

From: Governor Jay Inslee
Date: June 24, 2013, 12:29:09 PM PDT
To: <[ALL-STATE-EMPLOYEES](#)>
Subject: Contingency planning update
Reply-To: Governor Jay Inslee

Dear fellow state workers,

Last week when I wrote you, negotiators were still working toward a budget agreement and we were preparing contingency plans in case they were unable to do so by June 30. Those negotiations continued all weekend and still continue as I write this.

I'm not giving up. I know legislators can get this done. We aren't quite there yet, but I remain hopeful.

I know today will be difficult for many of you. Temporary layoff notices will begin being distributed this afternoon as required by law, and I know those notices will generate a high level of anxiety, uncertainty and frustration. It's difficult enough paying your mortgage or budgeting for a medical procedure without the added prospect of missing a paycheck. I'm doing everything I can to make sure that doesn't happen – and if legislators send me an agreed-upon budget, it won't.

I want to stress that these notices in no way diminish the important work you do and the services you provide. While constitutional and statutory mandates dictate which services can continue to operate and which cannot, each and every one of you contributes to keeping Washington and our people healthy and safe.

Thank you for all you do. I'm working day and night to make sure negotiators get the job done so you can continue your good work without interruption. I hope to be in touch with good news soon.

Very truly yours,
Jay