WSR 26-18-044
PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DEPARTMENT

[Filed August 28, 2026, 10:59 a.m.]

Subject of Possible Rule Making: The employment security department (department), insurance services division, is considering rules for the paid family and medical leave (PFML) program to implement changes to the program. Topics addressed may include benefit payment offsetting, employer notifications, definitions under chapter 192-500 WAC, job protection requirements, employer notice to the department, and other topics. Additional rules to implement other portions of Title 50A RCW may be considered as necessary.

Statutes Authorizing the Agency to Adopt Rules on this Subject: RCW 50A.05.060.

Reasons Why Rules on this Subject may be Needed and What They Might Accomplish: Rules will ensure clear guidance is available for implementation and administration of topics related to the program activities described above.

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. The draft rules will be shared with the public, stakeholders, and the PFML advisory committee. The department will solicit input from all involved parties and consider all comments in the development of the final rules.

Interested parties can participate in the decision to adopt the new rule and formulation of the proposed rule before publication by contacting Janette Benham, 212 Maple Park Avenue S.E., Olympia, WA 98501, phone 360-790-6583, TTY Theresa Eckstein, relay 771 [711], 360-507-9890, email teckstein@esd.wa.gov or rules@esd.wa.gov, website paidleave.wa.gov/rulemaking/.

August 28, 2026
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