



CR 103 Memorandum

Regarding Gender-Neutral Terminology in Title 314 WAC rules.

Date: November 6, 2024
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Background

The Washington State Liquor & Cannabis Board (LCB) is amending [Title 314 of the Washington Administrative Code \(WAC\)](#) through an expedited rulemaking process for the purpose of replacing instances of gender-specific language with gender-neutral language. This rulemaking modernizes the rules to reflect contemporary standards of inclusivity and ensure that the language used in regulatory documents is non-discriminatory and equitable for all individuals. The expedited rulemaking process under [RCW 34.05.353](#) is appropriate as the amendments are technical in nature, with no substantive effect on the meaning or application of the rules.

On May 8, 2024, the Board accepted a rule petition requesting amendments to Title 314 WAC to replace gender-specific pronouns with gender-neutral language. In response, the LCB is amending these rules to reflect the Petitioner's request and align with modern standards. The rulemaking was initiated on September 9, 2024 with the CR-105 filed as [WSR 24-19-026](#).

Stakeholder Engagement

These updates are purely technical and will not affect the operations or obligations of regulated entities. Instead, they enhance clarity and inclusiveness of LCB's regulation and are expected to have no adverse impact on stakeholders.

Consistent with the Administrative Procedure Act (APA) under [RCW 34.05](#), requirements for expedited rulemaking, stakeholder engagement was limited. The public was invited to comment on the proposed amendments. Only one written comment was received during the comment period.

Description of Rule Changes

Amended Title 314 WAC – Forty sections of Title 314 WAC are amended to replace gender-specific terminology with gender-neutral terminology.

[WAC 314-02 WAC Requirements for liquor licenses](#)

- WAC 314-02-030
- WAC 314-02-038
- WAC 314-02-0415
- WAC 314-02-108

[WAC 314-03 Allowed activities](#)

- WAC 314-03-020
- WAC 314-03-030
- WAC 314-03-035
- WAC 314-03-040

[WAC 314-09 Contested Liquor License Applications and Renewals](#)

- WAC 314-09-005

[WAC 314-10 Sale and distribution of tobacco products.](#)

- WAC 314-10-110

[WAC 314-11 General Requirements for licensees](#)

- WAC 314-11-020
- WAC 314-11-030
- WAC 314-11-040
- WAC 314-11-105

[WAC 314-12 General—Applicable to all licensees](#)

- WAC 314-12-040
- WAC 314-12-210
- WAC 314-12-215

[WAC 314-16 Retail licensees](#)

- WAC 314-16-110
- WAC 314-16-150

[WAC 314-17 Mandatory alcohol server training](#)

- WAC 314-17-020
- WAC 314-17-025
- WAC 314-17-040
- WAC 314-17-045
- WAC 314-17-065

[WAC 314-18 Banquet permits](#)

- WAC 314-18-030
- WAC 314-18-040

[WAC 314-20 Beer—Brewers, holders, importers, etc.](#)

- WAC 314-20-100

[WAC 314-21 Controlled Purchase Programs](#)

- WAC 314-21-025

[WAC 314-24 Domestic wineries and domestic wine distributors](#)

- WAC 314-24-115
- WAC 314-24-190
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[WAC 314-25 Ships chandler's license](#)

- WAC 314-25-040

[WAC 314-28 Distillers](#)

- WAC 314-28-100

[WAC 314-29 Violations and penalties](#)

- WAC 314-29-007
- WAC 314-29-040

[WAC 314-34 Cigarette and tobacco products violations](#)

- WAC 314-34-020

[WAC 314-35 Vapor products](#)

- WAC 314-35-060

[WAC 314-42 Liquor control board operations](#)

- WAC 314-42-120

[WAC 314-44 Licensed agents](#)

- WAC 314-44-005

[WAC 314-60 Public records](#)

- WAC 314-60-080
- WAC 314-60-085

Differences Between Proposed Rules and Final Rules

There were no differences between the proposed rules (CR-105) and the final rules (CR-103) being requested for adoption.

Conclusion

The Director's Office Staff is requesting approval from the Board to file the CR-103P to adopt permanent rules amending Title 314 WAC to replace gender-specific language with gender-neutral language.