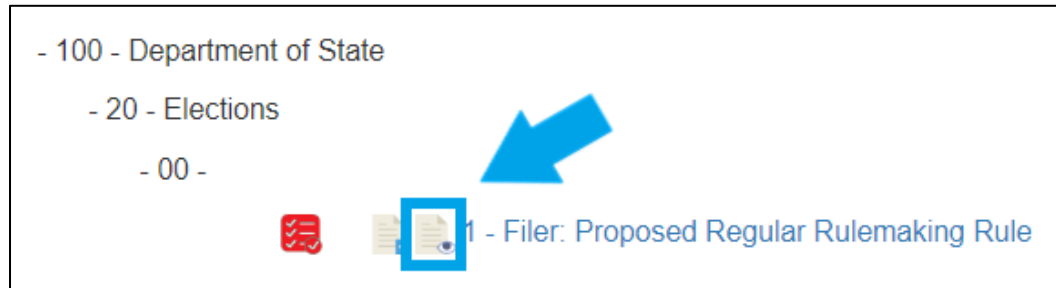
Once the Public Comment Period ends, the RICR System will automatically advance the rule to the next step.

If online public comments were allowed, you may review comments as they are submitted, or at the end of the Public Comment Period. See step 2 in the following section ([§ 6.3.1.3.1.5 of this Guide](#)) for how to review comments and generate a public comment document compiling all submitted rules.

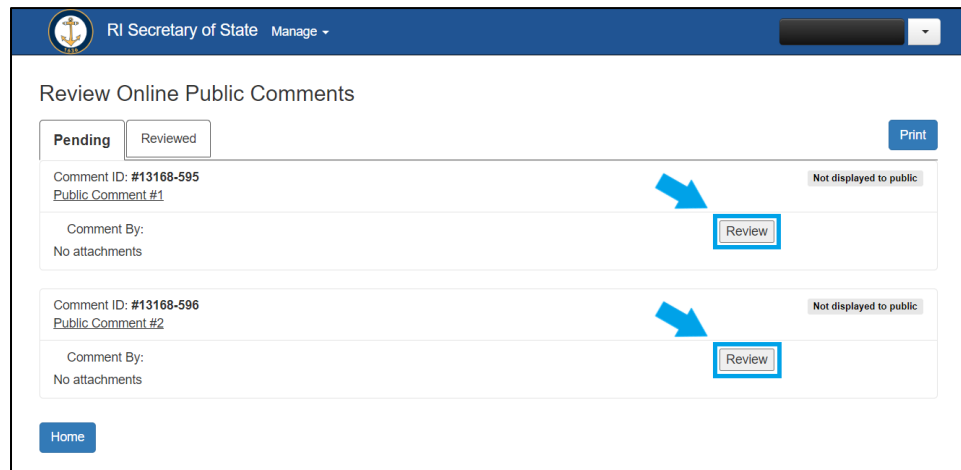


6.3.1.3.1.5 Post Public Comment Period Data update and Document Upload

1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. If online public comments were allowed, click the **Review Comments** icon, otherwise skip to step 3:



- a. Review every rule listed under the **Pending** tab by clicking **Review** for each comment submitted:



- i. Select to display the comment in the RICR or not, add any internal and public notes, and click **OK** to approve:

Online Public Comment Review

Comment By: **First Last**
On: **08/13/2024**
Comment: **Public Comment #1**
Comment display to public is **disabled** and not yet reviewed

Enable public comment display? Yes No

Internal Review Notes

Public Review Notes

Display these Public Review Notes to the public: ?

OK Cancel

- b. Click the **Reviewed** tab to view who reviewed the comment, when it was approved, and review again if necessary:

RI Secretary of State Manage -

Review Online Public Comments

Pending **Reviewed** Print

Comment ID: #13168-595
Public Comment #1

Comment By:
No attachments
Reviews:

Reviewed By:
On:

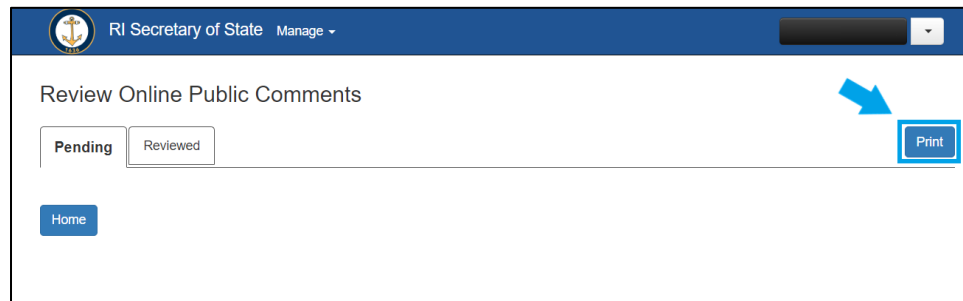
Comment ID: #13168-596
Public Comment #2

Comment By:
No attachments
Reviews:

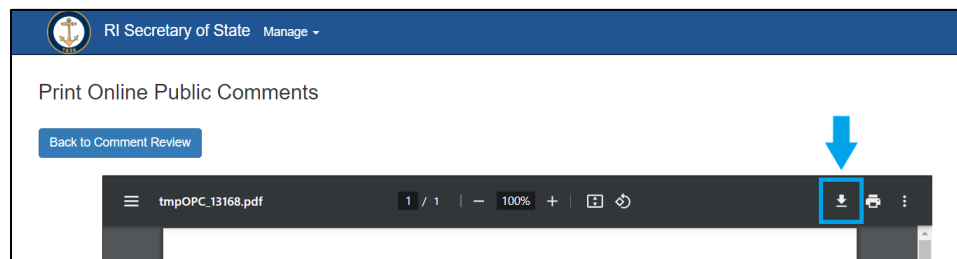
Reviewed By:
On:

Home

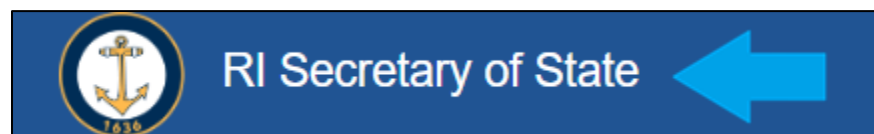
- c. Click **Print** to generate a public comment document:



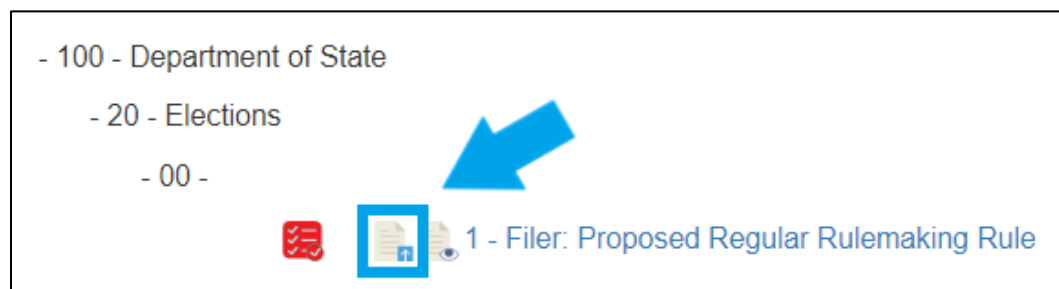
- d. Click the down arrow at the top-right of the PDF viewer to download the document so that it can be used to upload as the part of the final rulemaking documents in step 4:



- e. To navigate back to the homepage, click the Department of State logo:



3. In the **Work Queue** tab, click on the **Title**, **Chapter**, and **Subchapter** to open each level, then click the **Upload Documents** icon:



4. Upload documents:

Document Upload

Regulation

100-RICR-10-00-7_2024-06-01_ADT_Proposed.pdf	Public	08/13/2024
100-RICR-10-00-7_2024-06-01_ADT_Proposed.docx	Draft	06/18/2024

Supporting Documents

Public Notice of Proposed Rulemaking:

Public Notice of Proposed Rulemaking.pdf	Public	08/13/2024
Public Notice of Proposed Rulemaking.pdf	Draft	08/13/2024

Upload

Document Type:

Choose File No file chosen Upload Document

Home

Required Documents

- Concise Explanatory Statement
- Final Rule
- Public Comment

a. Select from the dropdown the **Document Type**:

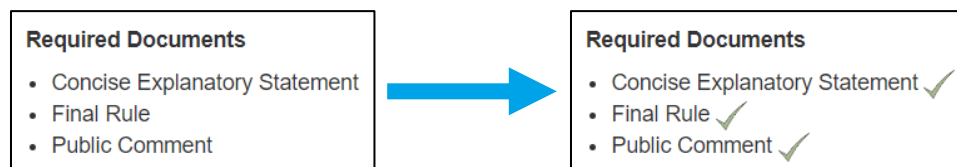
i. **Required:**

- Concise Explanatory Statement
- Final Rule
- Public Comment (*may upload multiple, if necessary*)

ii. **Optional:**

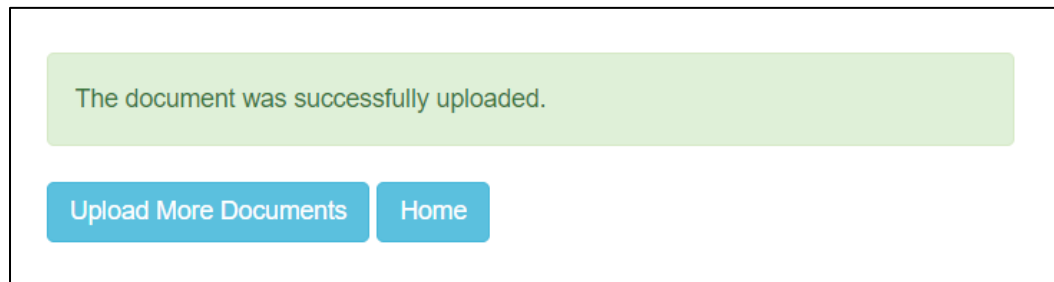
- Index of Studies/Reports
- Internal Organization Document
- Petition
- Public Hearing Documents
- Additional Documentation
- State Register publication
- Studies/Reports

A list of required documents will display, and as documents are uploaded, a green check will be added next to each document:

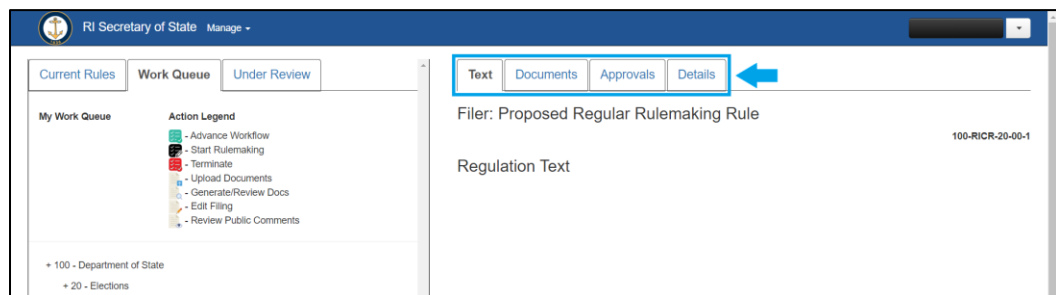


b. Click **Choose File** to select the document from your computer; and

- c. Click **Upload Document** to upload.
5. If additional documents need to be uploaded, click **Upload More Documents** and repeat steps 4-5 for each additional document (*you will not be able to advance the rule until all required documents are uploaded*), or click **Home** to continue to the next step:



6. Click each tab on the right to ensure rule information and all rulemaking documents are correct (**Text**, **Documents**, **Approvals**, and **Details**):



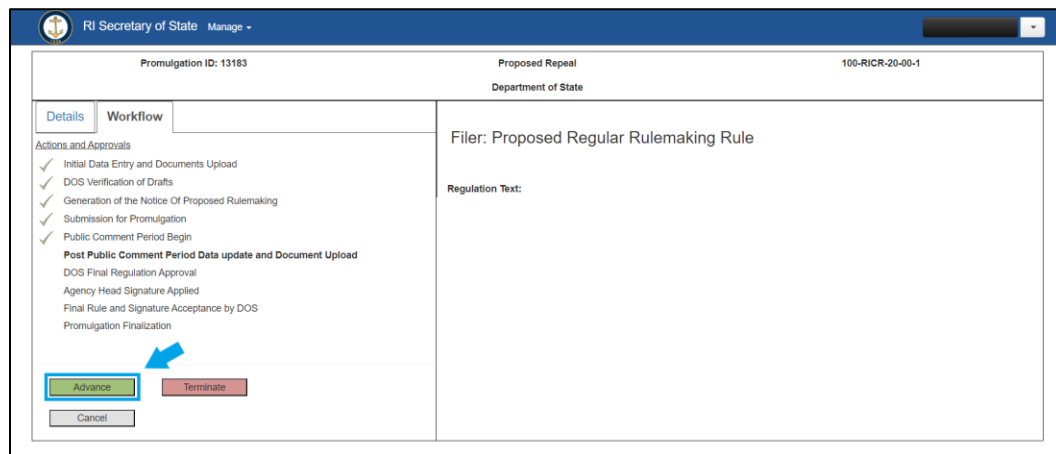
7. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click the **Terminate** icon to end the promulgation process and skip to step 9(b)(i):



8. To continue, click the **Advance Workflow** icon:

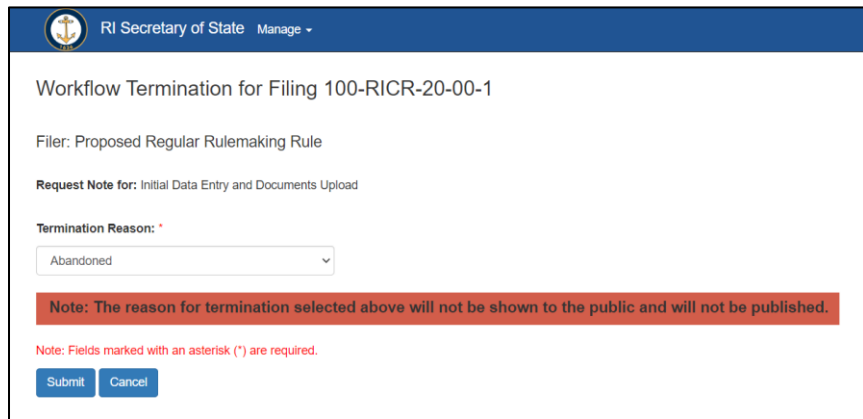


9. To advance the rule for the DOS Formatting Review, click **Advance**:



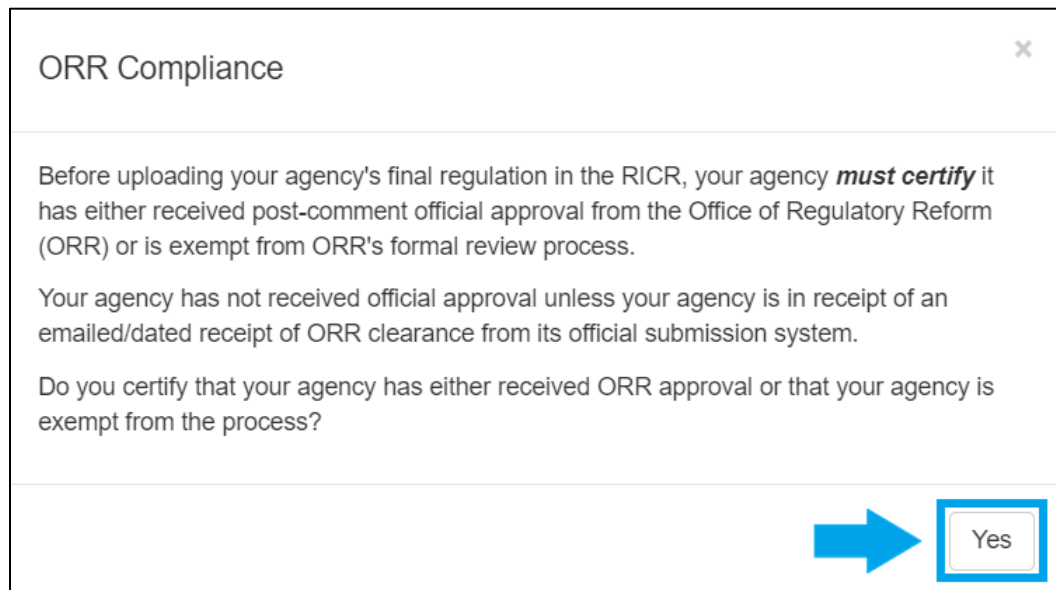
- a. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click **Cancel** to go back; or
- b. Click **Terminate** to end the promulgation process:

- i. Select a **Termination Reason**, then click **Submit** to terminate, or click **Cancel** to continue the promulgation process:



The screenshot shows a web interface for terminating a workflow. At the top, it says "RI Secretary of State" with a "Manage" dropdown. The main heading is "Workflow Termination for Filing 100-RICR-20-00-1". Below that, it identifies the filer as "Proposed Regular Rulemaking Rule" and the request note as "Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload". A "Termination Reason" dropdown menu is set to "Abandoned". A red banner below the dropdown states: "Note: The reason for termination selected above will not be shown to the public and will not be published." A smaller red note below that says: "Note: Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required." At the bottom, there are "Submit" and "Cancel" buttons.

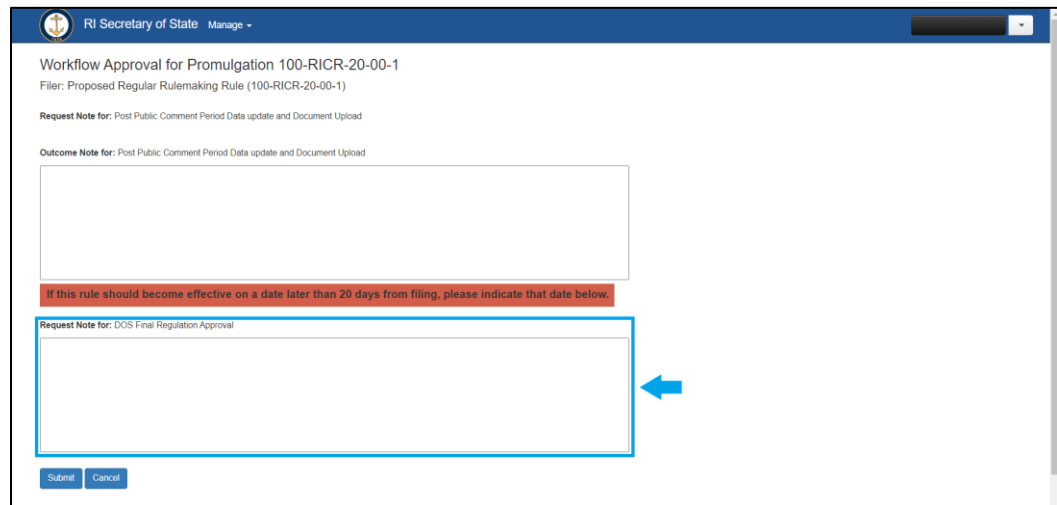
10. Certify that your agency has either received official approval from OMB or is exempt from OMB’s review process by clicking **Yes**:



The screenshot shows a dialog box titled "ORR Compliance" with a close button (X) in the top right corner. The text inside reads: "Before uploading your agency's final regulation in the RICR, your agency **must certify** it has either received post-comment official approval from the Office of Regulatory Reform (ORR) or is exempt from ORR's formal review process. Your agency has not received official approval unless your agency is in receipt of an emailed/dated receipt of ORR clearance from its official submission system. Do you certify that your agency has either received ORR approval or that your agency is exempt from the process?" At the bottom right, there is a blue arrow pointing to a "Yes" button, which is highlighted with a blue border.

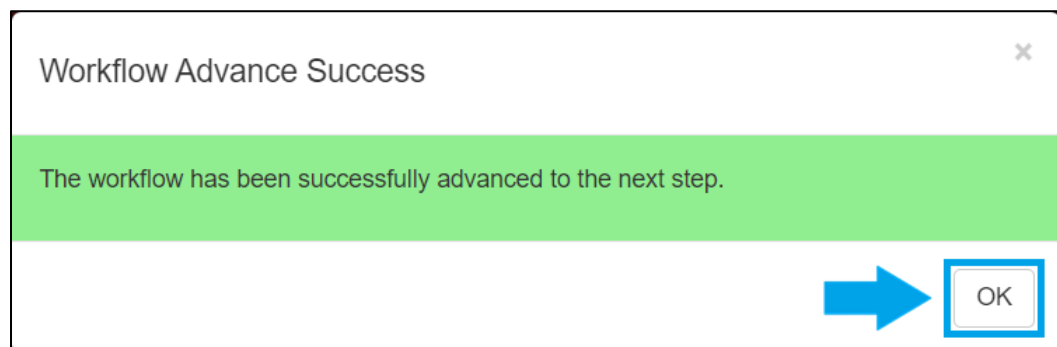
- a. **If your agency has not received official approval from OMB and is not exempt**, click the DOS logo in the top-left corner to return to the home page. **Do not proceed in the RICR System** until you have official approval. Once your agency receives approval, go back to step 8 to proceed.
11. If you would like to add a note for the DOS (i.e., if you would like the rule to become effective on a future date other than the minimum 20-day

waiting period), enter text in the **Request Note** and/or click **Submit**:



The screenshot shows a web form titled "Workflow Approval for Promulgation 100-RICR-20-00-1" with the filer "Proposed Regular Rulemaking Rule (100-RICR-20-00-1)". It contains two text input fields for "Request Note" and "Outcome Note", both with the text "Post Public Comment Period Data update and Document Upload". A red warning banner states: "If this rule should become effective on a date later than 20 days from filing, please indicate that date below." Below this is another "Request Note" field with the text "DOS Final Regulation Approval", which is highlighted with a blue border and a blue arrow pointing to it from the right. At the bottom are "Submit" and "Cancel" buttons.

12. Upon submitting, click **OK** to return to the RICR System homepage:



The screenshot shows a dialog box titled "Workflow Advance Success" with a close button (X) in the top right corner. A green banner contains the message: "The workflow has been successfully advanced to the next step." In the bottom right corner, there is an "OK" button, which is highlighted with a blue border and a blue arrow pointing to it from the left.

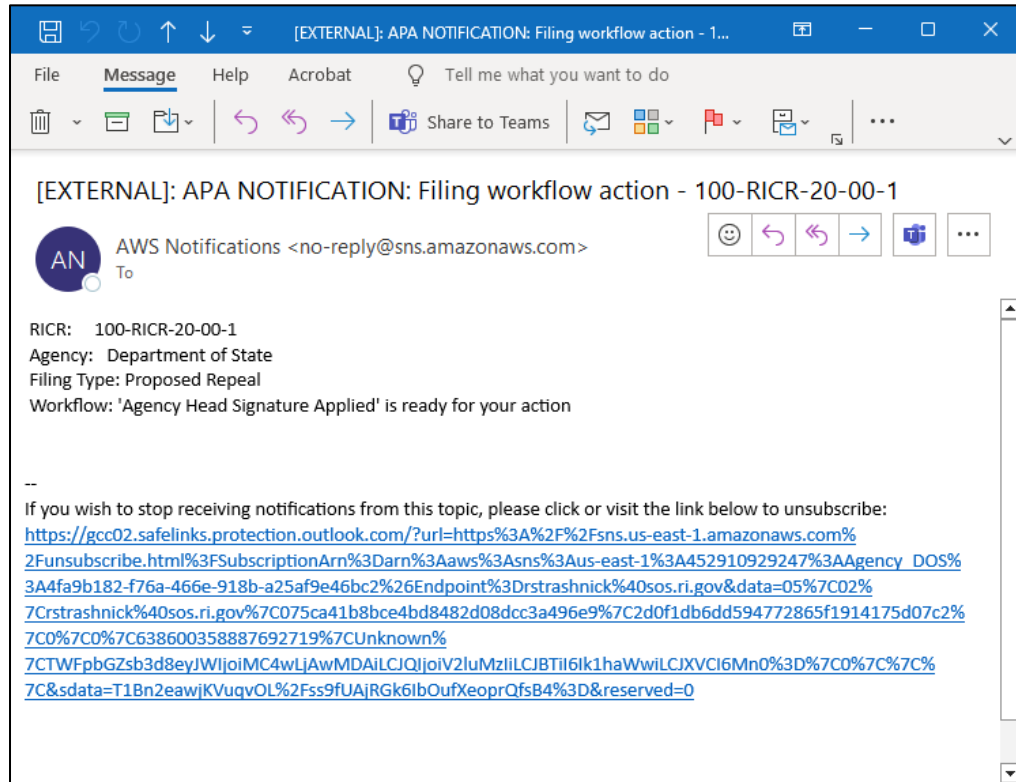
 **COMPLETED:** *Post Public Comment Period Data update and Document Upload*



6.3.1.3.1.6 DOS Final Regulation Approval

This step will be completed by the Administrative Records Office.

Once the DOS formatting review has been completed, the Rules Coordinator and Agency Head will receive an AWS Notification email to indicate the rule is ready to be signed by the Agency Head:



6.3.1.3.1.7 Agency Head Signature Applied

This step will be completed by the Agency Head.

The Agency Head will receive an automated email from OneSpan, the signature provider, to sign the rule.



6.3.1.3.1.8 Final Rule and Signature Acceptance by DOS

This step will be completed by the Administrative Records Office.

Once the Agency Head signs the rule, the Department of State will sign the rule and set the rule's Effective Date.



6.3.1.3.1.9 Promulgation Finalization

This step will be completed automatically by the RICR System.

The RICR System will automatically display the Final Regulation in the RICR the day it becomes effective.

It is the Rules Coordinator's responsibility to download the signed Regulation for the agency's files to be permanently retained per [GRS2.5 Rulemaking Files](#).

Final Regulations can be downloaded by opening the active Part in the [RICR](#), clicking the **Regulation** tab, and clicking **Download Regulation**:



6.3.1.3.2 Proposed Direct Final Rulemaking

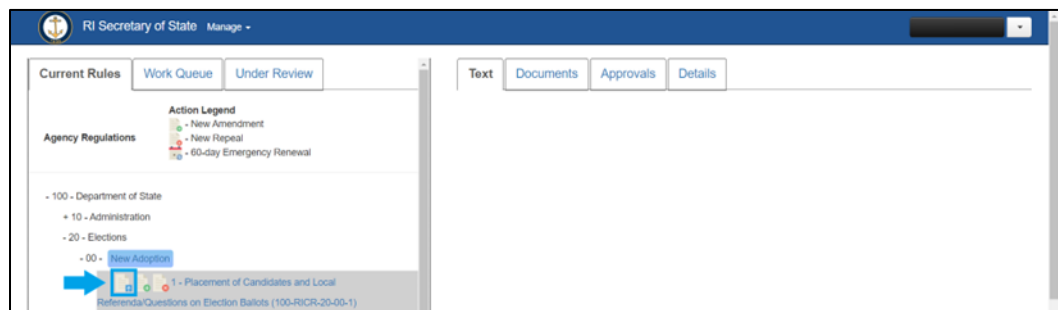
For information regarding this Rulemaking Action, see [§ 3.3.2 of this Guide](#).

Actions to be Completed	User to Complete
Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload	Rules Coordinator
DOS Verification of Drafts	Department of State
Generation of the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking	Rules Coordinator
Submission for Promulgation	RICR Filing System
Public Comment Period Begin	RICR Filing System
Post Public Comment Period Data update and Document Upload	Rules Coordinator
DOS Final Regulation Approval	Department of State
Agency Head Signature Applied	Agency Head
Final Rule and Signature Acceptance by DOS	Department of State
Promulgation Finalization	RICR Filing System

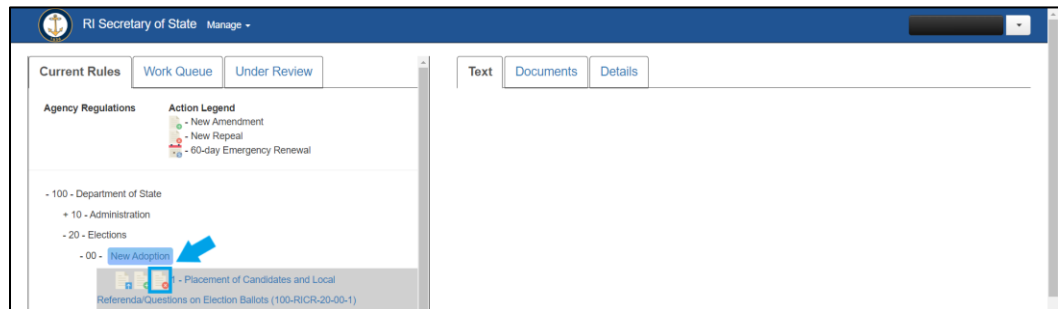


6.3.1.3.2.1 Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

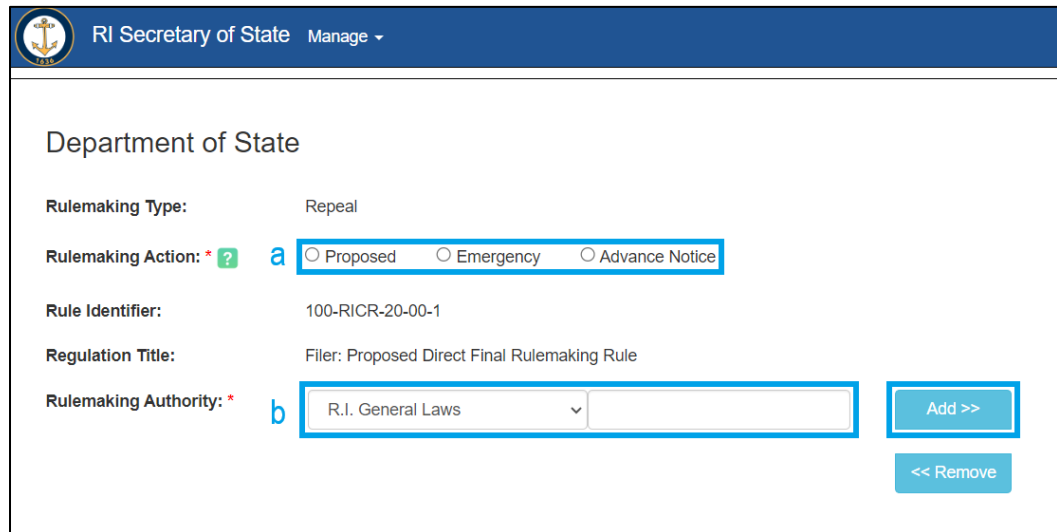
1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. In the **Current Rules** tab, click the **Title**, **Chapter**, **Subchapter**, and **Part** to open each level, then click the **Download Document** icon to draft the repeal (see [§ 5.1.2.3 of this guide](#) for additional information):



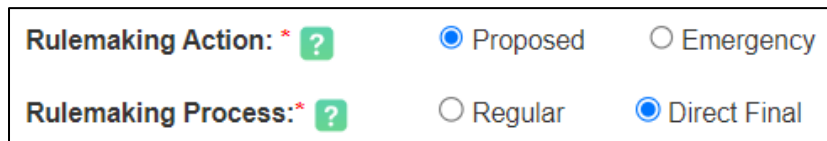
3. Once the Proposed Rule draft is ready, in the **Current Rules** tab, click the **Title, Chapter, Subchapter, and Part** to open each level, then click the **New Repeal** icon promulgate a repeal:



4. Confirm the **Rulemaking Filing Details**:

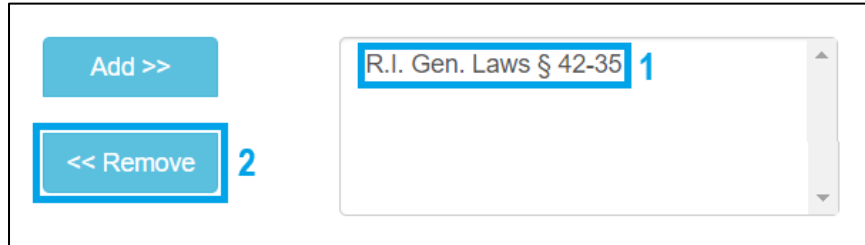


- a. Confirm **Proposed**, then **Direct Final**, for the **Rulemaking Action** and **Rulemaking Process**; and

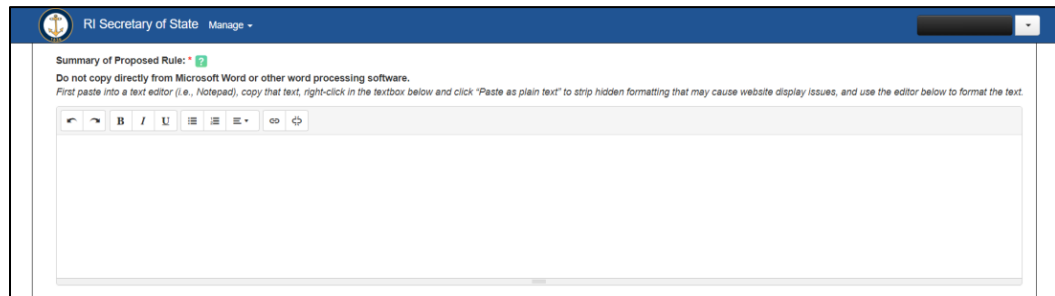


- b. Confirm the appropriate authority from the dropdown, enter the **Rulemaking Authority** citation, and click **Add**.

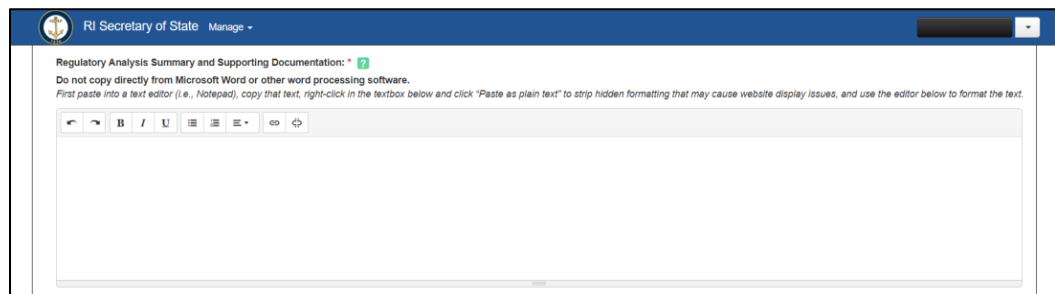
- i. To remove a **Rulemaking Authority**, click to select the citation to remove from the list and click **Remove**:



- 5. Enter the **Summary of Proposed Rule** in plain language of terms or substance of intended action, or description of the subjects and issues involved, including changes between current and proposed regulations:
 - a. If copying text from another document, follow the directions on screen to strip all erroneous formatting.



- 6. Enter the **Regulatory Analysis Summary and Supporting Documentation** to provide a brief paragraph of the societal cost and benefits of compliance as prepared under [R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.9](#), including any citations to scientific or statistical studies, reports, and analyses that served as a basis for the proposed rule:
 - a. If copying text from another document, follow the directions on screen to strip all erroneous formatting.



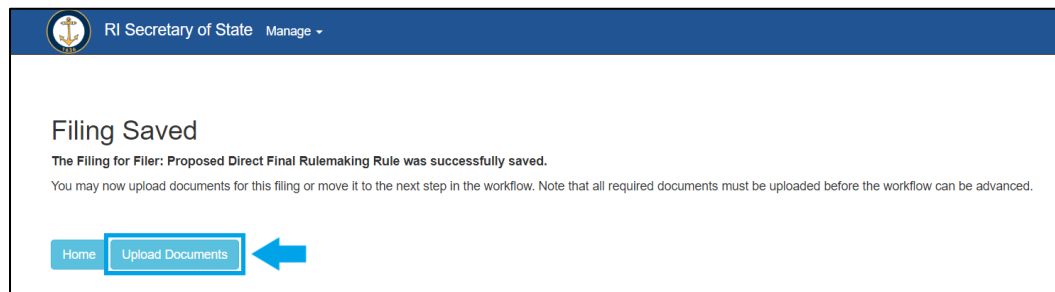
7. Confirm the **Additional Information URL** to indicate the location on your website where the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking is published as required by [R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.7](#):



Additional Information URL: * ?

https:// www.example.com

8. Review to ensure all entered text is correct and click **Submit**.
 - a. At any point during the above process, if you don't wish to move forward, click **Cancel**.
9. This Rulemaking Action requires documents to be uploaded. Click **Upload Documents**:



RI Secretary of State Manage

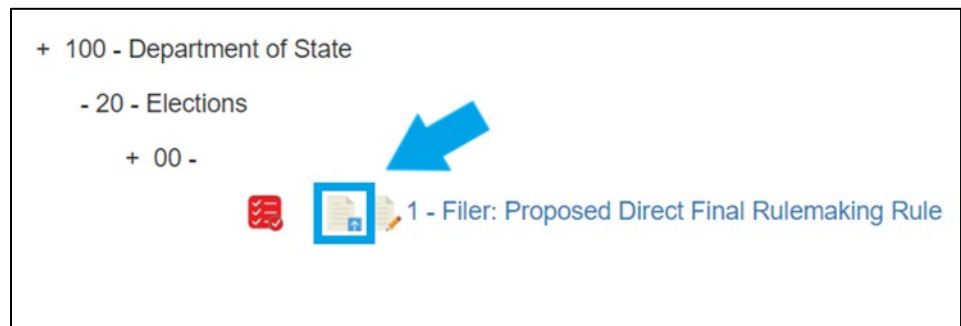
Filing Saved

The Filing for Filer: Proposed Direct Final Rulemaking Rule was successfully saved.

