



STATE OF WASHINGTON
WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

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May 14, 2008

TO: Washington State Board of Health Members

FROM: Craig McLaughlin, Executive Director

**SUBJECT: BOARD AUTHORITY TO PROPOSE LEGISLATION AND
REVIEW OF POLICY 01-001**

Background and Summary

At its December 13, 2008 meeting, the Washington State Board of Health reviewed Policy 01-001, which addresses legislative communications. Board members asked whether it was possible for the Board to initiate legislative proposals.

At the March 12 meeting I explained that based on a review of the statutes and guidance from the Office of Financial Management, discussions with the Board's counsel, and consultation with the Governor's Office, the Board could propose legislation. All executive agencies, however, would be expected to follow a process of review by the Governor's Office and the Office of Financial Management (OFM) before seeking legislative sponsors.

I reviewed Policy 01-001 in light of this information and at the March 12 meeting proposed revisions to the policy, including language related to requests for legislation that is consistent with OFM policy direction.

Although the proposed revisions were received favorably by the member present, the Board continued the discussion and possible adoption to today's meeting because some members interested in the policy had to leave the March 12 meeting early.

Suggested language and other materials from the March meeting are included in your packets.

Recommended Board Action

The Board may choose to adopt revisions to Policy 01-001 as proposed, with or without additional changes.