



State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY WEEK

AND

NATIONAL SEAT CHECK SATURDAY

2020

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, car crashes are a leading cause of death for children ages 1 to 13 years old; and

WHEREAS, an average of more than 43,000 children ages 0 to 15 years old were involved in motor vehicle crashes each year in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, proper child safety seat installation is critical to protecting and saving the lives of children involved in crashes; child safety seats reduce the risk of fatal injury by 71 percent for infants and by 54 percent for toddlers; and

WHEREAS, children ages 2 to 5 years old who use safety belts prematurely are four times more likely to suffer serious head injury in a crash than those in child safety seats or booster seats; and

WHEREAS, nearly 30 percent of children under the age of 7, and more than 31 percent of children ages 8 to 15 years old who were killed or seriously injured in passenger vehicle crashes in our state between 2012 and 2018 were improperly restrained or unrestrained; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina's Child Passenger Safety Law is one of the strongest and most enforceable laws in the nation, mandating the use of restraints for children who are less than 8 years old and less than 80 pounds; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina is committed to child passenger safety; our state has a vast network of more than 3360 nationally certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians representing 98 counties, 266 car seat checking stations where people can be educated on how to properly install child safety seats, and www.buckleupnc.org, a website devoted to child passenger safety; and

WHEREAS, law enforcement and educational efforts, through funding from the Governor's Highway Safety Program, assist in the prevention of deaths and injuries by proper use of car seats, boosters, and seat belts; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina urges all parents, guardians, and caregivers to obey North Carolina's Child Passenger Safety Law by guaranteeing that all children are always properly restrained;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim September 20 – 26, 2020, as "**CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY WEEK**" and September 26, 2020 as "**NATIONAL SEAT CHECK SATURDAY**" 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 eleventh day of September in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-fifth.