JAY INSLEE
Governor

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PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR
EXTENDING PROCLAMATIONS 20-08 AND 20-09

20-09.1

Statewide K-12 School Closures

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 amendatory Proclamations 20-06, 20-07, 20-08, 20-09, 20-10, 20-11, 20-12, 20-13, 20-14, 20-15, 20-16, 20-17, 20-18, 20-19, 20-20, 20-21, 20-22, 20-23, 20-24, 20-25, 20-26, 20-27, 20-28, 20-29, 20-30, 20-31, 20-32, 20-33, 20-34, 20-35, 20-36, 20-37, 20-38, 20-39, 20-40, 20-41, and 20-42, 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, significantly increasing the threat of serious associated health risks statewide; and

WHEREAS, as a result of increasing rates of COVID-19 related infections, hospitalizations and death, I issued Proclamation 20-25.1 on April 2, 2020, extending Proclamation 20-25 "Stay Home – Stay Healthy", continuing the prohibitions on all people in Washington State from leaving their homes or participating in social, spiritual and recreational gatherings of any kind regardless of the number of participants, and all non-essential businesses in Washington State from conducting business, within the limitations therein, until May 4, 2020; and

WHEREAS, there are currently at least 7,984 cases of COVID-19 in Washington State with 338 associated deaths, and models predict that many hospitals in Washington State may reach capacity or become overwhelmed with COVID-19 patients within the next few weeks unless we significantly slow its spread throughout the State; and

WHEREAS, to curtail the spread of COVID-19 in Washington State, protect our people from its effects, and reduce the impact on our health care system, it is necessary to continue stringent social distancing and sanitation requirements, restrictions on gatherings and personal interactions, and closure of our K-12 schools statewide; and

WHEREAS, the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic and its progression in 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 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 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 as otherwise amended, and that, to help preserve and maintain life, health, property or the public peace pursuant to RCW 43.06.220(1)(h), Proclamations 20-08 and 20-09 (Statewide K-12 School Closures) are amended to extend the prohibitions and expiration dates therein, unless modified herein, until 11:59 p.m. on June 19, 2020. All other provisions of Proclamations 20-08 and 20-09 shall remain in full force and effect. Although all prohibitions in 20-08 and 20-09 are extended by this order, the following prohibitions that apply in all counties of the state of Washington are repeated here as a convenience to the reader:

- Each public school district, charter school, and private school is prohibited from conducting in-person educational, recreational, and other K-12 school programs using their school facilities; and

- The Washington Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Youth, the Washington School for the Deaf, and the Washington State School for the Blind are prohibited from conducting student educational and outreach services.

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.

ADDITIONALLY, although all other provisions of Proclamations 20-08 and 20-09 are extended by this order, the following provisions in 20-08 and 20-09 are repeated here as a convenience to the reader:

- Nothing in this order shall be construed as precluding a public school district, charter school, or private school from using their school facilities to provide childcare, nutrition programs, and other social services necessary to preserve and maintain life, health, property or the public peace.

- Further, nothing in this order shall be construed as precluding public school districts, charter schools, or private schools from providing supports to students necessary to meet course and credit requirements for high school graduation.

FURTHERMORE, if a public school or private school determines that the provision of in-person educational services on the premises of a school facility is essential and necessary under state or federal law, nothing in this order precludes the school from providing the services on site. However, schools are prohibited from providing these essential and necessary services unless state Department of Health guidelines for social distancing and proper hygiene practices are followed at all times.

FURTHERMORE, I strongly encourage all K-12 schools subject to this extension of Proclamations 20-08 and 20-09 to continue providing distance learning services through June 19, 2020, to the extent reasonably possible.

ADDITIONALLY, consistent with receiving ongoing school apportionment funding, I strongly encourage school districts, and the exclusive representatives of school employees, to continue to work together to ensure distance learning opportunities for all students during the duration of the school closure.

ADDITIONALLY, I encourage all K-12 schools subject to this extension of Proclamations 20-08 and 20-09 to immediately plan for the potential extension of these prohibitions into the summer and fall of 2020, should it be determined necessary to help preserve and maintain life, health, property or the public peace in response to the COVID-19 State of Emergency.

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 6th day of April, A.D., Two Thousand and Twenty at Olympia, Washington.

By:

/s/
Jay Inslee, Governor

BY THE GOVERNOR:

/s/
Secretary of State