



## **ISLAND COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH**

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### **PRESS RELEASE**

For immediate release

#### **STATEMENT REGARDING PHASE 2 VARIANCE APPLICATION (CORONAVIRUS)**

**Island County, May 20, 2020:**

On May 19, Governor Inslee announced that Island County is [now eligible](#) to submit a variance application for entrance into Phase 2 of the Safe Start recovery plan. The Island County Board of Health immediately initiated the Phase 2 variance application process on May 19 through discussion of [eligibility criteria](#) set forth by the Governor.

On May 19, Island County's Health Officer Dr. Joel McCullough submitted a letter of recommendation to apply for a variance to move to Phase 2. The Island County Board of Health voted unanimously on May 20 to approve the recommendation to move to Phase 2, excluding camping and with the requirement that all reopening guidance is followed. The Island County Board of County Commissioners approved the Board of Health's proposed plan.

Island County Public Health staff are working diligently to compile the application materials for submission to the Washington State Secretary of Health.

For additional information:

**Island County Public Health** – [www.islandcountywa.gov/Health/Pages/COVID-19.aspx](http://www.islandcountywa.gov/Health/Pages/COVID-19.aspx)  
Call Center # 360.678.2301, Mondays through Fridays (8:00am – 4:30pm), Saturdays and  
Sundays (9:00am – 4:00pm)  
**WA State Coronavirus Response (COVID-19)** – <https://coronavirus.wa.gov/>