



State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH WEEK

AND

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH PROFESSIONALS DAY

2018

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, according to the United States Department of Labor, there were 5,190 work-related deaths recorded in the United States in 2016; millions more people suffered occupational injuries and illnesses; and

WHEREAS, small businesses account for 99.6 percent of all North Carolina businesses and employ 1.6 million of the state's private-sector workforce; and

WHEREAS, the American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE) will distribute information to small businesses during Occupational Safety and Health Week to educate on how effective occupational safety can help move businesses forward, contribute to the bottom line, and protect employees and property from risk; and

WHEREAS, businesses spend \$170 billion per year on costs associated with occupational injuries, health care, and illnesses; a single slip or fall injury averages \$25,000 in direct costs, and a business requires an estimated additional \$250,000 in sales to recover this loss and maintain a 10 percent profit margin; and

WHEREAS, indirect costs of injuries – including accident investigation, insurance, worker retraining, repairs, and production delays – can be as much as 20 times the direct costs; however, the ultimate cost of work-related injury is the loss of one's life or the life of a friend, co-worker, or loved one; and

WHEREAS, safer organizations enjoy increased productivity, higher employee satisfaction, and a better reputation, while recording less lost time and lower workers' compensation and health care costs; and

WHEREAS, occupational safety, health, and environmental professionals help their communities by working tirelessly to ensure that millions of people leave their workplaces injury and illness free each day; and

WHEREAS, during Occupational Safety and Health Week, the ASSE, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, and their partners will mobilize to increase awareness of the importance of work safety; to commend the contributions of safety, health, and environmental professionals; to provide small businesses with safety resources; and to help companies and organizations enhance their workplace safety efforts;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim May 6 – 11, 2018, as "OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH WEEK" and May 9, 2018, as "OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH PROFESSIONALS DAY" in North Carolina, and commend 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 fourth day of May in the year of our Lord two thousand and eighteen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-second.