



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
**WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH**

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October 8, 2008

**TO:** Washington State Board of Health Members  
**FROM:** Desiree Day Robinson, State Board of Health  
**SUBJECT: PROPOSED 2009 STATE BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING SCHEDULE**

**Background and Summary**

At the October 8 State Board of Health meeting in Yakima, members discussed the 2009 meeting schedule. They asked staff to revise the proposed schedule in light of:

- The secretary senior position being vacant during an indefinite hiring freeze
- Board members' strong interest in cutting costs because of the drop in state revenue.
- The decision to postpone a vote on the school rule until no later than June 2009.
- A request by the King County Board of Health to meet jointly during legislative session.

Attached is a 2009 Board meeting schedule that calls for six Board meetings instead of the average eight. This should save at least \$10,000 in travel, food and rental fees. It also scales back traveling to rural counties, which will reduce travel costs and increase the likelihood of finding free or low-cost meeting rooms. There are no months during which meetings are scheduled for both the Board and the Governor's Interagency Council on Health Disparities. The more reasonable spacing of meetings should allow staff to manage the workload without a secretary senior in place.

With regard to the school environmental health and safety rule, it may be possible to vote on adoption during the June 10, 2009 meeting (the last scheduled day of the legislative session is April 26).

Discussions are continuing with the King County Board of Health (KCBOH) about a joint meeting that would precede lobbying by local officials. This could be part of the Board's March meeting. If that is too late in session, however, a special date in February would be determined. Public Health—Seattle & King County would help with costs and logistics of a special meeting.

The proposed 2009 meeting schedule is attached. To help the Board understand workload issues, the meeting dates recently approved by the Council meetings are also included.

**Recommended Board Action**

**I recommend the Board consider, amend as necessary, and approve the proposed 2009 State Board of Health Meeting Schedule submitted this day.**