



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: December 31, 2025

TIME: 8:15 AM

WSR 26-02-037

Agency: Department of Health

Subject of possible rule making: Commercial Shellfish fees. The Department of Health (department) is considering exploring options and amending the fee structure in WAC 246-282-990 for annual shellfish operation license fees and annual biotoxin testing fees to minimize impacts on small businesses.

Statutes authorizing the agency to adopt rules on this subject: RCW 43.70.110, 43.70.250, and 69.30.050

Reasons why rules on this subject may be needed and what they might accomplish: The department will consider ways to minimize impacts on small businesses. The rules may explore alternative fee structures aimed at alleviating the financial strain on small commercial shellfish businesses, while adhering to RCW 43.70.110 and 43.70.250. The goal is to ensure the fees adequately cover the costs of administering the program or license, and foster the sustainability of small commercial shellfish businesses.

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

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

Name: Zehra Siddiqui	(If necessary) Name:
Address: PO Box 47820, Olympia WA 98504-7820	Address:
Phone: (360) 236-3010	Phone:
Fax: N/A	Fax:
TTY: 711	TTY:
Email: zehra.siddiqui@doh.wa.gov	Email:
Web site: www.doh.wa.gov	Web site:
Other:	Other:

Additional comments: The department will use a collaborative rule making approach by keeping interested parties informed of the rule development through email and posting information on the department's rulemaking websites. Interested parties will have the opportunity to provide comments throughout the rulemaking process and at the public hearing. Please contact Zehra Siddiqui at zehra.siddiqui@doh.wa.gov to be added to the applicable interested parties list.

Date: December 31, 2025

Name: Kristin Peterson, JD for Dennis E. Worsham

Title: Chief of Policy for Acting Secretary of Health

Signature:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kristin Peterson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "K".