

WSR 26-19-133 - Department of Licensing: Title of Rule and Other Identifying Information: Chapter 308-30 WAC, Notaries public

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Statewide, WA - Washington statewide County, WA

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WSR 26-19-133 (26-19) WSR 26-19-133

PROPOSED RULES

DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING

[Filed September 23, 2026, 8:10 a.m.]

Original Notice.

Preproposal statement of inquiry was filed as WSR 26-09-147.

Title of Rule and Other Identifying Information: Chapter 308-30 WAC, Notaries public.

Hearing Location(s): On November 4, 2026, at 10:00 a.m., via Zoom at

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85778532287?pwd=a0noTH9GnDSvGO2BUuzcKbYU9Evvo5.1> , chat link

<https://us06web.zoom.us/jc/85778532287> , Meeting ID 857 7853 2287, Passcode 741813; or One-tap

mobile +12532158782,,85778532287#,,,,*741813# US (Tacoma), +12532050468,,85778532287#,,,,*741813#

US; or join by SIP 85778532287@zoomcrc.com . Join instructions at

<https://us06web.zoom.us/join/85778532287/invitations?signature=BPtzwPD84xMrq9qcWOrv5CMLRWcH476ZbEj7wjfUBE0> . 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 rulescoordinator@dol.wa.gov 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 Street S.E., Olympia, WA 98504.

Date of Intended Adoption: November 5, 2026.

Submit Written Comments to: Ellis Starrett, 1125 Washington Street S.E., Olympia, WA 98501, email rulescoordinator@dol.wa.gov , beginning September 24, 2026, by November 4, 2026.

Assistance for Persons with Disabilities: Contact Ellis Starrett, email rulescoordinator@dol.wa.gov , by October 25, 2026.

Purpose of the Proposal and Its Anticipated Effects, Including Any Changes in Existing Rules: To implement HB [SHB] 2158 by adopting rule changes to allow for new electronic records notary public provisions, as well as prescribing methods for confirming tangible record identities, and clarifying the creation of duplicative originals.

Reasons Supporting Proposal: HB [SHB] 2158, passed during the 2026 legislative session, requires the department of licensing (DOL) to adopt rules related to new public provisions for electronic records notaries public.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 42.45.250 Rules; and HB [SHB] 2158 passed during the 2026 legislative session.

Statute Being Implemented: RCW 42.45.280 Electronic records notary public.

Rule is not necessitated by federal law, federal or state court decision.

Name of Proponent: DOL, governmental.

Name of Agency Personnel Responsible for Drafting and Implementation: Sydney Muhle, 405 Black Lake Boulevard S.W., Olympia, WA 98502, 360-634-5124; Enforcement: Sarah Gretza, 405 Black Lake Boulevard S.W., Olympia, WA 98502, 564-233-4313.

A school district fiscal impact statement is not required under RCW 28A.305.135 .

A cost-benefit analysis is required under RCW 34.05.328 . A preliminary cost-benefit analysis may be obtained by contacting Ellis Starrett, 1125 Washington Street S.E., Olympia, WA 98501, phone 360-902-3846, email rulescoordinator@dol.wa.gov .

This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt from requirements of the Regulatory Fairness Act because the proposal:

Is exempt under RCW 19.85.025 (3) as the rule content is explicitly and specifically dictated by statute.

Is exempt under RCW 19.85.025 (4).

Explanation of exemptions: This rule making provides clarification on the requirements for electronic records notaries public wishing to provide services for notarizing tangible records, which is authorized by statute. This new service provision is optional for existing electronic records notaries public, and DOL has not received any community feedback that indicates the new language would impose costs on small businesses.

Scope of exemption for rule proposal:

Is fully exempt.

September 23, 2026

Matter furnished by the Washington Office of the Code Reviser (Washington State Register). Notice Nearby did not write this notice.

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