



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

*PO Box 47990 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7990*

January 16, 2024

John Strick  
7331 17th Ave NE  
Seattle, WA, 98115

Sent Via Email

Dear John Strick,

Thank you for the rulemaking petition you submitted to the State Board of Health (Board) on November 8, 2023. In your petition, you requested that the Board amend WAC 246-760-070 to add testing for color vision deficiency, also known as colorblindness, as part of the vision screening required for all students in Washington.

The Board met on January 10, 2024, and after reviewing and discussing your petition, voted to deny your request at this time. The Board determined that adding testing for color vision deficiency to chapter 246-760 WAC does not align with current national recommendations for school vision screenings, and implementing this test across schools in Washington would have significant financial costs and administrative challenges.

In its deliberations, however, the Board did acknowledge that color vision deficiency is a prevalent condition, especially in boys. Board Members stated that as a society, we need to adapt our teaching materials and classrooms to better support children with the condition.

Under RCW 34.05.330, a petitioner may appeal an agency's decision to deny a petition to repeal or amend a rule. An appeal must be made to the Governor within 30 days of denial.

If you require further assistance, please don't hesitate to contact Molly Dinardo, Health Policy Advisor in our office, at 564-669-3455 or at [Molly.Dinardo@sboh.wa.gov](mailto:Molly.Dinardo@sboh.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

Patty Hayes, Chair