
SENATE BILL 5114

State of Washington

67th Legislature

2021 Regular Session

By Senators Braun, Mullet, Brown, Dozier, Fortunato, Gildon, Holy, King, Muzzall, Rivers, Schoesler, Sheldon, Short, Wagoner, Wilson, L., and Wilson, J.

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1 AN ACT Relating to safely reopening Washington; creating a new
2 section; providing an expiration date; and declaring an emergency.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that
5 Washingtonians have been patient and vigilant in the long fight
6 against COVID-19 while experiencing severe hardships as a result of
7 limitations on social events, business, travel, worship, and a
8 variety of other activities. While the people must be commended for
9 their endurance in the face of a historic trial, it is time for
10 Washington's government to demonstrate that it trusts Washingtonians
11 to conduct their affairs with a sense of individual responsibility
12 and due consideration for others. The legislature emphatically
13 believes that the people of Washington have shown that they are
14 rising to the challenges of COVID-19, that they care for their
15 communities, and that businesses and other facilities in this state
16 are equipped and ready to serve their customers and patrons in a safe
17 manner.

18 (2) By this act, the legislature determines that the businesses,
19 facilities, institutions, and all other places or organizations whose
20 activities would be limited or restricted under the governor's
21 "Healthy Washington-Roadmap to Recovery" plan, which was announced on

1 January 5, 2021, must be allowed to immediately and safely reopen or
2 resume under the provisions of "Phase 2" of the "Healthy Washington-
3 Roadmap to Recovery" plan, as those provisions existed on the
4 effective date of this section.

5 (3) The legislature intends to regularly review the best
6 available public health data to determine whether additional actions
7 should be taken after the effective date of this section. The
8 legislature further intends to take actions including, but not
9 limited to, reverting to different phases of restrictions, in the
10 event that the legislature determines that public health is
11 deteriorating or that other considerations demand that the approach
12 to reopening Washington must be changed.

13 (4) In the event that the best available public health data shows
14 that public health is improving, the legislature intends to take
15 additional actions to remove any remaining restrictions as Washington
16 transitions out of a state of emergency.

17 (5) This section expires January 10, 2022.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** This act is necessary for the immediate
19 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of
20 the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes
21 effect immediately.

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