

June 10, 2021

The Honorable Jay Inslee  
Governor of Washington  
Office of the Governor  
P.O. Box 40002  
Olympia, WA 98504-0002

**Dave Somers**  
County Executive

RE: Request to Consider Extending Eviction Moratorium

Dear Governor Inslee:

We are writing to respectfully request that you consider extending the eviction moratorium currently scheduled to end on June 30, 2021.

We are extremely grateful for the funds that have been being made available to provide emergency rental assistance, allowing thousands of families to remain in their homes and hundreds of landlords to receive the revenue needed to continue to provide rental units to Washington residents. We were able to issue approximately \$18 million in assistance with the first round of funding received. We launched the second round of support with Consolidated Appropriations Act funding in mid-April 2021. Since that date, our administrative contractor has received more than 7,000 requests for assistance and issued more than \$9 million in payments that have allowed 1,115 families to remain in their homes. We anticipate being able to increase the rate at which payments are issued but there are extensive eligibility verification requirements which, coupled with pent up demand and the time required to hire and train staff, mean that we cannot process the requests from eligible families that have already been received by the end of June. These challenges are not unique to Snohomish County or even our state as documented in a June 7, 2021 article in the *Wall Street Journal*.

It would be extremely unfortunate if eviction proceedings were initiated while eligible families were waiting for their applications to be verified and payment issued to landlords. This would create anxiety and disruption not only for families in need but also could result in landlords receiving less relief than they would have were the moratorium extended and additional requests processed.

You have taken many bold and progressive steps to support families and landlords during this challenging time, and we respectfully ask that you consider this request so we can continue forward on the path of helping all of our families and businesses in need.

Sincerely,

Snohomish County Executive Dave Somers  
Snohomish County Council Chair Stephanie Wright  
Snohomish County Council Vice Chair Megan Dunn  
Snohomish County Council Member Sam Low  
Snohomish County Council Member Jared Mead  
Snohomish County Council Member Nate Nehring