



**DATE:** August 8, 2018

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

**FROM:** Keith Grellner  
Environmental Health Committee Chair

**SUBJECT:** BRIEFING—CHAPTER 246-290 WAC, GROUP A PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES, REGULATORY TOOL FOR PER- AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES (PFAS) DRINKING WATER STANDARD

---

**Background and Summary:**

In October 2017, the State Board of Health (Board) accepted a petition to initiate rulemaking to consider setting a drinking water standard for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in chapter 246-290 WAC, Group A Public Water Supplies. The Board filed a CR-101, Preproposal Statement of Inquiry, on December 15, 2017 for publication in the Washington State Register, as WSR 18-01-080.

In June 2018, the Board received an update from the Washington Department of Health (Department) on a number of PFAS topics, including work assessing two regulatory mechanisms to set a state standard and regulate PFAS chemicals in Group A water systems. The two options for PFAS and other unregulated contaminants are to regulate them as either maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) or state advisory levels (SALs).

Lauren Jenks, Director of the Office of Environmental Public Health Sciences, and Mike Means, Director of the Office of Drinking Water, will give a refresher on the Department's update in June, the two regulatory mechanisms, and the Department's recommended approach. The Chair will facilitate discussion to see if there is consensus among Board members on a preferred policy framework at this juncture in the rulemaking process.

This discussion is intended to provide direction to the Department on the desired policy framework and will not include formal Board action. Formal Board action on a PFAS drinking water standard and related rule changes will occur later in the rulemaking process.

**Staff:** Stuart Glasoe