WSR 26-17-001
PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY
HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY
[Filed August 5, 2026, 12:25 p.m.]

Subject of Possible Rule Making: WAC 182-550-1100 Hospital care—General; other related rules as appropriate.

Statutes Authorizing the Agency to Adopt Rules on this Subject: RCW 74.09.835 (chapter 213, Laws of 2024, SSB [2E2SSB] 5580), 41.05.021, and 41.05.160.

Reasons Why Rules on this Subject may be Needed and What They Might Accomplish: The health care authority (HCA) is updating this section to establish rules for a postdelivery and transitional care program as directed under RCW 74.09.835 (chapter 213, Laws of 2024, SSB [2E2SSB] 5580). During this review, HCA may identify additional related changes that improve clarity or update policy.

Other Federal and State Agencies that Regulate this Subject and the Process Coordinating the Rule with These Agencies: The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

Process for Developing New Rule: HCA welcomes the public to take part in developing this rule. If interested, contact the person identified below to receive an early rule draft to review. After the early review, HCA will send a notice of proposed rule making (CR-102) to everyone receiving this notice and 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 Blake O'Connor, Rule-making Questions, P.O. Box 42716, Olympia, WA 98504-2716, phone 360-725-1344, fax 360-586-9727, telecommunication relay services (TRS) 711, email blake.oconnor@hca.wa.gov, website www.hca.wa.gov/about-hca/rulemaking; or Abby Cole, Program Questions, P.O. Box 42716, Olympia, WA 98504-2716, phone 360-725-1835, fax 360-586-9727, TRS 711, email abby.cole@hca.wa.gov, website www.hca.wa.gov/about-hca/rulemaking.

August 5, 2026
Wendy Barcus
Rules Coordinator

WSR 26-17-003
PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY
DEPARTMENT OF
FISH AND WILDLIFE

[Order 26-16—Filed August 5, 2026, 1:19 p.m.]

Subject of Possible Rule Making: For the upcoming 2027-2029 three-year season setting, the Washington department of fish and wildlife (WDFW) is considering rule changes for cougar, bear, deer, elk, moose, bighorn sheep, mountain goat, equipment, migratory game birds, trapping, small and upland game, and other related topics as needed.

Statutes Authorizing the Agency to Adopt Rules on this Subject: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.013, 77.04.020, 77.04.055, and 77.12.047.

Reasons Why Rules on this Subject may be Needed and What They Might Accomplish: WDFW needs to amend rules to update shifting calendar dates, provide clarifications to rules, and adjust recreational opportunity to maintain sustainable game populations, and other reasons that may be identified at the time of the filing of the rule publication.

Other Federal and State Agencies that Regulate this Subject and the Process Coordinating the Rule with These Agencies: Migratory birds are also regulated by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and coordination is managed through the Pacific Flyway. State regulations are designed to fit within the parameters of USFWS regulation guidelines.

Process for Developing New Rule: Agency study.

Interested parties can participate in the decision to adopt the new rule and formulation of the proposed rule before publication by contacting WDFW Rules Coordinator, P.O. Box 43200, Olympia, WA 98504, phone 855-925-2801, project code 6088, fax 360-902-2349, TTY 1-800-833-6388 or 711, email 27-29seasonsettingcr101@publicinput.com, website https://engage.wdfw.wa.gov/27-29seasonsettingcr101 or https://wdfw.wa.gov/about/regulations/development.

Additional comments: Assistance for language translation, alternate format, or reasonable accommodation, contact Title VI/ADA compliance coordinator, phone 360-902-2349, TTY 1-800-833-6388 or 711, email Title6@dfw.wa.gov. For more information, see https://wdfw.wa.gov/accessibility/requests-accommodation.

August 5, 2026
Scott Bird
Rules Coordinator

WSR 26-17-016
WITHDRAWAL OF
PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY
BOARD OF REGISTRATION
FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS
AND LAND SURVEYORS

[Filed August 6, 2026, 2:39 p.m.]

The board of registration for professional engineers and land surveyors requests withdrawal of the preproposal statement of inquiry filed as WSR 26-01-089, for chapter 196-26A WAC. The CR-101 was filed on December 15, 2025, and appeared in issue 26-01 of the State Register.

This document serves as the official notification of our withdrawal.

Ken Fuller, PE
Director

WSR 26-17-020
PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
[Filed August 7, 2026, 7:50 a.m.]

Subject of Possible Rule Making: The department of health (department) is considering rule amendments to update fees for medical test sites, WAC 246-338-990. The department may also consider changes to clarify and standardize language.

Statutes Authorizing the Agency to Adopt Rules on this Subject: RCW 43.70.110, 43.70.250, and 70.42.090.

Reasons Why Rules on this Subject may be Needed and What They Might Accomplish: The department is considering amendments to WAC 246-338-990 regarding a potential adjustment to initial license, renewal, and other charges for medical test sites to address funding requirements. The requirement in RCW 43.70.250 states that fees must cover regulatory program expenses, which necessitates the program to be self-funding, and changes to rules are the only way to make fee adjustments.

