PETITION FOR ADOPTION, AMENDMENT, OR REPEAL OF A STATE ADMINISTRATIVE RULE

In accordance with <u>RCW 34.05.330</u>, the Office of Financial Management (OFM) created this form for individuals or groups who wish to petition a state agency or institution of higher education to adopt, amend, or repeal an administrative rule. You may use this form to submit your request. You also may contact agencies using other formats, such as a letter or email.

The agency or institution will give full consideration to your petition and will respond to you within 60 days of receiving your petition. For more information on the rule petition process, see Chapter 82-05 of the Washington Administrative Code (WAC) at http://apps.leg.wa.gov/wac/default.aspx?cite=82-05.

CONTACT INFORMATION (please type or print)

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INFORMATION ON RULE PETITION

Agency responsible for adopting or administering the rule: Washington State Liquor & Cannabis Board

2. AMEND RULE- I am requesting the agency change an existing rule.

List rule number (WAC), if known:

WAC 314-55-015

I am requesting the following change:

Codification of the 'Minors Present on Premises to Support Families Impacted by School Closures" advisement that has been in place since March 2020.

Specifically, I am requesting an exemption to the prohibition of minors being present on premises of licensed cannabis producers/processors in limited circumstances provided the person under 16 years of age is a child or grandchild of the licensee, the person under 16 years of age is not engaging in any work or act of employment for the licensed business, the person under 16 years of age does not possess any products associated with the production, processing or sales of cannabis.

This change is needed because:

- 1. RCW does not prohibit persons under twenty-one to enter or remain on the licensed premises of a producer or processor.
- 2. This prohibition, when enforced, has a significant negative impact on family owned and women owned farms.
- 3. Family owned and women owned farms have found the agencies current approach of allowing their children and grandchildren on site to be extremely helpful. Licensees report seeing their children more frequently, eating more meals with their families, and being able to support their children as they complete homework.
- 4. Producers and processors have demonstrated over the last two plus years that this prohibition is not necessary.
- 5. Increasing equity in the cannabis industry requires change to current rules to increase opportunities for small independent businesses to succeed, this change is small business, women and minority owned business friendly.

The effect of this rule change will be:

To allow grandchildren and children of licensees the ability to be present on the premises of licensed cannabis producers and processors provided the children are under 16 years of age and not engaged in any work activities.