

1 SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL  
2 Snohomish County, Washington

3  
4 ORDINANCE NO. 26-016

5  
6 RELATING TO CHILD ENDANGERMENT; PRESCRIBING PENALTIES AND  
7 CREATING A NEW CHAPTER IN TITLE 10 OF THE SNOHOMISH COUNTY CODE  
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11  
12 BE IT ORDAINED:  
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14  
15 **Section 1.** A new chapter is added to Title 10 of Snohomish County Code to  
16 read:  
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18  
19 Chapter 10.50  
20

21 ENDANGERMENT WITH A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE  
22

23 Sections:

- 24 10.50.010 Definitions  
25 10.50.020 Endangerment with a controlled substance.  
26 10.50.030 Penalty for violations.  
27 10.50.040 Severability.  
28

29 **10.50.010 Definitions.**  
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31 When used in this chapter, the following words shall have the meaning and construction  
32 as follows:  
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- 34 (1) "Cannabis" means all parts of the plant *Cannabis*, whether growing or not, with a  
35 THC concentration greater than 0.3 percent on a dry weight basis during the  
36 growing cycle through harvest and usable cannabis. "Cannabis" does not include  
37 hemp or industrial hemp as defined in RCW 15.140.020, or seeds used for  
38 licensed hemp production under chapter 15.140 RCW.  
39 (2) "Child" means a person under eighteen years of age.  
40 (3) "Controlled substance" means a drug, substance, or immediate precursor  
41 included in Schedules I through V as set forth in federal or state laws, or federal  
42 or commission rules, but does not include hemp or industrial hemp as defined in  
43 RCW 15.140.020.

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NEW CHAPTER IN TITLE 10 OF THE SNOHOMISH COUNTY CODE

- 1 (4) "Dependent person" means a person who, because of physical or mental  
2 disability, or because of extreme advanced age, is dependent upon another  
3 person to provide the basic necessities of life. A resident of a nursing home, as  
4 defined in RCW 18.51.010, a resident of an adult family home, as defined in  
5 RCW 70.128.010, and a frail elder or vulnerable adult, as defined in  
6 RCW 74.34.020 (21), is presumed to be a dependent person for purposes of this  
7 chapter.  
8 (5) "Prescription" means an order for controlled substances issued by a medical  
9 practitioner duly authorized by law or rule in the state of Washington to prescribe  
10 controlled substances within the scope of his or her professional practice for a  
11 legitimate medical purpose.  
12

13 **10.50.020 Endangerment with a controlled substance.**

14  
15 It is unlawful for any person to knowingly or recklessly permit a child or  
16 dependent person to ingest, inhale, or have contact with a controlled substance, other  
17 than cannabis, unless the ingestion, inhalation, or contact is made pursuant to a  
18 prescription issued to the child or dependent person.  
19

20 **10.50.030 Penalty for violations.**

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22 Any person who violates this chapter is guilty of a gross misdemeanor and upon  
23 conviction may be imprisoned for up to three hundred and sixty-four days, or fined not  
24 more than five thousand dollars, or both.  
25

26 **10.50.040 Severability.**

27  
28 If any provision of this chapter or its application to any person or property is held  
29 invalid, the remainder of this chapter or the application of the provisions to other  
30 persons or property is not affected.  
31

32 PASSED this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2026.  
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35 SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL  
36 Snohomish County, Washington  
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39 \_\_\_\_\_  
40 Council Chair  
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ATTEST:

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Asst. Clerk of the Council

- APPROVED
- EMERGENCY
- VETOED

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
County Executive

ATTEST:

Approved as to form only:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Marsh, George

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