

The State of Washington



Proclamation

WHEREAS, the retail industry supports one-in-four American jobs; and

WHEREAS, jobs in the Washington State retail industry generated a record \$155.3 billion in 2017 taxable retail sales and \$19.8 billion in wages, employ nearly 400,000 people who make up 14 percent of the state's non-farm employment, and are expected to offer approximately 50,700 job openings in the five years ending in 2021; and

WHEREAS, retail sales and use taxes make up more than half (51%) of the state's general operating fund; and

WHEREAS, retail is evolving to include convenient multi-channel shopping options with phones, computers, and direct home delivery; and

WHEREAS, new technologies are carving out new retail career paths in e-commerce, web and app development; and information technology; and

WHEREAS, retailers are increasingly offering new training programs to encourage their best employees to build longer-range, satisfying careers;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim September 2018 as

Careers in Retail Month

in Washington, and I encourage all people in our state to join me in celebrating this industry and its workers who help our state's economy thrive.

Signed this 8th day of August, 2018

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

Governor Jay Inslee