You may now upload documents for this filing or move it to the next step in the workflow. Note that all required documents must be uploaded before the workflow can be advanced.

Home Upload Documents

- a. If you click **Home** by accident, click the **Upload Documents** icon next to the Part in the **Work Queue** tab to go to the correct screen:



+ 100 - Department of State

- 20 - Elections

+ 00 -

1 - Filer: Proposed Direct Final Rulemaking Rule

10. Upload documents:

Document Upload

Regulation

Supporting Documents

Upload

Document Type:

Choose File No file chosen Upload Document

Home

Required Documents
• Proposed Rule

a. Select from the dropdown the **Document Type**:

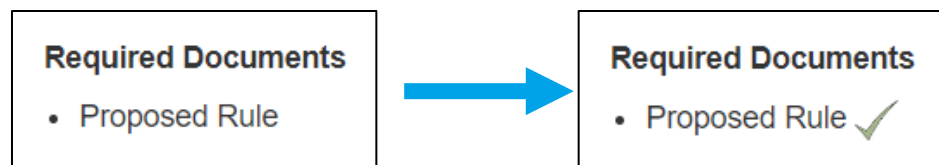
i. **Required:**

- Proposed Rule

ii. **Optional:**

- Index of Studies/Reports
- Additional Documentation
- Internal Organization Document
- Studies/Reports
- Petition

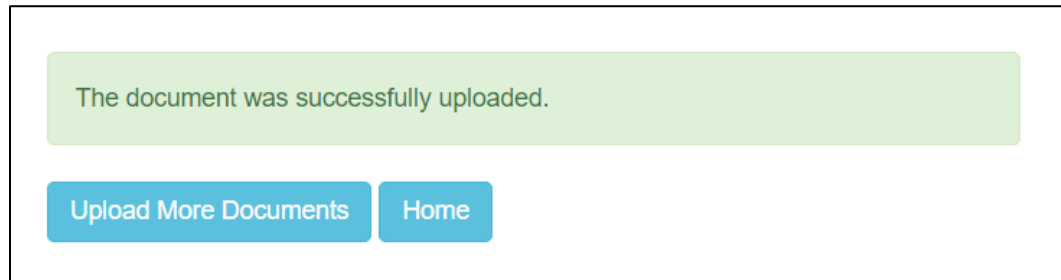
A list of required documents will display, and as documents are uploaded, a green check will be added next to each document:



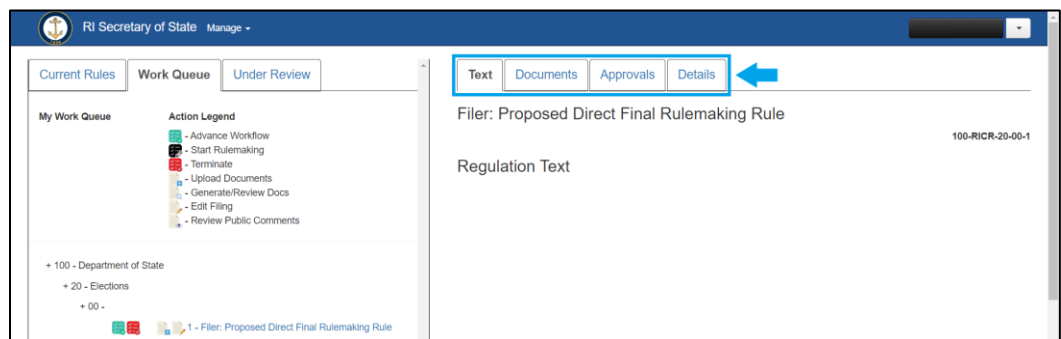
b. Click **Choose File** to select the document from your computer;
and

c. Click **Upload Document** to upload.

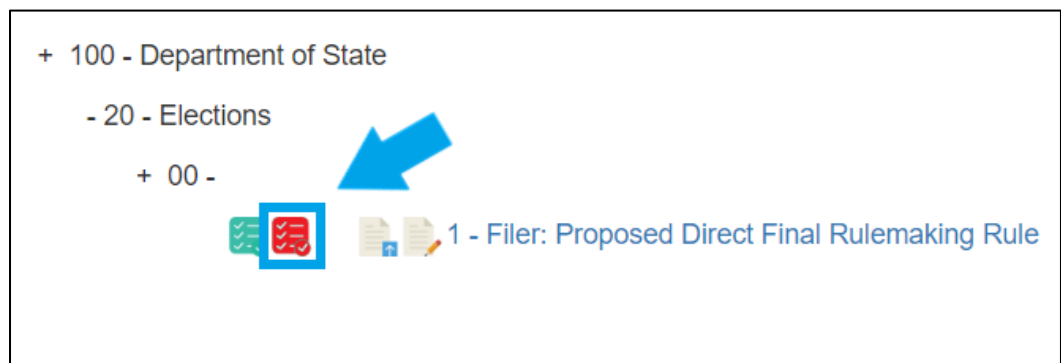
11. If additional documents need to be uploaded, click **Upload More Documents** and repeat steps 10-11 for each additional document (*you will not be able to advance the rule until all required documents are uploaded*), or click **Home** to continue to the next step:



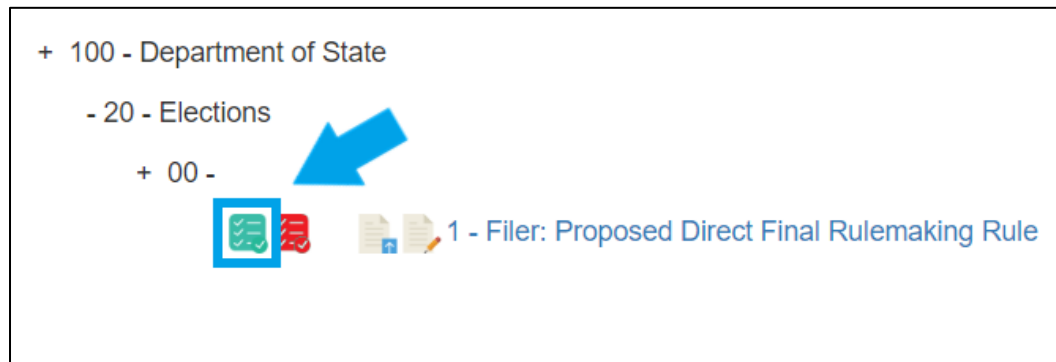
12. Click each tab on the right to ensure all information regarding the rule is correct (**Text**, **Documents**, **Approvals**, and **Details**):



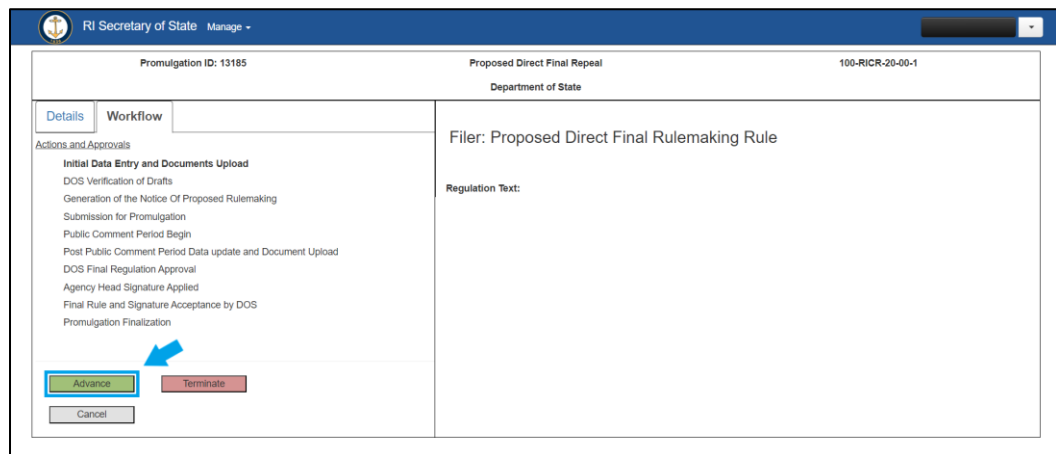
13. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click the **Terminate** icon to end the promulgation process and skip to step 15(b)(i):



14. To continue, click the **Advance Workflow** icon:



15. To advance the rule for the DOS Formatting Review, click **Advance**:



- a. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click **Cancel** to go back; or
- b. Click **Terminate** to end the promulgation process:

- i. Select a **Termination Reason**, then click **Submit** to terminate, or click **Cancel** to continue the promulgation process:

RI Secretary of State Manage

Workflow Termination for Filing 100-RICR-20-00-1

Filer: Proposed Direct Final Rulemaking Rule

Request Note for: Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

Termination Reason: *

Abandoned

Note: The reason for termination selected above will not be shown to the public and will not be published.

Note: Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required.

Submit Cancel

16. Certify that your agency has either received official approval from OMB or is exempt from OMB’s review process by clicking **Yes**:

ORR Compliance

Before uploading your agency's regulation for notice and comment in the RICR, your agency **must certify** that it has either received official approval from the Office of Regulatory Reform (ORR) or is exempt from ORR's formal review process.

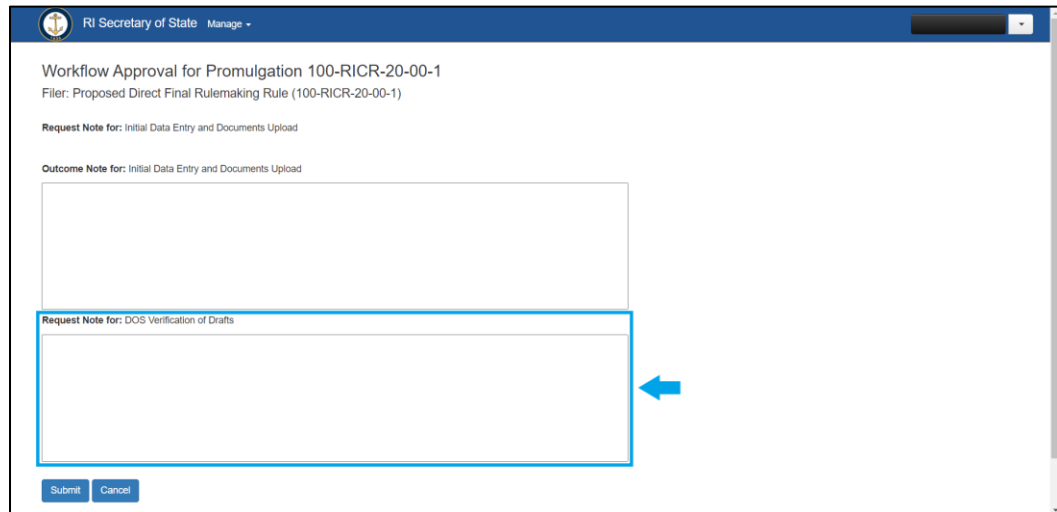
Your agency has not received official approval unless your agency is in receipt of an emailed/dated receipt of ORR clearance from its official submission system.

Do you certify that your agency has either received ORR approval or that your agency is exempt from the process?

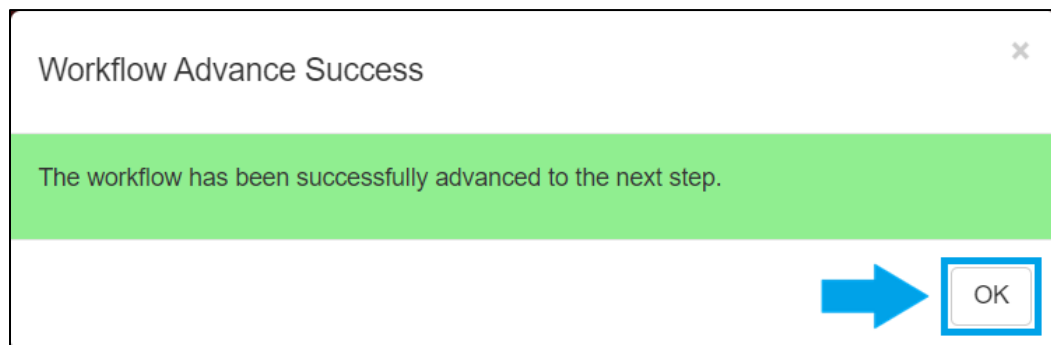
Yes

- a. **If your agency has not received official approval from OMB and is not exempt**, click the DOS logo in the top-left corner to return to the home page. **Do not proceed in the RICR System** until you have official approval. Once your agency receives approval, go back to step 14 to proceed.

17. If you would like to add a note for the DOS, enter text in the **Request Note** and/or click **Submit**:



18. Upon submitting, click **OK** to return to the RICR System homepage:



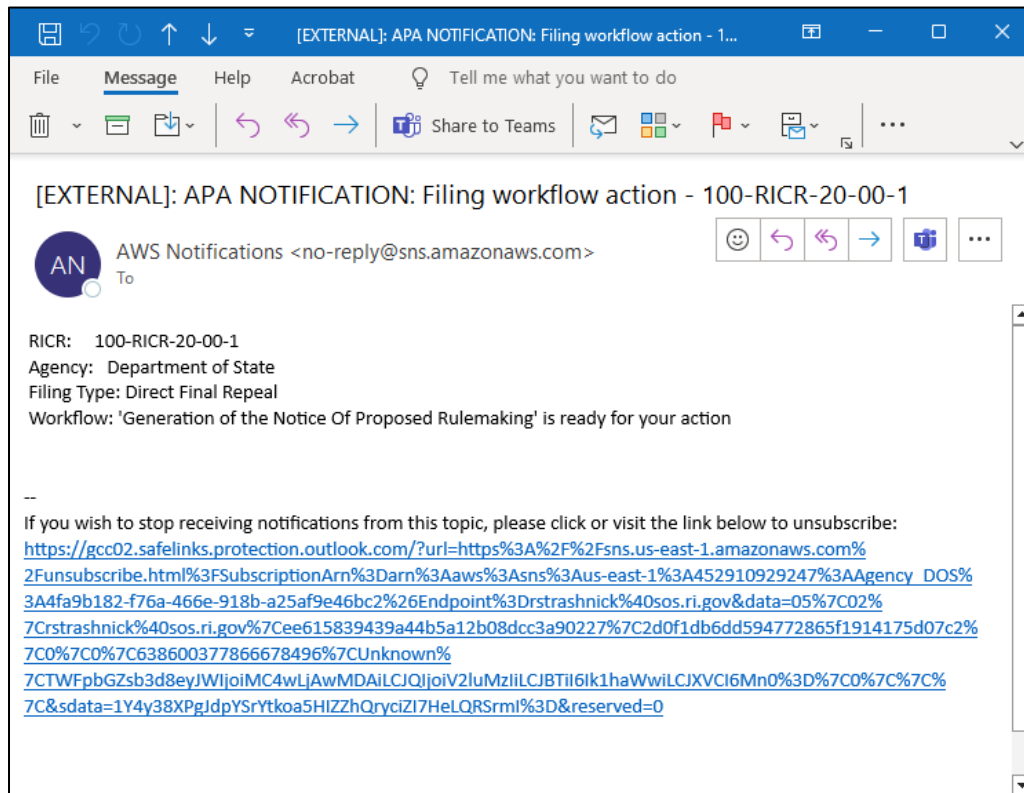
 **COMPLETED:** *Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload*



6.3.1.3.2.2 DOS Verification of Drafts

This step will be completed by the Administrative Records Office.

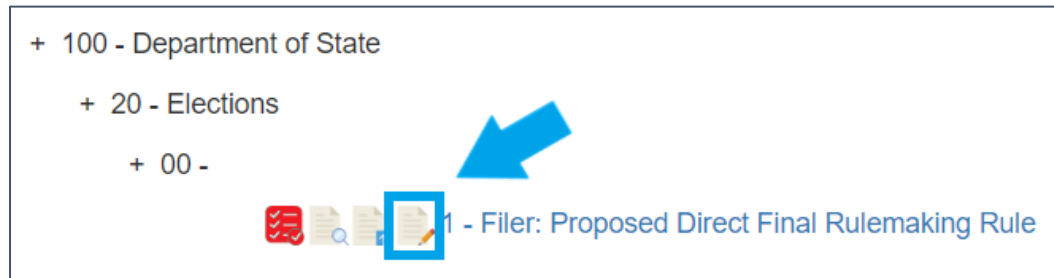
Once the DOS formatting review has been completed, the Rules Coordinator will receive an AWS Notification email to indicate the next step should be taken:



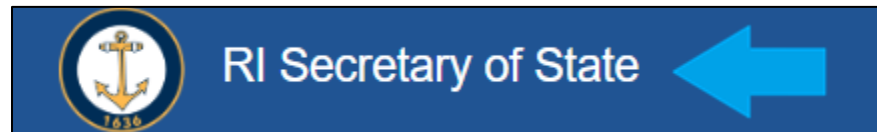
6.3.1.3.2.3 Generation of the Notice Of Proposed Rulemaking

1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. If for any reason the rule details need to be updated, click the **Edit Filing** icon to update the **Regulation Title**, **Rulemaking Authority**, **Summary of Proposed Rule**, and **Regulatory Analysis Summary and Supporting Documentation**, then click **Submit** once the details are updated:

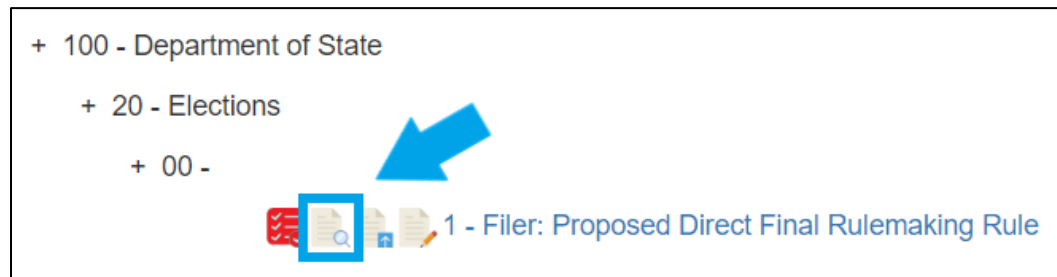
Once the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking is generated and published, this information cannot be changed.



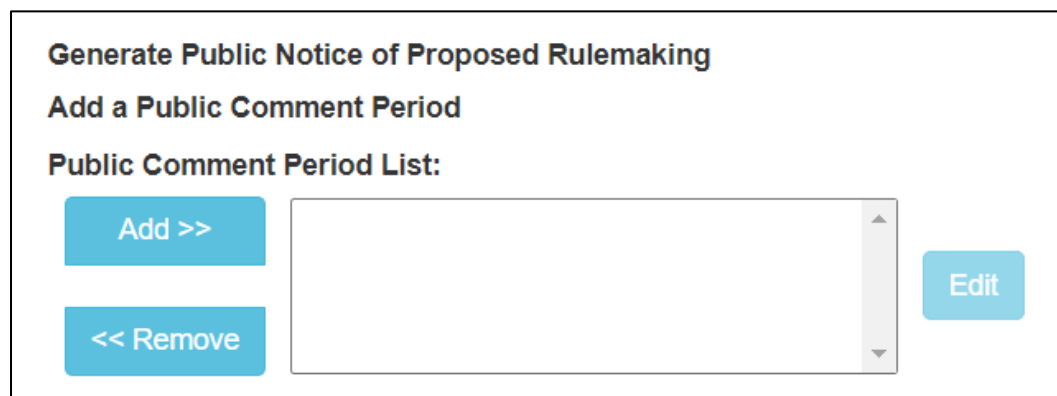
- a. Once completed, click the Department of State logo to navigate back to the homepage:



3. In the **Work Queue** tab, click on the **Title**, **Chapter**, and **Subchapter** to open each level, then click the **Generate/Review Docs** icon:



4. Click **Add >>** under **Public Comment Period List**, and click **Edit** and **<< Remove** as necessary to adjust the Public Comment Period:



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5. Fill out the form to add a Public Comment Period – all fields are required:

Public Comment Period
✕

Date of Public Notice:

08/13/2024

Date of End of Comment Period: * ?

Full Name of Contact Person: *

Contact Person Email: *

Contact Person Address: *

, RI

Allow online public comments? *

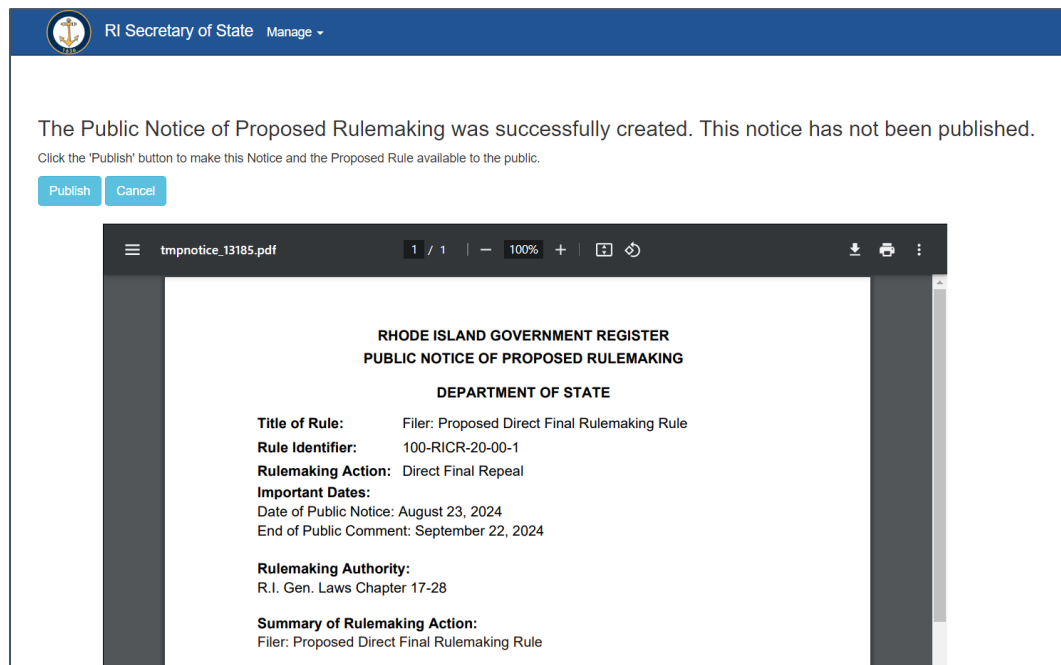
Yes No

- a. The **Date of End of Comment Period** will automatically show the minimum first eligible date to be chosen, but you may choose a future date if needed.
- b. Agencies may use the RICR Filing System to accept public comments by selecting **Yes** to **Allow online public comments?**. Agencies may opt out by selecting **No**.
 - i. If **Yes** is selected, you have the option to specify dates for when your agency wants to allow online public comments within the Public Comment Period.

6. Click **Generate Notice** (this will not publish the rule, only preview the notice):



7. Review the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking:



- a. If any information within the notice is incorrect, click **Cancel** to go back and edit to update the information and complete steps as necessary.
- b. Once information is confirmed to be correct, click **Publish** to approve the notice and publish the rule in the RICR.

8. Click **Home** to return to the RICR home page:
 - a. If after the notice is published there needs to be any changes made, click **Amend Public Notice** to create and publish an additional notice with corrections.

Documents Published

Rule Identifier: 100-RICR-20-00-1

Title of Rule: Filer: Proposed Direct Final Rulemaking Rule

The following documents are now available to the public:

- [Proposed Rule](#)
- [Public Notice of Proposed Rulemaking](#)

Amend Public Notice
Home


 **COMPLETED:** *Generation of the Notice Of Proposed Rulemaking*

At this time, the Proposed Rule is now live in the RICR and may be viewed by completing the following:

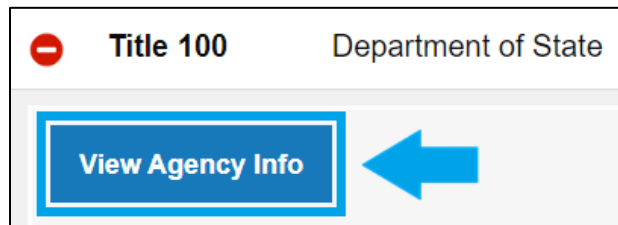
1. Go to <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/organizations>.
2. Locate the associated Title within the Table of Contents.
3. Click the plus sign (+) next to the Title:

Table of Contents

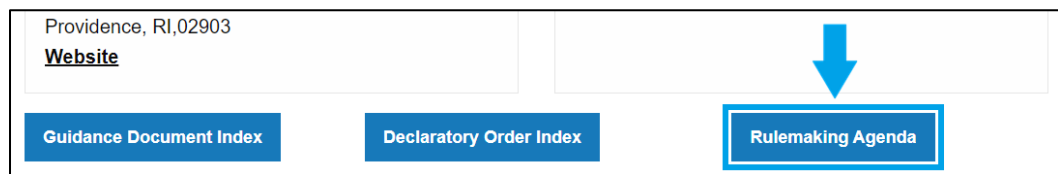
Show entries Filter by Agency

	Title	Agency
 	Title 100	Department of State

4. Click **Agency Info**:



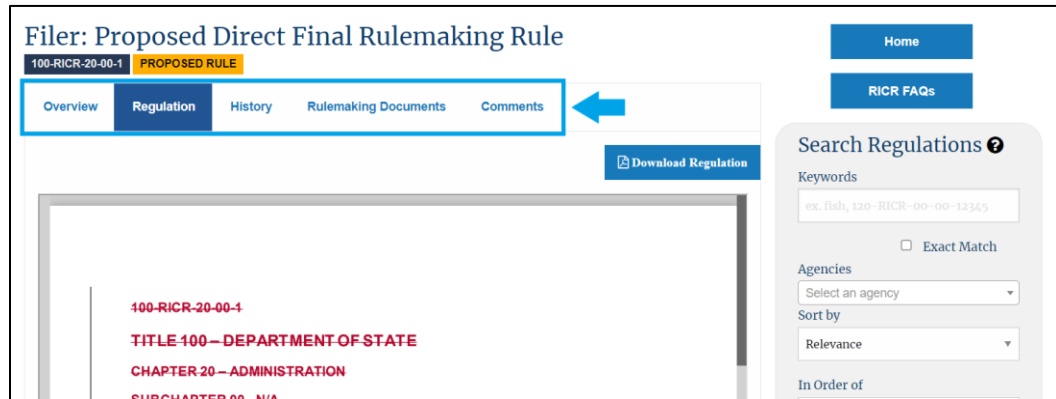
5. Click **Rulemaking Agenda**:



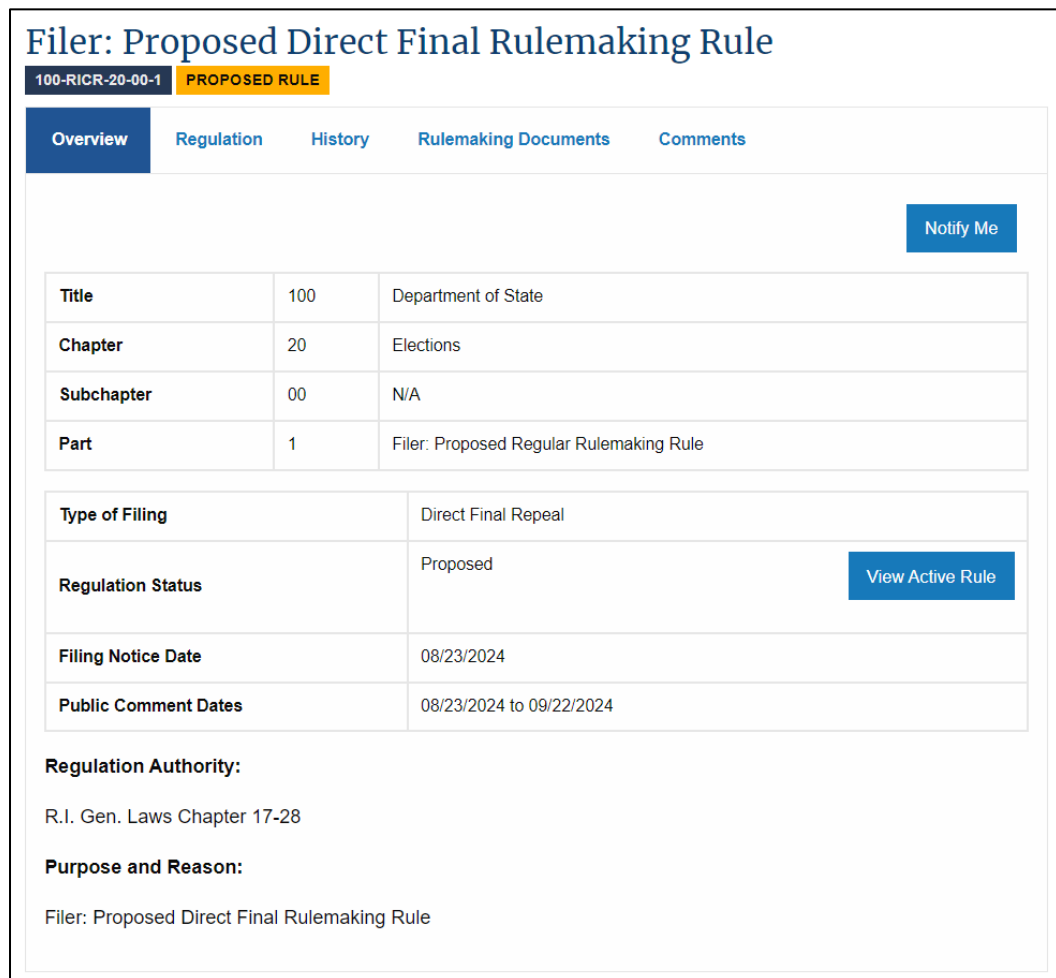
6. Locate the correct Proposed Rule and click the rule name to view:



- Click through the navigation tabs to view the **Overview**, **Regulation**, **History**, **Rulemaking Documents**, and **Comments**:



- The **Overview** tab displays the rule details:





6.3.1.3.2.4 Submission for Promulgation and Public Comment Period Begin

These steps will be completed automatically by the RICR System.

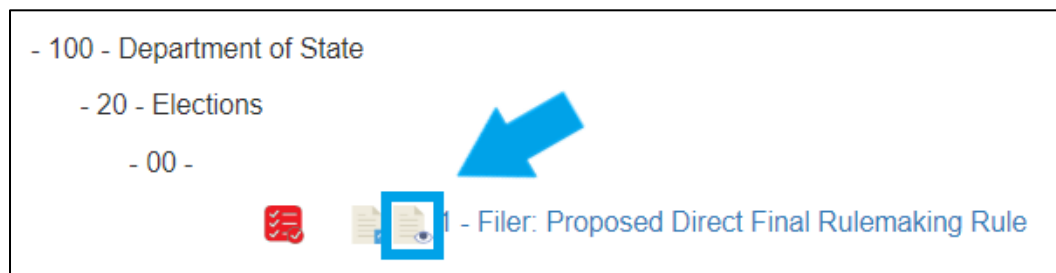
Once the Public Comment Period ends, the RICR System will automatically advance the rule to the next step.

If online public comments were allowed, you may review comments as they are submitted, or at the end of the Public Comment Period. See step 2 in the following section ([§ 6.3.1.3.2.5 of this Guide](#)) for how to review comments and generate a public comment document compiling all submitted rules.

