

The State of Washington



Proclamation

WHEREAS, since the rise of civilization, society has relied on scribes to translate spoken word into text in order to keep historical records; and

WHEREAS, in Ancient Egypt, scribes were elite guardians of history and culture, recording laws and other important documents and scribes have continued to serve as impartial historical record keepers ever since; and

WHEREAS, scribes were present with our Nation's founding fathers as the Declaration of Independence and Bill of Rights were drafted and, President Lincoln entrusted scribes to record the Emancipation Proclamation; and

WHEREAS, since the advent of shorthand machines, these scribes have been known as court reporters and have played a permanent and invaluable role in courtrooms across our nation; and

WHEREAS, court reporters and captioners translate the spoken word into text and preserve our history; and

WHEREAS, court reporters work with the United States Congress, diligently preserving Members' words and actions; and

WHEREAS, court reporters and captioners are responsible for the closed captioning seen scrolling across television screens, at sporting stadiums, and in other community and educational settings, bringing information to millions of deaf and hard-of-hearing Americans every day; and

WHEREAS, court reporters and captioners dedicate themselves to impartially preserving our history, and the State of Washington appreciates the tremendous work they perform;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim February 5-12, 2022 as

Court Reporting and Captioning Week

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

Signed this 24th day of January, 2022

Governor Jay Inslee

