PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR
AMENDING PROCLAMATIONS 20-05 and 20-06

20-16
Statewide Limits on LTC – No Visitors

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, and 20-15, exercising my emergency powers under RCW 43.06.220 by prohibiting certain activities and waiving and suspending specified laws and regulations; and

WHEREAS, since Proclamation 20-06 issued, the spread of COVID-19 has been classified by the World Health Organization as a pandemic that spreads easily from person to person and may result in serious illness or death; and

WHEREAS, since Proclamation 20-06 issued, the COVID-19 disease has spread quickly across the state of Washington, beyond the original community outbreaks in King, Pierce, and Snohomish counties, drastically increasing the threat of significant associated health risks statewide; and

WHEREAS, the risk of severe illness and death from COVID-19 appears to be higher in those members of our population who are 60 years of age and older and those with chronic health conditions; and

WHEREAS, there is an increased risk of rapid spread of COVID-19 among persons who are living in congregate residential settings are at increased risk for severe COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, infected facility staff and visitors can introduce a virus into the population and start an outbreak; and

WHEREAS, the worldwide outbreak of COVID-19 and the resulting pandemic in Washington State continue 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 and 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, is to continue coordinating resources across state government to support the Department of Health and local officials in alleviating the impacts to people, property, and infrastructure, and is to continue coordinating with the Washington State Department of Health in assessing the magnitude 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 a state of emergency continues to exist in all counties of Washington State, Proclamation 20-05, and all amendments thereto, remain in effect, and Proclamation 20-06, pertaining to prohibitions on the admission of visitors of residents of nursing homes and assisted living facilities, is amended as provided herein. I again direct that the plans and procedures of the Washington State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan be implemented. State agencies and departments are directed to continue utilizing state resources and doing everything reasonably possible 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 Washington State 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.

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 amend Proclamation 20-06 to include the following comprehensive list of facilities subject to the prohibitions of Proclamation 20-06:

1. State operated Adult psychiatric facilities including Western State Hospital, Eastern State Hospital - RCW 72.23.020
2. The Special Commitment Center on McNeil Island - RCW 71.09.020(19)
3. The King County Secure Community Transition Facility - RCW 71.09.020(15)
4. The Pierce County Secure Community Transition Facility on McNeil Island - RCW 71.09.020(15)
5. The Fort Steilacoom Competency Restoration Program, Residential Treatment Facility – RCW 10.77
6. Maple Lane Competency Restoration Program, Residential Treatment Facility – RCW 10.77
7. Yakima Competency Restoration Program, Residential Treatment Facility – RCW 10.77
9. State Operated Living Alternatives - RCW 71A.12
10. Nursing Facilities – RCW 18.51 and RCW 74.42
11. Assisted Living Facilities - RCW 18.20
12. Adult Family Homes - RCW 70.128
13. Enhanced Service Facilities - RCW 70.97

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 also amend Proclamation 20-06 to prohibit owners, administrators, operators, staff, contractors, and volunteers of a facility listed herein from allowing any person, including friends or family, to enter the facility to visit a resident. This prohibition does not apply to end of life situations or to visits by attorneys, administrative law judges, advocates or similar persons who represent a resident. Further, it does not apply to vendors or volunteers who supply or work in a facility. However, all persons who enter a facility must meet all other prohibitions and requirements set out in Proclamation 20-06.

These prohibitions shall remain in effect until midnight on April 9, 2020. All other provisions of Proclamation 20-06 remain in effect.

All persons are advised of potential criminal penalties for violation of this order 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