STATE OF WASHINGTON
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR JAY INSLEE

PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR
AMENDING PROCLAMATIONS 20-05 AND 20-83

20-83.1
Restrictions on Travelers

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 subsequently amended based on changing COVID-19 activity in Washington. That order is now entitled "Healthy Washington – Roadmap to Recovery" and enacts a flexible, science-based matrix based on COVID-19 activity to set appropriate restrictions for Washington's counties; and

WHEREAS, although COVID-19-related cases, hospitalizations and deaths have consistently declined since early January 2021, health experts advise that these declines should not induce complacency in non-pharmaceutical interventions because significant cause for concern continues due to the emergence and exponential growth of COVID-19 variants, including but not limited to the B.1.1.7 variant; and

WHEREAS, there is evidence that the virus can be 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, 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, the Washington State Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have provided health and safety guidance to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 generally and in specific sectors, environments, and settings, yet many individuals

continue to disregard this guidance, and person-to-person interactions, including gatherings, have led to many infections and are a significant factor in the new COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations currently being experienced in Washington; and

WHEREAS, new variants of COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2 virus, 501Y.V) have been identified in the United Kingdom, South Africa and other countries, which may be more transmissible than other variants; and

WHEREAS, in January 2021, evidence of a potentially fast-spreading strain of the coronavirus known as B.1.1.7 was found in Washington State, and in February 2021, evidence of the B.1.351 variant was also found in Washington; and

WHEREAS, on January 12, 2021, the CDC issued an order establishing new travel requirements for all air passengers coming to the United States, including U.S. citizens, which, among other things, requires that all passengers obtain a negative COVID-19 test result or documentation of recovery from COVID-19 before boarding a flight to the United States, and the order further requires that all travelers wear a face covering on planes, buses, trains, and other forms of public transportation traveling into, within, or out of the United States and in U.S. transportation hubs such as airports and stations; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19, 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 among our most vulnerable populations; 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 and all amendments thereto remain in effect, and that, to help preserve and maintain life, health, property or the public peace, pursuant to RCW 43.06.220(1)(h), I amend Proclamations 20-05 and 20-83 to prohibit travel to the State of Washington as set out below.

ACCORDINGLY, pursuant to RCW 43.06.220(1)(h), I hereby prohibit any individual from

traveling by air from any location outside of the United States to Washington state, directly or indirectly, unless that individual complies with the requirements established by the CDC that can be found at this website. Individuals exempted from the CDC requirements are also exempt from this proclamation.

FURTHERMORE, in collaboration with the Washington State Department of Health, in furtherance of the physical, mental, and economic well-being of all Washingtonians, I will continue to analyze the data and epidemiological modeling and adjust guidance accordingly.

ADDITIONALLY, as a reminder, a travel advisory for all non-essential travel, issued on November 13, 2020, remains in effect. That advisory provides the following guidance:

1. Persons arriving in Washington from other states or countries, including returning Washington residents, should self-quarantine for 14 days after arrival. These persons should limit their interactions to their immediate household; and
2. Washingtonians are encouraged to stay home or in their region and avoid non-essential travel to other states or countries.

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 as amended.
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. Guidelines for other travel may be found at the CDC's website.

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.

Unless extended or amended, this proclamation 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 1st day of March, A.D., Two Thousand and Twenty-One at Olympia, Washington.

By:

/s/
Jay Inslee, Governor

BY THE GOVERNOR:

/s/
Secretary of State