

# The State of Washington



## Proclamation

*WHEREAS*, privacy is a foundational right of individuals proclaimed, protected and enshrined in the Washington State Constitution in Article I section 7; and

*WHEREAS*, Data Privacy Day is observed across the world in over 50 countries to draw attention to best practices and innovative discussions that promote individual control over personally identifiable information, responsible privacy practices and compliance with privacy laws and regulations; and

*WHEREAS*, the Council of Europe first recognized Data Privacy Day in 2007, and the U.S. Congress followed suit in 2009 by passing House Resolution 31 by a vote of 402-0; and

*WHEREAS*, Data Privacy Day is understood as an educational initiative focused on raising awareness among businesses, governments, and individuals about the importance of respecting individual privacy and protecting personal information; and

*WHEREAS*, many states, including Washington, have passed or continue to discuss further protecting consumers' personal information through education, enforcement and enunciation of the rights of access, correction, deletion, and portability of personal information; and

*WHEREAS*, the pervasive use of data collection and generating technologies in our homes, in our everyday activities, in schools, and in our workplaces, gives rise to the potential compromise of personal privacy if appropriate care is not taken to protect personal information; and

*WHEREAS*, the growth of Generative AI technologies and the potential risks of their use raises the importance of privacy as more data is needed to train, build, and maintain new AI foundational models; and

*WHEREAS*, the protection of all forms of personal information is a global imperative for governments, industry, civil society, and individuals; and

*WHEREAS*, the recognition of Data Privacy Day encourages Washingtonians to become aware of personal information privacy concerns and to take steps to protect their own privacy interests as well as their personal information;

*NOW THEREFORE*, I, Jay Inslee, governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim January 28, 2024, as

### *Data Privacy Day*

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

Signed this 15<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2023

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

Governor Jay Inslee

