

**WAC 182-526-0600 Authority of the review judge.** (1) In some cases, review judges review initial orders and enter final orders. The review judge has the same decision-making authority as the administrative law judge (ALJ). The review judge considers the entire record and decides the case de novo (anew). In reviewing findings of fact, the review judge must give due regard to the ALJ's opportunity to observe witnesses.

(2) Review judges may remand (return) cases to the office of administrative hearings for further action.

(3) In cases where there is a consolidated hearing under WAC 182-526-0387, any party may request review of the initial order in accordance with the requirements contained in this chapter.

(4) Review judges may not review an ALJ order after the order becomes final, except as provided in WAC 182-526-0580.

(5) A review judge conducts the hearing and enters the final order in cases where a contractor for the delivery of nursing facility services requests an administrative hearing under WAC 388-96-904(5).

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and, 41.05.160. WSR 17-05-066, § 182-526-0600, filed 2/13/17, effective 3/16/17. Statutory Authority: 2011 1st sp.s. c 15 § 53, chapters 74.09, 34.05 RCW, and 10-08 WAC. WSR 13-02-007, § 182-526-0600, filed 12/19/12, effective 2/1/13.]