WHEREAS, a truck with an over-height commercial load struck the Olympic Drive bridge crossing over State Route 16 in Pierce County, Washington, on March 17, 2013, causing significant damage to a horizontal concrete support beam, exposing and fracturing numerous reinforcing bars reducing the beam’s integrity and strength, and requiring closure of the pedestrian walkway immediately above the impacted beam; and

WHEREAS, the estimated cost to repair the damage is $900,000. Repairs and necessary interstate highway closures require the approval of Washington’s Secretary of Transportation. These emergency conditions caused and may continue to warrant temporary closure of or limited access to affected roadways for a significant period; and

WHEREAS, the roadway damage and its effects continue to impact the life and health of our citizens, as well as the property and transportation infrastructure of Washington State, all of which affect life, health, property, or the public peace, and is a public disaster demanding immediate action.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay 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 Pierce County 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 and to do everything reasonably possible to assist affected political subdivisions in an effort to respond to and recover from the incident.

Signed and sealed with the official seal of the state of Washington this 22nd day of April, A.D., Two Thousand and Thirteen at Olympia, Washington.

By:

/s/
Jay Inslee, Governor

BY THE GOVERNOR:

/s/
Secretary of State