JAY INSLEE
Governor

STATE OF WASHINGTON
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PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR
AMENDING PROCLAMATIONS 20-05, 20-06 AND 20-07

20-08

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, on March 10, 2020, as a result of significant risks from COVID-19 to persons living in congregate care settings, I issued Proclamation 20-06 amending Proclamation 20-05, to prohibit certain activities and waiving and suspending specified laws and regulations; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, as a result of community spread of COVID-19 in King, Pierce and Snohomish counties, I issued Proclamation 20-07, amending Proclamations 20-05 and 20-06, to prohibit social, spiritual and recreational gatherings of 250 people or more; and

WHERESAS, the spread of COVID-19, a respiratory disease that spreads easily from person to person and may result in serious illness or death, continues to expand throughout our State, with the confirmed number of cases in the Puget Sound region expected to double every five to seven days, without any expectation of ending soon; and

WHEREAS, as of March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization has classified the global spread of COVID-19 as a pandemic, and has urged all governments throughout the world to take action now to stem the spread of the disease; and

WHEREAS, to curtail the spread of COVID-19 in Washington State, it is necessary to implement additional stringent social distancing and other measures to limit opportunities for disease transmission, especially in those areas of our State experiencing the most severe outbreaks, to include King, Pierce and Snohomish counties; and

WHEREAS, while implementation of restrictions on large social, spiritual, and recreational gatherings in King, Pierce and Snohomish counties is one necessary piece of a successful strategy for limiting transmission and spread of COVID-19, it must be supplemented by additional measures to help prevent initial exposure and secondary transmission; and

WHEREAS, many schools in King, Pierce and Snohomish counties are experiencing significant student and staff absences, resulting is some schools having difficulty providing adequate staffing; 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 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 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 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 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 Proclamations 20-05, 20-06 and 20-07 remain in effect and are amended to prohibit public school districts, charter schools, and private schools in King, Pierce and Snohomish counties from conducting in-person educational, recreational, and other K-12 school programs in their school facilities as provided herein, and that a State of Emergency continues to exist in all counties of Washington State.

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 epidemic.

As a result of this event, 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 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 situation and under the provisions of RCW 43.06.220(1)(h), to help preserve and maintain life, health, property or the public peace, I hereby prohibit the following activities by public school districts, charter schools, and private schools in King, Pierce and Snohomish counties, which restrictions shall remain in effect from 12:01 a.m. on March 17, 2020, until 12:00 p.m. on April 24, 2020, unless extended beyond that date:

> Each public school district, charter school, and private school located in King, Pierce and Snohomish counties is prohibited from conducting in-person educational, recreational, and other K-12 school programs using their school facilities. In addition to school districts lying wholly within King, Pierce, or Snohomish counties, the following joint school districts are subject to this order: Bainbridge Island, Stanwood-Camano, and Darrington.
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> Additionally, 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 in King, Pierce and Snohomish counties.
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> Nothing in this order shall be construed as precluding a public school district, charter school, or private school located in King, Pierce, or Snohomish counties 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.

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 12th day of March, A.D., Two Thousand and Twenty at Olympia, Washington.

By:

/s/
Jay Inslee, Governor

BY THE GOVERNOR:

/s/
Secretary of State