



WHATCOM COUNTY EXECUTIVE ORDER 2020-02

AUGMENTING COVID-19 FEDERAL EMERGENCY LEAVE

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2020, the federal government created the Families First Coronavirus Response Act to provide new emergency leave for employees; and

WHEREAS, locally, Whatcom County is the lead agency coordinating the response to the COVID-19 event and must maintain a stable workforce to support the community for the duration of the COVID-19 event; and

WHEREAS, Whatcom County wishes to augment those portions of federal emergency leave set at “no less than two-thirds” pay to full pay (pro-rated for part-time) to provide assurance to County employees and as consideration for the special roles played in a government organization which may be exempt from ordered closures; and

WHEREAS, Whatcom County chooses to implement the Act effective March 22, 2020;

WHEREAS, any employee can request up to 80 paid hours (pro-rated for part-time) of Emergency Sick Leave using Pay Type 751;

WHEREAS, eligible employees can request up to 12 work weeks (first 10 days are unpaid or may be covered using accruals) of Emergency Family and Medical Leave using Pay Type 748;

WHEREAS, supervisors will approve requests that meet the provisions of the Act;

NOW, THEREFORE, BY virtue of the power vested in me by the home rule charter for Whatcom County, I hereby declare the following:

Employees are granted access to COVID-19 Federal Emergency Leave by Executive Order subject to the conditions stated above.

DATED this 23TH day of March, 2020.

Satpal Singh Sidhu, Whatcom County Executive