



Washington State Legislature

May 10, 2021

Dear Governor Inslee,

At this time one year ago, you had just announced “Safe Start Washington,” the first of the phased approaches to reopening our state economy. Since then, Washington’s restaurants, bars and other hospitality establishments have demonstrated a strong commitment to following established safety protocols.

Just this week, you publicly noted hospital stays are shortening and mortality rates are decreasing as the latest wave of the pandemic appears to be leveling out. We also have noted our state’s COVID-19 vaccination numbers are comparable if not better than those of most others. Yet Washington’s hospitality establishments, more than any other economic sector in our state, must contend with continued restrictions on their ability to serve customers.

We see California is now poised to fully reopen its economy June 15, with Oregon intending to follow suit before the end of June. These are, with our state, the original members of the Western States Pact, which was formed with a shared vision of addressing COVID-19. We encourage you to now share the vision of Governors Newsom and Brown and decide that Washington, also, should fully reopen June 15.

These establishments are operated by our constituents and are important to our local economies. By announcing an end to the phased reopening, not merely a pause, you would free them from the emotional rollercoaster that goes with the threat – or reality – of being forced back to tighter restrictions. They have endured enough and should be allowed to begin focusing on their recovery. We trust they will act responsibly if restrictions are lifted fully and believe you can do the same.

Sincerely,

Senator John Braun
Senate Republican Leader
20th Legislative District

Rep. J.T. Wilcox
House Minority Leader
2nd Legislative District

Senator Ann Rivers
18th Legislative District

Rep. Joel Kretz
7th Legislative District

Senator Mark Mullet
5th Legislative District

Rep. Gina Mosbrucker
14th Legislative District

Senator Shelly Short
7th Legislative District

Rep. Drew MacEwen
35th Legislative District

Rep. Mike Chapman
24th Legislative District

Senator Keith Wagoner
39th Legislative District

Senator Sharon Brown
8th Legislative District

Rep. Jenny Graham
6th Legislative District

Rep. Cyndy Jacobsen
25th Legislative District

Rep. Joel McEntire
19th Legislative District

Senator Judy Warnick
13th Legislative District

Senator Chris Gildon
25th Legislative District

Senator Ron Muzzall
10th Legislative District

Rep. Brad Klippert
8th Legislative District

Rep. Peter Abbarno
20th Legislative District

Rep. Michelle Caldier
26th Legislative District

Rep. Andrew Barkis
2nd Legislative District

Senator Mark Schoesler
9th Legislative District

Senator Lynda Wilson
17th Legislative District

Rep. Carolyn Eslick
39th Legislative District

Rep. Matt Boehnke
8th Legislative District

Rep. Mike Steele
12th Legislative District

Rep. Jesse Young
26th Legislative District



Senator Doug Ericksen
42nd Legislative District



Rep. Eric Robertson
31st Legislative District



Rep. Ed Orcutt
20th Legislative District



Senator Jeff Wilson
19th Legislative District



Senator Mike Padden
4th Legislative District



Senator Jim Honeyford
15th Legislative District



Senator Brad Hawkins
12th Legislative District



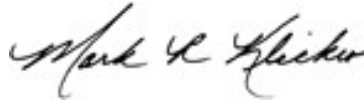
Rep. Larry Hoff
18th Legislative District



Rep. Greg Gilday
10th Legislative District



Rep. Rob Chase
4th Legislative District



Rep. Mark Klicker
16th Legislative District



Senator Perry Dozier
16th Legislative District



Senator Phil Fortunato
31st Legislative District



Senator Curtis King
14th Legislative District



Rep. Tom Dent
13th Legislative District



Rep. Mary Dye
9th Legislative District



Rep. Skyler Rude
16th Legislative District



Senator Jeff Holy
6th Legislative District



Rep. Jim Walsh
19th Legislative District



Rep. Vicki Kraft
17th Legislative District



Rep. Jeremie Dufault
15th Legislative District



Rep. Brandon Vick
18th Legislative District



Rep. Kelly Chambers
25th Legislative District



Rep. Mike Volz
6th Legislative District



Rep. Joe Schmick
9th Legislative District