

Washington State Board of Health

Chapter 246-90 WAC, Local Board of Health Composition January 12, 2022

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Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 1152

- E2SHB 1152 does the following:
 - Establishes a statewide Public Health Advisory Board;
 - Requires certain local boards of health to expand their membership to include nonelected persons; and
 - Requires certain local health jurisdictions to establish a community health advisory board.
- A local board of health comprised solely of elected officials <u>may retain its composition</u> if the jurisdiction had a public health advisory committee or board with its own established bylaws established by January 1, 2021.



Washington State Board of Health – Rulemaking Scope

- The Board has been directed to adopt rules regarding the appointment process for the members of local boards of health who are not elected officials.
 - The selection process must be fair and unbiased and ensure membership of local boards of health include balanced representation of elected officials and non-elected individuals with a diversity of expertise and lived experience.
- The Board's rules must go into effect by July 25, 2022.

Rulemaking Status

- The Board filed the CR-101, Preproposal Statement of Inquiry, with the code reviser on June 9, 2021.
- A first informal draft was distributed in October 2021.
- Staff collected comments and held a listening session to engage interested parties in discussion.
- A second informal draft was distributed on December 23, 2021.
- Staff anticipate filing a CR-102 in March 2022.



Tentative Rulemaking Timeline

- The Board's rules must go into effect by July 25, 2022. Board staff anticipate the following rulemaking timeline (subject to change):
 - June 2021: File CR-101 and share with interested parties.
 - June-August 2021: Research and draft rule language.
 - August-December 2021: Community engagement and rule revisions.
 - March 2022: File CR-102 and initiate formal public comment period.
 - **April 2022**: Public hearing and possible adoption of rules by the State Board of Health.
 - May 2022: File CR-103.
 - July 1, 2022: Rules effective.

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Community Engagement Strategy





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What We Asked

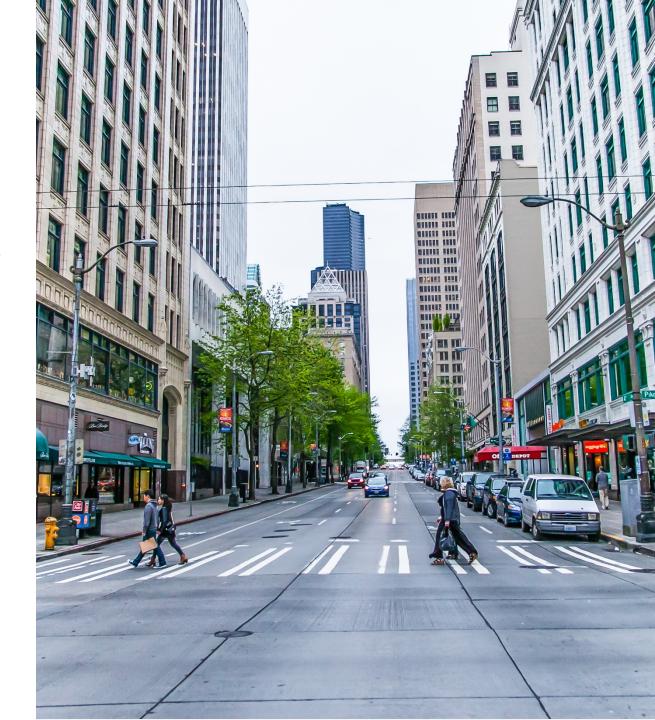


- 1. What would motivate you or your community to apply to serve on a Local Board of Health?
- 2. What structures or existing norms do you see as a barrier for non-elected persons who serve on a Local Board of Health?
- 3. What can be done to encourage more people, and people with more diverse experiences, to apply to be on a Local Board of Health?
- 4. If you could write the rules, what requirements would you make for people who want to apply to be on a Local Board of Health?

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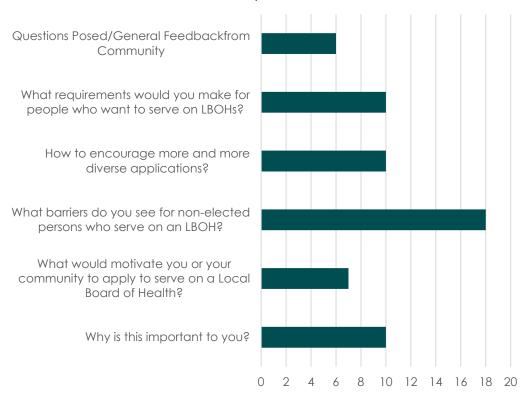
What We Heard

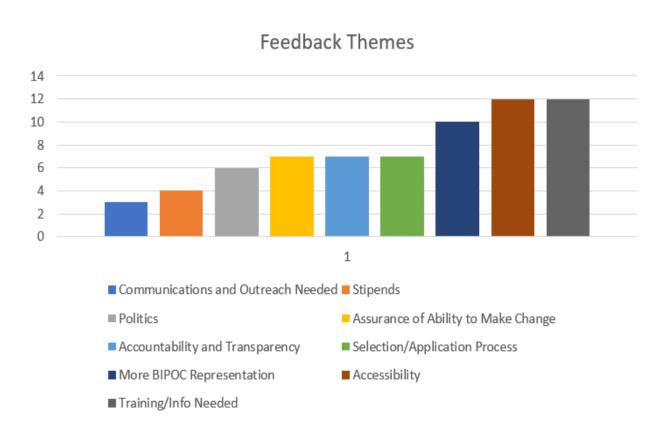
- "A stipend or other type of payment for time spent working on [local] Board of Health matters would be a major incentive people to apply. Also - limited terms so that power can't be consolidated and abused, and also so that the time commitment is not a deterrent."
- "Having other people who are from my community (i.e. more BIPOC representation) would make some feel more comfortable"
- "To have more influence in the decisions that are made by the [local] board of health."
- "The meetings need to be held at a time and in places that community members can participate."
- "We need healthy change: we need less politics on health boards and more people with public health experience who are champions of working people."



What We Heard (cont'd)

Comments per Question





Community Engagement Follow Up

- Report out on changes via email, virtual meetings, strategic individual conversations
- Work with community, board members, and other interested parties to create guidance



Second Informal Draft – Key changes

- Clarification of who the chapter of rule applies to (non-elected members of local boards of health).
- New language requiring any ordinance or resolution to include the process for how the local board of health refers successful applicants to the board of county commissioners or legislative authority for approval.
- New requirement for local boards of health to work with community organizations to distribute vacancy notices.
- New language to clarify that any applicant can be considered for any non-elected position for which they are qualified.
- New language requiring local boards of health to assess an individual's commitment to public health as part of the review process
- Clarification of conflict of interest language.

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Second Informal Draft

- Editorial clarification that any tribal representatives are selected through the process prescribed by AIHC.
- Prohibit asking political affiliation or voting history.
- Clarification on process when a county does not have a board of county commissioners.
- Remove recommendation from current board members under assessment criteria.
- Clarify that newspaper is only required as a distribution mechanism if there is a local paper.
- Clarify that any ordinance or resolution can differentiate between initial term and future term length.



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THANK YOU

