RULE-MAKING ORDER
PERMANENT RULE ONLY

CR-103P (December 2017)
(Implements RCW 34.05.360)

CODE REVISER USE ONLY

OFFICE OF THE CODE REVISER
STATE OF WASHINGTON
FILED

DATE: May 27, 2026
TIME: 9:50 AM

WSR 26-12-029

Agency: Office of the Secretary of State

Effective date of rule:

Permanent Rules

☐ 31 days after filing.

☒ Other (specify) January 1, 2027 **(If less than 31 days after filing, a specific finding under RCW 34.05.380(3) is required and should be stated below)**

Any other findings required by other provisions of law as precondition to adoption or effectiveness of rule?

☐ Yes ☒ No If Yes, explain:

Purpose: The purpose of this proposal is to clarify and refine voter intent determinations to standardize how certain marks on ballots are interpreted statewide in compliance with 52 U.S.C. § 21081(a)(6).

Citation of rules affected by this order:

New:
Repealed:
Amended: WAC 434-261-086
Suspended:

Statutory authority for adoption: RCW 29A.04.611

Other authority:

PERMANENT RULE (Including Expedited Rule Making)

Adopted under notice filed as WSR 26-09-053 on April 10, 2026 (date).

Describe any changes other than editing from proposed to adopted version: N/A

If a preliminary cost-benefit analysis was prepared under RCW 34.05.328, a final cost-benefit analysis is available by contacting:

Name:
Address:
Phone:
Fax:
TTY:
Email:
Web site:
Other:

Note: If any category is left blank, it will be calculated as zero. No descriptive text.

Count by whole WAC sections only, from the WAC number through the history note. A section may be counted in more than one category.

The number of sections adopted in order to comply with:

Federal statute:	New	____	Amended	____	Repealed	____
Federal rules or standards:	New	____	Amended	____	Repealed	____
Recently enacted state statutes:	New	____	Amended	____	Repealed	____

The number of sections adopted at the request of a nongovernmental entity:

	New	____	Amended	____	Repealed	____

The number of sections adopted on the agency's own initiative:

	New	____	Amended	1	Repealed	____

The number of sections adopted in order to clarify, streamline, or reform agency procedures:

	New	____	Amended	1	Repealed	____

The number of sections adopted using:

Negotiated rule making:	New	____	Amended	1	Repealed	____
Pilot rule making:	New	____	Amended	____	Repealed	____
Other alternative rule making:	New	____	Amended	____	Repealed	____

Date Adopted: May 27, 2026	**Signature:**
Name: Amanda Doyle	
Title: Secretary of State Chief of Staff	