

WSR 23-07-139  
PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY  
DEPARTMENT OF  
LABOR AND INDUSTRIES

[Filed March 22, 2023, 10:36 a.m.]

Subject of Possible Rule Making: Voluntary use of personal protective equipment (PPE).

Statutes Authorizing the Agency to Adopt Rules on this Subject: RCW 49.17.010, 49.17.040, 49.17.050, and 49.17.060.

Reasons Why Rules on this Subject may be Needed and What They Might Accomplish: The department of labor and industries (L&I) is considering permanent rule making to allow the voluntary use of PPE when workers feel the need to protective themselves from noise, dust, or possible infectious or contagious diseases. The voluntary use of PPE must not introduce hazards to the work environment and facial coverings must not interfere with an employer's security 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: 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, website <https://www.lni.wa.gov/rulemaking-activity/>.

March 21, 2023  
Joel Sacks  
Director