

## CONCISE EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

*Chapter 296-17 WAC General Reporting Rules, Classifications, Audit and Recordkeeping, Rates and rating System for Washington Workers' Compensation Insurance*

WAC 296-17-35203, WAC 296-17-651, WAC 296-17-67603, WAC 296-17-67901, WAC 296-17-682, WAC 296-17-68640, WAC 296-17-68641, WAC 296-17-76240, WAC 296-17-763, WAC 296-17-780

The purpose of this rulemaking is to comply with the Safe Patient Handling Law, Chapter 165, Laws of 2006 (ESHB 1672). The department is proposing to:

- (1) create two new risk classifications at a reduced premium rate for acute care hospitals and state hospitals that have fully implemented the safe patient handling requirements;
- (2) Create two new risk classifications for acute care and state hospitals that have not fully implemented safe patient handling requirements;
- (3) Amend an existing hospital classification that does not have routine patient lifting activities
- (4) Amend four state government employee classifications that are affected by patient handling duties, and
- (5) Amend the special reporting instructions rule as it applies to hospitals that qualify for the safe patient handling reduced premium rate.

The intended date of adoption for this rule is November 21, 2006

The intended effective date for this rule is January 1, 2007

The purpose of this document is to respond to the oral and written comments received through the public comment period and public hearing.

The public comment period for this rulemaking began September 5, 2006 and ended October 18, 2006.

A Public Hearing was held on October 18, 2006 in Tumwater, Washington. No one testified at the hearing. One representative from the Department of Social and Health Services attended.

Comment Received: One e-mail was received in which the party suggested that the word "refuse" in the special reporting rules was too harsh.

Department Response: The department amended the word "refuse" to "choose not to perform or participate".