

House Bill 1218 Rule Updates: AFH Q&A Session September 8, 2025

Question #1	Where can I find the slide deck from the presentation?
Answer #1	Access a PDF of slides in the RCS Active Rulemaking Webpage: Disaster Preparedness Rulemaking- Project 2 DSHS .
Question #2	Will you be doing a second drop-in session?
Answer #2	<p>This session is for AFH, but we will take inquiries. Other sessions for ALF, ESF and NH are on different dates. See links below to register.</p> <p>Assisted Living Facility Session (completed) Tuesday, September 9, 2025, 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/2567193221631?p=Z11TRyB6rVWXog0klu</p> <p>Nursing Home Session Tuesday, September 16, 2025, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/64e6b906-8d46-4abf-9ee2-7e99395b16ab@11d0e217-264e-400a-8ba0-57dcc127d72d</p> <p>Enhanced Services Facilities Session Wednesday, September 17, 2025, 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/c3722f1d-2da5-4d4d-a670-ea0ade853ce1@11d0e217-264e-400a-8ba0-57dcc127d72d</p>
Question #3	Currently, when someone has an enforcement online the full report is not visible. Will this change as what needs to be corrected is often in the full report?
Answer #3	We are not changing how reports are posted online. That is unrelated to this project.
Question #4	Is this rule making different than the changes that are required for Jan 6th, or do we have until Jan 6th for these rules as well?
Answer #4	This is a different project. These rules are included in WAC effective on September 6, 2025, however, the federal statute has been in effect since 2021.
Question #5	When are the providers being updated about these changes? How was this communicated to them (email? postal mail?)?
Answer #5	The notice of permanent rulemaking was published August 14, 2025 in Provider Letter 2025-036 .

Question #6	Will the initial licensing department want to see roster templates to ensure new providers are aware of this.
Answer #6	There is no change to initial inspections or requested documents.
Question #7	Do the facility's floor plans need to be updated with the bedroom Identifiers that are listed on the roster to ensure it matches. The door, roster and floor plans.
Answer #7	See WAC 388-76-10885 and WAC 388-76-10890 for floor plan requirements. Those WACs did not change. See RCW 70.128.155 and WAC 388-76-10221 for resident roster information.
Question #8	Can a resident designate more than one essential support person(ESP)?
Answer #8	No, an essential support person is defined as "an individual". See WAC 388-76-10000.
Question #9	Does a POA / guardian automatically become an Essential Support Person? Or does the resident have to state specifically that the POA is also an ESP
Answer #9	No, a POA/Guardian will not automatically become an ESP, however, they can be an ESP if identified by the resident or their resident representative. See WAC 388-76-1000 definition. the resident has to identify their essential support person, or their representative identifies one for them, if the resident is determined to be incapacitated or otherwise legally incapacitated.
Question #10	If a resident doesn't speak or cannot pick someone, does the appointed state guardian then pick the essential support person?
Answer #10	The resident identifies their essential support person, or their representative does, if the resident is determined to be incapacitated or otherwise legally incapacitated. See WAC 388-76-1000 definition.
Question #11	Can ESP be changed?
Answer #11	Yes, an ESP (Essential Support Person) can be changed.

Question #12	If it is in the NCP (negotiated care plan), must it be documented in the assessment?
Answer #12	The new rules do not specify where the ESP must be documented.
Question #13	Will DSHS workers be placing the residents' designated essential support person in the assessment, labeled as essential support person?
Answer #13	The CARE assessment does not ask about the ESP.
Question #14	If it is in the NCP (negotiated care plan), must it be documented in the assessment?
Answer #14	The new rules do not specify where the ESP must be documented.