Proclamation

WHEREAS, petroleum-fueled vehicles are responsible for over 50 percent of our local greenhouse gas emissions and are a contributing factor to air pollution and climate change, threatening the health of our individuals, families, communities, and the sustainability of our planet; and

WHEREAS, the imbalance between gasoline resources and worldwide demand is escalating gasoline prices to levels that overburden commerce, hurt economic growth, and cause hardship; and

WHEREAS, electric vehicles produce fewer pollutants that enter our watersheds with storm water runoff and help protect water quality, which is essential to the health and recovery of Washington's wildlife, including our iconic salmon and orcas; and

WHEREAS, the transportation sector needs support to move toward the adoption of clean energy technologies, including plug-in electric vehicles, which reduce our dependence on foreign fuels and support a healthy environment and economy; and

WHEREAS, Washington is dedicated to being a leader in the use of clean energy, establishing policies and programs that conserve energy and promote sustainability, and the state is meeting and exceeding its target of 50,000 plug-in electric vehicles by 2020; and

WHEREAS, with investment from private partners and electric vehicle owners, Washington is expanding its West Coast Electric Highway network of fast chargers along major highway corridors through the Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Partnership Project; and

WHEREAS, September 14-22, 2019, is designated as National Drive Electric Week throughout the country to educate everyone about the benefits of plug-in electric vehicles and promote their adoption, and ten communities in Washington - Anacortes, Bellevue, Bainbridge Island, Issaquah, Liberty Lake, Richland, Steilacoom, Tacoma, Vancouver, and Yakima - are hosting Drive Electric events where drivers are publicly sharing the many advantages of driving electric; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim September 14-22, 2019, as

Drive Electric Week

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

Signed this 4th day of September, 2019

Governor Jay Inslee