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| OFFICE OF APPRENTICESHIP  BULLETIN | **NO.**  2025-32 |
| **DATE**  January 6, 2025 |

**TO:** NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP SYSTEM STAKEHOLDERS

OFFICE OF APPRENTICESHIP STAFF

STATE APPRENTICESHIP AGENCIES

**FROM:** JOHN V. LADD

Administrator, Office of Apprenticeship

**SUBJECT:** Withdrawal of Proposed Rule – National Apprenticeship System Enhancements

1. **Purpose.** To inform registered apprenticeship stakeholders and the staffs of the Office of Apprenticeship (OA) and State Apprenticeship Agencies (SAA) of the publication of the December 27, 2024 withdrawal of the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM), Regulatory Identifier Number 1205-AC13, National Apprenticeship System Enhancements, which was published in the Federal Register on Wednesday, January 17th, 2024.
2. **Action Requested.** No further action is requested at this time. This bulletin serves as notice from the Department of Labor (the Department) that the proposed rule seeking to revise the Federal regulations implementing the National Apprenticeship Act of 1937 has been withdrawn. Notice of the withdrawal was published in the *Federal Register* on December 27th, 2024 (<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2024/12/27/2024-31078/national-apprenticeship-system-enhancements-withdrawal>). The docket for this rulemaking remains available to the public at <https://www.regulations.gov>.
3. **Background and Summary**
   1. Background – The Department of Labor issued a proposed rule to revise the regulations governing registered apprenticeship and the National Apprenticeship System on January 17, 2024. Among the goals of the proposal were enhancing worker protections and equity, improving the quality of registered apprenticeship programs, revising the State governance provisions, and strengthening the link between post-secondary education and registered apprenticeship through the establishment of registered career and technical education apprenticeships.

In response to the NPRM, the Department received 2,115 comment submissions during the 60-day public comment period. Commenters represented a range of stakeholders from the public, non-profit, and private sectors, and individuals, including current and former apprentices.

* 1. Summary – In consideration of the detailed feedback, analysis, proposed alternatives, and dialogue generated by the publication of the NPRM, the Department has decided to withdraw the proposed rule to allow for additional opportunity to conduct outreach and facilitate dialogue with key stakeholders within the regulated community before it develops any new regulatory proposal updating the governing regulations for the National Apprenticeship System and registered apprenticeship programs.

This proposed rulemaking affirmed the growing role of registered apprenticeship in addressing workforce needs across industries. The feedback received and dialogue spurred by the NPRM demonstrates a need for a robust and modernized approach to registered apprenticeship, more points of entry, and improved accessibility for employers to join or register programs and for job seekers to become apprentices in those programs. If the Department decides to revise the Federal regulations implementing the National Apprenticeship Act of 1937 in the future, it will issue a new NPRM in the Federal Register.

1. **Inquiries.** Questions about this bulletin should be directed to the Office of Apprenticeship at [Apprenticeship@dol.gov](mailto:Apprenticeship@dol.gov).