Revenue from medical test site fees must support mandated licensing and regulatory activities, such as issuing licenses and ongoing inspections and investigations. In addition to covering current expenses, the revenue level must also provide a reserve for unexpected program costs. The office of financial management recommends a reserve level of two months of expenditures. Based on a regular review, it was discovered that current revenue may not be adequate to support regulated activities and ensure sufficient reserve levels. Fees were last adjusted in 2023.

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

Process for Developing New Rule: Collaborative rule making.

Interested parties can participate in the decision to adopt the new rule and formulation of the proposed rule before publication by contacting Heather Cantrell, P.O. Box 47850, Olympia, WA 98504-7850, TTY 711, email HSQAFeeRules@doh.wa.gov, website doh.wa.gov.

Additional comments: The department will use existing email lists and other known contact information to inform interested parties of opportunities to provide input on proposed rule language. To find out more information about our rule making, visit www.doh.wa.gov. To subscribe, visit www.doh.wa.gov, and select the "Sign up for Updates From DOH" button at the bottom of the page. After signing in, please select the box labeled "Health Systems Quality Assurance." Next, select the box labeled "Medical Test Site Notifications."

August 6, 2026
Kristin Peterson, JD
Chief of Policy
for Dennis E. Worsham
Secretary of Health

WSR 26-17-027
PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY
BOARD OF REGISTRATION
FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS
AND LAND SURVEYORS
[Filed August 7, 2026, 3:50 p.m.]

Subject of Possible Rule Making: Chapter 196-26A WAC, Fees.

Statutes Authorizing the Agency to Adopt Rules on this Subject: RCW 18.43.035 and 18.43.150.

Reasons Why Rules on this Subject may be Needed and What They Might Accomplish: Creating uniform fees for the professional engineering (PE) and structural engineering (SE) application will streamline the application process to improve efficiency. The resource costs of processing PE and SE applications are essentially the same; therefore, fees for those services should reflect those costs consistently. Also, amendments throughout chapter 196-26A WAC are being proposed to reflect new processes and facilitate the new licensing database.

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

Process for Developing New Rule: Notice will be made to stakeholders and active licensees via the board of registration for professional engineers and land surveyors' (board) contact lists; and will be posted on the board website and distributed through the board and board staff. Interested parties may contact the individual listed below and the public may also participate by commenting after amendments are proposed by providing written comments or giving oral testimony during the public hearing process.

Interested parties can participate in the decision to adopt the new rule and formulation of the proposed rule before publication by contacting Shanan Gillespie, P.O. Box 9025, Olympia, WA 98507-9025, phone 360-664-1570, TTY 711, email shanan.gillespie@brpels.wa.gov, website https://brpels.wa.gov/current-laws-and-rules/rulemaking-activity.

August 7, 2026
Ken Fuller
Director

WSR 26-17-032
PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
(Dental Quality Assurance Commission)
[Filed August 11, 2026, 8:46 a.m.]

Subject of Possible Rule Making: Dental assistant registration. The dental quality assurance commission (commission) is considering amending WAC 246-817-190 to align with the department of labor and industries (L&I) new WAC section number change and to define what the commission will accept as a bona fide dental assistant career training or vocational education program for minors (16- and 17-year-olds) who are seeking dental assistant registration.

Statutes Authorizing the Agency to Adopt Rules on this Subject: RCW 18.32.0365 and 18.260.040.

Reasons Why Rules on this Subject may be Needed and What They Might Accomplish: Effective January 16, 2026, the commission adopted rule amendments to WAC 246-817-190 to align with the rule language in the L&I WAC 296-125-030 Prohibited and hazardous employment—All minors. Since then, L&I recently completed rule making to implement legislative bills related to youth employment, including HB 1722, (chapter 98, Laws of 2025), effective July 1, 2026. L&I's WAC 296-125-030 is newly numbered WAC 296-125-131 in the L&I rule project, and students who are minors and have successfully completed a bona fide health care career training or vocational education program are now listed in WAC 296-125-131(24).

On June 12, 2026, during a business meeting, the commission authorized rule making to amend WAC 246-817-190 to align with the L&I rule number change and to define what the commission will accept as a bona fide dental assistant career training or vocational education program for minors (16- and 17-year-olds) who are seeking dental assistant registration. Establishing clear registration requirements for minors in rule will allow the commission to enforce registration requirements and will align with L&I's employment rules for minors.

Other federal and state agencies that regulate this subject and the process coordinating the rule with these agencies: None.

Process for Developing New Rule: Collaborative rule making.

Interested parties can participate in the decision to adopt the new rule and formulation of the proposed rule before publication by contacting Debbie Gardner, Program Manager, P.O. Box 47852, Olympia, WA 98504-7852, phone 360-236-4893, TTY 711, email dental@doh.wa.gov, website www.doh.wa.gov.

Additional comments: Interested parties can participate in the drafting of the proposed rules. The commission will be conducting rules workshops with interested parties and subject matter experts. The commission will use existing email lists and other known contact information to inform interested parties of opportunities to provide input on proposed rule language. To find out more information about our rule making, visit doh.wa.gov. To subscribe to email lists, visit doh.wa.gov and select the button titled "Sign up for Updates From DOH" at the bottom of the page. After signing in, select "Health Systems Quality Assurance," "Health Professions," and "Dental List." You may also check the box next to one or more of the other professions listed to receive information related to that specific profession.

