



# PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY

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

Do **NOT** use for expedited rule making

CODE REVISER USE ONLY

OFFICE OF THE CODE REVISER  
STATE OF WASHINGTON  
FILED

DATE: August 08, 2018

TIME: 1:26 PM

WSR 18-17-045

**Agency:** Department of Health

**Subject of possible rule making:** Chapter 246-320 WAC-- Hospital Licensing Regulations (construction standards only). The Department of Health is considering amending the hospital licensing regulations to align with current federal and national construction standards.

**Statutes authorizing the agency to adopt rules on this subject:** RCW 70.41.030

**Reasons why rules on this subject may be needed and what they might accomplish:** The Department of Health (department) is considering aligning the construction requirements of chapter 246-320 WAC with current national construction standards, so as to comply with RCW 70.41.030. The current rules reference the 2014 edition of the Guidelines for Design and Construction of Health Care Facilities, a more recent version was published in 2018. Adopting current standards would allow facilities to take advantage of newer construction methods. This change would also provide the opportunity to be consistent with widely-recognized standards that are vital to the health and safety of hospital patients and staff.

**Identify other federal and state agencies that regulate this subject and the process coordinating the rule with these agencies:** The department will closely coordinate with the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services, national code writing bodies, and the state building code council to avoid conflict and duplication with other built environment requirements. This will be accomplished through the department's ongoing involvement with construction code development.

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

- Negotiated rule making
- Pilot rule making
- Agency study
- Other (describe) 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:**

Name: John Williams  
Address: PO Box 47852 Olympia, WA 98504-7852  
Phone: (360) 236-2950  
Fax: (360) 236-2901  
TTY: (360) 833-6388 or 711  
Email: john.williams@doh.wa.gov  
Web site:  
Other:

(If necessary)

Name: Susan Upton  
Address: PO Box 47852 Olympia, WA 98504-7852  
Phone: (360) 236-2948  
Fax: (360) 236-2901  
TTY:  
Email: susan.upton@doh.wa.gov  
Web site:  
Other:

Additional comments: Interested parties may participate in the development of draft rules prior to a formal proposal by joining the department's interested parties list (GovDelivery) at <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/WADOH/subscriber/new>, attending workshops, and providing input on draft and proposed materials.

<b>Date:</b> 08/07/2018	<b>Signature:</b> 
<b>Name:</b> John Wiesman, DrPH, MPH	
<b>Title:</b> Secretary of Health	