



OFFICE OF LEGAL AFFAIRS

MEMORANDUM

TO: Operations & Regulations Committee

FROM: Victor M. Fortuno
General Counsel

DATE: April 13, 2006

SUBJECT: Staff Report on 45 CFR Part 1624 DRAFT Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

Introduction

On October 29, 2005, the Board of Directors directed that LSC initiate a rulemaking to consider revisions to LSC's regulation on prohibition against discrimination on the basis of handicap at 45 CFR Part 1624. Pursuant to the Board's further direction, LSC convened a Rulemaking Workshop and reported back to the Operations & Regulations Committee at its last meeting on January 27, 2006. The Board adopted the recommendation of the Committee and directed LSC Management to prepare a Draft Notice of Proposed Rulemaking ("NPRM") proposing such changes as it deemed appropriate. Accordingly, attached to this report is a Draft NPRM for the Committee's review and action, as well as a redlined version indicating the proposed changes to the regulatory text.

Summary of the Draft NPRM

Third, Management is proposing to use the term “auxiliary aids and/or other assistive technologies” instead of the term “auxiliary aids” and to add a definition of this term to the regulation. Management believes that users of the regulation will be better served by having a formal definition of the term in the definitions section of the regulation than an informal definition elsewhere. In addition, Management believes that expanding the term to include “other assistive technologies,” combined with