



STATE OF WASHINGTON
WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

PO Box 47990 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7990

January 22, 2025

William Osmunson, DDS, MPH

Sent Via Email

Dear Dr. Osmunson:

This letter provides formal notice that the Washington State Board of Health (Board) denied your petition for rule making, submitted on November 24, 2024, at its regular business meeting on January 8, 2025, for the reasons described below.

The petition asked the Board to amend WAC 246-290-220, Group A Public Water Supplies - Drinking water materials and additives, by adding a new subsection (8) to the rule that would state: “[i]n keeping with the federal safe drinking water act S433 and the Food Drug and Cosmetic Act, Title 21, the Board does not recommend any substance be added to water with intent to treat humans, unrelated to treatment of water as defined in RCW 18.64.011(14)(15) or U.S. Code title 21, section 321(g)(1), unless approved by the Food and Drug Administration in compliance with the U. S. Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act. This recommendation does not apply to substances added to water to make water safer as determined by the U.S. Environmental Protection Administration in compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act.”

Prior to the meeting, Board members were provided with the petition and all supporting materials. These materials were also included in the Board’s meeting materials and posted to the Board’s website. At the Board meeting, Board staff provided an overview of the topic including information about the scope and intent of the existing rule and discussed policy recommendations resulting from a series of workshops in 2015. Assistant Secretary Lauren Jenks with the Department of Health provided additional background information on work underway to review recently emerging science related to fluoride.

Board members stated that they support the upcoming review being conducted by the Department of Health. Members noted that they are interested to see the outcome of the technical review of the NTP Monograph before considering whether any changes to the drinking water rules are warranted. Board members asked that the Department provide the Board with a report explaining the findings of the review and noted that it may prompt an internal review of existing policy recommendations to align with new information. Members noted interest in hearing about new or innovative information

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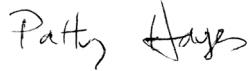
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since the last policy recommendations were made. Board members further affirmed that Board work on oral health is something it will continue to review.

The Board has asked staff to provide additional information and policy recommendations at the completion of the review being conducted by the Department of Health.

Available options for appeal or other review may be determined by consulting the Administrative Procedure Act, chapter 34.05 RCW.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patty Hayes".

Patty Hayes, MPH
Chair