WHEREAS, from December 10, 2018, through December 25, 2018, a severe winter storm system struck Washington State, producing high winds, an EF2 Tornado, and extreme rainfall resulting in major flooding, downed trees, landslides, and mudslides; and

WHEREAS, the winds and heavy rainfall from this storm system caused injuries, significant power outages, road closures, and extensive damage to homes, businesses, public utilities, public facilities, electrical power systems, and infrastructure throughout western Washington; and

WHEREAS, state agencies and local jurisdictions are coordinating resources to assess damage and implement repairs to damaged property and infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, damage from the storm system is estimated in excess of $12 million for restoration of power and repairs to damaged public and private property and other infrastructure systems that will require the implementation of emergency procurement procedures to alleviate impacts to public safety; and

WHEREAS, the storm system and its effects continue to impact the life and health of the people, property, and infrastructure of Washington State, and is a public disaster that affects life, health, property or the public peace; and

WHEREAS, the Washington Military Department monitored and coordinated supporting actions through the State Emergency Operations Center, implemented emergency response procedures, and coordinated resources to support local officials in alleviating the immediate social and economic impacts to people, property, and infrastructure, and is continuing to assess the magnitude of the event; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay R. Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, as a result of the above-noted situation and under Chapters 38.52 and 43.06 RCW, do hereby proclaim that a State of Emergency exists in Clallam, Grays Harbor, Island, Jefferson, King, Kitsap, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, Pierce, Skagit, Snohomish, Thurston, and Whatcom Counties in the state of Washington, and direct the plans and procedures in the Washington State Comprehensive
Emergency Management Plan be implemented. State agencies and departments are directed to utilize state resources in accordance with the Washington State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan and to do everything reasonably possible to assist affected political subdivisions in an effort to respond to and recover from the event.

Signed and sealed with the official seal of the state of Washington on this 15th day of February A.D., Two Thousand and Nineteen at Olympia, Washington.

By:

/s/
Jay Inslee, Governor

BY THE GOVERNOR:

/s/
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Secretary of State