



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
OFFICE of ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH and SAFETY
PO Box 47824, Olympia, WA 98504
(360) 236-3330 • 711 Washington Relay Service

June 15, 2022

Re: Department of Health in favor of ventilation proposal

Dear Kjell Anderson,

In consideration of public health protection across Washington State, **we urge the Mechanical, Ventilation and Energy Committee to support the proposed ventilation filtration proposals 86 and 98 as modified and adopted by the Mechanical Ventilation technical advisory group.** Doing so is critical to protect public health, especially in Washington's most vulnerable communities. For some years now we have been encouraging the use of MERV 13 filters to filter outside air that may be contaminated by wildfire smoke, traffic related air pollution, wood burning, etc. The COVID-19 pandemic has brought to the everyone's attention the contribution of poorly filtered and ventilated spaces to controlling respiratory diseases. Recirculated air in public buildings needs to be filtered by at least MERV 13 filters.

This proposal has been carefully crafted to target the highest needs to promote public health. Infectious diseases like COVID-19 can spread through the inhalation of airborne particles and aerosols. In addition to other layered prevention strategies, taking actions to improve indoor air quality with increased filtration can reduce the risk of exposure to particles, aerosols, and other contaminants, and improve the health of building occupants.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Todd Phillips".

Todd Phillips, R.S.
Director, Office of Environmental Health & Safety