**Section 140.17 Suspension of a Vendor's Eligibility to Participate in the Medical Assistance Program**

In actions based on Section 140.16 in which the Notice states an intent to terminate, the final administrative decision may result in suspension for a specific time, which shall not exceed one year from the time of the final administrative decision, rather than termination, when the Department determines that:

a) the seriousness and extent of the violations do not warrant termination; and

b) the vendor had no prior history of violations of the Medical Assistance Program; and

c) the lesser sanction of suspension will be sufficient to remedy the problem created by the vendor's violations.

(Source: Amended at 16 Ill. Reg. 17302, effective November 2, 1992)