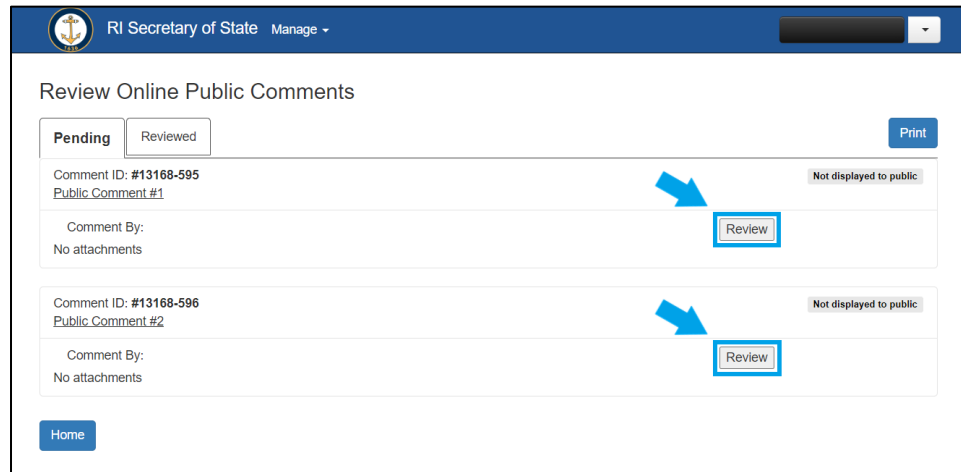


6.3.1.3.2.5 Post Public Comment Period Data update and Document Upload

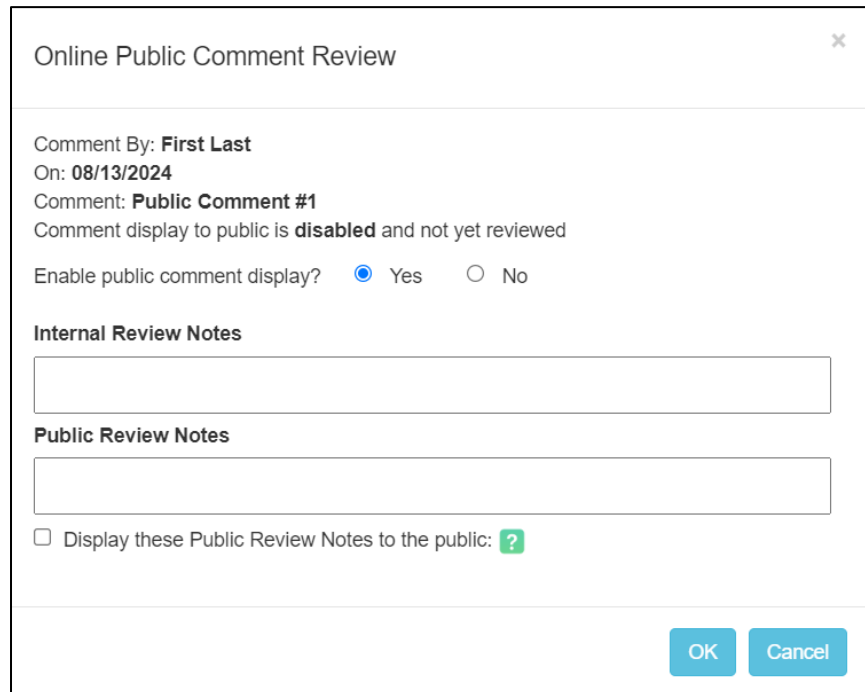
1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. If online public comments were allowed, click the **Review Comments** icon, otherwise skip to step 3:



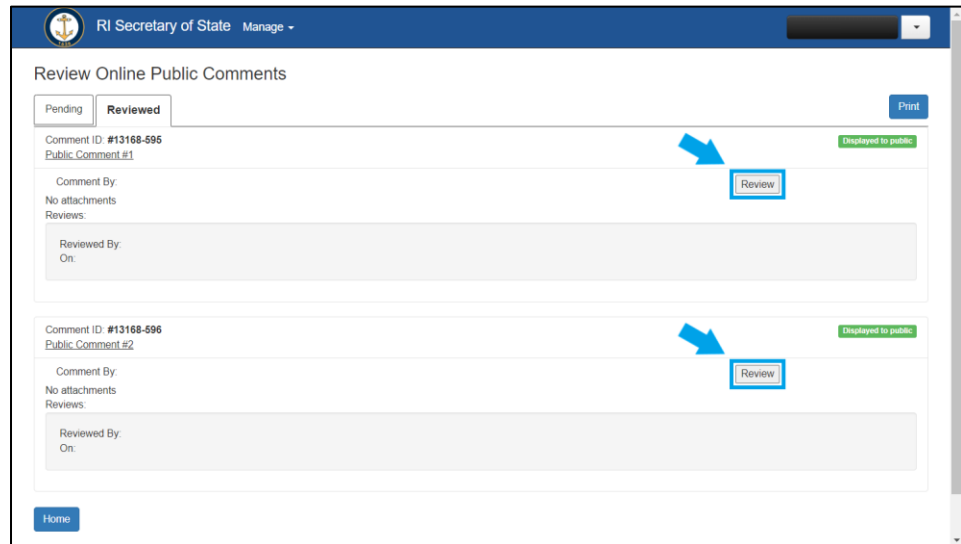
- a. Review every rule listed under the **Pending** tab by clicking **Review** for each comment submitted:



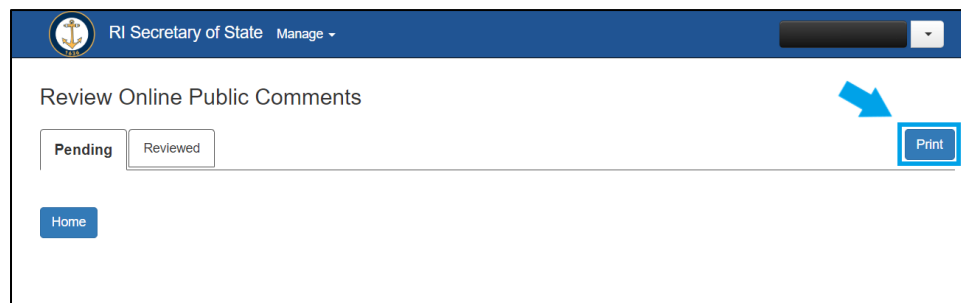
- i. Select to display the comment in the RICR or not, add any internal and public notes, and click **OK** to approve:



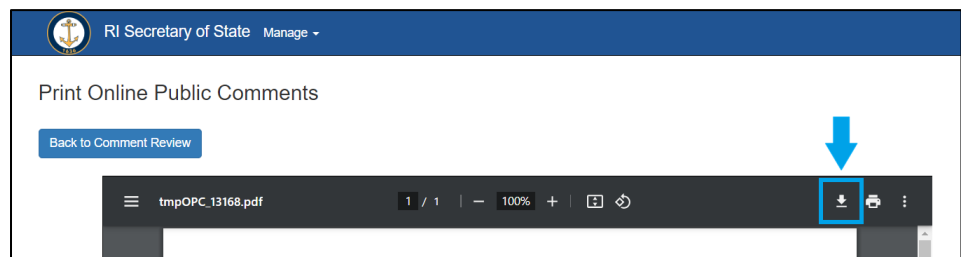
- b. Click the **Reviewed** tab to view who reviewed the comment, when it was approved, and review again if necessary:



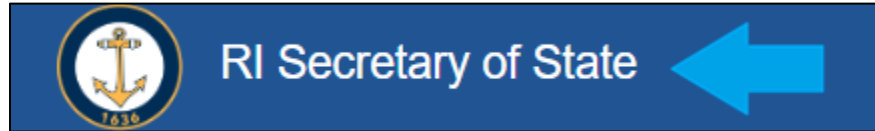
- c. Click **Print** to generate a public comment document:



- d. Click the down arrow at the top-right of the PDF viewer to download the document so that it can be used to upload as the part of the final rulemaking documents in step 4:



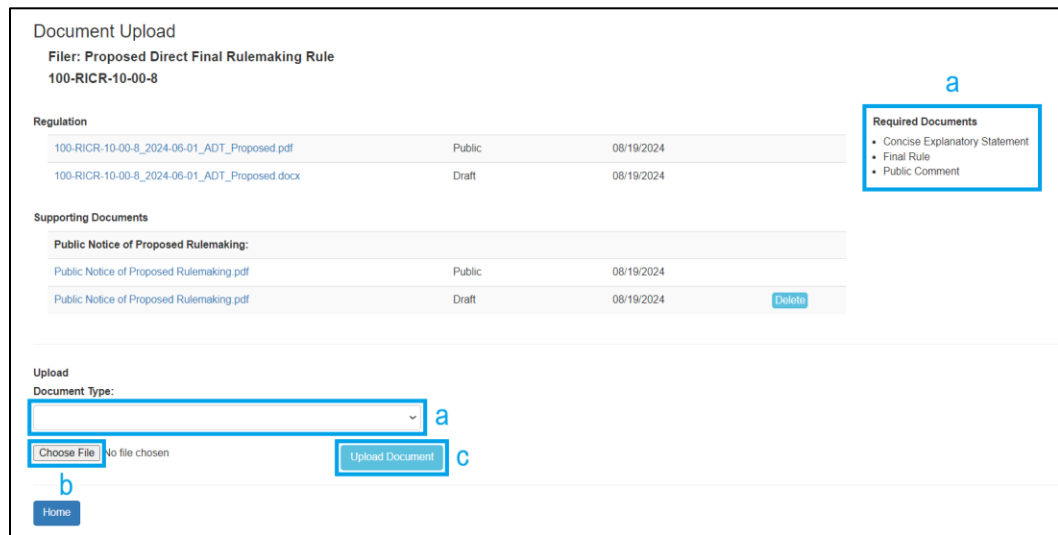
- e. To navigate back to the homepage, click the Department of State logo:



- 3. In the **Work Queue** tab, click on the **Title**, **Chapter**, and **Subchapter** to open each level, then click the **Upload Documents** icon:



- 4. Upload documents:



- a. Select from the dropdown the **Document Type**:

- i. **Required:**

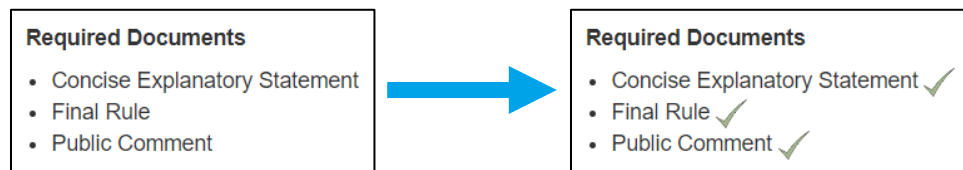
- Concise Explanatory Statement
- Final Rule
- Public Comment (*may upload multiple, if necessary*)

AGENCY GUIDE: RULES COORDINATORS

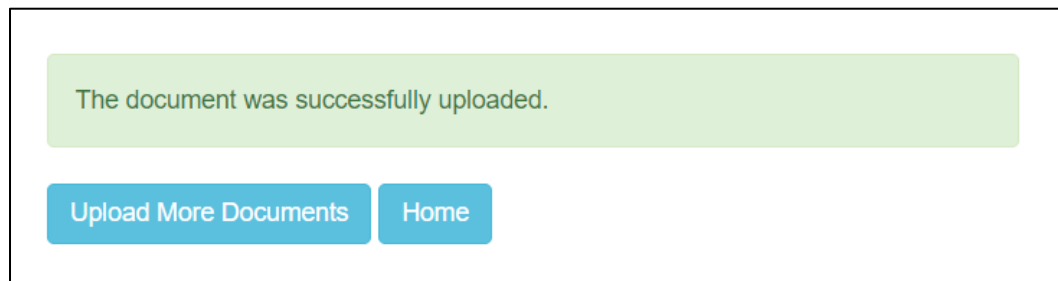
ii. **Optional:**

- Index of Studies/Reports
- Internal Organization Document
- Petition
- Public Hearing Documents
- Additional Documentation
- State Register publication
- Studies/Reports

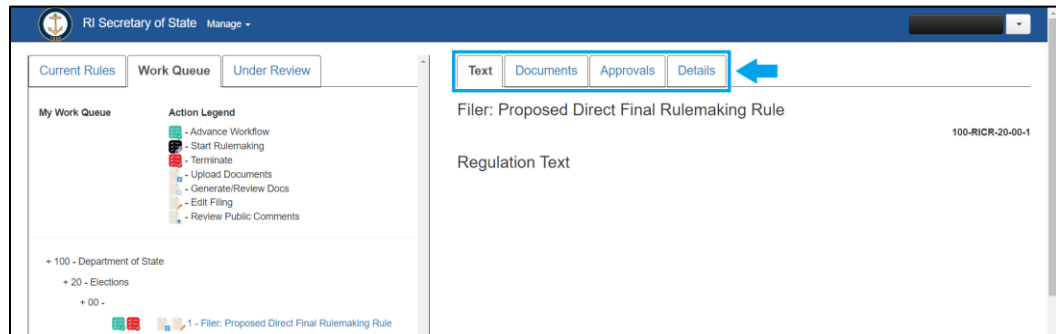
A list of required documents will display, and as documents are uploaded, a green check will be added next to each document:



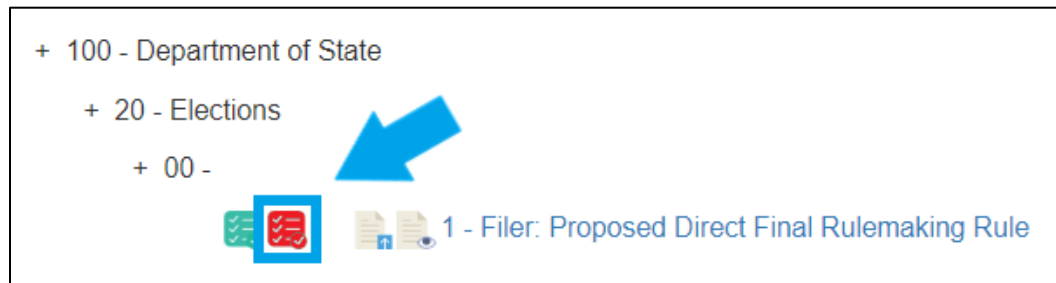
- b. Click **Choose File** to select the document from your computer;
and
- c. Click **Upload Document** to upload.
5. If additional documents need to be uploaded, click **Upload More Documents** and repeat steps 4-5 for each additional document (*you will not be able to advance the rule until all required documents are uploaded*), or click **Home** to continue to the next step:



6. Click each tab on the right to ensure rule information and all rulemaking documents are correct (**Text**, **Documents**, **Approvals**, and **Details**):



7. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click the **Terminate** icon to end the promulgation process and skip to step 9(b)(i):



8. To continue, click the **Advance Workflow** icon:



9. To advance the rule for the DOS Formatting Review, click **Advance**:

RI Secretary of State Manage

Promulgation ID: 13185 Proposed Direct Final Repeat 100-RICR-20-00-1
Department of State

Details Workflow

Actions and Approvals

- ✓ Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload
- ✓ DOS Verification of Drafts
- ✓ Generation of the Notice Of Proposed Rulemaking
- ✓ Submission for Promulgation
- ✓ Public Comment Period Begin
- Post Public Comment Period Data update and Document Upload
- DOS Final Regulation Approval
- Agency Head Signature Applied
- Final Rule and Signature Acceptance by DOS
- Promulgation Finalization

File: Proposed Direct Final Rulemaking Rule

Regulation Text:

Advance Terminate Cancel

- If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click **Cancel** to go back; or
- Click **Terminate** to end the promulgation process:
 - Select a **Termination Reason**, then click **Submit** to terminate, or click **Cancel** to continue the promulgation process:

RI Secretary of State Manage

Workflow Termination for Filing 100-RICR-20-00-1

File: Proposed Direct Final Rulemaking Rule

Request Note for: Post Public Comment Period Data update and Document Upload

Termination Reason: *

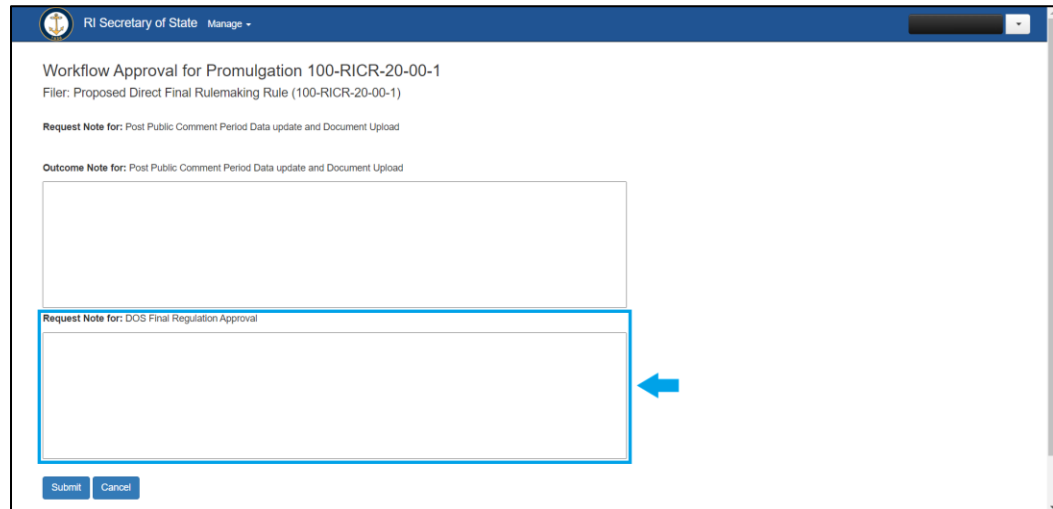
Abandoned

Note: The reason for termination selected above will not be shown to the public and will not be published.

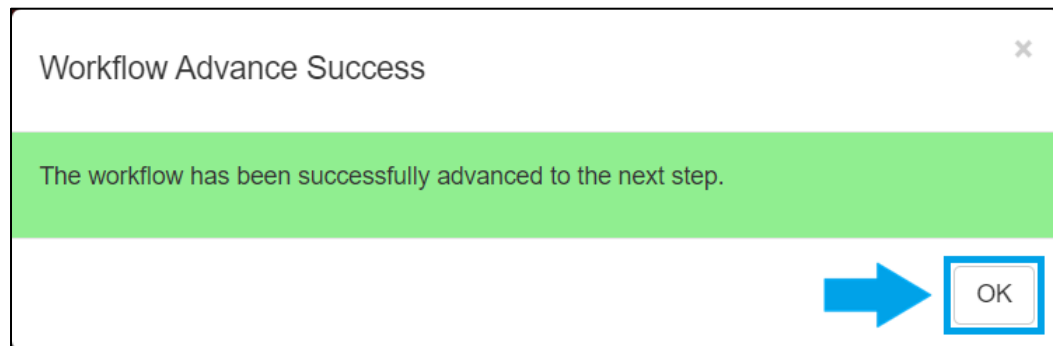
Note: Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required.

Submit Cancel

10. If you would like to add a note for the DOS (i.e., if you would like the rule to become effective on a future date rather than the last day of the Public Comment Period), enter text in the **Request Note** and/or click **Submit**:



11. Upon submitting, click **OK** to return to the RICR System homepage:



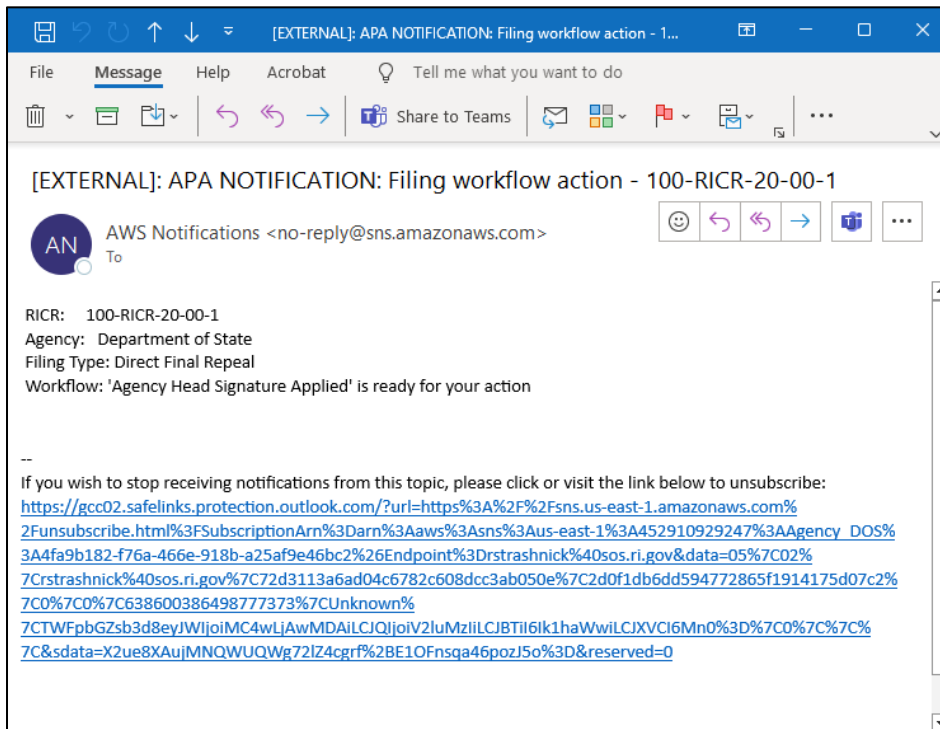
 **COMPLETED:** *Post Public Comment Period Data update and Document Upload*



6.3.1.3.2.6 DOS Final Regulation Approval

This step will be completed by the Administrative Records Office.

Once the DOS formatting review has been completed, the Rules Coordinator and Agency Head will receive an AWS Notification email to indicate the rule is ready to be signed by the Agency Head:



6.3.1.3.2.7 Agency Head Signature Applied

This step will be completed by the Agency Head.

The Agency Head will receive an automated email from OneSpan, the esignature provider, to sign the rule.



6.3.1.3.2.8 Final Rule and Signature Acceptance by DOS

This step will be completed by the Administrative Records Office.

Once the Agency Head signs the rule, the Department of State will sign the

rule and set the rule's Effective Date.

6.3.1.3.2.9 Promulgation Finalization

This step will be completed automatically by the RICR System.

The RICR System will automatically display the Final Regulation in the RICR the day it becomes effective.

It is the Rules Coordinator's responsibility to download the signed Regulation for the agency's files to be permanently retained per [GRS2.5 Rulemaking Files](#).

Final Regulations can be downloaded by opening the active Part in the [RICR](#), clicking the **Regulation** tab, and clicking **Download Regulation**:



6.3.1.3.3 Emergency Rulemaking

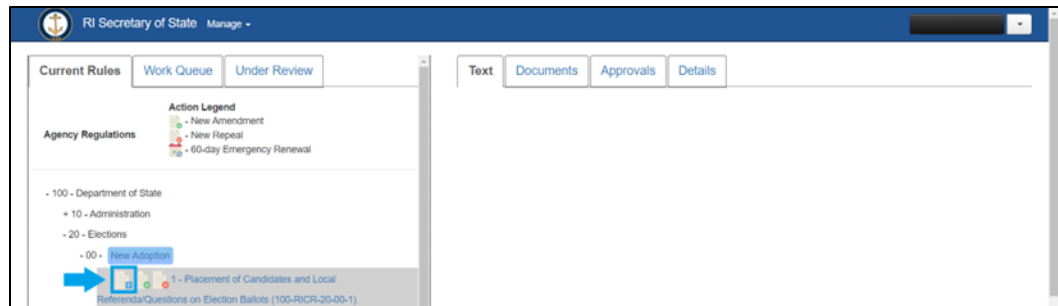
For information regarding this Rulemaking Action, see [§ 3.3.3 of this Guide](#).

Actions to be Completed	User to Complete
Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload	Rules Coordinator
Rules Coordinator Notification of Emergency Rule	Rules Coordinator
Submission for Promulgation	RICR Filing System
Agency Head Signature Applied	Agency Head
Governor Signature Applied	Governor
Final Rule and Signature Acceptance by DOS	Department of State
Promulgation Finalization	RICR Filing System
Submission for Emergency Extension 1	Rules Coordinator
DOS Final Revision for Emergency Extension 1	Department of State
Finalization of Emergency Extension 1	RICR Filing System

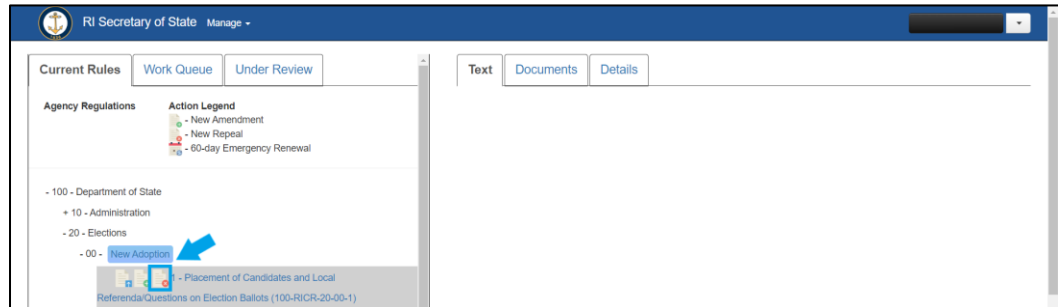


6.3.1.3.3.1 Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

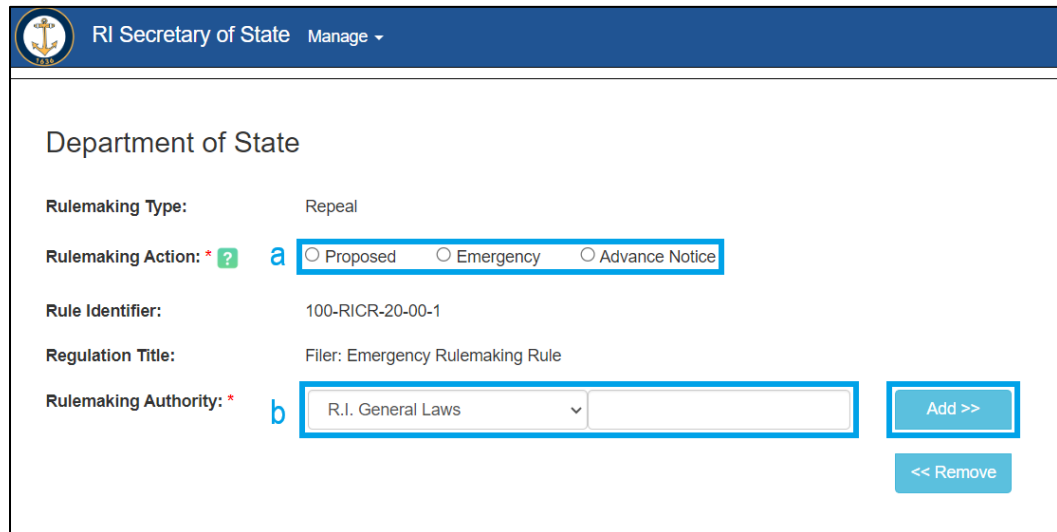
1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. In the **Current Rules** tab, click the **Title**, **Chapter**, **Subchapter**, and **Part** to open each level, then click the **Download Document** icon to draft the repeal (see [§ 5.1.2.3 of this guide](#) for additional information):



3. Once the Proposed Rule draft is ready, in the **Current Rules** tab, click the **Title, Chapter, Subchapter, and Part** to open each level, then click the **New Repeal** icon promulgate a repeal:



4. Enter and confirm the **Rulemaking Filing Details**:

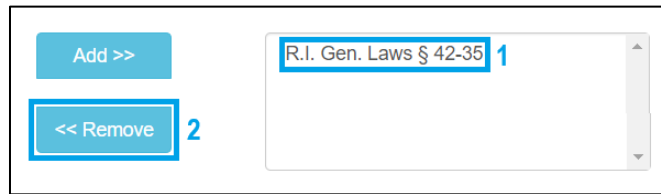


- a. Choose **Emergency** for the **Rulemaking Action**; and

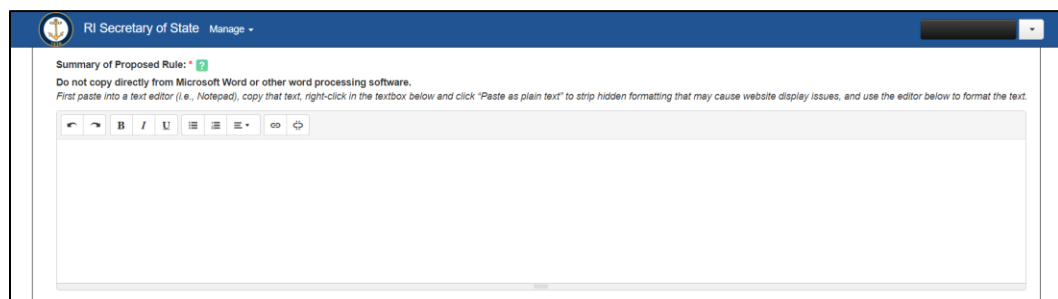


- b. Confirm the appropriate authority from the dropdown, enter the **Rulemaking Authority** citation, and click **Add**.

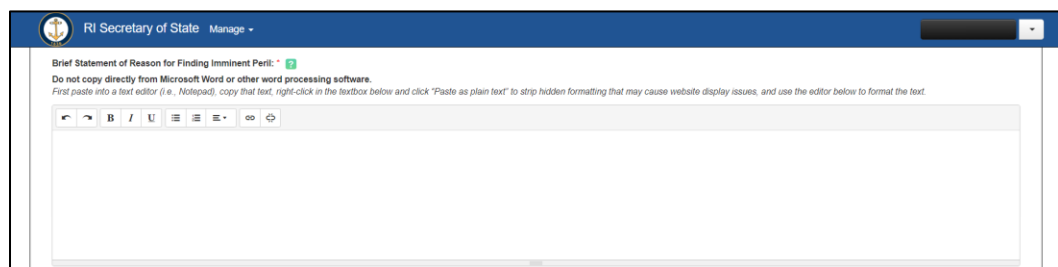
- i. To remove a **Rulemaking Authority**, click to select the citation to remove from the list and click **Remove**:



- 5. Enter the **Summary of Proposed Rule** in plain language of terms or substance of intended action, or description of the subjects and issues involved, including changes between current and proposed regulations:
 - a. If copying text from another document, follow the directions on screen to strip all erroneous formatting.



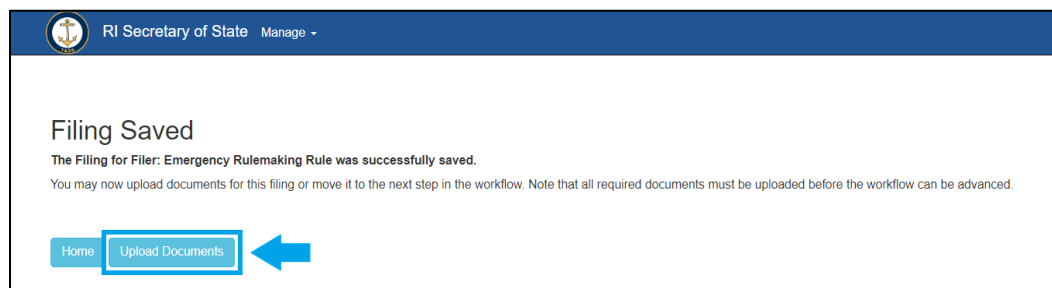
- 6. Enter the **Brief Statement of Reason for Finding Imminent Peril** to state the reason this rule is required in order to avoid a threat to public health, safety, or welfare, or the loss of federal funding for an agency program ([R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.10](#)):
 - a. If copying text from another document, follow the directions on screen to strip all erroneous formatting.



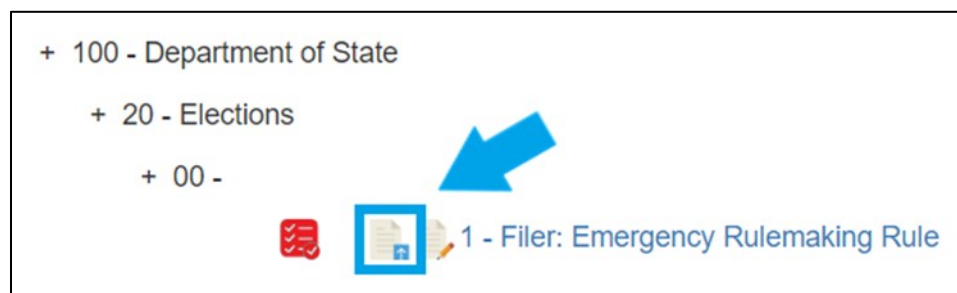
7. Confirm the **Additional Information URL** to indicate the location on your website where the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking is published as required by [R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.7](#):



8. Review to ensure all entered text is correct and click **Submit**.
 - a. At any point during the above process, if you don't wish to move forward, click **Cancel**.
9. This Rulemaking Action requires documents to be uploaded. Click **Upload Documents**:



- a. If you click **Home** by accident, click the **Upload Documents** icon next to the Part in the **Work Queue** tab to go to the correct screen:



10. Upload documents:

Document Upload

Regulation

Supporting Documents

Upload

Document Type:

Choose File No file chosen Upload Document

Home

Required Documents

- Proposed Rule

a. Select from the dropdown the **Document Type**:

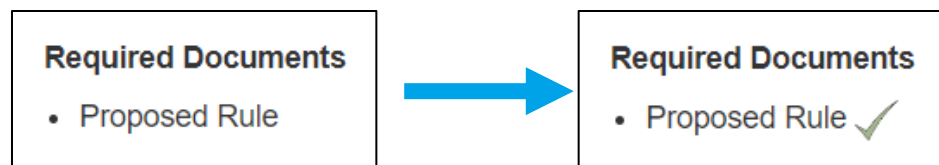
i. **Required:**

- Proposed Rule

ii. **Optional:**

- Index of Studies/Reports
- Additional Documentation
- Internal Organization Document
- Studies/Reports
- Petition

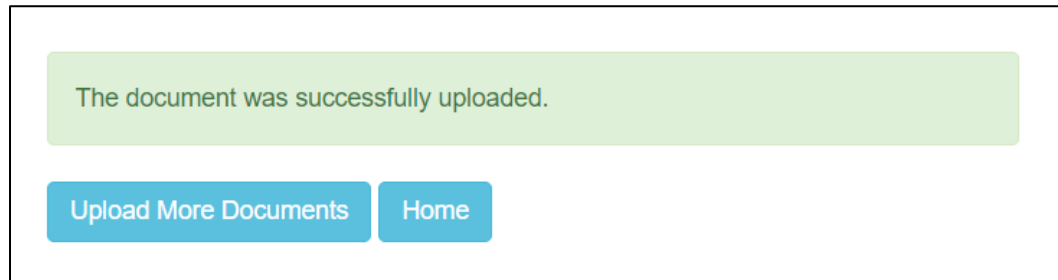
A list of required documents will display, and as documents are uploaded, a green check will be added next to each document:



b. Click **Choose File** to select the document from your computer; and

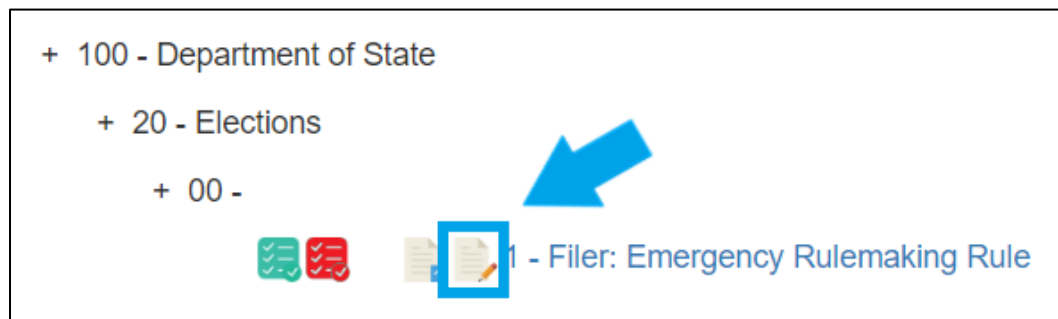
c. Click **Upload Document** to upload.

11. If additional documents need to be uploaded, click **Upload More Documents** and repeat steps 10-11 for each additional document (*you will not be able to advance the rule until all required documents are uploaded*), or click **Home** to continue to the next step:

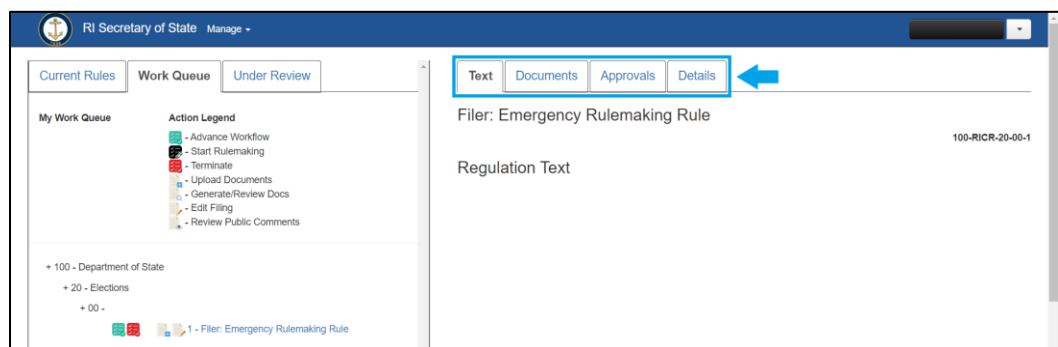


12. If for any reason the rule details need to be updated, click the **Edit Filing** icon to update the **Regulation Title, Rulemaking Authority, Summary of Proposed Rule, and Brief Statement of Reason for Finding Imminent Peril**, then click **Submit** once the details are updated:

Once the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking is generated and published, this information cannot be changed.



13. Click each tab on the right to ensure all information regarding the rule is correct (**Text, Documents, Approvals, and Details**):



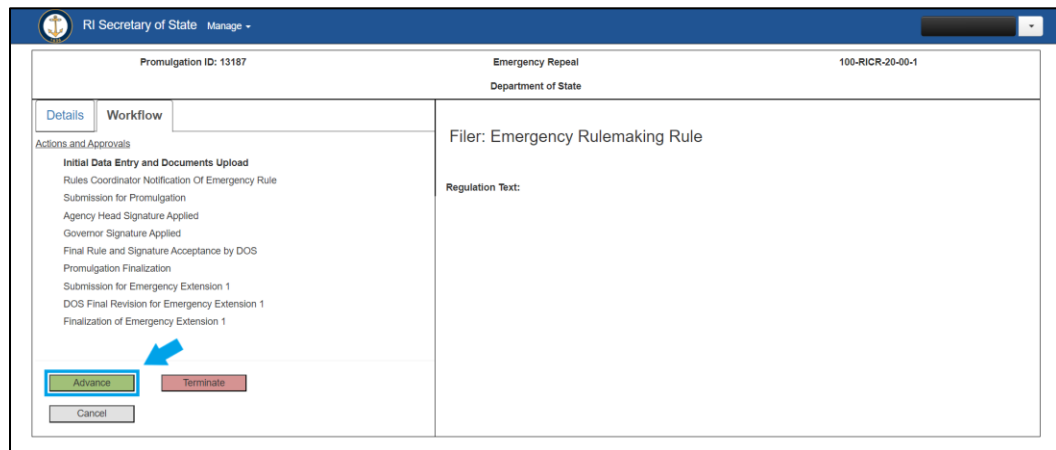
14. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click the **Terminate** icon to end the promulgation process and skip to step 16(b)(i):



15. To continue, click the **Advance Workflow** icon:



16. To advance the rule for the DOS Formatting Review, click **Advance**:



a. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click **Cancel** to go back; or

b. Click **Terminate** to end the promulgation process:

- i. Select a **Termination Reason**, then click **Submit** to terminate, or click **Cancel** to continue the promulgation process:

RI Secretary of State Manage

Workflow Termination for Filing 100-RICR-20-00-1

Filer: Emergency Rulemaking Rule

Request Note for: Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

Termination Reason: *

Abandoned

Note: The reason for termination selected above will not be shown to the public and will not be published.

Note: Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required.

Submit Cancel

- 17. Certify that your agency has either received official approval from OMB or is exempt from OMB’s review process by clicking **Yes**:

ORR Compliance

Before uploading your agency's regulation for notice and comment in the RICR, your agency **must certify** that it has either received official approval from the Office of Regulatory Reform (ORR) or is exempt from ORR's formal review process.

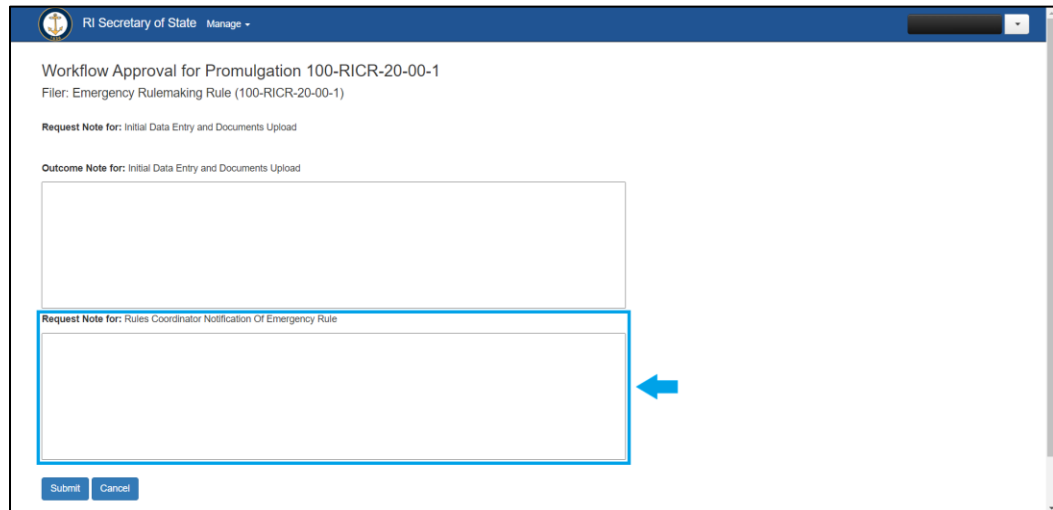
Your agency has not received official approval unless your agency is in receipt of an emailed/dated receipt of ORR clearance from its official submission system.

