



# **PUBLIC HEALTH**

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HEALTHIER WASHINGTON**

## **Environmental Health & Safety for K-12 Schools 2<sup>nd</sup> DRAFT Rule — Public Response**

Washington State Board of Health

November 14, 2007

## Since August 2007

- 2<sup>nd</sup> DRAFT posted to DOH website
- Responses reflect wide range of voices
  - Citizens
  - Administrators
  - Maintenance personnel
  - Teachers
  - Risk pool administrators
  - Local Health Jurisdictions

## General Response to 2<sup>nd</sup> DRAFT

- Appreciation for changes made in 2<sup>nd</sup> DRAFT
- Suggestions for improvement in next draft
- Requests for work to further address:
  - Duplication with other agency requirements
  - Cost of implementation
  - Clarity of roles and responsibilities

## Remaining Concerns

- Scope of rule — Protection for only students or for all that enter the school facility?
- Local Health Officer's role in site evaluation and plan review
  - Too broad, time consuming and not needed
  - Important role, but lacks clarity on scope
- The term “new construction” is too broad

## Remaining Concerns

- Greater clarity of duties of various parties
  - School Boards and School Officials
  - Local Boards of Health and Health Officers
- Drinking water sampling
  - Cost of water sampling
  - Lack of options for other approaches

## Remaining Concerns

- Lowering the background noise level allowed in classrooms
  - Benefit to student health and safety?
  - High cost and achievability of the new standard
- Complaint Process
  - Inconsistency in text used to describe scope
  - Scope too narrow / Scope too broad

## Remaining Concerns

- Citations and references to other rules
  - Include references to inform
  - Clarify the limited role of Local Health Officer in applying other agency rules
- Effective Date of new requirements
  - Allow time to address budget issues
  - Coordinate with academic year

## Remaining Steps

- Board review of 2<sup>nd</sup> DRAFT responses
- Board direction to DOH about next DRAFT
- Draft Proposed Rule
- Finish Significant Analysis and Cost-Benefit Analysis
- Present Proposed Rule to the Board
- File Proposed Rule
- Public Review and Comment
- Public Hearing
- Adoption
- Implementation



## Contact Information

**Mark Soltman, Supervisor**

Local Health Support Section

Office of Environmental Health and Safety

Mark.Soltman@DOH.WA.GOV

(360) 236-3366

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