

The State of Washington



Proclamation

WHEREAS, our state and the world is facing the most significant health crisis in modern history due to COVID-19, which has also caused a global economic downturn, impacting people and their ability to access health insurance; and

WHEREAS, to slow the spread of COVID-19, individual and community health can be improved dramatically by covering your mouth and nose, wearing a mask, and practicing social distancing; and

WHEREAS, affordable, quality health insurance coverage ensures access to care and makes a material difference in the health and well-being of the people of Washington state; and

WHEREAS, access to health insurance is important because those without coverage are less likely to see a doctor when they become ill or for treatment of a chronic condition and forgo necessary care until their condition becomes intolerable; and

WHEREAS, the Affordable Care Act and creation of our own state-based marketplace, Washington HealthPlanFinder, expanded access to affordable, meaningful coverage to lower the number of uninsured people and improve overall population health and wellbeing; and

WHEREAS, the Affordable Care Act, which ensures critical consumer protections, and expands coverage to millions of Americans, is instrumental in dramatically reducing the number of uninsured people in Washington and providing Washingtonians with peace of mind; and

WHEREAS, The Washington Health Benefit Exchange, established under the Affordable Care Act, provides individuals and families with access to critical health insurance coverage and care for Washingtonians, which is especially important during the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting economic conditions; and

WHEREAS, One in four Washingtonians are enrolled in Washington HealthPlanFinder health plans including in our Washington Apple Health program; and

WHEREAS, leaders from across America have joined to launch a national movement to help address the COVID-19 pandemic by helping people protect themselves and making sure everyone who can, enrolls in health care coverage;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim December 10, 2020, as

Get Covered Day

in Washington, and I urge all people in our state cover up for COVID, cover yourself and your family, and cover everyone in our state by wearing a mask, washing your hands, and watching your distance.

Signed this 25th day of November, 2020

Governor Jay Inslee