Do you certify that your agency has either received ORR approval or that your agency is exempt from the process?

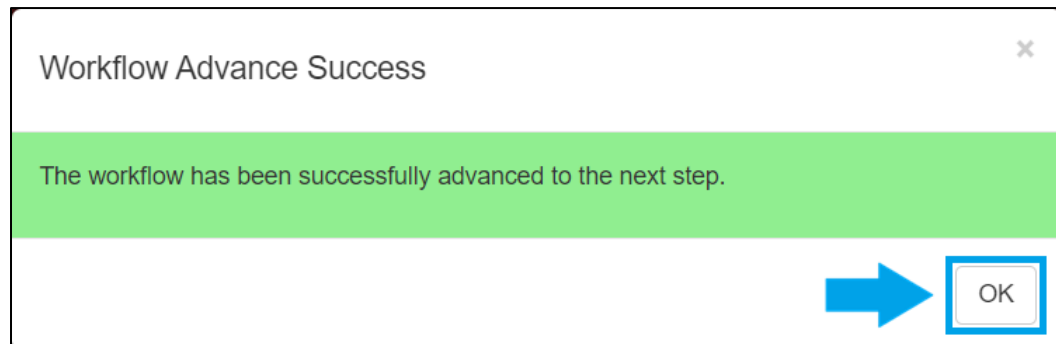
Yes

- a. **If your agency has not received official approval from OMB and is not exempt**, click the DOS logo in the top-left corner to return to the home page. **Do not proceed in the RICR System** until you have official approval. Once your agency receives approval, go back to step 15 to proceed.

18. If you would like to add a note for the DOS, enter text in the **Request Note** and/or click **Submit**:



19. Upon submitting, click **OK** to return to the RICR System homepage:



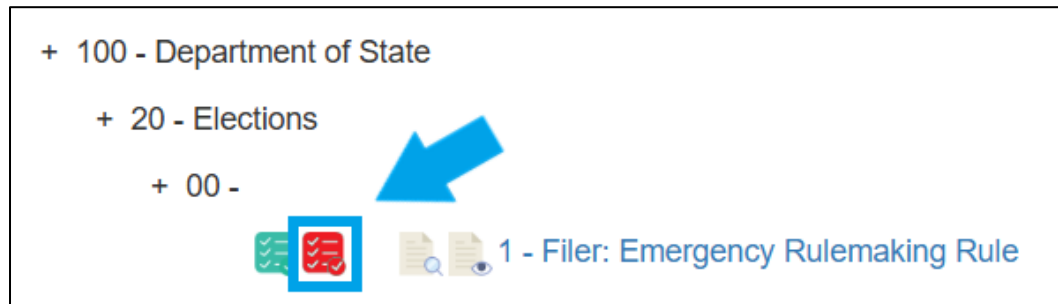
 **COMPLETED:** *Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload*



6.3.1.3.3.2 Rules Coordinator Notification of Emergency Rule

The Rules Coordinator will receive an AWS Notification when it is time to advance if a Filer completed the Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload.

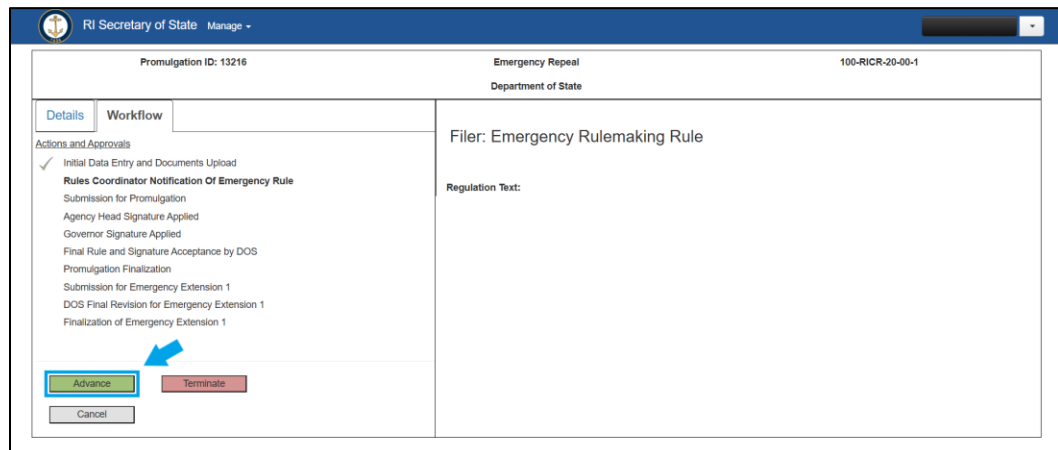
1. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click the **Terminate** icon to end the promulgation process and skip to step 3(b)(i):



2. To continue, click the **Advance Workflow** icon:



3. To advance the rule for the DOS Formatting Review, click **Advance**:



- a. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click **Cancel** to go back; or
- b. Click **Terminate** to end the promulgation process:
 - i. Select a **Termination Reason**, then click **Submit** to terminate, or click **Cancel** to continue the promulgation process:

RI Secretary of State Manage

Workflow Termination for Filing 100-RICR-20-00-1

Filer: Emergency Rulemaking Rule

Request Note for: Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

Termination Reason: *

Abandoned

Note: The reason for termination selected above will not be shown to the public and will not be published.

Note: Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required.

Submit Cancel

- 4. If you would like to add a note for the DOS, enter text in the **Request Note** and/or click **Submit**:

RI Secretary of State Manage

Workflow Approval for Promulgation 100-RICR-20-00-1

Filer: Emergency Rulemaking Rule (100-RICR-20-00-1)

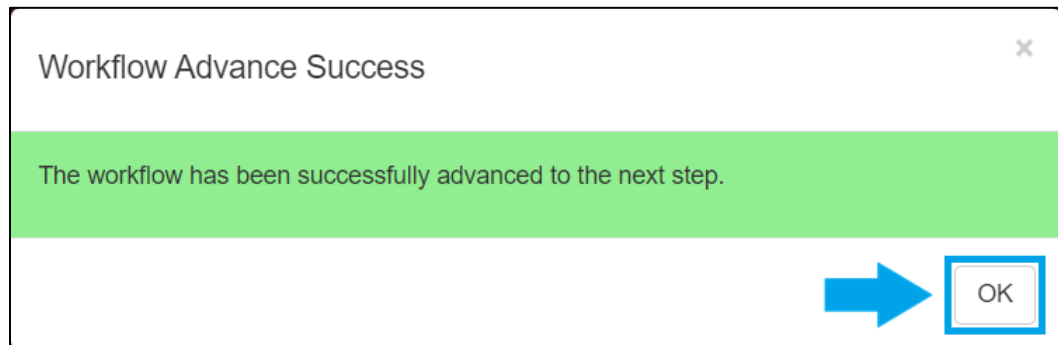
Request Note for: Rules Coordinator Notification Of Emergency Rule

Outcome Note for: Rules Coordinator Notification Of Emergency Rule

Request Note for: Submission for Promulgation

Submit Cancel

5. Upon submitting, click **OK** to return to the RICR System homepage:



 **COMPLETED: *Rules Coordinator Notification of Emergency Rule***

 **6.3.1.3.3 Submission for Promulgation**

This step will be completed automatically by the RICR System.

The RICR System will automatically advance the rule to the next step.

 **6.3.1.3.3.4 Agency Head Signature Applied**

This step will be completed by the Agency Head.

The Agency Head will receive an automated email from OneSpan, the esignature provider, to sign the rule.

 **6.3.1.3.3.5 Governor Signature Applied**

This step will be completed by the Agency Head.

The Governor will receive an automated email from OneSpan, the esignature provider, to sign the rule.



6.3.1.3.3.6 Final Rule and Signature Acceptance by DOS

This step will be completed by the Administrative Records Office.

Once the Agency Head and Governor signs the rule, the Department of State will sign the rule and set the rule's Effective Date.



6.3.1.3.3.7 Promulgation Finalization

This step will be completed automatically by the RICR System.

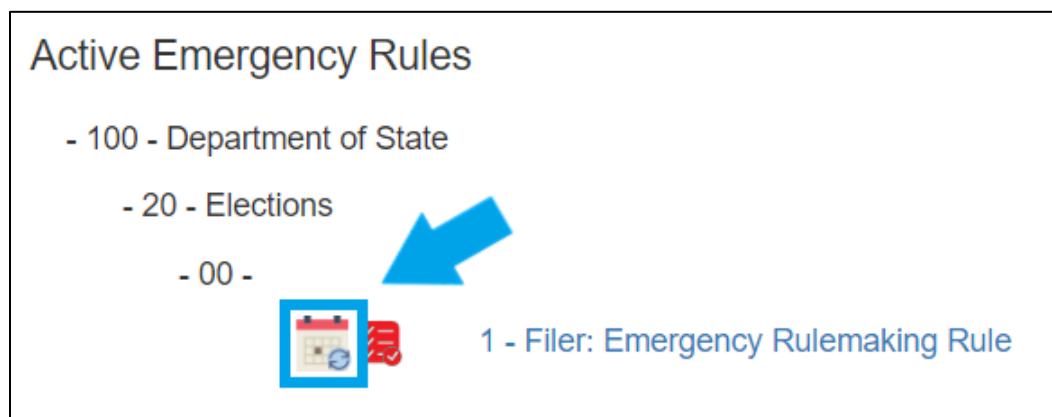
The RICR System will automatically display the Final Regulation in the RICR the day it becomes effective.



6.3.1.3.3.8 Submission for Emergency Extension 1

If the Emergency Rule must be extended:

1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. Under **Active Emergency Rules**, click the **Title**, **Chapter**, and **Subchapter** to open each level, and click the **60-Day Emergency Renewal** icon (calendar) next to the Part to be extended:



3. To confirm the Part should be extended, click **Advance**:

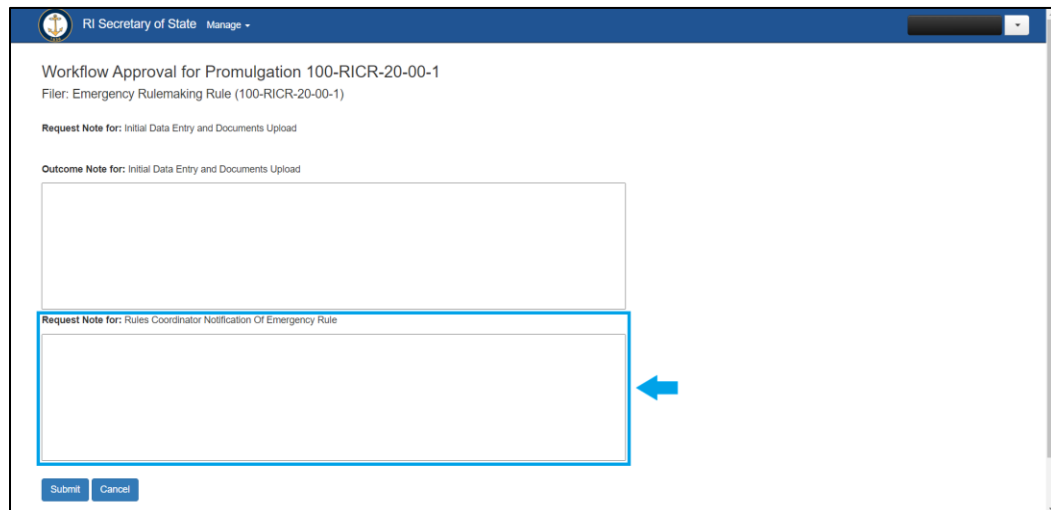
The screenshot shows the 'RI Secretary of State' interface. At the top, it displays 'Promulgation ID: 13187', 'Emergency Repeal', and '100-RICR-20-00-1'. Below this, there are tabs for 'Details' and 'Workflow'. The 'Workflow' tab is active, showing a list of 'Actions and Approvals' with checkmarks next to each item, including 'Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload', 'Rules Coordinator Notification Of Emergency Rule', 'Submission for Promulgation', 'Agency Head Signature Applied', 'Governor Signature Applied', and 'Final Rule and Signature Acceptance by DOS'. Under 'Promulgation Finalization', there are three items: 'Submission for Emergency Extension 1', 'DOS Final Revision for Emergency Extension 1', and 'Finalization of Emergency Extension 1'. At the bottom of the workflow list, there are three buttons: 'Advance' (highlighted with a blue arrow), 'Terminate', and 'Cancel'. To the right of the workflow list, there is a section for 'Filer: Emergency Rulemaking Rule' and 'Regulation Text:'.

- a. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click **Cancel** to go back; or
- b. Click **Terminate** to end the Emergency Rule immediately, which will change the rule's Expiration Date to be set as today's date:
 - i. Select a **Termination Reason**, then click **Submit** to terminate, or click **Cancel** to continue the promulgation process:

The screenshot shows the 'Workflow Termination for Filing 100-RICR-20-00-1' form. It includes the following fields and elements:

- 'Filer: Emergency Rulemaking Rule'
- 'Request Note for: Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload'
- 'Termination Reason: *' with a dropdown menu showing 'Abandoned'
- A red box containing the text: 'Note: The reason for termination selected above will not be shown to the public and will not be published.'
- A red note at the bottom: 'Note: Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required.'
- 'Submit' and 'Cancel' buttons at the bottom.

4. If you would like to add a note for the DOS, enter text in the **Request Note** and/or click **Submit**:



RI Secretary of State Manage

Workflow Approval for Promulgation 100-RICR-20-00-1
Filer: Emergency Rulemaking Rule (100-RICR-20-00-1)

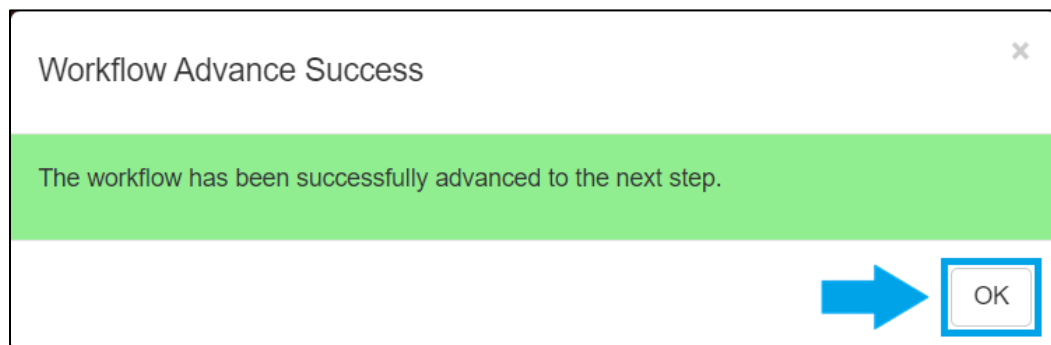
Request Note for: Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

Outcome Note for: Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

Request Note for: Rules Coordinator Notification Of Emergency Rule

Submit Cancel

5. Upon submitting, click **OK** to return to the RICR System homepage:



Workflow Advance Success

The workflow has been successfully advanced to the next step.

OK

 **COMPLETED: *Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload***

 **6.3.1.3.3.9 DOS Final Revision for Emergency Extension 1**

This step will be completed by the Administrative Records Office.

The Department of State will confirm the extension and advance the rule.



6.3.1.3.3.10 Finalization of Emergency Extension 1

This step will be completed automatically by the RICR System.

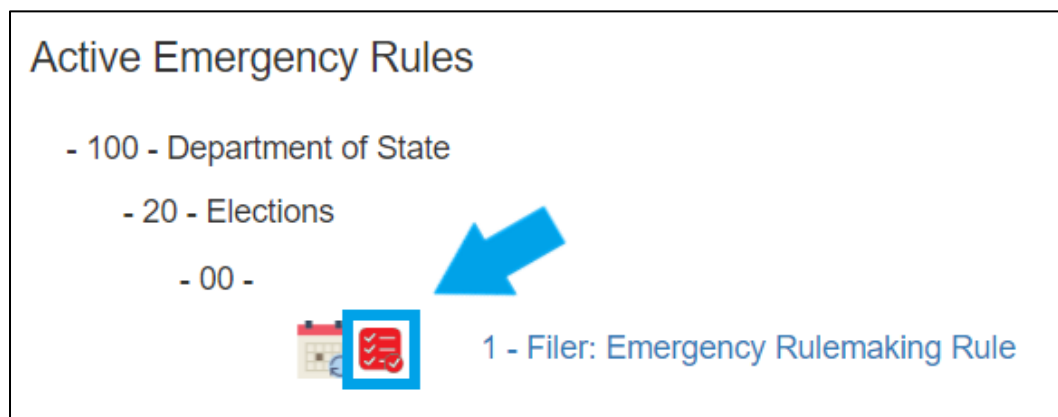
The RICR System will automatically extend the Expiration Date for the Emergency Regulation in the RICR.



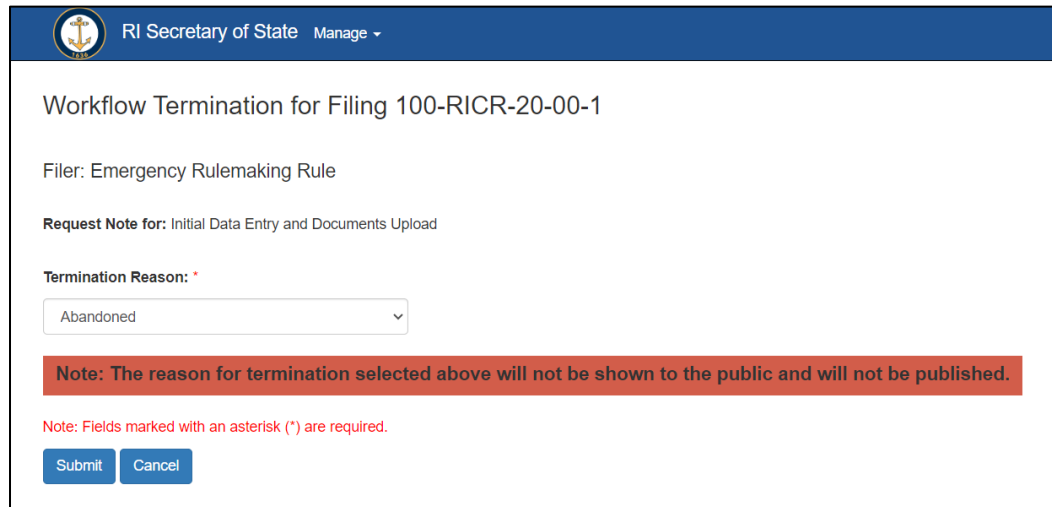
6.3.1.3.3.11 Early Termination

If the Emergency Rule must be terminated before the set Expiration Date:

1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. Under **Active Emergency Rules**, click the **Title**, **Chapter**, and **Subchapter** to open each level, and click the **Terminate** icon next to the Part to be terminated:



3. Select a **Termination Reason**, then click **Submit** to terminate, or click **Cancel**:



RI Secretary of State Manage

Workflow Termination for Filing 100-RICR-20-00-1

Filer: Emergency Rulemaking Rule

Request Note for: Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

Termination Reason: *

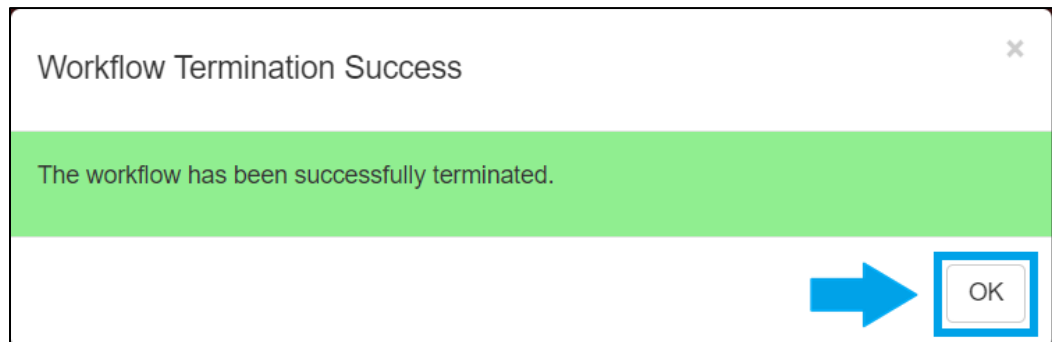
Abandoned

Note: The reason for termination selected above will not be shown to the public and will not be published.

Note: Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required.

Submit Cancel

4. Upon submitting, click **OK** to return to the RICR System homepage:



Workflow Termination Success

The workflow has been successfully terminated.

OK



6.3.1.3.3.11.1 Finalization of Termination

This step will be completed automatically by the RICR System.

The RICR System will automatically change the Expiration Date for the Emergency Regulation in the RICR to today's date.

It is the Rules Coordinator's responsibility to download the signed Regulation for the agency's files to be permanently retained per [GRS2.5 Rulemaking Files](#).

Final Regulations can be downloaded by opening the active Part in the [RICR](#), clicking the **Regulation** tab, and clicking **Download Regulation**:

The screenshot displays the 'Records Management' interface. At the top left, the identifier '100-RICR-50-00-1' is shown next to a green 'ACTIVE RULE' status tag. Below this is a horizontal navigation bar with five tabs: 'Regulation Text', 'Overview', 'Regulation', 'History', and 'Rulemaking Documents'. The 'Regulation' tab is highlighted with a blue background and a blue arrow labeled '1' points to it. Below the navigation bar, a 'Download Regulation' button is visible, highlighted with a blue border and a blue arrow labeled '2' points to it.

6.3.1.3.4 Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

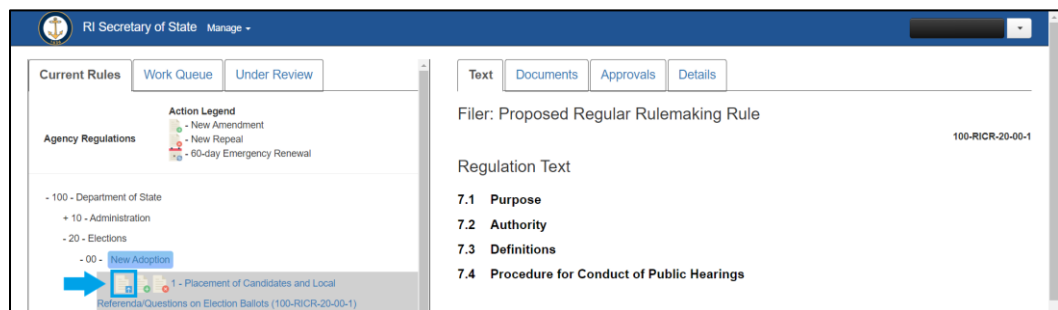
For information regarding this Rulemaking Action, see [§ 3.3.4 of this Guide](#).

Actions to be Completed	User to Complete
Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload	Filer
Generation of the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking	Filer
Public Comment Period Begin	RICR Filing System & Filer

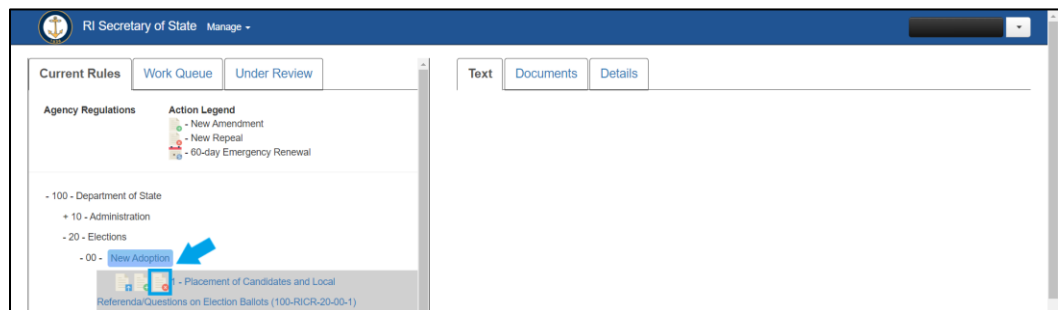


6.3.1.3.4.1 Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. In the **Current Rules** tab, click the **Title**, **Chapter**, **Subchapter**, and **Part** to open each level, then click the **Download Document** icon to draft the repeal (see [§ 5.1.2.3 of this guide](#) for additional information):



3. Once the Proposed Rule draft is ready, in the **Current Rules** tab, click the **Title**, **Chapter**, **Subchapter**, and **Part** to open each level, then click the **New Repeal** icon promulgate a repeal:



4. Enter and confirm the **Rulemaking Filing Details**:

RI Secretary of State Manage ▾

Department of State

Rulemaking Type: Repeal

Rulemaking Action: * ? a Proposed Emergency Advance Notice

Rule Identifier: 100-RICR-20-00-1

Regulation Title: Filer: Proposed Regular Rulemaking Rule

Rulemaking Authority: * b

- a. Choose **Advance Notice** for the **Rulemaking Action** and **Rulemaking Process**;

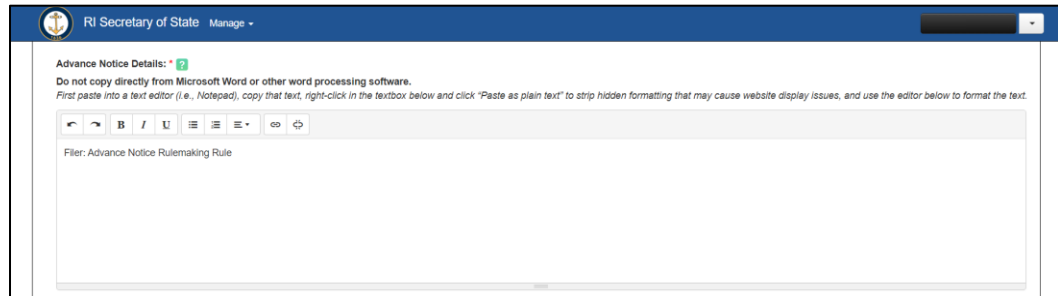
Rulemaking Action: * ? Proposed Emergency Advance Notice

- b. Confirm the **Regulation Title** uses sentence case (i.e., use “Conduct of Public Hearings”, not “CONDUCT OF PUBLIC HEARINGS”); and
- c. Confirm the appropriate authority from the dropdown, enter the **Rulemaking Authority** citation, and click **Add**.
- i. To remove a **Rulemaking Authority**, click to select the citation to remove from the list and click **Remove**:

1

2

5. Enter the **Advance Notice Details** to indicate where, when, and how persons may comment before the rulemaking process begins (any meeting held is open to the Open Meetings Act and subject [to R.I. Gen. Laws Chapter 42-46](#)):
 - a. If copying text from another document, follow the directions on screen to strip all erroneous formatting.



6. Confirm the **Additional Information URL** to indicate the location on your website where the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking is published as required by [R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.7](#):

7. Review to ensure all entered text is correct and click **Submit**.
 - a. At any point during the above process, if you don't wish to move forward, click **Cancel** to prevent the Part number from being used.



8. **DO NOT CLICK ANYTHING UNTIL ALL OPTIONS ARE REVIEWED**
 There are three (3) options to move forward based on if documents need to be uploaded or not, *and two (2) options have immediate ramifications.*

Advance Notice Rulemaking does not require documents to be uploaded, however, if the promulgating agency wants or needs to upload documents, the following optional documents may be uploaded:

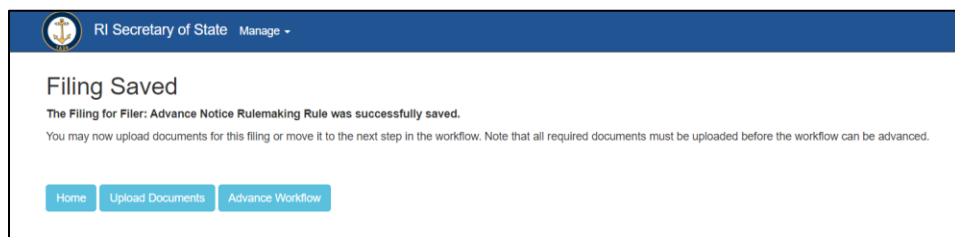
- Proposed Rule
- Index of Studies/Reports*
- Internal Organization Document*
- Petition*
- Additional Documentation*
- Studies/Reports*

**This document type cannot be uploaded alone. A Proposed Rule must also be uploaded to be able to advance to the next step.*

Read through all three options carefully before determining and taking action to advance to the next step:

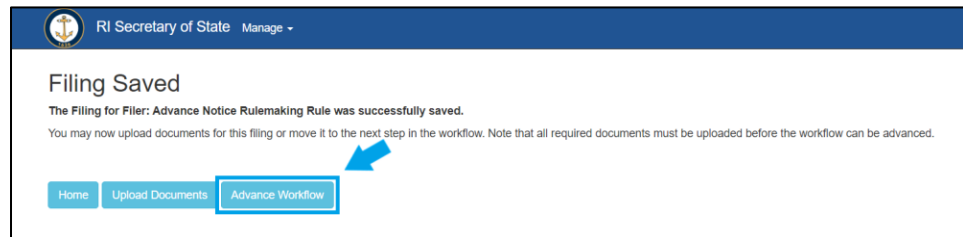
- Advance Workflow** – Choose if you don't need to upload documents.
If you choose this option, documents may still be uploaded later if need be.
See step 9 for next steps.
- Upload Documents** – Choose if you need to upload documents.
*If you choose this option and documents do not actually need to be uploaded, the RICR System will not allow you to advance the workflow until a Proposed Rule is uploaded, so you **will need to terminate the rule and start over** if you do not wish to upload a Proposed Rule.*
See step 10 for next steps.
- Home** – Equivalent to choosing Upload Documents, do not use.
*If you choose this option and documents do not actually need to be uploaded, the RICR System will not allow you to advance the workflow until a Proposed Rule is uploaded, so you **will need to terminate the rule and start over** if you do not wish to upload a Proposed Rule.*

If accidentally clicked, see step 11 for next steps.

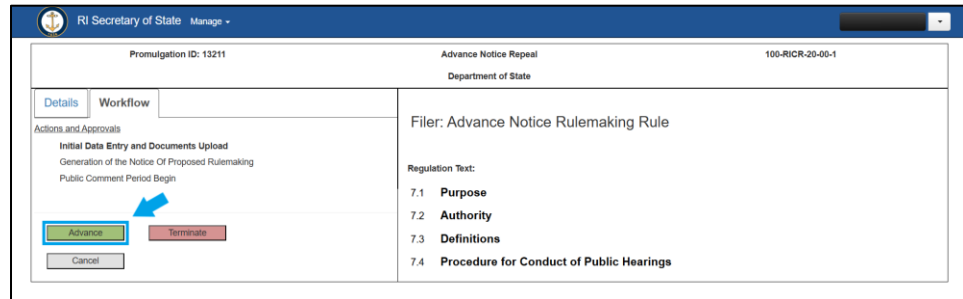


9. For **Advance Workflow**:

- a. Click **Advance Workflow**:

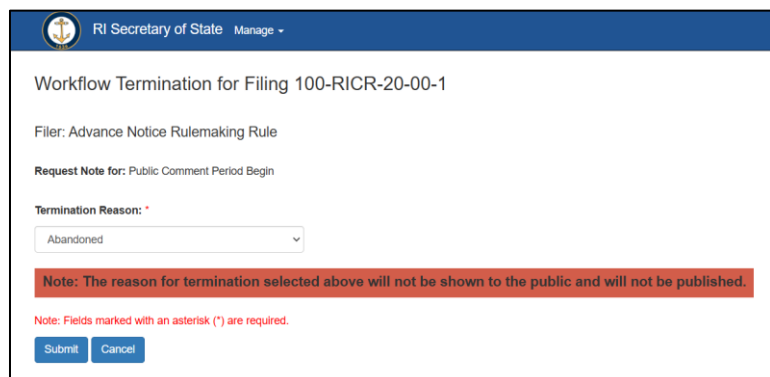


- b. To advance the rule to generate the Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, click **Advance** and skip to step 12:



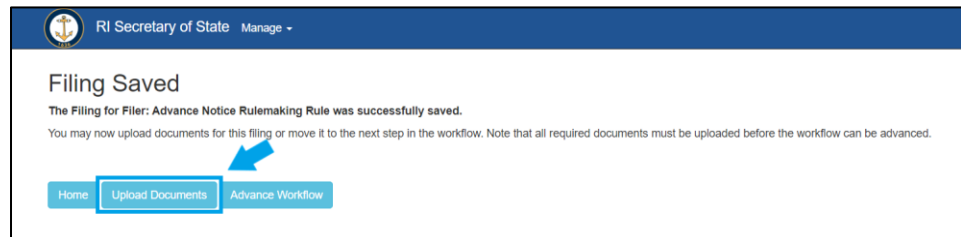
- i. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that documents need to be uploaded, click **Cancel** and skip to step 11(b); or
- ii. Click **Terminate** to end the promulgation process:

- (1) Select a **Termination Reason**, then click **Submit** to terminate, or click **Cancel** to continue the promulgation process:

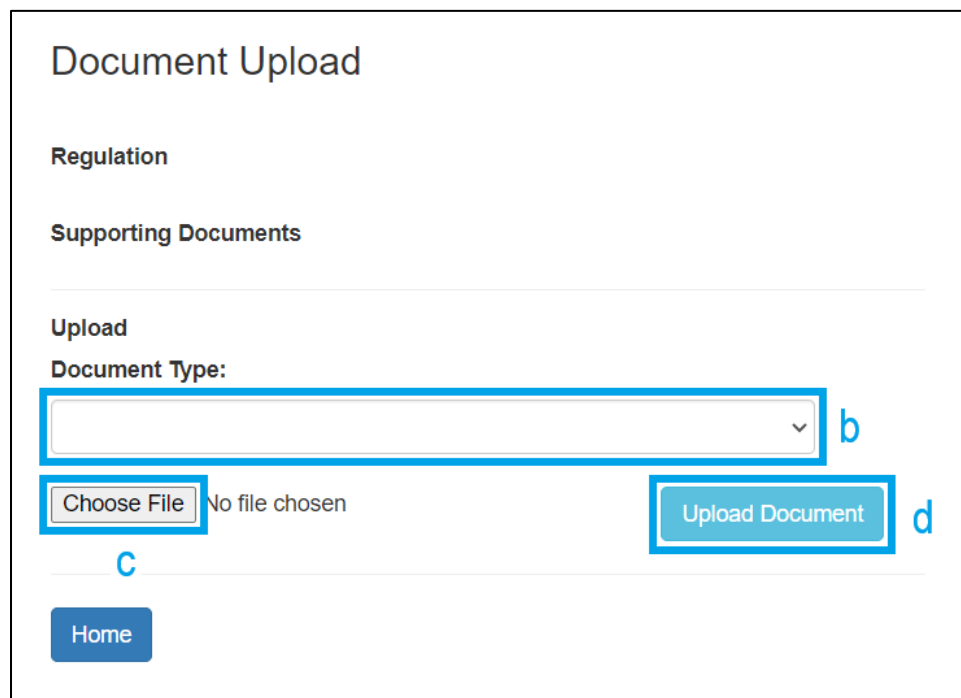


10. For **Upload Documents**:

- a. Click **Upload Documents**:



- b. Select from the dropdown the **Document Type**:



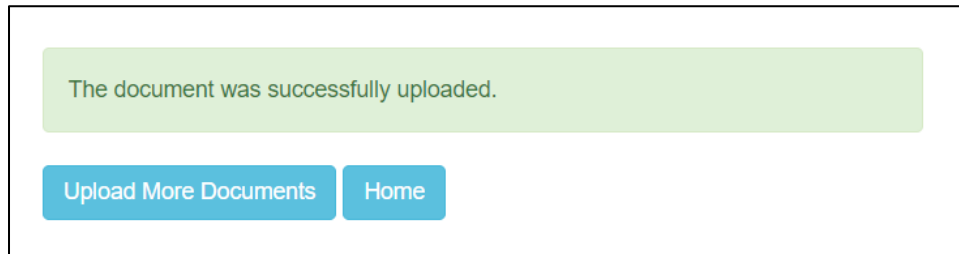
- Proposed Rule
- Index of Studies/Reports*
- Internal Organization Document*
- Petition*
- Additional Documentation*
- Studies/Reports*

**This document type cannot be uploaded alone. A Proposed Rule must also be uploaded to be able to advance to the next step.*

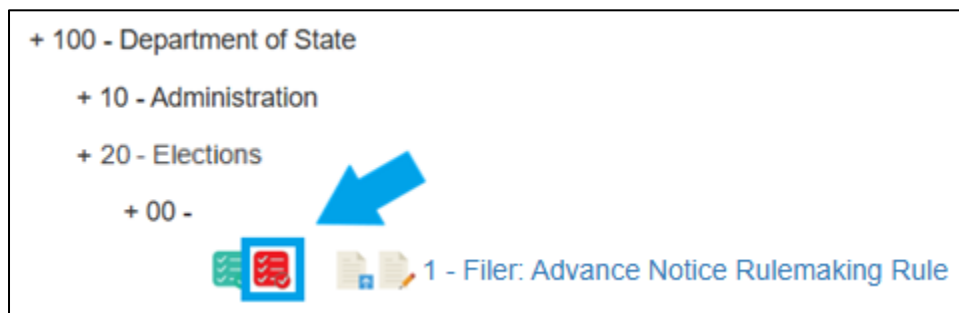
- c. Click **Choose File** to select the document from your computer.
- d. Click **Upload Document** to upload.

