



**PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT
OF INQUIRY**

CR-101 (October 2017)
(Implements RCW 34.05.310)
Do **NOT** use for expedited rule making

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STATE OF WASHINGTON
FILED

DATE: July 25, 2023

TIME: 10:57 AM

WSR 23-16-043

Agency: Department of Health - Board of Optometry

Subject of possible rule making: Changing the scope of practice for optometrists. The Board of Optometry (board) is proposing to amend, establish new, and possibly repeal sections in chapter 246-851 WAC to implement Substitute Senate Bill (SSB) 5389 (chapter 400, laws of 2023), which expands the optometrist scope of practice to include certain advanced procedures and establishes requirements for a license endorsement.

Statutes authorizing the agency to adopt rules on this subject: RCW 18.54.070, Substitute Senate Bill (SSB) 5389 (chapter 400, laws of 2023), RCW 18.53.010

Reasons why rules on this subject may be needed and what they might accomplish: SSB 5389 expands the scope of practice for optometrists including allowing certain advanced procedures. The new law requires the board to adopt rules for education, training, and exams to implement a license endorsement allowing optometrists to perform the advanced procedures. The board will also examine rules establishing adverse reporting requirements regarding the advanced procedures performed under the license endorsement.

Identify other federal and state agencies that regulate this subject and the process coordinating the rule with these agencies: None

Process for developing new rule (check all that apply):

- Negotiated rule making
- Pilot rule making
- Agency study
- Other (describe) Collaborative rule making


Interested parties can participate in the decision to adopt the new rule and formulation of the proposed rule before publication by contacting:

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Additional comments:

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Date: 06/08/2023	Signature: 
Name: Melissa Green	
Title: Executive Director	