



STATE OF WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. S.W., P.O. Box 47250 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7250
(360) 664-1160 • www.utc.wa.gov

October 23, 2015

**NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO SUBMIT WRITTEN COMMENTS ON
PROPOSED RULES**
(By Monday, November 23, 2015)
and
NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE ADOPTION HEARING
(Set for Tuesday, December 15, 2015, at 9:30 a.m.)

Re: Rulemaking to Consider Adoption of Rules to Implement SSB 5362, Chapter 480-30 WAC, Relating to Charter Bus Companies, Docket TE-151080

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

This letter informs you of the progress made in this rulemaking concerning the possible adoption of revisions to chapter 480-30 WAC relating to charter bus companies. This rulemaking is designed to implement SSB 5362, passed and signed into law in the 2015 legislative session. This letter also provides notice of an opportunity to file written comments by Monday, November 23, 2015, on the proposed rules and to participate in the formal rule adoption hearing scheduled for Tuesday, December 15, 2015, at 9:30 a.m.

On October 21, 2015, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) filed a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (CR-102) with the Office of the Code Reviser. The proposed rules would affect chapter 480-30 WAC, relating to charter bus companies, and is limited to the provisions of SSB 5362, including:

- Defines “party bus”
- Removes the current exemption for buses operating within a single city
- Regulates alcohol served or consumed on party buses
- Prohibits smoking on charter buses
- Changes the due date for charter bus regulatory fees
- Defines charter party services to include certain advertising activities
- Allows a penalty up to \$5,000 for operating without a permit

The Commission has reviewed comments received from stakeholders to date in this docket and has prepared proposed rules for review and comment by interested persons. The proposed rules are available for inspection on the Commission's web page at www.utc.wa.gov/151080. If you are unable to access the Commission's web page and would like a copy of the proposed rules mailed to you, please contact the Commission's Records Center at (360) 664-1234. The CR-102 filing initiates the final part of the rulemaking process, which includes a written comment period, a public adoption hearing, and a decision by the Commission.

WRITTEN COMMENTS

The Commission gives notice of your opportunity to submit written comments on the proposed rules by filing with the Commission Executive Director and Secretary, either by electronic transmission as described below or by physical delivery to 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W., P.O. Box 47250, Olympia, Washington, 98504-7250, no later than **5:00 p.m., Monday, November 23, 2015**. The proposed rules, as filed with the Code Reviser, are available for inspection on the Commission's web site at <http://www.utc.wa.gov/151080>.

Electronic copies: The Commission requests that comments be provided in electronic format to enhance public access, for ease of providing comments, to reduce the need for paper copies, and to facilitate quotations from the comments. You may submit comments via the Commission's Web portal at <http://www.utc.wa.gov/e-filing> or by electronic mail to the Commission's Records Center at records@utc.wa.gov. Please include:

- The docket number of this proceeding (TE-151080)
- The commenting party's name
- The title and date of the comments

An alternative method for submitting comments is mailing or delivering an electronic copy to the Commission's Records Center on a flash drive, DVD, or compact disk (CD) in .pdf Adobe Acrobat format or in Word 2010 or later format. Include all of the information requested above. The Commission will post on the Commission's web site all comments that are provided in electronic format. The website is located at <http://utc.wa.gov/151080>. If you are unable to file your comments electronically or to submit them on a flash drive or CD, the Commission will always accept a paper document.

ADOPTION HEARING

The Commission gives further notice of your opportunity to attend the public hearing and make oral comments about the proposal for the adoption of the proposed rules at **9:30 a.m., Tuesday, December 15, 2015**. This public hearing will be held in the Commission's Hearing Room, Second Floor, Richard Hemstad Building, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive, S.W., Olympia, Washington.

OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FUTURE

The Commission will post information about the schedule and other aspects of the rulemaking, including comments, on its website as it becomes available. If you wish to receive further information on this rulemaking you may:

- 1) Call the Commission's Records Center at 360-664-1234.
- 2) E-mail the Commission at records@utc.wa.gov.
- 3) Mail written comments to the address below.

When contacting the Commission, please refer to Docket TE-151080 to ensure that you are included on the appropriate service list.

The Commission's mailing address is:

Executive Director and Secretary
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
1300 South Evergreen Park Drive SW
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, Washington 98504-7250

Questions? If you have questions about this Notice, about the rulemaking process, or this rulemaking in particular, you may contact staff lead Suzanne Stillwell, or by email at sstillwe@utc.wa.gov.

STEVEN V. KING
Executive Director and Secretary