

State of  
Washington  
House of  
Representatives



Delivered Via Electronic Mail

April 15, 2021

The Honorable Jay Inslee  
Governor  
State of Washington  
P.O. Box 40002  
Olympia, WA 98504

Dear Governor Inslee:

We are writing to express our concern regarding your decision to move Cowlitz, Pierce and Whitman counties back to Phase 2 of your Healthy Washington plan.

It's been more than a year since your emergency order went into effect, and our constituents have made every sacrifice that's been asked of them. We will never fully comprehend the mental and emotional toll this pandemic has had on their well-being and can only imagine the frustration and dismay they now feel as a result of your decision.

In your statement, you said we have done 95 yards on a 99-yard drive. To further your analogy, you are now forcing our counties to take a knee. It's a decision we fear will cause further devastation for our constituents, their families and their livelihoods.

As we continue to battle this pandemic, we know case numbers will ebb and flow. We're seeing that all around the country. The question is how we respond. We urge you to reconsider your decision to move our counties back to Phase 2. However, if your decision is final, we ask that you work with the Department of Health to redouble vaccination efforts in our counties to ensure a quick return to Phase 3. There can be no more "technical glitches" by the state that result in the under-ordering of vaccines, as we saw in Pierce County.

If we're going to be successful, the state can't set us up to fail.

We hope you will honor Pierce County's request for an additional 15,000 vaccine doses per week and Cowlitz County's request for an additional 2,000 vaccine doses per week. We also hope you will work closely with Washington State University officials in providing them with the resources they need to lower the rate of infections among the student population. We look forward to receiving your response.

Sincerely,

Senator Jeff Wilson  
19th Legislative District

Representative Jim Walsh  
19th Legislative District

Representative Joel McEntire  
19th Legislative District

Senator John Braun  
20th Legislative District

Representative Ed Orcutt  
20th Legislative District

Representative Peter Abbarno  
20th Legislative District

Senator Chris Gildon  
25th Legislative District

Representative Kelly Chambers  
25th Legislative District

Representative Cyndy Jacobsen  
25th Legislative District

Senator Jim McCune  
2nd Legislative District

Representative J.T. Wilcox  
2nd Legislative District

Representative Andrew Barkis  
2nd Legislative District

Senator Phil Fortunato  
31st Legislative District

Representative Drew Stokesbary  
31st Legislative District

Representative Eric Robertson  
31st Legislative District

Cont.

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Washington  
House of  
Representatives



Handwritten signature of Jesse Young in black ink.

Representative Jesse Young  
26th Legislative District

Handwritten signature of Michelle Caldier in black ink.

Representative Michelle Caldier  
26th Legislative District

Handwritten signature of Mark Schoesler in black ink.

Senator Mark Schoesler  
9th Legislative District

Handwritten signature of Joe Schmick in black ink.

Representative Joe Schmick  
9th Legislative District

Handwritten signature of Mary Dye in black ink.

Representative Mary Dye  
9th Legislative District