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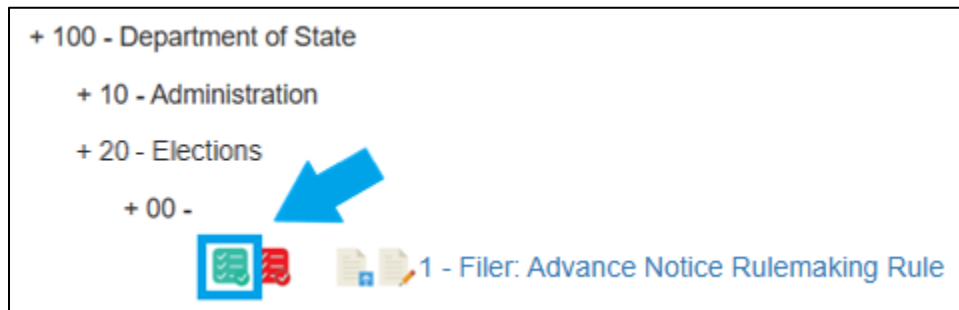
- e. If additional documents need to be uploaded, click **Upload More Documents** and repeat steps b-e for each additional document (you will not be able to advance the rule until the Proposed Rule is uploaded), or click **Home**:



- f. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click the **Terminate** icon to end the promulgation process and skip to step 10(h)(ii)(1):



- g. To continue, click the **Advance Workflow** icon:



- h. To advance the rule to generate the Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, click **Advance** and skip to step 12:

The screenshot shows the 'RI Secretary of State' portal with a 'Manage' dropdown. The main content area is titled 'Promulgation ID: 13211' and 'Advance Notice Repeat' for filing '100-RICR-20-00-1'. It features a 'Workflow' tab and a 'Details' tab. Under 'Actions and Approvals', the current step is 'Public Comment Period Begin'. A blue arrow points to the 'Advance' button. Other buttons include 'Terminate' and 'Cancel'. The right sidebar shows 'Filer: Advance Notice Rulemaking Rule' and a 'Regulation Text' section with items 7.1 Purpose, 7.2 Authority, 7.3 Definitions, and 7.4 Procedure for Conduct of Public Hearings.

- i. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click **Cancel** to go back; or
- ii. Click **Terminate** to end the promulgation process:

(1) Select a **Termination Reason**, then click **Submit** to terminate, or click **Cancel** to continue the promulgation process:

The screenshot shows the 'Workflow Termination for Filing 100-RICR-20-00-1' form. It includes fields for 'Filer: Advance Notice Rulemaking Rule' and 'Request Note for: Public Comment Period Begin'. A 'Termination Reason' dropdown menu is set to 'Abandoned'. A red banner below the dropdown states: 'Note: The reason for termination selected above will not be shown to the public and will not be published.' A smaller red note below that says: 'Note: Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required.' At the bottom are 'Submit' and 'Cancel' buttons.

11. **DO NOT USE - ONLY FOLLOW IF ACCIDENTALLY CHOSEN**

For **Home**:

- a. Click **Home**:

The screenshot shows a 'Filing Saved' confirmation message. The text reads: 'The Filing for Filer: Advance Notice Rulemaking Rule was successfully saved. You may now upload documents for this filing or move it to the next step in the workflow. Note that all required documents must be uploaded before the workflow can be advanced.' A blue arrow points to the 'Home' button in the navigation bar at the bottom, which also includes 'Upload Documents' and 'Advance Workflow' buttons.

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- b. Click the **Upload Documents** icon next to the Part in the **Work Queue** tab to upload documents to be able to advance the rule:



- c. Select from the dropdown the **Document Type**:

The screenshot shows the 'Document Upload' form. It has sections for 'Regulation' and 'Supporting Documents'. Under 'Supporting Documents', there is an 'Upload' section with a 'Document Type:' dropdown menu (labeled 'c'), a 'Choose File' button (labeled 'd') with 'No file chosen' text, and an 'Upload Document' button (labeled 'e'). A 'Home' button is at the bottom left.

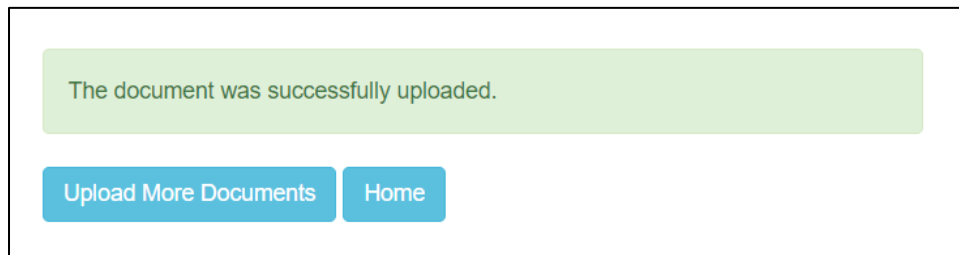
- Proposed Rule
- Index of Studies/Reports*
- Internal Organization Document*
- Petition*
- Additional Documentation*
- Studies/Reports*

**This document type cannot be uploaded alone. A Proposed Rule must also be uploaded to be able to advance to the next step.*

- d. Click **Choose File** to select the document from your computer.

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- e. Click **Upload Document** to upload.
- f. If additional documents need to be uploaded, click **Upload More Documents** and repeat steps c-f for each additional document (you will not be able to advance the rule until the Proposed Rule is uploaded), or click **Home**:



- g. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click the **Terminate** icon to end the promulgation process and skip to step 11(i)(ii)(1):



- h. To continue, click the **Advance Workflow** icon:



- i. To advance the rule to generate the Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, click **Advance** and skip to step 12:

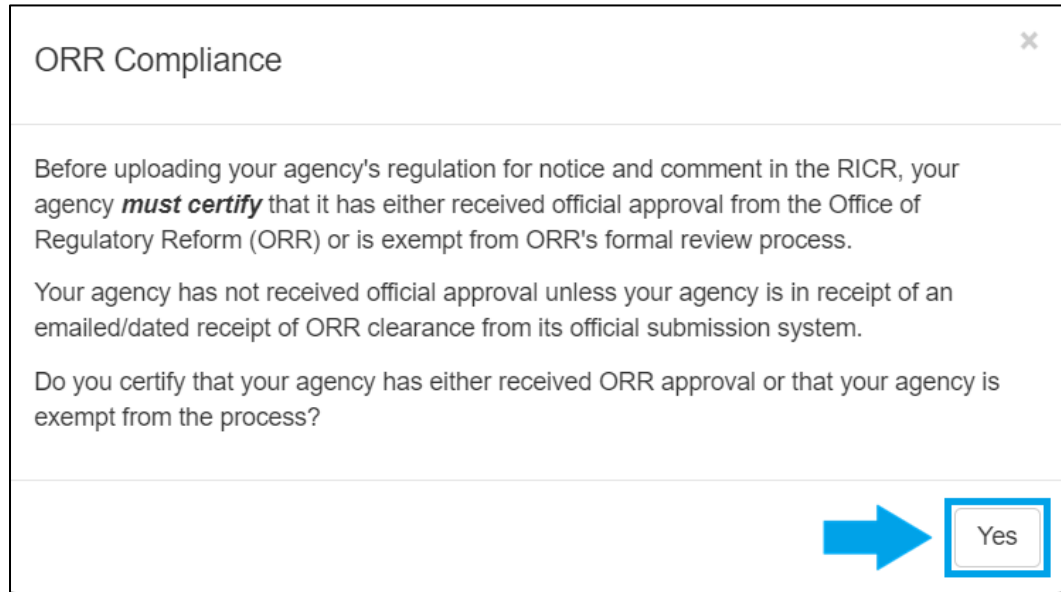
The screenshot shows the 'RI Secretary of State' workflow interface. At the top, it displays 'Promulgation ID: 13211', 'Advance Notice Repeat', and '100-RICR-20-00-1'. Below this, there are tabs for 'Details' and 'Workflow'. The 'Workflow' tab is active, showing a sequence of steps: 'Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload', 'Generation of the Notice Of Proposed Rulemaking', and 'Public Comment Period Begin'. A blue arrow points to the 'Advance' button, which is highlighted in green. Other buttons visible are 'Terminate' (red) and 'Cancel' (grey). To the right, the 'Regulation Text' section lists: 7.1 Purpose, 7.2 Authority, 7.3 Definitions, and 7.4 Procedure for Conduct of Public Hearings.

- i. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click **Cancel** to go back; or
- ii. Click **Terminate** to end the promulgation process:

(1) Select a **Termination Reason**, then click **Submit** to terminate, or click **Cancel** to continue the promulgation process:

The screenshot shows the 'Workflow Termination for Filing 100-RICR-20-00-1' form. It includes the following fields and elements: 'Filer: Advance Notice Rulemaking Rule', 'Request Note for: Public Comment Period Begin', and a 'Termination Reason' dropdown menu with 'Abandoned' selected. A red banner below the dropdown contains the text: 'Note: The reason for termination selected above will not be shown to the public and will not be published.' At the bottom, there is a note: 'Note: Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required.' and two buttons: 'Submit' and 'Cancel'.

12. Certify that your agency *will* receive official approval from OMB if the rule is to be fully promulgated or is exempt from OMB’s review process by clicking **Yes**:



ORR Compliance [X]

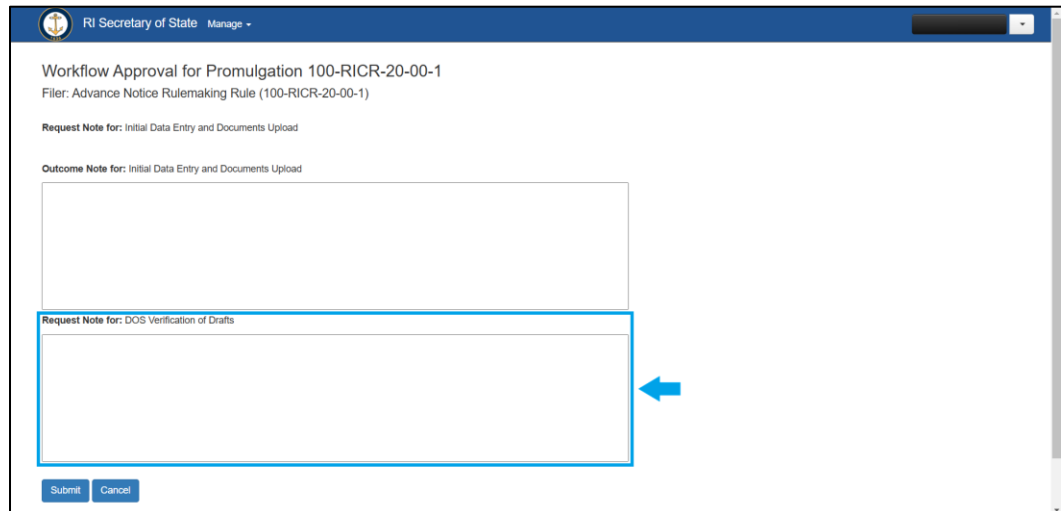
Before uploading your agency's regulation for notice and comment in the RICR, your agency **must certify** that it has either received official approval from the Office of Regulatory Reform (ORR) or is exempt from ORR's formal review process.

Your agency has not received official approval unless your agency is in receipt of an emailed/dated receipt of ORR clearance from its official submission system.

Do you certify that your agency has either received ORR approval or that your agency is exempt from the process?

[Yes]

13. If you would like to add a note for the DOS for the future DOS review, enter text in the **Request Note** and/or click **Submit**:



RI Secretary of State Manage

Workflow Approval for Promulgation 100-RICR-20-00-1
Filer: Advance Notice Rulemaking Rule (100-RICR-20-00-1)

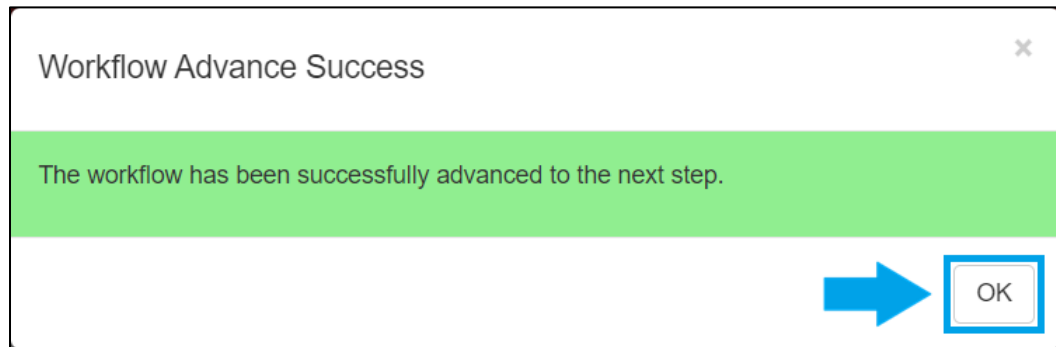
Request Note for: Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

Outcome Note for: Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

Request Note for: DOS Verification of Drafts

Submit Cancel

14. Upon submitting, click **OK** to return to the RICR System homepage:

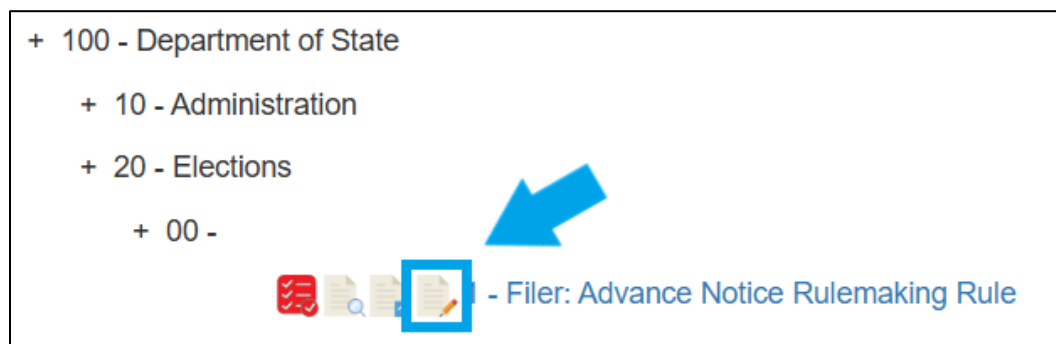


 **COMPLETED: Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload**

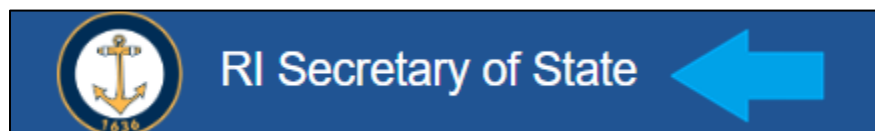
 **6.3.1.3.4.2 Generation of the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking**

1. In the **Work Queue** tab, click on the **Title**, **Chapter**, and **Subchapter** to open each level to view the rule.
2. If for any reason the rule details need to be updated, click the **Edit Filing** icon to update the **Regulation Title**, **Rulemaking Authority**, and **Advance Notice Details**, then click **Submit** once the details are updated:

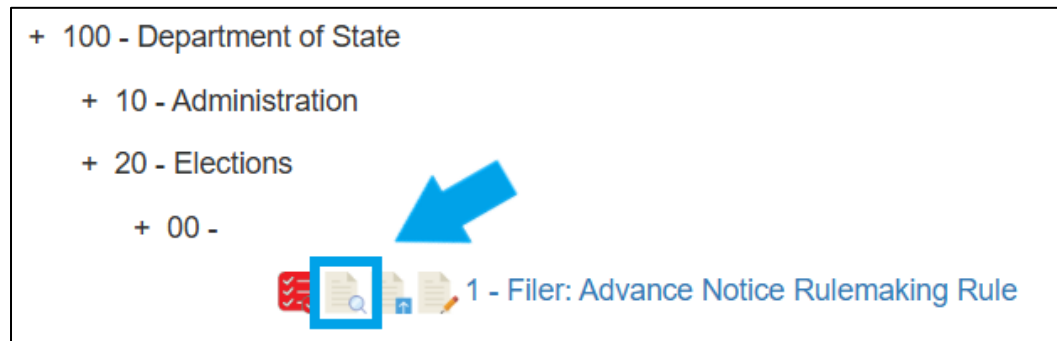
Once the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking is generated and published, this information cannot be changed.



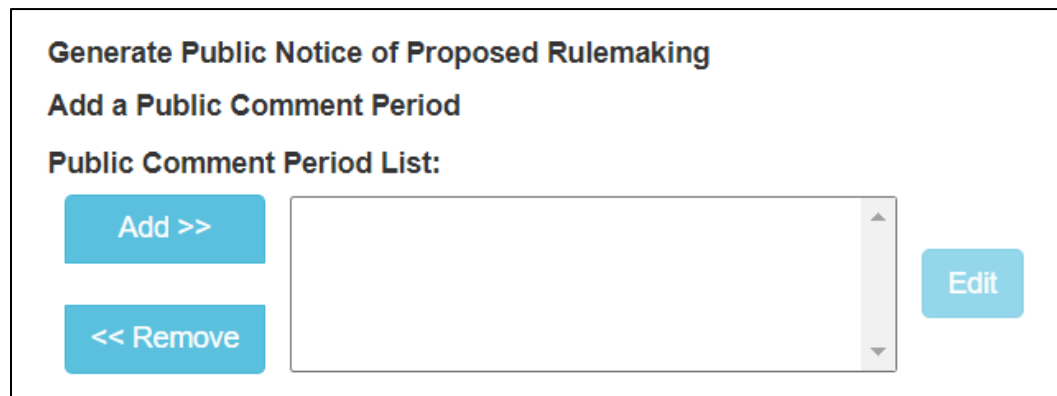
- a. Once completed, click the Department of State logo to navigate back to the homepage:



3. Click the **Generate/Review Docs** icon:



4. Click **Add >>** under **Public Comment Period List**, and click **Edit** and **<< Remove** as necessary to adjust the Public Comment Period:



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5. Fill out the form to add a Public Comment Period – all fields are required:

Public Comment Period
✕

Date of Public Notice:

08/13/2024

Date of End of Comment Period: * ?

Full Name of Contact Person: *

Contact Person Email: *

Contact Person Address: *

, RI

Allow online public comments? *

Yes No

- a. The **Date of End of Comment Period** will automatically show the minimum first eligible date to be chosen, but you may choose a future date if needed.
- b. Agencies may use the RICR Filing System to accept public comments by selecting **Yes** to **Allow online public comments?**. Agencies may opt out by selecting **No**.
 - i. If **Yes** is selected, you have the option to specify dates for when your agency wants to allow online public comments within the Public Comment Period.

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6. If there will be a hearing, click on the Public Comment Period, then click **Add >>** under **Add a Public Hearing:**

Generate Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

Add a Public Comment Period

Public Comment Period List:

Add >> 08/23/2024 - 08/23/2024 **Edit**

<< Remove

Add a Public Hearing: ?

Add >> **Edit**

<< Remove

7. Fill out the form to add a Public Hearing - all fields are required:

Public Hearing [Close]

Hearing date/time: *

MM/DD/YYYY Time: [Dropdown] PM [Dropdown]

Hearing Location: *

Address Line 1

Address Line 2

Address Line 3

City State: Rhode Island Zipcode

Phone Number for Special Assistance: *

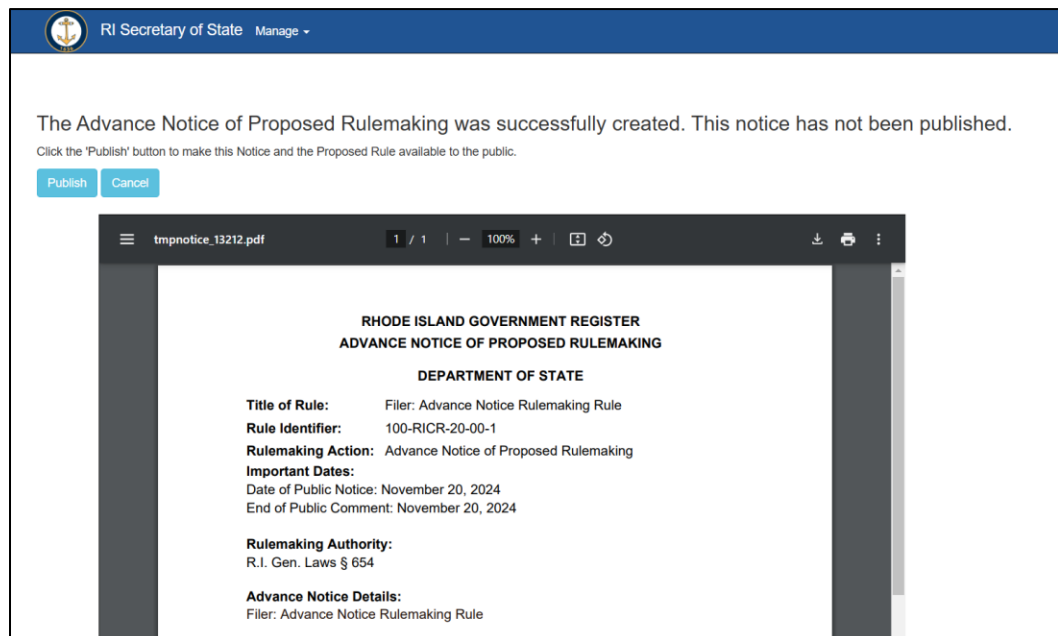
Phone Phone Extension

OK Cancel

8. Click **Generate Notice** (this will not publish the rule, only preview the notice):



9. Review the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking:



- a. If any information within the notice is incorrect, click **Cancel** to go back and edit to update the information and complete steps as necessary.
- b. Once information is confirmed to be correct, click **Publish** to approve the notice and publish the rule in the RICR.

10. Click **Home** to return to the RICR home page:

- a. If after the notice is published there needs to be any changes made, click **Amend Public Notice** to create and publish an additional notice with corrections.

Documents Published

Rule Identifier: 100-RICR-20-00-1

Title of Rule: Filer: Advance Notice Rulemaking Rule

The following documents are now available to the public:

- [Proposed Rule](#)
- [Public Notice of Proposed Rulemaking](#)

Amend Public Notice
Home


 **COMPLETED: Generation of the Notice Of Proposed Rulemaking**

At this time, the Proposed Rule is now live in the RICR and may be viewed by completing the following:

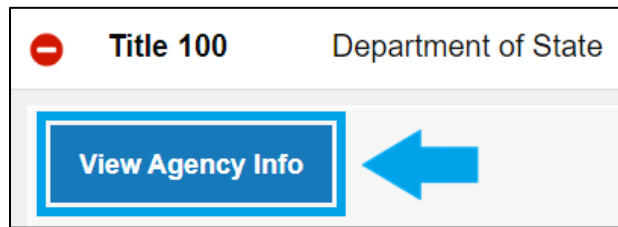
1. Go to <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/organizations>.
2. Locate the associated Title within the Table of Contents.
3. Click the plus sign (+) next to the Title:

Table of Contents

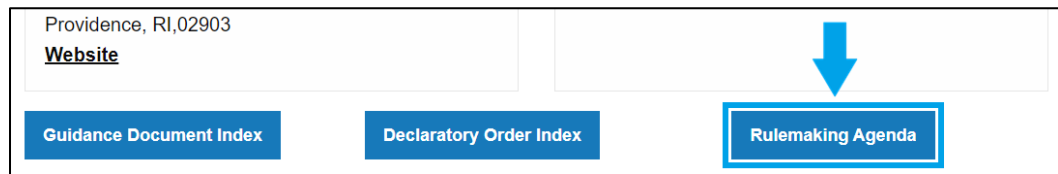
Show entries Filter by Agency

	Title	Agency
	Title 100	Department of State

4. Click **Agency Info**:



5. Click **Rulemaking Agenda**:



6. Locate the correct Proposed Rule and click the rule name to view:



- Click through the navigation tabs to view the **Overview**, **Regulation**, **History**, **Rulemaking Documents**, and **Comments**:

The screenshot shows the top portion of the 'Filer: Advance Notice Rulemaking Rule' page. At the top, there is a breadcrumb trail: '100-RICR-20-00-1' followed by 'ADVANCE NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE'. Below this is a navigation bar with five tabs: 'Overview', 'Regulation', 'History', 'Rulemaking Documents', and 'Comments'. A blue arrow points to the 'Comments' tab. To the right of the navigation bar is a 'Download Regulation' button. On the far right, there are two buttons: 'Home' and 'RICR FAQs'. Below these is a 'Search Regulations' section with a search box containing 'ex. fish, 120-RICR-00-00-12345', an 'Exact Match' checkbox, a dropdown for 'Agencies' (set to 'Select an agency'), a 'Sort by' dropdown (set to 'Relevance'), and an 'In Order of' dropdown (set to 'Descending'). A 'Search' button is at the bottom of this section. The main content area shows a preview of the rule text:

```

400-RICR-20-00-4
TITLE 100 – DEPARTMENT OF STATE
CHAPTER 20 – ADMINISTRATION
SUBCHAPTER 00 – N/A
PART 1 – CONDUCT OF PUBLIC HEARINGS
7.1 – Purpose
    
```

- The **Overview** tab displays the rule details:

The screenshot shows the 'Overview' tab selected in the navigation bar. The page title is 'Filer: Advance Notice Rulemaking Rule'. Below the breadcrumb trail, there is a 'Notify Me' button. The main content is organized into two tables. The first table lists the rule's structure:

Title	100	Department of State
Chapter	20	Elections
Subchapter	00	N/A
Part	1	Filer: Advance Notice Rulemaking Rule

The second table provides filing and status information:

Type of Filing	Repeal
Regulation Status	Advance Notice View Active Rule
Filing Notice Date	11/19/2024
Public Comment Dates	11/19/2024 to 11/20/2024

Below the tables, the 'Regulation Authority' is listed as 'R.I. Gen. Laws § 564'. The 'Advance Notice Details' section shows 'Filer: Advance Notice Rulemaking Rule'.



6.3.1.3.4.3 Public Comment Period Begin

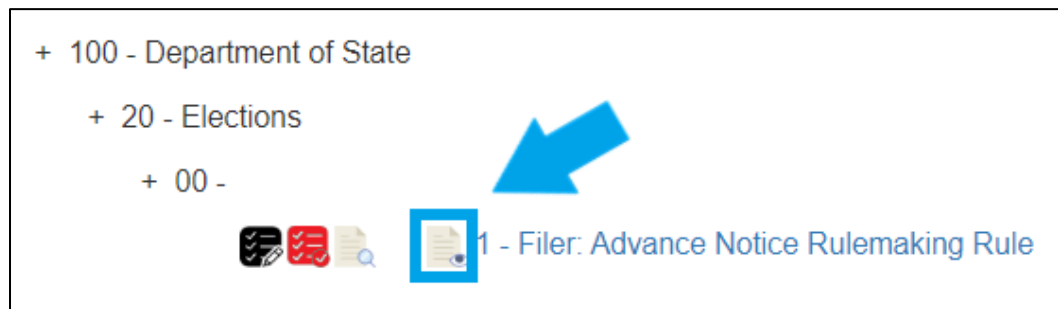
The first half of this step will be completed automatically by the RICR System to start the Public Comment Period in the RICR.

If online public comments were allowed, you may review comments as they are submitted, or at the end of the Public Comment Period. See step 2 in the following section ([§ 6.3.1.3.4.3 of this Guide](#)) for how to review comments and generate a public comment document compiling all submitted rules.

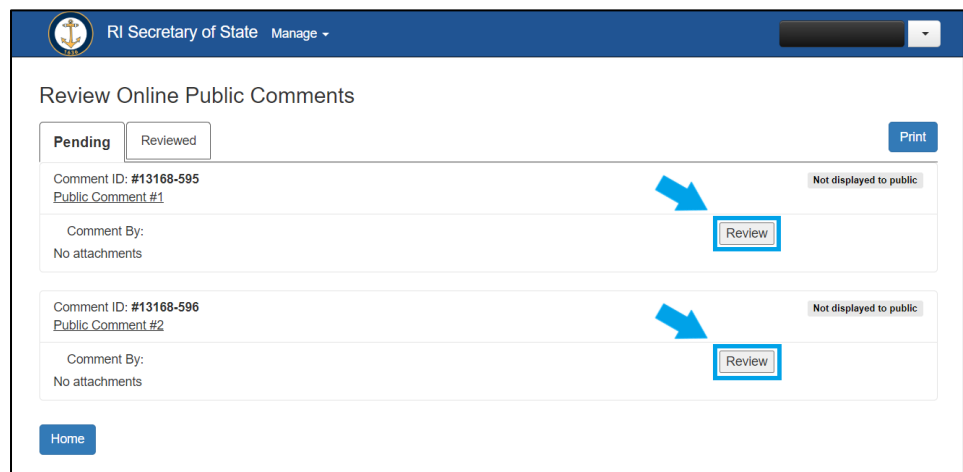


6.3.1.3.4.4 Public Comment Period Begin

1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. If online public comments were allowed, click the Review Comments icon, otherwise skip to step 3:



- a. Review every rule listed under the **Pending** tab by clicking **Review** for each comment submitted:



- i. Select to display the comment in the RICR or not, add any internal and public notes, and click **OK** to approve:

Online Public Comment Review

Comment By: **First Last**
On: **08/13/2024**
Comment: **Public Comment #1**
Comment display to public is **disabled** and not yet reviewed

Enable public comment display? Yes No

Internal Review Notes

Public Review Notes

Display these Public Review Notes to the public: ?

OK Cancel

- b. Click the **Reviewed** tab to view who reviewed the comment, when it was approved, and review again if necessary:

RI Secretary of State Manage

Review Online Public Comments

Pending **Reviewed** Print

Comment ID: #13168-595
Public Comment #1 Displayed to public

Comment By:
No attachments
Reviews:

Reviewed By:
On:

Review

Comment ID: #13168-596
Public Comment #2 Displayed to public

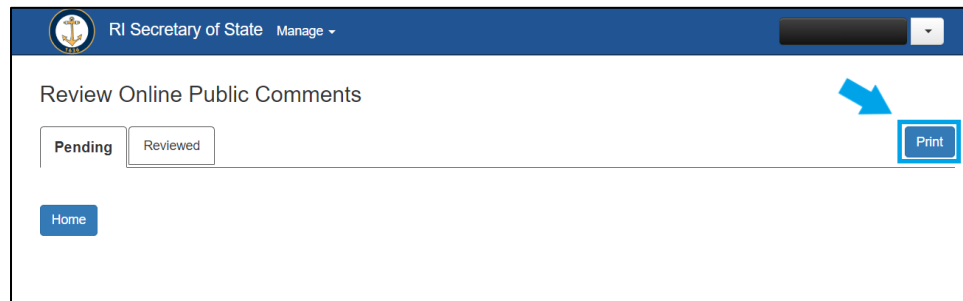
Comment By:
No attachments
Reviews:

Reviewed By:
On:

Review

Home

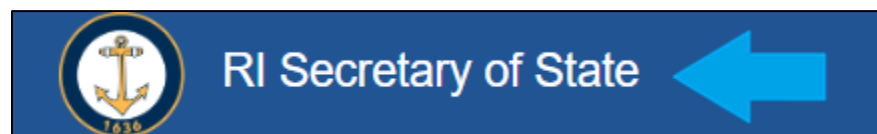
- c. Click **Print** to generate a public comment document:



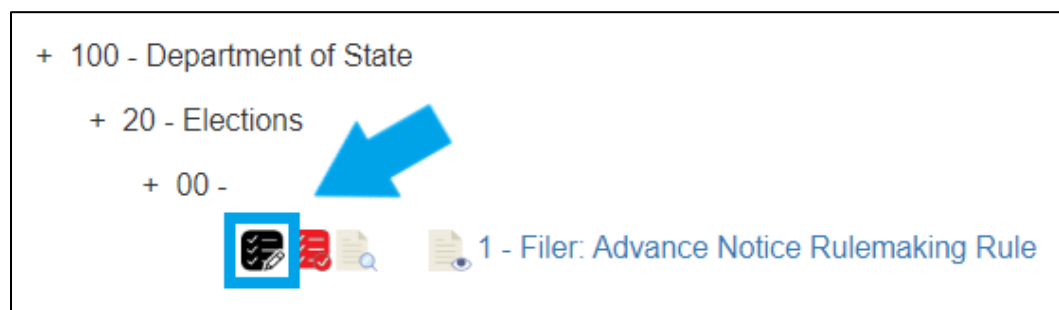
- d. Click the down arrow at the top-right of the PDF viewer to download the document so that it can be used to upload as the part of the final rulemaking documents:



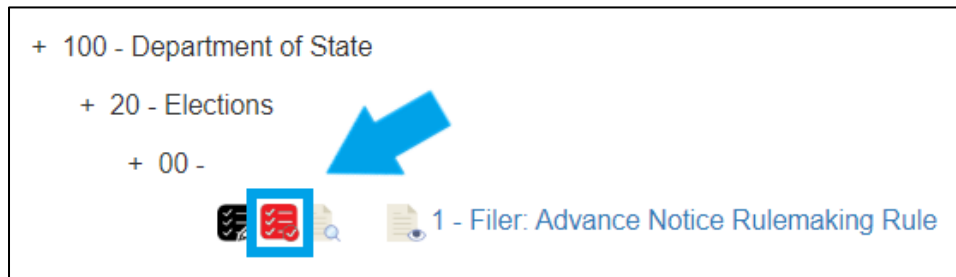
- e. To navigate back to the homepage, click the Department of State logo:



3. To start rulemaking, in the **Work Queue** tab, click on the **Title**, **Chapter**, and **Subchapter** to open each level, then click the **Start Rulemaking** icon:



- a. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click the **Terminate** icon to end the promulgation process:



- b. Select a **Termination Reason**, then click **Submit** to terminate.



DO NOT CLICK Cancel - THIS WILL START PROPOSED REGULAR RULEMAKING.

Instead, click the RICR logo at the top-left corner to go back if need be.

4. Enter and confirm the **Rulemaking Filing Details**:

- a. Choose the **Rulemaking Action** and **Rulemaking Process** to start rulemaking, either **Proposed Regular**, **Proposed Direct Final**, or **Emergency**:

If another Advance Notice Public Comment Period is necessary, choose Advance Notice.

Rulemaking Action: * ?	<input type="radio"/> Proposed	<input type="radio"/> Emergency	<input type="radio"/> Advance Notice
Rulemaking Process: * ?	<input type="radio"/> Regular	<input type="radio"/> Direct Final	

- b. Confirm the **Regulation Title** is correct and uses sentence case (i.e., use “Conduct of Public Hearings”, not “CONDUCT OF PUBLIC HEARINGS”); and
- c. Confirm the Rulemaking Authority is correct and update as necessary by selecting the appropriate authority from the dropdown, enter the **Rulemaking Authority** citation, and click **Add**.
 - i. To remove a **Rulemaking Authority**, click to select the citation to remove from the list and click **Remove**:

The screenshot shows a dropdown menu with the text "R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35" selected. To the left of the dropdown are two buttons: "Add >>" and "<< Remove". A blue box highlights the "Remove" button, and a blue box highlights the selected text in the dropdown. A small blue number "1" is next to the selected text, and a small blue number "2" is next to the "Remove" button.

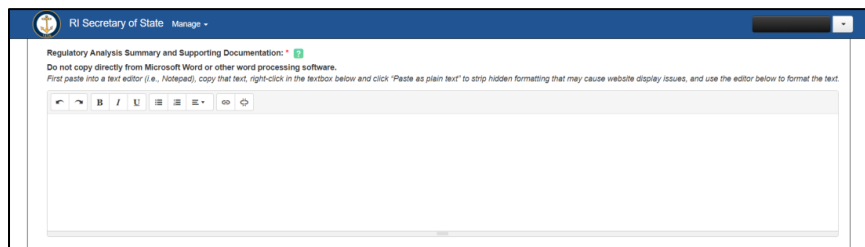
- d. If **Proposed Regular** or **Proposed Direct Final** was chosen:
 - i. Enter the **Summary of Proposed Rule** in plain language of terms or substance of intended action, or description of the subjects and issues involved, including changes between current and proposed regulations:

(1) If copying text from another document, follow the directions on screen to strip all erroneous formatting.

