

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION
NOTICE OF INTENT TO AMEND REGULATIONS

In accordance with the authority granted in Sections 20-289 and 20-293 of the Connecticut General Statutes, it is the intention of the State of Connecticut, Department of Consumer Protection, to amend the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies by amending Section 20-289-7, concerning Electronic Seals in Practice of Architecture.

All interested persons who wish to express their views orally may do so at a public hearing to be held at the Department of Consumer Protection, Room 119, State Office Building, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut, at 10:00 a.m., on Friday, August 29, 2014.

All interested parties who wish to submit data, views or arguments may do so in writing within thirty (30) days following the publication of this notice. An original and ten (10) copies of any such written materials should be directed to William Rubenstein, Commissioner, Department of Consumer Protection, Room 103, State Office Building, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

A copy of the proposed regulation, the Fiscal Note, and the Small Business Impact Statement applicable to the proposed regulation (as required by Public Act 09-19) are available for inspection at the address cited above, by requesting a copy of the same by telephoning the Department at 860-713-6086, or by viewing the same by clicking on the "Laws and Regulations" link on the Internet homepage of the Department:
www.CT.gov/DCP.

This regulation permits the use of an electronic seal by architects. Existing regulations were adopted at a time when seals were placed only on hardcopy documents by stamping or embossing. With the development of electronic documents, there is now a need for regulations permitting an electronic seal.

This regulation permits and regulates the use of electronic seals. The regulation requires that electronic seals have certain protections to prevent the alteration of the document after it has been sealed.

Connecticut General Statutes, Section 20-293 requires an architect to place his or her seal on working drawings that are required to be completed by a licensed architect. These amendments permit architects to apply electronic seals to drawings that are prepared in electronic form.