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FILED

DATE: June 30, 2025

WSR 25-14-071

TIME: 7:48 AM

### **RULE-MAKING ORDER** EMERGENCY RULE ONLY

## **CR-103E (December 2017)** (Implements RCW 34.05.350 and 34.05.360)

Agency: Health Care Authority

#### Effective date of rule:

#### **Emergency Rules**

Immediately upon filing. 

 $\times$ Later (specify) July 1, 2025

Any other findings required by other provisions of law as precondition to adoption or effectiveness of rule? □ Yes  $\boxtimes$  No If Yes, explain:

Purpose: To implement RCW 43.20B.030, as amended by section 1, chapter 331, Laws of 2025 (SB 5079), the agency is amending WAC 182-520-0015 to give the governing agencies the authority to waive collections when they determine that a state agency error caused a long-term services and supports client overpayment.

#### Citation of rules affected by this order:

New: Repealed: Amended: 182-520-0015 Suspended:

Statutory authority for adoption: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160

Other authority: RCW 43.20B.020

#### EMERGENCY RULE

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds:

- $\boxtimes$ That immediate adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule is necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, or general welfare, and that observing the time requirements of notice and opportunity to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be contrary to the public interest.
- $\boxtimes$ That state or federal law or federal rule or a federal deadline for state receipt of federal funds requires immediate adoption of a rule.

Reasons for this finding: The agency is amending WAC 182-520-0015 to comply with RCW 43.20B.030, which the legislature amended effective July 1, 2025, through section 1, chapter 331, Laws of 2025 (SB 5079). This legislation included an emergency clause.

> 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Federal statute:	New	_ Amended		Repealed	
Federal rules or standards:	New	Amended		Repealed	
Recently enacted state statutes:	New	Amended	1	Repealed	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	New	Amended	Repealed					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	New	Amended	Repealed					
The number of sections adopted in order to clarify, streamline, or reform agency procedures:								
	New	Amended <u>1</u>	Repealed					
The number of sections adopted using:								
Negotiated rule making:	New	Amended	Repealed					
Pilot rule making:	New	Amended	Repealed					
Other alternative rule making:	New	Amended <u>1</u>	Repealed					
	0							
Date Adopted: June 30, 2025	Signature:	10.11	0					
Name: Wendy Barcus		Monde	Paraux					
Title: HCA Rules Coordinator		1 contract	)					

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 16-13-059, filed 6/13/16, effective 7/14/16)

# WAC 182-520-0015 Long-term services and supports client overpayments. (1) General right to recover.

(a) A long-term services and supports (LTSS) client overpayment is any payment for LTSS made by the agency or the agency's designee on a client's behalf in excess of that to which the client is legally entitled.

(b) An LTSS client overpayment may be caused by:

(i) A client or a client's authorized representative misstating or failing to reveal a fact affecting eligibility under WAC 182-503-0505;

(ii) A client or a client's authorized representative failing to timely report a change required under WAC 182-504-0105; or

(iii) The agency or the agency's designee's error.

(c) The agency or the agency's designee may recoup an LTSS client overpayment:

(i) Up to six years after the date of the notice in subsection(2) of this section; and

(ii) Regardless of whether the program is state-funded, federally funded, or both.

(d) The amount of the LTSS client overpayment equals the amount the agency or the agency's designee paid on the client's behalf minus the amount to which the client was legally entitled.

(e) When the agency or the agency's designee determines it caused the overpayment, the agency or the agency's designee may grant exceptions to client recovery.

(2) Notice.

(a) The agency notifies the client or the client's authorized representative by:

(i) Personal service under RCW 4.28.080; or

(ii) Certified mail, return receipt requested.

(b) The agency or the agency's designee may prove that it notified the client by providing:

(i) A sworn statement;

(ii) An affidavit or certificate of mailing; or

(iii) The certified mail receipt signed by the client or the client's authorized representative.

(c) The notice states:

(i) The client's name;

(ii) The client's address;

(iii) The date the agency or the agency's designee issued the no-tice;

(iv) The amount of the LTSS client overpayment;

(v) How the agency calculated the LTSS client overpayment;

(vi) How the client may request an administrative hearing; and

(vii) How the client may make a payment.

(3) **Response**.

(a) The client must respond to the notice within  $((ninety)) \underline{90}$  days of the date the agency or the agency's designee served the client with the notice of the LTSS client overpayment by:

(i) Paying the agency or the agency's designee;

(ii) Establishing a payment plan with the agency or the agency's designee; or

(iii) Requesting an administrative hearing.

(b) If the client does not respond to the notice within ((nine-ty)) <u>90</u> days of the date the agency or the agency's designee served the client with the notice, the agency or the agency's designee may initiate collection action.

(4) **Hearings.** A person who disagrees with agency or the agency's designee's action under this section may request an administrative hearing under chapter 182-526 WAC.