August 11, 2026
Bryan Swanson, DDS, Chair
Dental Quality Assurance Commission

WSR 26-17-037
PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY
DEPARTMENT OF
SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
(Economic Services Administration)
[Filed August 11, 2026, 3:05 p.m.]

Subject of Possible Rule Making: The department of social and health services (DSHS) is planning to amend WAC 388-452-0005 Do I have to be interviewed in order to get cash and basic food benefits?, and other rules as may be required.

Statutes Authorizing the Agency to Adopt Rules on this Subject: RCW 74.04.005, 74.04.0052, 74.04.050, 74.04.055, 74.04.057, 74.04.510, 74.04.655, 74.04.770, 74.04.805, 74.08.025, 74.08.043, 74.08.090, 74.08.335, 74.08A.100, and 74.62.030.

Reasons Why Rules on this Subject may be Needed and What They Might Accomplish: Planned amendments will align with United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Food and Nutrition Administration's (FNA) modification of Washington's elderly simplified application project (ESAP). Amendments will limit ESAP eligibility to adults who are disabled or 65 years of age or older. Effective November 1, 2026, those age 60-64, will no longer be ESAP eligible. If applicable, these amendments will make additional changes required to improve clarity, update policy, or better align rule language with state and federal law or regulations.

Other Federal and State Agencies that Regulate this Subject and the Process Coordinating the Rule with These Agencies: USDA, FNA. USDA FNA enforces the provisions of the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) as enacted in the 2008 Food and Nutrition Act and codified in the Code of Federal Regulations. DSHS will amend rules that are consistent with the act, federal regulations, and FNA administrative notices and formal guidance. The state legislature authorizes DSHS to administer SNAP and food assistance programs for legal immigrants under RCW 74.04.500, 74.04.510, and 74.08A.120. DSHS incorporates regulations from the federal agencies, exercises state options, and implements approved waivers of federal regulatory requirements by adopting administrative rules for food assistance programs administered under the Washington basic food program.

Process for Developing New Rule: DSHS welcomes the public to take part in developing rules. Anyone interested should contact the staff person identified below. At a later date, DSHS will file a proposal with the office of the code reviser with a notice of proposed rule making. 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 Joyce Hensen, P.O. Box 45470, Olympia, WA 98504-4570, phone 425-999-5162, TTY 711 relay service, email joyce.hensen@dshs.wa.gov.

August 11, 2026
Katherine I. Vasquez
Rules Coordinator

WSR 26-17-038
PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY
DEPARTMENT OF
SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
(Economic Services Administration)
[Filed August 11, 2026, 3:06 p.m.]

Subject of Possible Rule Making: The department of social and health services (DSHS) is planning to amend WAC 388-444-0010 Who is exempt from work registration while receiving basic food?, and other related rules as may be required.

Statutes Authorizing the Agency to Adopt Rules on this Subject: RCW 74.04.005, 74.04.050, 74.04.055, 74.04.057, 74.04.510, 74.08.090, 74.08A.120, and 74.09.035.

Reasons Why Rules on this Subject may be Needed and What They Might Accomplish: Planned amendments will align WAC with federal rules regarding certain exemptions from work registration for food assistance. If applicable, these amendments will also make additional changes required to improve clarity, update policy, or better align rule language with state and federal law or regulations.

Other Federal and State Agencies that Regulate this Subject and the Process Coordinating the Rule with These Agencies: United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Food and Nutrition Administration (FNA). USDA FNA enforces the provisions of the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) as enacted in the 2008 Food and Nutrition Act and codified in the Code of Federal Regulations. DSHS will amend rules that are consistent with the act, federal regulations, and FNA administrative notices and formal guidance. The state legislature authorizes DSHS to administer SNAP and food assistance programs for legal immigrants under RCW 74.04.500, 74.04.510, and 74.08A.120. DSHS incorporates regulations from the federal agencies, exercises state options, and implements approved waivers of federal regulatory requirements by adopting administrative rules for food assistance programs administered under the Washington basic food program.

Process for Developing New Rule: DSHS welcomes the public to take part in developing rules. Anyone interested should contact the staff person identified below. At a later date, DSHS will file a proposal with the office of the code reviser with a notice of proposed rule making. 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 Alexis Miller, P.O. Box 45470, Olympia, WA 98504-4570, phone 253-579-3144, TTY 711 relay services, email alexis.a.miller@dshs.wa.gov.

August 11, 2026
Katherine I. Vasquez
Rules Coordinator

WSR 26-17-039
PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY
[Order 26-09—Filed August 12, 2026, 7:51 a.m.]

Subject of Possible Rule Making: The Washington state department of ecology (ecology) is considering revisions to chapter 173-201A WAC, Water quality standards for surface waters of the state of Washington. In response to nominations, we are considering designating outstanding resource waters (ORW) under WAC 173-201A-332. This is the highest level of protection for areas with exceptional water quality, ecological or recreational value, or unique attributes.

