The State of Washington

Proclamation

WHEREAS, tribal canoes will travel the traditional highways of their ancestors to the Puyallup Tribe of Indians for a week-long celebration, July 28-August 4, 2018, journeying from the Pacific Ocean, the waters of British Columbia, Alaska, Puget Sound, and the Salish Sea; and

WHEREAS, the canoes will represent approximately 50 tribes and Canadian First Nations from many locations in Washington, Alaska, and British Columbia, as well as indigenous people from other states and countries, and will arrive at the Chinook Landing Marina in the Port of Tacoma, the traditional territory of the Puyallup Tribe of Indians, on July 28; 2018, and

WHEREAS, the theme of this year's Paddle to Puyallup, *Honoring Our Medicine,* reminds us that water is a powerful medicine and a sacred, life-giving force that sustains, heals, and protects us, a belief shared by indigenous people around the world; and

WHEREAS, Tribal Canoe Journeys have become a vital and monumental event for Native American families to revitalize their culture and to pass on traditional knowledge and canoe teachings to younger generations while bringing awareness to the importance of protecting and preserving the fish, lands, and waters; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Canoe Journey is a journey of healing, hope, honor, and hospitality – relationships are strengthened, family ties are renewed, and traditions are reclaimed;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim July 28-August 4, 2018, as

Paddle to Puyallup Week

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

Signed this 19th day of July, 2018

Governor Jay Inslee