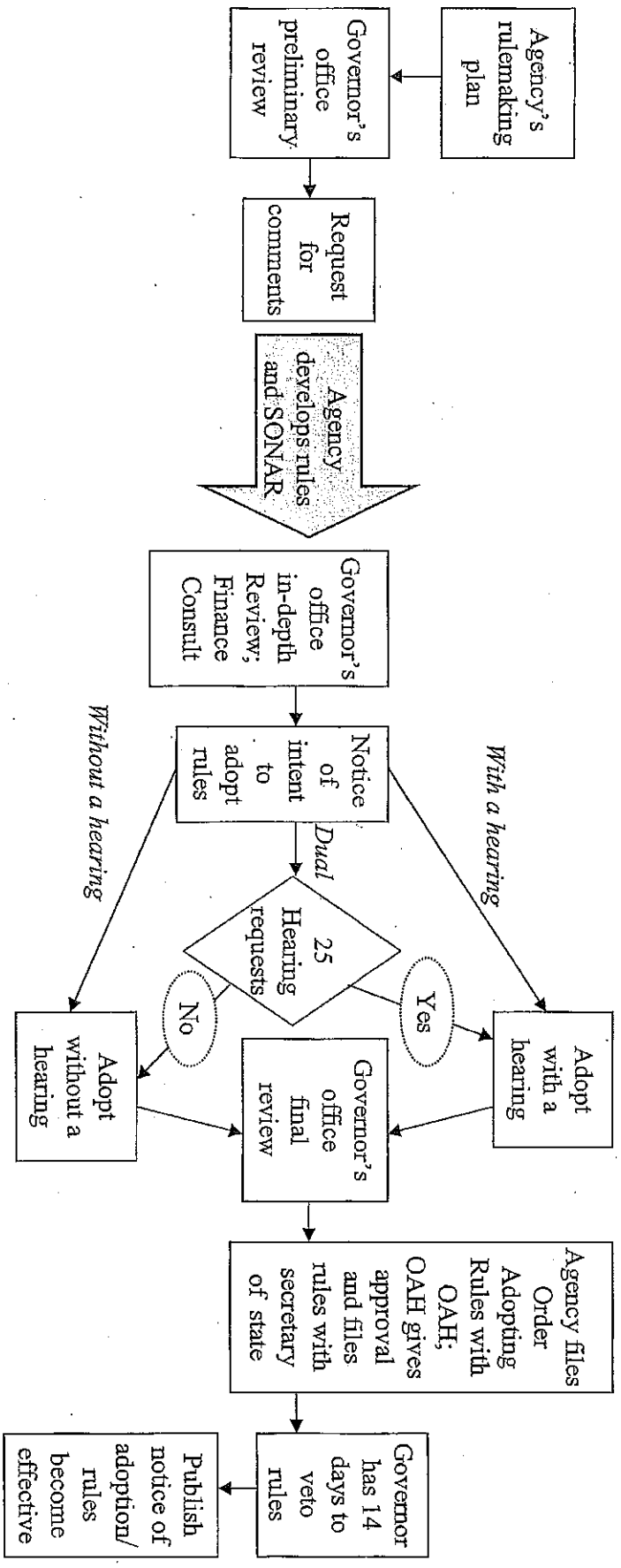


# Overview of the Rulemaking Process



Timeline Note 1. We have to wait at least 60 days after the Request for Comments before we can publish a Notice of Intent to Adopt Rules, but it often takes a year or more to develop rules and write the Statement of Need and Reasonableness (SONAR).

Timeline Note 2. The most important part of the rulemaking process is developing and writing the rules and justifying the rules in your SONAR. Often this is done with the input of an advisory committee. This part of the process takes from 6 to 18 months, depending on the complexity and level of controversy of the rules.

Timeline Note 3. The formal part of the process (from the Notice of Intent to Adopt Rules until the rules become effective) takes 4 to 8 months depending on whether you have a hearing or not, and the level of controversy.