The nominated areas are:

- Ruby, Granite, and Canyon creeks and all their named and unnamed tributaries, wetlands, and intermittent and perennial streams within HUC10 watershed 1711000505, extending from the headwaters to the western edge of the watershed at the maximum elevation of Ross Reservoir, which can reach 1,610.5 feet during major flood events (Skagit and Whatcom counties).
- Upper Sultan River, including Williamson Creek, the South Fork Sultan River, and all other streams flowing into Spada Lake Reservoir, from their headwaters to their confluences with Spada Lake Reservoir at the 1450-foot full pool elevation, along with all named and unnamed tributaries, wetlands, and intermittent and perennial streams in and adjacent to these reaches (Snohomish County).
- Upper headwaters of the Lewis River, along with all named and unnamed tributaries, wetlands, and intermittent and perennial streams, starting at its source on Mount Adams (in the Mount Adams Wilderness) and ending where the river meets the boundary of the Gifford Pinchot National Forest (Skamania County).
- Tributaries to the Methow River, including Lost River from its headwaters to the south line of Section 32, Township 37 North, Range 19 East, just above its confluence with the Methow River; the headwaters of Early Winters Creek to its confluence with Cedar Creek; the upper Methow River from its headwaters to its confluence with the Lost River; and the upper Chewuch River from its headwaters to its confluence with Eightmile Creek; as well as all named and unnamed tributaries, wetlands, and intermittent and perennial streams in and adjacent to these reaches (Okanogan County).

We may amend other sections of chapter 173-201A WAC as necessary to support any revisions to the section noted above.

We will review each nomination as described in WAC 173-201A-330 (3)(b), which states that, "In determining whether or not to designate an outstanding resource water, the department will consider factors relating to the difficulty of maintaining the current quality of the water body. Outstanding resource waters should not be designated where substantial and imminent social or economic impact to the local community will occur, unless local public support is overwhelmingly in favor of the designation. The department will carefully weigh the level of support from the public and affected governments in assessing whether or not to designate the water as an outstanding resource water."

After considering public comments and weighing public support for each nomination, we will make a final decision on whether all or part

of a nominated waterbody should be adopted as an ORW, and whether that waterbody should be given Tier III(A) or Tier III(B) protection. Tier III(A) means that future actions can't result in permanent lowering of water quality within the designated boundary. Tier III(B) allows only minor degradation below measurable amounts if the source of pollution can't be completely removed.

Statutes Authorizing the Agency to Adopt Rules on this Subject: RCW 90.48.035 Water pollution control—Rule-making authority; and 40 C.F.R. 131.20 (water quality standards) State review and revision of water quality standards, requires states and tribes (with primacy for clean water actions) to periodically review and update the water quality standards.

Reasons Why Rules on this Subject may be Needed and What They Might Accomplish: On February 24, 2026, we received nominations to designate ORWs from The Pew Charitable Trusts, American Rivers, American Whitewater, Cascade Forest Conservancy, Methow Valley Citizens Council, Trout Unlimited, Washington Wild, and Wild Salmon Center.

We reviewed each nomination to determine if it met one or more of the eligibility requirements under WAC 173-201A-330(1). During this review, which must be completed within 60 days of when we receive the nomination, we contacted local jurisdictions and elected officials, tribes, and other interested parties near each nominated waterbody to notify them of the nominations. We determined that each waterbody nominated met one or more of the eligibility criteria.

The next step in this review process is to gather more information about each nominated waterbody, conduct additional outreach to interested parties and tribes, and hold a formal public review of each nomination before we consider adopting an ORW designation.

ORW designations provide the highest level of protection for eligible waterbodies under the surface water quality standards antidegradation rules. Eligible waterbodies include those that are relatively pristine and in existing protected areas, highly valued for recreation, have unique habitat, exceptional ecological significance, or provide cold water refuge for fish.

Other Federal and State Agencies that Regulate this Subject and the Process Coordinating the Rule with These Agencies: We will coordinate with the United States Environmental Protection Agency through rule development and adoption.

Process for Developing New Rule: Ecology will follow the standard process for the adoption of rules under the Administrative Procedure Act (chapter 34.05 RCW).

Interested parties can participate in the decision to adopt the new rule and formulation of the proposed rule before publication by contacting Marla Koberstein, Department of Ecology, Water Quality Program, P.O. Box 47696, Olympia, WA 98504-7696, phone 360-789-3610, dial 711 to call through the Washington telecommunications relay for services like text telephone or visit Ecology.wa.gov/ADA for more accessibility information, email marla.koberstein@ecy.wa.gov, website https://ecology.wa.gov/regulations-permits/laws-rules-rulemaking/rulemaking/wac-173-201a-outstanding-resource-waters. Sign up to receive email notices at https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/WAECY/subscriber/new?topic_id=WAECY_61.

Additional comments: Interested parties can stay informed about the rule making and public involvement opportunities as described above. Ecology will extend an offer for government-to-government con-

sultation with tribal governments during each phase of rule development.

Ecology will conduct an environmental justice assessment in accordance with RCW 70A.02.060 as a part of this rule making.

July 22, 2026
Jon Kenning, PhD
Water Quality Program Manager

WSR 26-17-057
PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY
DEPARTMENT OF
RETIREMENT SYSTEMS
[Filed August 12, 2026, 4:44 p.m.]

