

Approved: 6/10/2026

Effective: 7/05/2026

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
Snohomish County, Washington

ORDINANCE NO. 26-016

RELATING TO CHILD ENDANGERMENT; PRESCRIBING PENALTIES AND
CREATING A NEW CHAPTER IN TITLE 10 OF THE SNOHOMISH COUNTY CODE

BE IT ORDAINED:

Section 1. A new chapter is added to Title 10 of Snohomish County Code to
read:

Chapter 10.50

ENDANGERMENT WITH A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE

Sections:

10.50.010 Definitions

10.50.020 Endangerment with a controlled substance.

10.50.030 Penalty for violations.

10.50.040 Severability.

10.50.010 Definitions.

When used in this chapter, the following words shall have the meaning and construction
as follows:

- (1) "Cannabis" means all parts of the plant *Cannabis*, whether growing or not, with a THC concentration greater than 0.3 percent on a dry weight basis during the growing cycle through harvest and usable cannabis. "Cannabis" does not include hemp or industrial hemp as defined in RCW 15.140.020, or seeds used for licensed hemp production under chapter 15.140 RCW.
- (2) "Child" means a person under eighteen years of age.
- (3) "Controlled substance" means a drug, substance, or immediate precursor included in Schedules I through V as set forth in federal or state laws, or federal or commission rules, but does not include hemp or industrial hemp as defined in RCW 15.140.020.
- (4) "Dependent person" means a person who, because of physical or mental disability, or because of extreme advanced age, is dependent upon another person to provide the basic necessities of life. A resident of a nursing home, as defined in RCW 18.51.010, a resident of an adult family home, as defined in RCW 70.128.010, and a frail elder or vulnerable adult, as defined in

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1 RCW 74.34.020 (21), is presumed to be a dependent person for purposes of this
2 chapter.

3 (5) "Prescription" means an order for controlled substances issued by a medical
4 practitioner duly authorized by law or rule in the state of Washington to prescribe
5 controlled substances within the scope of his or her professional practice for a
6 legitimate medical purpose.

7
8 **10.50.020 Endangerment with a controlled substance.**
9

10 It is unlawful for any person to knowingly or recklessly permit a child or
11 dependent person to ingest, inhale, or have contact with a controlled substance, other
12 than cannabis, unless the ingestion, inhalation, or contact is made pursuant to a
13 prescription issued to the child or dependent person.

14
15 **10.50.030 Penalty for violations.**
16

17 Any person who violates this chapter is guilty of a gross misdemeanor and upon
18 conviction may be imprisoned for up to three hundred and sixty-four days, or fined not
19 more than five thousand dollars, or both.

20
21 **10.50.040 Severability.**
22

23 If any provision of this chapter or its application to any person or property is held
24 invalid, the remainder of this chapter or the application of the provisions to other
25 persons or property is not affected.

26
27 PASSED this 10th day of June, 2026.
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30 SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
31 Snohomish County, Washington
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34 _____
35 Council Chair
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38 ATTEST:
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41 _____
42 Deputy Clerk of the Council
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1 (X) APPROVED
2 () EMERGENCY
3 () VETOED
4

5 DATE: June 25, 2026

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9 County Executive

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12 ATTEST:

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15 Melissa Geraghty

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18 Approved as to form only:

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20 Marsh, George

Digitally signed by Marsh,
George
Date: 2026.04.23 08:45:34
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22 Deputy Prosecuting Attorney
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