

PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR AMENDING PROCLAMATION 20-05 and RESCINDING PROCLAMATIONS 20-06, 20-10, 20-16, 20-17, 20-18, and 20-52, et seq.

20-52.11 Statewide Proclamations Relating to Long-Term Care

WHEREAS, on February 29, 2020, I issued Proclamation 20-05, proclaiming a State of Emergency for all counties throughout the state of Washington as a result of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) outbreak in the United States and confirmed person-to-person spread of COVID-19 in Washington State; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the continued worldwide spread of COVID-19, its significant progression in Washington State, and the high risk it poses to our most vulnerable populations, I have subsequently issued several amendatory proclamations, exercising my emergency powers under RCW 43.06.220 by prohibiting certain activities and waiving and suspending specified laws and regulations; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 disease, caused by a virus that spreads easily from person to person which may result in serious illness or death and has been classified by the World Health Organization as a worldwide pandemic, has broadly spread throughout Washington State and remains a significant health risk to all of our people, especially members of our most vulnerable populations; and

WHEREAS, although the COVID-19 disease continues to persist as an ongoing and present threat in Washington State, the measures we have taken together as Washingtonians over the past 27 months, including the willingness of Washingtonians to take advantage of the remarkable, life-saving vaccines being administered throughout the state, have made a difference and have altered the course of the pandemic in fundamental ways; and

WHEREAS, while COVID-19 appears to be here to stay, recent advances in medicine, including the availability of COVID-19 boosters, vaccines for children 6 months and older, and antivirals are reasons to be hopeful that we will have the tools to protect ourselves and communities from severe disease and death to the greatest extent possible; and

WHEREAS, although Department of Health statistics reflect the continued persistence of COVID-19 and support the continuation of the state of emergency, health experts and epidemiological modeling experts believe that as a state we have made adequate progress against

COVID-19 to rescind and/or modify amendatory proclamations related to specific health issues; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Health has worked diligently to establish a glidepath for licensed health care facilities and professionals to come back into compliance with statutes and rules that were waived or suspended in the Proclamations 20-06, 20-10, 20-16. 20-17, 20-18, and 20-52 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Health and the Department of Social and Health Services will provide technical assistance to relevant licensed facilities, health care providers and professionals as they prepare to come back into compliance with the waived and suspended statutes and rules, and will adopt rules to support this transition; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Health will strongly encourage boards and commissions with independent authority to impose certain requirements that have been waived and suspended to adopt the same approach to promote consistency across all health professions;

WHEREAS, the Washington State Department of Health continues to maintain a Public Health Incident Management Team in coordination with the State Emergency Operations Center and other supporting state agencies to manage the public health aspects of the incident; and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Military Department Emergency Management Division, through the State Emergency Operations Center, continues coordinating resources across state government to support the Department of Health and local health officials in alleviating the impacts to people, property, and infrastructure, and continues coordinating with the Department of Health in assessing the impacts and long-term effects of the incident on Washington State and its people.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, as a result of the above-noted situation, and under Chapters 38.08, 38.52 and 43.06 RCW, do hereby proclaim that a State of Emergency continues to exist in all counties of Washington State, that Proclamation 20-05 and all amendments thereto remain in effect as otherwise amended, and that Proclamation 20-52, et seq., to include the incorporated provisions of Proclamations 20-06, 20-10, 20-16, 20-17, and 20-18, et seq., is terminated and rescinded effective at 12:01 A.M. on October 27, 2022.

I again direct that the plans and procedures of the *Washington State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan* be implemented throughout state government. State agencies and departments are directed to continue utilizing state resources and doing everything reasonably possible to support implementation of the *Washington State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan* and to assist affected political subdivisions in an effort to respond to and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.

I continue to order into active state service the organized militia of Washington State to include the National Guard and the State Guard, or such part thereof as may be necessary in the opinion of The Adjutant General to address the circumstances described above, to perform such duties as directed by competent authority of the Washington State Military Department in addressing the outbreak. Additionally, I continue to direct the Department of Health, the Washington State Military Department Emergency Management Division, and other agencies to identify and provide appropriate personnel for conducting necessary and ongoing incident related assessments.

Violators of this order may be subject to criminal penalties pursuant to RCW 43.06.220(5).

Signed and sealed with the official seal of the state of Washington on this 29th day of July, A.D., Two Thousand and Twenty-Two at Olympia, Washington.

	Ву:
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	Jay Inslee, Governor
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BY THE GOVERNOR:	
/s/	
Secretary of State	