



**SNOHOMISH HEALTH DISTRICT  
RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH**

**RESOLUTION NUMBER:** 20-28

**RESOLUTION SUBJECT:** ADMINISTRATIVE WAIVER OF LATE FEES, DEFERRAL OF RENEWAL FEE PAYMENT, AND TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF ENFORCEMENT ACTION FOR NON-RENEWAL OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ANNUAL OPERATING PERMITS

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Public Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar declared a public emergency for the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) beginning on January 27, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on February 29, 2020, Governor Jay Inslee declared a state of emergency exists in all counties in the State of Washington due to the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the State; and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, SNOHOMISH County Executive Somers proclaimed a state of emergency within Snohomish County due to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, pursuant to order 20-056, the Local Health Officer declared a public health emergency within Snohomish County due to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, the Snohomish Health District Board of Health adopted Resolution 20-06 declaring a public health emergency; and

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2020, Governor Inslee issued Proclamation 20-25, *Stay Home, Stay Healthy*, which requires citizens to remain in their homes, except to conduct essential business; and

WHEREAS, the Governor has also issued proclamations and guidance materials that effect the transaction of business in Snohomish County; and

WHEREAS, several WACs and District Codes require regulated facilities, including Food Service Establishments, Water Recreation Facilities, and Group Camps, to obtain permits from local health officers; and

WHEREAS, permits must be renewed annually of each year; and

WHEREAS, permit holders who fail to renew by the permit expiration date are subject to a \$300 late fee; and

WHEREAS, the Health District mails renewal notices to permit holders; and

WHEREAS, it is unclear if COVID-19 closure orders will be extended into 2021; and

WHEREAS, businesses in the hospitality and service industries are struggling to survive into the new year; and

WHEREAS, it may impose an economic hardship on permitted facility owners to require payment of permit fees without a clear timeline of when business operations can resume; and

WHEREAS, due to recent surge in COVID-19 cases, additional temporary restrictions have been put in place that will affect profits first quarter 2021 profits in the hospitality and service industries; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Health previously approved Resolution 20-12 waiving selected late fees; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the citizens of Snohomish County to encourage and support the continued existence of local businesses by providing additional relief.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Snohomish Health District Board of Health rescinds Resolution 20-12; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, pursuant to the emergency declarations by Governor Inslee and the Snohomish Health District Board of Health, the Snohomish Health District Board of Health hereby:

1. Authorizes the Administrative Officer to waive the \$300 late fee for currently permitted facilities that renew permits after December 8, 2020, so long as permit renewal occurs before the facility reopens to the public.
2. Authorizes the Administrative Officer to defer the required payment of permit fees for a period of 3 months. Existing permits shall remain valid during this deferral period.
3. Authorizes the temporary suspension of enforcement actions referenced in District Code 2.40.050 and 4.15.060 related to non-renewal of a permit during the 3-month deferral period.

This Resolution is applicable to Food Service Establishments, Water Recreation Facilities, and Group Camps with existing Environmental Health Permits, and shall be in effect for the duration of the declared public emergency and shall terminate automatically at such time as the Declaration is rescinded.

ADOPTED this 8<sup>th</sup> day of December.

ATTEST:

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Stephanie Wright, Chair  
Board of Health

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Shawn Frederick, MBA  
Administrative Officer