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TO: State Agency Directors

FROM: Gary Locke, Governor

SUBJECT: **Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day**

On Thursday, April 22, people throughout our nation will celebrate *Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day.* Washington has been observing this special event for more than ten years in recognition of its value and importance to working families.

This activity helps children better understand what their moms and dads do at the workplace, and broadens their exposure to future career options. It also reminds employers of the importance of their workers' obligations as parents, and encourages dialogue regarding balancing the needs of both work and family.

In Olympia, the Interagency Committee for State Employed Women (ICSEW) has hosted a variety of fun and informative activities to encourage program participation. This year, it will make resources available to any state agency interested in planning and hosting its own event, for which I encourage participation. Additional information can be found at the ICSEW website at http://icsew.wa.gov.

As a parent and Governor, I know firsthand the challenges of meeting the demands of a busy job and giving full attention to those who matter most: the family. I hope that you and your state agency will be able to take part in this worthwhile endeavor.