



# PROPOSED RULE MAKING

**CR-102 (June 2024)**  
**(Implements RCW 34.05.320)**  
Do NOT use for expedited rule making

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STATE OF WASHINGTON  
FILED

DATE: July 23, 2025

TIME: 10:14 AM

WSR 25-15-158

Agency: Department of Licensing

☒ Original Notice

☐ Supplemental Notice to WSR \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Continuance of WSR \_\_\_\_\_

☒ Preproposal Statement of Inquiry was filed as WSR 25-13-105 ; or

☐ Expedited Rule Making--Proposed notice was filed as WSR \_\_\_\_\_; or

☐ Proposal is exempt under RCW 34.05.310(4) or 34.05.330(1); or

☐ Proposal is exempt under RCW \_\_\_\_\_.

Title of rule and other identifying information: (describe subject) 308-56A-210 Ownership in doubt – Bonded title or three-year registration without title; and WAC 308-93-440 Ownership in Doubt – Bonded title or three-year registration without title

Hearing location(s):

Date:	Time:	Location: (be specific)	Comment:
September 15, 2025	10:00 AM	<b>Join Zoom Meeting</b> <a href="https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84561974470?pwd=4J3Xu7Q81GVYRd0Z3aZWY2cRchpRxV.1">https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84561974470?pwd=4J3Xu7Q81GVYRd0Z3aZWY2cRchpRxV.1</a>  <b>Meeting ID:</b> 845 6197 4470 <b>Passcode:</b> 583453  ---  One tap mobile +12532050468,,84561974470#,,,*,583453# US +12532158782,,84561974470#,,,*,583453# US (Tacoma)  ---  Dial by your location • +1 253 205 0468 US • +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma) • +1 719 359 4580 US • +1 720 707 2699 US (Denver) • +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston) • +1 669 444 9171 US • +1 386 347 5053 US • +1 507 473 4847 US • +1 564 217 2000 US • +1 646 558 8656 US (New York) • +1 646 931 3860 US • +1 689 278 1000 US • +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC) • +1 305 224 1968 US • +1 309 205 3325 US • +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)	If you are having trouble accessing the virtual meeting, please call 360-902-3486 at the time of the hearing to request assistance. Please email <a href="mailto:rulescoordinator@dol.wa.gov">rulescoordinator@dol.wa.gov</a> if you would like to request an interpreter, or other accommodations, at least one week in advance of the public hearing.  PLEASE NOTE: Hearing participants are encouraged to attend in-person or be prepared to use the telephonic option (call-in) if they experience technical difficulties. In-person attendance will take place at the Highways and Licensing Building, 1125 Washington St. SE, Olympia, WA 98504.

	• +1 360 209 5623 US  Meeting ID: 845 6197 4470 Passcode: 583453  Find your local number: <a href="https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84561974470">https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84561974470</a>																	
<b>Date of intended adoption:</b> September 16, 2025 (Note: This is <b>NOT</b> the effective date)																		
<b>Submit written comments to:</b> Name Ellis Starrett Address 1125 Washington St. SE Olympia, WA 98501 Email RulesCoordinator@dol.wa.gov Fax Other Beginning (date and time) <u>August 6, 2025</u> By (date and time) <u>September 15, 2025</u>	<b>Assistance for persons with disabilities:</b> Contact Ellis Starrett Phone 360-902-3846 Fax TTY Email rulescoordinator@dol.wa.gov Other By (date) <u>September 5, 2025</u>																	
<b>Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules:</b> Since RCW 46.12.635 was amended in 2021, customers no longer need to send a certified letter requesting a release of interest from the previously registered and legal owners when applying for a vehicle title through the Ownership in Doubt process. Amending WAC 308-56A-210 and WAC 308-93-440 will help clarify and ensure our rules are reflective of current statutory requirements. This proposed change aligns with the requirements of RCW 46.12.635, which protects the names and addresses of vehicle and vessel owners.																		
<b>Reasons supporting proposal:</b> Amending WAC 308-56A-210 and WAC 308-93-440 to clarify that customers will not be required to seek releases of interest from the prior owner before entering Ownership in Doubt. This proposed change will align the Department's rules with RCW 46.12.635, which protects the names and addresses of vehicle and vessel owners.																		
<b>Statutory authority for adoption:</b> RCW 46.01.110 Rule-making authority; RCW 46.12.635 Disclosure of names and addresses of individual vehicle and vessel owners – Address confidentiality program participants; and RCW 46.12.680 Ownership in Doubt – Procedure																		
<b>Statute being implemented:</b> RCW 46.12.635 Disclosure of names and addresses of individual vehicle and vessel owners—Vehicle and vessel information—Address confidentiality program participants.																		
<b>Is rule necessary because of a:</b> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div>           Federal Law?            Federal Court Decision?            State Court Decision?         </div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes   <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No  <input type="checkbox"/> Yes   <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No  <input type="checkbox"/> Yes   <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No         </div> </div> If yes, CITATION:																		
<b>Agency comments or recommendations, if any, as to statutory language, implementation, enforcement, and fiscal matters:</b> N/A																		
<b>Name of proponent:</b> (person or organization) Department of Licensing <b>Type of proponent:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Private. <input type="checkbox"/> Public. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Governmental.																		
<b>Name of agency personnel responsible for:</b> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 5px;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th style="text-align: left;">Name</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Office Location</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Phone</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Drafting</td> <td>Ellis Starrett</td> <td>1125 Washington St. SE Olympia, WA 98501</td> <td>360-902-3846</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Implementation</td> <td>Chante Vernie</td> <td>1125 Washington St. SE Olympia, WA 98501</td> <td>360-902-3937</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Enforcement</td> <td>Chante Vernie</td> <td>1125 Washington St. SE Olympia, WA 98501</td> <td>360-902-3937</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				Name	Office Location	Phone	Drafting	Ellis Starrett	1125 Washington St. SE Olympia, WA 98501	360-902-3846	Implementation	Chante Vernie	1125 Washington St. SE Olympia, WA 98501	360-902-3937	Enforcement	Chante Vernie	1125 Washington St. SE Olympia, WA 98501	360-902-3937
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<b>Is a school district fiscal impact statement required under <a href="#">RCW 28A.305.135</a>?</b> <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes   <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</span> If yes, insert statement here:  <div style="margin-left: 40px;">           The public may obtain a copy of the school district fiscal impact statement by contacting:            Name            Address            Phone            Fax         </div>																		

