



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
Aging and Long-Term Support Administration
PO Box 45600, Olympia, WA 98504-5600

October 12, 2016

AL TSA: AFH #2016-020
PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO CHAPTER 388-76 WAC

Dear Adult Family Home Provider:

In April 2016, the department began the rulemaking process to amend or repeal sections of Chapter 388-76 of the Washington Administrative Code (WAC). These changes were needed to either implement Substitute Senate Bill 5600 from the 2015 Legislative Session, address resident safety concerns, or to correct or clarify language currently in rule.

Highlights of the changes include:

- Changes to the definition of abuse and restraints
- Clarify the resident is not required to sign the Disclosure of Charges form provided by the department
- Adding the resident being assessed as safe to use medical devices
- Clarify "informed consent" for psychopharmacologic medications
- Clarify nurses are not required to have a first aid card or certificate
- Clarify homes licensed after January 1, 2016 are required to have door hardware for the designated egress door in accordance with WAC 51-51.
- Homes licensed and bathroom additions after November 1, 2016 must have grab bars, handrails and/or ramps installed in accordance with WAC 51-51
- Clarify commercially bottled water does not expire
- Clarify all residents will participate in at least one annual full evacuation all together
- Clarify safety requirements for space heaters, fireplaces and stoves.
- Condense emergency evacuation WACs and clarify location of bedrooms for residents who need assistance.

We recently filed the final rule making order CR-103 document with the Office of the Code Reviser. The CR-103, including the revised WAC language, is available electronically on the AFH Provider page, under the heading "How will the Department communicate any changes?" at: <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/altsa/residential-care-services/information-adult-family-home-providers>. The effective date of the proposed changes to Chapter 388-76 is November 4, 2016.

If you have questions, please contact your local Residential Care Services Field Manager. Thank you for your continued commitment to the care of long-term care residents of our state.

Sincerely,

Candace Goehring, Director
Residential Care Services