WSR 23-24-018 PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES

(Aging and Long-Term Support Administration) [Filed November 28, 2023, 2:13 p.m.]

Subject of Possible Rule Making: The department of social and health services (department) is considering amendments to WAC 388-71-0971, 388-71-0990, and 388-71-0991 related to continuing education (CE) requirements that must be verified by an employer when a long-term care worker is hired.

Statutes Authorizing the Agency to Adopt Rules on this Subject: RCW 70.128.120, 71A.12.040, 74.39A.009, 74.39A.070, and 74.39A.074.

Reasons Why Rules on this Subject may be Needed and What They Might Accomplish: Rules on this subject are needed due to current confusion around what CE must be verified by an employer when hiring a long-term care worker. This confusion creates a potential barrier to maintaining the workforce.

Other Federal and State Agencies that Regulate this Subject and the Process Coordinating the Rule with These Agencies: None.

Process for Developing New Rule: The department welcomes the public to take part in developing the rules. Anyone interested should contact the staff person identified below. At a later date, the department will file a proposal with the office of the code reviser. A copy of the proposal will be sent to everyone on the mailing list and to anyone who requests a copy.

Interested parties can participate in the decision to adopt the new rule and formulation of the proposed rule before publication by contacting Dave Chappell, 4450 10th Avenue S.E., Lacey, WA 98504-5600, phone 360-725-2516, TTY 1-800-833-6388, email david.chappell@dshs.wa.gov.

> November 28, 2023 Katherine I. Vasquez Rules Coordinator