



PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY

CR-101 (October 2017) (Implements RCW 34.05.310)

Do NOT use for expedited rule making

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STATE OF WASHINGTON
FILED

DATE: October 09, 2024

TIME: 11:00 AM

WSR 24-21-047

Agency: Employment Security Department

Subject of possible rule making: The Department is seeking to amend WAC 192-150-110 (Mandatory military transfers—RCW 50.20.050(2)(b)(iii)) to expand the definition of military so that all members of the United States Armed forces qualify.

Statutes authorizing the agency to adopt rules on this subject: RCW 50.12.010; RCW 50.12.040; RCW 50.12.042; RCW 50.20.050

Reasons why rules on this subject may be needed and what they might accomplish: WAC 192-150-110 provides guidance on the requirements for establishing good cause to quit work if an individual quits work to relocate for their spouse or domestic partner's employment that is due to a mandatory military transfer. Currently, WAC 192-150-110(3) defines military as including the following: U.S. Navy, U.S. Army, U.S. Air Force, U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Coast Guard, activated reserve members of any of these service branches, activated members of the National Guard, commissioned officers of the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration, and commissioned officers of the regular or reserve corps of the U.S. Public Health Service.

This list of military branches in the WAC does not include the U.S. Space Force. Space Force was founded in 2019 and now has over 14,000 military and civilian personnel. Although it is organized under the Department of the Air Force, it is a separate and distinct branch of the armed services. The Department would like to amend WAC 192-150-110 to expand the definition of military so that it explicitly includes all members of the United States Armed Forces.

Identify other federal and state agencies that regulate this subject and the process coordinating the rule with these agencies: The U.S. Department of Labor reviews the state's administration of the unemployment insurance program to ensure conformity to federal statutes and regulations. The state has broad flexibility in the implementation of the unemployment insurance laws so long as conformity is maintained. The proposed regulations will be shared with USDOL prior to adoption.


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

- Negotiated rule making
- Pilot rule making
- Agency study
- Other (describe) Draft rules will be shared with the public and stakeholders. The Department will solicit input from all parties and consider all comments in the development of final rules.

Interested parties can participate in the decision to adopt the new rule and formulation of the proposed rule before publication by contacting:

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| Other: | Other: |
| Additional comments: | |
| Date: October 9, 2024 | Signature:  |
| Name: Joy Adams | |
| Title: Employment Security Policy Director | |