



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH
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April 18, 2024

Greetings Honorable Tribal Leaders and Tribal Partners:

SUBJECT: Informational- Potential agency request legislation for water recreation facilities

In accordance with chapter [43.376 RCW](#), the [Washington State Centennial Accord of 1989](#), and [DOH Consultation and Collaboration Procedure](#), I am writing today to provide information about potential 2025 agency request legislation to amend [chapter 70.90 RCW](#), which regulates water recreation facilities, such as swimming pools, water parks, and natural areas used for swimming.

The department is proposing to amend chapter 70.90 RCW to achieve the following:

- Conform state law with the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)'s [Model Aquatic Health Code \(MAHC\) standards](#);
- Align the terms used with terms used in the CDC's Model Aquatic Health Code;
- Expand "designated swim areas" to include those natural areas posted for swimming;
- Require insurance for all aquatic facilities; and
- Remove the exemption for therapy pools.

For additional information, visit our website: [Water Recreation Facilities - Potential Agency Request Legislation | Washington State Department of Health](#). Please provide written feedback to Ashlie Laydon, Rules Coordinator, at ashlie.laydon@doh.wa.gov by May 31, 2024. For any other questions or comments please contact Candice Wilson, Executive Director, Office of Tribal Public Health and Relations (OTPHR), at candice.wilson@doh.wa.gov or 360- 819-7626.

Sincerely,

Todd Phillips
Director, Office of Environmental Health and Safety

CC: Umair A. Shah, MD, MPH, Secretary of Health, Department of Health
Candice Wilson – Quatz'tenaut (Lummi), Executive Director, OTPHR, Department of Health
Jessica Todorovich, Chief of Staff, Department of Health
Kristin Peterson, Chief of Policy, Planning & Evaluation, Department of Health
Elizabeth Perez, Chief of Public Affairs and Equity, Department of Health
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