



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
— OFFICE OF GOVERNOR JAY INSLEE —

**PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR  
AMENDING PROCLAMATION 20-05 and  
RESCINDING PROCLAMATION 20-66, et seq.**

**20-66.6**

**Long-Term Care – Operations and Visitation**

**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 several amendatory proclamations, 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 and remains a significant health risk to all of our people, especially members of our most vulnerable populations; 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 remain a public disaster affecting life, health, property or the public peace; 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 live and work in congregate settings, and many residents of long-term care facilities are at increased risk for severe COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, facility residents, staff, vendors, and visitors can introduce COVID-19 into the facility and start an outbreak or spread an existing outbreak into a new population; and

**WHEREAS**, congregate settings have experienced both the earliest and some of the most severe outbreaks of COVID-19 in Washington State; and

**WHEREAS**, I previously issued Proclamations 20-06, 20-10, 20-16, 20-17, and 20-18, all of which were incorporated into one Proclamation, Proclamation 20-52 et seq., waiving and suspending specified statutes and rules and prohibiting specified activities related to congregate living and care facilities and

other subjects; and

**WHEREAS**, because the waivers, suspensions and prohibitions contained in Proclamation 20-52, et seq., addresses a variety of topics some of which are also addressed by other proclamations, orders and guidance documents, I issued Proclamations 20-65, 20-66, and 20-74 dividing some of the waivers, suspensions and prohibitions into their topical areas and cross reference applicable orders and guidance documents to assist in the understanding, administration and implementation of those waivers, suspensions and prohibitions; and

**WHEREAS**, under the provisions of RCW 43.06.220(4), the statutory waivers and suspensions in Proclamation 20-66, et seq., including all of the prior proclamations' statutory waivers and suspensions, and prohibitions, contained therein, have been amended and extended pursuant to statute, and further extended by legislative action; and

**WHEREAS**, although COVID-19 continues as an ongoing and present threat in Washington State, the measures we have taken together as Washingtonians over the past 27 months, including the willingness of most Washingtonians to take advantage of the remarkable, life-saving vaccines being administered throughout the state, have made a difference and have altered the course of the pandemic in fundamental ways; and

**WHEREAS**, while COVID-19 appears to be here to stay, recent advances in medicine, including the availability of COVID-19 boosters, vaccines for children 6 months and older, and antivirals are reasons to be hopeful that we will have the tools to protect ourselves and communities from severe disease and death to the greatest extent possible; and

**WHEREAS**, although Department of Health statistics reflect the continued persistence of COVID-19 and support the continuation of the state of emergency, health experts and epidemiological modeling experts believe that as a state we have made adequate progress against COVID-19 to rescind and/or modify amendatory proclamations related to specific health issues; and

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Health and the Department of Social and Health Services have worked diligently to establish a glidepath for licensed health care facilities to come back into compliance with statutes and rules that were waived or suspended in Proclamations 20-66 et seq., and 20-52 et seq.; 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; and

**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 and all amendments thereto remain in effect as otherwise amended, and that Proclamation 20-66, et seq., is terminated and rescinded effective 12:01 A.M. on October 27, 2022.