Subject of Possible Rule Making: Emergency teaching certifications and membership in the teachers' retirement system (TRS).

Statutes Authorizing the Agency to Adopt Rules on this Subject: RCW 41.50.050.

Reasons Why Rules on this Subject may be Needed and What They Might Accomplish: Clarifying that teachers with one-year emergency teaching certifications are eligible for TRS membership.

Process for Developing New Rule: Negotiated rule making.

Interested parties can participate in the decision to adopt the new rule and formulation of the proposed rule before publication by contacting Bianca Stoner, Department of Retirement Systems, P.O. Box 48380, Olympia, WA 98504-8380, phone 360-664-7291, TTY 711, email drs.rules@drs.wa.gov, website www.drs.wa.gov/rules.

August 12, 2026
Bianca Stoner
Rules Coordinator

WSR 26-17-058
PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY
DEPARTMENT OF
RETIREMENT SYSTEMS
[Filed August 13, 2026, 8:11 a.m.]

Subject of Possible Rule Making: Beneficiary requirements.

Statutes Authorizing the Agency to Adopt Rules on this Subject: RCW 41.50.050.

Reasons Why Rules on this Subject may be Needed and What They Might Accomplish: Clarifying the department of retirement systems' requirements for retirement account beneficiary designations.

Process for Developing New Rule: Negotiated rule making.

Interested parties can participate in the decision to adopt the new rule and formulation of the proposed rule before publication by contacting Bianca Stoner, Department of Retirement Systems, P.O. Box 48380, Olympia, WA 98504-8380, phone 360-664-7291, TTY 711, email drs.rules@drs.wa.gov, website www.drs.wa.gov/rules.

August 13, 2026
Bianca Stoner
Rules Coordinator

WSR 26-17-060
PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY
DEPARTMENT OF
RETIREMENT SYSTEMS
[Filed August 13, 2026, 8:37 a.m.]

Subject of Possible Rule Making: Implementing the law enforcement officers' and firefighters' (LEOFF) Plan 1 termination and restatement bill.

Statutes Authorizing the Agency to Adopt Rules on this Subject: RCW 41.50.050 and chapter 261, Laws of 2026.

Reasons Why Rules on this Subject may be Needed and What They Might Accomplish: The department of retirement systems (DRS) is doing rule making to implement chapter 261, Laws of 2026, the LEOFF Plan 1 termination and restatement bill.

Process for Developing New Rule: Negotiated rule making.

Interested parties can participate in the decision to adopt the new rule and formulation of the proposed rule before publication by contacting Bianca Stoner, DRS, P.O. Box 48380, Olympia, WA 98504-8380, phone 360-664-7291, TTY 711, email drs.rules@drs.wa.gov, website www.drs.wa.gov/rules.

August 13, 2026
Bianca Stoner
Rules Coordinator

WSR 26-17-065
PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
(Pharmacy Quality Assurance Commission)
[Filed August 14, 2026, 8:17 a.m.]

Subject of Possible Rule Making: Designating elemental mercury and methylmercury compounds as poisons per RCW 69.38.010. The pharmacy quality assurance commission (commission) is considering creating a new section of rule in chapter 246-945 WAC for the purpose of designating compounds and substances as "poisons," as defined in RCW 69.38.010(4). The new section would include elemental mercury and methylmercury compounds.

Statutes Authorizing the Agency to Adopt Rules on this Subject: RCW 18.64.005 and 69.38.010.

Reasons Why Rules on this Subject may be Needed and What They Might Accomplish: The commission received a petition from an interested party on April 27, 2026, requesting that the commission designate elemental mercury and methylmercury compounds as "poisons" per the commission's regulatory authority in RCW 69.38.010. The petitioner stated that the compounds, used in certain dental amalgams, pose a public risk and are no longer necessary in current dental practice. The commission is granted statutory authority under RCW 69.38.010(4) to designate substances that, when introduced into the human body and, in quantities of 60 grains (approximately 3,888 milligrams) or less, cause violent sickness or death as poisons.

While anyone would still be able to purchase the compounds in question, the purchase would need to be recorded in ink in a register maintained by the seller, which the commission would have authority to inspect. Furthermore, those engaged in manufacturing or selling poisons in the state must be licensed with the commission under RCW 69.38.060. The commission already has a poison distributor license for which entities that wish to manufacture or sell poisons may apply.

Creating a new section of rule in chapter 246-945 WAC would allow the commission to create a section of rule that corresponds with chapter 69.38 RCW and allows the commission to more easily designate substances as poisons per its statutory authority. This section could be used to designate the identified mercury compounds as poisons and ensure those that wish to distribute those compounds are licensed with the commission.

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

Process for Developing New Rule: Collaborative rule making.

Interested parties can participate in the decision to adopt the new rule and formulation of the proposed rule before publication by contacting Joshua Munroe, P.O. Box 47850, Olympia, WA 98504-7850, phone 360-502-5058, fax 360-236-2260, TTY 711, email PharmacyRules@doh.wa.gov.

