INITIAL STATEMENT OF REASONS

<u>Description of the Public Problem, Administrative Requirement or Other</u> <u>Condition or Circumstance the Regulations are Intended to Address</u>

The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) proposes to amend Title 17, California Code of Regulations, section 54319, by adding Associate Behavior Analyst to the list of Group Practices.

Effective May 29, 2004, DDS amended Title 17, California Code of Regulations, section 54342, by adding a service code for Associate Behavior Analyst, so that regional centers could begin using the services of associate behavior analysts. After this amendment became effective, DDS realized the category of Associate Behavior Analyst should also have been added to 54319, to clarify that the services of an Associate Behavior Analyst could apply to both individuals and group practices. When amending section 54319 (effective May 29, 2004), DDS consulted with or received input from behavioral providers, regional centers, behavior analyst vendors, the national Behavior Analysts Certification Board and the California Association for Behavior Analysis, all of whom are aware that these types of services apply to both individuals and group practices.

PURPOSE AND NECESSITY

Title 17. California Code of Regulations
Chapter 3. Community Services
Subchapter 2. Vendorization
Article 2. Vendorization

<u>Section 54319 – Group Practices.</u> <u>Specific Purpose:</u>

DDS proposes to amend this section by adding the category of Associate Behavior Analyst.

Rationale for Necessity:

This amendment is necessary to clarify that these services are provided by both individuals and group practices.

Authority and Reference:

Authority: Sections 4405 and 4648(a), Welfare and Institutions Code; and

Section 11152, Government Code.

Reference: Sections 4631 and 4648(a), Welfare and Institutions Code.