The screenshot shows a text entry field for the "Summary of Proposed Rule". Above the field is a rich text editor toolbar. A message above the field reads: "Do not copy directly from Microsoft Word or other word processing software. First paste into a text editor (i.e., Notepad), copy that text, right-click in the textbox below and click 'Paste as plain text' to strip hidden formatting that may cause website display issues, and use the editor below to format the text."

- ii. Enter the **Regulatory Analysis Summary and Supporting Documentation** to provide a brief paragraph of the societal cost and benefits of compliance as prepared under [R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.9](#), including any citations to scientific or statistical studies, reports, and analyses that served as a basis for the proposed rule:

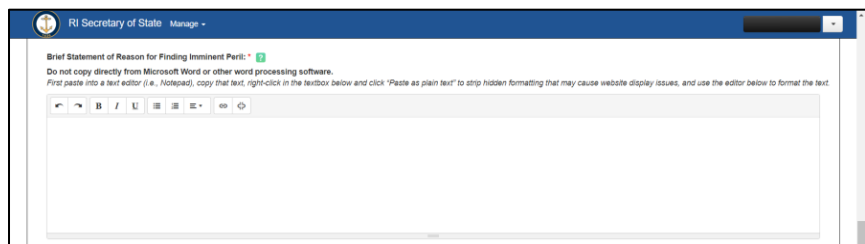
(1) If copying text from another document, follow the directions on screen to strip all erroneous formatting.



- e. If **Emergency** was chosen:

- i. Enter the **Brief Statement of Reason for Finding Imminent Peril** to state the reason this rule is required in order to avoid a threat to public health, safety, or welfare, or the loss of federal funding for an agency program ([R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.10](#)):

(1) If copying text from another document, follow the directions on screen to strip all erroneous formatting.

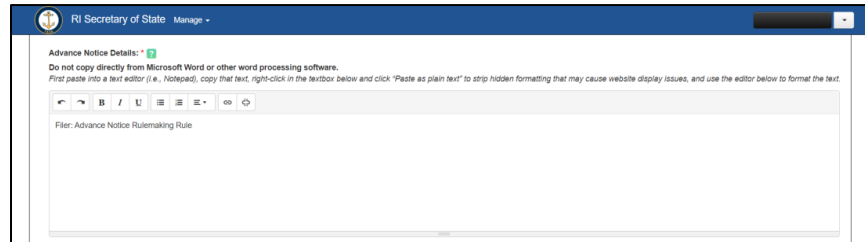


- f. If **Advance Notice** was chosen:

- i. Enter the **Advance Notice Details** to indicate where, when, and how persons may comment before the rulemaking process begins (any meeting held is open to the Open

Meetings Act and subject to [R.I. Gen. Laws Chapter 42-46](#)):

- (1) If copying text from another document, follow the directions on screen to strip all erroneous formatting.



5. Confirm the **Additional Information URL** is correct to indicate the location on your website where the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking is published as required by [R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.7](#):



6. Review to ensure all entered text is correct and click **Submit**.



DO NOT CLICK Cancel - THIS WILL START PROPOSED REGULAR RULEMAKING.

Instead, click the RICR logo at the top-left corner to go back if need be.



COMPLETED: Public Comment Period Begin



6.3.1.3.4.5 Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

1. Based on the Rulemaking Action and Process chosen, continue rulemaking by following:
 - a. **Proposed Regular** Rulemaking in [§ 6.3.1.3.1.1\(9\) of this Guide](#);
 - b. **Proposed Direct Final** Rulemaking in [§ 6.3.1.3.2.1\(9\) of this](#)

[Guide](#);

- c. **Emergency** Rulemaking in [§ 6.3.1.3.3.1\(9\) of this Guide](#); or
- d. Restart **Advance Notice** Rulemaking in [§ 6.3.1.3.4.1\(7\) of this Guide](#).

6.3.1.3.5 APA Exempted Rulemaking

For information regarding this Rulemaking Action, see [§ 3.3.5 of this Guide](#).

Actions to be Completed	User to Complete
Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload	Rules Coordinator
Rules Coordinator Approval for Notice of Proposed Rulemaking	Rules Coordinator
DOS Verification of Drafts	Department of State
Submission for Promulgation	RICR Filing System
Rules Coordinator Approval for Final Submission	Rules Coordinator
Agency Head Signature Applied	Agency Head
Final Rule and Signature Acceptance by DOS	Department of State
Promulgation Finalization	RICR Filing System

Before initiating the process in the RICR Filing System, [email the Administrative Records Office \(ARO\)](#) to request the APA Exemption be applied to the Part to be promulgated:

1. Provide the full RICR Citation (##-RICR-##-##-#); and
2. Confirm the promulgating agency/division may use the exemption per [R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-18](#).

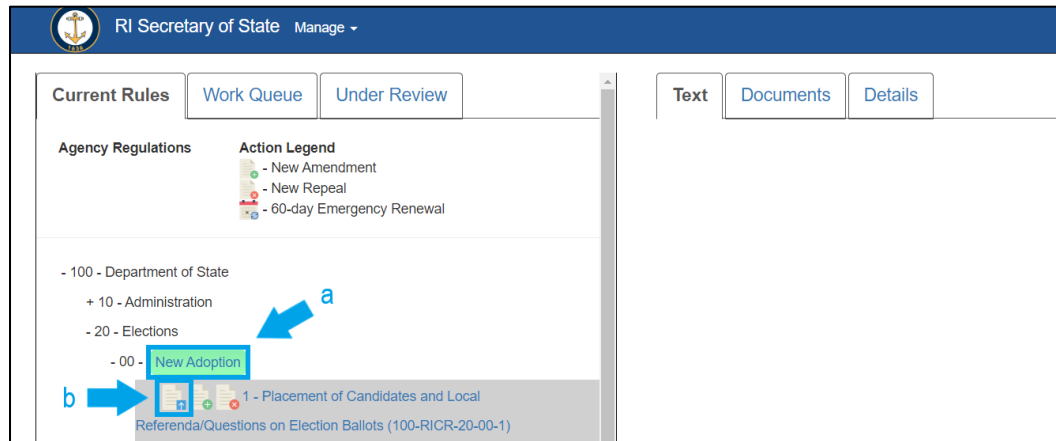
Only once the ARO confirms in an email reply that the exemption was applied can the process be started in the RICR Filing System.



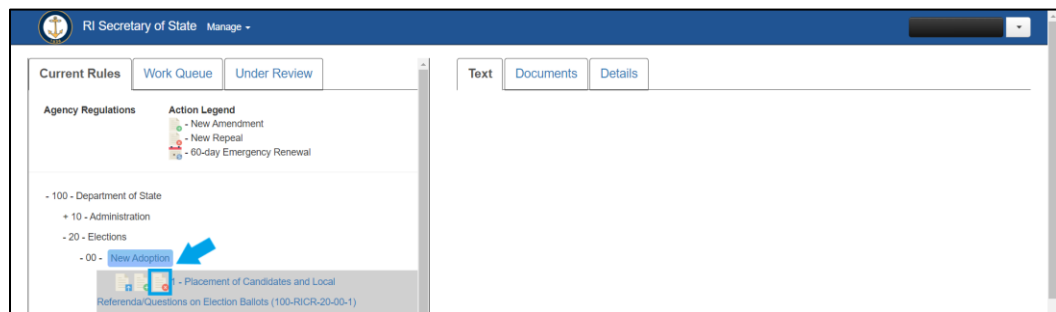
6.3.1.3.5.1 Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. In the **Current Rules** tab, click the **Title**, **Chapter**, **Subchapter**, and **Part** to open each level, and:
 - a. Ensure the New Adoption button is **green**, not **blue**; and
*If the button is **blue**, do not move forward with the promulgation and immediately contact the ARO per [§ 6.3.1.3.5 of this Guide](#).*

- b. Click the **Download Document** icon to draft the repeal (see [§ 5.1.2.3 of this guide](#) for additional information):



3. Once the Proposed Rule draft is ready, in the **Current Rules** tab, click the **Title, Chapter, Subchapter, and Part** to open each level, then click the **New Repeal** icon promulgate a repeal:



4. Enter and confirm the **Rulemaking Filing Details**:

The screenshot shows the 'Rulemaking Filing Details' form in the 'RI Secretary of State' web application. The form fields are:

- Rulemaking Type: Repeal
- Rulemaking Action: * ? a APA Exempted
- Rule Identifier: 100-RICR-20-00-1
- Regulation Title: * Filer: APA Exempted Rulemaking Rule
- Rulemaking Authority: * b R.I. General Laws

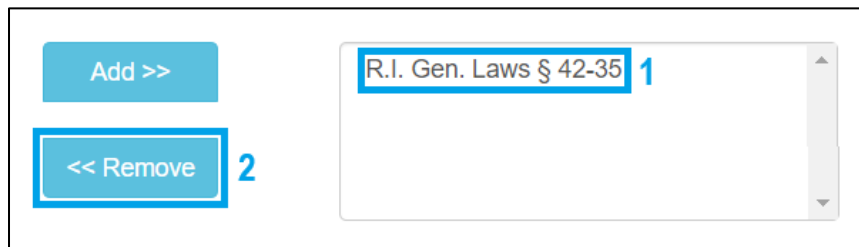
Buttons: Add >>, << Remove

- a. The **Rulemaking Action** should immediately display **APA Exempted**:

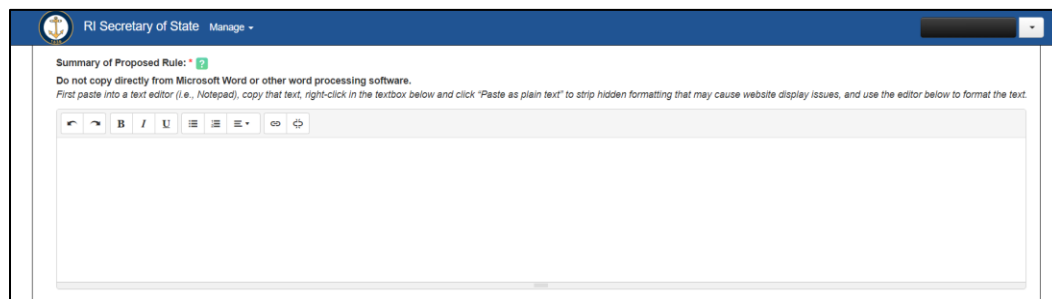


If the Rulemaking Action does not display APA Exempted, *do not move forward with the promulgation* and instead scroll to the bottom of the page to click **Cancel** and [email the ARO](#) immediately to fix this; and

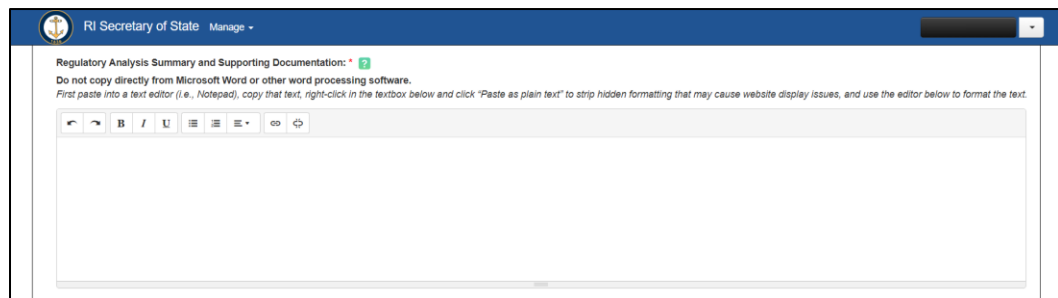
- b. Confirm the appropriate authority from the dropdown, enter the **Rulemaking Authority** citation, and click **Add**.
 - i. To remove a **Rulemaking Authority**, click to select the citation to remove from the list and click **Remove**:



- 5. Enter the **Summary of Proposed Rule** in plain language of terms or substance of intended action, or description of the subjects and issues involved, including changes between current and proposed regulations:
 - a. If copying text from another document, follow the directions on screen to strip all erroneous formatting.



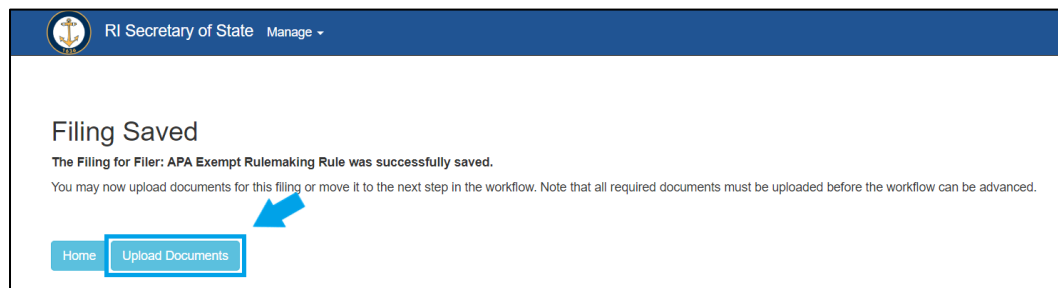
6. Enter the **Regulatory Analysis Summary and Supporting Documentation** to provide a brief paragraph of the societal cost and benefits of compliance as prepared under [R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.9](#), including any citations to scientific or statistical studies, reports, and analyses that served as a basis for the proposed rule:
 - a. If copying text from another document, follow the directions on screen to strip all erroneous formatting.



7. Confirm the **Additional Information URL** to indicate the location on your website where the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking is published as required by [R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.7](#):



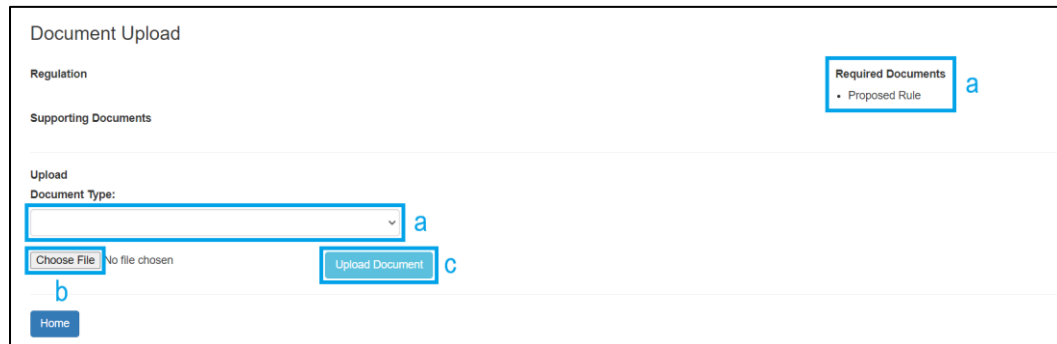
8. Review to ensure all entered text is correct and click **Submit**.
 - a. At any point during the above process, if you don't wish to move forward, click **Cancel** to prevent the Part number from being used.
9. This Rulemaking Action requires documents to be uploaded. Click **Upload Documents**:



- a. If you click **Home** by accident, click the **Upload Documents** icon next to the Part in the **Work Queue** tab to go to the correct screen:



10. Upload documents:



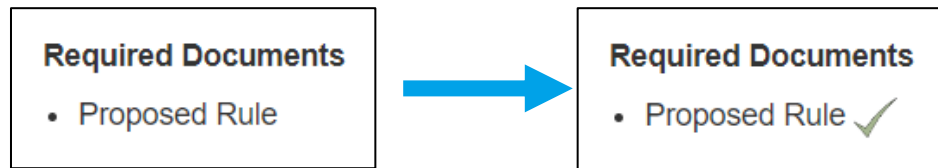
- a. Select from the dropdown the **Document Type**:
- Required:**
 - Proposed Rule*
 - Optional:**
 - Index of Studies/Reports
 - Internal Organization Document
 - Petition
 - Additional Documentation
 - Studies/Reports

****There will be no option to upload a Final Rule.***

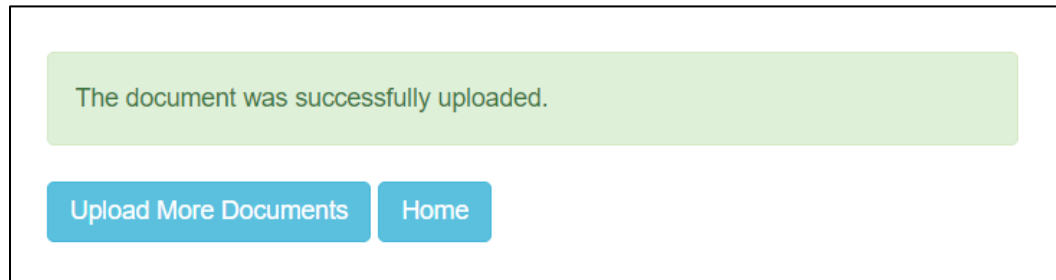
Upload the Final Rule with Track Changes still on as the Proposed Rule in the RICR Filing System. The ARO will accept all changes before the Final Rule goes into effect.

A list of required documents will display, and as documents are uploaded, a green check will be added next to each document:

AGENCY GUIDE: RULES COORDINATORS



- b. Click **Choose File** to select the document from your computer; and
 - c. Click **Upload Document** to upload.
11. If additional documents need to be uploaded, click **Upload More Documents** and repeat steps 10-11 for each additional document (*you will not be able to advance the rule until all required documents are uploaded*), or click **Home** to continue to the next step:

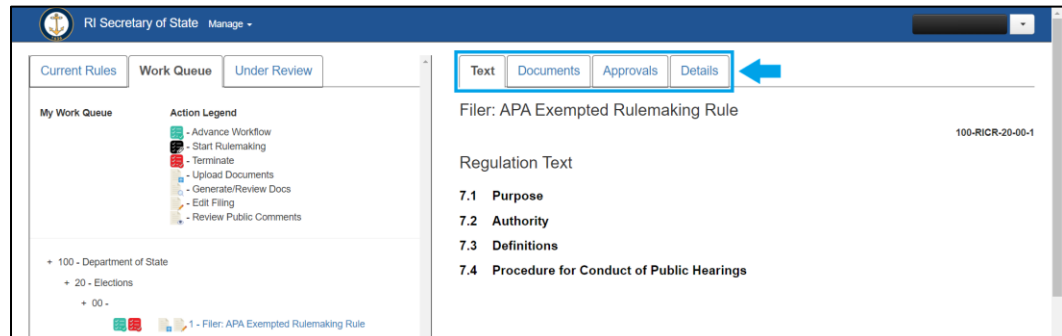


12. If for any reason the rule details need to be updated, click the **Edit Filing** icon to update the **Regulation Title, Rulemaking Authority, Summary of Proposed Rule, and Regulatory Analysis Summary and Supporting Documentation**, then click **Submit** once the details are updated:

Once the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking is generated and published, this information cannot be changed.



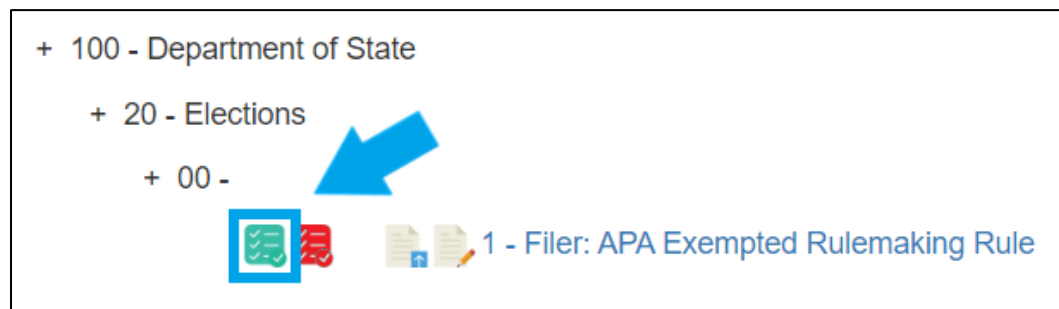
13. Click each tab on the right to ensure all information regarding the rule is correct (**Text**, **Documents**, **Approvals**, and **Details**):



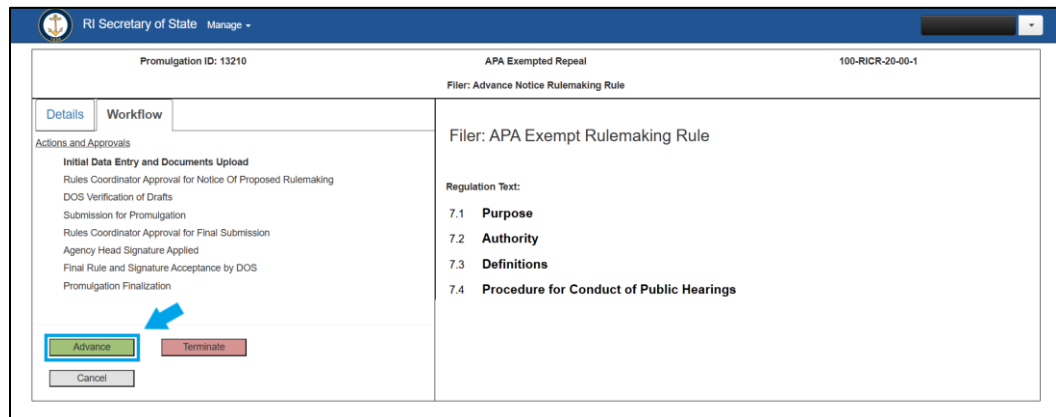
14. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click the **Terminate** icon to end the promulgation process and skip to step 16(b)(i):



15. To continue, click the **Advance Workflow** icon:



16. To advance the rule for the DOS Formatting Review, click **Advance**:



RI Secretary of State Manage -

Promulgation ID: 13210 APA Exempted Repeal 100-RICR-20-00-1

File: Advance Notice Rulemaking Rule

Details Workflow

Actions and Approvals

Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

- Rules Coordinator Approval for Notice Of Proposed Rulemaking
- DOS Verification of Drafts
- Submission for Promulgation
- Rules Coordinator Approval for Final Submission
- Agency Head Signature Applied
- Final Rule and Signature Acceptance by DOS
- Promulgation Finalization

7.1 **Purpose**

7.2 **Authority**

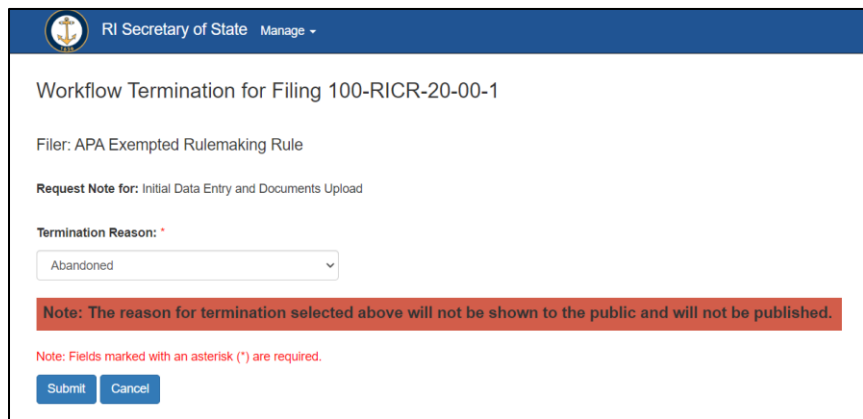
7.3 **Definitions**

7.4 **Procedure for Conduct of Public Hearings**

Advance Terminate

Cancel

- a. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click **Cancel** to go back; or
- b. Click **Terminate** to end the promulgation process:
 - i. Select a **Termination Reason**, then click **Submit** to terminate, or click **Cancel** to continue the promulgation process:



RI Secretary of State Manage -

Workflow Termination for Filing 100-RICR-20-00-1

File: APA Exempted Rulemaking Rule

Request Note for: Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

Termination Reason: *

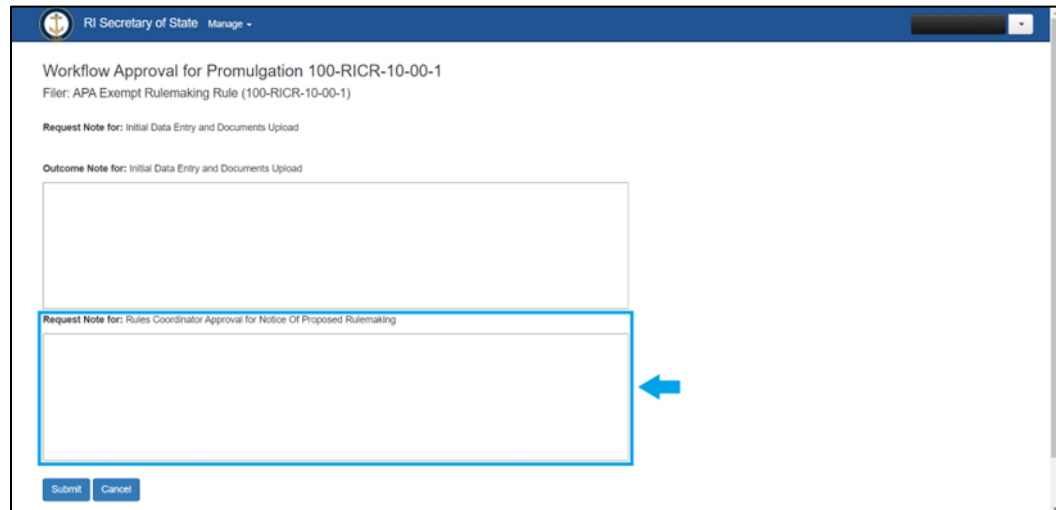
Abandoned

Note: The reason for termination selected above will not be shown to the public and will not be published.

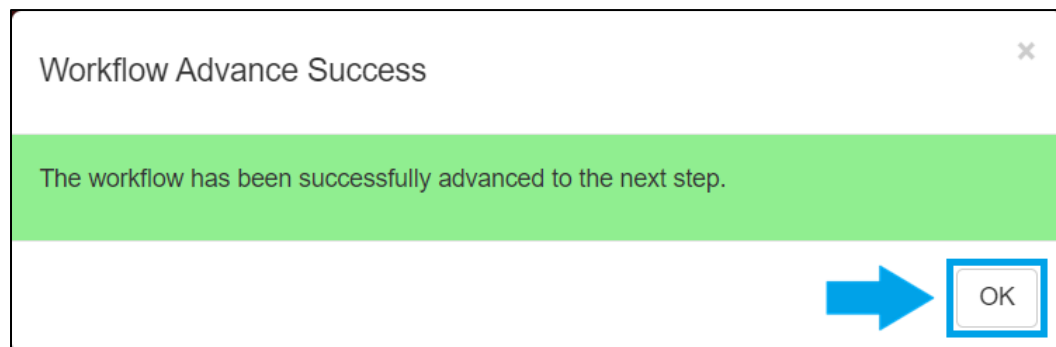
Note: Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required.

Submit Cancel

17. Enter what the Effective Date should be set to (i.e., either a minimum 20-day waiting period or other date) in the **Request Note** and click **Submit**:



18. Upon submitting, click **OK** to return to the RICR System homepage:



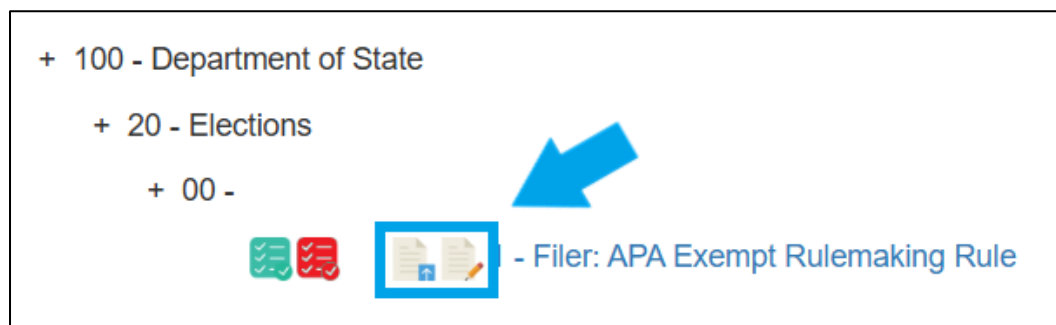
 **COMPLETED: *Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload***



6.3.1.3.5.2 Rules Coordinator Approval for Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

The Rules Coordinator will receive an AWS Notification when it is time to advance if a Filer completed the Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload.

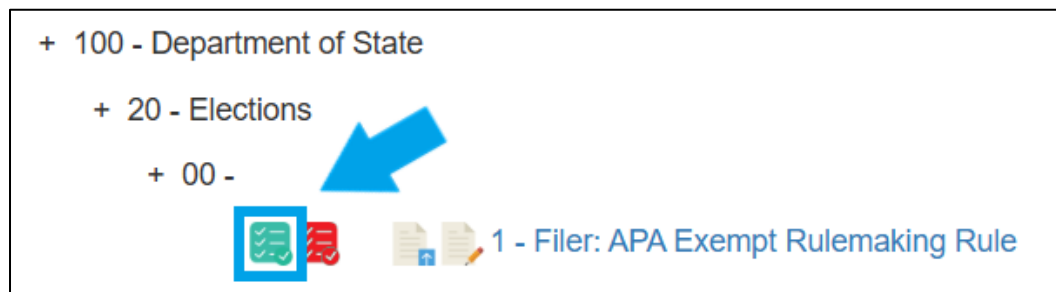
1. If for any reason at this stage it is determined the filing details needs updating or additional documents need to be uploaded, click on the **Edit Filing** icon (paper with pencil) or the **Upload Documents** icon (paper with blue arrow):



2. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click the **Terminate** icon to end the promulgation process and skip to step 4(b)(i):



3. To continue, click the **Advance Workflow** icon:



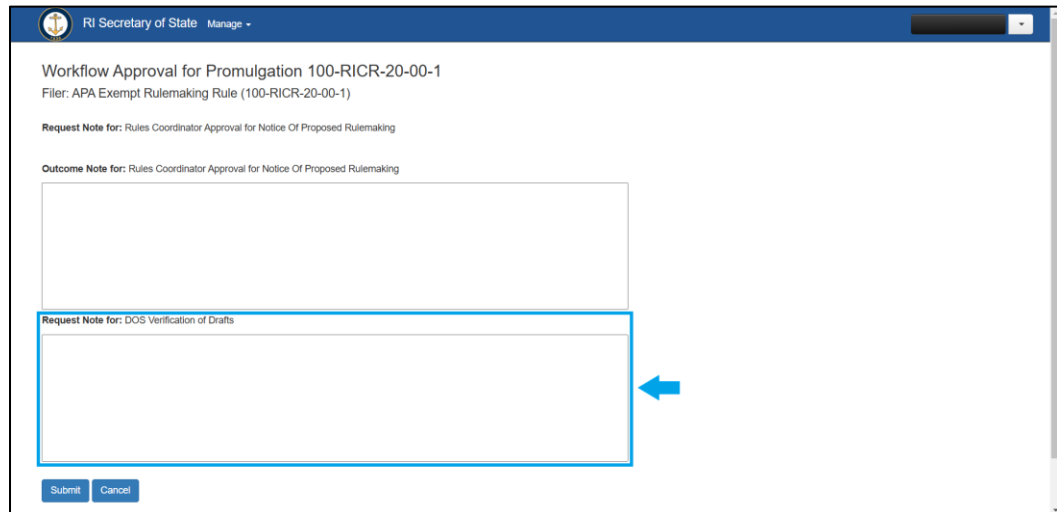
4. To advance the rule for the DOS Formatting Review, click **Advance**:

The screenshot shows the RI Secretary of State workflow interface. At the top, it displays 'Promulgation ID: 13210', 'APA Exempted Repeal', and '100-RICR-20-00-1'. Below this, the 'Workflow' tab is active, showing a list of actions and approvals. The 'Advance' button is highlighted with a blue arrow. The right side of the interface displays the regulation text, including sections for Purpose, Authority, Definitions, and Procedure for Conduct of Public Hearings.

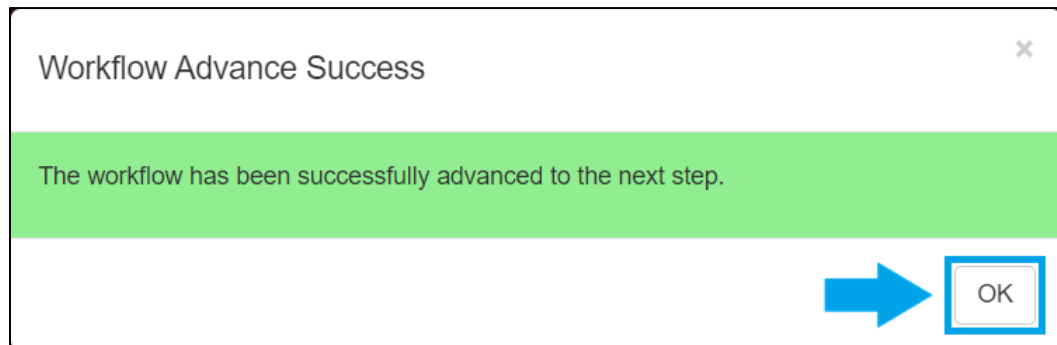
- a. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click **Cancel** to go back; or
- b. Click **Terminate** to end the promulgation process:
 - i. Select a **Termination Reason**, then click **Submit** to terminate, or click **Cancel** to continue the promulgation process:

The screenshot shows the RI Secretary of State workflow termination interface. The title is 'Workflow Termination for Filing 100-RICR-20-00-1'. Below the title, it displays 'Filer: APA Exempted Rulemaking Rule' and 'Request Note for: Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload'. The 'Termination Reason' dropdown menu is set to 'Abandoned'. A red note states: 'Note: The reason for termination selected above will not be shown to the public and will not be published.' The 'Submit' and 'Cancel' buttons are visible at the bottom.

5. If you would like to add a note for the DOS, enter text in the **Request Note** and/or click **Submit**:



6. Upon submitting, click **OK** to return to the RICR System homepage:



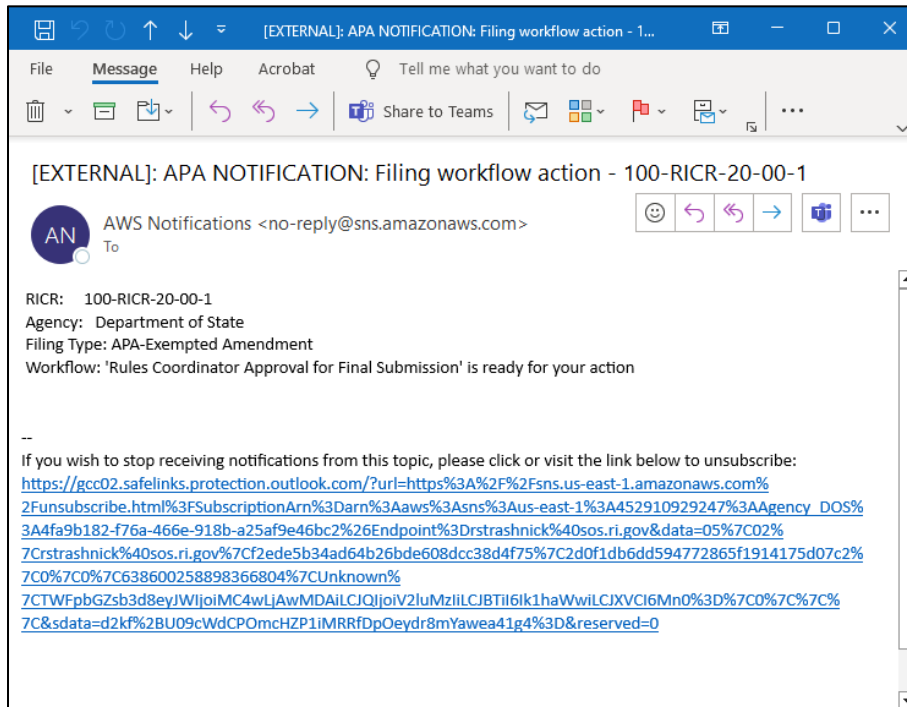
 **COMPLETED:** *Rules Coordinator Approval for Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*



6.3.1.3.5.3 DOS Verification of Drafts

This step will be completed by the Administrative Records Office.

Once the DOS formatting review has been completed, the Rules Coordinator will receive an AWS Notification email to indicate the next step should be taken:





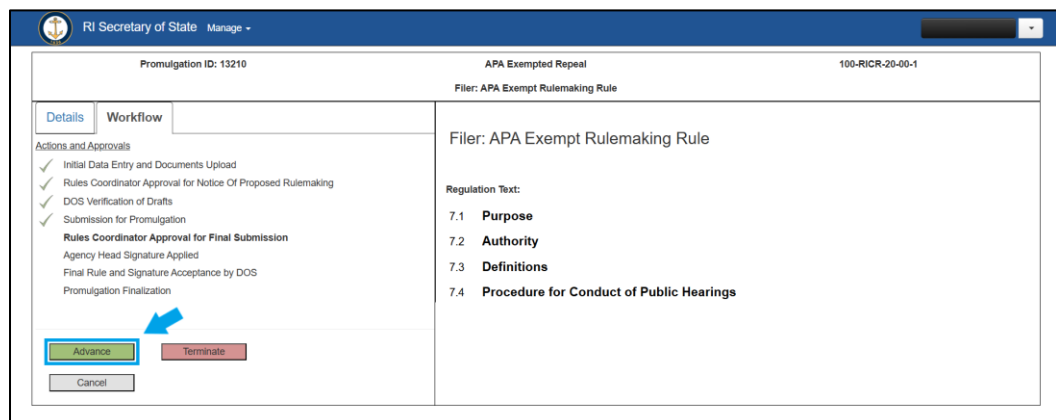
6.3.1.3.5.4 Rules Coordinator Approval for Final Submission

The Rules Coordinator will receive an AWS Notification when it is time to advance once the Administrative Records Office has completed their formatting review.

