

WSR 23-23-062
PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY
LIQUOR AND CANNABIS
BOARD

[Filed November 8, 2023, 1:18 p.m.]

Subject of Possible Rule Making: Chapter 314-55 WAC; the Washington state liquor and cannabis board (board) is considering rule making to implement E2SSB 5080 (chapter 220, Laws of 2023), enacted during the 2023 legislative session, related to various provisions of the social equity in cannabis program. As part of this rule making, the board is considering creating new, and amending or repealing existing, rules throughout chapter 314-55 WAC as necessary to implement E2SSB 5080.

Statutes Authorizing the Agency to Adopt Rules on this Subject: RCW 69.50.335, 69.50.342.

Reasons Why Rules on this Subject may be Needed and What They Might Accomplish: Rules may be needed to implement the following provisions of E2SSB 5080:

- Updating definitions such as disproportionately impacted area (DIA), social equity plan, social equity applicant, and other relevant definitions within the scope of the social equity in cannabis program;
- Creating a framework and process for local jurisdiction input on outlet density;
- Expanding social equity license issuance and reissuance;
- Providing for license mobility and county threshold establishment; and
- Other revisions as necessary to align current rules within the scope of E2SSB 5080.

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 Cassidy West, Policy and Rules Manager, P.O. Box 43080, Olympia, WA 98504, phone 360-878-4235, fax 360-704-5027, email rules@lcb.wa.gov, website lcb.wa.gov.

Additional comments: Interested persons can participate in the rule process through open public meetings and by submitting written comments, and are encouraged to sign up for the interested parties list (GovDelivery) at <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/WALCB/subscriber/new>. Rule-making notices and stakeholder engagement opportunities will be emailed via GovDelivery and posted to the board website at lcb.wa.gov.

November 8, 2023
David Postman
Chair