

To the Honorable Members of the Washington State Board of Health:

Please accept and take into consideration the following supplementary information to the complaint filed by John G Gehman on December 27, 2022:

1. December 9, 2022 letter from numerous local health officers and health care leaders:
Copy attached for ease of reference and available online at:

<https://jeffersoncountypublichealth.org/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=1065>

<https://www.tpchd.org/Home/Components/News/News/326/286?backlist=%2f>

<https://kingcounty.gov/depts/health/news/2022/December/09-masks-indoors.aspx>

<https://www.whatcomcounty.us/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=3606>

<https://clark.wa.gov/public-health/clark-county-health-officers-join-other-health-leaders-recommend-masks-indoors>

<https://www.snohd.org/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=736>

<https://www.whatcomcounty.us/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=3606>

The December 9th letter clearly shows that the State has declined to comply with its duty to prevent or control the spread of dangerous and infectious diseases. See RCW 70.05.060 and .070

Our local health officers are expressly stating, in writing, their intent to continue allowing isolation to remain completely optional – in direct violation of RCW 70.05.120(4).

Our local health officers are asking the public to wear “high-quality, well-fitting” masks as our sole method of protection “against both acquiring and spreading these infections to others,” despite the fact that under the Secretary of Health’s Statewide Face Covering Order, a “high-quality, well-fitting” mask is defined as g county a cloth face covering made of a single layer of any random scrap of tightly woven fabric.

2. Health Department for Seattle & King County - COVID-19 After Action Report
Available online at:

https://kingcounty.gov/depts/health/covid-19/data/~/_media/depts/health/communicable-diseases/documents/C19/report-PHSKC-COVID-19-AAR-Sep2022.ashx

Here, King County officials have published a 175 page *COVID-19 After Action Report* (“AAR”) thoroughly documenting the failures that resulted in more than 3,000 easily prevented deaths

and more than 500,000 easily prevented SARS-CoV-2 infections. *See* data available at:
<https://kingcounty.gov/depts/health/covid-19/data/current-metrics.aspx>

Here, King County officials appear to be proud of the fact that they used \$800,000,000 in public funds to provide isolation and quarantine services for 2,300 people without establishing a single process to properly and lawfully provide isolation and quarantine services for any of the other hundreds of thousands of infected people in need of assistance and guidance. *See* AAR, Pgs. 3, 50, and 77-80

Here, King County officials acknowledge an on-going failure to comply with any duty under our laws, rules, and regulations concerning public health. *See* AAR, Pgs. 4-5,

Here, King County officials acknowledge their failure to comply with any duty set forth under the State's *Communicable Disease and Pandemic Response Concept of Operations* despite Governor Jay Inslee repeatedly mandating compliance with the *Washington State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan* under his COVID-19 state of emergency Proclamations. *See* AAR. Pgs. 32-36

Here, King County officials acknowledge that people died because they chose to fabricate an experimental pseudoscientific pandemic response strategy rather than simply implementing the plan Governor Jay Inslee promulgated a few months before the COVID-19 pandemic began, when he assured us that: "I believe it will be a significant tool for saving lives, protecting property, sustaining the economy, and preserving the environment." (Copy of the May 10, 2019, Letter of Promulgation, attached for ease of reference).

Respectfully Submitted this 3rd Day of January 2023, by:


John G Gehman
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Lake Stevens, WA 98258
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Attachments:

1 – December 9, 2022 Letter: *Local Health Officers and Health Care Leaders Recommend Wearing Masks Indoors*; and

2 – May 10, 2019 Letter of Promulgation, 2019 Washington State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan
Available online at: <https://mil.wa.gov/asset/5cfffcb965217>

Dec. 9, 2022

Local health officers and health care leaders recommend wearing masks indoors

Communities across our state and around the U.S. are experiencing an unprecedented surge in viral respiratory illnesses, including respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), influenza and COVID-19. As health officers and health care leaders working to improve the health of Washington residents, we recommend that everyone wear a high-quality, well-fitting mask when around others in indoor spaces to protect against both acquiring and spreading these infections to others.

We also urge everyone who is eligible to stay up to date on your vaccinations. Vaccinations are the most important way to protect against severe influenza and COVID-19 infections, including hospitalization and death. Everyone 6 months and older should be vaccinated against these diseases and those who are eligible for an updated COVID-19 booster should get it now.

Other necessary strategies include:

- Staying home from work and school and testing for COVID-19 if you develop symptoms.
- Having a plan for rapid treatment for [COVID-19](#) and [influenza](#) for people who are at increased risk for severe infections.
- Improving indoor air quality through ventilation, filtration, and UV technology where appropriate.

We expect the flu to circulate for months, so now is the time to get your flu shot!

The flu is most dangerous for:

- Children under 5 years (especially under 2).
- Adults 65 years or older.
- Those who are pregnant.
- Anyone living with a health condition like asthma, diabetes or heart disease.

Consult with your physician or healthcare provider about the need for testing or treatment if you are at increased risk for severe influenza or are unsure.

In addition to RSV and influenza, new COVID-19 variants are taking hold and immunity from past vaccination is waning for many people who have not yet received an updated booster shot. The surge in these viruses is resulting in many illnesses, contributing to rising absenteeism in schools this fall. This impact extends to businesses, workers, and families.

For people who develop symptoms, and for parents of young children, it's important to [know when to contact your physician or healthcare provider for advice or an evaluation](#).

