



PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY

CR-101 (June 2004)
(Implements RCW 34.05.310)
Do **NOT** use for expedited rule making

Agency: Department of Labor & Industries

Subject of possible rule making: Pursuant to House Bill 1722 (Chapter 263, Laws of 2007), which made changes relating to the authority for physician's assistants to sign documents associated with workers' compensation coverage under Title 51 RCW, the department is reviewing its rules for possible changes.

Statutes authorizing the agency to adopt rules on this subject: HB 1722(Chapter 263, Laws of 2007), RCW 51.04.020, RCW 51.04.030

Reasons why rules on this subject may be needed and what they might accomplish: HB 1722 directs the department to accept the signature of a physician assistant on any certificate, card, form or other documentation required by the department. A physician assistant may not rate a worker's permanent partial disability under RCW 51.32.055. The department made changes via an emergency rule to immediately respond to the legislation. This rulemaking will be to make changes necessary to implement this legislation.

Identify other federal and state agencies that regulate this subject and the process coordinating the rule with these agencies: This law and accompanying rules are specific to Washington workers' compensation benefits and is governed by Title 51 RCW, Washington's Industrial Insurance Act. There are no other state or federal agencies responsible for interpreting and enforcing the provisions of this Act.

Process for developing new rule (check all that apply):

- Negotiated rule making
- Pilot rule making
- Agency study

Other (describe) Parties interested in participating in the development of these rules may contact the person listed below. The public may also participate by providing written comments during the comment period or giving oral testimony at public hearings. The rule will be developed in consultation with major stakeholders, including the Workers' Compensation Advisory Committee.

How interested parties can participate in the decision to adopt the new rule and formulation of the proposed rule before publication:

(List names, addresses, telephone, fax numbers, and e-mail of persons to contact; describe meetings, other exchanges of information, etc.)

Phone: (360) 902-4941 or FAX: (360) 902-6315 or Mail: Jami Lifka,
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DATE
August 21, 2007

NAME (TYPE OR PRINT)
Judy Schurke

SIGNATURE

TITLE
Director

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STATE OF WASHINGTON
FILED**

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