WSR 26-14-103
PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

[Filed July 1, 2026, 7:06 a.m.]

Subject of Possible Rule Making: Temporary exemptions from licensure for music therapy applicants. The department of health (department) is considering new rules to implement SHB 2363 (chapter 27, Laws of 2026), to allow music therapy applicants who meet the statutory requirements to practice music therapy while their application and exam results are pending.

Statutes Authorizing the Agency to Adopt Rules on this Subject: RCW 18.233.060, 18.233.070, and SHB 2363 (chapter 27, Laws of 2026).

Reasons Why Rules on this Subject may be Needed and What They Might Accomplish: SHB 2363 creates a licensing grace period (similar to other professions) for a music therapist applicant to provide music therapy under the supervision of a licensed music therapist for a period of six months if the applicant meets all other licensure requirements except for exam results. Rule making is necessary to establish clear and enforceable standards to allow for the temporary exemption from licensure of music therapy applicants created by SHB 2363.

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 Shelbee Scrimo, P.O. Box 47852, Olympia, WA 98504-7852, phone 360-236-4723, fax 360-236-2901, TTY 711, email music.therapist@doh.wa.gov, website www.doh.wa.gov.

Additional comments: Interested parties can participate in the drafting of the proposed rules. The department will conduct a series of rules workshops. Rule-making notices will be delivered via email communication. To receive notices, interested persons may sign up for any or all of the lists. Please go to https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/WADOH/subscriber/new. After signing in, click open the box labeled "Health Systems Quality Assurance." Next, click open the box labeled "Health Professions." From there, check the box next to "Music Therapy."

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for Dennis E. Worsham
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