JAY INSLEE
Governor

STATE OF WASHINGTON
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PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR
AMENDING PROCLAMATION 20-05

20-15
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING

WHEREAS, on February 29, 2020, I issued Proclamation 20-05, proclaiming a State of Emergency for all counties throughout 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 amendatory Proclamations 20-06, 20-07, 20-08, 20-09, 20-10, 20-11, 20-12, 20-13, and 20-14, 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, continues to broadly spread throughout Washington State; and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Department of Licensing (DOL) operates 56 driver licensing offices around the state where applicants for driver licenses and state identification cards may be required to be photographed and also take an eye exam using shared eye examination equipment; and

WHEREAS, approximately 200,000 people a month visit the 56 (DOL) driver licensing offices for renewal or initial issuance of a driver license or state identification card; and

WHEREAS, to curtail the spread of COVID-19 in Washington State, it is necessary to implement additional social distancing actions and take other significant measures to limit opportunities for disease transmission and infection, including in the operation of DOL driver license offices serving large numbers of people on a daily basis; and

WHEREAS, the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic and it's progression throughout Washington State continues to threaten the life and health of our people as well as the economy of Washington State, and remains a public disaster affecting life, health, property or the public peace; and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) 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 this ongoing 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 DOH and local health officials in alleviating the impacts to people, property, and infrastructure, and continues coordinating with the DOH in assessing the impacts and long-term effects of the incident on Washington State and its people.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor 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 Washington State counties, that Proclamations 20-05, 20-06, 20-07, 20-08, 20-09, 20-10, 20-11, 20-12, 20-13, and 20-14 remain in effect, and that Proclamation 20-05 is amended to waive specific statutes pertaining to DOL eye examinations and renewals of driver licenses and identification cards, as provided herein.

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. Also, I continue to direct the DOH, 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.

FURTHERMORE, based on the above noted situation and under the provisions of RCW 43.06.220(2)(g), I also find that strict compliance with the following statutory and regulatory obligations or limitations will prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action for coping with the COVID-19 State of Emergency when conducting eye examinations and renewals of driver licenses and identification cards at Washington State DOL driver licensing offices throughout the state, and that the language of each statutory provision specified below is hereby waived and suspended as provided herein until midnight on April 15, 2020:

1. RCW 46.20.130(1)(a) in its entirety, effective immediately.
2. RCW 46.20.120(3)(b) (waiving and suspending only ", if permitted by rule of the department and if the applicant did not renew his or her license by mail or by electronic commerce when it last expired."), effective beginning March 23, 2020.
3. RCW 46.20.117(3)(b) (waiving and suspending only ", if permitted by rule of the department and if the applicant did not renew his or her identicard by mail or by electronic commerce when it last expired."), effective beginning March 23, 2020.

Violators of this 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 16th day of March, A.D., Two Thousand and Twenty at Olympia, Washington.

By:

/s/
Jay Inslee, Governor

BY THE GOVERNOR:

/s/
Secretary of State