

ORDINANCE NO. _____

**ORDINANCE TO EXPAND THE SIZE AND COMPOSITION
OF THE SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH TO FIVE MEMBERS**

WHEREAS, the Skagit County Board of Health has the authority to enact local rules and regulations as are necessary in order to preserve, promote and improve the public health pursuant to RCW 70.05.060, and

WHEREAS, the Skagit County Commissioners serve as the current Skagit County Board of Health; and

WHEREAS, decisions of the Board of Health have broad impact on the health and wellbeing of the community; and

WHEREAS, given the increasingly complex public health issues facing Skagit County and the County's commitment to find solutions to improve the overall health of the community, the Skagit County Health Department recommends adding additional health care and/or public health expertise and experience to the Skagit County Board of Health in order to evaluate and develop public health polices and strategies to support a healthy community; and

WHEREAS, a presentation calling for a Public Hearing was held on November 4, 2019, opening a four-week comment period; and

WHEREAS, a Notice of Public Hearing was published in the Skagit Valley Herald on November 21 and 28, 2019; and

WHEREAS, a staff report and draft ordinance was published on the Skagit County website on November 4, 2019; and

WHEREAS, a Public Hearing was held to discuss the proposed ordinance on December 10, 2019 at 10:30 am; and

WHEREAS, RCW 70.05.030 authorizes a Board of County Commissioners to, at its discretion, adopt an ordinance expanding the size and composition of the County Board of Health to include elected officials from cities and towns and persons other than elected officials as members so long as persons other than elected officials do not constitute a majority; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE ORDAINED that the Board of County Commissioners adopt the attached chapter to be codified as Skagit County Code Chapter 12.01 as set forth in Exhibit A to expand the Board of Health to add two additional at large members with specific qualifying experience in health care and/or public health expertise and experience, effective December 10, 2019.

PASSED this ____ day of _____, 2019.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Lisa Janicki, Chair

Ron Wesen, Commissioner

Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, Commissioner

Attest:

Clerk of the Board

Approved as to form:

Approved as to Content:

Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

Department Head

EXHIBIT A

Chapter 12.01 SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

Sections:

- 12.01.005 Purpose
- 12.01.010 Definitions.
- 12.01.020 Composition of Board of Health

12.01.005 Purpose

The provisions of this Chapter shall be in force within the jurisdiction of the Skagit County Board of Health as provided in RCW 70.05.030. These rules and regulations are established by the Skagit County Board of Health pursuant to its authority under RCW 70.05.060 permitting local boards of health to enact local rules and regulations as are necessary in order to preserve, promote and improve the public health and provide for the enforcement thereof.

12.01.010 Definitions

- (1) "Board of Health" shall mean the five-member Board of Health of Skagit County authorized by RCW 70.05.030.
- (2) "Public Health" or "department" shall mean the Skagit County Public Health Department.
- (3) "Health Officer" shall mean the Skagit County Health Officer or authorized representative.
- (4) "Person" shall mean an individual, firm, corporation, or association.

12.01.020 Composition of Board of Health

- (1) The Board shall have five members consisting of each of the three members of the Skagit County Board of Commissioners and two at-large members selected by the Board of Commissioners following application and review of qualifications.
- (2) No at-large member shall serve as an elected official or be employed by Skagit County during his or her tenure on the Board of Health. An at-large member should:
 - (a) Have at least ten years of clinical, medical or public health experience; or
 - (b) Have at least two years' experience as a current or former member of the Population Health Trust; and
 - (c) Have knowledge of public health practices from work in public health or the healthcare delivery system.
- (3) There shall be no compensation or reimbursement of expenses for Board members other than that specifically adopted for the Board of Health by the Skagit County Board of Commissioners.
- (4) The term of office for each county commissioner member shall be concurrent with that member's term of office as a county commissioner. The term of office for at-large members shall be for three years.
- (5) The Board shall publish a schedule of meetings to be held in the Skagit County Commissioner's Hearing Room or at other times and places as determined by the Board.

(6) At the first meeting each year, the Board shall select one of its members to be the chair to serve for one year. A quorum shall be a majority of the members then serving on the Board, at least two of whom must also be members of the Board of County Commissioners.