



**DATE:** November 9, 2016

**TO:** Washington State Board of Health Members

**FROM:** Dr. Thomas Pendergrass, MD, MSPH

**SUBJECT:** PUBLIC HEARING – CHAPTER 246-760 WAC VISION SCREENING

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**Background and Summary:**

The Washington State Board of Health has the duty under RCW 28A.210.020 to define and adopt rules for vision screening for pupils in school. Chapter 246-760 WAC lists the standards for school districts to use to conduct vision and auditory screening.

The Board is currently updating the vision screening sections of Chapter 246-760 WAC to reflect best practices and to add near vision screening as required by the passage of Senate Bill 6245 this year. In July of 2016 the Board sent out a preliminary draft of Chapter 246-760 WAC to stakeholders for feedback. At the August Board meeting Sierra Rotakhina, Board staff, and Ellen Silverman, Department of Health, provided an update on the progress of the vision screening rule and a summary of comments received on the preliminary draft.

Following the August meeting Board and Department of Health staff made changes to the preliminary draft of the rule in response to public comments and direction from the Board. This updated version of the rule was filed with the CR-102 on September 28, 2016. The Board received written public comments on the CR-102 through October 27, 2016.

Today I have invited Ms. Rotakhina to summarize the public comments received on the CR-102 and provide staff recommendations regarding if the Board should make changes to the proposed rule in response to these comments. Following this presentation the Board will have an opportunity to discuss the rule, written comments, public testimony, and staff recommendations and consider a motion to adopt the rule.

**Recommended Board Action:**

Depending on testimony offered and the Board’s discussions, the Board may wish to consider, amend if necessary, and adopt the following motion:

*The Board adopts the proposed amendments to Chapter 246-760 WAC, Visual Standards—School Districts, as published in WSR 16-20-043 with the additional revisions agreed upon at today’s meeting; and directs staff to file a CR-103, order of adoption, and establish an effective date.*

**Staff Contact:**

Sierra Rotakhina

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