Additional comments: Interested parties can participate in the drafting of the proposed rules. The department of health will conduct at least one rules workshop. Rule-making notices will be delivered via email list. To receive notices, please visit https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/WADOH/subscriber/new. After signing in, please click open the box labeled "Health Systems Quality Assurance." Next, click open the box labeled "Health Professions" and then click again on "Pharmacy Commission Newsletter." You may also check

the box next to one or more of the other professions or facilities listed to receive information related to that specific topic.

August 14, 2026
Ann Wolken, PharmD, RPh, Chair
Pharmacy Quality Assurance Commission

WSR 26-17-069
PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY
OFFICE OF THE
INSURANCE COMMISSIONER

[Insurance Commissioner Matter R 2026-05—Filed August 14, 2026, 9:29 a.m.]

Subject of Possible Rule Making: Implementation of SSB 6248, implementing travel insurance regulation.

Statutes Authorizing the Agency to Adopt Rules on this Subject: RCW 48.02.060; and chapter 165, Laws of 2026.

Reasons Why Rules on this Subject may be Needed and What They Might Accomplish: The office of the insurance commissioner (commissioner) is considering rule making to implement SSB 6248, which passed during the 2026 legislative session and was largely modeled after the National Association of Insurance Commissioners Travel Insurance Model Act. This rule making will facilitate implementation of the new law, which creates a new travel insurance chapter in the insurance code and would outline a framework within which travel insurance may be sold in Washington state.

Rule making may be necessary to address certain changes in law including, but not limited to, new definitions, producer licensing requirements, rate and form filing requirements, and marketing and advertising requirements. In addition to other provisions, the new law also broadens who can sell travel insurance by establishing a "travel administrator," requires them to be licensed as a limited line travel insurance producer, and exempts them from adjuster licensing requirements. The commissioner is considering amending the following WAC, which may include, but not be limited to: WAC 284-17-001, 284-17-011, and 284-24-065.

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

Process for Developing New Rule: Submit written comments by September 9, 2026.

Interested parties can participate in the decision to adopt the new rule and formulation of the proposed rule before publication by contacting Rules Coordinator, 302 Sid Snyder Avenue S.W., Olympia, WA 98504, phone 360-725-7171, fax 360-586-3109, TTY 360-586-0241, email rulescoordinator@oic.wa.gov, website www.insurance.wa.gov.

August 14, 2026
Patty Kuderer
Insurance Commissioner

WSR 26-17-070
PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY
OFFICE OF THE
INSURANCE COMMISSIONER

[Insurance Commissioner Matter R 2026-06—Filed August 14, 2026, 9:30 a.m.]

Subject of Possible Rule Making: Modernizing producer licensing and reporting requirements.

Statutes Authorizing the Agency to Adopt Rules on this Subject: RCW 48.02.060.

Reasons Why Rules on this Subject may be Needed and What They Might Accomplish: The office of the insurance commissioner (OIC) is considering rule making to clean up and modernize outdated rule language to better reflect OIC's current electronic licensing and verification processes, such as removing outdated requirements to submit a paper score report, eliminating references to fingerprint cards that are seldom used due to electronic fingerprinting, removing an obsolete five dollar filing fee reference, and codifying the 180-day examination validity period to clarify existing practice. In addition, rule making may be considered to provide guidance for an insurer who is terminating a producer's appointment for cause.

OIC is considering amending the following WAC, which may include, but not be limited to: WAC 284-17-046, 284-17-055, 284-17-120, 284-17-449, and 284-17-490.

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

Process for Developing New Rule: Submit written comments by September 2, 2026.

Interested parties can participate in the decision to adopt the new rule and formulation of the proposed rule before publication by contacting Rules Coordinator, 302 Sid Snyder Avenue S.W., Olympia, WA 98504, phone 360-725-[7171], fax 360-586-3109, TTY 360-586-0241, email rulescoordinator@oic.wa.gov, website www.insurance.wa.gov.

August 14, 2026
Patty Kuderer
Insurance Commissioner

WSR 26-17-075
PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY
SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

[Filed August 17, 2026, 10:08 a.m.]

Subject of Possible Rule Making: WAC 392-142-100 Definitions, and 392-142-245 Calculation of depreciation system payments.

Statutes Authorizing the Agency to Adopt Rules on this Subject: ESSB 6260 (2026); and RCW 28A.150.290.

Reasons Why Rules on this Subject may be Needed and What They Might Accomplish: The purpose of this rule making is to reduce the financial impact to school districts' school bus replacement and depreciation payments due to the passing of ESSB 6260 (2026). The monetary effect due to the change in school bus depreciation lifetimes was greater than intended. The amended rule language will meet the fiscal goal of the bill while lessening the financial burden on school districts.

Process for Developing New Rule: Early solicitation of feedback and recommendations concerning new or amended rules, and consideration of comments and recommendations in the course of drafting rule language.

Interested parties can participate in the decision to adopt the new rule and formulation of the proposed rule before publication by contacting Mindy Smith, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, P.O. Box 47200, Olympia, WA 98504, TTY 360-664-3631, email Mindy.Smith@k12.wa.us, website ospi.k12.wa.us.

