

The State of Washington



Proclamation

WHEREAS, Washington State's retail industry set a record \$170.2 billion in taxable retail sales in 2018; and

WHEREAS, the industry employs approximately 400,000 people across the state paying nearly \$20 billion in annual wages; and

WHEREAS, retail's workforce needs are changing dramatically because of the digital transformation of shopping; and

WHEREAS, nearly half of all retail employees are working in non-sales positions; and

WHEREAS, 62 percent of retail store managers earned promotions through training programs that enabled them to move up the ranks of the retail industry; and

WHEREAS, the retail industry remains healthy with both online and physical store options;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim September 2019 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 16th day of August, 2019

Governor Jay Inslee

