

## State of North Carolina

## **ROY COOPER**

**GOVERNOR** 

SEAT BELT SAFETY AWARENESS MONTH

2017

## BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

## A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the safety and security of the citizens of North Carolina are vitally important; and

WHEREAS, a large percentage of our citizens regularly drive or ride in motor vehicles on our roadways; and

WHEREAS, regular seat belt use is the most effective way to reduce fatalities in motor vehicle crashes; and

WHEREAS between 2011 and 2015, an average 562 lives were saved per year due to the use of seat belts in passenger vehicles in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS in 2016, 452 people who were not using seat belts were killed, and 601 others were seriously injured in motor vehicle crashes in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS in 2016, 42 percent of passenger vehicle fatalities were unrestrained; and

WHEREAS, the use of seat belts is required by the laws of North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the month of May is the national Click It or Ticket mobilization enforcement period; and

WHEREAS across the state, law enforcement officers will actively be participating in the mobilization to ensure all motor vehicle occupants are buckled up day and night to reduce the risk of injury and death caused by traffic crashes; and

WHEREAS, increased enforcement of seat belt laws coupled with public education outreach has proven to be an effective method to increase seat belt use rates and decrease traffic-related fatalities;

NOW, THEREFORE, I ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim May, 2017, as "SEAT BELT SAFETY AWARENESS MONTH" in North Carolina and commend its observance to all

citizens.

Roy Cooper

Governor

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this twenty-seventh day of April in the year of our Lord two-thousand and seventeen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-first.