Information Packet

Public Hearing: Contractor Registration Rules (Homeowner Recovery Program – 2SHB 1534 – Phase 3)

Date: February 26, 2026
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Location: Department of Labor & Industries
7273 Linderson Way SW
Tumwater, Washington 98501

To join electronically (Zoom):
https://lni-wa-gov.zoom.us/j/85717144509?pwd=1oIO2fE8h5JLMJI3JEdaTIXiaUqXrK.1
Passcode: hearing@6!

To join by phone (audio only):
253-215-8782
Webinar ID: 857 1714 4509
Passcode: 8360438160

The Washington State Department of Labor & Industries (L&I) will hold a public hearing on the proposed amendments to the contractor registration rules under chapter 296-200A WAC. The purpose of the hearing is to receive public comments on the proposed amendments.

L&I is proposing amendments to the contractor registration rules to implement a new Homeowner Recovery Program. The program provides a safeguard and a path to financial recovery for consumers harmed by registered construction contractors.

In 2023, the legislature passed Second Substitute House Bill 1534 (2SHB 1534) (Chapter 213, Laws of 2023), concerning strengthening protections for consumers in the construction industry. The legislation directed L&I to establish a new Homeowner Recovery Fund and begin depositing all fines and penalties received or collected under chapter 18.27 RCW to the fund by July 1, 2024. Beginning July 1, 2026, eligible construction consumers can apply for recovery payments from the program for financial losses stemming from work by construction contractors. This rulemaking proposes new sections to administer the newly established program and ensure consumers have access to the program's recovery payments.

You can review the proposed rules at: https://www.lni.wa.gov/rulemaking-activity/?query=296-200A&cardNo=AO25-07 or https://lni.wa.gov/licensing-permits/contractors/contractor-laws-rules.

If you require communication or accommodation arrangements, please contact Alicia Curry at 360-902-6244, by February 13, 2026.

Please send written comments as follows:

By mail: Alicia Curry

Department of Labor & Industries
Customer Service, Compliance, and Public Safety Division
P.O. Box 44400
Olympia, WA 98504-4400

By E-mail: CSCPSRules@Lni.wa.gov

By fax: 360-704-1980

Submit written comments by 5 p.m. on February 26, 2026.

Details of specific proposed amendments will be published in Washington State Register 26-03 on February 4, 2026. The tentative adoption date for these rules is April 21, 2026, and the tentative effective date is July 1, 2026.