1. To advance the rule for final signatures or to terminate the rule, click the **Advance Workflow** icon:



2. To advance the rule for the DOS Formatting Review, click **Advance**:



- a. If for any reason at this stage it is determined that the rule should not move forward, click **Cancel** to go back; or
- b. Click **Terminate** to end the promulgation process:

- i. Select a **Termination Reason**, then click **Submit** to terminate, or click **Cancel** to continue the promulgation process:

RI Secretary of State Manage

Workflow Termination for Filing 100-RICR-20-00-1

Filer: APA Exempted Rulemaking Rule

Request Note for: Initial Data Entry and Documents Upload

Termination Reason: *

Abandoned

Note: The reason for termination selected above will not be shown to the public and will not be published.

Note: Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required.

Submit Cancel

- 3. If you would like to add a note for the DOS, enter text in the **Request Note** and/or click **Submit**:

RI Secretary of State Manage

Workflow Approval for Promulgation 100-RICR-20-00-1

Filer: APA Exempt Rulemaking Rule (100-RICR-20-00-1)

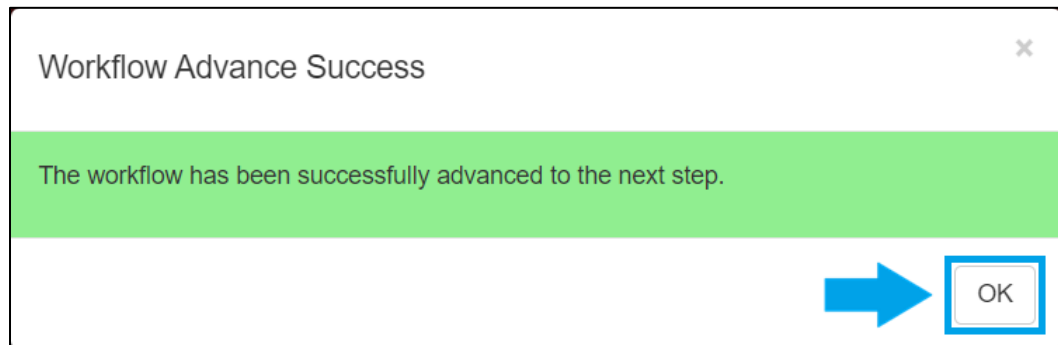
Request Note for: Rules Coordinator Approval for Notice Of Proposed Rulemaking

Outcome Note for: Rules Coordinator Approval for Notice Of Proposed Rulemaking

Request Note for: DOS Verification of Drafts

Submit Cancel

4. Upon submitting, click **OK** to return to the RICR System homepage:



 **COMPLETED:** *Rules Coordinator Approval for Final Submission*

 **6.3.1.3.5.5 Agency Head Signature Applied**

This step will be completed by the Agency Head.

Once the Rules Coordinator advances the rule, the Agency Head will receive an automated email from OneSpan, the esignature provider, to sign the rule.

 **6.3.1.3.5.6 Final Rule and Signature Acceptance by DOS**

This step will be completed by the Administrative Records Office.

Once the Agency Head signs the rule, the Department of State will sign the rule and set the rule's Effective Date.

 **6.3.1.3.5.7 Promulgation Finalization**

This step will be completed automatically by the RICR System.

The RICR System will automatically display the Final Regulation in the RICR the day it becomes effective.

It is the Rules Coordinator's responsibility to download the signed

Regulation for the agency's files to be permanently retained per [GRS2.5 Rulemaking Files](#).

Final Regulations can be downloaded by opening the active Part in the [RICR](#), clicking the **Regulation** tab, and clicking **Download Regulation**:



6.3.1.4 Periodic Refiles

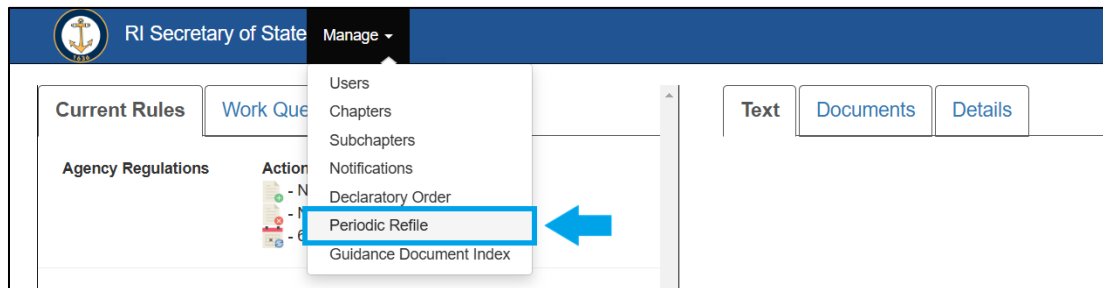
For information regarding this Rulemaking Type, see [§ 3.3.7 of this Guide](#).

The Administrative Records Office (ARO) will alert Rules Coordinators once rules for Periodic Refile are ready to confirm in the RICR Filing System. Only then will Rules Coordinators be able to access the Period Refile page after logging in.

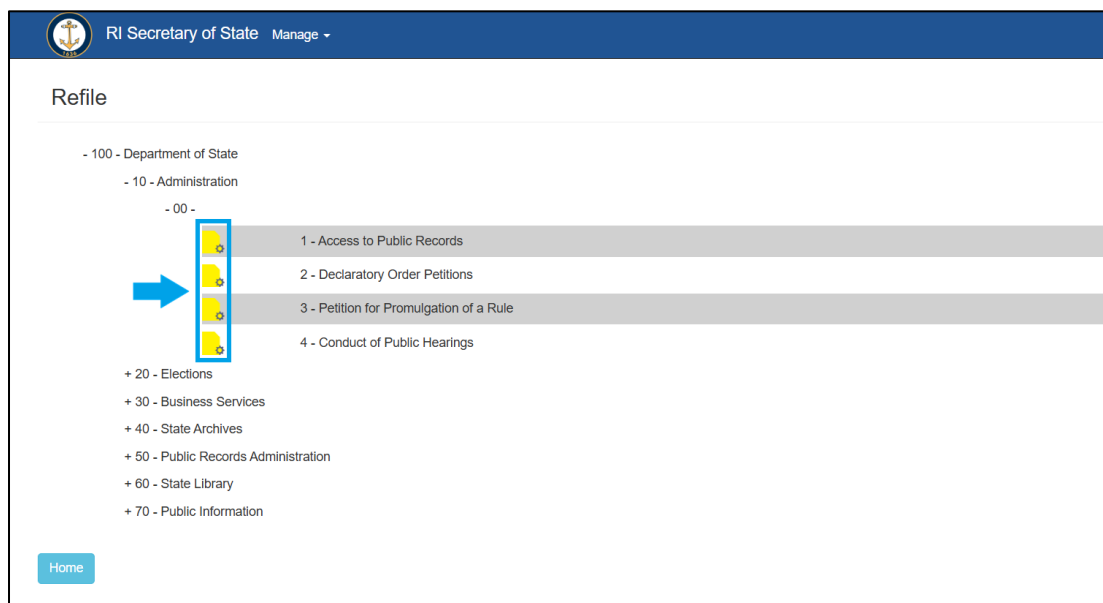
If for any reason the Period Refile page is not visible after logging in, [email the ARO](#) for next steps.

To complete the Periodic Refile process for each active Part:

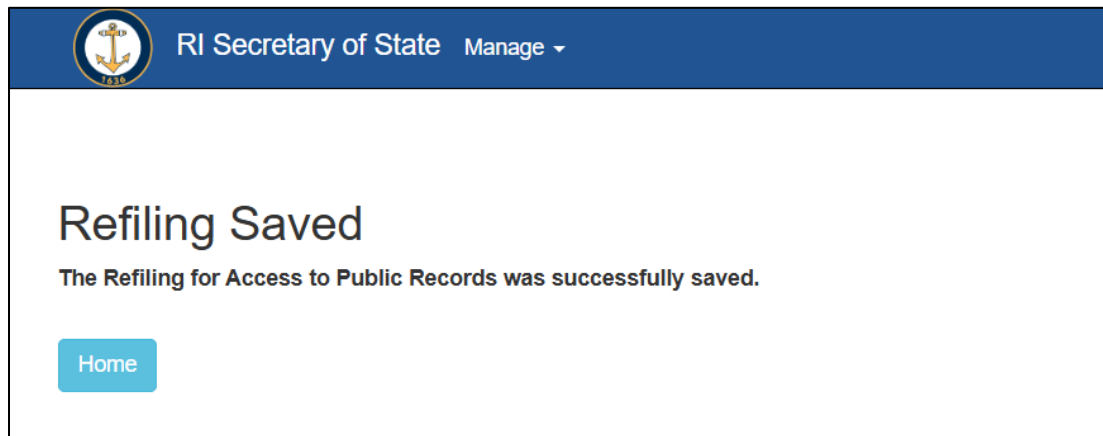
1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. Click **Manage > Periodic Refile**:



3. Click the **yellow icon** next to the Part to refile:



4. Upon success, the following message will display:



5. Repeat steps 2 through 4 until all Parts to be refiled have been refiled.

6.3.1.5 Technical Revisions

For information regarding this Rulemaking Type, see [§ 3.3.6 of this Guide](#).

Minor non-substantive changes in spelling, grammar, and/or format in the Final Rule can be made through a written email request from an agency’s Rules Coordinator or initiated by the Administrative Records Office (ARO) ([R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-4\(b\)](#)).

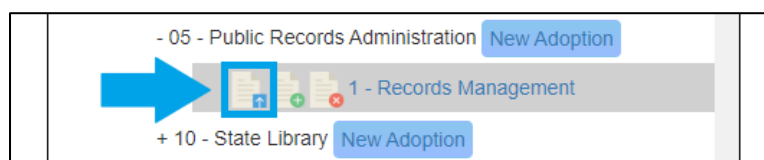
If a Technical Revision is initiated by the ARO to correct formatting, the Rules Coordinator will be notified of the change.

To request a Technical Revision for a currently active Final Regulation:

1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. Within the **Current Rules** tab, click the Title, Chapter, Subchapter, and Part:



3. Click the **Download Document** icon (piece of paper with blue arrow):



4. Edit the document with the proposed minor non-substantive change(s) using Track Changes ([§ 5.1.2.2 of this Guide](#)).
5. Email the updated Rule and include the changed section number(s) within the email body to rulesregs@sos.ri.gov for review.
6. Upon review, the ARO will either:
 - a. Complete the Technical Revision, if approved; or
 - b. Provide a recommendation for how the change(s) can be made using other rulemaking processes, if not approved as a Technical Revision.

6.3.2 Filing FAQ

Where can the most recent version of a rule be downloaded?

See §§ [5.1.2.2](#) (Amendments) and [5.1.2.3](#) (Repeals) of this Guide for instructions to download the most recent version of a rule to draft an amendment or repeal.

What's the difference between the three rule tabs in the RICR Filing System?

- **Current Rules** displays all rules that are currently in effect and active in the RICR.
- **Work Queue** displays all rules that need agency action for the current step in the promulgation process.
- **Under Review** displays all rules that either need Department of State action for the current step in the promulgation process or rules that have been signed and are in the waiting period before going into effect.

How can I find out where in the promulgation process a rule is?

1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. Locate the rule in either the **Work Queue** or **Under Review** tabs.
3. Click on the rule and then click the **Approvals** tab to the right.
4. Identify which action is **bolded**.

The **bolded** action is the step that still needs to be completed. All previous actions will list the date the action was completed and the name of the user who completed the action.

Why can't I see the Advance icon to advance the rule to the next step?

Check to ensure all required documents have been uploaded by clicking the **Upload Documents** icon (paper with blue arrow), where all required documents are listed.

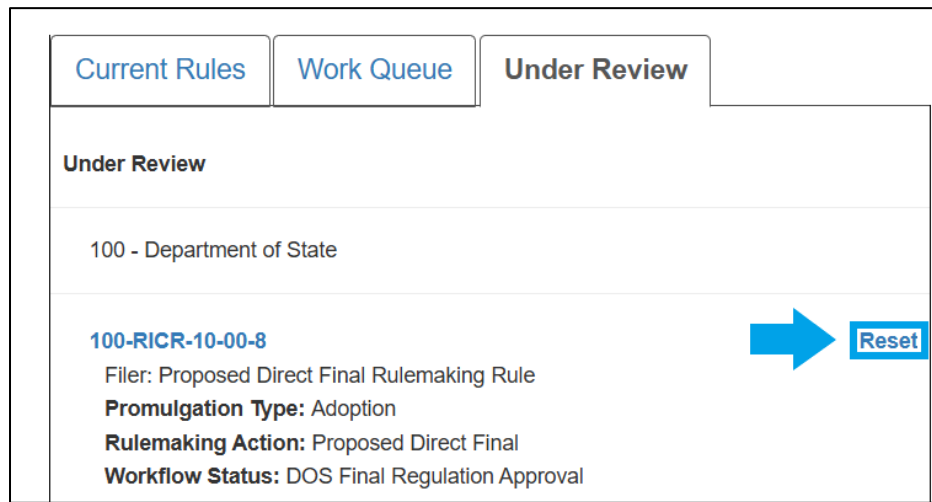
What can I do if the wrong file was accidentally uploaded in the RICR Filing System?

- **For Regulation files:**
The previously uploaded files cannot be deleted. Instead, upload the correct file. *The most recently uploaded file will be the file the RICR uses.*
- **For any other file:**
Click **Delete** next to the wrong file, then upload the correct file:

Delete

How can a rule be pulled back into an agency's Work Queue if it was accidentally advanced?

1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. Locate the rule in the **Under Review** tab.
3. Click **Reset** to the right of the rule:



4. Add a note as to why the rule has been reset, and click **Submit**:

The screenshot shows a form titled 'Workflow Reset for Promulgation 100-RICR-10-00-8'. The form is part of the 'RI Secretary of State' system, as indicated by the header. The form includes the following fields and content:

- Header:** RI Secretary of State Manage -
- Title:** Workflow Reset for Promulgation 100-RICR-10-00-8
- Filer:** Proposed Direct Final Rulemaking Rule
- Request Note for:** DOS Final Regulation Approval
- Outcome Note for:** DOS Final Regulation Approval
- Text Area 1:** The promulgation was reset by the system.
- Request Note for:** Post Public Comment Period Data update and Document Upload
- Text Area 2:** The workflow was pulled back by the agency.
- Buttons:** Submit, Cancel

Can the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking document be edited after it has been published in the RICR?

Once the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking has been published, it cannot be edited. *Always check the generated PDF before publishing to ensure information is correct.*

If an agency wishes to publish an additional Notice with updated information:

1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. Locate the rule in the **Work Queue** tab.
3. Click on the Generate Document icon (paper with magnifying glass).
4. Either **Add >>** an additional Public Comment Period, or **<< Remove** and **Add >>** an additional Public Comment Period, fill out the form for the Public Comment Period information, click **Generate**, review the generated PDF for errors, and click **Publish** once ready.

The Agency Head never received the OneSpan email, now what?

Always check spam and junk folders to ensure security filters did not catch the email.

If the email still cannot be found, [email the Administrative Records Office \(ARO\)](#) with the Promulgation ID ([§ 6.2.5 of this Guide](#)) and Rule Citation so they can resend the OneSpan email.

Can a rule be pulled back a step once it has been signed?

Once a rule has been signed, it cannot be reset in any way. If changes to the rule are required, an Amendment must be promulgated.

How can I reset my password?

[Email the ARO](#) to request a password reset and complete the steps listed in [§ 6.4.1 of this Guide](#).

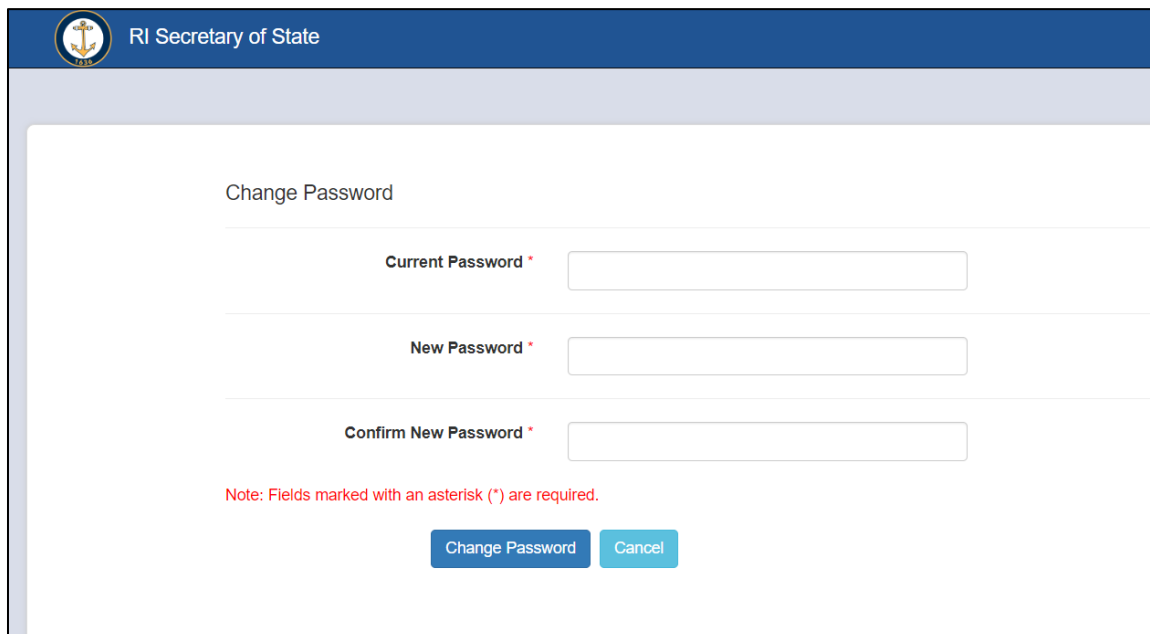
6.4 RICR Non-Rulemaking Processes

6.4.1 Password Reset

To reset your password for the RICR, [email the Administrative Records Office](#) to request a password reset and to receive an automated email from the RICR System with a temporary password.

To reset the password:

1. Go to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. Log in with the temporary password from the RICR System automated email.
3. Enter the temporary password from the email as the **Current Password**.
4. Enter a **New Password**.
5. Enter the new password again to **Confirm New Password**.
6. Click **Change Password**:



The screenshot shows a web form titled "Change Password" from the RI Secretary of State. The form has three input fields: "Current Password *", "New Password *", and "Confirm New Password *". Below the fields is a red note: "Note: Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required." At the bottom of the form are two buttons: "Change Password" (in blue) and "Cancel" (in light blue).

NOTE: Passwords must be more than or equal to 8 characters, and contain at least one number, one uppercase, and one special character.

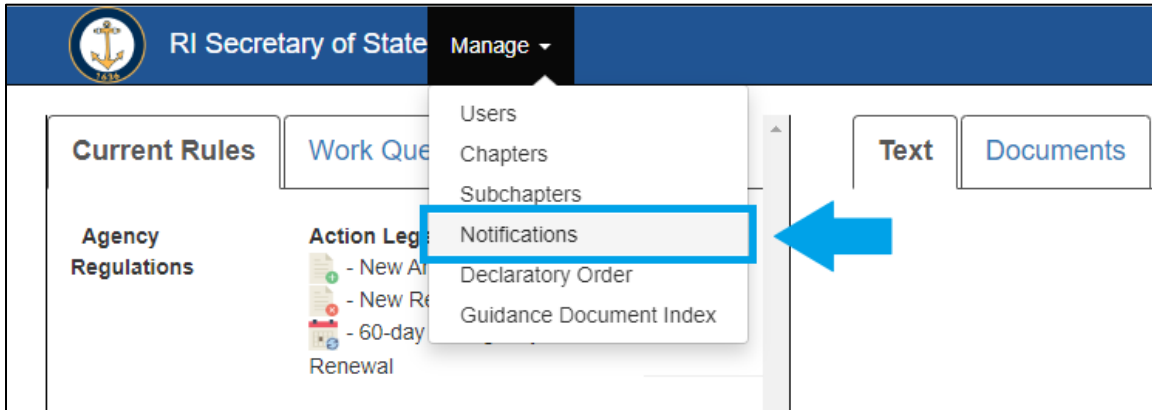
6.4.2 RICR System Notifications

This Section is for Rules Coordinators and Agency Heads only ([§ 6.1.4 of this Guide](#)).

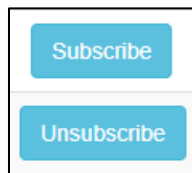
When action is required to be taken by a user in the RICR Filing System, an automated notification email from AWS Notifications (no-reply@sns.amazonaws.com) is sent.

To turn RICR System notifications on and off for users:

1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. Click **Manage** > **Notifications**:



3. Click the corresponding blue button for a user:
 - a. **Subscribe** to turn on RICR Notifications; or
 - b. **Unsubscribe** to turn off RICR notifications:



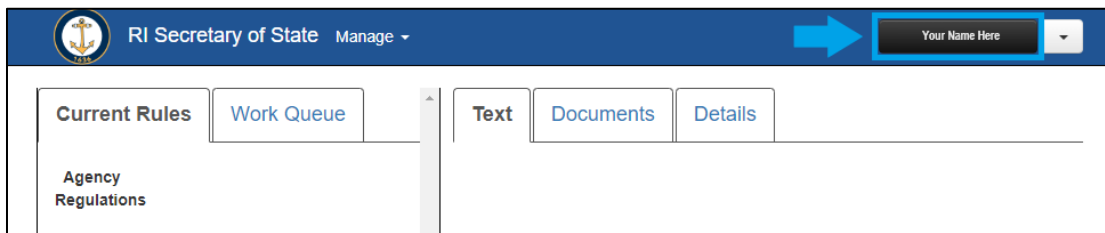
6.4.3 Users

This Section is for Rules Coordinators and Agency Heads only ([§ 6.1.4 of this Guide](#)).

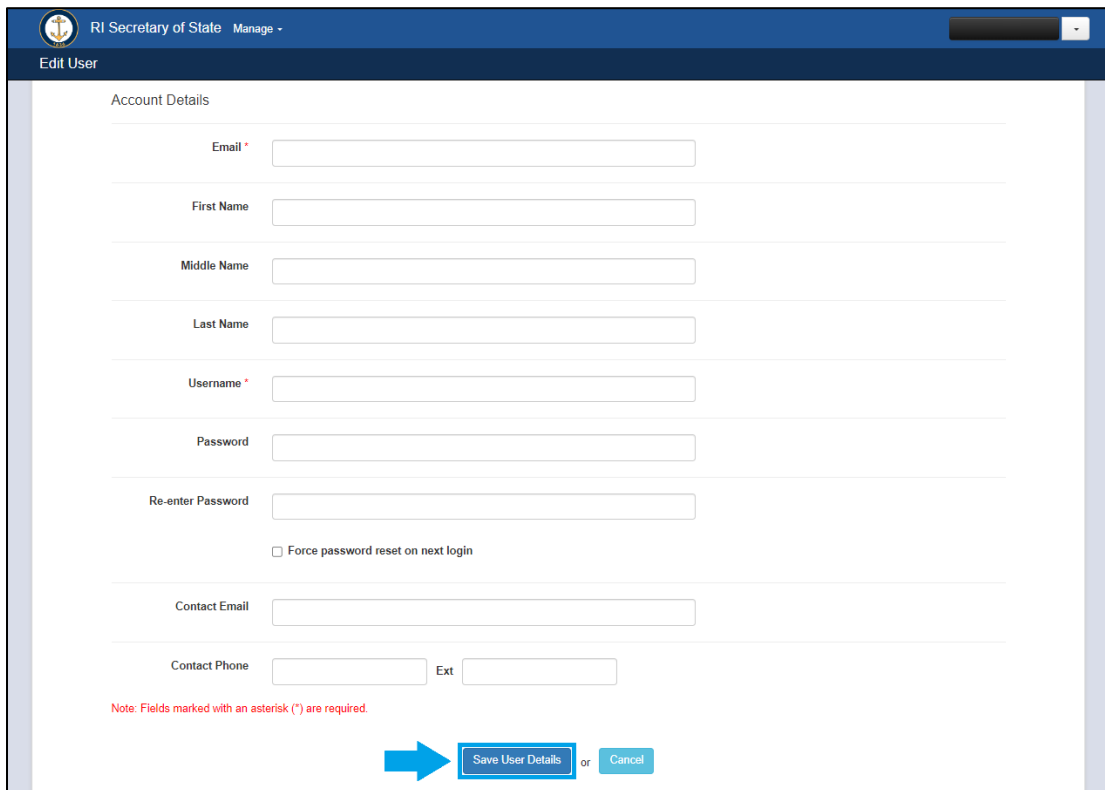
6.4.3.1 Edit My Account Details

To edit your user information:

1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. Click your name in the upper-right corner:



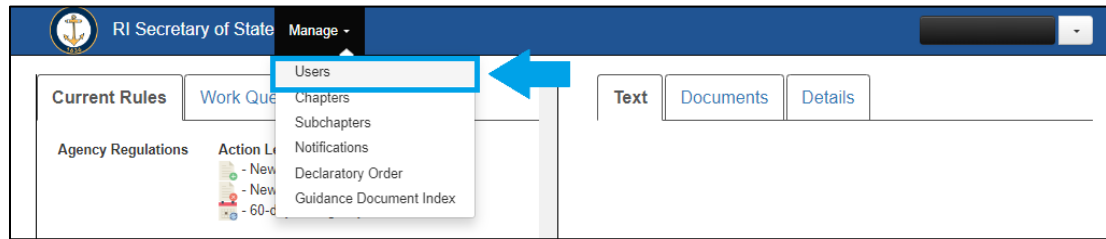
4. Edit the fields that require updating and click **Save User Details**:

A screenshot of the "Edit User" form in the RICR system. The form is titled "Edit User" and is located under the "RI Secretary of State" header. It contains several input fields for user information: "Email *", "First Name", "Middle Name", "Last Name", "Username *", "Password", "Re-enter Password", "Contact Email", "Contact Phone", and "Ext". There is a checkbox for "Force password reset on next login". At the bottom of the form, there is a red note: "Note: Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required." Below the note, there are two buttons: "Save User Details" and "Cancel", with a blue arrow pointing to the "Save User Details" button.

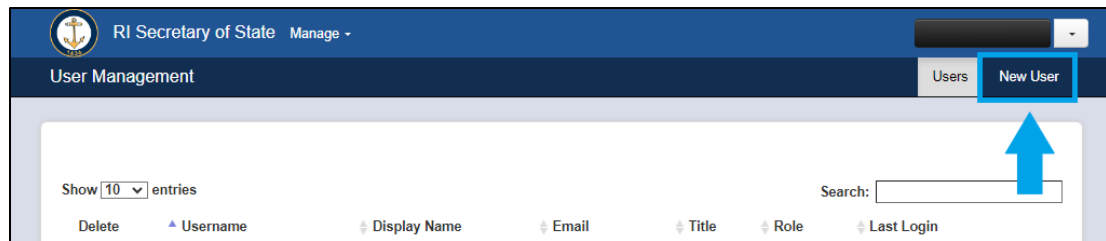
6.4.3.2 Add Filer

To add a Filer:

1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. In the header, click **Manage > Users**:



3. Click **New User** in the upper-right corner:



4. Enter the information for the following fields:
 - a. **Email***;
 - b. **First Name***;
 - c. **Middle Name**;
 - d. **Last Name***;
 - e. **Username*** (*must use email address*);
 - f. **Password** and **Re-enter Password***;
 - g. **Contact Email***; and
 - h. **Contact Phone***.

**Required*

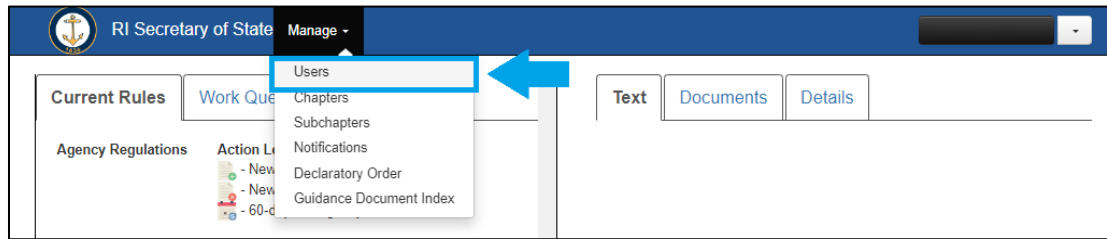
5. Click Save User Details:

The screenshot displays the 'User Management' interface for the RI Secretary of State. The page is titled 'User Management' and includes a 'Users' tab and a 'New User' button. The main content area is divided into three sections: 'Account Details', 'Organization', and 'Role'. The 'Account Details' section contains several input fields: 'Email *', 'First Name', 'Middle Name', 'Last Name', 'Username *', 'Password *', 'Re-enter Password *', 'Contact Email', 'Contact Phone', and 'Ext'. The 'Organization' section shows 'User's Organization' as '100 - Department of State'. The 'Role' section has a dropdown menu with 'Filer' selected. A red note at the bottom states: 'Note: Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required.' At the bottom center, there is a blue arrow pointing to a 'Save User Details' button, with a 'Cancel' button to its right.

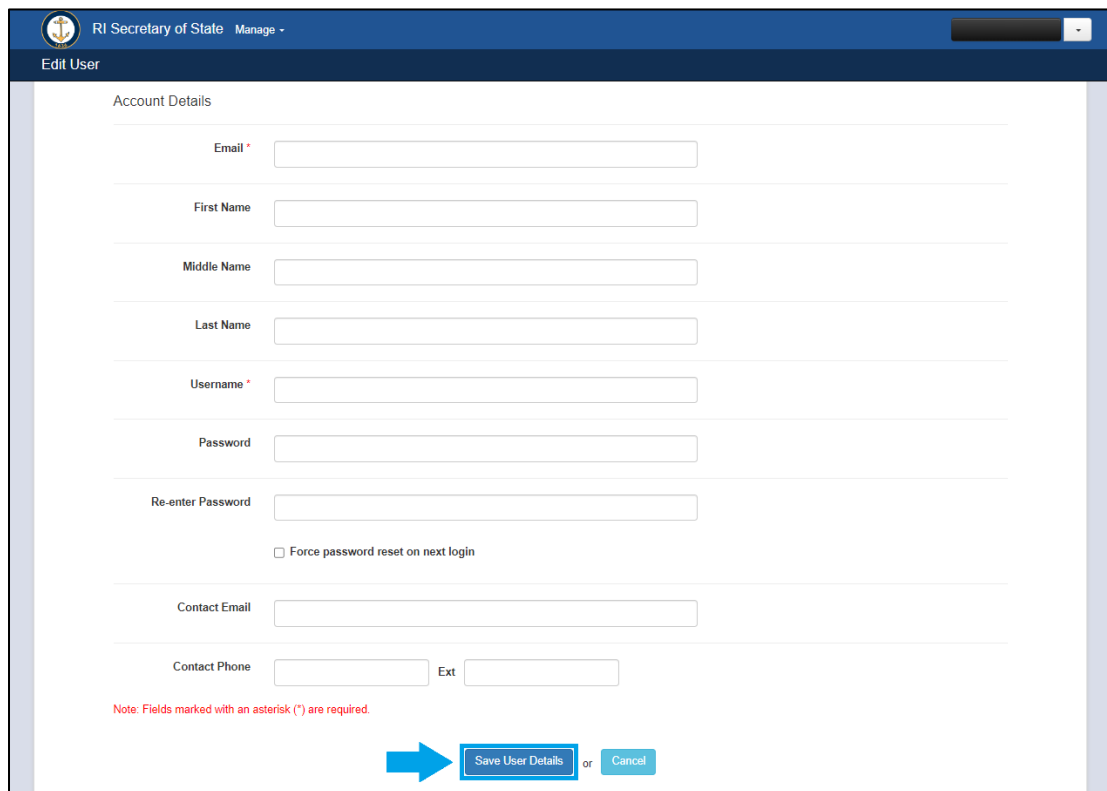
6.4.3.3 Edit User

To edit a user:

1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. In the header, click **Manage > Users**:



3. Locate the user to edit and click the user's username.
4. Edit the fields that require updating and click **Save User Details**:

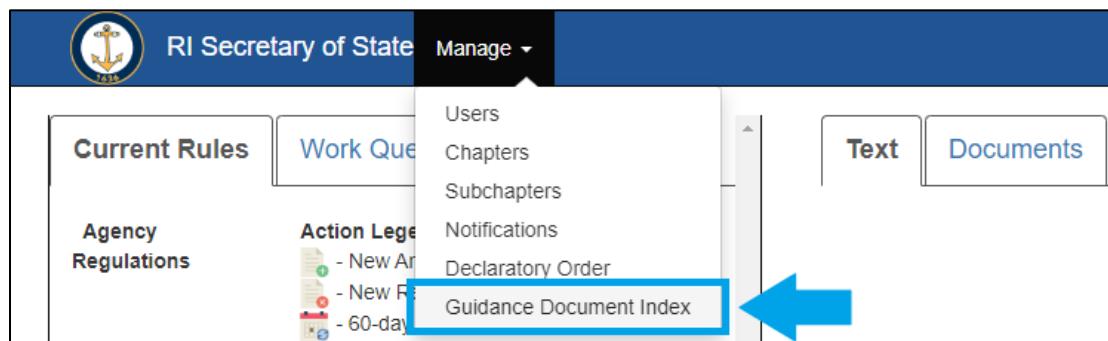
A screenshot of the 'Edit User' form in the RICR web application. The form is titled 'Edit User' and is located under the 'Manage' dropdown. It contains several input fields for account details: 'Email *', 'First Name', 'Middle Name', 'Last Name', 'Username *', 'Password', 'Re-enter Password', 'Contact Email', and 'Contact Phone' (with an 'Ext' field). There is a checkbox for 'Force password reset on next login'. At the bottom, there is a note: 'Note: Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required.' and two buttons: 'Save User Details' and 'Cancel'. A blue arrow points to the 'Save User Details' button.

6.4.4 Guidance Documents

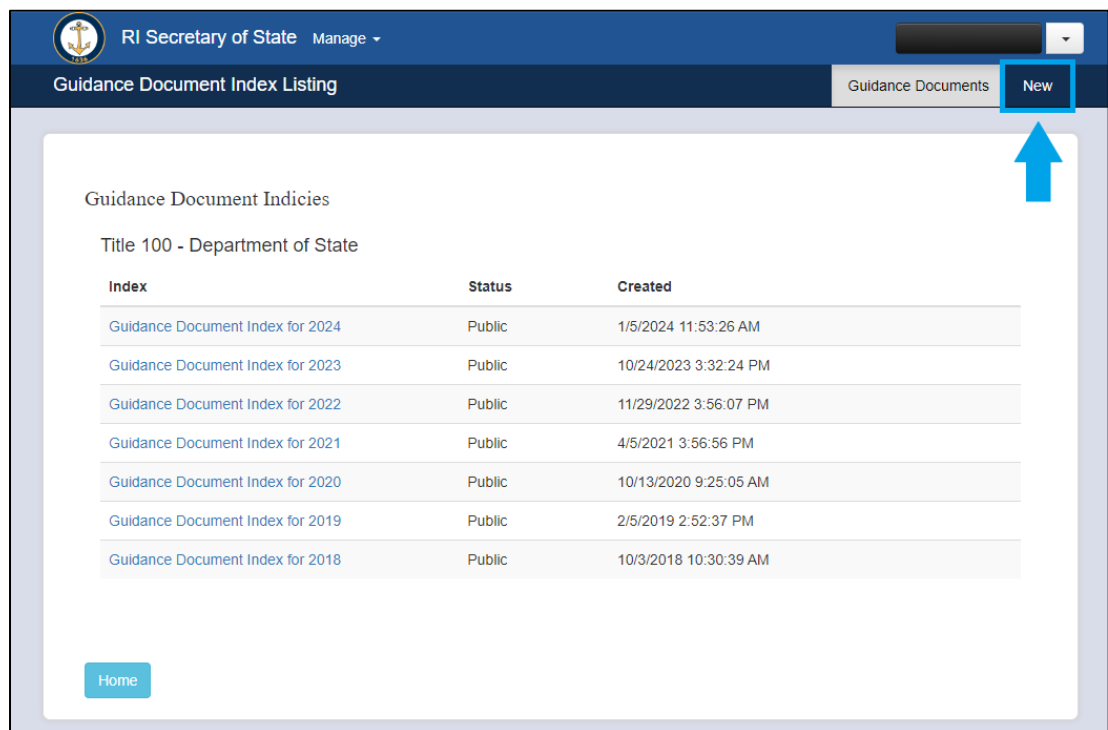
6.4.4.1 Adding Guidance Documents

To add a new Guidance Document:

1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. Click **Manage** > **Guidance Document Index**:



3. Click **New** in the upper-right corner:



4. Complete the following required fields:

RI Secretary of State Manage

Guidance Document Index Listing

Create Guidance Documents Index

Title 100 - Department of State

Effective Date *

Document Title *

URL to Document On Your Website *

Add

- Click to select the **Effective Date** from the calendar;
- Enter the **Document Title**;
- Paste the **URL to the Document On Your Website** (include "http://" or "https://"); and
- Click **Add**.

