



## Notice of Preproposal Statement of Inquiry WSR 24-21-050

The Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board (Board) is considering amending [WAC 314-55-035](#) and other sections of Title 314 WAC, as well as repealing or creating other sections of Title 314 WAC as necessary to allow the use of Employee Stock Ownership Plans (ESOP) in connection with cannabis licenses in response to a petition for rulemaking [accepted](#) in May 2024. This rulemaking may address other rule changes needed to ensure ESOPs are not used to avoid compliance with other statutes and regulations, as well as the use of ESOPs in liquor licenses.

The Board encourages your input on this rulemaking. Following the CR 101 comment period, the agency will distribute and publish a CR 102 with proposed rules, establish a formal comment period consistent with chapter 34.05 RCW on the proposed rules, and hold a public hearing before the final rules are adopted.

### Public Comment

Please send your comments on the CR 101 to the Board through mail, e-mail, or fax by **November 9, 2024**. The CR 102 with proposed rules is anticipated to be filed on or after January 15, 2025, following collaborative rule development.

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This notice can be found at <https://lcb.wa.gov/laws/current-rulemaking-activity>.