

## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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## PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR AMENDING PROCLAMATION 20-05

## 20-62

## Department of Social and Health Services, Developmental Disabilities Administration – Assessments and Reviews

**WHEREAS**, on February 29, 2020, I issued Proclamation 20-05, proclaiming a State of Emergency for all counties throughout Washington State 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 through 20-53, and 20-55 through 20-61, exercising my emergency powers under RCW 43.06.220 by prohibiting certain activities and waiving and suspending specified laws and regulations; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 disease, caused by a virus that spreads easily from person to person which may result in serious illness or death and has been classified by the World Health Organization as a worldwide pandemic, has broadly spread throughout Washington State, significantly increasing the threat of serious associated health risks statewide; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic is causing a sustained global economic slowdown, which is causing an economic downturn throughout Washington State with layoffs and reduced work hours for a significant percentage of our workforce due to the closure of nonessential businesses; and

WHEREAS, Washington State recognizes the capacity of all persons, including those with developmental disabilities, to be personally and socially productive, and recognizes the state's obligation to provide assistance to persons with developmental disabilities through a uniform, coordinated system of services to enable them to achieve a greater measure of independence and fulfillment and to enjoy all rights under law; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with statutory authority and adopted rules, the Department of Social and Health Services, Developmental Disabilities Administration provides assistance and protection to, and advocacy for, persons with developmental disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the response to and impacts of the COVID-19 State of Emergency has significantly impacted the Developmental Disabilities Administration's ability to conduct face-to-face meetings with persons with developmental disabilities who are receiving services by and through the Developmental Disabilities Administration, as currently mandated by statute; and

WHEREAS, the response to and impacts of the COVID-19 State of Emergency have significantly impacted the Developmental Disabilities Administration's ability to adequately staff various administrative and operational activities, including the ability to meet certain statutorily mandated time limits to conduct reviews, assessments, and notification of services being provided by the Developmental Disabilities Administration; and

WHEREAS, the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic and its progression 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 or 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, continues coordinating resources across state government to support the Department of Health and local health officials in alleviating the impacts to people, property, and infrastructure, and continues coordinating with the Department of Health 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 a State of Emergency continues to exist in all counties of Washington State, that Proclamation 20-05, as amended remains in effect, and that Proclamation 20-05 is amended to waive and suspend specified statutes that prevent, hinder or delay necessary action by interfering with the Developmental Disabilities Administration's ability to provide services to clients and to meet certain statutory guidelines and requirements.

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 pandemic.

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

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(2)(g), I also find that strict compliance with the following statutory and regulatory obligations or limitations will risk reducing the availability of essential services and prevent, hinder, or delay the response to the COVID-19 pandemic State of Emergency under Proclamation 20-05, and that the portion or language of each statutory and regulatory provision specified below is hereby waived and suspended in its <u>entirety</u>, except as otherwise provided herein, until 11:59 p.m. on August 7, 2020:

- 1. RCW 71A.12.250(2), the following language only: "every ninety days"
- 2. RCW 71A.12.310
- 3. RCW 71A.12.320(2)(b)

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 8th day of July, A.D., Two Thousand and Twenty at Olympia, Washington.

	By:	
	<u>/s/</u>	
	Jay Inslee, Governor	
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DV THE COVEDNOD.		
BY THE GOVERNOR:		
/s/		
Secretary of State		