

WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

Date: January 12, 2022

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 a preliminary draft, solicited feedback from interested parties through a variety of mechanisms, and responded to feedback in a second preliminary draft. Staff have also begun working to update an existing Board publication that serves to orient local board of health members to the governmental public health system.

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

Staff

Sam Pskowski
Hannah Haag

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