

JAY INSLEE  
Governor



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
Office of the Governor

November 13, 2020

The Honorable Donald J. Trump  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As anticipated, Washington State is experiencing a winter surge in positive COVID-19 cases. At the same time, our state is making preparations to efficiently distribute the highly anticipated vaccines. We continue to rely on essential help from the Washington National Guard to ensure an effective response across our state, especially during this critical time.

Given that, I request the extension of authority and additional funding under 502(f)(2)(A) of Title 32, U.S. Code for Washington National Guard employment in support of Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic emergency response operations. Under this title, you can provide this authority and additional funding for National Guard resources to respond to incidents requiring resources essential for the preservation of life and property.

Currently, more than 800 Citizen-Soldiers and Airmen are assisting with critical missions that keep our food banks operational and our neighbors fed. With the expected arrival of vaccines, we anticipate using critical National Guard resources to help distribute vaccines and support the immunization process. Additionally, uniquely skilled National Guard planners are assisting our COVID-19 food security team and other state agencies to ensure we meet the health and welfare needs of Washingtonians through our phased re-opening plan.

The state of Washington and the Washington National Guard request an extension with 100 percent FEMA reimbursement for personnel-days and other associated costs related to the COVID-19 pandemic response through March 31, 2021. This extension will help ensure a smooth transition of National Guard operations to civilian personnel as social restrictions are lifted.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this time-sensitive matter.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jay Inslee".

Jay Inslee  
Governor

CC: Christopher C. Miller, Acting Secretary, U.S. Department of Defense  
Peter T. Gaynor, Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency

