



**Date:** October 8, 2024

**To:** Washington State Board of Health Members

**From:** Patty Hayes, Board Chair

**Subject:** Rules Briefing—The Sanitary Control of Shellfish, chapter 246-282 WAC. This is not an action item.

**Background and Summary:**

The State Board of Health (Board) and the Washington Department of Health (Department) collaborate to regulate the sanitary control of molluscan shellfish. The Board serves as the rulemaking body and the Department serves as the regulatory agency. The Department also serves as the state shellfish authority administering the model ordinance of the National Shellfish Sanitation Program (NSSP).

[RCW 69.30.030](#) authorizes the Board to adopt rules governing shellfish sanitation, shellfish growing areas, and shellfish operations to protect public health and safety. Further, [RCW 43.20.050](#), establishes the authority to adopt rules for the prevention and control of infectious and noninfectious disease, including food and vector borne illness.

On February 23, 2022, the Board filed a CR-101, Preproposal Statement of Inquiry, as [WSR 22-06-034](#), to initiate rulemaking to update [chapter 246-282 WAC](#), Sanitary Control of Shellfish. The rulemaking covers miscellaneous technical revisions along with updates to WAC 246-282-006, *Vibrio parahaemolyticus* (Vp) Control Plan and other parts of the rule.

Board staff coordinated with the Department's Office of Environmental Health and Safety to finalize draft proposed changes and gather feedback. An informal public comment period was open from April 12, 2024, to May 24, 2024.

Today, Shay Bauman, Board Policy Advisor, will brief the Board on updates to the rulemaking's progress and next steps.

**This is not an action item.**

**Staff**

Shay Bauman, Policy Advisor

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