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**SENATE BILL 5114**

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**State of Washington**

**67th Legislature**

**2021 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Braun and Mullet

Prefiled 01/07/21.

1 AN ACT Relating to safely reopening Washington; creating a new  
2 section; providing an expiration date; and declaring an emergency.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that  
5 Washingtonians have been patient and vigilant in the long fight  
6 against COVID-19 while experiencing severe hardships as a result of  
7 limitations on social events, business, travel, worship, and a  
8 variety of other activities. While the people must be commended for  
9 their endurance in the face of a historic trial, it is time for  
10 Washington's government to demonstrate that it trusts Washingtonians  
11 to conduct their affairs with a sense of individual responsibility  
12 and due consideration for others. The legislature emphatically  
13 believes that the people of Washington have shown that they are  
14 rising to the challenges of COVID-19, that they care for their  
15 communities, and that businesses and other facilities in this state  
16 are equipped and ready to serve their customers and patrons in a safe  
17 manner.

18 (2) By this act, the legislature determines that the businesses,  
19 facilities, institutions, and all other places or organizations whose  
20 activities would be limited or restricted under the governor's  
21 "Healthy Washington-Roadmap to Recovery" plan, which was announced on

1 January 5, 2021, must be allowed to immediately and safely reopen or  
2 resume under the provisions of "Phase 2" of the "Healthy Washington-  
3 Roadmap to Recovery" plan, as those provisions existed on the  
4 effective date of this section.

5 (3) The legislature intends to regularly review the best  
6 available public health data to determine whether additional actions  
7 should be taken after the effective date of this section. The  
8 legislature further intends to take actions including, but not  
9 limited to, reverting to different phases of restrictions, in the  
10 event that the legislature determines that public health is  
11 deteriorating or that other considerations demand that the approach  
12 to reopening Washington must be changed.

13 (4) In the event that the best available public health data shows  
14 that public health is improving, the legislature intends to take  
15 additional actions to remove any remaining restrictions as Washington  
16 transitions out of a state of emergency.

17 (5) This section expires January 10, 2022.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** This act is necessary for the immediate  
19 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of  
20 the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes  
21 effect immediately.

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