PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY

CR-101 (October 2017)  
(Implements RCW 34.05.310) 
Do NOT use for expedited rule making

Agency: Department of Labor & Industries (L&I)  
Subject of possible rule making: Occupational Exposures to Infectious or Contagious Diseases

Statutes authorizing the agency to adopt rules on this subject: RCW 49.17.010, RCW 49.17.040, RCW 49.17.050, and RCW 49.17.060

Reasons why rules on this subject may be needed and what they might accomplish: In accordance with 2021’s Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 5092, Section 220(8), the department is initiating rulemaking for occupational health protections related to infectious diseases to ensure the state has general guidelines to follow in the case of an infectious disease outbreak. This would include when there is an outbreak subject to a public health emergency under a national or state declared state of emergency.

Identify other federal and state agencies that regulate this subject and the process coordinating the rule with these agencies: The Washington State Department of Health has certain authority over public health and healthcare delivery and facilities. L&I will coordinate where needed.

Process for developing new rule (check all that apply):  
☐ Negotiated rule making  
☐ Pilot rule making  
☐ Agency study  
☐ Other (describe)  
Parties interested in the formulation of these rules for proposal may contact the individual listed below. The public may also participate by commenting after amendments are proposed by providing written comments or giving oral testimony during the public hearing process.

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

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Other:  

Additional comments:

Date: May 13, 2021  
Name: Joel Sacks  
Title: Director  
Signature: Joel Sacks