

Date: October 13, 2021

To: Washington State Board of Health Members

From: Temple Lentz, Board Member

Subject: Update, Chapter 246-90 WAC, Local Board of Health Composition

Background and Summary:

During the 2021 legislative session, the legislature passed Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill (E2SHB) 1152, Supporting measures to create comprehensive public health districts. Among other changes, the legislation creates new requirements for local board of health membership, requiring equal representation by elected and non-elected members. Newly required non-elected members must come from a prescribed list of health care, public health, and community groups.

E2SHB 1152 directs the State Board of Health (Board) to adopt rules to establish the appointment process of non-elected members. This process must be in a manner that is fair and unbiased, and which ensures, to the extent possible, a balanced representation of elected and non-elected peoples with a diversity of expertise and experience. The Board's rules must go into effect no later than July 25, 2022.

On June 9, 2021, the Board filed a CR-101, Preproposal Statement of Inquiry, to establish chapter 246-90 WAC, a new chapter, to implement E2SHB 1152. To date, Board staff have developed preliminary draft rules, identified interested parties, and consulted organizations such as the Washington State Association of Local Public Health Officials, Washington State Association of Counties, and the American Indian Health Commission.

I have invited Kaitlyn Donahoe and Sam Pskowski, Board Staff, to provide a brief overview and update of this work. The Board will not take action on this item today.

Staff Kaitlyn Donahoe Sam Pskowski

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