



PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY

CR-101 (October 2017)
(Implements RCW 34.05.310)

Do **NOT** use for expedited rule making

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FILED

DATE: September 01, 2023

TIME: 9:05 AM

WSR 23-18-060

Agency: Department of Health - Veterinary Board of Governors

Subject of possible rule making: Animal health care tasks for and supervision of veterinary technicians and veterinary medication clerks.

The Veterinary Board of Governors (board) is considering updates and revisions to WAC 246-935-050 animal health care tasks, WAC 246-935-040 responsibilities of a veterinarian supervising a licensed veterinary technician or unregistered assistant, WAC 246-935-010 definitions (veterinary technicians), and WAC 246-937-010 definitions (registered veterinary medication clerks).

Statutes authorizing the agency to adopt rules on this subject: RCW 18.92.030

Reasons why rules on this subject may be needed and what they might accomplish:

The board is considering general industry updates to the animal health care tasks rule to review all allowable animal tasks, prohibited animal tasks, consider new tasks, and set appropriate delegation standards for animal chiropractic care. Definitions and responsibilities for other veterinarian professions may need to be updated to keep any amendments made in WAC 246-935-050 consistent.

In 2018, the Chiropractic Quality Assurance Commission (chiropractic commission) approached the board expressing a desire to collaborate with the board to determine whether qualified chiropractors could practice chiropractic care on animals. The purpose of the collaboration was to consider whether rules could be adopted to regulate such practice.

A committee was created and the board and chiropractic commission, along with interested parties, considered and discussed this topic between 2018 to 2023 in a series of public meetings. Together, the board and chiropractic commission determined additional specific training is necessary to provide chiropractic adjustment on animals. Both licensed veterinarians and chiropractors typically attend these specialized trainings.

Identify other federal and state agencies that regulate this subject and the process coordinating the rule with these agencies: None

Process for developing new rule (check all that apply):

- ☐ Negotiated rule making
- ☐ Pilot rule making
- ☐ Agency study
- ☒ Other (describe) Collaborative rulemaking

Interested parties can participate in the decision to adopt the new rule and formulation of the proposed rule before publication by contacting:

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Additional comments: Notices will be emailed through the program's GovDelivery interested parties list. To sign up, please go to: <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/WADOH/subscriber/new>. Interested parties will be invited to participate in meetings and rule drafting workshops. At the formal proposal stage of rulemaking, proposed rule language will be posted on the department's rules comments website to receive public comment for the public hearing.

Date: August 31, 2023

Name: Melissa Green

Title: Executive Director, Office of Health Professions

Signature:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Melissa Green", is written over a horizontal line.