



How to Participate in the LCB Rulemaking Process

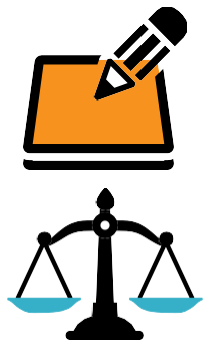
The Liquor and Cannabis Board develops the rules related to much of the alcohol, tobacco, vapor, and cannabis legislation in Washington State. Rules help define how the laws will be implemented across the state, and that's why we want your input!

Sign up on our LCB website to receive rulemaking activity notifications. Comments on rules should be sent to rules@lcb.wa.gov.

Rulemaking Timeline

Step 1

When a law is passed or a rule is being updated, a CR 101* is filed to notify the public that the rule making process has begun. The public (that means YOU!) has a minimum of 45 days to provide input in the rule making process. During this time, a proposal of the rule changes is written.



Step 2

The LCB files a CR 102* to notify the public (yes, that's you) of the proposed rules. You have a minimum of 35 days to provide written comments. See the information posted on the LCB website for comment deadlines.



Step 3

The LCB holds a public hearing during a Board meeting. You can provide your comments on the proposed rules in person or via the Teams link for the Board meeting. Whether you attend or not, you can send written comments to rules@lcb.wa.gov by the comment deadline.



Step 4

The LCB considers comments, and if there are no major changes, they move forward into rule adoption. If public comment leads to a substantial change in the rules, the draft is rewritten to incorporate comments, and the process goes back to Step 2.



Step 5

Once the rules are adopted, the CR 103* is filed, and the rule becomes effective 31 days later unless otherwise specified.

CR 101, CR 102, and CR 103 are the forms used by the Code Reviser's office for the three primary stages of the process. Find information on Laws and Rules, including proposed and adopted rules, at lcb.wa.gov.

The Responsibility of the LCB

Many stakeholders representing a range of views provide comments during the rulemaking process, and the LCB has the challenge of weighing many factors in developing the rules. Some of the questions considered are:

- Are the proposed changes feasible when considering ability to implement and enforce?
- Who and what will be impacted, including but not limited to:
 - Local jurisdictions
 - Vulnerable populations
 - Public health
 - Public safety
 - The business community, including licensees
 - The environment
 - Other state agencies
- How are the principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion, and justice being addressed?
- Will there be a fiscal impact?
- What does research say on this topic?
- What can be learned from laws and regulations in other states and countries?
- Are there compromises that can be achieved?
- What are the risks if a change isn't made?
- What actions might be taken either legislatively or judicially based on the change proposed or no change?

Tips for Providing Comments

- Consider the questions above when developing your comments.
- Be as specific as possible when making recommendations. Explain what you think the rules should say and why. Propose language to be used.
- Where possible, use research, science, and best practices to support your recommendations.
- Offer compromise language to encourage an equitable solution.
- If you cannot provide specific language recommendations because of your role/funding, offer education that can be drawn upon when wording is being developed.

After the Process. . .

Reach out to the LCB to help you understand the decisions that are made. There may not always be agreement, but understanding helps pave the way for future rulemaking.