

WSR 24-21-028  
PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
[Filed October 7, 2024, 1:21 p.m.]

Subject of Possible Rule Making: The passage of SB [SSB] 5096 in the 2023 legislative session requires the department of commerce (commerce) to develop rules and guidelines for the administration of the employee ownership program, as established by the Washington employee ownership commission (commission). Through the commission, commerce is required to develop WAC for this newly formed program.

Statutes Authorizing the Agency to Adopt Rules on this Subject: RCW 43.330.590, 43.330.592, and 43.330.595.

Reasons Why Rules on this Subject may be Needed and What They Might Accomplish: Commerce is tasked to develop the WAC for the newly formed Washington employee ownership program in the passage of 2023 legislation SB [SSB] 5096.

Other Federal and State Agencies that Regulate this Subject and the Process Coordinating the Rule with These Agencies: Washington department of revenue, RCW 82.32.808 (2) (a).

Process for Developing New Rule: Standard rule-making process.

Interested parties can participate in the decision to adopt the new rule and formulation of the proposed rule before publication by contacting Lorena Lowell, 1011 Plum Street S.E., Olympia, WA 98504, phone 360-725-2809, email Lorena.lowell@commerce.wa.gov, website commerce.wa.gov/program-index-2/washington-employee-ownership-program-eop-commission; or Linda Womack, 2001 6th Avenue, Suite 2600, Seattle, WA 98121, phone 206-256-6151, email Linda.Womack@Commerce.wa.gov.

Additional comments: Commerce maintains an email distribution list for communication with stakeholders. Interested parties may add their names to the distribution list by visiting the web page listed above.

October 7, 2024  
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Rules Coordinator