5. Repeat the previous step as needed to add multiple Guidance Documents.

6. To publish, click **Generate Guidance Document Index**:

Add

Guidance Document List:

- 06/13/2022 - Overview of Managing Records During Transition
- 01/01/2017 - Getting Started with the Lobbying Registration Desk: A Guide for Entities
- 01/01/2017 - Getting Started with the Lobbying Registration Desk: A Guide for Lobbying Firms
- 01/01/2017 - Getting Started with the Lobbying Registration Desk: A Guide for Lobbyists
- 01/01/2017 - Getting Started with the Lobbying Registration Desk: A Guide for Profile Managers
- 11/29/2018 - Rules and Regulations Formatting and Filing Manual
- 06/01/2019 - RI Trademark/Service Mark Guide

Note: Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required.

Generate Guidance Document Index

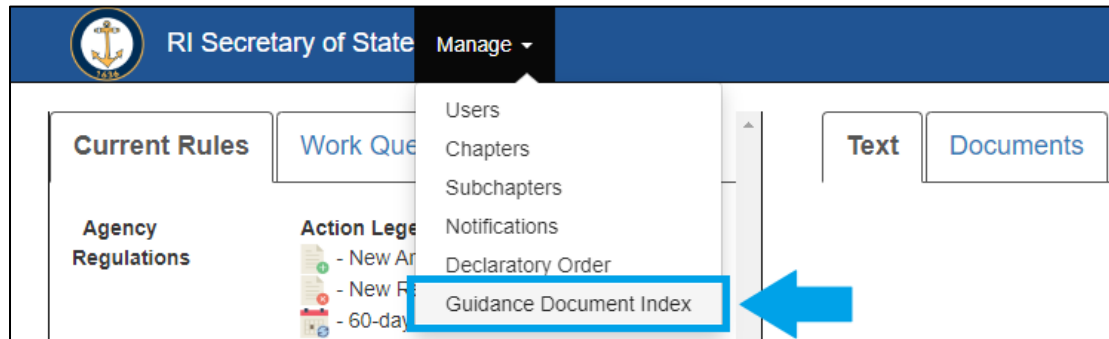
7. The following message will appear after the index is generated:

Success! Guidance Document Index successfully created.

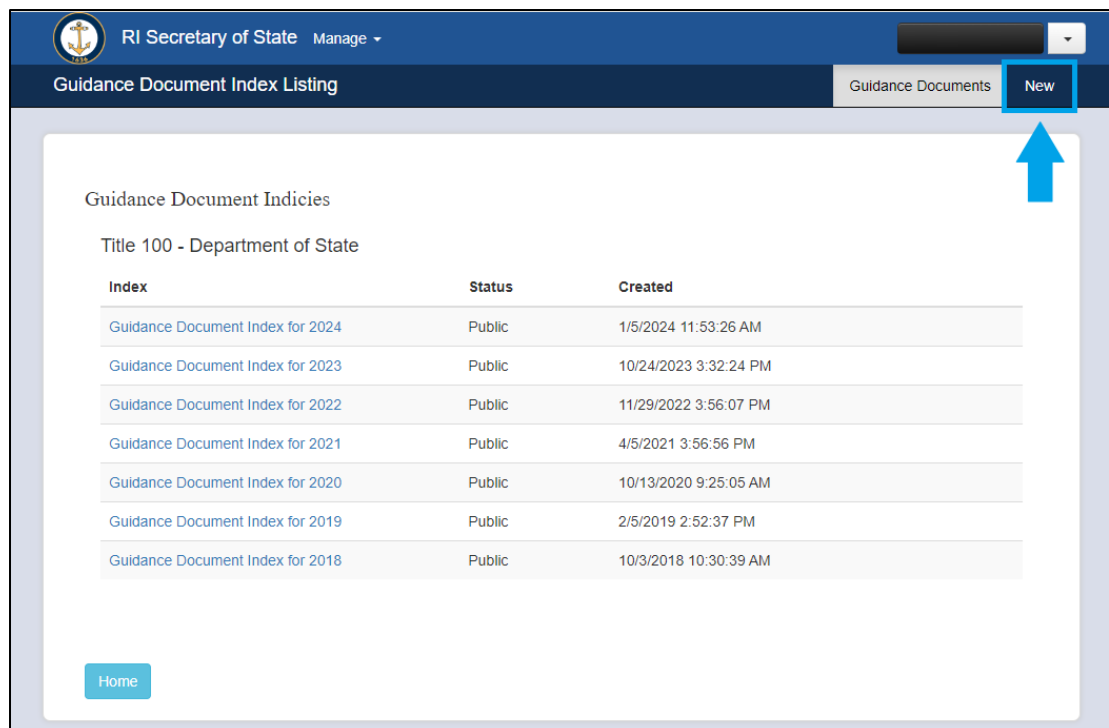
6.4.4.2 Removing Guidance Documents

To remove a Guidance Document:

1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. Click **Manage** > **Guidance Document Index**:



3. Click **New** in the upper-right corner:



4. Select a Guidance Document to be removed from the list and click **Remove**:

RI Secretary of State Manage

Guidance Document Index Listing

Create Guidance Documents Index

Title 100 - Department of State

Effective Date *

Document Title *

URL to Document On Your Website *

Add Remove

Guidance Document List:

- 06/13/2022 - Overview of Managing Records During Transition
- 01/01/2017 - Getting Started with the Lobbying Registration Desk: A Guide for Entities
- 01/01/2017 - Getting Started with the Lobbying Registration Desk: A Guide for Lobbying Firms
- 01/01/2017 - Getting Started with the Lobbying Registration Desk: A Guide for Lobbyists
- 01/01/2017 - Getting Started with the Lobbying Registration Desk: A Guide for Profile Managers
- 11/29/2018 - Rules and Regulations Formatting and Filing Manual
- 06/01/2019 - RI Trademark/Service Mark Guide

NOTE: The **Remove** button will not appear until a document is selected.

5. Repeat as needed to remove multiple Guidance Documents.
6. Verify the document(s) are removed from the Guidance Document List and click **Generate Guidance Document Index** to finalize the removal:

Add

Guidance Document List:

- 06/13/2022 - Overview of Managing Records During Transition
- 01/01/2017 - Getting Started with the Lobbying Registration Desk: A Guide for Entities
- 01/01/2017 - Getting Started with the Lobbying Registration Desk: A Guide for Lobbying Firms
- 01/01/2017 - Getting Started with the Lobbying Registration Desk: A Guide for Lobbyists
- 01/01/2017 - Getting Started with the Lobbying Registration Desk: A Guide for Profile Managers
- 11/29/2018 - Rules and Regulations Formatting and Filing Manual
- 06/01/2019 - RI Trademark/Service Mark Guide

Note: Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required.

Generate Guidance Document Index

7. The following message will appear after the index is generated:

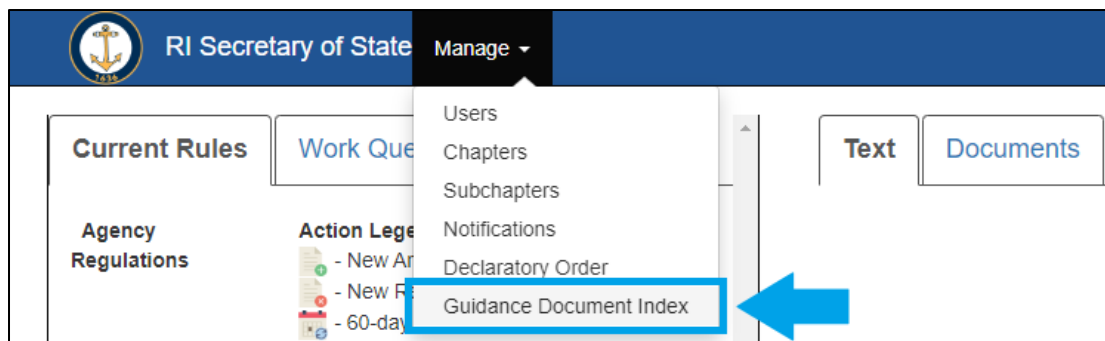
Success! Guidance Document Index successfully created.

6.4.4.3 Generating the Guidance Document Index

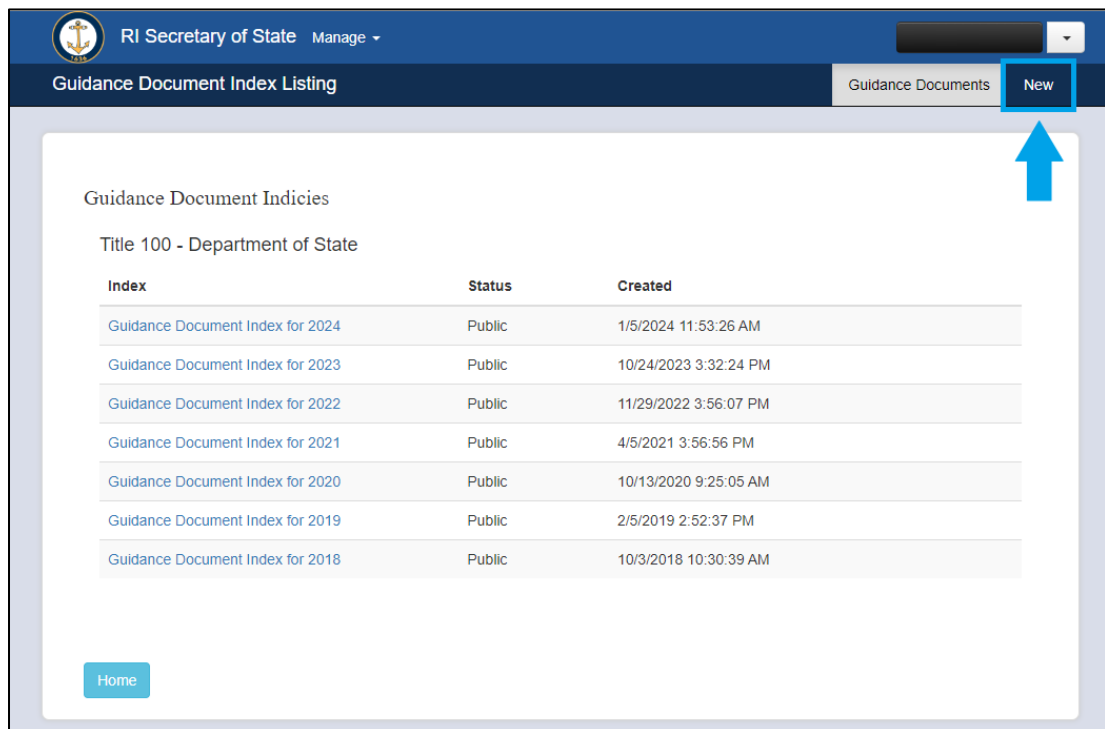
Each time a Guidance Document is added or removed, a Guidance Document Index must be generated to update the RICR.

To generate a Guidance Document Index:

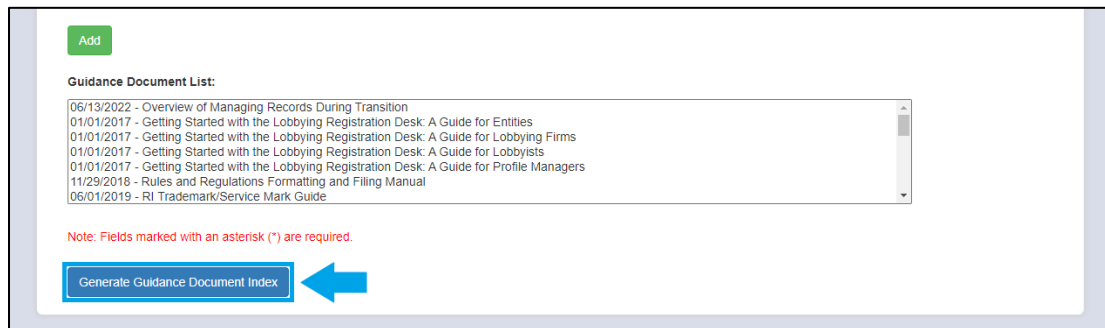
1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. Click **Manage** > **Guidance Document Index**:



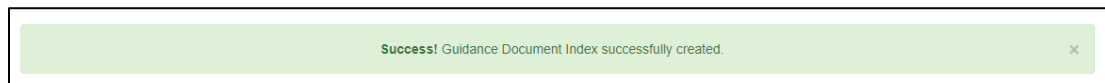
3. Click **New** in the upper-right corner:



4. To publish, click **Generate Guidance Document Index**:



5. The following message will appear after the index is generated:



6.4.4.4 Annual Guidance Document Index

Agencies must file their Guidance Document Index annually with the Department of State and publish it on the agency’s website ([R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.12](#)). If an agency does not have any Guidance Documents, the agency is still required to file a Guidance Document Index annually by publishing a blank index.

This annual filing does not preclude an agency from updating its Guidance Document Index throughout the year as new documents are published.

The Administrative Records Office will send a reminder to Rules Coordinators annually in January. Agencies may download a copy to manually post on the agency’s website, or agencies may link directly to the RICR Guidance Document Index ([§ 2.6.1 of this Guide](#)).

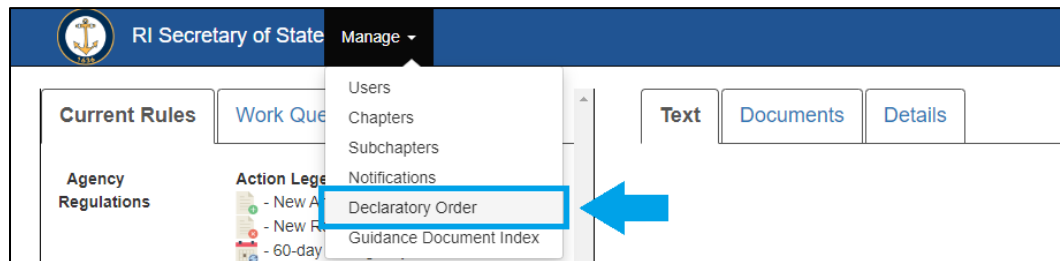
6.4.5 Declaratory Orders

6.4.5.1 Rules Coordinator

6.4.5.1.1 Creating Declaratory Orders

To add a new Declaratory Order:

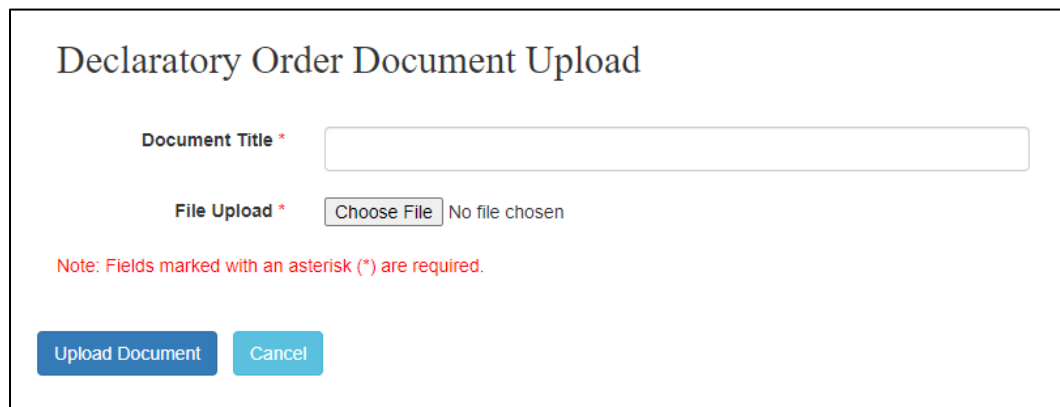
1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. Click **Manage** > **Declaratory Orders**:



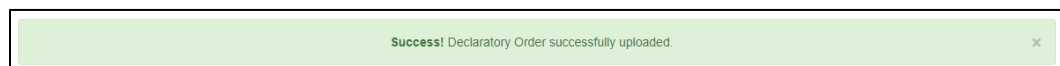
3. Click **New** in the upper-right corner:



4. Enter the **Document Title**, click **Choose File** to select a PDF, and click **Upload Document** to upload:

A screenshot of the 'Declaratory Order Document Upload' form. The form has a title 'Declaratory Order Document Upload'. It contains two required fields: 'Document Title *' and 'File Upload *'. The 'Document Title *' field is an empty text input box. The 'File Upload *' field has a 'Choose File' button and the text 'No file chosen'. Below the fields, there is a red note: 'Note: Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required.' At the bottom of the form, there are two buttons: 'Upload Document' and 'Cancel'.

5. The following message will appear after the Declaratory Order was uploaded:



6. Under **Status**, click **Approve** to advance the Declaratory Order, or click **Reject** to delete the Declaratory Order:

Declaratory Orders for Title 100 - Department of State
No Declaratory Orders found

Declaratory Orders Awaiting Approval
Show 10 entries Search:

Document Name	Document Title	Upload Date	Status
Declaratory Order.pdf			Approve Reject

Showing 1 to 1 of 1 entries Previous 1 Next

Department of State Declaratory Order Index

NOTE: To set the Effective Date in the future, before approving, [email the ARO](#) to provide the future date.

7. The following message will appear after the Declaratory Order was approved:

Document Success ×

The Declaratory Order successfully advanced.

8. The following status will display until the DOS completes their review:

Declaratory Orders Awaiting Approval
Show 10 entries Search:

Document Name	Document Title	Upload Date	Status
Declaratory Order.pdf			At Department of State

Showing 1 to 1 of 1 entries Previous 1 Next

- Once the DOS approves the Declaratory Order and sets the Effective Date, log in and generate a Declaratory Index to update the RICR by clicking **Generate Index**:

Declaratory Orders for Title 100 - Department of State

Delete	Document Name	Document Title	Effective Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	Declaratory Order.pdf	Declaratory Order	

Titles highlighted in red have not been included in the current index. Click 'Generate Index' below to update the index.

Delete

Declaratory Orders Awaiting Approval
 No Declaratory Orders Awaiting Approval

Department of State Declaratory Order Index

Generate Index

Home

NOTE: Red text means the Declaratory Order is not part of the Declaratory Order Index in the RICR yet and a new index must be generated to update.

- The following message will appear after the Declaratory Order Index was created:

Document Success

The Declaratory Order Index was successfully created.

OK

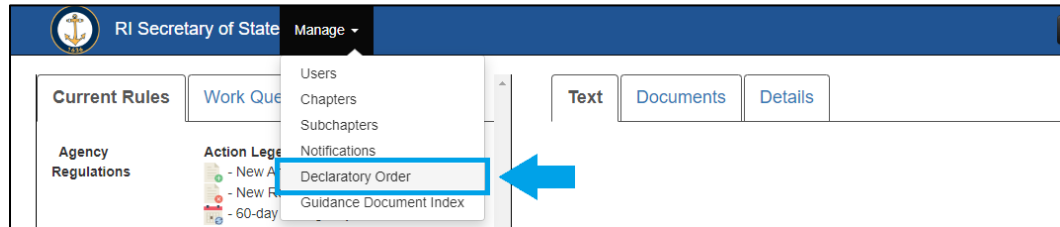
- Confirm the Declaratory Order was included in the index by verifying any red text now displays as black text:

Delete	Document Name	Document Title	Effective Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	Declaratory Order.pdf	Declaratory Order	

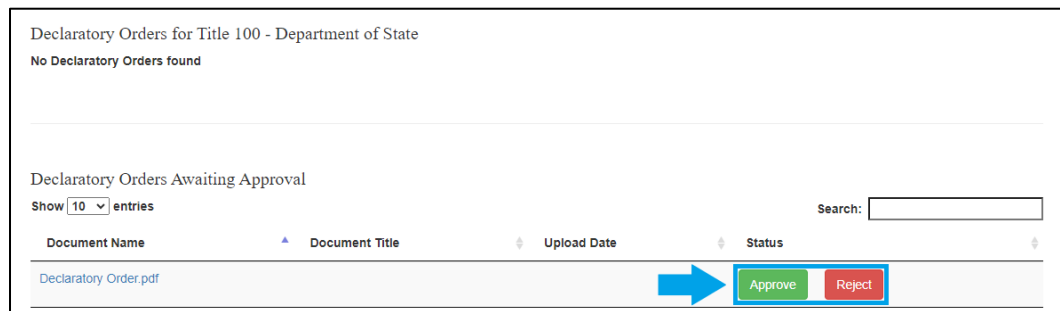
6.4.5.1.2 Approving/Rejecting Declaratory Orders

To approve or reject a new Declaratory Order submitted by a Filer:

1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. Click **Manage** > **Declaratory Orders**:



3. Under **Status**, click **Approve** to advance the Declaratory Order, or click **Reject** to delete the Declaratory Order:



NOTE: If the agency wants the Effective Date to be set in the future, [email the ARO](#) before approving the Declaratory Order to provide a future date.

4. The following message will appear after the Declaratory Order was approved:



5. The following status will display until the DOS completes their review:

The screenshot shows a web interface titled "Declaratory Orders Awaiting Approval". It features a search bar, a table with columns for "Document Name", "Document Title", "Upload Date", and "Status", and a "Showing 1 to 1 of 1 entries" indicator. A single entry is listed with "Declaratory Order.pdf" as the document name and "At Department of State" as the status.

6. Once the DOS approves the Declaratory Order and sets the effective date, log in and generate a Declaratory Index to update the RICR by clicking **Generate Index**:

The screenshot shows a web interface titled "Declaratory Orders for Title 100 - Department of State". It contains a table with columns for "Delete", "Document Name", "Document Title", and "Effective Date". A single entry is listed with "Declaratory Order.pdf" as the document name and "Declaratory Order" as the document title. Below the table, there is a "Delete" button and a message: "Titles highlighted in red have not been included in the current index. Click 'Generate Index' below to update the index." Below this message, there is a "Generate Index" button highlighted with a blue box and a blue arrow pointing to it, and a "Home" button.

NOTE: Red text means the Declaratory Order is not part of the Declaratory Order Index in the RICR yet and a new index must be generated to update the RICR.

7. The following message will appear after the Declaratory Order Index was created:

The screenshot shows a "Document Success" message box. The message text reads: "The Declaratory Order Index was successfully created." There is an "OK" button at the bottom right of the message box.

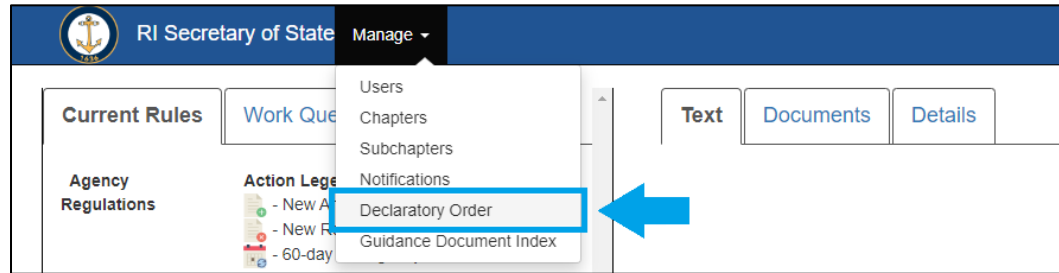
8. Confirm the Declaratory Order was included in the index by verifying any red text now displays as black text:

Delete	Document Name	Document Title	Effective Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	Declaratory Order.pdf	Declaratory Order	

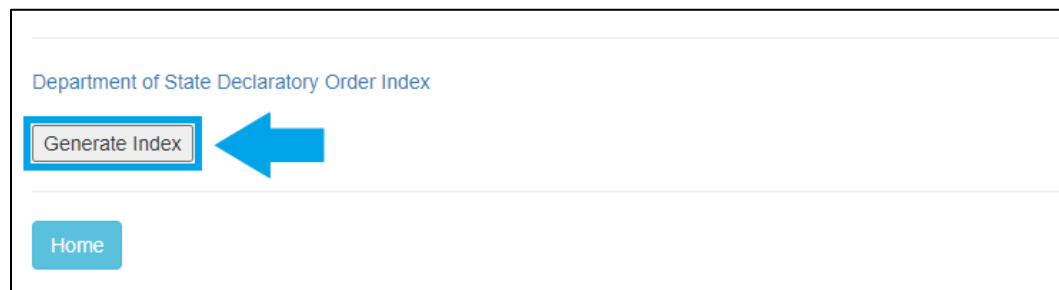
6.4.5.1.3 Generating the Declaratory Order Index

To generate a new Declaratory Order Index:

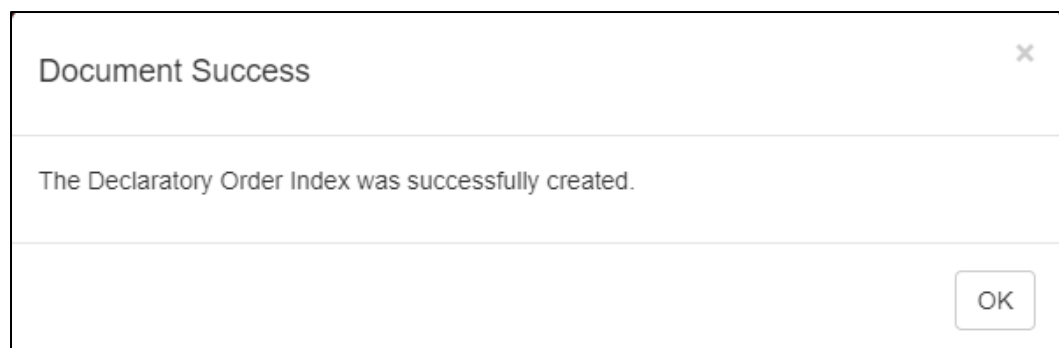
1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. Click **Manage** > **Declaratory Orders**:



3. Click **Generate Index** at the bottom-left corner:



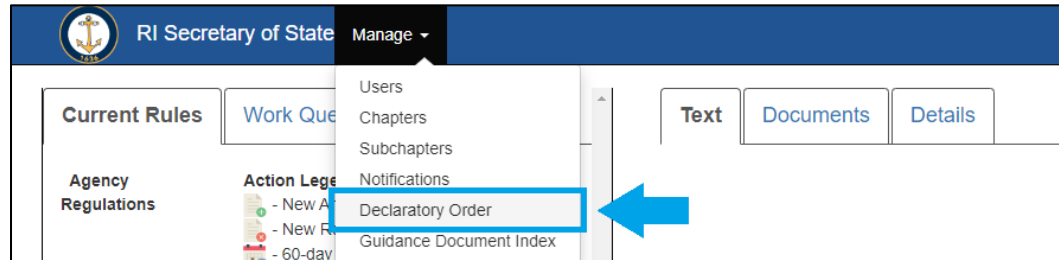
4. The following message will appear after the Declaratory Order Index was created:



6.4.5.1.4 Deleting Declaratory Orders

To delete a new Declaratory Order:

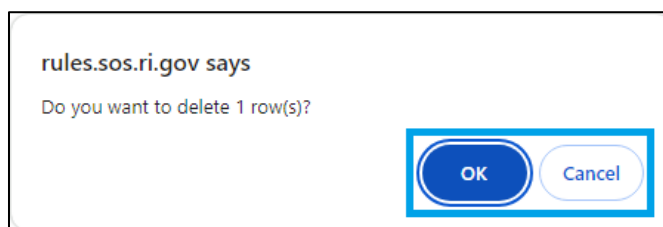
1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. Click **Manage** > **Declaratory Orders**:



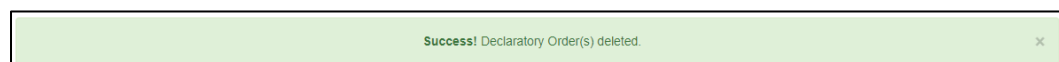
3. Check to select the Declaratory Order to delete and click **Delete**:



4. Click **OK** to confirm the Declaratory Order should be deleted:



5. The following message will appear after the Declaratory Order is deleted:

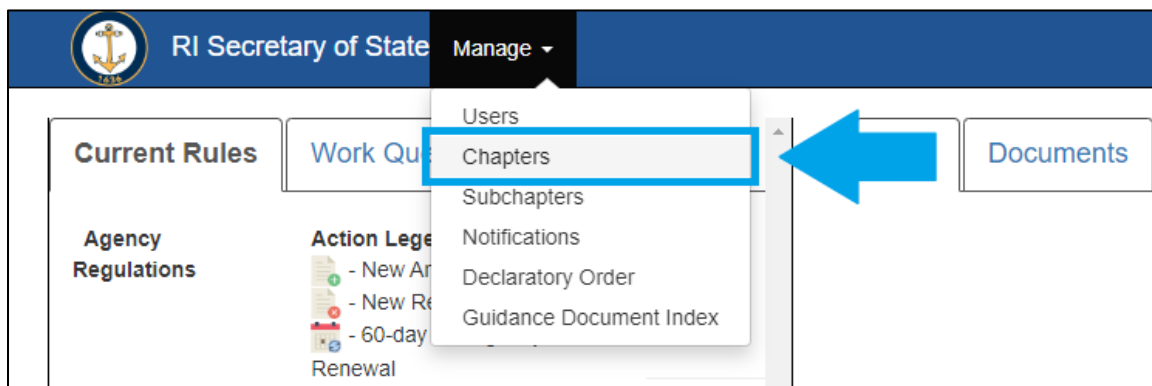


6.4.6 Adding New Chapters

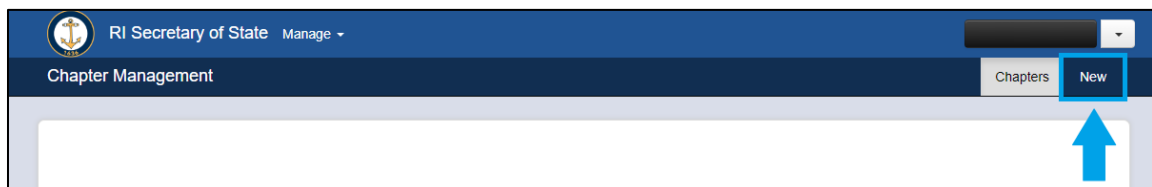
For Rules Coordinators and Agency Heads only ([§ 6.1.4 of this Guide](#)).

To create a new Chapter:

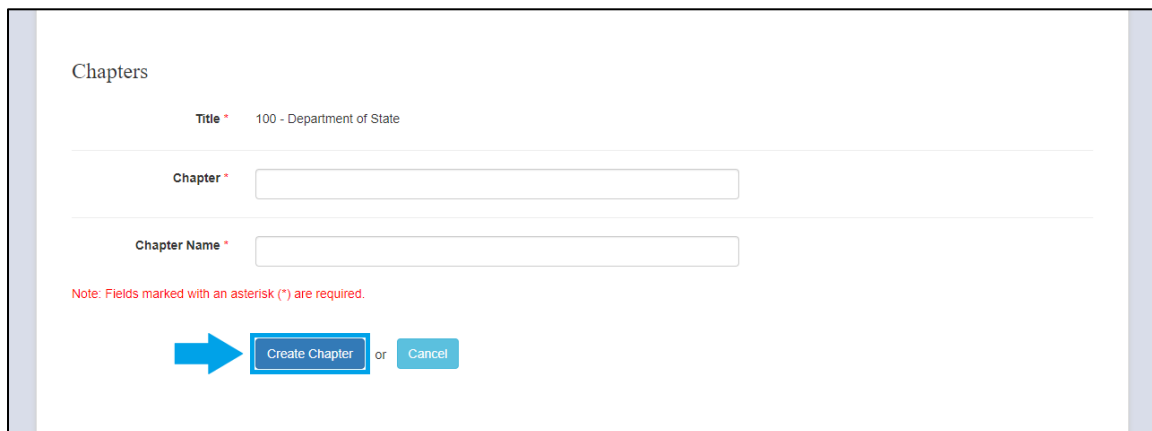
1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. Click **Manage > Chapters**:



3. In the upper-right corner, click **New**:



4. Enter the **Chapter Number** and **Chapter Name** and click **Create Chapter**:

A screenshot of the 'Chapters' form in the RICR system. The form has a title 'Chapters' and a 'Title *' field with the value '100 - Department of State'. Below this are two empty input fields: 'Chapter *' and 'Chapter Name *'. A note below the fields reads: 'Note: Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required.' At the bottom of the form, there are two buttons: 'Create Chapter' and 'Cancel'. The 'Create Chapter' button is highlighted with a blue box and a blue arrow points to it from the left.

- a. If the Chapter Number is in use, the system will not let it be used again:

Chapters

Title * 100 - Department of State

Chapter * The Chapter entered is already in use.

Chapter Name *

5. The following message will appear after the Chapter is created:

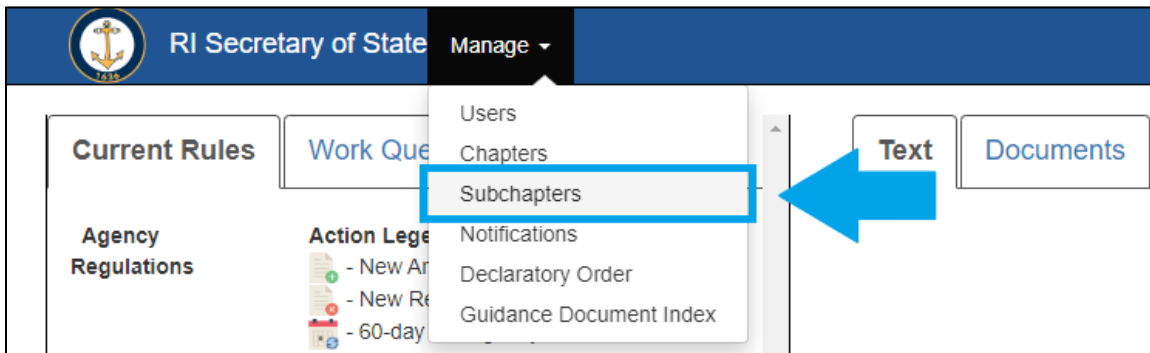
Success! Chapter created successfully. x

6.4.7 Adding New Subchapters

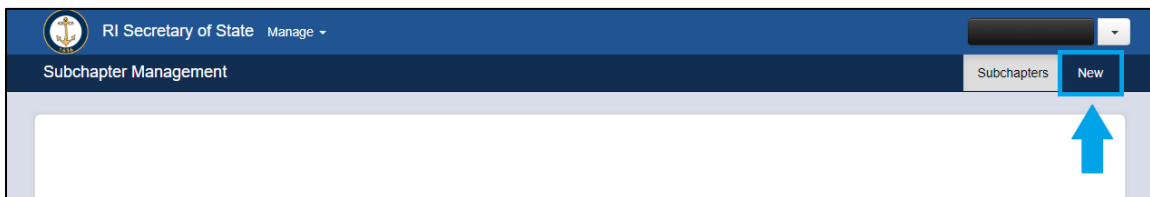
For Rules Coordinators and Agency Heads only ([§ 6.1.4 of this Guide](#)).

To create a new Subchapter:

1. Log in to the RICR: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/>.
2. Click **Manage** > **Subchapters**:



3. In the upper-right corner, click **New**:



4. Select the **Chapter Number**, enter the **Subchapter Number**, enter the **Subchapter Name**, and click **Create Subchapter**:

A screenshot of the 'Subchapters' form in the RI Secretary of State web application. The form has the following fields: 'Title' (pre-filled with '100 - Department of State'), 'Chapter' (a dropdown menu with '-- Select a Chapter --'), 'Subchapter' (an empty text input field), and 'Subchapter Name' (an empty text input field). Below the form, there is a note: 'Note: Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required.' At the bottom of the form, there are two buttons: 'Create Subchapter' and 'Cancel'. The 'Create Subchapter' button is highlighted with a blue box and a blue arrow points to it from the left.

- a. If the Subchapter Number is in use, the system will not let it be used again:

Subchapters

Title * 100 - Department of State

Chapter *

Subchapter * The Subchapter entered is already in use.

Subchapter Name *

5. The following message will appear after the Subchapter is created:

Success! Subchapter created successfully. x