STATE OF WASHINGTON
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR JAY INSLEE

PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR
AMENDING PROCLAMATIONS 20-05 and 20-25, et seq.

20-25.12

"HEALTHY WASHINGTON – ROADMAP TO RECOVERY"

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, I issued Proclamations 20-25, et seq., first entitled "Stay Home – Stay Healthy," in which I initially prohibited all people in Washington State from leaving their homes except under certain circumstances, which I later amended to "Safe Start – Stay Healthy – County-By-County Phased Reopening," gradually relaxing those limitations based on county-by-county phasing, and on November 16, 2020 again amended 20-25, et seq., to "Stay Safe – Stay Healthy – Rollback of County-By-County Phased Reopening Responding to a COVID-19 Outbreak Surge," in response to a large surge of new cases of COVID-19, increased hospitalizations and ongoing COVID-19 related deaths in Washington State; and

WHEREAS, on July 2, 2020, due to the increased COVID-19 infection rates across the state, I ordered a freeze on all counties moving forward to a subsequent phase and on July 24, 2020, the Secretary of Health issued *Order of the Secretary of Health 20-03.1*, found here, which, among other things, requires (with exceptions) the use of face coverings throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, there is evidence that the virus is spread through very small droplets called aerosols that are expelled from our mouths when we breathe, talk, sing, vocalize, cough, or sneeze, that these aerosols linger in air, and that a significant risk factor for spreading the virus is prolonged, close contact with an infected person indoors, especially in poorly ventilated spaces; and

WHEREAS, we know that several factors increase the risk for person-to-person COVID-19 transmission; such factors include (1) the more that people and groups interact, (2) the longer those

interactions last, (3) the closer the contact between individuals, and (4) the denser the occupancy for indoor facilities; and

WHEREAS, despite an increase in infections, hospitalizations, and deaths this fall and winter, Washington State has avoided overwhelming the state's health care systems throughout this pandemic through rigorous safety and prevention measures, such as physical distancing and masking, as well as social and economic prohibitions; and

WHEREAS, a new and more contagious coronavirus variant, first identified in the United Kingdom and confirmed to now be in at least seven U.S. states and 33 countries, and a second new and more contagious coronavirus, first identified in South Africa, threaten to further strain our health care systems and therefore demand even more vigilance in our prevention measures; and

WHEREAS, now that two vaccines have been approved for use in the United States and efforts to vaccinate the most vulnerable populations are underway, it is appropriate to create a new roadmap to recovery that establishes the goal of safely easing some restrictions while also maintaining crucial hospital capacity, ensuring care for Washingtonians who need it, paving the way for economic recovery, and maintaining flexibility to quickly pivot to increase restrictions if needed; and

WHEREAS, achieving the goal that our health care systems are not overwhelmed during this pandemic is better and more appropriately served by shifting from a county-by-county approach to a regional approach that is substantially similar to existing emergency medical services regions; and

WHEREAS, the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic and its progression in Washington State continue to threaten the life and health of our people as well as the economy of Washington State, and remain a public disaster affecting life, health, property or the public peace; and

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; and

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 and order that a State of Emergency continues to exist in all counties of Washington State, that Proclamation 20-05, as amended, remains in effect, and that, to help preserve and maintain life, health, property or the public peace pursuant to RCW 43.06.220(1)(h), Proclamation 20-25, et seq., remains in full force and effect, but is hereby amended to be renamed "Healthy Washington – Roadmap To

Recovery." This *Healthy Washington – Roadmap To Recovery*, found here, extends all of the prohibitions described in Proclamations 20-25, et seq., except as amended herein.

FURTHERMORE, for purposes of the prohibitions contained in the *Healthy Washington – Roadmap To Recovery*, every county is part of a region, and all regions begin in Phase 1 as of the effective date of this order. Any activities not specifically addressed in the *Healthy Washington – Roadmap To Recovery* plan are subject to previously issued guidance related to that activity as it applies to the region's current or subsequent phase.

ADDITIONALLY, in furtherance of these prohibitions and for general awareness:

1. *Order of the Secretary of Health 20-03.1*, issued on July 24, 2020, is incorporated by reference, and may be amended as is necessary; and, all such amendments are also incorporated by reference.
2. Employers must comply with all conditions for operation required by the state Department of Labor & Industries, including interpretive guidance, regulations and rules such as WAC 296-800-14035, and Department of Labor & Industries-administered statutes.
3. Everyone is required to cooperate with public health authorities in the investigation of cases, suspected cases, outbreaks, and suspected outbreaks of COVID-19 and with the implementation of infection control measures pursuant to State Board of Health rule in WAC 246-101-425.
4. All mandatory guidelines for businesses and activities, which remain in effect except as modified by this Proclamation and the *Order of the Secretary of Health 20-03.1*, may be found at the Governor's Office website, *COVID-19 Resources and Information*, and at *COVID-19 Reopening Guidance for Businesses and Workers*.

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). Further, if people fail to comply with the required social distancing and other protective measures while

engaging in this phased reopening, I may be forced to reinstate the prohibitions established in earlier proclamations.

This order is effective immediately. Unless extended or amended, upon expiration or termination of this amendatory proclamation the provisions of Proclamation 20-25, et seq., will continue to be in effect until the state of emergency, issued on February 29, 2020, pursuant to Proclamation 20-05, is rescinded.

Signed and sealed with the official seal of the state of Washington on this 11th day of January, A.D., Two Thousand and Twenty-One at Olympia, Washington.

By:

/s/
Jay Inslee, Governor

BY THE GOVERNOR:

/s/
Secretary of State