



PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY

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

Do **NOT** use for expedited rule making

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STATE OF WASHINGTON
FILED

DATE: January 18, 2022

TIME: 8:25 AM

WSR 22-03-073

Agency: Department of Labor & Industries (L&I)

Subject of possible rule making: Changes under consideration to the Plumber rules under chapter 296-400A WAC, Plumber Certification Rules.

Statutes authorizing the agency to adopt rules on this subject: Chapter 153, Laws of 2020, Senate Bill 6170 and RCW 18.106

Reasons why rules on this subject may be needed and what they might accomplish: L&I is considering changes to the plumbing rules under chapter 296-400A WAC, Plumber Certification Rules. The changes under consideration:

- Increase fees by 5.58 percent to cover operating expenses.
- Modify rules to address the legislative changes under the 2020 Plumbing Act (Senate Bill 6170 (SB), chapter 153, Laws of 2020). The changes under consideration include, but are not limited to:
 - Adding new fees and penalties;
 - Modifying the definitions;
 - Modifying plumbing certificates and competency examinations; and
 - Modifying records and licenses plumbing contractors need to keep and report.
- Modify rules for general updates, clarity, housekeeping, and other rule changes.

This rulemaking is necessary to make changes to the plumber certification rules due to the passage of SB 6170, as well as, to make general updates to existing rules for clarity, consistency, and to ensure the rules are up-to-date.

The fee increase is the Office of Financial Management's maximum allowable fiscal growth factor for fiscal year 2023. A fee increase is necessary to ensure the Plumber Program's revenues match expenditures, otherwise, service levels may need to be reduced.

Identify other federal and state agencies that regulate this subject and the process coordinating the rule with these agencies: N/A

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

- Negotiated rule making
- Pilot rule making
- Agency study
- Other (describe) L&I will develop the rule language with input from stakeholders. Interested parties may

participate in the decision to adopt the amended rules and formulation of the rules before publication by contacting the individual below. The public may also participate, after amendments are proposed by providing written comments and/or testimony during the public hearing and comment period.

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

Name: Alicia Curry	(If necessary) Name:
Address: Department of Labor & Industries Field Services & Public Safety Division P.O. Box 44400 Olympia, WA 98504-4400	Address:

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Email: Alicia.Curry@Lni.wa.gov

Web site: <https://www.lni.wa.gov/rulemaking-activity/?query=296-400A>

Other:

Phone:

Fax:

TTY:

Email:

Web site:

Other:

Additional comments: None

Date: January 18, 2022

Name: Joel Sacks

Title: Director

Signature:

