



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
— OFFICE OF GOVERNOR JAY INSLEE —

**PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR**

**23-02**

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with Article II, Section 12 (Amendment 68) of the Washington State Constitution, the Legislature adjourned its 2023 regular session on April 23, 2023, the 105<sup>th</sup> day of the session; and

**WHEREAS**, work remains to be done with respect to approving a “Blake fix” before July 1, 2023, to ensure that knowing and unlawful drug possession is not decriminalized, establish a pretrial diversion program, and provide additional treatment facilities and services for people with substance use disorders; and

**WHEREAS**, if lawmakers fail to approve a statewide “Blake fix” before July 1, 2023, local jurisdictions may fill the void by passing their own drug possession regulations, resulting in an unwieldy patchwork of drug possession regulations that will vary from one local jurisdiction to the next; and

**WHEREAS**, funding for diversion and treatment is attached to the “Blake fix” bill, and failure to timely pass the bill will reduce the much needed financial support to establish and enhance these programs.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, by virtue of the authority vested in me by Article II, Section 12 (Amendment 68) and Article III, Section 7 of the Washington State Constitution, do hereby convene the Washington State Legislature in Special Session in the Capitol at Olympia on Tuesday, May 16, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. for the purpose of enacting legislation as described above.

Signed and sealed with the official seal of the state of Washington this 4th day of May, A.D. Two-thousand and Twenty-three at Olympia, Washington.

By:

/s/  
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Jay Inslee, Governor

BY THE GOVERNOR:

/s/  
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Secretary of State