

The State of Washington



Proclamation

WHEREAS, in today's highly interconnected world, telephone services provide a lifeline to emergency help and a vital link to government services, community resources, friends, and family; and

WHEREAS, millions of households across the nation lack reliable communications technology; and

WHEREAS, telephone assistance programs make communications more affordable for the nation's low-income consumers by providing a discount on the connection fee and monthly charges for telephone or broadband service; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Lifeline program offers benefits for eligible consumers and makes basic telephone and broadband service more affordable; and

WHEREAS, the State of Washington directs resources and funding each year to increase telephonic and broadband access throughout the state, particularly in underserved, rural areas; and

WHEREAS, consumers should not be without communications services because they cannot afford it, and therefore the promotion of the Lifeline program is imperative to ensure that all Washington residents have access to affordable service; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC), the newly created state Broadband Office, and other state and federal agencies, cities, counties and telecommunications companies are committed to increasing awareness about the availability of telephone assistance programs and broadband access and are encouraging eligible citizens to sign up for the programs;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, proclaim September 8-14, 2019, as

Lifeline Awareness Week

in Washington, and I encourage all people in our state to join me in this special observance.

Signed this 4th day of September, 2019

Handwritten signature of Jay Inslee in blue ink.

Governor Jay Inslee

