



Date: October 9, 2019

To: Washington State Board of Health Members

From: Keith Grellner, Environmental Health Committee Chair

Subject: Rulemaking Update on WAC 246-203-130, Keeping of Animals

Background and Summary:

Among other powers and duties, RCW 43.20.050 authorizes the State Board of Health (Board) to adopt rules and standards to prevent, control, and abate health hazards and nuisance related to the disposal of human and animal excreta. The Board's Keeping of Animals rule, WAC 246-203-130, addresses the handling of animal excrement to protect health and sanitation and to prevent and abate nuisance.

The Keeping of Animals rule is a longstanding and outdated Board rule, codified as Washington Administrative Code in 1960, with language dating to the 1920s and 1930s. The Board filed a CR-101 in 2009 to revise the rule. Work occurred intermittently in the following years and resumed again in 2018 following completion of background research and Board policy recommendations to modernize and clarify the rule's place in the state regulatory structure for animal waste handling.

The staff update will summarize the steps and status of the rulemaking project and the design and scope of the draft rule. As a reminder, we are simultaneously completing paperwork to rescind the original CR-101 and to file a new CR-101 to better align the preproposal statement of inquiry with Board policy direction for the project and the anticipated scope of the rule.

Recommended Board Actions:

The update is informational for Board discussion and feedback to staff prior to release of the draft rule for informal public review. There is no formal action.

Staff

Stuart Glasoe

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