

The State of Washington



Proclamation

WHEREAS, as children across the state of Washington prepare for the start of another school year, many of them will begin their studies with undiagnosed and untreated vision problems; and

WHEREAS, research shows that vision disorders are the most commonly-occurring disorder in children, and as many as one-in-four school-age children have vision problems that could interfere with learning, according to the College of Optometrists in Vision Development; and

WHEREAS, approximately one-in-13 children under the age of six will not have an eye examination, and at least 20 percent of children with learning disabilities have vision-related problems; and

WHEREAS, all children deserve the opportunity to learn and achieve their full potential, and for this reason, public awareness about learning-related vision problems is necessary to ensure that young people receive the prompt vision treatment they need to enhance their lives; and

WHEREAS, it is important to encourage parents, educators, school nurses, and all concerned adults to recognize the critical role good vision plays in the learning process and to work together to help prevent or reduce the impact untreated vision problems can have on our children's ability to read and learn;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim August, 2017, as

Children's Vision and Learning Month

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



Signed this 1st day of August, 2017

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jay Inslee".

Governor Jay Inslee