TTY  
Email  
Other

**Is a cost-benefit analysis required under [RCW 34.05.328](#)?**

- ☐ Yes: A preliminary cost-benefit analysis may be obtained by contacting:

Name  
Address  
Phone  
Fax  
TTY  
Email  
Other

- ☒ No: Please explain: In accordance with implementing current statute RCW 46.12.635 this rulemaking would remove requirements and reduce burdens placed on individuals and businesses.

**Regulatory Fairness Act and Small Business Economic Impact Statement**

Note: The [Governor's Office for Regulatory Innovation and Assistance \(ORIA\)](#) provides support in completing this part.

**(1) Identification of exemptions:**

This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, **may be exempt** from requirements of the Regulatory Fairness Act (see [chapter 19.85 RCW](#)). For additional information on exemptions, consult the [exemption guide published by ORIA](#). Please check the box for any applicable exemption(s):

- ☐ This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt under [RCW 19.85.061](#) because this rule making is being adopted solely to conform and/or comply with federal statute or regulations. Please cite the specific federal statute or regulation this rule is being adopted to conform or comply with, and describe the consequences to the state if the rule is not adopted.

Citation and description:

- ☐ This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt because the agency has completed the pilot rule process defined by [RCW 34.05.313](#) before filing the notice of this proposed rule.

- ☐ This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt under the provisions of [RCW 15.65.570](#)(2) because it was adopted by a referendum.

- ☒ This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt under [RCW 19.85.025](#)(3). Check all that apply:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">RCW 34.05.310</a> (4)(b)<br>(Internal government operations)         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">RCW 34.05.310</a> (4)(e)<br>(Dictated by statute)   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">RCW 34.05.310</a> (4)(c)<br>(Incorporation by reference)             | <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">RCW 34.05.310</a> (4)(f)<br>(Set or adjust fees)   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">RCW 34.05.310</a> (4)(d)<br>(Correct or clarify language) | <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">RCW 34.05.310</a> (4)(g)<br>(i) Relating to agency hearings; or (ii) process requirements for applying to an agency for a license or permit) |

- ☒ This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt under [RCW 19.85.025](#)(4). (Does not affect small businesses).

- ☐ This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt under RCW \_\_\_\_.

Explanation of how the above exemption(s) applies to the proposed rule: The proposed rulemaking only eliminates requirements for those seeking vehicle titling through the ownership in doubt process by aligning current rules with recent changes to RCW 46.12.635. This will relieve some burdensome requirements for individuals or businesses navigating the ownership in doubt process.

**(2) Scope of exemptions: Check one.**

- ☒ The rule proposal: Is fully exempt. (Skip section 3.) Exemptions identified above apply to all portions of the rule proposal.
- ☐ The rule proposal: Is partially exempt. (Complete section 3.) The exemptions identified above apply to portions of the rule proposal, but less than the entire rule proposal. Provide details here (consider using [this template from ORIA](#)):
- ☐ The rule proposal: Is not exempt. (Complete section 3.) No exemptions were identified above.

**(3) Small business economic impact statement: Complete this section if any portion is not exempt.**

If any portion of the proposed rule is **not exempt**, does it impose more-than-minor costs (as defined by RCW 19.85.020(2)) on businesses?

- ☐ No Briefly summarize the agency's minor cost analysis and how the agency determined the proposed rule did not impose more-than-minor costs. \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Yes Calculations show the rule proposal likely imposes more-than-minor cost to businesses and a small business economic impact statement is required. Insert the required small business economic impact statement here:

The public may obtain a copy of the small business economic impact statement or the detailed cost calculations by contacting:

Name  
Address  
Phone  
Fax  
TTY  
Email  
Other

**Date:** July 23, 2025

**Name:** Ellis Starrett

**Title:** Rules and Policy Manager

**Signature:**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ellis Starrett', is written over a horizontal line.