

## CONCISE EXPLANATORY STATEMENT (CES)

### *Presumptive Coverage of Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) as an Occupational Disease*

#### **WAC 296-14-300**

The date of adoption for this rule: April 04, 2023

The effective date for this rule: May 05, 2023

#### **I. Purpose of rulemaking:**

The purpose of this rulemaking is to align with RCW 51.08.142 and 51.31.185 and to clarify coverage of PTSD under workers' compensation. The adopted rule will explain the *prima facie* presumption for certain firefighters and law enforcement officers covered under workers' compensation for occupational disease PTSD. The amended rule will also include the addition of public safety telecommunicators to the list of those who can file an occupational disease claim for PTSD; however, it is not presumptively caused by their work.

#### **2. Differences between the rule as adopted and the proposed rule:**

No changes were made to the proposed language filed as WSR 22-23-145 and the adopted rule language.

#### **3. Comments on proposed rule:**

The public comment period for this rulemaking began November 22, 2022, and ended January 13, 2023.

No comments were received.

A public hearing was held using Zoom on January 13, 2023. Thirteen people attended but no one testified.