August 17, 2026
Chris P.S. Reykdal
State Superintendent of Public Instruction

WSR 26-17-081
PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY
DEPARTMENT OF
RETIREMENT SYSTEMS
[Filed August 17, 2026, 4:04 p.m.]

Subject of Possible Rule Making: Fixing inaccurate cross-references.

Statutes Authorizing the Agency to Adopt Rules on this Subject: RCW 41.50.050.

Reasons Why Rules on this Subject may be Needed and What They Might Accomplish: The department of retirement systems (DRS) identified cross-references in certain WAC that are not accurate and is correcting them.

Process for Developing New Rule: Negotiated rule making.

Interested parties can participate in the decision to adopt the new rule and formulation of the proposed rule before publication by contacting Bianca Stoner, DRS, P.O. Box 48380, Olympia, WA 98504-8380, phone 360-664-7291, TTY 711, email drs.rules@drs.wa.gov, website www.drs.wa.gov/rules.

August 17, 2026
Bianca Stoner
Rules Coordinator

WSR 26-17-088
PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY
DEPARTMENT OF
LABOR AND INDUSTRIES
[Order 26-15—Filed August 18, 2026, 8:56 a.m.]

Subject of Possible Rule Making: Indoor heat exposure and heat illness prevention in all industries; Title 296 WAC, Department of labor and industries (L&I).

Statutes Authorizing the Agency to Adopt Rules on this Subject: RCW 49.17.101, 49.17.040, 49.17.050, and 49.17.060.

Reasons Why Rules on this Subject may be Needed and What They Might Accomplish: In 2021, L&I initiated rule making under WSR 21-17-135 to consider occupational heat exposure hazards from high temperatures in all industries, including outdoor and indoor exposures. Subsequently, L&I decided to separate indoor and outdoor heat exposure requirements into phases. Rule making related to outdoor heat exposure requirements was completed in June 2023. L&I received a petition for rule making on October 15, 2025, requesting changes to L&I's rules to include more specific requirements to prevent heat-related illness for indoor workers in all industries.

This rule making will consider occupational heat exposure hazards from high temperatures in all industries, and will consider requirements for, but not limited to: Trigger temperatures or another measure of environmental conditions stress to the human body, preventative measures (such as water, cooling methods, and rest time/breaks), emergency response measures, training, and planning. Establishing indoor heat exposure requirements benefits employers and employees by providing clear and consistent health and safety standards.

The federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration currently has a national emphasis program regarding indoor heat exposure.

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

Process for Developing New Rule: Parties interested in the formulation of these rules for proposal may contact the individual listed below. The public may also participate by commenting after amendments are proposed by providing written comments or giving oral testimony during the public hearing process.

Interested parties can participate in the decision to adopt the new rule and formulation of the proposed rule before publication by contacting Carmyn Shute, Administrative Regulations Analyst, L&I, Division of Occupational Safety and Health, P.O. Box 44620, Olympia, WA 98504-4620, phone 360-870-4525, fax 360-902-5619, email Carmyn.Shute@Lni.wa.gov.

Additional comments: For more information on L&I rule making, visit L&I's rule-making activity web page at https://www.Lni.wa.gov/rulemaking-activity/.

August 18, 2026
Joel Sacks
Director

WSR 26-17-091
PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
[Filed August 18, 2026, 11:29 a.m.]

Subject of Possible Rule Making: Substance use disorder professionals (SUDP) and SUDP trainees; trauma-informed care, education, international applicants, and other updates.

The department of health (department) is opening chapter 246-811 WAC, Substance use disorder professionals and substance use disorder professional trainees, to consider amending, creating, and repealing rule sections. The department will consider topics including, but not limited to, adding trauma-informed care to the continuing education and professional competency requirements, updates to education standards, documentation requirements, and how applicants with foreign education or experience become certified.

Additionally, the department may consider other topics raised by the substance use disorder certification advisory committee, the department, or members of the public.

Statutes Authorizing the Agency to Adopt Rules on this Subject: RCW 18.205.060, 18.205.090, 18.205.100, and 18.122.050.

Reasons Why Rules on this Subject may be Needed and What They Might Accomplish: The department approved a 2026 petition requesting that the department add trauma-informed care to the continuing education and professional competency requirements for SUDPs. By opening this rule making, the department intends to explore this subject and seek feedback from the professional community about appropriate next steps.

Additionally, the department plans to review educational requirements, particularly topics listed in WAC 246-811-030(3). Over the past few years, numerous interested parties and other state agencies have recommended updating the educational topics required for an SUDP or trainee. While the current list includes topics foundational to addiction studies, it may be appropriate to add, remove, or streamline the list to more accurately reflect current addiction studies best practices and the educational needs of the profession.

Finally, the department will be discussing other topics, including documentation requirements, how applicants with foreign education or experience become certified, and opportunities to streamline rules or agency requirements.

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

Process for Developing New Rule: Collaborative rule making.

Interested parties can participate in the decision to adopt the new rule and formulation of the proposed rule before publication by contacting Claire Wilson, P.O. Box 47852, Olympia, WA 98504-7852, phone 564-669-0392, TTY 711, email claire.wilson@doh.wa.gov, website www.doh.wa.gov.

