



# RULE-MAKING ORDER PERMANENT RULE ONLY

## CR-103P (December 2017) (Implements RCW 34.05.360)

CODE REVISER USE ONLY

OFFICE OF THE CODE REVISER  
STATE OF WASHINGTON  
FILED

DATE: July 23, 2024

TIME: 2:49 PM

WSR 24-15-129

**Agency:** State Board of Health

**Effective date of rule:**

**Permanent Rules**

31 days after filing.

Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_ (If less than 31 days after filing, a specific finding under RCW 34.05.380(3) is required and should be stated below)

**Any other findings required by other provisions of law as precondition to adoption or effectiveness of rule?**

Yes  No If Yes, explain:

**Purpose:** Chapter 246-500 WAC – Handling of Human Remains. The State Board of Health adopted changes to WAC 245-500-050, WAC 246-500-053, and WAC 246-500-055 to align with changes in statute. These rules establish the requirements for remains reduced through cremation, alkaline hydrolysis, and natural organic reduction. Under these sections, the local registrar or the Department of Health may issue a burial-transfer permit for the disposition of cremated remains, remains reduced through alkaline hydrolysis, or remains reduced through natural organic reduction which have been in the lawful possession of any person, firm, corporation, or association for a holding period established by statute. The holding period is established in RCW 68.50.230, which was recently amended from 90 days to 45 days. The amendment also added counties to the list of entities that may lawfully dispose of human remains after the holding period. The adopted changes align the rule with the changes in statute.

**Citation of rules affected by this order:**

New: None

Repealed: None

Amended: WAC 246-500-050, WAC 246-500-053, and WAC 246-500-055

Suspended:

**Statutory authority for adoption:** RCW 43.20.050(2)(f)

**Other authority:**

**PERMANENT RULE (Including Expedited Rule Making)**

Adopted under notice filed as WSR 24-10-094 on April 30, 2024.

Describe any changes other than editing from proposed to adopted version:

There have been no changes to the proposed rule language filed under WSR 24-10-094.

If a preliminary cost-benefit analysis was prepared under RCW 34.05.328, a final cost-benefit analysis is available by contacting:

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Fax:

TTY:

Email:

Web site:

Other:

**Note: If any category is left blank, it will be calculated as zero.  
No descriptive text.**

**Count by whole WAC sections only, from the WAC number through the history note.  
A section may be counted in more than one category.**

**The number of sections adopted in order to comply with:**

Federal statute:	New	0	Amended	0	Repealed	0
Federal rules or standards:	New	0	Amended	0	Repealed	0
Recently enacted state statutes:	New	0	Amended	3	Repealed	0

**The number of sections adopted at the request of a nongovernmental entity:**

New	<u>0</u>	Amended	<u>0</u>	Repealed	<u>0</u>
-----	----------	---------	----------	----------	----------

**The number of sections adopted on the agency's own initiative:**

New	<u>0</u>	Amended	<u>0</u>	Repealed	<u>0</u>
-----	----------	---------	----------	----------	----------

**The number of sections adopted in order to clarify, streamline, or reform agency procedures:**

New	<u>0</u>	Amended	<u>0</u>	Repealed	<u>0</u>
-----	----------	---------	----------	----------	----------

**The number of sections adopted using:**

Negotiated rule making:	New	<u>0</u>	Amended	<u>0</u>	Repealed	<u>0</u>
Pilot rule making:	New	<u>0</u>	Amended	<u>0</u>	Repealed	<u>0</u>
Other alternative rule making:	New	<u>0</u>	Amended	<u>3</u>	Repealed	<u>0</u>

**Date Adopted:** June 12, 2024

**Name:** Michelle A. Davis

**Title:** Executive Director, State Board of Health

**Signature:**

