

From: Dwight <binlor2018@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 7:51 AM
To: Ryan Ibach <ryan.ibach@co.yakima.wa.us>
Subject: COVID Long Hauler Syndrome

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

I just sent over an email entitled COVID Long Hauler Syndrome and I failed to put Written Communications January 26th in the subject line. I apologize for the mistake, please add that email to the email for the January 26th meeting if possible.

Hope this email finds you well.

I am a COVID Long Hauler. If you are not aware of that term please do your research to understand the syndrome. After thirteen months I struggle with minimal daily activities. Shortness of breath and difficulty breathing, extreme fatigue, headaches, body aches, brain fog and within the past few weeks they have discovered issues that look like major surgery is in my near future. I will find out the results of the scans and x-rays this next week and discuss with the surgeon my options, if any.

Struggling with my health everyday, physical and mental, is a task, a huge task. The financial struggle is just as great. It has now been thirteen months since I have been able to work. And then, according to the local News, it is my understanding that Governor Inslee wants to use Pandemic funds to pay for Climate Change???

Really??? Why not take care of the citizens that have had their health destroyed by COVID? I received my PUA benefits and they expired September 4, 2021. I used my FMLA benefits, they are gone. I should qualify for regular Unemployment Insurance. I have twenty-two weeks available but as of yet it is still in Adjudication and has been for over two months now. Who knows when the adjudicator will actually look at the case. And although I am disqualified every week, I am only told that the system is extremely overloaded and I am in line for the adjudicator, but no estimate on how much longer.

I would work if I could. I have been applying for part time remote or work at home jobs, but as of yet no luck. And, I am not sure that I would be able to perform the work, but I am willing to try because I am broke.

The Pandemic money came into the State to be used for Pandemic issues. Hire more people to clear the case loads at the Employment Security Department. I do not know the number of COVID Long Haulers residing in the State, but something needs to be done to get help to those who cannot return to work because COVID has destroyed our health. During the PUA benefit pay I was drawing \$535 per week, and after tax was withheld I received \$481 in my account each week. I guess on a grand scale that is not a lot of money, however, for those who do not have the health to return to work it is a lot. Inflation, gas prices, heating prices, etc, is even worse for those of us who cannot work.

Please, please, please pass this on to whomever can get this in front of those who need to know that help is needed. I will gladly speak or interview with anyone who would take the time to hear my story. I would even sit in front of a committee to tell them first hand what life is like when your climate change is your physical and mental health and the fear that you face every day.

I have contacted Representative Dan Newhouse office several times, but as of today, no response. So, not putting much faith in the fact that he is concerned about this situation.

I greatly appreciate your time, your consideration, and your help. Looking forward to hearing from you in the near future.

Best Regards,
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