Additional comments: Interested parties can participate in drafting the proposed rules. The department will be conducting rules workshops with interested parties and subject matter experts. The department will use the SUDP email list to inform interested parties of opportunities to provide input on proposed rule language.

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August 17, 2026
Todd Mountin, PMP
Deputy Chief of Policy
for Dennis E. Worsham
Secretary of Health

WSR 26-17-094
PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY
WASHINGTON STATE PATROL
[Filed August 18, 2026, 2:23 p.m.]

Subject of Possible Rule Making: WAC 204-21-230 Lighting equipment prohibited.

Statutes Authorizing the Agency to Adopt Rules on this Subject: RCW 46.37.005, 46.37.194, 46.37.300, and 46.37.320.

Reasons Why Rules on this Subject may be Needed and What They Might Accomplish: Proposed changes are needed to clarify and provide consistency within chapter 204-21 WAC regarding the use of flashing white warning lamps on highway maintenance vehicles and certain snow removal vehicles. The proposed rule making would clarify existing provisions and update the types of warning lamps authorized for vehicles identified in WAC 204-21-130.

Other Federal and State Agencies that Regulate this Subject and the Process Coordinating the Rule with These Agencies: Washington state patrol (WSP) anticipates providing draft language to impacted stakeholders for review and input as part of the process.

Process for Developing New Rule: WSP welcomes the public to take part in developing the rules. Anyone interested should contact the staff person identified below. At a later date, WSP will file a proposed rule making (CR-102) with the office of the code reviser. A copy of the proposal will be sent 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 Kimberly Mathis, Rules Coordinator, 106 11th Avenue S.W., Olympia, WA, phone 360-596-4017, email wsprules@wsp.wa.gov, website wsp.wa.gov/rules-development/.

August 18, 2026
John R. Batiste
Chief

WSR 26-17-095
PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY
BOARD OF TAX APPEALS
[Filed August 18, 2026, 3:49 p.m.]

Subject of Possible Rule Making: Settlement conference requirements and procedures.

Statutes Authorizing the Agency to Adopt Rules on this Subject: RCW 82.03.170.

Reasons Why Rules on this Subject may be Needed and What They Might Accomplish: To create procedures and add clarity to how and when settlement conferences are conducted, pursuant to WAC 456-09-530, and explore creating a process for settlement conferences in informal appeals.

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 board of tax appeals will seek input from the county assessors and the department of revenue, as well as tax practitioners and other interested parties.

Interested parties can participate in the decision to adopt the new rule and formulation of the proposed rule before publication by contacting Keri Lamb, 1110 Capital Way, Suite 300, P.O. Box 40915, Olympia, WA, phone 360-753-5446, fax 360-586-9020, email bta@bta.wa.gov.

August 18, 2026
Matthew Randazzo
Chair

WSR 26-17-107
PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE
[Filed August 19, 2026, 11:51 a.m.]

Subject of Possible Rule Making: WAC 458-20-23801 Watercraft excise tax—Watercraft depreciation schedule.

Statutes Authorizing the Agency to Adopt Rules on this Subject: RCW 82.01.060(2) and 82.32.300.

Reasons Why Rules on this Subject may be Needed and What They Might Accomplish: RCW 82.49.040 requires the department of revenue (department) to prepare a depreciation schedule (at minimum annually) for use in the determination of fair market value for watercrafts, which is the basis for measuring the watercraft excise tax. The purpose of this rule-making effort is to evaluate the watercraft depreciation table values in WAC 458-20-23801. The department will propose amendments to the watercraft depreciation schedule if watercraft valuation, sales, and registration data indicate an adjustment to a table value(s) is necessary, as required by RCW 82.49.040. The department will also solicit comments and feedback from external stakeholders regarding the proposed watercraft depreciation schedule.

The department plans to share any proposed amendments to the watercraft depreciation schedule in advance of the public meeting and discuss any proposed amendments during the public meeting.

Other Federal and State Agencies that Regulate this Subject and the Process Coordinating the Rule with These Agencies: The Washington department of licensing uses the watercraft depreciation schedule to bill and collect the watercraft excise tax from registered watercraft owners. The department of revenue uses data from the department of licensing concerning watercraft sales and registrations to consider whether any adjustments are necessary to the table.

Process for Developing New Rule: Parties interested in this rule making may contact the individual listed below. The public may also participate by providing written comments throughout this rule making or giving oral testimony at the public meeting or public hearing.

Interested parties can participate in the decision to adopt the new rule and formulation of the proposed rule before publication by contacting Tom Wu, P.O. Box 47453, Olympia, WA 98504-7453, phone 360-534-1304, fax 360-534-1606, TTY 800-833-6384, email tomw2@dor.wa.gov, website dor.wa.gov; or Julie King, phone 360-704-5733, TTY 800-833-6384.

Additional comments: Written comments may be submitted to Tom Wu using one of the contact methods above. Written and oral comments will be accepted at the public meeting on October 19, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. Telephonic/internet meeting only. Contact Cathy Holder at CathyH@dor.wa.gov for dial-in/login information.

August 19, 2026
Perry Stern
Rules Coordinator