

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

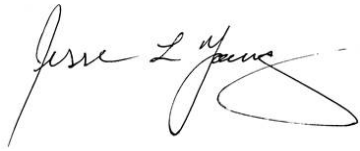
Representative Andrew Barkis
2nd Legislative District

Senator Phil Fortunato
31st Legislative District

Representative Drew Stokesbary
31st Legislative District

Representative Eric Robertson
31st Legislative District

Cont.



Representative Jesse Young
26th Legislative District



Representative Michelle Caldier
26th Legislative District



Senator Mark Schoesler
9th Legislative District



Representative Joe Schmick
9th Legislative District



Representative Mary Dye
9th Legislative District