

The State of Washington



Proclamation

WHEREAS, federal, state, regional, and local governments have an interest in promoting improved communication and the use of mediation to settle a wide range of disputes; and

WHEREAS, the state of Washington actively promotes the use of community-based dispute resolution centers by residents through legislation and funding; and

WHEREAS, more than 90,000 state residents are served annually by community-based mediators to settle conflicts between family members, neighbors, tenants, landlords, merchants, consumers, employees, employers, civic organizations, and government agencies; and

WHEREAS, mediation is a uniquely effective means of settling disputes, as attested to by an 85 percent agreement rate; and

WHEREAS, jurisdictions and taxpayers in the state of Washington save over \$6 million annually in district and superior court costs for cases that have been settled by community-based centers rather than court hearings; and

WHEREAS, conflict prevention via training and conflict resolution via the mediation process increases the quality of life and opportunity to experience civic harmony for all residents of the state of Washington; and

WHEREAS, the third Thursday in October has been designated as International Conflict Resolution Day;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim October 2017, as

Community Conflict Resolution Month

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



Signed this 25th day of September, 2017

Handwritten signature of Jay Inslee in blue ink.

Governor Jay Inslee