Working together and using multiple, layered strategies to limit the spread and impact of these viruses will provide benefits to all of us during this fall and winter respiratory virus season and help relieve serious stress on our healthcare system.

Thank you to everyone for doing what you can to help.

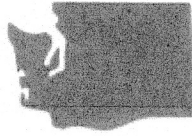
Local health officers

Dimyana Abdelmalek, MD, MPH, Health Officer, Thurston County Public Health
Allison Berry, MD, MPH, Health Officer, Clallam and Jefferson Counties
Anthony L-T Chen, MD, MPH, Director of Health, Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department
Jeff Duchin, MD, Health Officer, Public Health - Seattle and King County
Amy Harley, MD, MPH, Co-Health Officer, Whatcom County Health Department
Frank James, MD, Health Officer, San Juan County Health & Community Services
Steven Krager, MD, MPH, Deputy Health Officer, Clark, Pacific and Skamania Counties
Mark Larson, MD, Health Officer, Kittitas County Public Health Department
James Lewis, MD, MPH, Health Officer, Snohomish Health District
Alan Melnick, MD, MPH, Health Officer, Clark, Pacific and Skamania Counties
Gib Morrow, MD, MPH, Health Officer, Kitsap Public Health District
Greg Thompson, MD, MPH, Co-Health Officer, Whatcom County Health Department

Health care leaders

June M. Altaras, MN, NEA-BC, Executive Vice President, Chief Quality, Safety and Nursing Officer, MultiCare Health System
Michael H. Anderson, MD, Chief Medical Officer, Virginia Mason Franciscan Health
Mike Barsotti, MD, FAAP, President, Washington Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
Tori Bernier, Chief Nursing Officer, Summit Pacific Medical Center
Timothy Dellit, MD, interim Chief Executive Officer, UW Medicine, interim Executive Vice President for Medical Affairs and interim Dean of the UW School of Medicine
Mike Glenn, MHA, Chief Executive Officer, Jefferson Healthcare
Jennifer A. Graves, RN, MS, Vice President, Quality and Safety, Kaiser Permanente Northwest and Kaiser Permanente Washington, Regional Chief Nursing Executive, Kaiser Permanente Washington
Sean Gregory, Chief Executive, PeaceHealth Southwest Medical Center
Carlton Heine, MD, PhD, FACEP, FAWM, Chapter President, Washington American College of Emergency Physicians
Mark Johnson, MD, President, Washington Academy of Family Physicians
Scott Kennedy, MD, Chief Medical Officer, Olympic Medical Center
Robb Kimmes, Chief Executive Officer, Skyline Health
David Knoepfler, MD, MBA, Chief Medical Officer, FACP, FHM, Overlake Medical Center
Onora Lien, Executive Director, Northwest Healthcare Response Network
Carma Matti-Jackson, President & Chief Executive Officer, Washington Health Care Association
Ruth McDonald, MD, Chief Medical Officer, Seattle Children's
Deb Murphy, MPA, J.D., President & Chief Executive Officer, LeadingAge Washington
Ettore Palazzo, MD, FACP, Chief Medical & Quality Officer, EvergreenHealth
Charles Prosper, Chief Executive Officer, PeaceHealth St Joseph Medical Center
Katina Rue, DO, President, Washington State Medical Association
Cassie Sauer, President & Chief Executive Officer, Washington State Hospital Association
Arooj Simmonds, MD, Regional Chief Medical Officer, Puget Sound Region, Providence Swedish
Dori Unterseher MN, RN, Chief Nursing Officer, Harbor Regional Health
Lynnette Vehrs, RN, MN, President, Washington State Nurses Association
Darryl Wolfe, Chief Executive Officer, Olympic Medical Center

JAY INSLEE
Governor

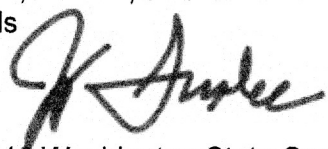


STATE OF WASHINGTON
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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DATE: 05-10-2019

TO: Directors of State Agencies, Boards, Institutions of Higher Education,
Commissions and Councils

FROM: Jay Inslee, Governor 

SUBJECT: Letter of Promulgation, 2019 Washington State Comprehensive
Emergency Management Plan

I am pleased to promulgate the 2019 Washington State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP). The CEMP provides the framework for statewide mitigation, preparedness (including prevention and protection), response and recovery activities while providing a structure for plan consistency throughout the state and facilitating interoperability between local, state, and federal governments.

We made every effort to comply with the US Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) requirements while implementing the state Emergency Management Act, Chapter 38.52 Revised Code of Washington (RCW). The CEMP supports the National Preparedness System and addresses requirements from the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and the Post Hurricane Katrina Reform Act into the state emergency management processes. The plan specifies authorities, functions, and responsibilities to establish collaborative action involving the whole community among local, state, tribal, federal, volunteer, private, and public sector organizations. By coordinating all phases of emergency management, the plan assists organizations in minimizing the impact of disasters and emergencies in Washington State. I believe it will be a significant tool for saving lives, protecting property, sustaining the economy, and preserving the environment.

Finally, the CEMP provides guidance to directors of state agencies, boards, institutions of higher education, (including the state and regional universities, The Evergreen State College, and the community and technical colleges), commissions, and councils of their two primary responsibilities in emergency management: (1) to support local jurisdictions through the State Emergency Operations Center, and (2) to maintain a comprehensive internal process to ensure continuity of government and the ability to conduct daily business before, during, and after a catastrophic incident.