

State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER

GOVERNOR

RAIL SAFETY WEEK

2020

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina is a leader in supporting highway-rail grade crossing and pedestrian safety programs; and

WHEREAS, highway-grade crossing crashes during 2019 resulted in six persons killed and another 10 injured in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, pedestrian/railroad trespass incidents on railroad property during 2019 resulted in 22 persons killed and another 17 injured in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, highway-grade crossing crashes are more severe than highway collisions and are more likely to result in death and injury; and

WHEREAS, collisions between trains and motor vehicles or pedestrians could have been prevented by increased public awareness of the dangers at crossings and around railroad property and the appropriate safety laws; and

WHEREAS, Operation Lifesaver is the foremost public information and education program dedicated to preventing highway-rail grade crossing crashes and pedestrian/railroad trespass incidents; and

WHEREAS, for the duration of this week, and throughout the year, the State of North Carolina encourages people to observe added caution as motorists or pedestrians near tracks or trains, and to participate in activities that help reduce incidents at crossings and around railroad property; and

WHEREAS, this important observance should lead to greater safety awareness and a reduction in highway-rail grade crossings crashes and pedestrian/railroad incidents;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim September 21 – 27, 2020, as "RAIL SAFETY WEEK" in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.

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.