



**PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR  
AMENDING PROCLAMATIONS 20-05, 20-06, and 20-16**

**20-17**

**Statewide Limits on LTC – No Visitors Amendment**

**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 amendatory Proclamations 20-06, 20-07, 20-08, 20-09, 20-10, 20-11, 20-12, 20-13, 20-14, 20-15, and 20-16, exercising my emergency powers under RCW 43.06.220 by prohibiting certain activities and waiving and suspending specified laws and regulations; and

**WHEREAS**, since Proclamation 20-06 issued, the spread of COVID-19 has been classified by the World Health Organization as a pandemic that spreads easily from person to person and may result in serious illness or death; and

**WHEREAS**, since Proclamation 20-06 issued, the COVID-19 disease has spread quickly across the state of Washington, beyond the original community outbreaks in King, Pierce, and Snohomish counties, drastically increasing the threat of significant associated health risks statewide; 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, those with chronic health conditions; and

**WHEREAS**, there is an increased risk of rapid spread of COVID-19 among persons who are living in congregate settings, such as long term care and treatment facilities, and most residents of long term care or treatment facilities are at increased risk for severe COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, infected facility staff and visitors can introduce a virus into the population and start an outbreak; and

**WHEREAS**, the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting epidemic 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 and the public peace; and

**WHEREAS**, the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) 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, is to continue coordinating resources across state government to support the Department of Health and local officials in alleviating the impacts to people, property, and infrastructure, and is to continue coordinating with the (DOH) in assessing the magnitude 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 and all amendments thereto remain in effect, and that Proclamations 20-6 and 20-16, pertaining to prohibitions on the admission of visitors of residents to a comprehensive list of facilities, is amended as provided herein. I again direct that the plans and procedures of the *Washington State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan* be implemented. State agencies and departments are directed to continue utilizing state resources and doing everything reasonably possible to assist affected political subdivisions in an effort to respond to and recover from the COVID-19 epidemic.

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 DOH, 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(1)(h) to help preserve and maintain life, health, property or the public peace, I hereby amend Proclamation 20-06 and 20-16 to add the following facilities to the comprehensive list of facilities that are prohibited from the acts listed in Proclamation 20-06 and 20-16:

1. Evaluation and Treatment Facilities - RCW 71.05 and RCW 71.34
2. Residential Treatment Facilities - RCW 71.12

**ADDITIONALLY**, based on the above situation, and to support implementation of the activities prohibited above, and under the provisions of RCW 43.06.220(2)(g), I also hereby find that strict compliance with the following statutory and regulatory obligations or limitations will prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with the COVID-19 State of Emergency under Proclamation 20-05, and that the language of each statutory and regulatory provision specified below is hereby waived and suspended until midnight on April 16, 2020, as it applies to the facilities listed above:

1. RCW 71.05.217(4), in its entirety:  
“(4) To have visitors at reasonable times;”
2. RCW 71.05.360(10)(d), in its entirety:  
“(d) To have visitors at reasonable times;”
3. RCW 71.34.355(4), in its entirety:  
“(4) To have visitors at reasonable times;”

